

The Western

Newsletter of the Western Political Science Association



***San Diego Meetings
Explore the Politics
of Climate Change***

**Conference Highlights
Meeting Breaks Records
Anti-Harassment Efforts
Recent Member Books
Call for Papers 2020**

Spring 2019

The Western

Newsletter of the Western Political Science Association



EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR: Your Name Here!

The WPSA is searching for an individual or small team of individuals to edit the association's online newsletter, *The Western*. The editor is responsible for the substantive content of the newsletter, developing the editorial direction of the publication and coordinating contributions, while working closely with the WPSA Executive Director.

For more information on the position and how to apply, please contact WPSA Executive Director Richard Clucas (hprc@pdx.edu).

The Western
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Spring 2019

Cover: Manchester Grand Hyatt, the conference hotel for the 2019 Annual Meeting

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ABOUT THE WESTERN

The Western is the official newsletter of the Western Political Science Association. It serves as a forum for scholarly conversations on political science teaching, research, and political events focused on but not limited to the western region. Contributions to the newsletter should be directed to Richard Clucas, WPSA Executive Director, hprc@pdx.edu.

All's Well with the WPSA ...With One Caveat

There may be considerable problems in the world today, but things are going well for the Western Political Science Association, though there is one caveat to this, which I will share in a minute.

The biggest bit of excitement is the annual conference. The 2019 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association is shaping up to be the largest and most dynamic in its history. The success of the conference reflects the continuing growth and increased activities of the association.

Generating much of the dynamics is the conference's timely theme on "The Politics of Climate Change." There are some 26 panels throughout the conference tied to climate change, along with numerous individual papers and special events that address the threats and issues associated with this theme.

Yet there is a lot more going on. There are 344 panels scheduled for the meeting—a record number—along with a diverse array of mini-conferences, workshops, guest speakers, receptions, and other special events. Check out the list of special events in the program to find out more. Come to some of these events. And enjoy yourself while you are in San Diego.

In other news, we have signed on a new team of editors for *Political Research Quarterly*, led by Seth McKee, Texas Tech University. It is a great group and should do a wonderful job. In addition, things have been going so well with *Politics, Groups, and Identities* that the WPSA Executive Council has voted to extend the terms of the current editorial team, which is led by Nadia Brown and Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, Purdue University.

The council has also approved the location for our 2022 conference, which is when the association will be celebrating its 75th anniversary. It will be in a great city and a good convention hotel.

For information on the conference, the editorial teams, the 2022 anniversary meeting, and much more, just read the pages that follow.

The caveat, which I mention above, is that I need help. Specially, I need help in putting together this newsletter. We have had two stellar teams of editors put together the newsletter since it was launched earlier this decade, but I have been unable to find someone to take on the lead role. It is not an overwhelming job, but it is a valuable service to the organization and a good way to be involved. Send me an email, or better yet, talk with me at the WPSA meeting and I can tell you about the editor's duties.

Richard A. Lucas

Executive Director
hprc@pdx.edu

The Western
Spring 2019

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WPSA ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY

1. Purpose

The Western Political Science Association was created for the purposes of promoting the study and teaching of government and politics, to foster research, and to facilitate the discussion of public affairs. The Association promotes these purposes in the spirit of free inquiry and free expression. The primary event in which WPSA members gather is at the Association's annual conference. Harassment of colleagues, students, or other participants at the conference, or at any other WPSA-sponsored event or forum, undermines the principle of equity at the heart of the Association's principles and is inconsistent with the principles of free inquiry and free expression. Consequently, harassment is considered by the WPSA to be a serious form of professional misconduct.

The WPSA is committed to providing a safe and welcoming conference environment for all participants, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, or religion.

"Participant" in this policy refers to anyone present at or directly involved in WPSA meetings, including staff, contractors, vendors, exhibitors, venue staff, WPSA members, and all other attendees.

2. Expected Behavior

All participants at WPSA meetings are expected to abide by this Anti-Harassment Policy in all meeting venues including ancillary events and official and unofficial social gatherings.

- Abide by the norms of professional respect that are necessary to promote the conditions for free academic interchange.
- If you witness potential harm to a conference participant, be proactive in helping to mitigate or avoid that harm.
- Alert conference or security personnel if you see a situation in which someone might be in imminent physical danger.

3. Unacceptable Behavior

Unacceptable behaviors include:

- persistent and unwelcome solicitation of emotional or physical intimacy
- persistent and unwelcome solicitation of emotional or physical intimacy accompanied by real or implied threat of professional harm
- intimidating, harassing, abusive, derogatory or demeaning speech or actions by any participant in an WPSA meeting and/or at any related event.
- prejudicial actions or comments related to race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, ability, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, or religion that coerce others, foment broad hostility, or otherwise undermine professional equity or the principles of free academic exchange.
- deliberate intimidation, stalking or following;
- harassing photography or recording;
- sustained disruption of talks or other events;
- physical assault (including unwelcome touch or groping)
- real or implied threat of physical harm



Reflections on the 2019 WPSA Conference

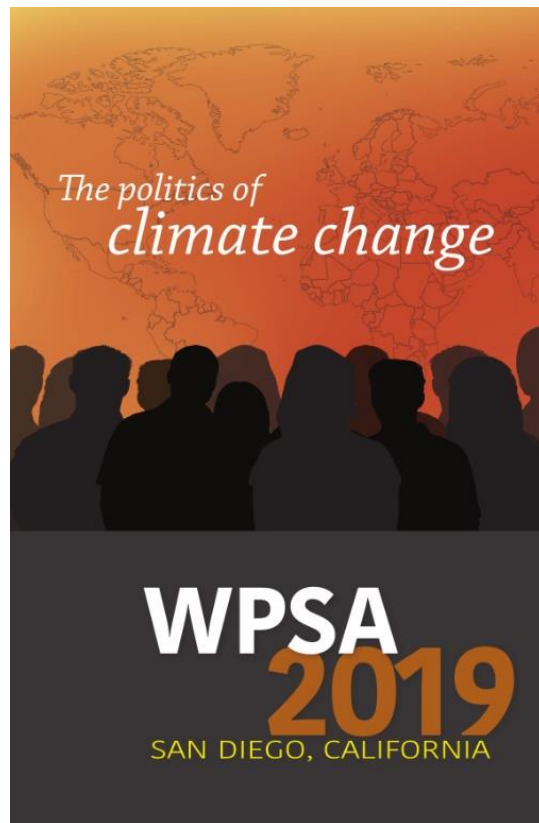
Theme: The Politics of Climate Change

Jamie Mayerfeld, WPSA Program Chair

Political theorist Henry Shue writes, “We who are alive today are the pivotal generation in human history with regard to climate change.” Yet we have come nowhere close to taking the actions needed to avoid future ruin. A hundred years from now, if (because we do not change course) climate change will have ravaged human civilization and inflicted ever greater destruction on the natural world, our current behavior will be met with deservedly harsh judgment.

Climate change is difficult, because it is unlike any previous crisis facing humanity; because it requires significant change; because the challenges are simultaneously technical, economic, cultural, and political; because it unfolds over a long time; and because it disproportionately harms the most vulnerable among us. Political scientists bear a special responsibility to confront these problems in our teaching and research. As our students will tell us, this is no time for business as usual in the profession.

