

at APSA's 1998 Annual Meeting in Boston. Fifteen outstanding undergraduate students are chosen to participate in the Bunche Institute every year and, of these, several are chosen to present their research at the APSA Annual Meeting. Below is the list of the students, their affiliations, and poster topics.

Gloria Anglón, Providence College: "Black Women and Feminism"

Ray Block, Howard University: "The Puzzle of Black Political Participation: An Analysis of the Effects of Alienation, Income, and Political Efficacy on Black Community Activism"

Doris Clark, Central Arkansas University: "The Traditionalists vs. Modernists"

Katrina Gamble, Smith College: "Strengthening the Black Vote: Responsiveness and Representation"

Andra Gillespie, University of Virginia: "The Effects of Income on Blacks' Cultural Connections: Perceptions of Racism, Group Consciousness, and Policy Preference"

Elizabeth Green, Texas A&M University: "Education and Its Effect on the Progressive Role of Women in the Black Community"

Monique Lyle, Michigan State University: "The Relationship Between Blacks' Perceptions of Racism and Support for Black Nationalism"

Aisha Raj, Pepperdine University: "Religiosity Among African Americans: What Really Affects Political Participation in the Community"

Melvin Rogers, Amherst College: "The Effects of Racial Discrimination on the Political Participation of Blacks"

Committee Suggestions Welcomed

APSA welcomes suggestions for individuals interested in serving on APSA standing committees for terms beginning January 1, 2000. Appointments vary from one to three years and include award committees, *PS* Editorial Board, and a host of others. A list of committees and their area of responsibility can be found in the March 1998 issue of *PS*. These positions are held on a volunteer basis. Interested members should make their suggestions by mail to President-Elect Robert Keohane, c/o APSA, 1527 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036-1206 or by email to nominations@apsanet.org.

In addition to presenting their research, the students attended several panels and many receptions sponsored by political science departments. At the reception hosted by the Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession, the students were applauded for their exceptional presentations and acknowledged for their achievements at the Bunche Institute held earlier in the summer at the University of Virginia. Two students, Katrina Gamble and Elizabeth Green, spoke on behalf of Professor Steven Finkel, who received an award for his outstanding leadership of the Bunche Institute at UVA.

While at UVA, the Ralph Bunche students are introduced to the world of graduate study and encouraged to apply to Ph.D. programs in political science. Students take two graduate-level courses for credit, one in quantitative analysis and another on race and American politics and attend guest lectures. They also meet recruiters from Ph.D. programs and are prepped for GREs by volunteers from the Kaplan Educational Center.

For more information about the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute please contact, Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, APSA, 1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036-1206; (202) 483-2512; bunche@apsanet.org.

Survey of APSA Minority Identification Project Students

Jun Yin, *American Political Science Association*

A survey of students who participated in the Association's Minority Identification Project in 1997 was

conducted in April 1998. The purpose of the survey was to assess the effectiveness of the project and to seek suggestions and comments from the students on how the graduate application and admission processes might be improved and how the Association might interest more minority students in pursuing careers in political science.

The survey was sent to all 228 students identified by the Project in 1997. By August 21, 35 completed surveys were returned. The response rate was 15%. Due to the low response rate, the summary findings in this report are suggestive rather than definitive. Highlights of the findings follow.

- The project continued to involve the students early in their undergraduate years. Nine percent of the students identified by the Project in 1997 were freshmen and 29% were sophomores.
- Twenty-nine percent of the students who responded to the survey reported meeting individually with a faculty member to discuss graduate schools and careers in political science. Fifty-four percent of the students reported having such discussions during group meetings held by their departments.
- The students who responded to the survey have been contacted by an average of 16 graduate schools, reporting a range of four to 50 schools. By comparison, the 1996 MID students were contacted by an average of 11 schools.
- Fourteen percent of the respondents have applied to graduate schools in political science. Among those who graduated before the summer of 1998, 24% have applied. These percentages are comparable to their counterparts in the survey conducted last year.
- This year, we specifically asked those who had not applied to graduate school in political science their reasons for not applying (respondents could check multiple reasons): 27% said it was still too early but they would apply later; 37% said they still had not decided whether to pursue gradu-

1999 ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Program Committee is continuing to accept chair and/or discussant proposals for the 1999 Annual Meeting. Please use the form (see Sept. PS) as a guide and email your *vita* and statement directly to the division chair(s). The list below may also be used to contact division chairs beginning on **February 15, 1999**, in regards to acceptance/rejection of proposals.

