

Newsletter of the Western Political Science Association Volume 3, Issue 2. Fall, 2011 http://wpsa.research.pdx.edu/

Notes from the Editors

As the *Western* continues to develop as the newsletter of the Western Political Science Association, we are pleased to incorporate and highlight some new things for this edition. In this edition, we are pleased to highlight the student research poster sessions from the 2011 WPSA Conference in San Antonio. The poster sessions at the conference are a great opportunity to interact with students and engage them as emerging scholars. We hope that by highlighting the poster sessions here that even more people will peruse the poster sessions at the Portland Conference.

As always, we value your feedback as this newsletter further develops. If you have any comments or questions about possible submissions, please contact us at voregan@fullerton.edu or sstambough@fullerton.edu . We also hope to see all of you at the 2012 WPSA Conference in Portland, Oregon from March 22-24, 2012. Information about conference participation is available at http://wpsa.research.pdx.edu

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Executive Director Notes

Oregon Governor Roberts to Give Pi Sigma Alpha Address

Former Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts has agreed to give the Pi Sigma Alpha address at the 2012 WPSA Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. Roberts, who is an articulate and inspiring speaker, is the only elected female governor to serve in Oregon. Her talk is titled, "Women in Leadership: Making History; Cementing History." It is scheduled for Friday, March 23, at 5:15 p.m. In addition, there will be several panels and other events related to Roberts's talk at the meeting. The 100th anniversary of suffrage in Oregon is in 2012, so Roberts's willingness to join us comes at a good time.

The 2012 meeting will be held at the Marriott Waterfront in Portland, Oregon, from March 22 to 24. Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, University of Utah, is serving as Program Chair for this meeting. Chris Shortell, Portland State University, is the Local Arrangements Chair. The theme of the conference is: "(Re)Imagining Our Future(s): Obama's Election, Global Crises, and Political Science Practices."

The deadline for paper and panel proposals is September 18. Individuals who are interested in submitting panels related to the conference theme or to Governor Roberts's talk are encouraged to do so. Information regarding the conference, the theme, and the section chairs are now posted on the WPSA website: www.wpsanet.org. Mark your calendar. Send in your participation forms. Make reservations. It should be a good meeting.

Reduced Airline Rates to Portland Meetings

The WPSA has signed an agreement with Alaska Airlines to provide members with reduced rates for the 2012 Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon. If you book your flight with Alaska Airlines or Horizon Air, you will receive a 7% discount off the lowest published fare (the deal excludes companion and other promotional fares). The discount applies for travel from March 18 to 22 and from March 26 to 27. Unfortunately, the discount does not apply for the



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holiday weekend dates of March 23 to 25. You may travel on those blackout dates, but you won't receive the 7% savings.

To receive the discount, book your tickets online at http://www.alaskaair.com/ or at the Alaska Airlines Group desk at 1-800-445-4425. The discount code is: ECMG141

The deal with Alaska not only provides benefits to our members, but also is helpful to the association. For every 40 tickets our members purchase, the WPSA will receive one free ticket. So your participation in this program will help the association's bottom line. In addition, if you purchase an Alaska Airline ticket to attend the conference but do not use the code, please send a note to Richard Clucas (hprc@pdx.edu) letting him know. The association can still use your travel to the conference toward the free ticket.

As with any deal, there is some small print. If you change or cancel your flight after ticketing, a service charge will likely apply. Also, there is a \$15 fee for tickets purchased over the phone through the Group Desk. The discount is available from any U.S. or Canadian city served by Alaska Airlines or Horizon Air. Portland is a hub city for Alaska Airlines, so there are many flights to it from across the west and other cities in the nation.

This is the first time that the association has worked with an airline to provide reduced fares for members. If it goes well, similar deals will be made in the future.

Executive Council News

The WPSA Executive Council voted in principle to create a Committee on the Status of Asian Pacific Americans in the Profession at its meeting in April in San Antonio. The vote was one of several important decisions made by the council at the meeting.

The new status committee will work to develop and promote activities concerning the professional development of Asian Pacific Americans within the profession. When the Executive Council meets in September in Seattle it will vote on changes in the WPSA bylaws and policies to give the committee the same status and legal recognition as the three other WPSA status committees, which work to promote the professional development of women, Latinos/as, and

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Blacks. Among the proposals before the council is to provide funding so that the new committee can present an award each year for the Best Paper on Asian Pacific Americans and Politics.

