

# Regional and State Association News

## Midwest Political Science Association

John P. Pelissero, Executive Director

### Record Number Attend 1997 Convention

The Midwest Political Science Association held its 55th annual meeting, April 10–12, 1997, at the Palmer House Hilton in Chicago. The conference was the largest in MPSA history, with 2,165 individuals attending. The program committee was co-chaired by Mary Dietz and John Freeman of the University of Minnesota. The program included 305 panels and 80 poster presentations.

### New Editor Selected

At the annual business meeting on April 11, MPSA President Arlene W. Saxonhouse announced that the MPSA Executive Council had accepted the unanimous recommendation of the *American Journal of Political Science* Editor Search Committee and appointed Gregory A. Caldeira, Ohio State University, as editor, 1998–2001. Caldeira will succeed Kenneth J. Meier, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, whose term as editor ends on December 31, 1997. Beginning on January 1, 1998, manuscripts for the *AJPS* should be sent to: Gregory A. Caldeira, Editor, *American Journal of Political Science*, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, 2140 N. Derby Hall, 154 N. Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210.

### Elections

Harold Spaeth, Michigan State University, became President of the association at the conclusion of the annual business meeting. He presented an award of commendation

to and thanked Arlene Saxonhouse, University of Michigan, for her service as president and her contributions to the discipline.

At the annual business meeting, the following political scientists were elected to serve on the association's executive council:

President-elect: James Gibson, University of Houston  
Vice-President (1997–99): Virginia Gray, University of Minnesota  
Council Members (1997–2000): Michael Dawson, University of Chicago; Joanna Scott, Eastern Michigan University; Barbara Burrell, University of Wisconsin; Michael Margolis, University of Cincinnati; Steven E. Schier, Carleton College.

### Awards

The following awards were presented to individuals who presented the best papers at the previous year's meeting:

#### Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper presented at the 1996 MPSA meeting

Recipient: James E. Campbell, Louisiana State University  
Paper: "The Presidential Pulse and the 1994 Midterm Congressional Elections"

#### The Westview Press Award for best paper written by a graduate student, 1996

Recipient: Claudine Gay, The Brookings Institution  
Paper: "Race and Political Context: The Impact of Black Congressional Representation on the Voting Be-

havior of White and Black Constituents"

#### Sophonisba Breckinridge Award for best paper written about women and politics, 1996

Recipient: Cindy Simon Rosenthal, University of Oklahoma  
Paper: "A View of their Own: Women's Committee Experiences as a Lens on State Legislatures"

#### Robert H. Durr Award for best paper applying quantitative methods to a substantive problem, 1996

Recipient: Eric Helland, Ball State University  
Paper: "The Political Economy of NPDES Inspections"

### New Award Established

The MPSA Executive Council has established an award in memory of Patrick J. Fett, formerly of the University of Memphis. The Patrick J. Fett Award will be given for best paper on the scientific study of Congress and the Presidency. The award is to be funded by an endowment established with the MPSA by the family and friends of Patrick Fett. Contributions may be sent to the Midwest Political Science Association Endowment Fund, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626.

### Current Officers

The current officers of the MPSA are:

**President: Harold Spaeth,** Michigan State University; Phone: (517) 355-6583; Fax: (517) 432-1091; E-mail: harold.spaeth@ssc.msu.edu

**Vice Presidents: Paul Allen Beck**, Ohio State University; Phone: (614) 292-2880; Fax: (614) 292-1146; E-mail: paul.beck@polisci.sbs.ohio-state.edu

**Virginia Gray**, University of Minnesota; Phone: (612) 624-8529; Fax: (612) 626-7599; E-mail: vgray@polisci.umn.edu

**Executive Director: John P. Pelissero**, Loyola University Chicago; Phone: (773) 508-3066; Fax: (773) 508-3102; E-mail: jpeliss@luc.edu

**Treasurer: Timothy B. Krebs**, Loyola University, Chicago; Phone: (773) 508-3077; Fax: (773) 508-3102; E-mail: tkrebs@luc.edu.

## Southwestern Political Science Association

### New Officers Elected

The Southwestern Political Science Association held its 1997 annual meeting March 26–29 in New Orleans, LA. At the Association business meeting, the following officers were elected:

**President:**  
**Robert Stein**, Rice University

**President-elect:**  
**James F. Sheffield, Jr.**, Wichita State University

**Vice President and Program Chair:**  
**Christopher Wlezien**, University of Houston

**Vice President-elect:**  
**Richard Herrera**, Arizona State University

**Secretary-Treasurer:**  
**Harold F. Bass**, Ouachita Baptist University

**New Members of the Executive Council (1997–1999):**

**Mary P. Beeman**, College of the Incarnate Word

**Greg Butler**, New Mexico State University

### Nominations

Nominations are being sought for President-elect, Vice-President, and five council offices to be voted on during the 1998 meeting. Nominations, with vita, should be sent to Susan B. Hansen, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 4201 Forbes Quad, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; (412) 648-7272; E-mail: sbhansen@vms.cis.pitt.edu. Other members of the committee include: Darren Davis, Michigan State University; Michael Gant, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Carol Mershon, University of Virginia; and Jeff Segal, SUNY-Stony Brook.

