

Priscilla H. M. Zotti

Associate Dean
College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Professor of Political Science
United States Naval Academy
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, The University of Texas. Austin, Texas
Fields: Public Law, American Political Institutions, Political Processes and Behavior

Master of Arts, Baylor University, Waco, Texas
Major: Political Science

Bachelor of Arts, Baylor University, Waco Texas
Majors: Political Science, History

CURRENT AND RECENT RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor Zotti has been a member of the faculty of the United States Naval Academy for 30 years. Beginning in 1990, her career progression has steadily led her into leadership roles of increasing responsibility. From 2011 to 2014 she served as Chair of the Political Science Department, leading 35 civilian and military faculty and managing about 350 Midshipmen studying in the major. In 2012 she was elected by her peers to serve as the Chair of Chairs, representing the leaders of the 19 academic departments in administrative matters. In 2014 she was selected as the Associate Dean of the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences and served in that capacity until her retirement from federal service. In her capacity as Dean she is in charge of academic matters for approximately 200 faculty within five academic departments (Economics, English, History, Languages and Cultures and Political Science). The Division is the academic home for a third of the Brigade of Midshipmen.

In 2019 Associate Dean Zotti was awarded the Department of the Navy Meritorious Service Medal for service to the faculty, staff, and Brigade of Midshipman of the United States Naval Academy.

In April 2022 she was granted Associate Dean and Professor Emerita of the United States Naval Academy.

ASSOCIATE DEAN, DIVISION (COLLEGE) OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES 2014-2020

The principal responsibility of the Associate Dean is to advise the Division Director on all academic, curricular, civilian, and program matters in the Division. Working with Department Chairs and the Provost, the Associate Dean serves as a liaison and communicator on strategic and long range planning as well as day to day faculty matters.

Responsibilities include:

Managing Personnel

- Providing advice and review of candidate and department packages for Promotion and Tenure candidates in the Division
- Reviewing, and recommending faculty reappointments for all tenure track and contract hires
- Managing the appointment and reappointment of Department Chairs and Associate Chairs
- Providing assessment and analysis of all Faculty Performance Summaries
- Coordinating and execute annual paystep and cash awards
- Analyzing Division tenure track and adjunct hiring needs, specifically data analysis of teaching loads and contact hours
- Managing inquiries and investigations into allegations of faculty and staff misconduct within the Division
- Collaborating and advising Chairs on FMLA, leave, sabbaticals
- Hiring educational technicians for the Division (two hires) and assist in hiring departmental educational technician(one hire)

Managing Resources

- Data analysis and resource management of Division and Department budgets to track spending through each quarter
- Reviewing and supporting the departmental Visiting Committee processes throughout
- Providing historical data to track majors, faculty, monies and resources
- Securing, managing, and serving as program manager for Minerva Fund, \$50,000 DOD research funds
- Managing and serving as program manager for Frederick Fluegel gift fund \$35,000
- Participating in Faculty Senate Assessment Committee annual reviews
- Conducting ad hoc projects for the Dean. Working alongside the Senior Professors to complete long term studies that result in tangible results for improving life on the Yard, such as a staffing study and Faculty I-Day

Midshipmen related matters

- Serving on the Naval Academy Preparatory School advisory committee
- Coordinating and executing annual Plebe Tours presentations to the plebe class

SERVICE:

- Serving on the Steering Committee for Middle States. Dr. Zotti led Working Group C. Along with two co-Chairs and ten faculty members, the group researched and wrote portions of the Middle States report pertaining to Standard 4 – Leadership and Governance, Standard 5- Administration, and Standard 10- Faculty
- Facilitating New Faculty Orientation
- Hiring Cyber Policy faculty, hiring Deputy Director for International Programs
- Serving on the Admiral Johnson Selection Committee (two years)
- Serving as Plebe Advisor to Fourteenth Company
- Creating a Faculty Orientation for the Division
- Collaborating and supporting departmental curricular issues and initiatives

DEPARTMENT CHAIR, POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, 2011-2014

The responsibilities of Department Chair include faculty development, management of curricular issues, leadership in support of departmental vision, planning and allocating resources, and program assessment. As Department Chair Professor Zotti led 36 faculty; 18 civilian tenure track, 11 rotational military, 2 Permanent Military Professors, 2 Junior Permanent Military Professors, and 3 Distinguished Visiting Professors. The Political Science major is one of the largest on the Yard, home to approximately 400 midshipman.

