

MINUTES

**WPSA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2012
6:15 P.M. – 7:15 P.M.
Marriott Waterfront
ROOM: Salon E**

1. Call to Order

Manny Avalos called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

2. Awards

- a. The Dissertation Award was presented by Melissa Michelson to Madeline Baer for her dissertation: "Privatizing Water: Globalization, States and Human Rights," completed at the University of California, Irvine.
- b. The Pi Sigma Alpha Award was presented by Cristina Beltrán to Inés Valdez, European University Institute, Florence, for her paper: "Who's the Toughest? Punishment and the Organization of Immigration Exclusion."
- c. The Betty Nesvold Women and Politics Award was presented by Janni Aragon to Holloway Sparks, Emory University, for her paper: "Gender, Race, and Un/Governability: The Politics of Democratic Disturbance in Welfare Rights Activism."
- d. The WPSA Best Paper on Blacks and Politics Award was presented by Richard Clucas to Jill Locke, Gustavus Adolphus College, for her paper: "The Social Question in the Jim Crow South."
- e. The WPSA Best Paper on Latina/Latino & Politics Award was presented by Jason Casellas to Ali A. Valenzuela, Princeton University, for his paper: "From the Pulpit or in the Pews: Religious Beliefs, Clergy Messages and Social Influence in Latino Politics."
- f. The Charles Redd Award for Best Paper on the Politics of the American West was presented by Margaret Ferguson to Ali A. Valenzuela, Princeton University, and Melissa R. Michelson, Menlo College, for their paper: "Turnout, Status and Identity in Los Angeles: Mobilizing Latinos to Vote in Two Contrasting Neighborhoods." An Honorable Mention was given to Rene R. Rocha, University of Iowa, and Daniel P. Hawes, Kent State, for their paper: "Policy Climates, Enforcement Rates, and the Migratory Behavior of Legal and Illegal Immigrants in the United States."
- g. The *PRQ* Best Article Award was presented by Matt Baretto to Michael S. Rocca, Gabriel R. Sanchez, and Jason L. Morin, University of New Mexico, for their

December 2011 *PRQ* Article: “The Institutional Mobility of Minority Members of Congress.”

- h. The WPSA Best Paper on Environmental Political Theory was presented by Teena Gabrielson to Breena Holland, Lehigh University, for her paper: " Social Justice and Administrative Practice: Rethinking Expertise and Democratic Procedure in Environmental Policy.”

3. Reports

a. Portland Convention

Peregrine Schwartz-Shea, Program Chair welcomed all to the conference. She noted that there were over 270 panels and 1,029 participants. She gave special thanks to Elsa Favila, Manny Avalos, Chris Shortell, and Richard Clucas.

Local Arrangements chair, Chris Shortell, welcomed all to the conference. He noted that the 2012 Portland conference is the second largest WPSA conference yet. He also noted that the pub tour was a success and that the weather was getting better!

b. Executive Director – Richard Clucas

Richard Clucas, Executive Director, thanked the WPSA President, Manny Avalos for all his hard work. He then made the following announcements: 1) WPSA finances are strong with a 20K increase in total reserves; 2) the 2012 conference has been running very smoothly; 3) introduction of the WPSA graduate reception, the Undergraduate Poster Session, and more reception opportunities; 4) convention planning has been going strong for Hollywood 2013; Seattle 2014; Las Vegas 2015; San Diego 2016; Victoria 2017 (maybe); 5) the search for new editors of *PRQ* begins in summer 2012; 6) and, all invited to the WPSA reception after the meeting.

c. Treasurer—Michael Bowers

Treasurer, Michael Bowers noted that the WPSA began year with 294K and ended with 315K in the budget which is a financial gain of 20k but still great. He noted that we have a fairly consistent and strong revenue stream.

d. Nominating Committee

Valerie Martinez-Ebers presented the Nominating Committee Report. The Committee is nominating:

