

**Political Research Quarterly  
Activity Report  
2013**

Amy G. Mazur, Co-Editor  
Cornell W. Clayton, Co-Editor

Lucas McMillan and Sanne A. M. Rijkhoff, Editorial Assistants

School of Politics, Philosophy and Public Affairs  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99163  
Phone: 509- 335-5260  
E-mail: [prq@wsu.edu](mailto:prq@wsu.edu)  
Website at <http://prq.sagepub.com/>

Presented to the Editorial Advisory Board  
WPSA Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA, April 17-19, 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

In its 65<sup>th</sup> year, *PRQ* continued to experience a growing influence in the discipline. According to the *Journal Citation Reports (JCR)*, *PRQ*'s impact factor and rankings have risen steadily over the past seven years. Its 2012 impact factor of 1.044, ranking it 48<sup>th</sup> out of 157 political science journals, is more than double what it was in 2006 ( an impact factor of .486, ranking it 56<sup>th</sup> out of 93 journals, in 2007). Moreover, the 5-year impact factor for *PRQ* is currently 1.281, and it is ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in Google Scholar's "Top Publications in Political Science."<sup>1</sup>

*PRQ*'s relationship with Sage Publications also continues to be strong and supportive. Working with Sage, the editors have expanded the total number of pages per issue (from 208 pages in 2007 to 238 in 2011) allowing them to reduce the backlog of accepted and forthcoming articles. *PRQ* Online has recently received a make-over and has transitioned to a new platform, which allows users to more easily navigate through current and archived issues. Sage has also made several improvements to the *PRQ* website that will provide easier access to announcements, mini-symposia, and podcasts. In addition, we continue to publish articles through the *PRQ* Online First system up to 6 months prior to their publication in the journal, which both improves the journal's timeliness and allows subscribers to receive email alerts when new articles in their area are published online.

Sage also continues to offer *PRQ* reviewers free 30-day access to all titles on the SAGE Journals Online First platform, as well as a 25% discount on Sage books. *PRQ*'s mobile website was launched as well as a Sage/CQ Press social media presence on Facebook and Twitter where followers have direct access to the *PRQ* website. In early 2012, SAGE launched SAGE/CQ Press political science channels on Twitter and Facebook. Currently there are 1,374 followers on Twitter who regularly post *PRQ* content, and the SAGE CQP Politics Facebook page has received 1,143 "likes" from its fans to date. There is also a *PRQ* Wikipedia page to drive traffic to the site. Furthermore, several articles published in *PRQ* were highlighted in *The Huffington Post* in March<sup>2</sup>, and The Monkey Cage.org in August of 2013<sup>3</sup>.

During the past year the editors have continued efforts to stream-line the review process and ensure timely decisions on manuscripts. The average time in review at the journal continues to be just over two months. Figure 1 provides data on the average number of days between manuscript submission and editorial decisions (both for initial decisions and final decisions for

---

<sup>1</sup> Go to: [http://scholar.google.com/citations?view\\_op=top\\_venues&hl=en&vq=soc\\_politicalscience](http://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=top_venues&hl=en&vq=soc_politicalscience)

