Director's Report

Andrew E. Busch, PhD

The Rose Institute is off to a strong start for another successful year of research, publications, speakers, and public education. As always, we started the academic year by hiring a new group of Rose research assistants. This time, eight freshmen and one sophomore were selected through an intense competitive application and interview process. They have already begun the New Hire training program that provides them with the knowledge base and skills to contribute successfully to the Rose Institute in upcoming years. I can also report the following:

We have another excellent line-up of speakers coming to campus, including Tracy Westen (September 19), Keith Whittington (October 26), Deborah Gonzalez (November 6), Jack Pitney and Michael Nelson (November 7), Joel Kotkin (February 7), Michael Zuckert (March 20), and Nadine Strossen (April 5). Whittington, Zuckert, and Strossen are part of a series on freedom of speech co-sponsored with the Salvatori Center at CMC.

A study of county election officials done jointly with Prof. Jean Schroedel of Claremont Graduate University produced a paper that was delivered at the American Political Science Association meeting on September 1. The paper examined both practices and attitudes of election officials in regard to both ballot security and ballot access. The next steps will be to turn the paper into a journal article and to examine the survey results from a different angle, namely whether and how practices and attitudes are related to proximity to Indian reservations.

Another annual update of the Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey is soon to be released.

A number of other research projects are in the works, including projects on tribal judicial systems, outside spending in California legislative elections, the return of bilingual education, and time served for varying criminal offenses in California.

The Rose Institute and Lowe Institute of Political Economy have dissolved the Inland Empire Center, but are continuing our collaboration on Inland Empire issues. We have scheduled a reformatted version of our old Ontario forecasting conference on March 27 at Roberts Pavilion on the CMC campus. The conference, titled “Inland Empire Vision 2018: Trends and Challenges,” will feature a regional Inland Empire economic forecast, a policy talk by a prominent Inland Empire public official, a conversation on the $15 minimum wage, and a chance for conference attendees to identify key upcoming issues in the region.

With the support of President Chodosh, we are exploring the possibility of hosting a California gubernatorial debate in 2018 with a major media co-sponsor.

Finally, we are also exploring a possible collaboration with the Institute for Local Government in which the Rose Institute would make a series of short educational videos on local government issues and the ILG would distribute them to local governments for public consumption. We are eager to see where this project may take us.
As is always the case in the fall, the Rose Institute had a whirlwind of a semester, generating original research, hosting a variety of speakers, and of course, hiring the next class of research assistants. Congrats to the nine students who accepted to offers from the Rose, we are sure that each will contribute in meaningful ways to the institute and its community.

The Rose continued its long-standing projects and also initiated new ones this semester. Caroline Peck ’18 keeps the California Almanac up-to-date, while Leon Ren ’19 has already tasked the new hires with gathering the next round of data for the Kosmont Cost of Doing Business Survey.

Lindsay Burton ’19 broke new ground with the Rose Institute alumni database, tracking down alums and analyzing available information. Sophia Helland ’20 moved into the next phase of her research on her tribal courts data, a project that stemmed from her new hire training last year.

The Rose also began an exciting new venture with the Institute for Local Government. Throughout the next semester, we will be preparing a pilot release of short videos explaining basic concepts relevant to state and local government. Joe Noss ’20 will be leading the project team, and we are looking forward to see what content they produce!
Through our partnership with the Athenaeum, the Rose Institute hosted Tracy Westen on September 19. He discussed new media models for civic engagement. We will be hosting three more talks this semester: Keith Whittington of Princeton University will speak on why free speech matters on campus; Deborah Gonzalez ’85 will speak on policy research and political challenges; and Michael Nelson, Jack Pitney, and Andrew Busch will look back at the 2016 election. We have an exciting line up of speakers lined up for next semester too, including two more on free speech topics.

We are in the process of developing a new format for our Inland Empire economic forecasting conference, which will now be held in the spring. The event will be scaled back in size and cost and will be held on campus.

Thank you to senior staff for all of their hard work and dedication to the Rose. Though we miss Dr. Miller, who is on sabbatical in Texas this year, we are excited to see what research he produces during his time there!