The proposal for the new committee was put forward by an exploratory committee chaired by Pei-te Lien, University of California, Santa Barbara. The other members of the committee were Kim Geron, California State University, East Bay, Jane Junn, University of Southern California, and Karthick Ramakrishnan, University of California, Riverside. Lien commented that this is the first status committee on APAs in a regional association. The committee plans to organize the first set of panels/roundtables in the 2012 meeting. Anybody interested in presenting a paper or organizing a panel on APA politics or participating in a roundtable discussion on APA issues in the profession broadly defined, please contact Pei-te Lien at plien@polsci.ucsb.edu before Sept. 15, 2011.

In addition to approving the new status committee, the Executive Council voted to increase association fees by \$20. The increase in fees was adopted to improve the long-term financial health of the association and to provide all association members with a subscription to the WPSA's new journal, *Politics, Groups and Identities*.

The council also voted to extend the term of *PRQ* editors Amy Mazur and Cornell Clayton for two more years. Mazur and Clayton's term will expire in May 2014. The association will begin a search for new editors in early 2013. Interested individuals or groups of individuals are encouraged to apply.

WPSA Returns to Las Vegas and San Diego

WPSA Executive Director Richard Clucas signed contracts this spring to bring the association back to Las Vegas in 2015 and San Diego in 2016. The Las Vegas meeting will be held at Caesars Palace on April 2-4, 2015, and the San Diego meeting will be at the Manchester Grand Hyatt on March 24-26, 2016.





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Participation at conferences in both cities has been very strong in the past, so it made sense for the association to return. Clucas and members of the Executive Council felt both hotels provide a good fit for the association and would be attractive to members.

Caesars Palace is a beautiful facility in the heart of Las Vegas, with easy access to many restaurants, shops, and lovely swimming pools. The guest rooms will be in the tower directly above the conference rooms, so members will not have to go through the casino to get to the panels. The panels will all be together in one area, so no one will have to trek from one part of the hotel to another looking for rooms. Caesars does not seem to have a problem with the smell of smoke in meeting and guest rooms. Of course, it helps that Las Vegas has adopted a new law since the association last held a meeting there banning smoking in many public places, except casino floors and bars. Caesars also seems to make an effort to minimize the smell of smoke even in these smoking areas.

The Manchester Hyatt in San Diego is in a beautiful downtown location overlooking the waterfront. As in Las Vegas, the meeting rooms are all close together. Of particular importance to many of our members is the news that Doug Manchester has sold his interest in the hotel. Even though the Manchester name is still attached to the hotel, it is now owned by Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

The Association will be meeting at the Renaissance Hotel in Hollywood, California, in 2013, and at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel in Seattle, Washington, in 2014.

WPSA Offers Online-Only Subscription to PRQ

The WPSA has negotiated an agreement with SAGE to allow association members to subscribe to *Political Research Quarterly* solely online. Individuals who pay full WPSA membership dues will still be able to receive a printed copy if they want, but this will allow the option of receiving an online-only subscription. In the future, when you renew your membership with the association you will be asked to indicate whether you want to receive the

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journal solely online or if you would prefer the printed version. If you decide to receive a printed version, you will also have access to the journal through the web.

Individuals who are paying a reduced rate for membership in the association (students/retirees) will automatically begin receiving an online-only subscription. If you are paying a reduced rate and you want to receive a printed version, you will need to pay for a full membership.

The decision to provide an online-only subscription was made for both financial and environmental reasons. Each *PRQ* subscription to our members costs the association money. An electronic version is substantially cheaper to produce and distribute, thus reducing our costs. In addition, paper versions consume considerably more natural resources, making them less desirable. Considering many of our members rely solely on the Internet to access *PRQ* anyway, the decision to provide an online-only option seemed the right move. We hope that you decide to subscribe solely online. If you wish to do so now, contact Elsa Favila at favilaej@csus.edu and she will make a note on your subscription.

Western Notes

NEW WPSA JOURNAL!