Responsibilities include:

Managing Personnel

- Formalizing procedures and practices in the department Promotion and Tenure process
- Creating a processes for contract renewals within the department
- Organizing and re-tooling departmental rules and policies in order to achieve clarity, transparency and process driven decisions
- Selecting and planning the inclusion and arrival of two Permanent Military Professors and two Junior Permanent Military Professors into the department
- Creating mentoring teams of faculty in varied small groups(military and civilian of different ranks) to work together, enhance collegiality, and support professional development
- Planning and developing yearly department offsite meetings (not done for over ten years)
- Establishing a Class of 1960 Chair selection process
- Creating a classroom visitation process so that all faculty were visited, engaged and encouraged to collaborate on pedagogical issues
- Encouraging collegiality by introducing a number of social gatherings for faculty – offsite, soup contest in the dark ages, breakfast with officers

Managing Resources

- Creating the footprint for the cyber policy course with Dr. Larry Cavaiola
- Writing and communicating quarterly updates and newsletter to the Class of 1960 whose gift supports an endowed Chair in the Department

- Initiating curricular change through analyzing inefficiencies within the three major tracks
- Providing budget transparency through regular departmental communication
- Restructuring scheduling of faculty to ensure fairness and consistency in teaching assignments

SERVICE:

- Leading the Chairs of USNA as the Chair of Chairs. Selected by her fellow Chairs, Dr. Zotti led the Chairs group in regular meetings with the Academic Dean and other administrators to tackle emergent critical issues (such as sequestration and new travel restrictions) and to improve current processes
- Leading Working Group C on the Middle States Steering Committee
- Serving as a Panel Moderator, United States Naval Academy Leadership Conference, January 2014
- Serving as a facilitator for New Faculty Orientation
- Serving as Plebe Advisor
- Serving as a member of three investigative teams regarding allegations of faculty misconduct
- Departmental nominee for the Service Award

MEMBER, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, 1990-1995, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR 1996-2002, FULL PROFESSOR, 2003-2020

Selected Departmental Service:

Representative Service:

- American Government and Constitutional Development Concentration Head(track)
- Director of the Honors Program
- Senior Academic Advisor
- Internship Coordinator
- FP130 Course Coordinator
- Department SAVI Representative
- Pi Sigma Alpha representative
- Library Representative
- Plebe Advisor
- Plebe Majors Brief
- Various roles in NAFAC
- Plebe Parents Weekend
- Honor Concept Representative
- Summer Seminar

Committee Service:

- Numerous Hiring Committees- both as a member and as the chair
- Awards Committee
- Pay Committee
- Department Assessment Committee
- Department Teaching Evaluation Committee
- NARC Committee Representative
- UKISP Scholarship Committee

Selected Divisional and Yardwide Service:

Representative Service:

- Division and Yardwide NARC Committee – member and Chair
- Faculty Senate Secretary
- Faculty Senate member
- Constitution Day Lead
- Plebe Advisor
- Superintendent Committee on Child Care, Chair
- Faculty Representative for Women’s Indoor Track
- Faculty Representative for Women’s Outdoor Track
- Faculty Representative for Women’s Cross Country Track
- Faculty Representative for Men’s Lightweight Crew

Committee Service:

- Academic Dean and Provost Search Committee
- Trident Committee
- Faculty Senate Executive Committee
- Faculty Senate Personnel Committee
- Middle States Committee member

SUMMARY OF TEACHING ACTIVITY

United States Naval Academy, 1990-present.

Professor Zotti was nominated for the APGAR Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Theodore J. Benac Excellence in Teaching Award by her Department, in which she received honorable mention.

Core Courses:

Professor Zotti has been involved in the core course, teaching both regular and honors sections, and serving as course coordinator across thirty plus sections offered each semester. The United States Congress in its investigative role into the Iran-Contra Scandal, queried USNA’s curricular offerings regarding government and constitutional development in the wake of several graduate’s involvement.

The result was the creation of FP130, United States Government and Constitutional Development. The only core course in the Political Science Department, FP130 introduces Midshipmen to the structure and function of government in addition to the ethics of government service.

- United States Government and Constitutional Development
- United States Government and Constitutional Development- Honors

Upper Level Electives:

Professor Zotti's interest and expertise lie in the fields of public law and institutionalism. Her upper level elective offerings reflect these interests. She regularly executes Movement Orders to the Supreme Court of the United States, providing Midshipmen an audience with one of the nine Justices of the Court and attendance at oral arguments. Midshipmen have met Justices Roberts, Ginsburg, Souter, Kennedy, Thomas, O'Connor, Sotomayor, Scalia, and Alito.

- American Constitutional Law: The Federal System
- American Constitutional Law: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Criminal Law and Justice
- Comparative Criminal Justice Systems

Course Development:

Bridging teaching and research, Professor Zotti developed courses that focus on criminal law and the criminal justice system, both in the United States and abroad.