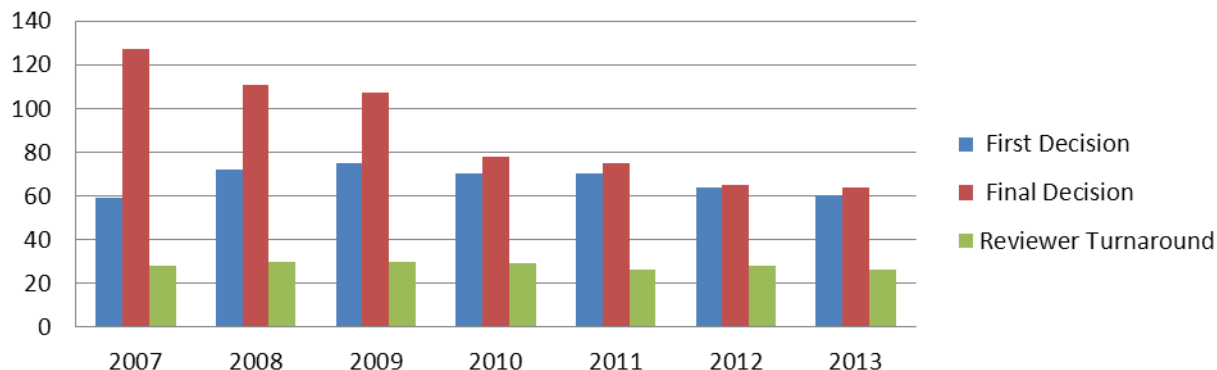
<sup>2</sup> [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-d-blake/supreme-court-justices-religion\\_b\\_2951293.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/william-d-blake/supreme-court-justices-religion_b_2951293.html)

<sup>3</sup> [http://themonkeycage.org/2013/08/06/how-to-explain-the-seeming-gap-between-public-opinion-and-immigration-reforms-in-congress/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+themonkeycagefeed+%28The+Monkey+Cage%29](http://themonkeycage.org/2013/08/06/how-to-explain-the-seeming-gap-between-public-opinion-and-immigration-reforms-in-congress/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+themonkeycagefeed+%28The+Monkey+Cage%29)  
<http://themonkeycage.org/2013/08/27/how-do-military-interventions-affect-human-rights-practices/>  
<http://themonkeycage.org/2013/08/09/gender-stereotypes-candidate-evaluations-and-voting-for-women-candidates-what-really-matters/>  
<http://themonkeycage.org/2013/08/07/do-popular-votes-on-rights-create-animosity-toward-minorities/>

manuscripts receiving a revise and resubmit), as well as average reviewer turnaround (the average time a reviewer takes to assess a manuscript) from 2007 to 2013. Since 2007, the average time to final decisions on manuscripts has decreased by 50% from 127 days to 64 days, while reviewer turnaround has remained relatively constant at approximately 27 days.

**Figure 1**

**Average Number of Days to Editor Decision and Reviewer Turnaround, 2007-2013**



The editors have also continued their efforts to represent the diversity of research and theoretical approaches in political science within the pages of the journal. The March 2013 issue for example featured a mini-symposium on qualitative comparative analysis called: “QCA, 25 Years after ‘The Comparative Method’: Mapping, and Challenges and Innovations.” The editors also continue their efforts to reach out to authors in substantive areas that have been under-represented in the journal. For example, Political Theory manuscripts made up only 6 percent of submissions to the journal last year but 10 percent of accepted manuscripts in 2013. Similarly, last year the editors solicited and currently have scheduled for publication in 2014 a mini-symposium focused on Latino Politics.

The current editors of *PRQ* have scheduled several additional mini-symposia for 2014. In the March issue a symposium was published called “Informal Institutions and ‘Intractable’ Global Problems,” with Guest Editors Leigh Raymond and S. Laurel Weldon. Also scheduled for 2014 are mini-symposia on Species Evolution and Cultural Freedom and Race and Elections.