The editorial team for the new journal, *Politics, Groups and Identities*, has been chosen. The team includes Lisa García Bedolla, University of California-Berkeley; Rosalee Clawson, Political Science, Purdue; Ange-Marie Hancock, Political Science, USC; Kerry Haynie, Political Science, Duke; James McCann, Political Science, Purdue; Eric Waltenburg, Political Science, Purdue; and Laurel Weldon, Political Science, Purdue. It is expected that the journal will be launched in 2013 with four issues being published each year. *PGI* will offer a new platform for work that focuses on the politics of social identity and minority groups to which scholars in various sub-fields can submit articles and which will promote discussion across those sub-fields. The journal will encourage the search for overlapping



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themes and arguments and help develop a comparative literature on these topics both across fields and, conceivably, across the social sciences.

2012 WPSA Conference Portland, Oregon



WPSA President Manuel Avalos and Program Chair Peregrine Schwartz-Shea are planning the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Association scheduled for March 22-24, 2012 at the Marriott Waterfront in Portland, Oregon. We hope you will participate in the program. Please note that the deadline for submission of participation forms is September 18, 2011. Information regarding the program and additional WPSA news is found at our website:

http://www.csus.edu/org/wpsa. Please note that the deadline for submission of participation forms is September 18, 2011.

Political Research Quarterly: OnlineFirst



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- Politics in Peer Groups: Exploring the Causal Relationship between Network Diversity and Political Participation
 - o Ellen Quintelier, Dietlind Stolle, and Allison Harell
- The Effects of Party and Agenda Control: Assessing the Ideological Orientation of Legislation Directing Bureaucratic Behavior
 - o Erin Asher Meagher and Ryan J. Vander Wielen
- Judicial Innovation and Sexual Harassment Doctrine in the U.S. Courts of Appeals
 - Laura P. Moyer and Holley Tankersley
- The Conspiracy of Silence: Context and Voting on Gay Marriage Ballot Measures
 - o Joshua Dyck and Shanna Pearson-Merkowitz

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Meet the Officers

WPSA President Manuel Avalos



Manuel Avalos is currently the Director of Research Partnerships and Innovation at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW). He received his doctoral degree in Political Science at the University of New Mexico and did postdoctoral work at the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to his appointment at

UNCW he was Associate Vice-Provost for Research and Faculty Development and the Associate Director of the Hispanic Research Center at Arizona State University (2001-2006). He has held tenure track faculty appointments at Arizona State (1990-2006), California State University, Northridge (1988-90) and the University of Houston (1984-88).

His current academic research focuses on questions of racial inequality in the Americas, and the political representation and incorporation of the Latino electorate at the state, local and national level. His publications have appeared in *Sociological Perspectives, Harvard Journal of Hispanic Policy, Policy Studies Journal*, as well as chapters in several edited volumes by Rodolfo de la Garza and Louis DeSipio examining the impact of the Latino vote on Presidential elections.

WPSA Vice-President Peregrine Schwartz-Shea

Peregrine Schwartz-Shea is a professor of political science at the University of Utah. Her peregrinations have taken her from rational choice experimental projects to interpretive methodologies and their attendant evaluative criteria and standards. In the interim, she

documented the lack of methodological pluralism in doctoral curricula (*PS: Political Science and Politics, 2003*) and (with Dvora Yanow) a similar tendency in methods texts used in the discipline (*Political Research Quarterly, 2002*). With Yanow she founded the Interpretation and Method section at WPSA, the Methods Café at WPSA and APSA and has offered a number of short courses in interpretive methods at APSA. She obtained the funding for and helped to organize the 2009 National Science Foundation Workshop on Interpretive Methodologies in Political Science.

The author of a recently published assessment of Elinor Ostrom's work honoring her Nobel Prize (*Perspectives on Politics*, 2010), she is researching (with a variety of co-authors) pedagogical aspects of student response systems, the use of animated dynamic models in organizational contexts, and institutional review board policy. She is co-editor with Yanow of the Routledge Series on Interpretive Methods. Schwartz-Shea and Yanow's, *Interpretive Research Design: Concepts and Processes*, the first volume in the series, is forthcoming in December 2011. She enjoys tandem biking, skiing, and yoga.



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Western Researcher Poster Sessions



USD student Judith Garbo explains her research poster about Chinese Communist Party's policies towards Human Rights.

