

Student and Unemployed Membership Categories Revised to Reflect School and Market Realities

At its April meeting, APSA Council voted to revise the terms of student and unemployed membership. Starting this fall, student and unemployed membership, previously combined, will be unbundled. Qualified members will be allowed to hold student status for seven years, and members can register for unemployed status for a total of two years. Both types of memberships will entitle individuals to all of the Association's services and benefits. The annual dues for each type of membership will be \$32.

Previously, members could take advantage of student and unemployed membership rates for a total of five years. Student membership eligibility has been lengthened in recognition of the average time it takes to complete graduate work. Unemployed status is available to meet the needs of many early and mid-career political scientists who may be switching jobs, caught between assignments, or temporarily pursuing other career opportunities or academic interests. The new, relaxed eligibility requirements are specifically intended to ensure that political scientists can take advantage of APSA's members-only career services when they most need them.

Comments or questions about student and unemployed memberships should be directed to the APSA Membership Office at (202) 483-2512 or membership@apsanet.org.

Council Endorses Statement from the Conference on the Growing Use of Part-Time and Adjunct Faculty

APSA joined eight professional associations, the AAUP, and the Community College Humanities Alliance at a three-day conference to discuss trends in the use of part-time faculty. The goal of the September 1997 conference, organized by the American Historical Association, was to create a critical mass of un-

derstanding and interest in the academic community about the issue.

The conference concluded with the issuing of a report entitled "Statement from the Conference on the Growing Use of Part-time and Adjunct Faculty." The full text of this report, which was endorsed by the APSA Council at its April 25, 1998 meeting, appears on the APSA web site (www.apsanet.org/Adjunct).

The report recognizes the substantial and increased reliance on part-time and adjunct faculty instruction over the past 25 years, and underscores the need for flexibility. At the same time, it expresses concern that the terms and conditions of part-time and adjunct appointments weaken instructors' abilities to provide essential education experiences and responsible teaching. The report concludes by stressing the need to work for labor equity and fair employment practices.

Representing APSA at the Conference were Executive Director Catherine Rudder, David Adamany of Wayne State University, Robert Dudley of George Mason University, Milton Greenberg of American University, Charles Harris of Howard University, and Toni-Michelle Travis of George Mason University. Adamany, a former president of Wayne State University, presented a paper, "A University President Reflects on the Role of Adjunct Faculty in the Contemporary Research University," that advocated the value of part-time faculty in higher education.

Council Adopts New Guidelines for Assessing Project Proposals

At its April 25, 1998 meeting, APSA Council adopted new guidelines for evaluating project proposals. Beginning immediately, all proposals must include a clear statement of purpose; a section stating why the Association, particularly its national office and staff, is well-suited for undertaking the proposed activity; and estimates of staffing requirements and start-up and maintenance times and costs. Proposals must also include information on

project goals, expected impacts, performance measures, and termination date(s).

Under the new procedures, proposals can be submitted to the Administrative Committee, the president, or directly to the appropriate committee(s). Proposals will be considered by the appropriate committee and then forwarded to the Council with recommendation or without. The Council will make the final decision and notify the concerned parties.

The new proposal guidelines were considered necessary in light of the steady increase in requests from members and other interested parties for APSA time and resources. A majority of ideas brought to APSA are worthy of serious consideration, and the Association needs as much information as possible so it may make tough choices among good proposals while weighing new activities against ongoing ones.

To receive detailed guidelines for new project and activity proposals, please contact Theresa Gubicza at (202) 483-2512 or tgubicza@apsanet.org.

APSA Names Research Grant Winners

The recipients of APSA's Centennial Grants and Small Research Grants were named in May. The new Centennial Grants, awarded for the first time in 1998, provide up to \$1800 of nonrenewable support for research on a significant element of the history of the discipline of political science, the profession, or the Association. Centennial Grant funds are intended for use on a project resulting in a publishable article, and special consideration will be given to projects resulting in articles to be submitted to *PS*.

The long-standing Small Research Grants provide up to \$1,800 of nonrenewable support for research in all fields of political science. These funds can be used to cover nearly all research expenses, but cannot be used for travel to professional meetings, secretarial costs, or salary support for the principal investigator.