



## UNDERSTANDING CONGRESS • AUSTIN

Thursday, October 12, 2017

### HUMANITIES TEXAS TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Byrne-Reed House • 1410 Rio Grande • Austin, Texas

7:30–8:15 a.m.	Check-in and breakfast
8:15–8:30 a.m.	Opening remarks <i>Michael L. Gillette, Humanities Texas</i>
8:30–9:15 a.m.	The People's House: Constituents and their Representatives <i>Michelle Chin, The Archer Center</i>
9:20–10:05 a.m.	The House at Work <i>Charles Flanagan, National Archives</i>
10:05–10:25 a.m.	Break and group photo
10:25–10:35 a.m.	Humanities Texas educational resources
10:35–11:20 a.m.	Six Milestones that Shaped the U.S. Senate <i>Donald A. Ritchie, Historian Emeritus, U.S. Senate</i>
11:25 a.m.–12:10 p.m.	The Contemporary Senate <i>Sean Theriault, The University of Texas at Austin</i>
12:10–1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–3:15 p.m.	Primary source seminars
3:15–3:30 p.m.	Final announcements

Image: Samuel Finley Breese Morse (American, 1791–1872), *The House of Representatives*, 1822, probably reworked 1823. Oil on canvas, Corcoran Collection (Museum Purchase, Gallery Fund), National Gallery of Art.

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## FEATURED SCHOLARS

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**MICHELLE CHIN** is academic director for the Archer Center. She teaches the undergraduate policymaking class for the Archer Center, a class she has taught since fall 2014. Previously, she was senior researcher and policy analyst at the Learning Policy Institute. She is a former congressional staffer, working for more than eight years as an education policy advisor for U.S. Senator John Cornyn of Texas and for four years as a policy advisor for U.S. Representative Joe Barton of Texas. She was assistant professor of political science at Arizona State University and served as program director of the Arizona State University Capitol Scholars Program. Dr. Chin earned a PhD and an MA in political science from Texas A&M University. She has a BS in political economy from Andrews University.

**CHARLES FLANAGAN** is outreach supervisor at the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Previously, he was a high school teacher for thirty years. During his last two decades in the classroom, Flanagan was the humanities department chair and history teacher at the Key School in Annapolis, Maryland. While at Key, he led the development of an interdisciplinary literature and history curriculum that featured hands-on learning with classic literature and primary sources in history. Flanagan has a BA from Assumption College, an MA from St. John's College, and a PhD in American studies from the University of Maryland.

**DONALD A. RITCHIE**, Historian Emeritus of the U. S. Senate, graduated from the City College of New York, earned a PhD in history from the University of Maryland, and served in the U.S. Marine Corps. At the Senate Historical Office, he did research and reference for senators, staff, and the media; conducted an oral history program; and prepared for publication such previously closed documents as the closed-door hearings of Senator Joseph McCarthy. He has served as president of the Oral History Association and on the council of the American Historical Association. His books include *The U.S. Congress: A Very Short Introduction* and *Doing Oral History: A Practical Guide* (Oxford University Press); and the high school history and government textbooks *United States History & Geography*, *The American Vision*, and *United States Government* (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill).

**SEAN M. THERIAULT** is professor of government at The University of Texas at Austin. He is currently researching the distinction between ideological and war-making behavior in the U.S. Congress. He has published three books, *The Power of the People: Congressional Competition, Public Attention, and Voter Retribution* (Ohio State University Press, 2005), *Party Polarization in Congress* (Cambridge University Press, 2008), and *The Gingrich Senators: The Roots of Partisan Warfare in Congress* (Oxford University Press, 2013). He has also published numerous articles in a variety of journals on subjects ranging from presidential rhetoric to congressional careers and the Louisiana Purchase to the Pendleton Act of 1883. His classes include the U.S. Congress, Congressional Elections, Party Polarization in the United States and the Politics of the Catholic Church. He has received numerous teaching awards, including the Friar Society Teaching Fellowship (the biggest undergraduate teaching award at UT) in 2009, UT Professor of the Year in 2011, and the Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award in 2014. In 2012, he was inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers. Before obtaining his PhD from Stanford University (in 2001; MA in Political Science in 2000), he attended the University of Richmond (BA, 1993) and the University of Rochester (MS in Public Policy Analysis, 1996).