Each SAS must be registered for prior to the program to receive the Zoom info. To receive credit for any virtual SAS, students must submit a paragraph response to a prompt after the program attended.

1. PRESS COVERAGE IN WASHINGTON: FROM TAKING AWAY TRUMP’S TWITTER TO BIDEN’S ERA OF GOOD FEELINGS

Nikki Usher  
Associate Professor, Department of Journalism  
Wednesday, February 24, 2021  
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.  
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

In the wake of Jan. 6, 2021, when right-wing extremists stormed the US Capitol, Twitter took tweeting privileges away from former President Trump. One company had the power to silence the president’s direct line of communication to his most loyal digital constituents, raising all sorts of concerns about the power of big tech to influence politics and free speech. Regardless of how extreme or mundane the tweet, the national news media was compelled to cover the president. The national news media, demeaned as “coastal elites” and “fake news,” now have a return to normalcy with a president who is unlikely to disregard mainstream media’s institutional importance. Still, objectivity is not neutrality, as this talk will explain, and covering Biden presents more new challenges than might be immediately evident. The national news media remains vulnerable to the same blind spots as it did four years ago, with an obsession with inside baseball politics and “palace intrigue,” with limited connection to places like Champaign-Urbana and other “fly over” regions. Come for a talk on the messiness of Washington journalism in an era of platforms and partisanship, and leave with some new ideas about how to make sense of it all.

Nikki Usher is an associate professor at The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the College of Media's Journalism Department (with affiliate appointments in the Communication and Political Science). Her research focuses on news production in the changing digital environment, blending insights from media sociology and political communication. From 2019-2020, she was a fellow at the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities and as of Summer 2020 is a fellow with the Open Markets Institute’s Center for Journalism and Liberty. She is the author of three books, Making News at the New York Times, Interactive Journalism: Hackers, Data, and Code, and News for the Rich, White, and Blue: How Place and Power Distort American Journalism, due out in June. Prior to moving to Champaign-Urbana, Usher spent eight years in Washington as a professor at George Washington University’s School of Media and Public Affairs.

2. WHEN STARS ATTACK! NEAR-EARTH SUPERNOVA EXPLOSIONS AND THEIR RADIOACTIVE FINGERPRINTS

Brian Fields  
Professor of Astronomy and Physics  
Thursday, March 4, 2021  
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.  
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

The most massive stars are the celebrities of the cosmos: they live extravagant lives, and die in spectacular and violent supernova explosions. While these events are awesome to observe, they can take a sinister shade when they occur closer to home, because an explosion within a certain “minimum safe distance” would pose a grave threat to Earthlings. We will discuss these cosmic threats to life and show compelling evidence of a “near miss” supernova from 3 million years ago that rained its debris upon the Earth. This amazing discovery allows us to study supernova ashes in the laboratory and confirms that nearby explosions are a fact of life in our Galaxy. We therefore press further, presenting recent evidence that supernova explosions could have caused biological extinctions on Earth around 360 million years ago. We conclude with tests of this hypothesis, including the search for trace amounts of radioactive supernova byproducts in fossils that witnessed the end of the Devonian period.

Brian Fields is a professor of Astronomy and of Physics at the University of Illinois, and a member of the Illinois Center for the Advanced Study of the Universe. He is fascinated by the "inner space/outer space" connections that link the science at the smallest and largest scales. His research studies the highest-energy sites in nature –-the big bang, exploding stars (supernovae), and high-energy particles in space (cosmic rays) – where nuclear physics and elementary particle
physics play a central role. He is particularly interested in the ways exploding stars influence life on earth: supernovae make life possible, but also loom as possible agents of mass extinctions.


Ryan A. Ross  
Assistant Director, History and Traditions Programs  
Richmond Family Welcome Gallery, UI Alumni Association

This Zoom event will be a twofer, starting with an image-heavy presentation on the art, architecture, and history of Altgeld Hall and its famous chimes, and ending with a virtual tour of the Richmond Family Welcome Gallery.