Vice President and Program Chair: March 29, 2013–April 18, 2014

Victoria Farrar-Myers, University of Texas, Arlington

Recording Secretary: March 1, 2013-February 28, 2016

Carrie Currier, Texas Christian University

Treasurer: March 1, 2012-February 28, 2015

Michael Bowers, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Executive Council: March 1, 2013 – February 28, 2016

Region A: Martin Johnson, UC-Riverside; Tony Affigne, Providence College

Region B: Jessica Lavariega-Monforti, University of Texas, Pan American

Region C: Chris Shortell, Portland State University

e. *Political Research Quarterly*

Amy Mazur from co-editor of the *PRQ* noted that the *PRQ* report could be read online on the WPSA website. She also thanked the WPSA leadership and membership for their continued support.

f. *Politics, Groups, and Identities*

The lead editor for *PGI*, Rosalee Clawson, noted that she was thrilled to be lead editor and that the journal has a great editorial team: Lisa García Bedolla, University of California-Berkeley, Ange-Marie Hancock, USC, Kerry Haynie, Duke University, James McCann, Purdue University, Eric Waltenburg, Purdue University, and Laurel Weldon, Purdue University. She also passed out a call for papers and noted the kind of articles the editorial team is seeking. She noted that the team was open to a wide range of methods. Finally, she asked everybody to get the word out about the journal. She thanked the WPSA for their support.

4. Old Business

Manny Avalos noted that there was no new business and moved to new business.

5. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Manny Avalos noted that the membership needed to take a vote on the nomination slate. He asked if there were any other nominations to the slate.

ACTION: Valerie Martinez-Ebers moved to accept the slate; Sean Bowler seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously with one abstention.

b. PRQ Future Directions and Editor Search—Jeanne Morefield

c.

Manny Avalos noted that 30 minutes of the meeting was set aside to discuss the selection of future *PRQ* editors and the direction of the journal. A discussion about the journal's future ensued. Jeanne Morefield spoke first. After thanking Richard Clucas, the WPSA, and the Executive Committee for their attention to this issue she noted how difficult it is to change the culture of the journal, but that it still needs to reflect the membership's interests much better. She thanked the current editors for

their work and asked that any discussion of the *PRQ* move beyond complaining about the journal. Valerie Martinez-Ebers agreed with the sentiment but reminded all that the journal is not owned by the WPSA and that an alternative is to strongly support the new journal. the WPSA does own, the *PGI*. Shaun Bowler recommended that WPSA theorists submit their articles to *PRQ* and to *PGI* as often as possible. He also recommended that WPSA theorists work to find an editorial team for the *PRQ*. Several theorists spoke to note that they still want the *PRQ* to take theorists more seriously and that the *PGI* can't be the only place for theorists. Theorists would also like to publish in our flagship journal – currently the *PRQ*. Kirstie McClure spoke about her experience as a co-editor of the *APSR* and the challenge of addressing descriptive and substantive representation in a journal. She strongly recommended that the *PRQ* market for more theory articles and a theorist on the editorial team to continue in the effort. Gary Segura agrees that theory needs to be better represented as a whole in the journal, but notes that it is unclear about how to get to that point because a higher percentage of theory articles are published in the *PRQ* in comparison to the number of theory submission. Peri Schwartz-Shea announced the submission process for prospective editorial team. She will put a team together and send the slate to the Executive Committee and the committee will vote via-email. A consensus on the slate is needed to move forward. She notes that she wants a slate that is representative of all WPSA constituencies. She announced the timeline for the selection process.

6. Introduction of Incoming WPSA President Peregrine Schwartz-Shea

Manny Avalos conclude the meeting by giving thanks to Elsa Favila, Peri Schwartz-Shea, and Richard Clucas. He also noted that he loves the WPSA, gave Rita Mae Kelly a thanks for forging a great culture, and knows that we are going to get our differences all worked out.