

**Nicholas A. Gowen** received his BA in Political Science from UIC in 2000, Phi Beta Kappa, and received his Juris Doctor *cum laude* from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2003. He practiced white-collar criminal defense during his first three years of practice as an associate attorney at Winston & Strawn. He now practices commercial litigation as an associate attorney at Schopf & Weiss, a litigation firm in Chicago. Nick has been a Visiting Instructor for the UIC undergraduate Trial Advocacy Program in the Political Science Department since 2005, where he is responsible for coordinating the Mock Trial Program and coaching the 11-time nationally ranked mock trial team. This year the program has doubled in size and funding and, they are attending the national competition in Florida in April 2007.

**David Hoffman** was appointed Inspector General of the City of Chicago in 2005. Prior to becoming Inspector General, Hoffman was an Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago and prosecuted a wide variety of federal cases including the prosecution of 48 defendants who used rented babies to smuggle liquid cocaine in baby-formula cans from Panama to Chicago, New York, and England. In 2002, Hoffman and his colleagues on the case received the Department of Justice's Director's Award for this prosecution. U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald selected Hoffman to be a Deputy Chief in the Narcotics and Gangs Section. In that role, Hoffman led the office's gang unit, and in conjunction with other law enforcement agencies, he helped to create new gang strategy plans in Chicago in which federal, state, and local law enforcement leaders built consensus on top gang targets, shared intelligence, and coordinated gang prosecutions. Hoffman is a 1988 cum laude graduate of Yale University with a B.A. in History and a 1995 graduate from the University of Chicago Law School.

**Evan McKenzie** is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Illinois-Chicago, where he teaches courses in Constitutional Law, Civil Rights and Liberties, the Judicial Process, American Government, and Urban Politics. He is also an adjunct professor at John Marshall Law School, where he teaches a course on the law of common interest housing in the LL.M. program in Real Estate Law. McKenzie received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Southern California and a J.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. He practiced law for ten years in California before entering academic life and is currently licensed to practice in Illinois as well as California. He is one of the nation's leading authorities on homeowner and condominium associations and is a frequent commentator for the national news media on that subject. He is the author of *Privatopia: Homeowner Associations and the Rise of Residential Private Government* (Yale University Press) which received the "Best Book on Urban Politics" Award from the American Political Science Association, and has written many academic articles and papers.

**Hon. Raymond Funderburk** has served as a Cook County Circuit Court Judge since 1993. After graduating from UIC in 1974, he received a JD degree from UIUC in 1978. He served with the Cook County Legal Assistance Foundation from 1978 to 1982, and then was in private practice in Chicago until joining the bench. In addition to long-term community service in Park Forest, Judge Funderburk has been very active in the University of Illinois Alumni Association, serving as a member of the Board of Directors, and President of the LAS Alumni Association. In 1995, he was named a City Partner by the Alumni Association, honoring "service and activities in the community where you live, ... dedicated commitment to the community where you studied, ... and professional accomplishment which serves all of the citizens in the metropolitan community."

# UIC POLITICS FORUM 2007

Hosted by the University of Illinois at Chicago

Department of Political Science, Honors College, and  
LASAA Liberal Arts & Sciences Alumni Association

## “THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN!”

**A discussion of elections, campaigns, and accountability.**

Saturday, March 10, 2007  
UIC Student Center East  
750 South Halsted  
Illinois Rooms A-B-C  
8:30 am. – 2:30 p.m.

8:30 am

Coffee

9:15 am

Welcoming Remarks

**Christopher M. Comer** is Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). He was first appointed to the UIC faculty in 1982 and is currently a Professor of Biological Sciences, Neuroscience, and Bioengineering. He received a B.S. in Biology from St. Peter's College (1974), a Ph.D. in Neurobiology from the University of Chicago (1980), and then conducted postdoctoral research in the Section of Neurobiology & Behavior at Cornell University. From 1993-1995 he held a visiting appointment at The National Science Foundation (NSF) where he was Director of the Behavioral Neuroscience Program. Dr. Comer received the Director's Award for Program Management Excellence while at NSF (1995) and was a Fellow of the CIC Academic Leadership Program in 2001-2002. He is currently a member of the Advisory Panel for the Biological Sciences Directorate at NSF.