The Richmond Family Welcome Gallery at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center is a showcase for the heritage and global impact of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Featuring interactive exhibits about the past, present, and future of the University, the Welcome Gallery serves as a destination for returning alumni and other campus visitors and a gateway through which prospective students and their families can begin their Illinois experience. For more information, please visit [https://uialumnialliance.org/richmond-family-welcome-gallery/](https://uialumnialliance.org/richmond-family-welcome-gallery/).

Ryan A. Ross is assistant director of history and traditions programs at the University of Illinois Alumni Association, associate editor of *Illinois Alumni* magazine, and curator of the Richmond Family Welcome Gallery at Alice Campbell Alumni Center. A proud CHP alum, Ryan arrived on campus in 2004, took a shine to the place, and has been here in one form or another ever since. He is delighted to give you a guided tour through University history!

4. **ORGANIZED LABOR AND IMPLICATIONS FOR ILLINOIS AND THE NATION**

Robert Bruno  
Professor of Labor and Employment Relations  
Director of the Labor Education Program

The country has gone through a traumatic period. A pandemic, a recession, mass protests over racial injustice, a divisive national election and a violent attempt to prevent a peaceful transition of government power have battered the nation. Whether or not you will ever become a union member, organized labor will play a role in the country’s and the Biden Administration's “Build Better Back” plan. The future of work is undetermined, but worker voices should be paramount.

Robert Bruno is a Professor of Labor and Employment Relations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and he is the Director of the Labor Education Program. His research focuses on organized labor, workers’ rights, and political and economic trends related to these issues, as he probes the balance of power between large corporations and working-class Americans, the role of the workplace in civil society, the political power of labor organizations, and ways that unions promote workers’ interests.

5. **MEDIA RACIAL STEREOTYPING, AND IMPACT ON CRIME POLICY**

Travis Dixon  
Professor, Department of Communication  
Director of Graduate Study

Travis Dixon will discuss his research related to how media disinformation about African Americans or undocumented Latino immigrants as criminals has increased stereotype endorsement and, in turn, increased support for punitive crime policy. While these portrayals are not frozen in time, he will discuss trends and outcomes related to this type of media coverage, and offer thoughts about changing media representation for audiences who are becoming more diverse.

Professor Dixon is a media effects scholar who specializes in investigating the prevalence of stereotypes in the mass media and the impact of stereotypical imagery on audience members. He has been honored as a faculty fellow with UIUC's Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society and he was the 2013 Visiting Philanthropy Faculty Scholar at the Clinton School of Public Service. Dr. Dixon serves on the editorial boards of *Communication Research, Howard Journal of Communications, Media Psychology*, and the *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*. Much of Dr. Dixon's work
has been focused on racial stereotyping in television news. His more recent investigations examine the content and effects of stereotypes and counter-stereotypes in major news events, online news, and musical contexts.

6A. INTRODUCTION TO NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS: FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING AFTER AUGUST 2022

David Schug, Director
National and International Scholarships (NIS)
Suzanna Challen, Scholarships Coordinator, NIS
Chancellor’s Scholar/s (TBA)

Wednesday, March 31, 2021
5:00 – 5:50 p.m.
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

The National and International Scholarships Program http://www.topscholars.illinois.edu/ serves high achievers from all colleges and majors by encouraging and assisting students in applying for prestigious scholarships. Many Chancellor’s Scholars have utilized this campus resource. Students may apply for some scholarships as early as their sophomore year. While many other awards are for study, work, or research after graduation, the time to start planning for these applications is now. The session will outline a variety of awards for future academics, environmentalists, public servants, activists, teachers, and leaders from any conceivable field; and provide tips on how to prepare for these opportunities while making the most of a student’s time at the University of Illinois.