Reworked and developed with a curriculum development grant:

- Criminal Law and Justice

Created with a curriculum development grant:

- Comparative Criminal Justice Systems

Research Courses:

Professor Zotti has supported Midshipmen research, working with individual Midshipmen in independent research projects, honors students, 1/C Midshipmen completing their capstones, and directing one Trident scholar. She served as the Director of the Department Honors Program.

- Capstone Course in Public Law
- Capstone in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Political Science Independent Research
- Political Science Independent Study/ 2nd Class Year Honors Program
- Political Science Honor Courses
- Trident Scholar Research – Midshipman Patrick Keane Affirmative Action and Distributive Justice

SUMMARY OF SCHOLARSHIP AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

An “Americanist” by training, Professor Zotti is the judicial institutionalist in the Political Science department. Her scholarly activity includes publishing books, book chapters, peer review journal articles and proceedings and book reviews, conference participation, manuscript reviewing, and as a referee for journals. Dr. Zotti is featured in a highly successful video series on the Constitution that are used in many high school and colleges.

Publications

Books:

Injustice for All: Mapp v. Ohio and the Fourth Amendment. (New York: Peter Lang Publishers.)

Clash of Ideals: Cases in American Political Development, with Howard R. Ernst, Stephen E. Frantzich, and Brendan Doherty. (Baltimore: Lanahan Publishers.)

Readings in Criminal Law and Justice, ed. (Boston: Pearson Publishing).

Book Chapters:

The Dilemma of Crime. Chapter IX in *Law and Politics: Unanswered Questions*. pp. 267-283. Peter Lang Publishers, New York.

The Sanctioning of Criminals: Punishment. Chapter X in *Law and Politics: Unanswered Questions*. pp. 285-308. Peter Lang Publishers, New York.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles and Proceedings:(selected)

“The Origination Clause: Meaning, Precedent, and Theory from the 12th to 21st Century” with Nicholas M. Schmitz. *British Journal of American Legal Studies*, Vol. 3, no. 1, 71-140.

“Lessons Learned: Comparing Vocational Treatment in Civilian and Military Prisons.” vol. 24, no. 7, *Corrections Compendium*, 4, 5-21-24.

"The Design and Redesign of the Rule of Exclusion: Search and Seizure Law in the United States and Canada," Volume 23, No. 4 *The Canadian Review of American Studies*, 1-39.

"Ethics and the Law. Using the Case Method of Instruction: The Police and Rodney King," *Book of Proceedings, National Conference on Ethics in America*, 413-418.

"Postindustrialism and the Changing Face of Administrative Litigation in England, 1960-1985," 29 *The Social Science Journal* 185-198. With Jerold Waltman.

"The Americanization of the Court Structure in Canada," *Michigan Social Studies Journal* 2 99-107.

"Judicial Review: The Politics of Scholarship," *Constitutional Commentary* 4 115-124. With Wallace Mendelson.

Contributor and Consultant to Final Report, *The Impact of Judicial Performance Evaluations On Attitudes of Judges and Behavior of Voters*. Consultant and Contributor. American Judicature Society, Chicago, Illinois.

"United States v. National Employees Treasury Union" in *Civil Liberties in America*. David Schultz and John R. Vile, eds. (M.E. Sharpe, Inc. Publishers).

"United States v. Sokolow" in *Civil Liberties in America*. David Schultz and John R. Vile, eds. (M.E. Sharpe, Inc. Publishers).

"State Action" in *Civil Liberties in America*. David Schultz and John R. Vile, eds. (M.E. Sharpe, Inc. Publishers).

"The Presidential Succession Act." in *Magill's Choice: U.S. Laws, Acts, and Treaties*. (Salem Press, Pasadena California).

"Rules of the Court." *Encyclopedia of the United States Supreme Court*, Thomas T. Lewis and Richard L. Wilson, eds. Pasadena, California: Salem Press, Inc.

"State Action." *Encyclopedia of the United States Supreme Court*, Thomas T. Lewis and Richard L. Wilson, eds. Pasadena, California: Salem Press, Inc.

"Fourth Amendment." *Encyclopedia of the United States Supreme Court*, Thomas T. Lewis and Richard L. Wilson, eds. Pasadena, California: Salem Press, Inc.

Selected Book Reviews:

Book Review, "The Innocence Commission: Presenting Wrongful Convictions and Restoring the Criminal Justice System," by Jon B. Gould, *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 18, no. 5, pp. 416-419.

Book Review "Reconstructing the Fourth Amendment: A History of Search and Seizure, 1789-1868," by Andrew E. Taslitz, *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 17, no. 3 pp. 282-285.

Book Review of "Constitutional Law: Examples and Explanations" by Allan Ides and Christopher N. May vol. 15, *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 18, no. 8, pp. 679-681.

