Lopez Heads Office of Immigrant Affairs

Linda Lopez, former associate dean for diversity and strategic initiatives at University of Southern California's Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, was selected by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to head the city’s newly revived Office of Immigrant Affairs.

“Linda Lopez will focus on building a dual-purpose office to help people access services and drive policy to integrate immigrants into the social, political, cultural, and economic fabric of the city,” Garcetti said in a statement. “The Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs will play a critical role given L.A.’s large immigrant population, and the national spotlight on immigration legislation.”

In the past, the mayor has said he supports providing a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

Lopez received her PhD in political science from the University of Southern California. Lopez previously worked at the National Science Foundation in the Directorate for Social, Behavior and Economic Sciences.

“Part of my role in the office is going to have a one-stop shop for all L.A. immigrants—to really connect them with the city and services and local agencies,” said Lopez in an interview.

She pointed to a micro-lending program for immigrant businesspeople recently established in New York City as something that could be done in Los Angeles. “One of the things we want to do is to make sure that immigrants have access to capital,” she said.

Lopez said more than 1.5 million people in Los Angeles—or 40% of the city’s population—were born outside of the country. Twelve percent are here legally, 12% are undocumented, and 16% are naturalized citizens.

Stevens Awarded Guggenheim Fellowship

In its eighty-ninth annual competition for the United States and Canada, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation awarded Fellowships to a diverse group of 175 scholars, artists, and scientists. Appointed on the basis of prior achievement and exceptional promise, the successful candidates were chosen from a group of almost 3,000 applicants. PS included two awardees in our July issue, but overlooked the award in history to political scientist Jacqueline Stevens.

Jacqueline Stevens writes about political theories and practices of membership since antiquity. Her current studies of deportation law enforcement engage the quotidian of government documents revealing contemporary illegalities, including the unlawful deportation of United States citizens from the United States.

She is the author of Reproducing the State (Princeton University Press, 1999) and States Without Nations: Citizenship for Mortals (Columbia University Press, 1999) as well as the co-editor with Richard Falk and Balakrishnan Rajagopal of International Law and the Third World (Routledge, 2008).

Professor Stevens’ work has appeared in the journals Political Theory, the American Political Science Review, the Journal of Political Philosophy, Social Text, Third World Quarterly, and many other scholarly venues, as well as in The Nation magazine and opinion pieces in the New York Times. Her blog, States Without Nations, provides real-time original research findings of government misconduct based on narratives from people detained and deported as well as policies and other data obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

Stevens’ current project, 200 Percent American, is a nonfiction narrative of the unlawful deportation of a US citizen to Mexico over his protests that he was born in North Carolina, spoke no Spanish, and had no relatives in Mexico. The rendering of Mark Lyttle’s travels is influenced by Miguel Cervantes’s Don Quixote and will be attentive to the toponyms of North America and other textual and legal legacies of the conquistadors and British explorers and their descendants.

Stevens is a professor in the political science department and member of the Legal Studies Advisory Board at Northwestern University. Since 2012 she has been the founding director of the Deportation Research Clinic at the Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies, also at Northwestern. For more information, please visit http://www.jacquelinestevens.org.

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Duke Provost Peter Lange Steps Down

Peter Lange, the longest-serving chief academic officer in Duke University’s history and currently the longest serving Provost in the Association of American Universities, is stepping down from the provost post and returning to the faculty as a professor in June.

Lange, a political scientist interested in comparative politics and political economy, was named provost by then Duke President Nan Keohane in 1999. Next summer will mark the end of Lange’s fifteenth year and third term.

“When I came to Duke, it was just emerging from being perhaps the leading university in the Southeast, and now we’re a global university, among the top universities in the world,” Lange said. “It’s exciting to be at a place that’s changing and improving all the time, so open to innovation and experimentation.”

Lange also said that since he arrived at Duke 32 years ago, the campus has grown dramatically in its diversity and inclusiveness.

Lange has been recognized by the university for two major strategic thrusts. The first was the sustained building of an interdisciplinary culture for teaching, research and engagement with major global challenges which has become a distinctive feature of Duke’s identity and an attraction for faculty and students. The other is leading Duke’s global efforts, which includes the creation of DukeEngage, a program that fully funds summer service immersion opportunities, both at home and abroad, for select undergraduate students.

“The best education includes a substantial amount of engagement with the real world in which you really test and learn about ideas that you’ve learned in the classroom,” he said.

He also has led the both praised and criticized plan to launch a university campus in Kunshan, China. Duke Kunshan University is expected to open for classes starting in fall of 2014, after construction quality concerns delayed its opening.

More than 15 years ago, Lange, when still a regular faculty member, chaired the committee that produced the proposal for Curriculum 2000, which revised the curriculum for Duke Arts and Sciences undergraduates.

When it comes to employee numbers, nearly two-thirds of current faculty members were appointed during his tenure, as were all current deans, according to Duke.

During his years as provost, Lange also helped lead the charge to include more online materials in the classroom. He said this move toward more online instruction isn’t meant to “fundamentally transform what Duke represents,” but to introduce new teaching methods to enrich the kind of teaching environment we already have.

He also oversaw campus expansion planning that added new academic, student life, library, and arts facilities.

