

Minutes

**WPSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING
FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2010
6:15 – 6:45 P.M.
Hyatt Regency San Francisco
ROOM: Garden A**

1. *Call to Order*

The meeting was called to order by Shaun Bowler at 6:30 p.m.

2. *Awards*

Shaun Bowler introduced the presenters for the following WPSA awards:

- a. The Dissertation Award was presented by Matt Jarvis to Dr. John Alquist for his dissertation: “Building and Using Strategic Capacity: Labor Union Federations and Economic Policy,” completed at University of Washington.
- b. The Pi Sigma Alpha Award was presented by Sean Kelly to Michael McCann, University of Washington, William Haltom, University of Puget Sound, and Shauna Fisher, University of Washington, for their paper: “Criminalizing Big Tobacco: Legal Mobilization and the Politics of Responsibility for Health Risks in the United States.”
- c. The Betty Nesvold Women and Politics Award was presented by Sylvia Manzano to Regina G. Lawrence, Louisiana State University, and Melody Rose, Portland State University, for their paper: “Bringing out the Hook: Exit Talk in Coverage of Hillary Clinton's Presidential Campaign.”
- d. The WPSA Best Paper on Blacks and Politics Award was presented by Chris Lee to Joel Schlosser, Carlton College, for his paper: “Engaging a Black American Socrates: James Baldwin's Socratism and Race in America.”
- e. The WPSA Best Paper on Latina/Latino & Politics Award was presented by Sylvia Manzano to Francisco Pedraza, University of Washington, for his paper: “The Cold Shoulder in Immigrant Political Attitude Formation: How Perceived Discrimination Moderates the Effect of Acculturation.”
- f. The *PRQ* Best Article Award was presented by Richard Clucas to James C. Franklin, Ohio Wesleyan, for his December 2009 *PRQ* Article: “Contentious Challenges and Government Responses in Latin America.”
- g. The WPSA Best Paper on Environmental Political Theory was presented by Chris Hunold to Rafi Youatt, Reed College, for his paper: “Foie Gras in the Blogosphere: Animal Sentience, Pain, and Public Deliberation.”

At the conclusion of the award presentations, Shaun Bowler noted that the Western gets bigger each year and that competition is getting tough for these awards. He noted that all awardees were very deserving.

3. *Reports*

a. San Francisco Convention

Program Chair, Christine Di Stefano, noted that this conference was the largest we have ever hosted with over 1,300 registrants, 24 sections, 310 panels, and strong representation from a many subfields (theory had 80 panels; diversity politics had 20 panels, IR had 20 panels, comparative had 18 panels and judicial politics and ES were close behind). She noted that she is pleased that we made efforts to create panels and roundtables that would deal with local political issues, noting that there were roundtables on Proposition 8 and local labor politics. Overall, she notes that it is a good turnout and that she looks forward to seeing all in San Antonio.

Local Arrangements: The Local Arrangement Chairs, Lisa García Bedolla and Melissa Michaelson, noted that they were happy to welcome everybody to San Francisco. They gave special thanks to Elsa and Bobby Favila for all of their help.

b. Political Research Quarterly

Amy Mazur gave a short report on the *PRQ* noting that the journal has moved up 20 places in the impact ratings. She noted that it moved up within the context of increased diversification of articles across the fields of political science, which was part of editor's original mandate. She also noted that *PRQ* is being cited outside of the academic context too: 1) there was a Podcast in March issue 2010 (Max Waltman on Porn policy); 2) the press has cited *PRQ* material several times this year. Finally, she noted that there is a one year two month turn-around time on getting published in *PRQ*, but once an article is accepted it goes online immediately allowing faculty to cite their work earlier.

c. Executive Director Report

Richard Clucas noted that this has been an exciting conference, and it was exciting to put together despite the labor issues. He noted that finances are very strong; the association had signed a contract with University of Utah extending the *PRQ* relationship for 10 more years; we have signed a contract for new publication titled *Politics, Groups and Identities* with Taylor and Francis publishers; we have launched a new association newsletter; we have recently purchased new projectors for enhanced AV at conferences; and the revenue for the conference was exceptional with over 1,248 registered and more coming on Saturday. Clucas noted that we are going to San Antonio in 2011; Portland in 2010; LA-Hollywood in 2013; and that we are investigating Seattle for 2014. Finally, he noted that the WPSA President's reception had already started next door!

Shaun Bowler thanked Richard for hosting a wonderful, trouble free, conference.

d. Treasurer

Michael Bowers noted that the budget looks wonderful. We started the year with a beginning balance of \$287,052 in the bank. We earned more than \$102,000 in income and had \$110,636 in operating costs. Last year we did spend more than we brought in by about \$6,000 because of the one-time costs associated with the transition between Betty Moulds and Richard Clucas. He noted that this is not a problem because we still have strong assets and overall our entire budget is good. He reported our current total assets at \$280,399.

e. Nominating Committee

Peter Steinberger, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the committee's nominations for the 2010-2011 Executive Council:

Vice President and Program Chair: April 2011 – March 2012

Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, University of Utah

Recording Secretary: April 2010 – March 2013

Noelle Norton, University of San Diego

Executive Council: 2010 – 2011 (vacancy replacement, Region C)

Jeanne Morefield, Whitman College

Executive Council: March 2011 – February 2014

Region A

Karthick Ramakrishnan, UC Riverside

Louis DeSipio, UC Irvine

Region B

Rudy Espino, Arizona State University

Region C

Chris Parker, University of Washington

4. Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

5. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Shaun Bowler noted that it was time to elect the officers for next year.

ACTION ON ITEM: Bill Haltom moved to accept the nominating committee's slate. Melody Rose seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

Shaun Bowler thanked the nominating committee for their hard work.

6. Introduction of Incoming WPSA President Christine DiStefano

Shaun complimented Christine DiStefano for her work on the Program and introduced her as the new incoming president of the Association. Shaun Bowler handed her the gavel and Christine DiStefano closed the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted by Noelle Norton, Acting Recording Secretary