These considerations lie behind the choice of the 2019 WPSA conference theme: “the politics of climate change.” Each of us is in a position to study and disseminate existing scholarship, and to contribute our own findings and reflections. The problem engages topics throughout the discipline: national and local politics, international cooperation, domestic and international law,



policy processes, public opinion, popular culture, science and politics, politics and technology, environmental justice, social movements, corporate responsibility, migration and refugees, political ideology, global justice, ethics, and political theory. We can each do our part to tackle this formidable challenge.

The WPSA is well suited to foster this conversation, because it has long been a center for environmental politics and environmental political theory, and because it boasts leading climate scholars and educators among its members. The 2019 conference showcases their contributions, and will, I hope, encourage others to

devote more time to teaching and studying climate change.

Our flagship event is the Pi Sigma Alpha lecture on Thursday, April 18, at noon, by University of California President Janet Napolitano (previously attorney general and governor of Arizona and secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security). As UC president, Napolitano has launched bold initiatives to advance the fight against climate change, and she will make climate change solutions the focus of her lecture. We are grateful to the UC San Diego Center on Global Justice for co-sponsoring this event. The Center’s director, UCSD political theorist Fonna Forman, who is herself a leading climate educator, will introduce

President Napolitano and moderate Q&A. Please come, and please bring your friends!

Several dozen panels and roundtables are devoted to the conference theme. Among other sessions, I would call your attention to “Climate Change and Sustainability in the Political Science Classroom” (Thursday, 10 am), “Teaching Climate Change Radically” (Thursday, 3:15 pm), “Political Science and Climate Change: The State of the Discipline” (Friday, 10 am), and “Taking it to the Beach: Strategies for Engaging the Public on Climate Change” (Friday, 3:15 pm). Other

sessions address the topic from diverse subfield and methodological perspectives.

The Green New Deal has put climate change on center stage, and the issue will draw prominent attention in the 2020 campaign. (Recent devastating fires, floods, and droughts make it ever harder to ignore.) There will be a profusion of commentaries, analyses, and proposals, not all of equal merit. As political scientists, we can improve the quality of debate. We do not have much time.

2019 Annual Meeting, San Diego

A Welcome from the Program Chair

Welcome to San Diego! This year, WPSA hosts another big meeting with an embarrassment of riches. No matter your substantive interests, you are likely to find a community of similarly engaged scholars. I wish everyone a productive conference, one that brings new ideas, new contacts, and new opportunities to step outside your intellectual comfort zone.

If at all possible, please attend our two plenary lectures. On Thursday, April 18, at noon, University of California President Janet Napolitano (previously governor of Arizona and secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security) will deliver the Pi Sigma Alpha lecture, focusing on the politics of climate change, the theme of this year’s conference. On Friday, April 19, at noon, APSA President Rogers Smith will deliver a lecture entitled “Twilight of the Constitution?”

Alongside panels, roundtables, and poster sessions, the conference includes over a dozen workshops and mini-conferences on diverse intellectual and professional topics. Some of the conference’s most productive exchanges happen in these gatherings. Please consult the program to learn more.

Check out the book display, journal receptions, and teaching and professional workshops. The meeting is also an occasion to celebrate the winners of our annual awards. On Friday evening, everyone is invited to the Awards Ceremony and WPSA Business Meeting, followed by the WPSA Reception.

Finally, I hope that participants will take some time to enjoy San Diego (which modestly calls itself America’s Finest City). Our local arrangements chairs, Cory Gooding and Tim McCarty of the University of San Diego, have provided excellent suggestions of what to see and do.

I want to thank the innumerable people whose generous contributions of time and labor made this conference possible. Special gratitude to Richard Clucas and Elsa Favila, executive director and associate director of WPSA, for daily accomplishing the impossible.

See you at the conference!

Jamie Mayerfeld
University of Washington

WPSA Opened a Door to Community College Faculty

Elsa Dias, Pikes Peak Community College
Peter J. Bowman, Palomar College

In 2017, community college faculty taught 5.8 million students in public two-year colleges. This means that 34 percent of undergraduate students passed by a two-year public community college before considering attending a four-year university. The concept that ‘my students are your students’ is a reality when 33 percent of community college students transfer to four-year colleges.¹

Community colleges provide students with a start at success by entering higher education. By opening the doors to a diverse student body, community colleges broaden students’ opportunities by promoting transfers to four-year colleges: “transfers are where community colleges really shine. Some 510,000 students transferred before graduating, bringing the combined graduation and transfer rate up to 60 percent.”²

Community college students are diverse and pragmatic. Many work either part-time or full-time jobs, have children to raise, and households to run. Along these lines, approximately 40 percent are classified as non-traditional, re-entry students, as many are of older age, ranging from their mid-20's and older. Due to this unique dynamic in demographics, community college students face significant challenges of balancing between their studies, work, and raising a family. They come from low-income neighborhoods ill prepared for higher education. Moreover, many two-year college students are at-risk students. They enter college with a variety of academic needs; in particular remedial-courses. This makes the task of faculty that much more formidable. Fortunately, most are up to it.

Faculty at two-year public institutions fill a necessary gap for student development.

Community college faculty place a greater emphasis on pedagogy than do most of their four year counterparts. Faculty at two-year institutions make themselves more available for office hours and outreach to help mitigate some of the said challenges that students face. Many faculty teach courses that are not in ‘their subfield.’ Indeed, many community college political scientists often find themselves teaching a load of American government, Introduction to Political Science courses, International Relations or Comparative Politics. This means that faculty will teach across the discipline as part of their load. This creates the need (opportunity!) for greater professional development, both in terms of pedagogical and disciplinary training. Because of this, community college teaching makes faculty instant experts.

The WPSA has provided community college faculty with much needed support and a space for dialogue. For some years, the WPSA has showed interest in community college faculty. This interest created a space for the first mini-conference for community college faculty during the WPSA conference in 2018. The success of this half-day mini-conference has grown into the upcoming full day second mini-conference on Saturday April 20. The mini-conference promotes discussion and collaboration on topics like pedagogy, research, retention, promoting the discipline of political science, and it is the perfect place to meet colleagues and to network.

1. <https://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Community-College-FAQs.html>

2. Carey, Kevin. 2017. “Revised Data Shows Community Colleges Have Been Underappreciated.” *New York Times*, October 31, 2017.



Community College Mini-Conference Schedule

"Community College Faculty Are the Unsung Heroines and Heroes of Higher Education"

Manchesterr
Grand Hyatt
Saturday, April 20, 2019
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

You must pre-register to receive (1) the community college discount and (2) lunch at the mini-conference.

