WEBINAR: DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA  
Thursday, May 6, 1-2:30 pm (PST)  
Registration required: https://bit.ly/3e2kYdR  
Panel: Michelle Bonner (UVic), Yanilda Gonzalez (Harvard), and Lucía Dammert (U of Santiago, Chile), will focus their presentations on Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Colombia. Beatriz de Alba-Koch (UVic) will moderate and chair this session. This is the third webinar of the international series, Democracy in Latin America, co-sponsored by UVic’s Centre for Global Studies and the Latin American Studies Program. The aim of the series is to raise awareness about democracy in Latin America by maintaining online intellectual exchanges between academia and civil society from different parts of the Americas. This event will centre on how social discrimination influences the way police treat distinct social groups; the role of neoliberalism and the media in feeding punitive populism; and the persistence of authoritarian police forces in democratic regimes. This webinar will be in English.

CAPI PANEL: “The Global State of Democracy after Biden’s First 100 Days”  
Wednesday, May 5 at 5 pm  
Registration: https://uvic.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__5Osyy1zRkue7L-TE61P0w  
Panelists: Amarnth Amarasingam, Queen’s, Chris Kilford, Canadian International Council, Carol Petersen, U of Hawaii  
Hosts: Paul Bramadat, CSRS/HIST, Victor Ramraj, CAPI/LAW, Oliver Schmidtke, CFGS, POLI/HIST  
While much is left to be seen regarding the long-term effects and legacy of the Trump Administration, Trump’s presidency brought to the surface a number of political issues within American society that challenge the state of democracy - political polarization, economic and social inequality, and right-wing populism, nationalism, “conspirituality”, and extremism. However, these issues are by no means limited to the American context. Over the last decade, we have seen the rise of right-wing, anti-immigrant forces throughout Europe, and ethnonationalism, polarization, and corruption challenging the resiliency of democracies in Asia.

President Biden ran on a platform of healing the divides in America, and restoring American leadership internationally. In his first foreign policy speech as President, he announced that, “America is back. Diplomacy is back at the center of our foreign policy” and he outlined his plans to “course-correct [American] foreign policy and better unite [American] democratic values with [their] diplomatic leadership.” He spoke of rebuilding democratic alliances, addressing the military coup in Myanmar, and challenging China’s economic and human rights abuses. The purpose of this event is to look back on the first 100-Days of the Biden administration and, in recognition of the urgency at which these issues must
be addressed, discuss what has been done and what challenges the Biden administration faces going forward.

**EXTERNAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CORNELL CSPT CONFERENCE** “Democratic Representation: Acts, Aesthetics, Institutions”

May 13-15 via Zoom

The [schedule and registration](#) details are now online. Registration is open and free to all, though attendees are encouraged to become members of CSPT. Registered participants will receive access to the conference papers. We are excited about the program, and very much hope you can join us.

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*The Political Science Weekly Digest is a weekly e-mail newsletter and monthly in the summer. It’s also available online [http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/politicalscience/home/news/index.php](http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/politicalscience/home/news/index.php)*

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