Book Review, "The Decline of the Death Penalty and the Discovery of Innocence," Frank R. Bumgartner, Suzanna L. DeBoef and Amber E. Boydston, *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 18, no. 7, pp. 637-639.

Book Review of "When Law Fails: Making Sense of Miscarriage of Justice." Charles J. Ogletree and

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Austin Sarat, eds. *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 14, no. 10, pp. 772-775.

Book Review, of “September 11, 2001: A Turning Point in International and Domestic Law?” Paul Eden and Therese O’Donnell. *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 16, no. 6 pp. 421-422.

Book Review of “Hard Lessons: Reflections on Governance and Crime Control in Late Modernity.” Richard Hil and Gordon Tait, eds. *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 14, no. 10, pp. 772-775.

Book Review of “Guns, Crime, and Punishment in America” by Bernard E. Harcourt (ed.) *The Law and Politics Book Review*, vol. 14, no. 4, pp. 1-6.

“Nothing Personal” Book Review of “Politics and Judgment in Federal District Courts” by C.K. Rowland and Robert A. Carp in *Judicature* vol. 80 no. 6, pp.294-296.

Book Review of “Terrorism in Europe” by Antonio Vercher. *The Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 3, No. 6, pp. 121-124.

Video Participation (script consultant and interviews):

“Documents of Destiny Series”, volumes 1-12. Series for national distribution. Goldhil Video Productions.

“The Election Process in America.” Understanding Government Video Series for national distribution. Goldhil Video Production.

“The Bill of Rights.” Understanding Government Video Series for national distribution. Goldhil Video Production.

“The United States Constitution.” Understanding Government Video Series for national distribution. Goldhil Video Production..

Awards and Fellowships

- Outstanding Political Science Student Award, Department of Political Science, Baylor University
- Patterson Fellow (Departmental Fellowship), Department of Government, The University of Texas at Austin
- University Fellow (University-wide Fellowship), The University of Texas at Austin
- Research Internship, Supreme Court of the United States. Worked in the chambers of the Chief Justice of the United States
- Nominated for the Apgar Award for Excellence in Teaching, Department of Political Science, United States Naval Academy
- Nominated for the Outstanding Civilian Teaching Award, Department of Political Science, United States Naval Academy. (Honorable Mention)
- Nominated for the Civilian Faculty Service Award, Department of Political Science, United States Naval Academy

Research Support

- Naval Academy Research Council grants
- Faculty Development Grant
- Curriculum Development Grants
- Leadership grant

External Grants

- Canadian Embassy, Faculty Development Grant.
- American Bar Association, Committee on College and University Legal Studies

Conference Attendance and Participation

Beginning as a graduate student and continuing today, Professor Zotti has participated in numerous conferences. She has presented her research, served as panel discussant and panel chair at international, national and regional conference gatherings. A complete listing is available upon request.

Selected Invited Lectures

Johns Hopkins University, Odyssey lecture series, 2009 “The Future of the Supreme Court.” Asked to speak about vacancies and future vacancies on the high Court.

Johns Hopkins University, Odyssey lecture series, 2012 “Preview: The Supreme Court Term.” Asked to speak on the upcoming current term.

USNA Leadership Conference, 2014, Moderator “Ethics: The Leader, the Follower and the Organization.”

Anne Arundel County Women Giving Together, 9th Annual Women and Leadership Event, “Effective Leadership: Keys to Success.” 2015. Panelist with Kathryn Higgins, former White House Cabinet Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Labor, Dawn Lindsay, President Anne Arundel Community College.

Johns Hopkins University Mini Law School in Annapolis, Spring 2017, “Controversial Cases” Asked to speak on affirmative action in higher education, particularly the Fisher I and Fisher II decisions.

Professional Membership and Leadership positions

Southwestern Social Science Association

- Vice President (select) of the Association (current)
- Executive Council (current)
- Program Chair for the Association (current)
- Chair, Selection Committee for Outstanding Conference paper
- Nominations Committee
- Judicial Politics and Public Law Section Chair

- Resolution Committee

American Political Science Association

- Law, Courts, and Judicial Process Section member
- Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence Section member
- Program Chair for Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence Section
- Herman C. Pritchett Book Award Selection Committee member

Supreme Court Historical Society

Canadian Political Science Association

International Political Science Association, Subcommittee on Comparative Judicial Research.

Editorial Service

Book Manuscript Reviewer for:

West Publishing Company
 HarperCollins Publishing Company
 Harcourt, Brace Publishing Company
 MacGraw-Hill Publishing Company
 Prentice-Hall Publishing Company

Journal Manuscript Reviewer for:

Law and Politics
 American Review of Canadian Studies
 Law and Politics Book Review
 Judicature