8:00-8:15 Introductory Remarks Professor
LaDella Lyn Levy
College of Southern Nevada

8:15-9:15: Enrollment Decline-Teaching,
Recruiting, and Promoting Our Discipline

9:25-10:30: Building Political Science
Programs-Interdisciplinarity, Transferability,
and Guided Pathways

10:35-11:30: The Role of Conferences-
Balancing Teaching, Research, and
Professional Development

11:35-12:10 Discussion with WPSA and APSA
Representatives

12:15-12:45 Lunch (sponsored by the APSA)

12:45-2:00: Teaching and Learning-
Assignments and Internships

2:10-3:45: Teaching and Learning-Classroom
Management and Student Feedback

Other Workshops

Advancing Inclusion Workshop

Organized by the WPSA Committee on the
Status of Women Workshop
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
Manchester Grand Hyatt
Harbor A

This workshop will build on the momentum from the recent APSA #MeToo short course, multiple symposia on diversity and coalitions in the profession, the symposium in PS on stories and the profession, and the APSA 2018 diversity and inclusion hackathon.

Making workplaces more equitable requires taking steps to allow everyone to thrive now. Thriving now will make it more possible to do long term work to improve workplaces, which includes diversifying leadership and building non-discriminatory cultures. The increasing use of contingent faculty increases rather than decreases vulnerability. This workshop will develop useful practices to share.

Please bring a computing device.

Philosophy for Children Workshop

Saturday, April 20, 2019
10:00 - 11:45 am
Manchester Grand Hyatt
Harbor A

The aim of Philosophy for Children (P4C) pedagogy is to develop a community of philosophical inquiry. A concept emerging out of the philosophies of John Dewey and Charles Peirce, the community of inquiry emphasizes that knowledge is both socially embedded and contingent, empowering students to investigate conceptual problems collaboratively. With its focus on teaching a style of inquiry rather than specific content, the pedagogy of P4C can be applied in a number of educational spaces beyond the pre-college philosophy classroom, in particular, in the university classroom. Looking for new pedagogies to use in their classrooms,

faculty and graduate students have turned to P4C in order to develop robust critical and creative thinking in addition to forming a collaborative learning community.

This workshop will introduce the pedagogical framework of P4C while also providing an opportunity to practice the skills required to transform their own classrooms into a community of inquiry.

Professional and Instructional Development Workshops

Organizer: Renée Van Vechten, University of Redlands

Thursday, April 18, 2019

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

8:00 - 9:45 am

Developing a Formal Training Program for Political Science Teaching Assistants

Facilitator: Eric Michael French, Oklahoma State University

Description: The purpose of this workshop is to provide a tutorial on designing and implementing a formal training session for Political Science teaching assistants. Those attending the workshop will be presented with specific strategies for preparing a training program and overcoming common challenges - both during initial training and throughout the semester. Sample training materials will be provided, and workshop participants will be encouraged to work with the presenter and other workshop participants to identify their programs' own specific needs - and to develop a vision for a formal training program that might address them.

10:15 – noon

Educating High Need Students for Citizenship

Organizer: Diana Owen, Georgetown University

Facilitators: Maria Gallo, Director, Professional Development & Special Programs, Center for Civic Education

Diana Owen, Georgetown University

Kathryn Hartzell, Georgetown University

Jenny Lee, Georgetown University

Description: The need to improve civic education in the nation's middle and high schools is especially pressing for high-need students—students living in poverty, minority students, English language learners, and special needs students. Instructing high-need students, who have fewer civic learning opportunities and access to resources than more advantaged students, presents unique challenges to educators. Thus, the goals of the workshop are twofold: 1) to demonstrate instructional pedagogies that are effective in providing civic education to high need students; and 2) to present research findings on the effectiveness of these instructional strategies in imparting civic knowledge, disposition, and skills to students.

The workshop will focus on lessons learned from the James Madison Legacy Project (JMLP), a program of the Center for Civic Education that provides professional development to teachers of high-need middle and high school students based on the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution. The goals of the JMLP are to improve teachers' civics, social studies, and American government content knowledge and to enhance their classroom pedagogy, and results from JMLP participation show that the civic literacy of students in participating teachers' classes increased markedly. The JMLP is funded by a Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

The portion of the workshop that will address effective pedagogies for instructing high-needs students will be presented by Maria Gallo who was responsible for designing and implementing the JMLP teacher professional development program. The research study will be reported by Dr. Diana Owen with Kathryn Hartzell and Jenny Lee, graduate student members of the JMLP Research Team at Georgetown University.

1:30 - 3:00 pm

Inquiry-Based Teaching Using Peer Instruction

Facilitator: Maureen Feeley, University of California, San Diego

Description: This workshop provides an introduction to using Peer Instruction (PI) pedagogy as a means to promoting inquiry-based learning in both large and small-enrollment

courses. Workshop participants will participate in answering and discussing questions as the pedagogy is explained and evidence-based best practices are demonstrated. Participants interested in promoting more interactive and participatory learning in their courses, with greater opportunities for all students to participate in discussions, should leave the workshop confident in their ability to use Peer Instruction as an effective evidence-based means of achieving these goals.

3:15 - 5:00 pm

Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers

Facilitator: Megan Becker, University of Southern California

Description: Hope to get undergraduates involved in your research, but concerned about balancing the needs of your students with your other professional obligations? Learn how to organize collaborative undergraduate research experiences, which can be applied by faculty from all areas of Political Science. We will cover the 'why,' 'what,' and 'how' of starting your own research team. We will discuss a pedagogical approach, the Stewardship Model, which combines five elements: 1) targeted recruitment of underserved students; 2) technical training; 3) applied research experience; 4) multi-level mentorship; and 5) a carefully constructed, inclusive learning community. These five elements will serve as the thematic foundations of the workshop.

Attendees will...

- 1) brainstorm ideas for how they might integrate collaborative teams of UGs in their own research projects
- 2) review useful policies for recruitment, student training, organizing collaboration, and maintaining mentoring relationships
- 3) discuss strategies for evaluation
- 4) create a community of faculty in Political Science who are interested in UG research labs

and can share ideas and best practices on an ongoing basis.

Other Workshop and Mini-Conferences Times

Environmental Political Theory

Wednesday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Latina/o Politics Workshop

Wednesday, 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Feminist Theory Workshop

Wednesday, 1:30 pm – 5:45 pm

Interpretation and Methods Seminar

Wednesday, 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Subnational Environmental Governance

Thursday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Algorithmic Politics

Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, 10 am – 11:45 am

Asian Pacific American Politics

Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Monkey Cage Workshop

Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

The Politics of Mindful Revolution

Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Autocratic Politics

Friday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Two Special Talks in San Diego



Combating Climate Change

Janet Napolitano
President, University of California

Noon
Thursday, April 18
Manchester Hyatt, Harbor A

The Pi Sigma Alpha Lecture in Politics
Co-Sponsored by the Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego

Napolitano will talk about her efforts in addressing climate change. As president of the UC system, she has been helping to put UC on a path to 100 percent reliance on clean electricity across all campuses and medical centers by 2025, the same year the university aims to achieve systemwide carbon neutrality. In 2017, she also spearheaded the formation of the University Climate Change Coalition, or UC3. This group of 18 leading North American research universities and systems are working to help local communities achieve their climate goals and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future. Napolitano is the former Secretary of Homeland Security, and a former governor of Arizona.

“Twilight of the Constitution?”

APSA President’s Address

Rogers Smith
*Christopher H. Browne Distinguished
Professor of Political Science, University
of Pennsylvania*

Noon
Friday, April 19
Manchester Hyatt, Harbor A



Description: “Commentators across the political spectrum wonder today whether polarization, congressional dysfunction, and assertions of sweeping executive powers, among other factors, signal the decline of constitutional self-governance in the United States. Yet many current problems are due as much to the Constitution’s successes as its failures. That recognition does not guarantee future success, but it does suggest paths of constitutional development worth pursuing.”