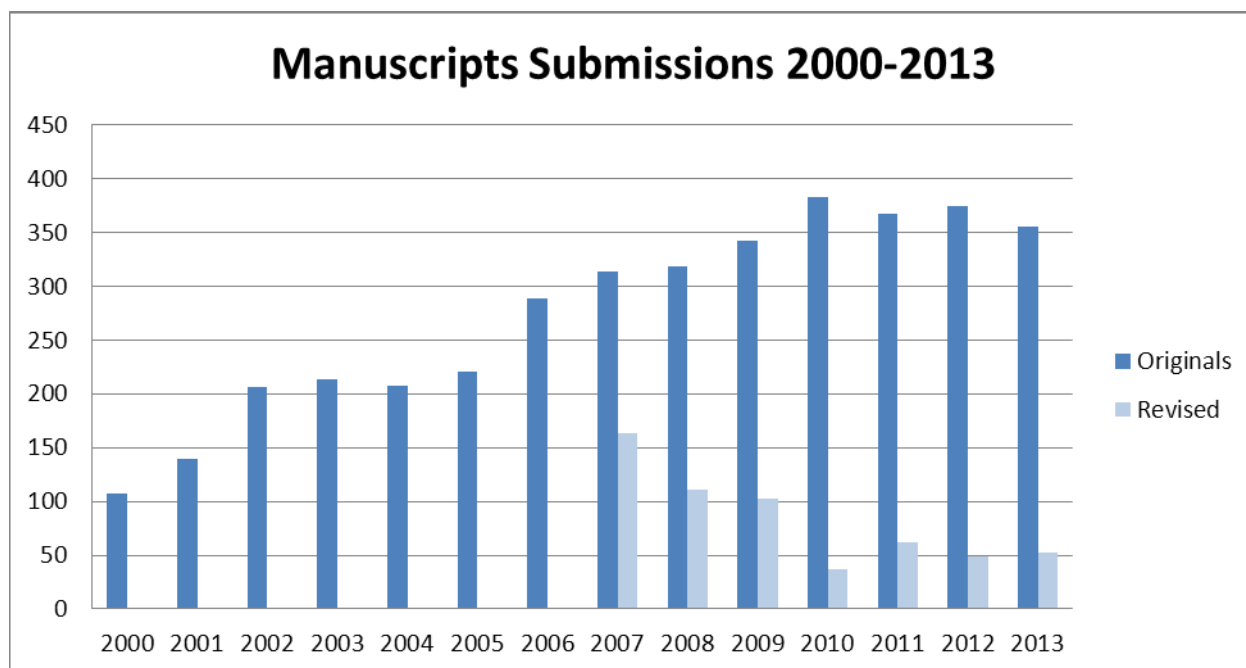
**MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSIONS**

*PRQ* continues to receive a high number of manuscript submissions each year. As indicated in Figure 2, manuscript submissions to the journal have risen substantially since 2006, growing from 225 submissions in 2005 (the year prior to the current editorial team assuming leadership of the journal) to 355 manuscripts in 2013.<sup>4</sup> The increase in submissions now appears to have

<sup>4</sup> The data from 2007 through 2010 differs from that presented in previous *PRQ* Annual reports, which combined original and revised submissions into total submissions for each year. Data distinguishing between original and revised manuscript submissions before 2007 could not be obtained.

leveled out in the 350-400 per annum range. The number of offers to authors to revise and resubmit manuscripts has also declined sharply during this period, dropping from nearly 160 offers in 2007 (the earliest year for which we have data) to only 52 in 2013.

