



INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

By Professor Arthur D. Wolf, Director

SERIES EXPLORES “PRESIDENT TRUMP: THE FIRST 100 DAYS”

During the spring semester, the Institute for Legislative and Governmental Affairs, together with the Springfield Public Forum, sponsored a series of public discussions entitled: “President Trump: The First 100 Days.” President Franklin Roosevelt coined that phrase in 1933, his first term, to describe the actions he intended to initiate to address the Great Depression. The phrase has been used ever since to describe the plans of the new president for the early weeks of his first term, when the President’s influence may be at its maximum.





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at law.wne.edu/ilga.

Our series began on January 19, the day before the Inauguration, with **a discussion of the Electoral College**. Professor John Baick of our History Department opened with an examination of the history of the method by which we select our presidents; not directly by the people but indirectly through electors. President Trump prevailed in the Electoral College, while Secretary Clinton won the popular vote (a result that has happened five times in our history).

Professor of Law Bruce Miller then explored an option that, while keeping the Electoral College, would tie the result to a majority of the voters without amending the Constitution. He noted that since states essentially control the voting process, they could require their electors to cast their votes consistent with the popular vote.

The following week, Professor Baick and Professor of Law Sudha Setty examined **the history of inaugurations** and the content of President Trump's inaugural address. Historian Baick noted some of the most memorable addresses, such as Lincoln's Second Inaugural, was delivered just before the Civil War ended. President Harrison died one month after his speech, when he caught pneumonia, having given the longest address.

Professor Setty noted themes from President Trump's address, including its "dark side" reference to "carnage" in America. It contrasted with the usual positive inaugural speeches, such as President Reagan's "Morning in America" address.

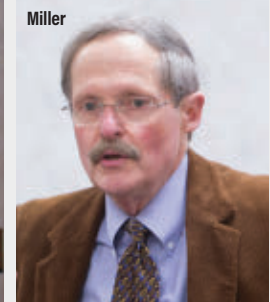
Our third session focused on **"The Future of Healthcare,"** including the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). Attorney Ali Bers from the Center for Medicare Advocacy is an expert on Obamacare, Medicare, and Medicaid. She examined the principal features of the ACA that many Americans covered by it support, and the provisions that others oppose. Bers discussed the features that opponents might include in their "repeal and replace" bill, which the House Republicans included in a bill they filed a few weeks later.

Immigration matters have dominated President Trump's early days in the White House. Professors Miller and Wolf explored the civil action between the states of Washington and Minnesota and President Trump in which the states challenged his Executive Order relating to immigration. They examined closely the procedural and substantive aspects of the litigation, including the district court's temporary order preventing nationwide enforcement of the President's order, the appealability of the district court's order, and the ruling of the Court of Appeals affirming the injunction. President Trump issued a second immigration executive order, which at this writing, was blocked by another temporary restraining order by Judge Derrick Watson of Hawaii.

At the halfway mark of the 100 Days series, Professor Julie Steiner, our resident expert on environmental law, discussed the impact the Trump Administration is having and will continue to have on **policies affecting climate change, water and air quality, pipelines, and related matters**. She examined the views of new appointees to critical positions, including their justifications for altering policies environmentalists support. ♦



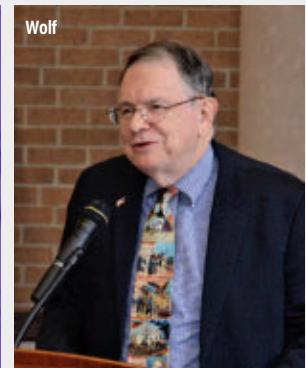
Baick



Miller



Setty



Wolf



Steiner

Attendees participate in a series of public discussions sponsored by The Institute for Legislative and Governmental Affairs together with the Springfield Public Forum. A variety of topics were presented by Professor of History John Baick, Professor of Law Bruce Miller, Director of the Institute Professor Arthur D. Wolf, Professor of Law Sudha Setty, and Professor of Law Julie Steiner.