Additionally, we would like to thank Darryl Wold for his service as chair of the Board of Governors. Mr. Wold has contributed so much to the Rose community and we are very grateful for his leadership.
Darryl Wold recently stepped down as the chair of the Board of Governors, after serving as chairman since April 26, 2007. A graduate of Claremont McKenna College, Mr. Wold served as a commissioner of the Federal Election Commission from 1998 to 2002. He has managed political campaigns, worked as a consultant on redistricting, and has assisted the speaker of the California State Assembly. Mr. Wold works as an attorney at Reed & Davidson, LLP.

Rose Institute: How has the Institute changed during your tenure?

Mr. Wold: There hasn’t been much change that I could identify in the basic mission or performance of the Rose – we still attract some of the best students at CMC, and they continue to produce remarkable work. One notable change has been in our offices – from an eclectic collection of small rooms in one of the oldest campus buildings, to wonderful new offices in our enviable location on the top floor of the Kravis Center. I think that managing our work in the sometimes cramped space of the old offices gave our students then a certain camaraderie; I hope that hasn’t been lost in our spacious and sleek new quarters. New programs for students include more intensive training in skills that help them with our projects. We still produce the Kosmont Survey after all these years, demonstrating that some things never change.

Rose Institute: Can you tell us about any highlights from your term as chair?

Mr. Wold: An ongoing highlight for me has been getting to know our students each year, and seeing them develop over their time at the Rose and graduate directly to successful careers or to some of the best graduate programs in the country.

There are many more specific highlights, for which I cannot claim more credit than many other people, but they include at least eight new members we recruited for our Board of Governors; redistricting conferences at the Rose and in Sacramento following the 2010 census; the institution of the Rose Award to recognize individuals for outstanding public service; the authorization of the Rose Student Alumni Association; and of course the event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Rose Institute, which brought back many memories of the early years and encouraged us going forward.

Rose Institute: Any other reflections?

Mr. Wold: I’ve been gratified during the recent tumultuous period on college campuses, including unfortunately even at the Claremont colleges, that Rose students have generally maintained their responsible and constructive attitudes, exhibiting a maturity that unfortunately some students have demonstrated – demonstratively and embarrassingly – that they don’t have. Our Rose students have worked in a spirit of cooperation on their projects, and with respect toward one another despite differences in backgrounds and points of view – attitudes that are apparent to our Board of Governors, even with our limited contact. I’m proud to have been associated with the Rose for many years, in large part because of the students we have.

The Rose Institute is grateful to Mr. Wold for his decade of service as chair. We look forward to continuing to work with him as a member of the board.
A group of Rose Institute research assistants trekked up Potato Mountain together on Sunday, October 1, to enjoy the Claremont wilderness and spend time with each other. While hiking with views into the Inland Empire, the research assistants discussed their time at the Rose, their impressions of our current political climate, and gave advice to new Rose new hires. This retreat was a great way to explore the local area, as well as get to know the other research assistants in a fun setting. Participants included (in photo above from left) Jake Leischner ’21, Charlie Harris ’19, Will Frankel ’21, Ben McAnally ’21, Melissa Muller ’18, Katie Hill ’18, and Ellen Lempres ’18.

These smiling faces of Rosies want to remind everyone that this hike is just the first of many more bonding events this year.
Elena I. Castellanos ’21

Elena’s past involvement in Cal YMCA’s Youth and Government program inspired her pursuit of a Government major that led her to Claremont McKenna College. She was raised in Hawthorne, California where she participated in efforts to improve her community. Elena volunteered at the local hospital, led voter registration drives, and worked at her neighborhood public library. Through her work at the Rose Institute, she hopes to contribute to efforts that will impact local and state government.

Sevion D. DaCosta ’21

Sevion is from Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He is currently a Government major but is hoping to major in PPE (Philosophy, Politics, Economics). In high school, Sevion was Head Steward, Varsity football Captain, co-head of the Black History Club and Founder of the Mock Trial Club. At CMC, Sevion plays Inside Linebacker for the CMS football team, is a member of Mock Trial, CMS Christian Athletes, Black Students Association and ASCMC.

Jacob S. Leischner ’21

Jake is a freshman at Claremont McKenna College from Albuquerque, New Mexico dual majoring in Government and International Relations. Jake discovered his interest in politics from his involvement in high school Speech & Debate, but he tailored his interest to local politics through his internship on an Albuquerque mayoral campaign. He is especially interested in criminal justice and education reform. Jake is also involved in CMC’s Model UN and debate teams.