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*Note: Divisions with * are APSA Organized Sections*

ate study in political science; 37% decided to attend graduate or professional school in another discipline (82% of these respondents chose to apply to law school); and 13% decided to work for a few years before attending graduate school; none of the students said they had decided not to attend graduate school at all. Sixty percent of those who have not applied want their names to be circulated to schools again this fall.

- For those who applied to graduate school in political science, 80% were accepted by the schools to which they applied, 60% were offered financial aid, and 80% had their application fees waived.
- Two-thirds of the students who responded to the survey said that the project made a difference in their decision to pursue graduate study in political science (compared to 60% in the 1997 survey of the 1996 MID students), indicating that, in general, the project effectively attracted talented minority undergraduate students to the field.

Suggestions and Comments from the Students

Through the survey, we obtained many helpful comments and suggestions on how the graduate application and admission processes might be improved and how we might interest more minority students in a career in political science. For example, some students proposed a more consistent and comparable application process across the participating graduate schools. Many students emphasized the importance of mentoring by department faculty, including counseling and sponsoring field trips to political institutions and organizations, for interesting minority students in a career in political science. The students also emphasized the need for a directory/listing of minority professors in graduate programs in political science, which they could use as a guide for their selection of graduate programs.

It was proposed that APSA establish programs to assist the students identified by the project to attend the APSA Annual Meeting to help them better understand the discipline. It was also suggested that certain terminal M.A. programs (for example, area studies programs or schools of international affairs or foreign service) be included in the project to enlarge both the pool of minority candidates and the scope of participating graduate programs. As in the previous survey, many students commented on how their uncertainties and concerns about the job prospects for recent M.A.s and Ph.D.s in political science had affected their career choices and how information on or profiles of minorities with advanced degrees in political science in academia and applied settings would help them make career choices.

APSA and ECPR Launch Online Exchange Project

Seeking to enable a broader range of scholarly exchange between political science communities in the United States and Europe, APSA has teamed with the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) to produce the APSA/ECPR Scholar Clearinghouse Program. Building upon a concept first presented by APSA Council member Michael Laver of Trinity College (Dublin), the online service is designed to facilitate announcement of temporary positions within departments in the United States and Europe. These placement opportunities can help diversify departments and provide interesting opportunities for short-term appointments.

The program allows for the development of three types of exchange. In one type of placement announcement, departments on either side of the Atlantic can announce the availability of a temporary position, and interested individuals can respond directly to the department. In the second, individuals can announce to departments their availability for

short-term appointments. In the last a true bilateral exchange takes place. Departments can announce the availability of a professor who wants to teach abroad and, simultaneously, of the temporary availability of that professor's position while she is abroad. An interested department on the other side of the Atlantic could then offer both a professor who fits the needs of the first department and a position to the professor from the first department.

In producing this site APSA and ECPR are only facilitating the announcement of positions. It is the responsibility of participating departments and individuals to make the necessary arrangements for an exchange to take place. The exchange site will be available beginning in December at www.apsanet.org/exchange/.

Update on Access to Personnel Service Newsletter Online

The Departmental Services Committee decided at its September 3, 1998 meeting to limit access to the online version of the *Personnel Service Newsletter* to individual subscribers only. It was determined that giving access to those who are not individual subscribers would be unfair to current subscribers and would undermine efforts to attract subscribers in the future. Departmental Services Program members will continue to receive the print version of the *Newsletter*. We encourage departments to continue to make the print version available to members of their faculty and students as needed. To help make *PSNOnline* a success, we encourage departments to submit their job listings through our web site (www.apsanet.org/PSN). Access to *PSNOnline* is available the month after a subscription is received. Both the print and online versions of the *Newsletter* are updated monthly. We welcome your comments and suggestions at psn@apsanet.org.