Climate Scientists Have a Moral Responsibility to Lead by Example

Nives Dolsak, University of Washington
Aseem Prakash, University of Washington
Parke E. Wilde, Tufts University
Joseph Nevins, Vassar College

First published in The Hill. Reprinted with permission.

The Green New Deal has placed the issue of climate change at the center stage of the political agenda. Among its many recommendations is the elimination of “pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector as much as is technologically feasible.” This has sparked a debate on whether the Green New Deal seeks the elimination of air travel because planes continue to rely on fossil fuels. Indeed, an important culprit in the rise of carbon emissions in the United States in 2018, after several years of decline, is the transportation sector, especially air travel.

How should the academic community respond to the Green New Deal, especially its call for eliminating air travel. After all, academics recognize that climate change poses an existential threat to humanity and they lead the response by creating authoritative knowledge about the causes and consequences of climate change. In the wake of waning political support for climate action, climate policies may become a target of reactionary forms of populism. Some citizens see governments and academic institutions as morally hollow, working to further the interests of elites who evade the rules that they advise for citizens. Academics, as technical and scientific experts behind climate policies, may, therefore, face the wrath of populist anger.

This elite-citizen disconnect creates a fantastic opportunity for the scholarly community to demonstrate moral leadership in climate action. Academics, both individually and institutionally, should demonstrate their moral

commitment to climate action by lowering the carbon footprint of their professional activities.

Climate policies face political pushback across countries. Unfortunately, some people fear the climate books will be balanced on the backs of the underprivileged — this is driving the “yellow vest” protests in France. Furthermore, most countries are not achieving the Paris Agreement goals. The 2018 COP in Katowice, Poland, failed to “welcome” the recent IPCC report, which asserts a need to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 45 percent by 2030. Climate change initiatives have been rejected by voters in Washington state in 2016 and again in 2018. The French government has withdrawn the proposed fuel tax in the wake of yellow vests protests. Brazil’s new government seems to be bent on rolling back its commitment on climate issues. Australia is back-paddling on its climate commitment.

On top it all, coal consumption worldwide increased in 2017 after five years of decline. In 2018, carbon emissions are estimated to rise by 0.5 percent in advanced economies and 3.7 percent in emerging economies.

We outline a simple but morally powerful proposal on academic travel. Climate impact of air travel is news again thanks to the New Green Deal plan that seeks to phase out air travel altogether. Worldwide air travel accounts for about 3 percent of annual fossil fuel carbon emissions — in other words, about the same amount of emissions as those generated by Germany or the United Kingdom each year. Air travel is particularly challenging because no easy technological fixes to decarbonize air travel.

Academics themselves travel a lot to attend conferences and give seminars. One visible way to demonstrate leadership is to start a conversation about carbon budgets for academic travel. This will require academics and the institutions in which they work to publicly disclose the carbon footprint of their travel, adopt measures to reduce professional travel, and actively explore non-travel or low-carbon

organizational goals. Ideally, major funders should follow these same principles for all travel related to grant activity. Of course, any meeting focused on climate — whether it is a NOAA committee or IPCC working group — needs to publicly disclose its carbon footprint and outline how it plans to reduce it.

To some extent, universities already recognize that they need to act on climate

Academics, both individually and institutionally, should demonstrate their moral commitment to climate action by lowering the carbon footprint of their professional activities

avenues for enhancing academic interactions.

We would also like to see major international and national academic bodies, including America Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Geophysical Union, to publicly account for the carbon impact of their activities and then start incorporating the social cost of carbon in their annual activities. For example, the 2018 fall meeting of the American Geophysical Association (AGU), a leading body whose members contribute tremendously to various IPCC reports, attracted about 24,000 participants. The AGU should calculate the carbon impact of the travel associated with such conferences and tell the world how it seeks to reduce its conference carbon footprint.

At least some professional bodies could probably go a step further: they could switch, at least every other year, to a hub-based format. For example, in July 2018, the Conference on Music Perception and Cognition transformed its periodic in-person conference into a remarkable multi-hub worldwide event with simultaneous sites in Austria, Argentina, the UK, Canada, and Australia.

While not a part of the academy, all national and international organizations that engage with academia for their technical reports — be it the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) or the United Nations and all its affiliated organizations — should reflect (at minimum) the social cost of carbon of travel associated with their work, and actively explore non-travel mechanisms to accomplish

change. Following the initial University Presidents' Climate Leadership Commitments more than a decade ago, there are now more than 600 university climate leadership commitments, of which 372 appear to promise some sort of "carbon neutrality" by 2050. The related university reports are full of admirable measures on recycling, food service, building codes and electricity efficiency. But these commitments neglect critical sources of university-related emissions such as aviation.

For universities, the first step is to set real targets for actual emissions commensurate with the best scientific evidence on the greenhouse gas budgets that must be observed to meet global targets, such as 1.5- or 2-degree temperature change. Public targets must then be accompanied by transparent reports showing changes in actual emission sources, such as the amount of flying done by faculty members and students, stated in terms of actual emissions (not just "net" emissions counting offsets).

Some might say that academic travel has so little impact on climate change and the cost of curbing it is not worth the damage it might inflict on research. This is a self-serving position which undermines the moral commitment of academia to fight climate change.

Every group that is asked to reduce carbon emissions probably believes that their activities are too important — either for their own survival or for humanity — to sacrifice at the altar of climate change. If people in Appalachia or the

Continued on page 24

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Politics, Groups, and Identities Social Media Curator

The *Politics, Groups, and Identities* (PGI) editorial team seeks applications for a PGI social media curator. The social media curator would be expected to contribute to PGI's social media presence. At this time, contributing to PGI social media means managing PGI's Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts, generating content, highlighting newly published articles, and proposing new initiatives. We expect that a successful applicant will serve the team member who is the point person for all social media accounts and initiatives. [LTTT]
[SEPISEP]

Application: To apply, please send a letter of interest and CV to pgijourn@purdue.edu by Friday, April 26, 2019. Letters should explain interest and any relevant qualifications for the position. Please include several "example" social media posts to demonstrate an understanding of the PGI voice and propose one to two possible social media initiatives. [LTTT]
[SEPISEP]

Requirements: Preferred applicants will hold a PhD in political science and/or have a faculty affiliation with a department of political science. We particularly seek applications from scholars who can contribute to the diversity of the PGI team in terms of race, ethnicity, sexuality, institutional affiliation type, and/or area of scholarly expertise. PhD candidates are encouraged to apply and preference will be given to ABD students. [LTTT]
[SEPISEP]

About *Politics, Groups, and Identities*: *Politics, Groups, and Identities* is an official journal of the Western Political Science Association. It presents the best scholarship on social groups, exploring the politics of gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexuality, class and other dimensions of identity and structural disadvantage. The journal publishes work across all subfields of political science, as well as the social sciences and humanities more generally. The journal publishes research on any country or region of the world, including work that is global or international in scope as well as work that is national or local, or examines connections between these levels. *Politics, Groups, and Identities* is interdisciplinary in focus. The editors are open to a wide range of analytic approaches, including interpretive, ethnographic, historical, statistical, and multi-method analyses. In addition to publishing original research articles, the editors also seek proposals for integrative review essays as well as symposia on specific topics or dimensions of the politics of social groups.