*Note: Students who attended a Scholarships presentation in a previous semester may attend this SAS, but will not receive additional SAS credit; however, if a student is a presenter at this SAS and was not a presenter previously, he or she will receive SAS credit.*

6B. APPLYING FOR NATIONALLY COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS NOW: FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING BEFORE AUGUST 2022

David Schug, Director
National and International Scholarships (NIS)
Suzanna Challen, Scholarships Coordinator, NIS
Chancellor’s Scholar/s (TBA)

Wednesday, March 31, 2021
6:00 – 6:50 p.m.
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

The National and International Scholarships Program http://www.topscholars.illinois.edu/ serves high achievers from all colleges and majors by assisting students in applying for prestigious scholarships. Many Chancellor’s Scholars have competed favorably in these competitions, and others have used their applications as a foundation to apply successfully for other opportunities. The session will outline a variety of international awards, such as the Fulbright and Rhodes, and provide tips on creating competitive applications.

*Note: Students who attended a Scholarships presentation in a previous semester may attend this SAS, but will not receive additional SAS credit; however, if a student is a presenter at this SAS and was not a presenter previously, he or she will receive SAS credit.*

7. THE PSYCHOLOGY OF MISINFORMATION AND CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Dolores Albarracín
Professor of Psychology and Business Administration

Thursday, April 15, 2021
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

With so much information being promulgated through social media or elsewhere, from the pandemic and politics and beyond, misinformation is rampant – and has impact. When misinformation is disseminated, it has an impact psychologically, leaving an imprint that may be hard to erase. Conspiracy theories are particularly problematic. I discuss the roots of these beliefs and then turn to two commonly proposed solutions to correct conspiracy beliefs: Inducing trust and increasing critical evaluation.

Dr. Dolores Albarracín, Ph.D. is an Argentine-American Professor of Psychology and Business Administration. Trained in social and clinical psychology, she directs the Social Action Lab and the Health Social Media and Technology Group, where she studies social cognition and action, communication, misinformation, as well as attitudinal and behavioral change. She applies her theoretical contributions to the domains of HIV, substance use, vaccines, and COVID-19. Dr. Albarracín received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and was previously a
A tenured professor at the University of Florida and at the University of Pennsylvania. Her publications include 6 books and about 180 journal articles and book chapters. She has been editor-in-chief of *Psychological Bulletin* (2014-2020) and received awards for Outstanding Mid-Career Contributions to the Psychology of Attitudes and Social Influence and to Social Psychology from the Society of Social and Personality Psychology, as well as an Avant Garde Award from the National Interest of Drug Abuse. Her research is funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

8. **UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (URS) PRESENTATIONS and CHP SYMPOSIUM ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH XXX**

Chancellor’s Scholars who have been accepted to present at the URS and CHP’s 2019/2020 Summer Research grant recipients Tuesday, April 20, 2021 5:10 – 6:50 p.m.

Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

You are invited to learn more about other Chancellor’s Scholars’ research! Come hear other Chancellor’s Scholars before they present at the Undergraduate Research Symposium (which all students are welcome to attend, and will take place virtually from April 25 – May 1, 2021, more info in a future CHP NewsBytes).

*Note: Students who attended the URS presentation in a previous semester may attend this SAS, but will not receive additional SAS credit; however, if a student is a presenter at this SAS and was not a presenter previously, he or she will receive SAS credit.*

9. **VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE McKechnie Family LIFE Home**

Wendy Rogers Shahid and Ann Carlson Kahn Professor of Kinesiology and Community Health; and Director of the McKechnie Family LIFE Home Thursday, April 22, 2021 5:15 – 6:30 p.m.

Brian Pastor Assistant Director, Center for Aging, Health, and Disability

Wendy Rogers and Brian Pastor will lead a virtual tour of the McKechnie Family LIFE (Living in Interactive Future Environments) Home, a cutting-edge research center focused on innovations in home environments. This facility mimics existing home dwellings (i.e., typical home of today) as well as provides space for the development of next generation smart homes (i.e., house of tomorrow) that would allow people of all ages and abilities to live fuller, healthier, and autonomous lives. Spaces include a two-bedroom home; an attached garage; multi-purpose research and collaboration rooms; outdoor areas; and capacity for community engagement. Research and development efforts focus on a range of topics related to in-home activities to improve quality of life and independence.

