

Discussants:

Hayward Alker, Jr.
Massachusetts, Institute
of Technology
Robert Presthus
York University
Dinna Zinnes
University of Illinois

**Mainstream Panel:
Psychophysiological Influences
on Political Behavior**

Chair:

Glendon Schubert
University of Hawaii

Papers:

*Neurophysiology and Rationality in
Political Thinking*

Steven A. Peterson
Alfred University

*Hemispheric Lateralization and
Political Communication*

William Kitchin
Loyola College of Baltimore

*The Political Socialization of Gender:
What Contribution Biology?*

Denise L. Baer
Southern Illinois University
David A. Bositis
George Washington University

Discussants:

Samuel M. Hines
College of Charleston
Joseph Losco
Widener University

**Report from the Committee
for Liaison with the
American Association for
the Advancement
of Science**

The Association for Politics and the Life Sciences hopes to develop relations between social and natural scientists with a common interest in the implications of contemporary biology for understanding political behavior and formulating public policies. At the 1982 meeting of the American Association for the Ad-

vancement of Science, a symposium entitled "Ethological Approaches to the Study of Politics" was organized by Albert Somit, president of Southern Illinois University, and Roger Masters, professor of government at Dartmouth College.

Program**Chair:**

Albert Somit
Southern Illinois University

Papers:

*Ethological Methods in the Study of
Basic Types of Political Behavior*

Carol Barner-Barry
University of Maryland
Baltimore County

*Biological Correlates of Social Status
Changes in Verbet Monkeys*

Michael T. McGuire
University of California
at Los Angeles

*Nice Guys Don't Finish Last: Ag-
gressive and Appeasement Gestures
in Media Images of Politicians*

Roger D. Masters
Dartmouth College

Ethological Politics

Glendon Schubert
University of Hawaii-Manoa

*Toward a Veterinarian Theory for a
Crowded Planet*

Lionel Tiger
Harry Frank Guggenheim
Foundation

Discussant:

John Wahlke
University of Arizona

The Association for Politics and the Life Sciences hopes to pursue the possibility of a more formal relationship with the AAAS. In addition, we would like to organize another symposium at the 1983 meeting of AAAS. Suggestions for symposium topics or papers suited to AAAS format should be directed to Albert Somit, Office of the President, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901 or Professor Roger Masters, Department of Government, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H. 03755.

Roger Masters
Dartmouth College

**Report from the Committee
for Liaison with the
International Political
Science Association**

After almost a year of preliminary discussions, the IPSA Biology and Politics Research Committee was invited by the (then) Polish government to hold a special meeting on biological approaches to political behavior in Warsaw in June 1981. The purposes of the meeting were to plan for the 1982 IPSA Congress session and to familiarize Polish and European social scientists with recent developments in this general research area via a series of lectures and symposia. Unfortunately, the deteriorating political situation in Poland forced the cancellation of the meeting.

With the Warsaw meeting cancelled, planning for the 1982 Congress (scheduled August 9-14 in Rio de Janeiro) was accomplished through smaller meetings in Europe and the U.S., numerous phone calls, and a rather extensive exchange of letters. With the close cooperation of the Center for Biopolitical Research, invitations to submit proposals for panel papers were mailed to several hundred political and social scientists. As has been the experience in the past, more proposals were submitted than could be accommodated by the IPSA rule fixing a maximum of six papers for the two sessions (morning and afternoon) allocated to the committee. A subset of the committee has been functioning as a review group to select the six papers, a task complicated by the fact that at the time this report is being written, some of those whose papers were approved are still uncertain as to whether they will be able to secure funding to attend the congress.

The committee is already planning a major conference for 1983 at which it will be possible to deal with developments in biopolitics more thoroughly and systematically than is practicable at the two- and three-hour panel sessions permitted at the meetings of our professional political science associations, whether international, national, or regional. Possible sites currently being explored are Italy, Germany, and, perhaps least likely now, Poland. A European site is desired to en-

courage maximum participation by European political and social scientists and to lessen the possibility that biopolitics will be perceived as associated almost entirely with American political science.