The program cover photo of Mt. Hood from our 2012 meetings in Portland. We will be back in Portland in 2022 for our 75th anniversary.

WPSA Moves Forward with Anti-Harassment Efforts

Perhaps the biggest issue that is currently confronting political science associations is how to deal with members and meeting participants who harass others. Since last fall, the leaders of major political science associations have been sharing ideas and information about the best policies and practices to institute to address harassment. Harassment is a serious problem and an issue that has to be addressed.

The WPSA Executive Council has begun to take steps to combat harassment. The Council approved an anti-harassment policy at its April, 2017, meeting (see page 4). At the same time, the Council created an ad hoc committee to consider the issue more thoroughly and report back with recommendations. Among other concerns, the committee was asked to consider whether the approved policy was broad enough, how to provide a mechanism for reporting abuse, and how the association should adjudicate

charges of harassment, including disciplining those who harass others.

The ad hoc committee is being chaired by Christina Bejarano, University of Kansas. The committee will be giving a report at the Executive Council meeting in April. Given the complexity of the issues involved, the council is likely to continue over time to review how best to address inappropriate behavior, but it will take all the steps it can to ensure the association offers a home where members are free from harassment.

Council Takes First Steps in Planning 75th Anniversary

The WPSA has taken its first steps to mark the 75th anniversary of the association, which will take place in 2022. At its meeting in August, the Executive Council voted to hold the 2022 annual meeting at the downtown Hilton Hotel in Portland, Oregon. The Council also considered Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, but felt that the northwest

city would enjoy broader support among members. It will be the first time the association has been in Portland since 2012. The city has grown considerably since then, with even more restaurants, pubs, wineries, and other attractions.

Along with choosing a site, the association will be seeking nominations this summer for someone to serve as the Program Chair for the 2022 meeting. In addition to the regular duties, the Program Chair will work closely with the President, Executive Director, and most likely a planning team to organize anniversary-related events. If you are interested, or know someone who may be, please put forward a nomination. It is a great opportunity, especially for someone who cares deeply about the association.

Instructions for nominations may be found on the WPSA website. Under WPSA policies, the Nomination Committee puts forward its slate of candidates at the Business Meeting held at the annual conference. The vote on the 2022 Program Chair will take place next April at the meeting in Los Angeles.

Retiring Members Honored

This year the WPSA will be honoring five prominent, long-term members at a special joint reception on Thursday, April 18:

Jane Bayes, California State University Northridge

Mary Hawkesworth, Rutgers University

Timothy Kaufman-Osborn, Whitman College

Ronald Schmidt, Sr., Davidson College and CSU Long Beach

Raymond Rocco, University of California, Los Angeles

The reception will be held from 6:45 to 8:45 pm in the beautiful Bayview room on the 32nd floor of the Manchester Hyatt. Please come and help us celebrate.

Strengthening Our Offerings for Community College Faculty

One of the problems confronting political science associations is that they have not done a good job in meeting the needs of faculty who do not work at research institutions. While annual conferences provide some opportunity for learning and networking, their main focus is to support research efforts. The American Political Science Association has made an effort to improve the situation by offering Teaching and Learning Conferences, but even so, many non-research-oriented faculty do not feel well served by professional associations.

Beginning at the WPSA annual meeting in Vancouver in 2017, the association's leaders have been working with a group of community college faculty members to improve the services that the association provides to this group of faculty, along with others who are simply interested in teaching and learning. Among those involved in the conversation have been Elsa Dias, Pikes Peak Community College; Erin Richards, Cascadia College; La Della Lyn Levy, College of Southern Nevada; Josh Franco, UC Merced; and Charlotte Lee, Berkeley City College.

The initial result of this conversation has been two mini-conferences within the WPSA's annual conference. The second mini-conference will be held all day on Saturday, April 20. It is titled, "Community College Faculty Are the Unsung Heroines and Heroes of Higher Education." The mini-conference includes a lunch sponsored by the American Political Science Association.

In addition to the work with community college faculty, the association has been talking with leaders involved in teaching and learning to help the WPSA do more in this area. As a result of these efforts, Renée Van Vechten, University of Redlands, has organized an all-day workshop on Thursday, April 18, on Professional and Instructional Development. Van Vechten has been actively involved in APSA teaching and learning efforts. She has also received numerous teaching awards, including the Rowman and Littlefield Innovative Award for Innovative Teaching in Political Science, awarded through the American Political Science Association.

These are beginning steps. The association

hopes to continue to strengthen the services it provides to this important segment of the discipline.

New Rules Adopted for *PRQ* Best Article Award

Several years ago, the WPSA Executive Council voted to limit the award committees to recognizing only one best paper or article each year. The policy was established to reduce the workload placed on the editors of *Political Research Quarterly*. In the association policies, it states that the *PRQ* editors are required to give all award-winning conference papers an "enhanced opportunity to seek publication of the paper in *PRQ*" and that "the editors will make every effort to work with authors to bring manuscripts to the level required by the normal peer review process."

Working so closely with a small group of authors can be very time-consuming, so the

policy for allowing only one-winning paper was adopted. Even though the proposal was meant to limit the number of conference paper winners, the wording applied to all awards, including the *PRQ* Best Article Award.

Earlier this year, Hahrie Han, the *PRQ* Award Committee chair, told the WPSA President and Executive Director that the committee felt strongly that there were two articles deserving of the Best Article Award this year and that the committee members did not feel it would be fair to choose arbitrarily between them.

In response to the Han's appeal, the WPSA President decided to put the issue to a vote before the Executive Council. In early March the council voted unanimously to change the one-winner rule, allowing the *PRQ* Award Committee to select two co-winners. The action does not change the limit on the number of best paper winners, but it does allow the *PRQ* Award Committee to recognize two outstanding articles when it believes both are deserving of recognition.

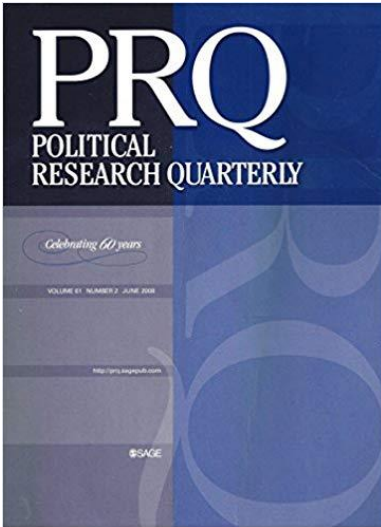


Are You on Twitter? Do You Tweet?

In case you didn't know, we have a Twitter account -- @theWPSA. Follow us there to be the first to see new scholarship published in our flagship journals, Political Research Quarterly (@PRQjournal), and Politics, Groups, and Identities (@PGI_WPSA). We also use this account to promote new books, blogs, or other scholarly activities by WPSA members, so you if you have something you want us to share, don't be shy. Email account manager, Meredith Conroy - mconroy@csusb.edu -- with anything you'd like to share with the greater WPSA Twitter network.

