

Center for Civic Engagement plans Political Humor program



February 18, 2019

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The Center for Civic Engagement at Oakland University is planning a program entitled “Political Humor and its Impact on American Life.” The program is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5 at 7 p.m. It will be held in Banquet Room B of the Oakland Center on campus at Oakland University. It is free and open to the public.

Keynote speaker for the program is Jody C Baumgartner, Ph.D., the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of political science at East Carolina University. Dr. Baumgartner is an expert on political humor and satire and will share his take on where we stand with humor in American politics in 2019.

“Political humor and satire have played a role in U.S. politics and society since Benjamin Franklin, who is credited with offering the first political cartoon in 1754,” said OU political science professor David Dulio, director of the Center for Civic Engagement. “While the medium has changed over time political humor and satire has always been there. However, the advent of television shows like Saturday Night Live and then The Daily Show and The Colbert Report brought about a renewed focus in the American public. That has only continued in recent years with social media memes and other methods. This program will

spark important conversations about political humor's impact on American politics including whether Americans actually learn from consuming this information and whether there are any unintended consequences that come with it."

The event is sponsored by Pi Sigma Alpha, Oakland University's Student Congress and the Center for Civic Engagement.

About the Center for Civic Engagement:

The Oakland University Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) takes important issues of public concern and public policy out of the classroom and actively engages many different stakeholders — includes students, faculty, policy makers and community members — in non-partisan, deliberative and productive dialogue. Indeed, democracy is better served through respectful discussions about important issues. In short, the Center for Civic Engagement acts as a "convener of conversations" on a variety of issues that impact the local, state and federal levels. These types of events are designed to lead to a more informed citizenry in our surrounding communities.



The poster features a black background with a stylized American flag motif in the upper left corner, consisting of a grid of white stars. In the center, two gold-colored stick figures are depicted in a conversational pose, with one figure gesturing towards the other. Below this graphic, the title "POLITICAL HUMOR AND ITS IMPACT ON AMERICAN LIFE" is written in large, bold, white capital letters. The event details "MARCH 5, 2019 // 7 - 8:30 PM" and "OAKLAND UNIVERSITY" are in gold, with the address "OAKLAND CENTER, AMBASSADOR ROOMS 312 MEADOW BROOK ROAD, ROCHESTER, MI" in smaller white text below. The speaker's name "DR. JODY C BAUMGARTNER" is in white, flanked by gold chevron symbols, with his title "DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY" and subtitle "THE EXPERT ON POLITICAL HUMOR AND SATIRE IN THE UNITED STATES" in white below. The "SPONSORS" section lists "PI SIGMA ALPHA", "THE CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT", and "OAKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENT CONGRESS" in white. At the bottom, the "CENTER FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT" logo (a circle with a stylized 'C' and 'E') is shown next to the tagline "A CONVENER OF CONVERSATIONS" in white.

**POLITICAL HUMOR
AND ITS IMPACT
ON AMERICAN LIFE**

MARCH 5, 2019 // 7 - 8:30 PM
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
OAKLAND CENTER, AMBASSADOR ROOMS
312 MEADOW BROOK ROAD, ROCHESTER, MI

DR. JODY C BAUMGARTNER
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
THE EXPERT ON POLITICAL HUMOR AND SATIRE IN THE UNITED STATES

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