

The
K.T. Tang Faculty Excellence Award in Research
recognizes faculty scholars who have made significant contributions to their
disciplines through dissemination of research findings related to the discovery,
integration, or application of knowledge. This award is
presented to

Maria Chavéz-Pringle
Associate Professor of Political Science

A few weeks ago we received a message from the dean of a prominent law school in California who wrote to exclaim about the impact that Maria Chavez-Pringle's scholarship is having on the study of Latino professionals in the United States. He mentioned the feature article that Maria authored for the October 2011 American Bar Association Journal, and her book *"Everyday Injustice – Latino Professionals and Racism."* This law school dean wrote to say: "I wanted to let you know how impressed so many people are with Professor Chavez's work. I wish that I could get MY faculty an ABA Journal cover story."

Maria has taken her field by storm, and she has established herself as a major contributor to scholarship on the Latino professional experience. Her work spans both the academic sphere and the public sphere. Her book has been nominated for the American Political Science Association's Ralph J. Bunche award, and she has published several articles on the Latino experience in the United States in such journals as *Latino Studies*, the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, and *Social Science Quarterly*. She is the co-author of a chapter in the book *Governing Washington: Politics and Government in the Evergreen State*. In the public sphere she has contributed editorial articles to local newspapers and is a regular contributor to a widely read and influential blog.

A colleague writes that her research "flows naturally from her background and personal values, that it is political research at its best: a solid combination of qualitative and quantitative analysis grounded in modern theory that does not shy away from its conclusions and policy prescriptions."

For research accomplishments, Pacific Lutheran University bestows on Maria Chavéz-Pringle the 2011-2012 K.T. Tang Award for Faculty Excellence in Research.

The K.T. Tang Faculty Excellence Award in Research is made available by an endowment established by Wilfred Chan of Hong Kong, a 1974 alumnus of PLU, in honor of his former professor, K.T. Tang, Professor Emeritus of Physics.