The WPSA is also on Facebook. You can find us there by searching "Western Political Science Association."

Transitions and Changes at *Political Research Quarterly*



In July 2018, *Political Research Quarterly* (*PRQ*) underwent a smooth editorial transition. As we have stressed on several occasions, we greatly appreciate the advice and assistance of the previous editorial team for making sure we inherited a journal whose

house was already in order. We are committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic work published in *PRQ*. In the past year, we received a record number of original submissions (492 manuscripts). Further, the current submission rate ensures at least 500 new submissions for the first time – an impressive milestone for the journal.

We believe that the growing interest in *PRQ* is fostered by a combination of factors. In order to improve the quality of published work and efficiency in processing manuscripts we employ an editorial model with informational economies of scale. We do this by taking advantage of our editors' academic specialization, which reduces processing times while enhancing judgment. In addition, we are committed to efficient communication with authors and reviewers. When taking over the editorship last July, we promised to be very prompt in responding to author and reviewer inquiries. Indeed, we almost always respond within two days from the time of inquiry. We are also committed to transparency, and therefore we have chosen to have more content available to readers on *PRQ*'s homepage, including archived annual reports dating back to 2010.

Lastly, the impressive jump in The Journal Citation Report (JCR) Impact Factor is a testament to the previous editorial team's efforts and the fortune of having scholars choosing *PRQ* to submit impactful research. The journal has experienced a steady growth in impact factor over time, but the latest estimate (for 2017) marked a particularly steep increase (close to 50%), rising to 1.523 from 1.043 in 2016. To make sure that outstanding research continues to find its way into *PRQ*, we have introduced a new section to the journal called TRENDS. We have added this feature to draw attention to work that appears particularly novel in speaking to the dynamics of contemporary political phenomena.

Seth C. McKee, Editor-in-Chief, American Politics Field Editor

Toby J. Rider, International Relations Field Editor

Frank C. Thames, Comparative Politics and Gender Politics Field Editor

Sophia Jordán Wallace, Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Field Editor

David Lay Williams, Political Theory and Philosophy Field Editor

Growth at *PGI*, the Leading Journal in Identity Politics

In its sixth year of publication, *Politics, Groups, and Identities* is pleased to report that readership and enthusiasm for the journal continues to increase. The number and quality of submissions continues to grow, along with our citation counts and our online presence via social media. We are reaching an international readership and our sights are set on expansion in Europe in 2019. *PGI* continues to be the premier venue to publish manuscripts on identity politics.

2019 will feature dialogue sections on Challenges to Women's Political Representation, Political Psychology in the 2016 Election, an "Author Meets Critic" featuring the work of Phillip Ayoub, and Linked Fate and the Politics of Groups and Identities – a 25th anniversary

celebration of Michael Dawson's *Behind the Mule*.

None of this could be achieved without the work of fabulous colleagues who lend their expertise and time to this endeavor. We offer a hearty thanks to the members of our editorial team who concluded their service this year: Susan Burgess, Jay McCann, Celeste Montoya, and Anna Sampaio (on hiatus). We would also like to thank Terri Towner for her service as our first social media curator. She has been integral growing a robust and vibrant social media following for the journal. As such, *PGI* is currently looking for a new social media curator. Kindly see the job description included in this newsletter and contact us at pgijourn@purdue.edu if you are interested in applying for this position. We are happy to welcome our newest editorial team members Magda Hinojosa, Melissa Michelson, Laura Sjoberg, and Rorie Solberg who will be joining *PGI* this spring.

Next, we are pleased to announce a new feature of the journal: Research Notes. In addition to original research manuscripts, scholarly dialogues section essays, and review essays, research notes are short essays that shed light on an innovative method, concept or finding. Shorter than our typical manuscripts, research notes will be 3500 words inclusive of footnotes, references and figures.

Please join us at our reception on Thursday, April 19, 6:45 to 8:45 pm at the WPSA annual meeting.

All Association members have access to *PGI*. Please ensure that your library subscribes as well.

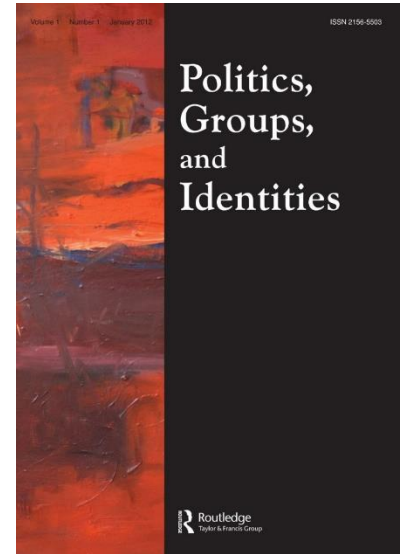
Follow us on Twitter and Instagram

@PGI_WPSA or like us on Facebook. As always, we welcome your participation as part of the *PGI* community of scholars! We would be delighted to have you share your expertise and skills with us by engaging with us on social media, serving as a reviewer, or volunteering to serve on either the editorial team or board. If you are interested, please contact us at pgijourn@purdue.edu.

We look forward to connecting with you at the WPSA annual meeting. Wishing you safe travels to San Diego!

Nadia E. Brown, Purdue University

Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, Purdue University



Council Extends Terms of *PGI* Editors

The WPSA Executive Council voted unanimously at its August meeting in Boston to reappoint the current team of editors of *Politics, Groups, and Identities* for two additional years. The members of the council felt strongly that Nadia Brown and Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, both associate professors at Purdue University, have done a stellar job in strengthening the content, expanding the impact, and building the name of the journal.

The complete team of editors also includes Susan Burgess, Ohio University; Rosalee Clawson, Purdue University; Sarah Allen Gershon, Georgia State University; Pei-te Lien, UC Santa Barbara; James McCann, Purdue University; Celeste Montoya, University of Colorado, Boulder; Anna Sampaio, Santa Clara University; Eric N. Waltenburg, Purdue University; and Laurel Weldon, Simon Fraser University.

The editorial team had been appointed for a four-year term. The WPSA's policy allowed the council to reappoint the team for another two-year term without conducting a search.

In other news related to *PGI*, the association renewed its contract in the fall with Taylor & Francis to publish the journal for another seven years

Meet the Newest Members of the WPSA Council



**Program Chair/
Vice President
2019-2020**

JESSICA LAVARIEGA MONFORTI

Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences
California Lutheran University

Dr. Lavariega Monforti received her PhD from The Ohio State University in 2001. Her research primarily focuses on the differential impact of public policy according to race, gender and ethnicity. She is specifically interested in the political incorporation and representation of Latino/as, immigrants and women. Her latest research examines how major forces such the military system and immigration policy impact and are impacted by Latina/o youth. She has worked with organizations such as Texas Rio Grande Legal Aide, La Union del Pueblo Entero, and the South Texas Adult Resource and Training Center. Dr. Lavariega Monforti has co-authored two books and published over 50 articles and chapters. Dr. Lavariega Monforti edited a 2-volume encyclopedia entitled, "Latinos in the American Political System." She has contributed to several news articles and broadcasts including the *New York Times*, *La Opinión*, and NPR's All Things Considered.