Wendy Rogers is the Shahid and Ann Carlson Khan Professor of Applied Health Sciences, with her primary appointment in the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health. She has an appointment in Educational Psychology and is affiliate of the Beckman Institute, Illinois Informatics Institute, Center for Social and Behavioral Science, and the Discovery Partners Institute. Her research interests include design for aging; technology acceptance; human-automation interaction; aging-in-place; human-robot interaction; aging with disabilities; cognitive aging; skill acquisition; and training.

Brian Pastor coordinates all logistics for the McKechnie Family LIFE Home, and is the Assistant Director for the Center on Health, Aging, and Disability and the Program Coordinator for Collaborations in Health, Aging, Research and Technology (CHART). Brian’s research interests include examining stress as a variable in quality and longevity of life among first responders and the dissemination and application of health-related information among the LGBTQ+ population.

10. **PRESIDENT BIDEN’S FIRST 100 DAYS – PROGRESS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES**

Brian J. Gaines Professor, Department of Political Science and Institute of Government and Public Affairs Thursday, April 29, 2021 5:15 – 6:30 p.m.

Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program
Brian Gaines will discuss progress made in the first 100 days of President Biden’s administration, with regard to issues ranging from the pandemic, climate change, the economy, and international relations. Come ready with questions and topics for discussion.

Brian J. Gaines is a professor at the University of Illinois, with appointments in the Department of Political Science and at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs. He received a BA with honors from the University of British Columbia and AM and PhD degrees from Stanford University, where he was also the playing president of the ice hockey club. Most of his research deals with elections, electoral rules, and public opinion. He served on the Royal Commission for Electoral Boundaries that re-drew the constituencies of British Columbia prior its 1991 general election. Between 2005 and 2007, he completed marathons on all seven continents.
WAITING ON RESPONSE/SCHEDULE INFO FROM THE FOLLOWING PRESENTERS

XX. THE CHALLENGES OF POLICE REFORM: Developing Critical Thinking Skills Around Policing and Other Relevant Issues

XX, Division of Public Safety
Michael Schlosser, Director, Police Training Institute
XXday, XX, 2021
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

Join us in a conversation with UI public safety experts about some of the challenges faced by police and other safety officials in the current climate, such as how the First Amendment is upheld, maintaining public safety relationships with undocumented immigrants in an uncertain time, progressing on trust issues with underrepresented groups and police, and how the community can engage positively and proactively with these issues and challenges. The Presidential Task Force on 21st Century Policing Report (2015) became an important roadmap for focusing on both community and police as entities that, together, can appropriately target criminal activity and reduce community trauma; we will also discuss some of the issues that challenge the progress for the recommendations to come to fruition under the new administration. You are encouraged to join XXXX and PTI Director Michael Schlosser in a dialogue about thinking critically about these issues, as well as how we can all be empowered and informed community members in the face of fast-changing communications and media – social and otherwise – that may impact what we *think* we know about what’s going around us and/or what is actually occurring.

Placeholder info for UI Public Safety presenter bio.

Dr. Mike Schlosser is the Director of the University of Illinois Police Training Institute. He holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Governor’s State University and a PhD in Education from the University of Illinois. He retired as a lieutenant from the Rantoul Police Department in 2004. Dr. Schlosser has conducted and collaborated in numerous research projects at the University of Illinois and is credited for his innovative ideas toward police reform.

XX. PERFECTIONISM IN GIFTED STUDENTS

Allison Wyland
Counseling Center Paraprofessional
xxday, xx, 2021
5:15 – 6:30 p.m.
(Counseling Center Paraprofessional representative/s)
Zoom info will be sent to registrants prior to the program

While there are many positive reinforcements associated with being gifted and identifying as a perfectionist, there may also be areas of exploration that will help with your overall development. Chancellor’s Scholar and CCP Allison Wyland will present on healthy ways to manage anxieties that often come with experiences of being academically gifted. She will also facilitate discussions on how to effectively think about perfectionism for optimal psychological health.

Allison Wyland is a Counseling Center Paraprofessional in the Counseling Center, as well as a Chancellor’s Scholar.