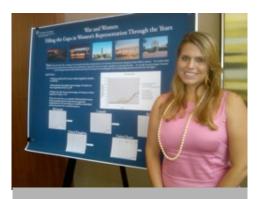
Since the 2009 annual meeting, the Western Political Science Association has invited undergraduate students to

present posters on research they are conducting under the supervision of their Political Science faculty advisors. Poster sessions are a great opportunity for students to present their research while being introduced into the professional discipline of Political Science and to the Western Political Science Association.

In this section, we highlight one of the poster presentations from the 2011 WPSA Conference in San Antonio. Kaethe Selkirk from

the University of Redlands developed and presented research entitled, "The Effect of Independent Expenditures on Congressional Elections following Citizens United v Federal Elections Commission (2010)". Below is a synopsis of her research presentation.

We hope that faculty will encourage their students to participate in the WPSA Poster Sessions in Portland and in future meetings. If you have students interested in participating in the poster sessions, they can submit proposals under Section 26: Undergraduate Research Posters located on the proposal submission form.



USD student Brooke Einspanier presenting her research on the history of violence and its effect on women's representation

The Effect of Independent Expenditures on Congressional Elections following Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (2010)

Kaethe Selkirk University of Redlands

On January 27th, 2010 President Barack Obama spoke out against the Supreme Court's ruling of Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (2010) in his State of the Union address: "With all due deference to the separation of powers, last week, the Supreme Court reversed a century of law that I believe will open the floodgates for special interests including foreign corporations — to spend without limit in our elections." As a standing ovation filled the room, Justice Alito shook his head disapprovingly. Slowly and with

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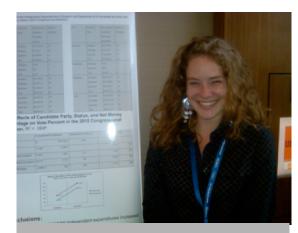


hesitation, he rose to his feet. As the applause continued Justice Alito's mouth opened to form a three-word dissent, "That's not true."

This interaction illustrates the political tension surrounding corporate First Amendment rights. Two diverging perspectives dominate the debate over campaign finance reform. Those who advocate restrictions claim that corporate free speech corrupts

the electoral process by diminishing political equality, a foundational value of the United States. Opponents argue that corporations are merely large groups of associated people. To deny them First Amendment free speech because of a corporate heading violates constitutional principles of political liberty. While both perspectives represent polar opposite views of what free speech means, they converge on one point: money matters.

My research examined the impact campaign spending had on the 2010 Congressional election. It tested the validity of major conclusions in the literature, that spending has a substantial impact on Congressional elections. All 435 Congressional



Kaethe Selkirk presenting her research on Independent Expenditures and Congressional Elections

seats were individually and aggregately analyzed through precise determinants to assess the effect of corporate free speech on the 2010 Congressional elections. Data were taken from the Center for Responsive Politics and the New York Times poll results.

This study tested four hypotheses and produced several noteworthy findings concerning the effect of corporate independent expenditures on the 2010 Congressional elections following Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (2010). The first relationship questioned whether corporate independent expenditures increased following the 2010 Supreme Court case. Analyzing aggregate total expenditure and total independent expenditure data from all presidential and midterm elections between 1990 and 2010, it can be suggested that the flow of corporate money did increase. Implicit in this rise is the understanding that corporations become increasingly active in politics when permitted constitutional rights. Using First Amendment liberties to express political preference, future research studying corporate financial investments in the 2012 and 2014 Congressional elections will allow an understanding of newly forming campaign finance patterns.

Having established that corporate money substantially increased in the 2010 midterm election, the following relationships questioned how this monetary surge affected race outcomes. The first relationship tested whether corporate independent expenditures favored Republican over Democratic candidates. The second relationship tested whether incumbent candidates benefited most from corporate money. The final relationship



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examined the relative effects of money spent in support or opposition of a candidate.

Democratic incumbents received the highest amount of corporate independent expenditures. These statistics support conventional understandings of the relationship between money spent and electoral outcome and incumbency advantage (Palda 1973. 1975; Welch 1974, 1976; Dawson and Zinser 1976). Yet a disparity exists between electoral theory and the actuality of the 2010 midterm election.