9:45-11:30 am

The 2007 City Elections

**Gerald Strom (panel moderator)** is a UIC Professor of Political Science and has been a member of the department since September 1973. His primary areas of interest are American Politics, especially the U.S. Congress and American elections. He has published three articles in the *American Political Science Review*, one book, *The Logic of Lawmaking* with Johns Hopkins University Press, and numerous other articles in other professional journals. He has received one joint NSF grant and one Fulbright Fellowship (to Indonesia). During the 1980s and 1990s he was also an exit poll consultant for NBC News. In the early 1990s Gerry served two years as Chair of the Department. In recent years he has been very active in the UIC Faculty Senate, Serving one year as Chair of the University Senates Conference, three years as Presiding Officer of the Senate, and three years as Secretary of the Senate and Chair Senate Executive Committee

**Gery Chico** has practiced law and represented leading companies in Chicago and the nation over the past 20 years in the areas of real estate, government regulation and business counseling. Gery served as Chief of Staff to Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley from 1992 through 1995. Prior to that, he was Deputy Chief of Staff for the Mayor. In 1995, Mayor Daley appointed Gery President of the Board of Trustees of the Chicago Public Schools. In March, 2004 Gery was a candidate for the U.S. Senate. He is a former partner at Sidley & Austin, serving as General Counsel to the Chicago Development Council, and as Partner-In-Charge of the firm's State and Local Government practice. Mr. Chico is a member of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Urban League, DePaul University, the University of Illinois Alumni Association and Scholarship Chicago. Mr. Chico was one of the founders of the Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce (now the Illinois-Hispanic Chamber of Commerce). He currently writes a column for the Chicago Sun-Times and remains active in many professional, civic and charitable organizations.

**Paul Green** is Director of the Institute for Politics and Arthur Rubloff Professor of Policy Studies at Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois. He is also the Political Analyst for WGN Radio in Chicago and the author of several books and articles on Illinois and Chicago politics. His latest publications, co-authored with Mel Holli, are entitled *World War II Chicago* and *The Mayors: The Chicago Political Tradition, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*. Paul served as Monee Township Supervisor from 1977 to 1983. Paul received his BA at the University of Illinois in History and Political Science and his MA and Ph.D. at the University of Chicago.

**Dick Simpson** is a UIC Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science. A specialist in city politics and elections he came to UIC in 1967. He has won numerous teaching awards such as the Silver Circle and UIC Excellence in Teaching Award. He is author of 16 book and over 80 professional articles and films. His book entitled, *Rogues, Rebels, and Rubber Stamps* chronicles the history of the Chicago City Council from 1863 to the present.

11:45am Lunch & Speaker: *Anthony J. Peraica "Running for Office in Cook County"*

**Anthony J. Peraica** is an Attorney and most recently a candidate in the Cook County race for President of the Cook County Board. Tony has a long history of political service in Illinois. He earned his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago and J.D. from the John Marshall Law School. Tony was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1984. Over the ensuing 20 years, Tony has built a thriving law practice. From 1990 to 1992 he served as a Special Assistant for the Attorney General of Illinois. He founded the South Loop Chamber of Commerce in 1990 and is currently the Commerce Secretary. In 1996, Tony was appointed by former Governor Jim Edgar to the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation where he served four years. Tony sought county offices previously as the Republican nominee for Cook County Treasurer in 1998. In the 2002 primary, Tony was elected as the Lyons Township Republican Committeeman. Later that year, he was elected to the 16th District seat on the Cook County Board of Commissioners where he has served since 2003.

**Recognition of Faculty**

**Recognition of Donors**

**Retired Faculty Awards**

Richard Johnson (31 years) - Gerald Strom (34 years) - Frank Tachau (28 years)

1:15pm

Evolution of Ethics in Political Office and the Law

**Ertharin Cousin (panel moderator)** received her B.A. in criminal justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1979 and a J.D. from the University of Georgia at Athens in 1982. Ms. Cousin has been senior vice president of public affairs for Albertson's Inc., headed the Illinois arm of the Clinton-Gore presidential campaign and currently is President and CEO of The Polk Street Group, a public affairs consulting group