**Figure 2**



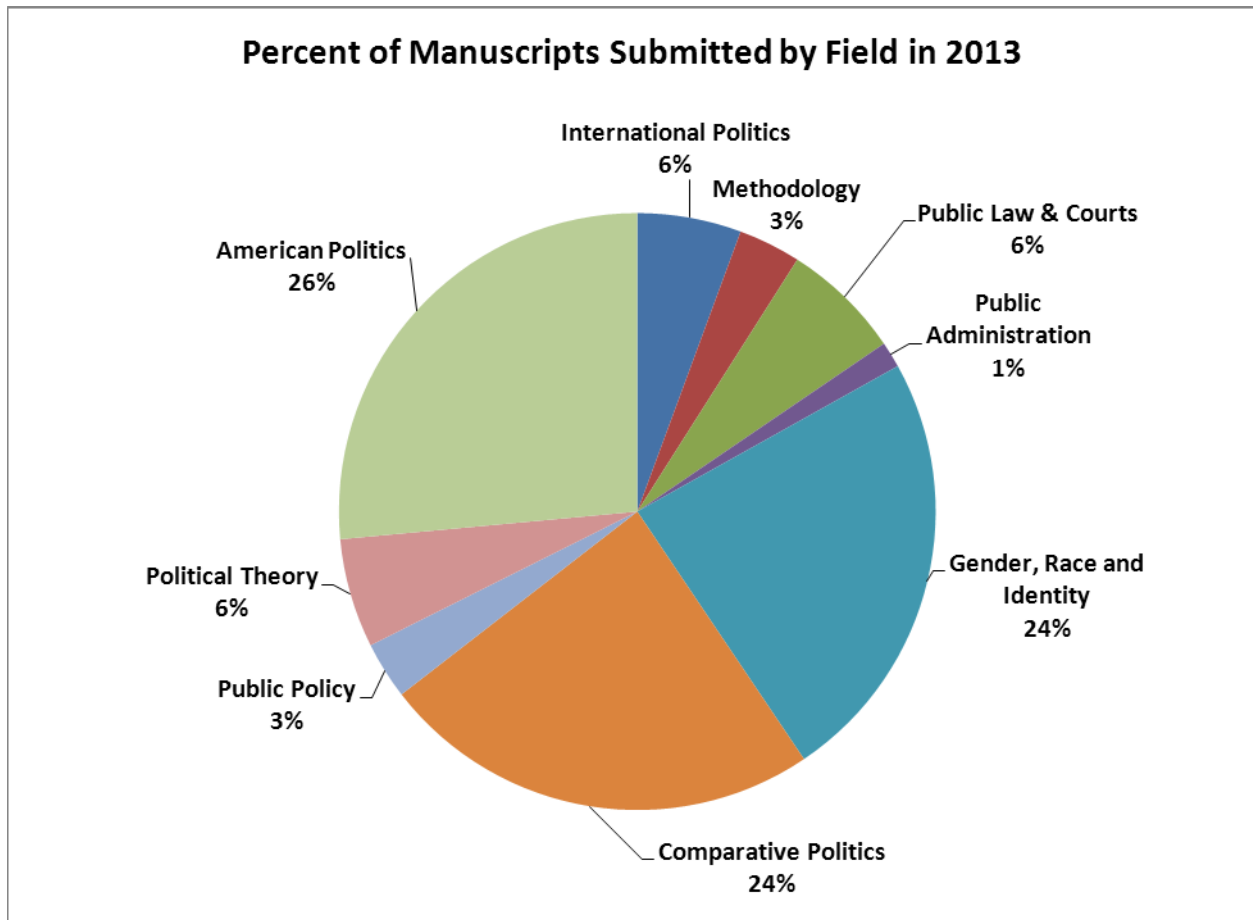
*PRQ* uses nine primary field categories for classifying manuscripts and reviewers. These include:

- American Politics
- Comparative Politics
- Gender, Race, and Identity<sup>5</sup>
- International Relations
- Methodology
- Political Theory
- Public Administration
- Public Policy
- Public Law and Courts

When authors and reviewers register in the on-line system they are asked to select one of these categories as a primary field. They are also asked to select from a list of 50 secondary field categories based on the APSA organized sections or to write-in additional secondary fields. Figure 3 below presents the percent breakdown of submissions by the nine primary fields.

<sup>5</sup> This category, created for administrative expediency, is a combined category of Gender and Politics, Race, Ethnicity and Politics, and Sexuality and Politics research and includes work in all categories.

**Figure 3**



### **MANUSCRIPT DECISIONS**

Figure 4 presents data on manuscript decisions in 2013. Consistent with the journal's growing quality and prestige, the acceptance rate declined over the past seven years, from an 18 percent acceptance rate in 2006 to an 11 percent rate in 2013. The acceptance rate is now comparable to other top-ranked journals in the discipline.

