

Association News

APSA Institutes Sections

At its September 1982 meeting, the APSA Council approved a set of guidelines for the organization and operation of sections. Now, groups of APSA members who share an interest in a particular subfield of the discipline will have an opportunity to organize meetings and coordinate communications under Association auspices, and to receive logistical support from the APSA national office in collecting dues and maintaining membership lists.

Background

Most other national scholarly associations have sections or divisions which allow their members to pursue specialized interests within the broader association. Some, like the American Psychological Association, are organized by more or less permanent divisions which sponsor publications, elect delegates to the governing board, and control a segment of the official meeting program.

Others, such as the Association of American Geographers (AAG) and the American Sociological Association (ASA), have a larger number of narrower specialty groups which rise and fall in accordance with the interests of their members.

Something like this second (AAG/ASA) model has in fact emerged within APSA in recent years, but outside the formal structure of the Association. Encouraged by an APSA policy of making space available at the convention hotel and providing courtesy listings in the Annual Meeting program to any group of political scientists who wished to sponsor ses-

sions, many subfield groups have sprung up. At the 1982 meeting, for instance, there were nearly 150 sessions organized by these "unaffiliated groups."

Now the Council is inviting these groups and others to establish more formal links to the Association. The guidelines approved by the Council are as follows:

Some Petitions Already Begun

To start the ball rolling, APSA invited groups which had sponsored sessions at the Annual Meeting, and which were known to have an interest in becoming sections, to submit a Statement of Purpose for this issue of *PS*. The statements of the groups which responded appear below, and APSA members interested in adding their names to any of the petitions should write to the person whose name and address are given in each case.

At its March 1983 meeting the Council will act on petitions received by the Executive Director by February 1. Petitions will be considered at Council meetings every six months thereafter, so that groups will have a continuing opportunity to state their intentions and begin petitions in the future.

Although the March 1983 meeting will be the only time for approval of sections before the Annual Meeting in September, groups which are not ready yet should feel no time pressure; they will still be able to organize panels as unaffiliated groups, as in the past. Indeed, one of the chief purposes of this initial list is to get a reading on the level of interest among APSA members in the establishment of sections, and the Association office is eager to hear from members with ideas

GUIDELINES FOR APSA SECTIONS

1. The Council will act on recognizing a Section upon receipt of a petition, signed by at least 100 Association members, which includes the proposed Section name, statement of purpose and procedures for governance (see item 6 below). A signature on the petition must be a commitment to become a dues-paying member.
2. All Section members must be APSA members.
3. The APSA will solicit Section memberships and collect Section dues (in conjunction with its regular membership and renewal activities), maintain Section lists, produce Section rosters and mailing labels, permit Sections to sponsor panels at the annual meeting, and publish Section notices in *PS*. In addition, the APSA will seek to assist Sections with more ambitious activities, such as conferences and publications that require external funding.
4. A basic Section dues of \$3 will be assessed and retained by APSA to cover the costs of the specific services listed in item 3 above. Sections may set dues at a higher level and retain the balance to finance newsletters and other activities.
5. Panels sponsored by Sections will constitute Part Two of the official Annual Meeting program, Part One being composed of panels organized by the Program Committee. For the present, there is no change in the Council policy that provides meeting rooms (on a space available basis) and courtesy listings to unaffiliated groups.
6. Sections are required to adopt procedures that provide for an elected president or chair, an elected representative council or executive committee and an elected or appointed financial officer who is responsible for submitting an annual report to APSA's executive director.
7. A Council Committee on Sections will recommend action on petitions to establish Sections, monitor Section activities, advise the staff on administrative arrangements for Sections and conduct an ongoing review of Sections.

about the new structure in general or any aspect of it.

In its consideration of Guidelines for sections, the Council left unresolved several questions, upon which the Washington office would be glad to receive the comments and views of members. They are: (1) Is there any satisfactory alternative to the membership requirement for non-political scientists who wish to join sections? (2) What are the implications of prohibiting dual participation on the official program committee panels but not on panels sponsored by sections or unaffiliated groups? (3) Once sections are established within the Association, should any limits be placed on panels sponsored by unaffiliated groups? and (4) What criteria should be used for the oversight of sections?

Following are the Statements of Purpose and other information submitted to *PS* by groups intending to become sections.

Administration, Organizations and Executives

Since it was formed in 1978 the APSA organized subfield on **Administration, Organizations and Executives** has conducted panels at the annual APSA meetings as an "Unaffiliated Group." These panels have focused on critical research issues in Public Administration and Organizational Theory and Behavior.