William P. Frankel ’21

Will is from Shaker Heights, Ohio, majoring in Government. He became interested in local government while interning for Cleveland City Councilman Jeff Johnson over the summer of 2017. In high school, Will participated in Public Forum debate, his school newspaper, and was on the Youth Forum Council of the Cleveland City Club. In addition to the Rose Institute, Will is also a staff writer at The Claremont Journal of Law and Public Policy.
Johnson Lin ’21

Johnson is a freshman from Portland, Oregon and is looking to major in PPE. In high school, Johnson served as the Student Body President and worked as a Victims Advocate at the Washington County District Attorney’s Office, inspiring his interest in government. Outside of the Rose, Johnson is involved in the Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College (ASCMC) as freshman class president and the CMC Mock Trial team. He also works as a server at the Athenaeum.

Benjamin J. McAnally ’21

Ben is from Ashland, Oregon and hopes to major in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE). He became interested in state and local government through coordinating a mentoring program to promote educational equality at a local charter school, Kids Unlimited Academy, and through teaching a U.S. citizenship class in high school. At the Rose Institute, Ben hopes to pursue research in education and immigration policy. In his free time, he enjoys creative writing, mock trial, and ballroom dance.

Naseem Nazari ’21

Hailing from Claremont, California, Naseem Nazari traveled long and far to work at the Rose Institute. Serving on the board of a local non-profit dedicated to education in high school, she is especially passionate about educational equality, and is hoping to do research pertaining to this field while working at the Rose. As of now, her major is undeclared, however she is deeply interested in Middle East Studies, Government, and Public Policy.

Zane G. Tolchinsky ’20

Born and raised in Evanston, Illinois, Zane is a second year student hoping to major in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. Zane found his passion for politics through his schoolwork and experience in community organizing, including within the mentally-impaired community. Zane hopes to expand his own knowledge of politics and make information more accessible to the public through working with the Rose Institute, specifically in relation to education, institutionalized recidivism, and election reform.

Nandeeni Patel ’21

Nandeeni Patel is from Murrieta, California and is planning on dual majoring in Government and History. Throughout high school, all of her experiences have pulled her towards a path founded in policy reform and public service. Specifically, having been the State President of the California Association of Student Councils and President of the Murrieta Youth Advisory Committee, Nandeeni found an interest in research-based advocacy catered to state and local education policy.
TIME SERVED

Wesley Whitaker ’18

After completing data collection last semester, students have been working closely with Professor Bessette to finalize a report that includes over 20 graphs tracking the change in time served in state prisons before first release. The visualizations break down incarceration data by crime type, as well as specific crimes, enabling students to recognize the dominant trend that the punishment for violent crimes has been and continues to steadily increase. Punishment for all crimes increased during the 1990s, but property, public order and drug related offenses have all either flattened out or started to decline. Wesley Whitaker ’18 will be presenting these findings at the Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research at Cal Poly Pomona on November 18.

TRIBAL COURTS

Sophia Helland ’20

The Tribal Courts project is in its final stages. Last year, Francesca Hidalgo-Wohllenben ’17 and I focused on collecting crime data from sheriff’s offices across California. This year, I am in the process of analyzing our findings and writing a white paper on the results. The final product will examine the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act and its implementation in California, and publish crime data from tribal lands. These data have not been broadly collected and examined before. California’s designation as a state with jurisdiction over tribal lands has complicated the justice system and made the role of tribal courts unclear. The issue is complex, and the paper aims to clarify the situation and propose some suggestions for moving forward. I look forward to continuing this project through the Fall 2017 semester.

COMPETITIVE DISTRICTS

Kate Ridenour ’18

With the white paper for the 2014 election cycle undergoing a final round of fact-checking before publication, the Competitive Districts team is moving forward with analysis of campaign finance trends for the 2016 election cycle. The team has finished collecting campaign expenditure, independent expenditure, and campaign contribution data for 2016 and is beginning to work with Economics faculty members to build a robust statistical model and run regression analysis on the data. Team members Kate Ridenour ’18, Nick Fedorochko ’19, and Melanie Wolfe ’20 hope this extensive study will offer new insights about how campaigns are funded and how such funding impacts election outcomes.

