

POLITICAL SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

The Penn State Behrend Political Science Advisory Board formed in 2009 and consists of prominent community leaders and alumni. The Board meets twice a year with faculty and current students to discuss community support and publicity for political science program teaching and research initiatives and events, career and internship opportunities for political science majors, and public engagement for faculty members and students with the community

The Political Science Advisory Board consists of the following seven members:

Barbara Welton is an attorney who received her B.A. degree in Political Science from Penn State Behrend and her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh. She is also a member of the Penn State Behrend Council of Fellows and serves on the Board of Directors for the Penn State Behrend Alumni Association.

Troy Frederick is an attorney who received his B.A. degree in Political Science from Penn State Behrend and his law degree from Vermont Law School.

Sister Joan Chittister, OSB, received her Ph.D. from Penn State and is currently a co-chair of the United Nations Global Peace Initiative of Women and a regular columnist for the National Catholic Reporter. She is the author of 42 books, a former leader of many local, national, and international organizations, an international lecturer, and the recipient of numerous awards in honor of her works.

Christopher P. Mong is a life-long resident of Erie who has always been active in civic and political affairs within the community. He holds a B.A. Degree in Political Science from Penn State Behrend with post-graduate work in communications at Edinboro University. He and his wife, Christine, have four children. Mr. Mong brings a host of political experience to the advisory board. Under long-time Erie Mayor Louis J. Tullio and his successor Mayor Joyce Savocchio, Mr. Mong served 12 years in various local government positions. He also served for 6 years as the Northwest Pennsylvania Regional Director for Community & Economic Development for Governor Edward G. Rendell. He is currently a close political advisor for current Erie Mayor Joseph E. Sinnott, as well as various local and state campaigns.

Judge John Trucilla serves on the Erie County Court of Common Pleas, to which he was first elected in 2001. He received his undergraduate degree in political science and his law degree from the University of Dayton. He is also a former Assistant United States Attorney for the western district of Pennsylvania.

Wendy Noble-Sidelinger received her B.A. degree in political science from Penn State Behrend and serves as a Legislative Assistant for Pennsylvania State Senator Jane Earll.

Judge John R. Falcone is an attorney and a former judge for the Erie County Court of Common Pleas. He is a Penn State alumnus who began his undergraduate work at the Behrend campus and was the recipient of the Erie County Bar Association Chancellor of the Bar Award in 2005.