



February 2023 Pol Newsletter

## Thoughts from the Chair



I've been thinking a lot about what is important in life, what I can control, and what is meaningful. I hope you get space in this semester to reflect on these things yourself.

When I teach Democratization, I introduce the idea that in order for democracies to function well, there must be a critical mass of the citizenry that is willing to be reflexive thinkers, committed not only to their own interests, but to the health of the democracy itself. I know those people exist within the US. However, it can be difficult to have faith when some of the loudest voices are those that spew hatred, violence, and selective amnesia about our past. The key for those of us who believe in a better society is to avoid becoming too cynical and to keep the issues front and center. I encourage you to listen to the [Fresh Air episode with Bryan](#)

[Stevenson](#), lawyer, author of *Just Mercy*, and the founder of the *Equal Justice Initiative*. He speaks about the need to acknowledge and atone for our collective past, something we as a nation have avoided.

I appreciate this quote from the Italian political Scientist Giovanni Sartori "what democracy is cannot be separate from what democracy should be. A democracy exists only insofar as its ideals and values bring it into being...in a democracy the tension between fact and value reaches the highest point, since no other ideal is further from the reality in which it has to operate." It reminds me to stay away from dualistic thinking and focus on furthering democratic principles to achieve those ideals.

I hope you can both enjoy the blessings of living within a democracy, while also at the same time, critically assess it so that we hold the power brokers accountable. Be that reflexive thinker that helps our democracy achieve its ideals.

And, get outside to watch life unfold. The daffodils are shooting up out of the ground, the camellias are budding, and soon the cherry blossoms will be in full view. Don't forget to enjoy the beauty of life, even as the challenges keep coming.

## Upcoming Events Near and Far



**Save the Date! POL Department Lunch: Friday 2/17/23 1-2pm BC 215** Join us for pizza and beverages and a little community building. We look forward to sharing some time with our students outside the classroom!

**Enjoy the Play:** One of our very own (double) majors is in the upcoming play, [The Wolves](#). Come see who it is and support the UP Theater program! February 14-18 at 7:30. You can purchase tickets [here](#).

Play Description:

From the safety of their suburban stretch circle, a girls' soccer team warms up for the game – and for their lives. Together they navigate big questions and wage tiny battles with all the ferocity of a pack of adolescent warriors. A portrait of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness



for nine American girls who just want to score some goals. This Pulitzer nominated play was an off-Broadway hit.

[Consider running for the ASUP Senate!](#) We have some very involved students if you need more information: Megan Meckley, William Heyler, Nano Nunoz Navarro, and Miguel Navarro are past or present ASUP members who can tell you all about the experience.

### **Ethics Week: A Conversation with the Kelly's**

Monday, February 13 at 7:15 p.m. in the Brian Doyle Auditorium (D-B Hall 004) As part of its 5th Ethics Week, the Dundon-Berchtold Institute for Applied Ethics and Moral Formation will host a conversation with Dr. Kelly and Dr. Turner Kelly about some of the experiences, people, and wisdom that have helped to guide them on their personal, professional, and family journeys.

[Author Michael O'Loughlin:](#) Michael O'Loughlin will provide insights from his nonfiction work *Hidden Mercy: AIDS, Catholics, and the Untold Stories of Compassion in the Face of Fear*. Co-sponsored by Garaventa Center and the English Lecture Series. Feb 22, 7pm Brian Doyle Auditorium (DB). Free and open to all. Info at [up.edu/garaventa](http://up.edu/garaventa) or 503-943-7702. ADA compliant event.

### **Career Center: Internship and Job Fair: Friday Feb 24 1-4pm Chiles Center (additional opportunities below)**

*Workshop to prepare for the Internship and Job Fair*

- Feb 15 4-4:30 & 22 1:30-2
- Career Education Center (Franz Hall, first floor)
- Chance to review your resume and speak with one of the Career Center staff members

*Job Search Workshop Series for Senior (3 sessions)*

- March 16, 23, 30 from 3-4 in the Career Education Center
- The series is designed to prepare for life after graduation. Learn about job search strategies, tools and resources for creating an effective plan, and how to tell your story through an effective resume and interview process.

*Introduction to Graduate School Applications*

- April 13 3-4 or April 14 3-4 Career Education Center
- Topics covered include the application process and developing a timeline as well as introduction to tools and resources available at UP



## Calling All Seniors!



The *Fr. Claude Pomerleau Award in Leadership* recognizes one graduating Senior who has made their mark in service and leadership while at UP. We invite all graduating seniors to submit their resume and a one-page description of their service and leadership that makes the case for granting them the award. Faculty will then decide amongst all worthy contenders. This award carries a small cash honorarium.

**If you want to submit your name for consideration, please send your resume and one-page description to [santiago@up.edu](mailto:santiago@up.edu) by Friday February 24th so that we can submit the awardee's name to the Dean's Office.**

## Dr. G in Chile: Third International Forum on Migration Statistics!



“Behind every number, there is a person. We must not forget that.” With this appeal, António Vitorino, Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), opened the [3rd International Forum on Migration Statistics](#), hosted by the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago, Chile, from January 24 to 26, 2023. The Forum brought together 600+ migration experts from around the world to discuss how to improve data for better policy.

Our very own, Dr. Lara-Zuzan Golesorkhi, was one of these experts and shared her knowledge and practice regarding migration and gender as part of the [session](#) titled, “Data to understand and unravel the migration-gender nexus.” Her presentation focused on the Gender-Migration Index ([GMI](#)), a policy guidance tool that centers lived experiences of women, girl, LGBTQIA+, and gender diverse migrants by strengthening civil society engagement in international review processes. The index is based on an indicator system that ensures gender-responsiveness and migrant-inclusion in benchmarking policy, particularly in regards to monitoring and evaluation. Four UP alumni, including Political Science majors, previously conducted case study analysis using this tool in the lead-up to their participation in the UN International Migration Review Forum in May 2022 (see UP Instagram Account Story [UP@UN](#)).



IOM Global Migration Data Anal... ...

6,261 followers

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Migration can help us achieve the [#GlobalGoals](#). And we can prove it with better migration data.

Follow efforts and the latest developments in migration statistics at [#IFMStats](#) [http://bit.ly/IFMS\\_2023](http://bit.ly/IFMS_2023)



1 - Dr. Golesorkhi at the International Organization for Migration 3rd International Forum on Migration Statistics

2 - Dr. Golesorkhi's work is vital to advancing protections for migrants!



Do you have News to Share?



Want to headline the next Pol newsletter? Have you enjoyed success in a recent internship? Aced your LSAT? Or, just want to share your thoughts on a topic of interest to Pol students? Send your information to Dr. S ([santiago@up.edu](mailto:santiago@up.edu)) and we can include it in the next newsletter at the end of the year!