In the 2010 Congressional elections Democratic candidates lost a total of 63 seats to Republican challengers who had significantly less corporate backing. This defeat eliminated the Democratic House majority and resulted in a 242-seat victory for the Republican Party while Democrats retained only 193 seats. If incumbency theory and the positive relationship between money and electoral outcome predict success, why did Democratic incumbents, averaging the highest amount of corporate backing, lose their majority in the House of Representatives?

The Democratic Party lost the 2010 Congressional election for three reasons. First, money matters only to a limited degree. Corporate independent expenditures allow public visibility, candidate knowledge, and widespread constituent education. Republican candidates were able to successfully challenge Democratic incumbents because they had incurred enough money to purchase a competitive amount of public awareness. Equally visible to voters, incumbency advantage was significantly weakened, and electoral success was no longer dependant on financial advantage. Second, the race was fought on electoral factors outside of campaign spending. After Republican candidates had obtained equal public visibility, the race was decided on national mood, retrospective voting habits, party preference, and electoral status. Third, Republican challengers were advantaged by negative spending. Although money matters to only a limited degree, Republican challengers were strategic in their spending. Using the present administration's failures as political ammunition, the Republican Party purchased negative media to further exploit national conditions and, therefore, was able to successfully compete and secure a Congressional victory.

While this research does not deny that money is related to a candidate's success, it argues that at a certain point financial backing no longer predicts electoral outcome. Republican candidates in the 2010 election, for example, did not need to financially meet or surpass Democratic incumbents; they just needed to reach a baseline amount that equalized and facilitated public awareness. Once achieved, external factors such as national mood, retrospective voting habits, party preference, and electoral status, proved most influential.

President Obama claimed in his State of the Union address that Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission (2010) opened the floodgates for special interest groups to spend limitlessly in United States elections. While it is true that independent expenditures increased in the 2010 Congressional elections, corporate voice did not solely determine election outcome. Multivariate analysis revealed that party and incumbency were much stronger predictors of election outcome than monetary advantage was. Nevertheless, a strong correlation exists between spending and a challenger's ability to compete against an incumbent candidate.

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Western Announcements

Retirements



Nicholas Lovrich left a lasting impression on every student he worked with during his 34-year career at Washington State University. As a teacher, mentor, and researcher at Washington State University for over three decades, Lovrich left his mark on the lives of countless students studying Political Science and Criminal Justice. His passion for helping students succeed in school and life was instrumental in assisting thirty PhD students

through their graduate studies and dissertation.

Among his many accolades, Lovrich received the 2011 Outstanding Mentor Award from the academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, the 2008 Outstanding Mentoring Award from the American Political Science Association, the 2006 Dean's Distinguished Contribution Award from the College of Liberal Arts, and was named the 1998 Claudius O. and Mary W. Johnson Distinguished Professor in Political Science. He also advanced to the rank of Regents Professor in 2010 and served as the Division of Governmental Studies and Services director his entire career.

Dr. Lovrich has been an active member of WPSA for over 40 years. We wish him well in retirement.

Promotions

Dr. Mahalley Allen received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor at California State University, Chico.

Dr. Pamela Fiber-Ostrow received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor at California State University, Fullerton.

Dr. Matthew O. Thomas was promoted to Full Professor at California State University, Chico.



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Job Announcements

The University of Alaska Fairbanks **Department of Political Science**

Assistant Professor in International Relations

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Department of Political Science invites applications for a tenure-track position in International Relations at the Assistant Professor level to begin August, 2012. We are looking for candidates with a strong commitment to undergraduate education, an active research agenda and the ability to contribute to the department's research and teaching, at the undergraduate and graduate levels, in Environmental Politics and Policy. In addition to undergraduate IR courses, the successful candidate will be expected to teach an undergraduate research methods class, advise the Model United Nations club, and offer courses in one or more of the following areas: US Foreign Policy, Ethics and Society, Political Economy, or an appropriate regional specialization (e.g., the European Union, the Arctic or the Middle East). A completed PhD or equivalent in Political Science, IR or a related field is preferred. Particularly well-qualified ABDs who are within a year of completion may also be considered. UAF is the flagship campus of the University of Alaska system with a diverse student body and favorable faculty-student ratios. For information on faculty, programs, and life in Alaska visit www.uaf.edu/polisci. Only electronic applications can be accepted. Submit a CV, letter of application (including a statement on philosophy of teaching and agenda for future research), one sample of scholarly writing (a recent peer reviewed publication or dissertation chapter), the names and complete contact information for three professional references, and graduate transcripts. Visit https://www.uakjobs.com/applicants/Central?quickFind=74740 to begin the application process.