The subfield was formed because of a need felt among scholars in this area for continuing research efforts in areas like inter-organizational theory, bureaucratic politics, program design and management, critical theory of organizations, democratic management, comparative administration, administrative ethics and public organization theory. Each year new research issues have led to the creation of new panels while enduring issues continue to be addressed.

The subfield invites all APSA members and those who might like to become members who identify with the broad concerns of Public Administration, Organization Theory and Behavior, Bureaucratic Politics and Policy Implementation to write to the section organizer to indicate their willingness to support the creation of this section.

Write to: H. Brinton Milward, James W. Martin Center for Public Administration, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0034. Or call: (606) 258-2961 (messages), (600) 258-8640.

Caucus for a New Political Science

The **Caucus for a New Political Science** is considering the possibility of petitioning for Section status in the annual APSA Program along with other "unaffiliated" groups. There are *six questions* to which we would like responses from people who are Caucus members, or consider themselves *sympatico* with the Caucus.

First, should CNPS petition to form a section? (Note: 100 members of APSA must agree to join a section for it to receive formal status.)

Second, if such a section is formed, should it be *qua Caucus for a New Political Science*? or, should it go by another name? In the latter case CNPS would continue to exist and would have a close liaison with the section so named.

Third, if the latter alternative is followed (that is, a section is created bearing a name other than CNPS) what should its name be? One leading suggestion is *Socialism and Feminism*. Do you, the interested reader, support this name, or do you have an alternative suggestion? (See question six for a tentative formulation of the purpose of a section on Socialism and Feminism.)

Fourth, are you interested in joining a CNPS-sponsored section? This means, financially, an annual fee of \$3 in addition to regular APSA dues.

Fifth, if the sentiment is in favor of forming a section, should the final decision to go ahead be made at the Executive Committee meeting in New York in January,

1983 (in time for the APSA Council's meeting in March); or should the Caucus wait until the APSA national conference in Chicago in September, 1983 to make a decision? (Note: The March meeting of the APSA Council will be the first at which they will consider petitions for sections. There is advantage in being timely, though later Councils will also obviously consider petitions.)

Sixth, on the double assumption that the Caucus may form a section, and that it may be named "Socialism and Feminism," does the following *tentative* formulation of its purpose meet with your general approval? "The Section on Socialism and Feminism will offer critical analyses of liberal capitalist, state communist, fascist, and patriarchal hegemonies; it will debate the meanings and applications of socialist and feminist concepts; it will mutually search for a common ground of epistemological, political, and scholarly awareness as a basis on which to encounter more effectively such problems as those relating to sex, class, race, age, violence, the assault on nature, and the breakdown of international order; and, it will do these things as part of a fundamental effort to retrieve, deepen, and expand the general understanding of 'the political' and of political life." (See also Letters to the Editor, this issue.)

Responses to any or all of these six questions, comments, or requests for more information should be addressed to: Nancy Hartsock, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD 21218; or John Rensenbrink, Department of Government, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME 04011.

Foundations of Political Theory

The **Foundations of Political Theory** Group has been concerned with the theoretical and epistemological roots of political inquiry which bear directly upon research in both political philosophy and empirical political science, as well as upon the application of theory to practice. This framework is highly diverse and acknowledges no particular philosophical, methodological, epistemological or political approach. The Foundations of

Political Theory Group has used panels at the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association as a forum to explore these concerns, examine assumptions of contemporary political philosophy and political analysis, and exchange ideas and criticisms. Participants in previous Foundation activities have come from various approaches in political science as well as from other social sciences and the humanities. In the past, the Foundations Group has examined such diverse topics as jurisprudence and political theory, the psychological assumptions of political analysis, hypothesis testing and mathematical modeling, literature and social science, critiques of liberalism, theology and political science, and such schools as existentialism, hermeneutics, Marxism. Future activities of the Foundation will continue this focus of inquiry both at the annual meetings and through other scholarly vehicles that are currently being explored. All political scientists interested in the broad goals of the group are invited to write to: Ronald J. Terchek, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

Indian Policy Network

The **Indian Policy Network** is the first international association of social scientists, bureaucrats, and American Indian leaders. This group aids American Indian groups lobbying Congress and state legislatures, pressures professional organizations to address themselves to the needs and concerns of American Indians, acts as a resource for American Indian groups, and exchanges research among scholars. Beginning this winter, the Indian Policy Network newsletter and communications will be published as part of the public policy journal, *Policy Perspectives*, which has made the editorial decision to dedicate at least 25 percent of each forthcoming issue to scholarly articles concerning American Indians and public policy.

