

## Long-term benefits to the community

CPPPS believes that positive exposure to political processes will encourage students to enthusiastically and effectively participate in their communities, and thus promote their development as civic leaders. Nationwide, community colleges are the portal of entry to higher education for 45 percent of all students beginning college. Seventy percent of racial and ethnic minorities begin their college education at community colleges. Of the over 35,000 students enrolled at ACC on an annual basis, more than 41 percent of these students are minorities. In addition, overall student enrollment at ACC is expected to increase by a third within the next ten years, including a proportionate increase in minority enrollment. This significant increase in new students places CPPPS in the exciting position of being able to expose the general populace of students to the political process, as well as those from historically underrepresented groups.



ACC students, faculty, and Constitution experts exchange ideas about Constitutional rights at the 2007 Constitution Celebration at Eastview

## The Center will

- Strive to find creative ways to actively involve students in all levels of the learning process
- Conduct thoughtful and in-depth research on issues of public and community interest
- Host opportunities for service learning through real-world experience and participation
- Use the collective expertise of governmental, business, and nonprofit communities to educate students as to the best procedures for public policy problem solving
- Program workshops, lectures, and internships conducted by ACC's faculty, government officials, community leaders, public policy professionals, and other prominent decision makers, designed to stimulate conversation and creativity, while focusing on specific problems and solutions

**“This country will not be a permanently good place for any of us to live in unless we make it a reasonably good place for all of us to live in.”**

Theodore Roosevelt

## Partnerships with CPPPS

The Center invites participation from faculty, staff, students at ACC, and from the communities served by the college. Working partnerships with other institutions and agencies include area decision-makers and opinion leaders (e.g., elected and appointed officials, business executives, religious and community leaders), public and private staff leaders (e.g., city managers, school superintendents and hospital administrators), and Texas Campus Compact.

## How can I help?

Donations are accepted under the Center's nonprofit status and are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Checks are payable to the Public Policy & Political Studies Fund, an ACC-managed account. Online donations can be made at [www.policyaustin.org](http://www.policyaustin.org).

For more information:

Website: [www.austincc.edu/cppps/](http://www.austincc.edu/cppps/)

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Email: [cppps@austincc.edu](mailto:cppps@austincc.edu)

Address: Center for Public Policy & Political Studies  
Austin Community College  
5930 Middle Fiskville Road,  
Suite 414.3  
Austin, TX 78752-4390

Attention: Peck Young, Director

## ACC Center for Public Policy & Political Studies Donation Form

Yes! I want to contribute to the ACC Center for Public Policy & Political Studies.

Your contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ will greatly assist the Center in achieving its mission to positively impact public policy and political discourse by educating and empowering ACC students, faculty, and communities. **Please make check payable to: Public Policy & Political Studies Fund.**

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email Please! \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Center for Public Policy & Political Studies  
Austin Community College  
5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Suite 414.3  
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**Attention: Peck Young**



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Employment at the college and access to its programs or activities shall not be limited on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or disability.

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**“We mean by ‘politics’  
the people’s business –  
the most important  
business there is.”**  
Adlai Stevenson

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## ACC Center for Public Policy & Political Studies [CPPPS]

### Origins of CPPPS

America’s political system is not so much a rigid institution as it is a process, the success or failure of which depends upon how well that process works. Ultimately, the process functions properly when public policy demonstrates a constructive balance between private interest and public good. ACC’s desire to transmit this knowledge, and its practical applications, led to the development of the **ACC Center for Public Policy & Political Studies (CPPPS)**.

CPPPS, a nonpartisan and externally funded 501(c) (3), is the first of its kind to be established at a community college. It follows ACC’s path of responsiveness to central Texas students’ needs. The Center is an educational resource and provides opportunities for faculty and students to engage in the public policy process.

### CPPPS’ objectives

CPPPS is committed to education, civic engagement, and understanding across cultures. The Center’s goal is help ACC students get to know the processes that govern our state and our nation. Through nonpartisan research, faculty guidance, and actual hands-on experience, CPPPS enables students to develop a broad range of communication, analytical and decision-making skills that they will use to understand and transmit issues of public concern. With these skills, students can pursue civic leadership and professional positions at public, nonprofit, and private organizations.

**“The scholar and the policymaker are engaged in a common enterprise.”**

Woodrow Wilson



U.S. Under Secretary of Education Sara Martinez Tucker visits ACC

### How CPPPS is structured

The Center is organized as a nonprofit under ACC’s Office of Governmental and Community Relations. Overseeing it is a Board of Directors, chaired by former Austin Mayor Bruce Todd. The Center’s staff members are hired and supported by the College and report to the Advisory Council for operational direction. Advisory Council members include ACC trustees, administrators, faculty, community members, a student, and a member from the Texas Campus Compact. There is also a Faculty Council that works with the Center’s Director on programming and student participation.