PROP 47

Joe Noss ’20

The purpose of this research project is to explore the effects of 2014’s Proposition 47 on crime rates across California. Using FBI Uniform Crime Reporting data from 2015 and 2016, this project examines changes in Burglary, Larceny-theft, and Robbery rates within Riverside, San Bernardino, and LA Counties, comparing these counties’ changes with changes seen statewide. Because Proposition 47 changes were implemented only recently, this data analysis is also paired with interview data from law enforcement officials and district attorney representatives. Although it is too early to reach definitive conclusions, the changes in crime rates, along with the testimony from these officials, hint at some unwanted effects of the proposition that warrant further research. Professor Jennifer Walsh, Rose Institute faculty fellow and dean at Azusa Pacific University, is supervising this project.
**Bryn Miller ’19**

Bryn spent her summer in Boston working for Senator Elizabeth Warren in her district office. Bryn worked primarily on constituent services for the Boston region and also helped out at town hall events. She is grateful to the Rose Institute for funding this experience, which gave her valuable insight into how federal government works at the state level.

**Shaneli Jain ’18**

Returning from a year at University of Oxford, Shaneli continued her research at Keck in the pharmaceutical industry. She assessed policies and corporate restructuring of large phamaes affecting small firm funding. Shaneli also did work at UCLA, researching a patented drug showing links to breast cancer.

**Brian Landeros ’18**

Brian spent his summer in NYC, working as a Summer Analyst in the Mergers & Acquisitions Group at Morgan Stanley. Brian had the opportunity to advise a variety of M&A transactions across multiple industries, including healthcare, retail, industrials, transportation and technology. At the conclusion of the internship, he received an offer to return full-time after he graduates.

**Zenaida Huerta ’20**

Zenaida was an intern on the Healthy California campaign, working on healthcare issues and lobbying for SB-562, The Healthy California Act, the bill for single payer healthcare in California. Her activism for single payer healthcare in California earned her an invitation to be an affiliate for Our Revolution - California at the People’s Summit in Chicago. Zenaida also actively campaigned for Kimberly Ellis for party chair at the California State Democrats Convention in Sacramento. At the convention, she participated with caucus members of the Chicano Latino Caucus and Progressive Caucus to support and sign resolutions for healthcare and campaign finance reform.

**Kate Ridenour ’18**

Kate spent her summer working in DC for K&L Gates, a global law firm and lobbying practice. The firm’s bipartisan Government Affairs team of attorneys and policy professionals is known for its in-depth knowledge of the legislative process and strong ties to key decision makers in Congress. As a policy fellow, Kate tracked legislation, conducted policy research, and assisted clients and industry stakeholders on a variety of matters. Her issue portfolio focused on energy, environment, financial services, and transportation policy. Additionally, she regularly helped with the firm’s federal grant projects.
Lindsay Burton ’19
Lindsay spent her summer in Tangier, Morocco, in an intensive Arabic program on a Critical Language Scholarship from the State Department. Living with a Moroccan host family, she had eight hour-days, filled with classes, sessions with language partners, and extracurricular activities — all conducted entirely in Arabic.

Charlie Harris ’19
Charlie spent his summer in DC working for the National Association of Counties Financial Services Center, a for-profit subsidiary of NACo that offers a suite of financial services to local governments. Their two largest programs are the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance and the NACo Deferred Compensation Program in partnership with Nationwide. Charlie worked in support of those initiatives and helped explore potential new ventures for the FSC. His duties varied from research, to meeting prep, to logistical support, to even a bit of graphics. His highlight was getting to work at the NACo Annual Conference in Ohio, where he spent 4 hectic days brushing shoulders with county commissioners.

Nick Fedorochko ’19
Nick interned at the headquarters of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Nick worked with the Office of International Affairs’ Technical Assistance team, which provides training, along with regulatory and legal analysis, to over 100 nations’ foreign securities regulators. The SEC’s Technical Assistance program helps foreign authorities combat insider trading, money laundering, and market manipulation. It also helps facilitate capital formation in emerging market economies by advising them on how to join international organizations like IOSCO. He briefed senior attorneys on the capital markets and legal landscape of Latin American and Asian countries, assisted with fact-finding in an international enforcement investigation, and wrote a keynote speech delivered by Commissioner Kara Stein at an international institute.