**Figure 4**  
**PRQ Decision Proportions in 2013**

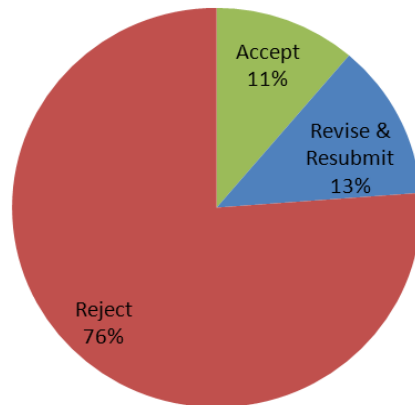
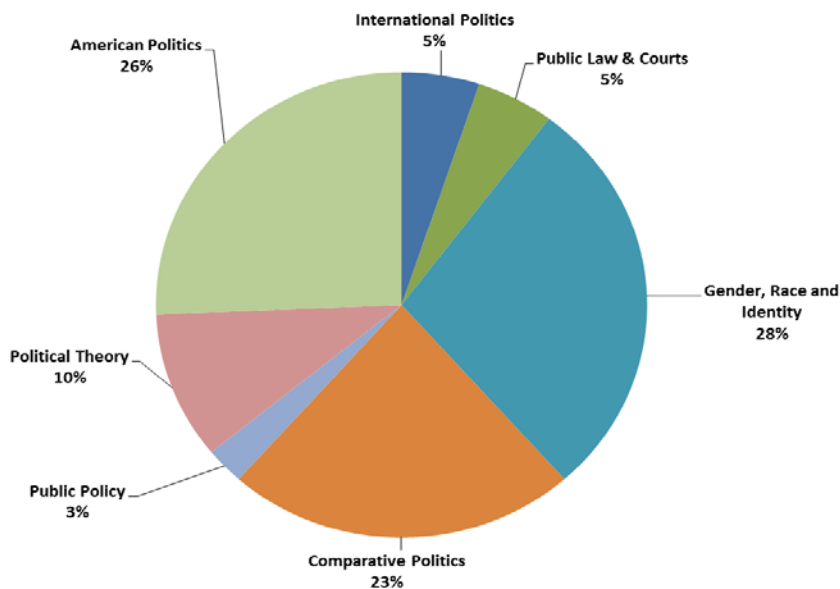


Figure 5 shows the distribution of articles accepted in 2013 by substantive fields. Gender, Race and Identity represents for the first time the largest number of accepted manuscripts (28%)<sup>6</sup>, followed by American Politics (26%) and Comparative Politics (23%). Other accepted manuscripts fall into the fields of Political Theory (10%), Law and Courts and International Politics (both 5%), and Public Policy (3%).