The Indian Policy network welcomes signatures aiding the establishment of our Section. Address all correspondence to: Craig Wanner, Rutgers University-
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Newark, University College, Bradley Hall #283, Newark, NJ 07102.

Legislative Studies Group

The **Legislative Studies Group** is seeking recognition as an official section of the American Political Science Association. A section must present a petition signed by at least 100 current APSA members. Until it qualifies as a section of the APSA (probably not before September 1, 1983), LSG will continue to operate as an unaffiliated group.

Executive Committee (1982-83). Chair, Bruce W. Robeck, Texas A&M University; Program Director, Glenn R. Parker, Florida State University; Secretary/Treasurer, Lawrence D. Longley, Lawrence University; Members-at-large, David M. Olson, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and Charles O. Jones, University of Virginia.

Statement of Purpose. The Legislative Studies Group invites members with an interest in legislative processes, behavior and representation. The Group may establish special panels, workshops, symposia, or social gatherings at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, or at such other times as may be appropriate. Members receive a newsletter. The LSG is closely associated with the Legislative Studies Quarterly and encourages its members to subscribe.

Interested APSA members should write to: Professor Lawrence D. Longley, Secretary/Treasurer, LSG, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI 54812.

Policy Studies Section

The main purposes of the **Policy Studies Section** would be:

(1) In general, to help promote the application of political science to important policy problems.

(2) To aid in developing a set of panels, roundtables, workshops, and other media of communication for each annual convention of the American Political Science Association, somewhat the way the Policy Studies Subfield Meeting formerly did.

(3) To aid in developing related programs for the regional political science association conventions.

(4) To provide a general meeting at the annual APSA convention for the discussion of issues relevant to the policy studies field, possibly in conjunction with the general meeting of the Policy Studies Organization.

(5) To provide ways of networking political scientists and others who are interested in policy studies, but are not necessarily members of the Policy Studies Organization.

Interested APSA members should write to: Stuart Nagel, 361 Lincoln Hall, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801; (217) 359-8541.

Political Organizations/Parties

Political Organizations/Parties was formed at the 1979 APSA Convention under the original name, "Parties and Other Political Organizations." Its name changed from POPO to POP in 1982, but its purpose remained to provide Association members interested in parties, groups, and other political organizations with opportunities to meet, exchange ideas, and work together to improve the scholarly study of their subjects. POP has grown to an enrolled membership of 229 as of Fall, 1982. About 25 members attended this year's business meeting at the 1982 APSA convention, where we discussed petitioning for official Section status in the APSA under the new Section structure. The Fall issue of VOX POP, our newsletter, will explain Sectionhood to the entire membership and call for ideas pro and con to be reported in the Winter issue, which will contain a ballot on the proposition.

For more information, or to become a member of POP, write to: Kenneth Janda, POP Chair, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60201. □

Discounts on Journals Offered to APSA Members

Beginning in the fall of 1982, APSA members will enjoy a new and valuable

service. The Association has contracted with the publishers of over 50 periodicals in political and social science, including both scholarly journals and popular publications, to offer subscriptions to APSA members at substantial discounts.

The service, which will be available to all classes of individual members, will begin with the 1983 subscription year for the participating journals.

All journals will be offered at a savings of at least 15 percent off the regular annual subscription rate for individuals, with some discounted as much as 45 percent. With the cost of keeping informed climbing higher each year, APSA is delighted to be able to offer its members a measure of relief through this service.

The *Journal Discount Brochure*, containing discount subscription rates and coupons for placing orders, was mailed to all individual members of the Association in October and will be sent to new members who join through the first half of 1983. Since the willingness of publishers to participate in the service in future years will depend upon the level of response to this first offering, members are urged to take full advantage of this new benefit.

Following is a preview list of the titles which will be available through the service:

Administration and Society
Administrative Science Quarterly
Alternatives: A Journal of World Policy
American Journal of Economics and Sociology
American Journal of Sociology
American Politics Quarterly
Armed Forces and Society
Asian Survey
British Journal of Political Science
Canadian Journal of Political and Social Theory
Caribbean Review
Chronicle of Higher Education
Comparative Political Studies
Comparative Politics
Comparative Strategy: An International Journal
Conflict: All Warfare Short of War
democracy (Ed: *sic*)
The Economist Newspaper
Ethics
Foreign Policy
Index to International Public Opinion
Inquiry