Katie Hill ’18
Katie spent her summer in the nation’s capital, interning for the U.S. Senate Finance Committee. Working primarily with the committee’s tax team, Katie was exposed to everything related to tax policy. After a hectic summer trying to repeal and replace the ACA, the Committee will now move on to tackle the complicated issues of tax reform.

Wesley Whitaker ’18
Wesley spent his summer in Sacramento working for the League of Women Voters of California (LWVC), a multi-issue advocacy organization which focuses on everything from water policy to campaign finance reform. As a Legislative Intern, he was responsible for tracking and analyzing bills, as well as lobbying lawmakers and testifying before committees in support of various pieces of legislation. He also worked on action alerts and op-eds for local publications, and represented the League at press conferences. Lastly, he researched and developed a toolkit to support local Leagues advocate for public funding of local campaigns to reduce the influence of wealthy donors and SuperPACs.

Caroline Claire Peck ’18
Caroline spent her summer in New York City, interning for the United Nations Foundation, a non-governmental organization that partners with the UN and supports both UN and Member State initiatives to solve peace and development issues. As part of the Policy and UN Relations team at the UN Foundation, Caroline tracked updates from the UN Secretariat and assisted in preparation for the 2017 High-Level Political Forum, which took place in July at the UN. She also coordinated an organization-wide effort to analyze the voluntary reports of 43 countries that reviewed their sustainable development progress this summer, and reviewed the analyses for common themes and challenges.
Rachel Alaynick ’20

Rachel spent her summer in Geneva, Switzerland, interning for International Bridges to Justice (IBJ), a human rights NGO. IBJ focuses on providing early access to competent legal aid, which reduces unjust pretrial detentions and the use of investigative torture. As a development intern in IBJ’s headquarters, Rachel designed new country programs for available funding opportunities, requiring extensive research and understanding of the respective country’s needs, criminal procedure code and related laws, and local activities.

Sophia Helland ’20

Sophia spent her summer working for CA Assembly member Chris Holden in her hometown of Claremont, California. As an intern in his field office, Sophia split her time between work at the office, community events, legislative relations meetings, and staff events at the Pasadena district office. She spent time researching and writing memos on policy issues such as healthcare, water, and transportation. She is excited to be learning about state and local government at a hands-on level and the day-to-day operations of the California legislature.

Ellen Lempres ’18

Ellen spent her summer in Marrakech, Morocco, interning for the High Atlas Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to sustainable development in Morocco. Using a grassroots approach, the High Atlas Foundation works with Moroccans to help develop more environmentally-friendly approaches to development in order to create lasting growth in Morocco. As a communication intern, Ellen managed the High Atlas Foundation’s social media handles by photographing, videoing, and blogging about her experiences. She also wrote press releases and website articles for the organization, which were sent on to national and international reporters.

Alec Lopata ’19

Alec spent his summer in Denver working at the State Innovation Exchange, a national resource and strategy center that supports state legislators in advancing and defending progressive policies. As a Legislative Outreach Fellow, he worked on all aspects of the organization’s mission, from policy research to helping plan the annual conference and everything in between. He provided research to state legislators on a variety of issue areas, including criminal justice issues, the opioid crisis, higher education affordability, public funding of elections, and voter ID laws.

Nick Sage ’20

Nick was awarded the CMC Appel fellowship, a grant that allowed him to execute a self-designed writing project. He decided to drive 9,637 miles around the United States, visiting numerous historic sites and memorials along the way—all the while keeping a blog. Through his writing, he hopes to highlight the connections between American history and the current political climate. He focuses on the different forms of patriotism and demonstrates that it is possible to confront painful aspects of our nation’s history in a way that promotes understanding and societal growth.
2017 Fall Speakers & Visitors

Tracy Westen
Founder and former director of the Center for Governmental Studies
"New Media Models for Civic Engagement: From Marconi to Snapchat"
Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Keith Whittington
Princeton University
"Why Free Speech Matters on Campus"
Thursday, October 26, 2017, Co-hosted with the Salvatori Center

Deborah Gonzalez '85
Public Policy Institute of California
"Policy Research and Political Challenges"
Monday, November 6, 2017, Co-hosted with the Dreier Roundtable

Michael Nelson, Rhodes College
Jack Pitney, Claremont McKenna College
Andrew Busch, Claremont McKenna College
"The 2016 Election One Year Later"
Tuesday, November 7, 2016