**Figure 5**  
**Percent of Manuscripts Accepted by Field in 2013**



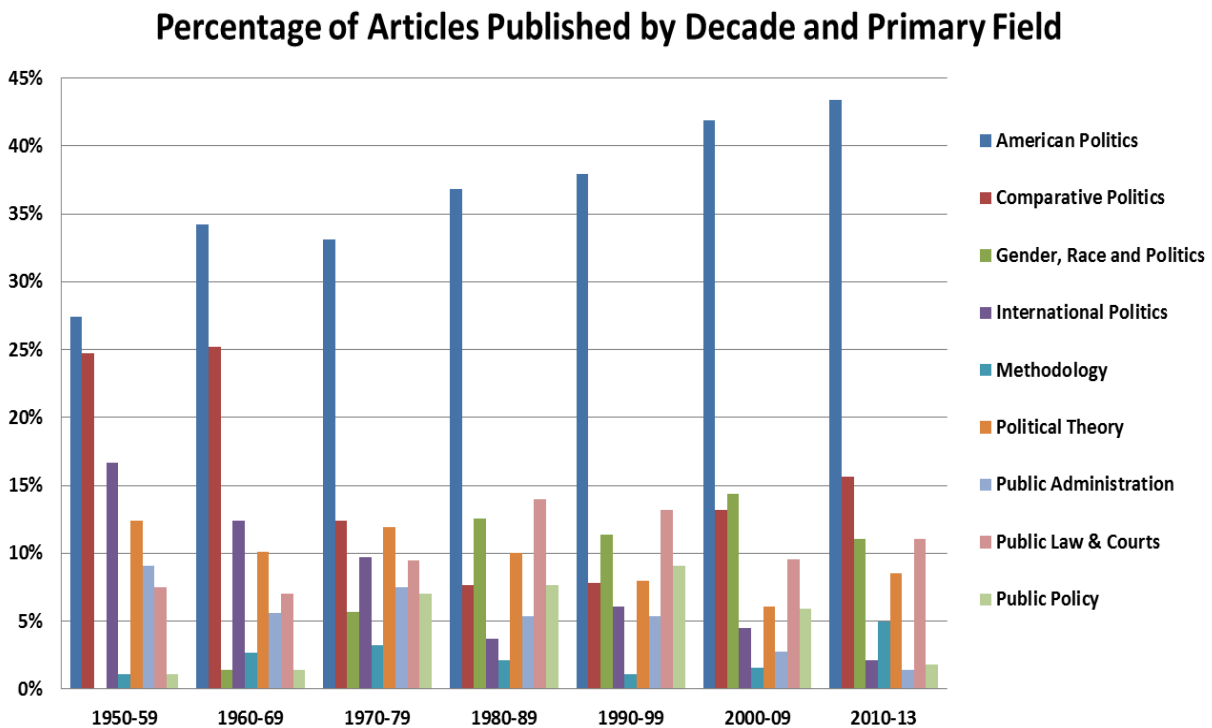
<sup>6</sup> A reason for the increased acceptance of Gender, Race, and Identity (GRI) manuscripts is largely due to the mini-symposia on Informal Institutions and Intractable Problems (published in the March 2014 issue) and Race and Elections (accepted and forthcoming in 2014). Of the 15 GRI manuscripts accepted in 2013, 7 appear in one of these mini-symposia.

As a result of the continuing effort to attract international authors and readership, in 2013, the journal received 25% of its original submissions (88 out of 355 manuscripts) from authors living in countries outside the United States. The bulk of these submissions came from authors at institutions in The United Kingdom, Germany and Canada, followed closely by Spain, Turkey, and Israel. Other countries represented by our authors include: Republic of Korea, Australia, Brazil, China, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Taiwan, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, and Sweden.. Out of all published articles in 2013 (74 articles) 12 are from authors who's institution is located abroad (16%).

## CONTENT

The journal has continued to publish in areas of traditional strength as outlined in the content analysis published in the Sixtieth Anniversary issue (Mazur and Clayton 2008). Figure 6 below presents the evolution of *PRQ* article content since the 1960s. The substantive breakdown of articles accepted for publication in general closely tracks trends in submission rates by field in the past decade.<sup>7</sup>

**Figure 6.**



<sup>7</sup> Data for this figure were first compiled for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary content analysis article. Each year the article database is updated and made available to the public on the WPSA website.

Since 2006, *PRQ* has published mini-symposia on a range of topics. Guest editors work with the editorial team to put together 3-5 articles with an introduction and response essays. In most cases articles go through the same review process as regular articles. Since initiating the regular mini-symposium feature fourteen symposia have been published with three accepted and forthcoming in 2014. Past mini-symposia include:

- “Diversity and Democracy,” Todd Donovan, Symposium Guest Editor (March 2007)
- “Dynamic Theories of Coalition Politics,” Jamie Druckman, Guest Editor (September 2008)
- “American Political Development through the Lens of Race,” Julie Novkov, Guest Editor (December 2008)
- “The Scientific Analysis of Politics,” Rose McDermott and Kristen Monroe, Guest Editors (September 2009)
- “Comparative Sources of Judicial Empowerment: Ideas and Interests,” Lisa Hilbink and Patricia Woods, Guest Editors (December 2009)
- “Measurement Matters: Empirical Implications of Data Selection in Comparative Politics,” Andreas Schedler and Cas Mudde, Guest Editors (June 2010)
- “Political Theory as Profession and as Subfield?” Tim Kaufman-Osborn, Symposium Guest Editor (September 2010)
- “Race and 2008 Presidential Elections,” Caroline Tolbert, Guest Editor (December 2010)
- “Intersectionality Research,” Evelyn M. Simien, and Ange-Marie Hancock, Guest Editors (March 2011)
- Exchange: John W. Schiemann and Dustin Ells Howes, (March 2012)
- “QCA, 25 Years after “The Comparative Method”: Mapping, and Challenges and Innovations”, Benoît Rihoux and Axel Marx, Guest Editors (March 2013)
- “Media and Female Candidates: Emerging Theories of Context and Content” Melanie Rose, Regina Lawrence, Guest Editors (September 2013)
- Replication Study: Edward M. Burmila and Josh M. Ryan, and Jonathan Knuckey, The ‘Palin’ effect (December 2013)
- “Informal Institutions and “Intractable” Global Problems” Leigh Raymond and S. Laurel Weldon, Guest Editors (March 2014)
- “Species Evolution and Cultural Freedom” Steven James Johnston, Guest Editor (June 2014)
- “Race and Elections 2012” Caroline Tolbert and Rodney, Guest Editors (forthcoming in 2014)
- “Latino Politics” Marisa Abrajano and Matt Barreto, Guest Editors (forthcoming in 2014)



## REVIEWERS

The editors have made a concerted effort to expand the reviewer pool utilized by the journal. This is essential both to better represent the breadth of research interests and approaches within the discipline and to avoid “reviewer fatigue.” *PRQ*’s online reviewer database has expanded to well over 3,000 reviewers. The current distribution of registered reviewers by field follows:

- American Politics: **32%**
- International Politics: **8%**
- Comparative Politics: **25%**
- Public Policy/Public Administration: **9%**
- Political Theory: **4%**
- Public Law and Courts: **5%**
- Gender, Race, and Identity: **10%**
- Methodology: **7%**

We continue to work with the Editorial Advisory Board to expand the journal’s reviewer base. As part of this effort, we have created Outstanding Reviewer Awards that are given each year to recognize significant service to the journal.

## OUTSTANDING REVIEWER AWARDS

Political Research Quarterly is honored to have dedicated scholars serve as reviewers. With the support of SAGE, each year the Editors recognize exceptional reviewers that have shown their dedication through careful reviews with an “Outstanding Reviewer Award.” Each selected reviewer receives a \$60 gift certificate from SAGE. Award recipients are announced at the WPSA meetings in March and at the APSA meeting in September. The twenty outstanding reviewers recognized for their work in 2012-2013 include:

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1) Timothy Hellwig     | <i>Indiana University</i>                   |
| 2) Ingrid Bego         | <i>Hastings College</i>                     |
| 3) George Kent         | <i>University of Hawaii</i>                 |
| 4) Brent Steele        | <i>University of Kansas</i>                 |
| 5) Steven Frankel      | <i>Xavier University</i>                    |
| 6) Gunnar Myrberg      | <i>Uppsala University</i>                   |
| 7) Didem Buhari Gulmez | <i>Royal Holloway, University of London</i> |
| 8) Michael Crespín     | <i>University of Texas, Dallas</i>          |
| 9) Nathan Kelly        | <i>University of Tennessee</i>              |
| 10) Joe Bafumi         | <i>Dartmouth College</i>                    |
| 11) Shane Singh        | <i>University of Georgia</i>                |
| 12) Daniel Butler      | <i>Yale University</i>                      |
| 13) Maruice Mangum     | <i>Texas Southern University</i>            |
| 14) John McTague       | <i>Randolph-Macon College</i>               |
| 15) Tracy Osborn       | <i>University of Iowa</i>                   |
| 16) Klaus Brummer      | <i>University Erlangen-Nuremberg</i>        |
| 17) Philip Cerny       | <i>Rutgers University</i>                   |

- 18) Richard Waterman  
 19) Michael Minta  
 20) John Francis

*University of Kentucky*  
*University of Missouri, Columbia*  
*University of Utah*

## **BEST ARTICLE AWARD**

Each year, an award is presented to the best article published in *PRQ* the previous year. The recipient receives \$1000 and the award is announced at the WPSA annual meeting. The Best Article Award this year went to:

Daniel Yuichi Kono and Gabriella R. Montinola from the University of California, Davis for their September 2013 Article: "The Uses and Abuses of Foreign Aid: Development Aid and Military Spending."

