

## Participation by Women in the 1991 IPSA Meeting

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Three years ago, when the IPSA meeting was held in the United States at the time of the APSA meeting, I made a survey of participation by women in the programs of both meetings. Since 1972 I had monitored the participation by women at the American Association meetings. I had also from time to time made surveys of female participation at regional meetings of U.S. political science associations.

With the approach of the 1991 IPSA meeting, I was asked by Carole Pateman, IPSA President for 1991-94, whether I'd be interested in undertaking another analysis of the participation of women in the IPSA Congress. I responded affirmatively contingent on my obtaining a copy of the final program. (I would not be at the Buenos Aires meeting.) I'd like

to thank three of my colleagues, Ruben de Hoyos, David Chang, and Zillur Khan, for assistance in identifying the gender of IPSA participants.

A quarter of the 1991 Fifteenth World Congress' Program Committee members (3 out of 12) were women. One consistent theme in my findings over the years is that the presence of women in gatekeeper positions (program committee members, section chairs, panel chairs) facilitates opportunity for participation by other women.

Note that without the opportunities for participation provided by women for other women, the female contribution rate would have been much worse. Sections headed by women provided 70.6% of the female chairs at the IPSA Congress,

43.2% of the female paper givers, and 43.9% of the female discussants. Panels organized by women accounted for 28.9% of the female paper givers and 36.8% of the female discussants. Those panels which dealt with the status of women had 29.5% of the convention's female chairpersons, 26.3% of the female paper givers, and 29.8% of the female discussants.

There were high and low points with regard to the visibility of women at the meeting. Only one woman participated (out of 14) in the two plenary sessions. The eight special panels on Latin American Democratization had women as only 13.3% (4 out of 30) paper givers and 16.7% (3 out of 18) discussants.

Panels which had a favorable ratio of women to men included Public

**TABLE 1.**  
Participation in the Plenary Sessions, Subfield Sections, Research Committees, Study Groups, Special Sessions, and Current Research Sessions

Year	Convenors and Coconvenors			Chairpersons			Paper Givers			Discussants		
	Total	Women	%	Total	Women	%	Total	Women	%	Total	Women	%
1988	90	14	15.6	252	34	13.5	1,060	150	14.2	289	56	19.4
1991	201	30	14.9	181	34	18.8	1,034	190	18.4	278	57	20.5 <sup>a</sup>
<i>In Sections Organized by Women</i>												
1988				40	18	14.5	192	55	28.6	60	21	35.0
1991				38	24	63.2	207	82	39.6	62	25	40.3 <sup>b</sup>
<i>In Panels Organized by Women</i>												
1988							107	42	39.3	28	16	57.1
1990							148	55	37.2	46	21	45.7 <sup>c</sup>
<i>In Panels Dealing with Status of Women</i>												
1988				10	9	90.0	35	31	88.6	14	12	85.7
1991				11	10	90.9	51	50	98.0	19	17	89.5 <sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>In addition there were 47 women among 128 papers/communications submitted (36.7%) but no women among 28 "participants" in a special session panel.

<sup>b</sup>Women were also 65.9% of papers/communications submitted (27 out of 41).

<sup>c</sup>23 of the 28 authors of the papers/communications submitted category (82.1%) were female.

<sup>d</sup>100% of the accepted paper/communications submissions (22 of 22) were women.

Opinion in the Transition to Democracy; Political Parties from Within: Articulation between Centre and Periphery; Social Policy and Poverty: Session 2; Global Change and Mass Communication Policies: Session 1; Social Scientist, Policy Communities and the State; Policy Studies: Session 1; Local Policies and Administration in Latin America; Intergovernmental Relations and Policy Implementation; and Small States, Present Changes in the International System and New Regions.

Lopsidedly male panels included Emerging Elites: Their Career Path and Credentials; Western Democracies; Third World Regional Conflicts; Democratization in Comparative Perspective; The Meaning of Geopolitics in Europe; Structural Change and Agrarian Reform; The Management of Crises and the Prevention of War; The Reconstruction and Renewal of Democratic Regimes; Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Development; International Relations: Session 1; Marxist Political Thought;

The Electoral Systems of the Newly Democratic and Democratizing Countries; Transitions to Democracy in Southern Europe, Latin America and Eastern Europe; Debts and Arrears in Latin America; The Electoral Systems of the Newly Democratic and Democratizing Countries; Rethinking in Political Development; and Was There Fascism Outside Europe? Non-European and European Perspectives Compared. Civilization and Geopolitics listed 28 male participants.

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## THE PACIFIC CENTURY

THE PACIFIC CENTURY, a new 10-part television series premiering fall 1992 on PBS, surveys 150 years of the Pacific region's political and economic development, emphasizing the interconnections among the countries in this area and their relationship with the United States. The series and accompanying print materials were developed by the Pacific Basin Institute.

Four of the programs in the series focus primarily on Japan:

"Meiji: Asia's Response to the West" explores the reign of the Emperor Meiji (1868 to 1912), when Japan threw off centuries of tradition to modernize and become a world power.

"Reinventing Japan" looks at the peculiar relationship between Japan and the United States during the Occupation period following World War II, when one country tried to reinvent another in its image.

"Inside Japan, Inc." examines the political, historical and cultural roots of Japan's post-war economic miracle from inside Japan looking out. It also deals with the growing tensions between Japan, the United States and Southeast Asia that have emerged in recent years.

"The Pacific Century: The Future of the Pacific Basin" considers the growing interdependence of the Asian-Pacific nations together with emerging international problems. It also takes an American perspective in exploring the flood of Asian investment in and immigration to the United States, examining American responses to these challenges.

A new textbook for undergraduates accompanies the video series. *Pacific Century: The Emergence of Modern Asia* is written by Mark Borthwick, published by Westview Press, and is available in February 1992.

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