**Recording Secretary
2019-2022**

JASON CASELLAS

Associate Professor
University of Houston

Professor Casellas specializes in American politics, with specific research and teaching interests in Latino politics, legislative politics, and state and local politics. He is the author of *Latino Representation in State Houses and Congress* (New York: Cambridge University Press.) He is the recipient of numerous fellowships and awards, including a Princeton Fellowship, an American Political Science Association Fellowship, a Ford Motor Company Fellowship, the Samuel DuBois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship at Duke University, and a United States Studies Centre Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Sydney (Australia). In 2011, he was awarded a National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship. He is a member of the Texas Advisory Committee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights. His work has appeared in the *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Aztlán: Journal of Chicano Studies*, and other peer-reviewed journals.

MARIO GUERRERO

Associate Professor
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Dr. Guerrero is a first-generation scholar exploring the effects of social media and the Internet on political behavior. A lifelong resident of Southern California, Dr. Guerrero has been fortunate enough to attend WPSA annual meetings since his early years in graduate school. Dr. Guerrero has been elected president of the American Political Science Association's Latino Caucus and has also been named a RAND Faculty Leader and Ford Foundation Fellow. Outside of academia, Dr. Guerrero is a devotee to fitness and a healthy lifestyle, probably eating more spinach per pound than any other human being in the United States.



**Councilmember
Region A
2019-2022**

NATALIE MASUOKA

Associate Professor of Political Science and Asian
American Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

Dr. Masuoka recently joined the faculty at UCLA after a decade serving on the faculty at Tufts University. Her research crosses the fields of racial and ethnic politics, immigration and political behavior. She is currently working on a book project on the political implications of social class variation within the Asian American community as well as another project with her longtime co-author Jane Junn on women voters in presidential elections. While not working on research and teaching, she enjoys spending time with her family exploring their new home in Los Angeles and fitting in a yoga class. Recent publications include:

Multiracial Identity and Racial Politics in the United States. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.

The Politics of Belonging: Race, Public Opinion and Immigration. Co-author with Jane Junn. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013.



**Councilmember
Region A
2019-2022**



**Councilmember
Region B
2019-20**

SARAH SHAIR-ROSENFELD

Assistant Professor in the School of Politics and Global Studies, Arizona State University

Dr. Shair-Rosenfield specializes in comparative political institutions and the politics of gender in Latin America and Southeast Asia. Her book, *Electoral Reform and the Fate of New Democracies*, will be published as part of the new Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies series at the University of Michigan Press later this year. She is a co-author of the Regional Authority Index, a multidimensional measure of subnational authority in 81 countries from 1950 to 2010, and an associate editor of the journal *Research & Politics*. When she is not doing fieldwork or teaching at ASU, she can often be found traveling and spending time with her family. Along with the Michigan Press book, recent publications include:

“Gendered Opportunities and Constraints: How Executive Sex and Approval Influence Executive Decree Issuance” *Political Research Quarterly* 71 (2018): 586-599 (with Alissandra T. Stoyan).

“Governing Well After War: How Improving Female Representation Prolongs Post-Conflict Peace.” *Journal of Politics* 79 (2017): 995-1009 (with Reed M. Wood).



**Councilmember
Region C
2019-20**

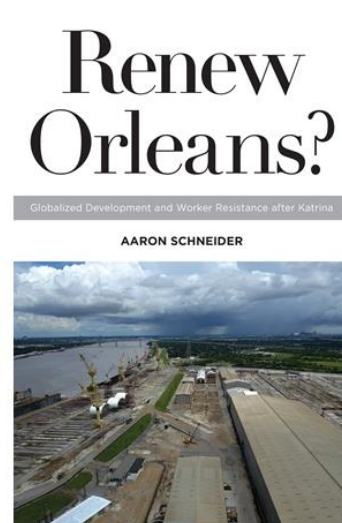
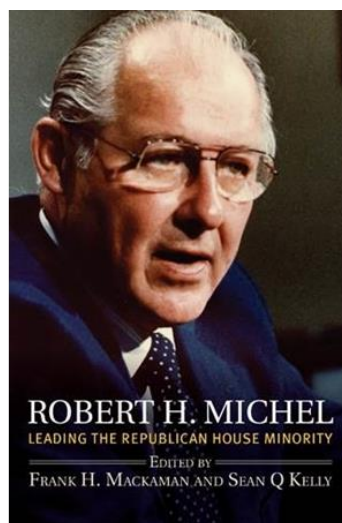
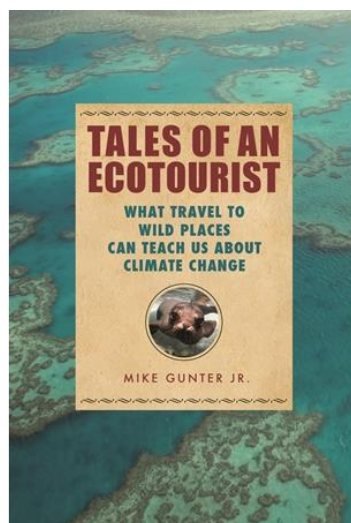
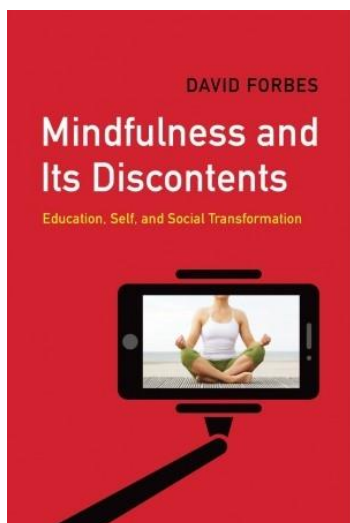
SHIRIN DEYLAMI

Associate Professor
Western Washington University

Dr. Deylami was born in Iran but raised in Southern California. She got her bachelors at the University of California at Santa Cruz in Politics and Women’s Studies and a PhD from the University of Minnesota. She is currently an associate professor of political science and affiliate faculty in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Western Washington University. She is also the Director of WWU’s Faculty Mentoring Initiative. Her research interests are in contemporary feminist and Islamic political thought; the political theory of emotions; and politics and popular culture. She has been a member of the Western Political Science Association for well over a decade. In her free time, she likes to cook Persian food, hang out with her family, remodel her house and ride vintage motor scooters. Recent Publications:

“Fighting Rage with Fear: ‘The Faces of Muhammad’ and the Limits of Secular Rationality.” *Religions*, January 2018.

“Burning Rage: Disenfranchised Mourning and the Political Possibilities of Anger,” *The Democratic Arts of Mourning: Political Theory and Loss*, eds. David W. McIvor and Alexander Keller Hirsch, Rowman and Littlefield Press, January 2019.



Recent Books by Our Members

The WPSA brings together academics from a wide range of scholarly interests. To honor the work of our members, we regularly present a list of recently published books. Taking a look through this list gives a small hint at the broad scholarly diversity of our membership. If you have had a book recently published, or one that is about to be released, we would like to know. Please send a complete citation to Richard Clucas at hprc@pdx.edu.