This year's Best Article Committee was comprised of Martin Johnson (University of California, Riverside), Michael McCann (University of Washington), and Kelly Kadera (University of Iowa).

## ***PRQ* EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD**

R. Michael Alvarez	<i>California Institute of Technology</i>
Andrew M. Appleton	<i>Washington State University</i>
Donna Bahry	<i>Pennsylvania State University</i>
Frank Baumgartner	<i>University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill</i>
Sarah Binder	<i>The Brookings Institution</i>
Paul Brace	<i>Rice University</i>
Henry Brady	<i>University of California, Berkeley</i>
Wendy Brown	<i>University of California, Berkeley</i>
Susan Burgess	<i>Ohio University</i>
Philip G. Cerny	<i>Rutgers University</i>
Harold Clarke	<i>University of Texas, Dallas</i>
Jean-Pascal Daloz	<i>University of Strasbourg – CNRS/GSPE</i>
Sue Davis	<i>University of Delaware</i>
Todd Donovan	<i>Western Washington University</i>
James Druckman	<i>Northwestern University</i>
Richard Ellis	<i>Willamette University</i>
Charles Franklin	<i>University of Wisconsin, Madison</i>
Howard Gillman	<i>University of Southern California</i>
Terri Givens	<i>University of Texas, Austin</i>
Ken Godwin	<i>University of North Carolina, Charlotte</i>
Gary Goertz	<i>University of Arizona</i>
Nancy Hartsock	<i>University of Washington</i>
Ron Hrebenar	<i>University of Utah</i>
David Kang	<i>University of Southern California</i>
Jonathan N. Katz	<i>California Institute of Technology</i>

Tim Kaufman-Osborn	<i>Whitman College</i>
Samuel Kernell	<i>University of California, San Diego</i>
Anne Khademian	<i>Virginia Polytechnic Institute</i>
Gary King	<i>Harvard University</i>
Michael Lewis-Beck	<i>University of Iowa</i>
David Magleby	<i>Brigham Young University</i>
Nancy Maveety	<i>Tulane University</i>
Nonna Mayer	<i>CEVIPOF</i>
Paula McClain	<i>Duke University</i>
Kristen Monroe	<i>University of California, Irvine</i>
Pippa Norris	<i>Harvard University</i>
Anne Norton	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
Thomas Pangle	<i>University of Texas, Austin</i>
Susan Pharr	<i>Harvard University</i>
Barry Rabe	<i>University of Michigan</i>
Shirin Rai	<i>Warwick University</i>
Travis Ridout	<i>Washington State University</i>
Virginia Sapiro	<i>Boston University</i>
Mark Sawyer	<i>University of California, Los Angeles</i>
Edella Schlager	<i>University of Arizona</i>
Gary Segura	<i>Stanford University</i>
Ian Shapiro	<i>Yale University</i>
Rogers Smith	<i>University of Pennsylvania</i>
Joe Soss	<i>University of Minnesota</i>
Brent Steel	<i>Oregon State University</i>
Walter Stone	<i>University of California, Davis</i>
Charles Taber	<i>State University of New York, Stony Brook</i>
Kathleen Thelen	<i>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</i>
Ashutosh Varshney	<i>Brown University</i>
Martin Wattenberg	<i>University of California, Irvine</i>
Susan Welch	<i>Pennsylvania State University</i>
Andrew Whitford	<i>University of Georgia</i>
Keith Whittington	<i>Princeton University</i>