Drexel University Department of History and Politics

Two Tenure Track Positions for Assistant or Associate Professor

The Department of History & Politics at Drexel University invites applications for up to two full-time, tenure-track positions in Political Science, beginning Fall 2012. The Department will consider applications at both the Assistant Professor and Associate Professor rank. These positions mark the beginning of an expansion of the research potential of the Department of History & Politics While the particular sub-field is open, we are primarily interested in candidates who can add to our existing strengths in one of the following research areas: Law & Society; International Law and Organizations; Science and

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Technology; and Public Policy. A candidate situated in one of these research areas with expertise in China will be viewed more favorably. The History & Politics Department is especially interested in qualified candidates who can contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community. Candidates will also be expected to contribute to the Department's current and future undergraduate and graduate curricula.

Located in Philadelphia, Drexel is a privately endowed university founded in 1891. With approximately 20,000 students, it has one of the largest undergraduate cooperative education programs in the nation. The University offers an attractive benefits package including tuition remission, a generous retirement package with matching funds (up to 11%) and an opportunity to join an exceptional University, achieving record growth and quality reputation. Drexel University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. For more information about Drexel University, please visit www.drexel.edu.

Please apply online at: www.drexeljobs.com -- the Department of History and Politics is #3649. Applications MUST be submitted online via Drexeljobs. Mailed, faxed, or e-mailed applications will not be accepted.

Candidates should include: 1) a cover letter; 2) curriculum vitae; 3) up to three samples of your scholarly writing; and 4) the names and email addresses of at least three references. For candidates for the Assistant Professor position, all requirements for the PhD must be completed by August 15, 2012. Review of applications will begin October 1, 2011.

Drexel University
Department of History & Politics 3250-60 Chestnut Street
3025 MacAlister Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19104
ATTN: Search Committee
http://www.drexel.edu/histpol/

Miami University, Oxford Ohio. Department Chair

Political Science: Department Chair to work with the faculty to advance the Department's mission of teaching, research, and service, and is expected to provide a professional example in these areas. Chair responsibilities include departmental administration; academic affairs and curriculum; recruitment, evaluation, and supervision of faculty; student affairs, including grievances and academic dishonesty; departmental budgetary affairs; and representing the Department to the College, the University, and the profession. The Chair promotes collegial governance according to University, College, and departmental guidelines. Require: PhD in Political Science; relevant administrative



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experience; an established record of excellence in teaching and scholarship (commensurate with the rank of Professor); and strong organizational and interpersonal skills. Field of specialization is open. Advanced associate professors will be considered if publication record merits appointment at the rank of full professor. Candidates must submit a letter of application that addresses the responsibilities outlined above and relevant experience, a current *curriculum vitae* with email contact information, three letters of recommendation, samples of scholarship, and evidence of teaching accomplishment. Questions and applications should be directed to Professor Leonard Mark, Chair of the Political Science Chair Search Committee, Department of Psychology, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056, (513) 529-2417, Fax (513) 529-2420. E-mail: MARKLS@muohio.edu. Electronic (PDF) applications preferred. The committee will begin considering applications on November 15 and continue until the position is filled. Miami University is an EOE/AA employer with smoke-free campuses. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Miami University offers an excellent benefits package, including same-sex domestic partner benefits. Right to Know—Consumer Information http://www.miami.muohio.edu/aboutmiami/publications-and-policies/student-consumer-info/. Hard copy upon request.

PRQ ARCHIVES

PRQ Database Available Online

Since 2008, *PRQ*'s 60th anniversary, the editors of PRQ have maintained a database of all articles published in the Quarterly since its founding. The database includes author and article profiles, as well as a coding key and graph tracing the content of articles by decade since the Quarterly's creation. To read more about *PRQ*'s history, check out the March 2008 60th anniversary issue http://prq.sagepub.com/content/61/1.toc of *PRQ*. Discover trends in the journal based on a database compiled of more than 2,700 PRQ articles, the top-two cited articles for each decade with expert commentary, and an essay on the founding of *PRQ* in relation to WPSA. Click here http://www.sagepub.com/journalsProdDesc.nav?prodId=Journal201839#tabview=announcements to access the database and variable codes.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Pacific Northwest Political Science Association will hold its annual meeting at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel in Seattle Washington from October 13-15, 2011. Panels are offered in a variety of fields and subfields of political science. A full list of section chairs and further details of the conference are available at the PNWPSA website.

http://legacy.lclark.edu/~pnwpsa/2011/index.html.