During his Duke career, Lange served as special assistant to the provost for international affairs, as vice provost for academic and international affairs, and as a professor in Duke’s department of political science. He chaired the political science department from 1996 to 1999.

Lange will now serve as the Thomas A. Langford University Professor at Duke. According to Lange’s curriculum vitae, he arrived at Duke in 1981 from an associate professor of government position at Harvard.

Meernik Receives Fulbright

James Meernik, professor of political science at the University of North Texas (UNT), received a Fulbright Specialist Grant to work with colleagues at Soochow University in Taipei, Taiwan. The grant award is given for short-term faculty and professional exchanges, typically lasting two to six weeks, to facilitate new research topics and teaching methods. During his three-week appointment in October 2013, he lectured on issues concerning foreign policy, transitional justice, and US/Mexico relations, and he designed a peace studies and human rights course for both Soochow University and UNT students. Taiwan is committed to the advancement of democracy and human rights in the Asia-Pacific region. Soochow is the oldest private university in Taiwan, with an enrollment of about 14,000.

Aloisi Joins Trinity

Rosa Aloisi, a native of Sicily, began her career as a lawyer before becoming a professor in Trinity University’s political science department. After receiving her JD from the University of Messina, Aloisi’s study of how leaders behave and comply with rules drew her into the field of political science, which prompted her to complete her PhD in political science at the University of North Texas.

Aloisi welcomes the switch from the courtrooms to the classrooms after working as a lawyer.

“It is my first year teaching in an environment with roughly twenty-five students in my class, and I have a great opportunity to work with them and become a part of the larger community at Trinity University,” Aloisi said.

She taught two sections of international politics and international law this semester.

PS Notes

Brent Nelsen, professor, department of political science at Furman University, was appointed by President Barack Obama to the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) in April and confirmed by the US Senate in July 2013. Nelsen has served as the chair of the South Carolina Educational Television Commission since February 2011, a position to which he was appointed by Governor Nikki Haley.

Ana Alves joins the department of history, political science and Humanities at Lee University as an assistant professor of political science. Prior to Lee, Alves was a lecturer and teaching assistant at the University of Virginia and an adjunct professor at Pontificia Universidad Católica do Rio de Janeiro. Alves has conducted research in Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru, and Ecuador.

She earned her PhD from the University of Virginia, an MA from...
People

Omar Wasow joined the Princeton University political science faculty on September 1, 2013, after coming to Princeton as a senior research assistant and postdoctoral research associate. A specialist in race and ethnic politics and American political development, Wasow earned his bachelor’s degree at Stanford and his PhD at Harvard.

Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, professor of political science and law at the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, has declared her candidacy for the State Senate in Florida’s 22nd District, composed of parts of Pinellas and Hillsborough counties. McLauchlan is a Fulbright Scholar, served on the board of directors for the League of Women Voters, and is a longtime Democratic operative. She will face incumbent Jeff Brandes, a Republican, in a district that has voted for Democratic candidates in the past several elections.

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Christopher J. Deering, senior associate dean and associate provost, George Washington University Science and Technology Campus

AWARDS

Bruce Buchanan, professor, department of government, The University of Texas at Austin, the Fall 2013 Silver Spurs Centennial Teaching Fellowship

Donald P. Haider-Markel, professor and chair, department of political science, University of Kansas, 2013 University Scholarly Achievement Award (a University-wide research award)

John Kennedy, associate professor, department of political science and East Asian Studies Program, University of Kansas was awarded the Gene A. Budig Teaching Professorship Award, 2013–14

Books by Our Readers

The Global President: International Media and the U.S. Government
Stephen J. Farnsworth, S. Robert Lichter, and Roland Schatz
Rowman and Littlefield

From the publisher: Stephen J. Farnsworth, S. Robert Lichter, and Roland Schatz provide an expansive international examination of news coverage of US political communication and the roles the US government and the presidency play in an increasingly communicative and interconnected political world. This comprehensive yet concise text will engage and inform students in many intersecting disciplines, as it includes analyses of not just the presidency, but US foreign policy and contemporary political media itself. The media developed to keep pace with the headwinds of political change are being asked more and more to adapt to and enhance the ways in which policy-makers, voters, and students make sense of the process of governance. The realities of an ever-changing political landscape are magnified nowhere more greatly than in the realm of foreign policy, and the stakes surrounding the need for quality communicational skills are no higher than at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue because—when the voices of the US government speak—the world is listening. This book provides students a perfect entry point into the complex and amorphous relationship between media and government, where that relationship has been, and where it looks to be heading in the future.

Subsidizing Democracy: How Public Funding Changes Elections and How It Can Work in the Future
Michael G. Miller
Cornell University Press

From the publisher: In Subsidizing Democracy, Michael G. Miller considers the impact of state-level public election financing on political campaigns through the eyes of candidates. Miller’s insights are drawn from survey data obtained from more than 1,000 candidates, elite interview testimony, and twenty years of election data. This book is therefore not only an effort to judge the effects of existing public election funding but also a study of elite behavior, campaign effects, and the structural factors that influence campaigns and voters.

The presence of publicly funded candidates in elections, Miller reports, results in broad changes to the electoral system, including more interaction between candidates and the voting public and significantly higher voter participation.

Michael G. Miller is assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and the Institute for Legal, Legislative and Policy Studies at the University of Illinois, Springfield.

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