Apostolidis, Paul. *The Fight for Time: Migrant Day Laborers and the Politics of Precarity*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

Clucas, Richard A., Mark Henkels, Priscilla L. Southwell, and Edward P. Weber. *Governing Oregon: Continuity and Change*. Oregon State University Press, 2018.

Daggett, Cara. *The Birth of Energy: Fossil Fuels, Thermodynamics, and the Politics of Work*. Duke University Press, 2019.

Forbes, David. *Mindfulness and its Discontents: Education, Self, and Social Transformation*. Fernwood Publishing, 2019.

Gunter, Mike Jr. *Tales of an Ecotourist: What Travel to Wild Places Can Teach Us about Climate Change*. Excelsior Editions/State University of New York Press, 2018.

Mackaman, Frank H., and Sean Q Kelly, eds. *Robert H. Michel: Leading the Republican House Minority*. University Press of Kansas, 2019.

Scerri, Andy. *Postpolitics and the Limits of Nature: Critical Theory, Moral Authority, and Radicalism in the Anthropocene*. State University of New York Press, 2018.

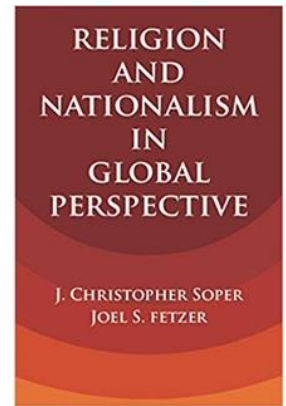
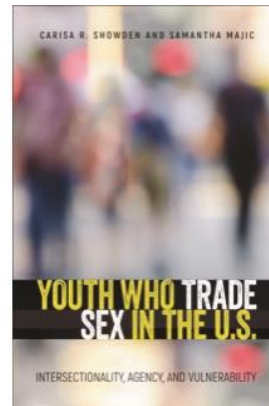
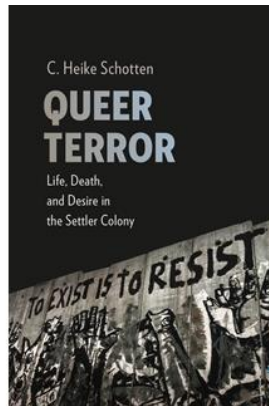
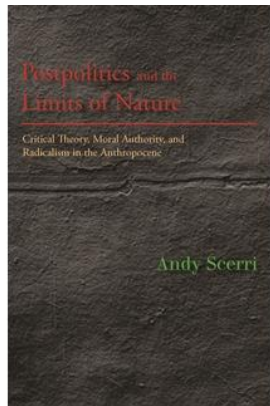
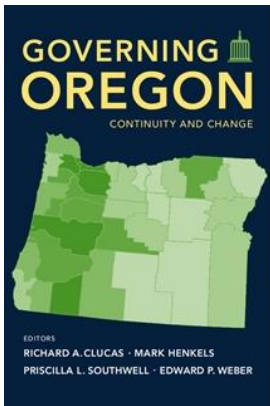
Schneider, Aaron. *Renew Orleans? Globalized Development and Worker Resistance after Katrina*. University of Minnesota Press, 2018.

Schotten, C. Heike. *Queer Terror: Life, Death, and Desire in the Settler Colony*. Columbia University Press, 2018.

Showden, Carisa R., and Samantha Majic. *Youth Who Trade Sex in the U.S.: Intersectionality, Agency, and Vulnerability*. Temple University Press, 2018.

Smoller, Fred. *From Kleptocracy to Democracy: How Citizens Can Take Back Local Government*. Cognella Academic Publishing, 2018.

Soper, J. Christopher, and Joel S. Fetzer. *Religion and Nationalism in Global Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, 2018.



A Moral Responsibility to Lead...

Continued from page 13

Navajo nation in Arizona, which face extreme poverty, are asked to sacrifice their livelihoods in the coal industry, what moral right do academics have to disavow their moral responsibility of responding to the climate crisis?

As academics, we are probably the most knowledgeable about the extent and ramifications of climate change, we have a moral

imperative not only to speak out on the subject but also to lead by example.

Aseem Prakash, University of Washington, is a member of the WPSA.

The views presented in this essay are those of the authors and do not represent those of the association or the WPSA Executive Council

As this newsletter of the Western Political Science Association attests, the past year and the 2019 annual meeting has been an eventful and a highly successful year for the association. I wish to express my thanks to Richard Clucas and Elsa Favila for their exceptional work and dedication to WPSA. Jamie Mayerfeld, the program chair for the 2019 WPSA meeting and the association Vice President, has put together a fantastic program. I am grateful to him for his inventive spirit and principled positions for moving the association toward sustainability. I look forward to his leadership as President of WPSA when this year's meeting concludes. Finally, I thank all of you for the intellectual energy you bring to our association's professional meeting. Best wishes for an enjoyable conference this year, and see you in Los Angeles in 2020.

Jane Junn

WPSA President 2018-2019

The Western Political Science Association

Invites You To

Award Ceremony & Business Meeting

Friday, April 19, 2019 / 5:15 – 6:00 pm

Harbor A

Manchester Grand Hyatt

San Diego, California

Then Join Us Afterwards At The

WPSA RECEPTION

Pool Deck, Fourth Floor

CALL FOR PAPERS

WPSA 2020 ANNUAL MEETINGS
Los Angeles, California, April 9-11

Jessica Lavariega Monforti, Program Chair
California Lutheran University
Email: jlavariega@callutheran.edu

THEME: THE BOUNDARIES OF BELONGING

Belonging, a sense or feeling that you are an important member of a group, or the lack thereof, is a fundamental component of political engagement. Attitudes and behavior of politicians and institutions shape the extent to which individuals and groups feel part of the larger whole. Unquestionably, the rhetoric and policies of the Trump administration have exerted pressure on the ways people, groups, and nations feel about their place in the U.S.; this has also led other nations to re-examine their relationship with the U.S. government. Some have argued that while the U.S. president pushes to build a physical wall to delineate clear boundaries, he is also building a figurative wall (or series of walls) in society. Others argue that Trump's approach provides much-needed clarity about who belongs and who does not. Division abounds.

While there is nothing new about political disagreement and division or about defining who does or does not belong, some say the depth and breadth of this change in our current context is unique. Hate groups are on the rise, as are voices that are anti-immigrant, anti-intellectual, and anti-government. These trends are political in and of themselves, and they have political consequences. At the same time, these challenges do not appear to be a concern for some who posit we live in a post-racial society, or that immigration reform and walls are about the economic health of the nation – not race and ethnicity. How can we address and reconcile these two different worldviews in our politics?

Social scientists -- political scientists specifically -- have made important contributions to our understanding of political incorporation and alienation, yet the attention devoted by the field as a whole remains inadequate, and the subject often receives limited coverage in undergraduate and graduate curricula. The question of belonging engages all subfields of our discipline.

We invite proposals that investigate and expand our understanding of the politics of belonging – why have we seen this question about belonging rise at this particular time in our collective history? Who decides who belongs and what are the consequences of those decisions? What is gained or what might be achieved when the question of belonging is engaged.



The 2020 conference is at the J.W. Marriott at L.A. Live in a dynamic and growing part of Los Angeles.