On this point, I am happy to report, Professor Heiner Flohr of Dusseldorf University has been extremely active in encouraging interest in biology and politics among West German political scientists. Professor Flohr organized a symposium of several days duration held in Loccum and attended by a substantial number of academics in West Germany. Papers on various aspects of biopolitics were presented both by "native" scholars and by a trio of visiting Americans, Professor Steven Peterson, Glendon Schubert, and Albert Somit.

There has been in addition an increasing interest in "biopolitics" manifest in the USSR. Professor Vladimir Denisov of the USSR Academy of Sciences played an active role at the 1979 Moscow panel sessions, has since written extensively on a Marxist approach to biopolitics, and is expected to be one of the panelists at the forthcoming Rio sessions.

As the above suggests, we are always eager to identify and involve in our efforts political scientists around the world. The IPSA Biology and Politics Research Committee would welcome the names of those with such an interest.

Albert Somit
Southern Illinois University

Report From The Methodology Committee

One of the distinguishing features of the Association for Politics and the Life Sciences is the exploration of methodological approaches as well as data-gathering techniques not commonly used in political science. To date, the sharing of experiences among persons engaged in such research has been mostly informal.

Although this is very valuable for the participants, it cannot reach the wider audience that might be interested in the techniques some of us are using. In part, the effort required is one of disseminating information about how these methodologies and techniques can be applied to political behavior and about what the potential pitfalls and advantages are.

For the most part, however, we have taken methods developed in other disciplines and have used them with only slight modifications. This is not uncommon in the social sciences, and it is probably unrealistic to expect any substantial methodological innovations in the near future. However, favorable conditions for such creativity will be established if those of us engaged in empirical work make more of an effort to share our experiences—especially with graduate students and new professionals. In this connection, three events should be noted.

At the 1981 meeting of the American Political Science Association, APLS sponsored a workshop on methods in nonparticipant observational research. Carol Barner-Barry (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) began the panel with a paper titled, "An Introduction to Nonparticipant Observational Research Techniques." Benson Ginsburg (University of Connecticut) then presented "The Applicability of Ethological Techniques to Research on Humans." Glendon Schubert (University of Hawaii-Manoa) followed with "Potential Applications of Observational Research in Political Science." Finally, Brian Hill (University of Connecticut) demonstrated the use of a portable, computerized event recorder.

At the 1982 meeting of the American Political Science Association there will be a panel titled, "Research Methods and the Life Sciences." Currently, two presentations are planned. Steven A. Peterson and Robert Lawson (Alfred University) will give a paper titled, "Cognitive Psychology and the Study of Politics." James N. Schubert (Alfred University) will be discussing "Ethological Methods for Analyzing Interaction Process in Small Group Legislative Decision-Making."

Finally, Meredith W. Watts has edited an issue of *New Directions for Methodology of Social and Behavioral Science* (Number 7, 1981) titled, "Biopolitics: Ethological and Physiological Approaches." Included are contributions by Glendon Schubert, Fred Strayer, Carol Barner-Barry, Roger Masters, Meredith Watts, and Leonard Hirsch and Thomas C. Wiegeler. The volume is intended to serve as an overview of both the area and some of the problems particular to this approach. It should be useful both for those who are currently working in the area and for those who would like a reasonably comprehensive methodological introduction.

Carol Barner-Barry
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County

Report From The Public Policy Committee

For this first issue of *Politics and the Life Sciences*, the most useful report on the subfield concerned with the public policy aspects of biopolitics would be identification of its scope and focus. The paragraphs that follow describe one view of this biopolitical subfield, but readers may have other perspectives. Therefore this report is also an invitation to readers to add their comments, objections, or qualifications to these observations. In a subfield as dynamic as biopolitics, there can be no final word on any subject.

It is characteristic of biopolitics that its subfields are not discrete—not neatly separable. Policy, in particular, interrelates to all other aspects of the subject. Biopolitical issues may arise as philosophical or theoretical propositions and move from conjecture to empirical research. Research findings may imply commercial application, or they may suggest public action perhaps to facilitate, regulate, or even prohibit the further develop-