**Valerie Heitshusen**, University of Missouri-Columbia

**Appointed Member of the Executive Council** (to fill vacancy for 1997–1998)

**John McIver**, University of Colorado

**Continuing and ex officio Members of the Executive Council (1997–1998):**

**Florence Gould**, Southwestern University

**Mitchell F. Rice**, Louisiana State University

**Patricia A. Hurley**, Immediate Past President, Texas A&M University

**Cynthia Opheim**, Immediate Past Vice President and Program Chair, Southwest Texas State University

### SWPSA Presents Awards

The Southwestern Political Science Association presented a variety of awards in New Orleans.

#### Ted Robinson Memorial Award

As it does every year, the Association presented a \$250 award to a graduate student in political science engaged in the study of minority politics. The award honors Ted Robin-

### 1998 Meeting in Chicago

The 56th annual meeting will be held April 23–25, 1998, at the Palmer House Hilton. The program will be organized by Lee Epstein of Washington University, St. Louis. The program committee will have 24 sections, including a new section on “Teaching Political Science.” The call for papers can be found in the “Upcoming Conferences” section of this issue of *PS*. The deadline for proposals is September 15, 1997. Submitting proposals should be submitted using the new Proposal Submission Form. Additional information is available on the MPSA web site at: <http://www.luc.edu/orgs/mpsa/callpr98.html>.

son, whose research on the representation of African-Americans in urban political systems continues to guide and encourage scholarly work. In 1997, the award was presented to **Michael D. Cobb** of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

#### Best Graduate Student Paper

The Association also presented a \$200 award for the best graduate student paper delivered at the previous annual meeting in Houston. The award was presented to two students: **Stephen Hanna** of Texas A&M University for his paper “The Influence of Contextual and Individual-Level Factors on Voting Mobilization in the 1990 Senate Election;” and **Glen Krutz** of Texas A&M University for his paper “The Changing Contexts of a Presidential Campaign.”

#### Best Undergraduate Student Paper

The Association also presented a \$100 award for the best paper written by an undergraduate student during the previous year, based on submissions from around the country. The award was presented to **Christine Haggerty** of Dickinson College for her paper “Mad Cow, Mad Europe: A Case Study of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy.”

## Western Political Science Association

Six annual awards have been approved by the Association and both individuals and departments are strongly encouraged to submit nominations for WPSA awards. Submissions must be received by the individual listed with each award. Each award will be presented at the 1998 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles.

### Dissertation Award

For the best doctoral dissertation completed at a university with the regional groupings of the WPSA between July 1 and June 30 of the previous academic year. The award carries a cash prize of \$250. Send recommendations to: Henry Flores, Department of Political Science, St. Mary's University, 1 Camino Santa Maria, San Antonio, TX 78228. The deadline for receipt of nominations is October 15, 1997.

### Betty Nesvold Women and Politics Award

For an outstanding paper on women and politics. The award carries a cash prize of \$100. Send papers to Shane Phelan, Department

of Political Science, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131. The deadline for receipt of papers is October 15, 1997.

### Best Paper on Chicano Politics

For an outstanding paper by a Chicano scholar on Chicano politics and its relative aspects. The award carries a cash prize of \$100. Send papers to Manuel Avalos, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arizona State University-West, P.O. Box 37100, Phoenix, AZ 85069-7100. Deadline for receipt of papers is October 15, 1997.

### Committee on the Status of Blacks Award

For an outstanding paper discussing issues and problems which concern most Black Americans. The award carries a cash prize of \$100. Send nominations to Nicholas O. Alozie, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University, Box 870603, Tempe, AZ 85287-0603. Deadline for receipt of papers is October 15, 1997.

### Charles Redd Politics of the American West Award

An award offered jointly by the WPSA and the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies of Brigham Young University, for the best paper on the politics of the American west presented at the previous meeting of the WPSA. Papers may cover a broad range to topics—governance, policy, culture, politics—and may compare the West to other regions. The award carries a \$250 prize. Send nominations to Gary F. Moncrief, Department of Political Science, Boise State University, 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 87325. Deadline for receipt of nominations is October 15, 1997.

### Pi Sigma Alpha Award

For the best paper presented at the previous WPSA Annual Meeting. The award carries a cash prize of \$250. The deadline for submission of nominations for the 1998 award has already passed. Look for details on the 1998 award in upcoming issues of *PS*.