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In Memoriam

Karl H. Kahrs

Karl H. Kahrs died on August 7, 2011 after a fall in the home he shared with Chris Brewer Kahrs, in Laguna Beach, California. Karl Heinz Kahrs was born February 16, 1931 in Altona, Germany. He grew up during World War II, suffering many of the deprivations this entailed. As one of many whose education had been disrupted by the war or its aftermath, he obtained a "certificate of maturity" (Abitur) from The College of Social Sciences, Wilhelmshaven, Germany in 1953, an experimental college intended to give a second chance to get into the mainstream of higher education for people like him. He transferred to the University of Hamburg from which he received a Diplomkaufmann (M.B.A.) in Business Economics in 1956. He was an active member of the German Social Democratic Party.

Karl, his wife, Ilse and young child, Till, emigrated to the United States in 1959. He enrolled as a graduate student at the University of California, Santa Barbara, beginning in economics and shortly changing to political science. He received an M.A. in 1967 and a Ph.D. in 1970. At Santa Barbara he worked closely with Peter Merkyl, his dissertation advisor and a fellow German emigrant. He remained a close friend and colleague with Professor Merkyl for the remainder of his life, contributing essays to the latter's multiple edited volumes. He was an active scholar, writing both in English and German. He was an active participant in the American Political Science Association, the International Political Science Association, The Council for European Studies, the Conference Group on German Politics and the California Seminar on International Security and Foreign Policy. He served as book review editor of East Central Europe/ L'Europe du Centre-Est and was a consultant to Frost and Sullivan for their "World Political Risk Forecasts." He also served on the advisory boards of Annual Editions: Global Issues and Annual Editions: Comparative Politics.

Karl was appointed as Assistant Professor of Political Science, and promoted to Associate Professor and Professor of Political Science at California State University, Fullerton, beginning in 1969. He served as graduate coordinator of the Master of Arts in Political Science program for a number years and one year as Associate Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. He traveled to Germany as a Fulbright Scholar in 1993, served as Resident Director for the California State University International Program in Heidelberg, Germany, and was a visiting professor at universities in Lancaster, England, and Hamburg.

Kahrs was awarded emeritus status in 1994 by California University, Fullerton but continued to teach half-time for a further five years and continued to teach a graduate



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seminar for several more years. Most of all Professor Kahrs was a professor whose high standards as well as his geniality were known by all. He was mentor to a number of graduate and undergraduate students who are now members of faculties at several universities in the United States and successful high level employees in both private and public institutions. One of his colleagues, on hearing of his death, commented "I learned more from Karl than any other colleague." This opinion is shared by all of those of us who worked with him.

He is survived by his wife Chris, his son Till and his grandson Nathaniel.

Bruce E Wright, Professor Emeritus of Political Science California State University, Fullerton

Submission Instructions

At *The Western* we encourage submissions for articles in any of our four areas: *Western* Educator, Western Researcher, Western Politics, and Western Reviews.

Western Educator

For the Western Educator we welcome submissions about controversies and innovations in political science education at the undergraduate and graduate levels. These can be articles that describe unique classroom simulations, the incorporation of innovative technology into the classroom, and a wide variety of other topics. We especially welcome submissions with a focus on topics unique to the western region. Articles should be no more than 10 pages.

Western Researcher

For the Western Researcher we welcome submissions that present innovative research techniques, data sources, and reviews of current trends. We especially welcome those with a focus on the western region. Articles should be no more than 10 pages.

Western Politics

For the Western Politics section we welcome individual papers and organized symposia about topical issues of political events in the western United States, Canada, and Mexico. Individual papers should be no longer than 10 pages. If you are interested about proposing and editing a symposium, please contact the editors.

Western Reviews

Please contact the editors if you are interested in reviewing books.