

group of scholars, who have not only established co-authorships but also (peer) mentorships/sponsorships and lasting friendships. This legacy program began in 1986 and continues under APSA staff member, Dr. Kimberly Mealy, who connected me to the TLC and who works tirelessly to expand DEI and belongingness in the profession, including the creation of the R.E.S.P.E.C.T. campaign that encourages respectful professional conduct at our annual meetings. I've shared it outside of APSA.

I found my true intellectual home in the Political Science Education and the new Civic Engagement organized sections. These sections are intrinsically connected with the TLC that I thoroughly enjoy because my first love is teaching political science. I also enjoy my memberships in other organized sections, including the Race, Ethnicity and Politics, Public Policy, State Politics and Policy, Urban and Local Politics, Women, Gender and Politics as well. I think the APSA organized sections help to make this large organization of over 11,000 members accessible, navigable, and manageable. It's easy to get to know the colleagues within the profession through the organized sections. I strongly recommend and encourage colleagues to join a section for intellectual stimulation, scholarly collaboration and professional growth.

### Is there anything else you'd like people to know about you or the work that you do?

I would like people to know that my service and focus on DEI helped to sharpen my leadership skills, leading to my current administrative role as interim Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Louisville. Though as rewarding as it is difficult, I believe DEI efforts must be intentional and ongoing with representation by all who are committed to the work. I view my work as an opportunity to broaden our competencies to shape an inclusive profession, and I can see the progress at APSA. As I look over my career, I'm extremely grateful to those who came before me to create pathways that opened doors and laid foundations on which I stand. They are the founders and members of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS), who challenged the early exclusivity of APSA, and later reunited in an active partnership. They are also my colleagues in the profession who understand what the late civil rights activist Ella Baker meant when she stated, "Give light and people will find a way." That's what I do. ■

## BOOKS BY OUR MEMBERS

### *The Paradoxes of the American Presidency*

Thomas E. Cronin, Michael A. Genovese, Meena Bose

Oxford University Press

### *The Modern Presidency: Six Debates that Define the Institution*

Michael A. Genovese

Columbia University Press

### *US Presidents and the Destruction of the Native American Nations*

Michael A. Genovese, Alys Landry

Palgrave Macmillan

### *The Republican Evolution: From Governing Party to Antigovernment Party, 1860-2020*

Kenneth Janda

Columbia University Press

### *A Tale of Two Parties: Living Amongst Democrats and Republicans since 1952*

Kenneth Janda

Taylor & Francis Group

### *The Gun Dilemma: How History is Against Expanded Gun Rights*

Bob Spitzer

Oxford University Press

