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Democracy,” analyzed the spread of democratic institutions across the globe during the last five decades. The analysis suggested that democratization tends to enhance the prospects for international amity by dampening the probability of wars or militarized interstate disputes. Ward and Gleditsch’s display provided an overview of the NSF-sponsored program, “The Spatial and Temporal Diffusion of Democracy, 1815-1995” at the University of Colorado’s Institute of Behavioral Science. More information about the project is available online (www.colorado.edu/IBS/GAD/spacetime.html).

Ward and Gleditsch fielded questions from Neal Lane, director of the National Science Foundation (who has recently been nominated presidential science advisor and director of the Office of Science and Technology); Joseph Bordogna, acting deputy director of the National Science Foundation; and several congressional staff members.

NSF in Transition: New Opportunities for Political Scientists

Recent administrative and programmatic changes at the National Science Foundation will mean that more federal research dollars will be available for political scientists.

Incoming NSF Director Rita Caldwell is a microbiologist who appreciates the value of interdisciplinary research. She has pledged to broaden the scope of the Foundation’s programs and to implement the Clinton administration’s policy of supporting primary scientific and social scientific research.

When Caldwell takes over from Neal Lane, who has been nominated for the dual position of Presidential Science Adviser and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, she will inherit a growing agency in transition. The president has proposed large increases in NSF’s budgets for the next three years, and the House has approved the plan for a budget to reach almost \$4 billion by FY2000, an increase of nearly 10% over FY98.

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Bennett Bertenthal, head of the Directorate of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, has proposed reorganizing the Directorate to facilitate the speedy and judicious review of research proposals and to encourage interdisciplinary research. One of Caldwell's first decisions will be whether to authorize the reorganization, which would split the Directorate into a Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences and a Division of Social and Economic Sciences. Additionally, Caldwell will be working with a new Political Science Program Officer, Marianne Catherine Stewart, who is an expert on British and Canadian labor politics and a professor of government at the University of Texas at Dallas (see article below).

In recognition of the importance of, and as a sign of its growing commitment to, interdisciplinary research, NSF has unveiled a number of specifically interdisciplinary grants programs. The most important, and best funded, of these is Knowledge and Distributed Intelligence (KDI). Research funded through KDI will focus specifically on the role knowledge plays in the construction, operation, maintenance, and perpetuation of complex systems. Other interdisciplinary NSF programs in-

clude Life and Earth's Environment and Educating for the Future.

Full information about the recent changes at NSF, and about all the Foundation's activities, can be found on the NSF web site (www.nsf.gov).

New NSF Political Science Program Director Appointed

Marianne C. Stewart has been appointed to the position of Political Science Program Director in the Division of Social, Behavioral and Economic Research at NSF. She joins Dr. Frank Scioli on September 1. Stewart was awarded her B.A. Honours and M.A. degrees in political science from the University of Windsor in Canada. After receiving her Ph.D. in political science from Duke University, she served on the faculty of Rutgers University. She currently is professor of government, politics and political economy at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Her research focuses on how economics and politics, and emotions and evaluations, shape party support decisions. She also has been involved in studies of gender effects on the political economy of such decisions, and citizen participation in Anglo-American and other democracies.

She is coeditor of *Economic Decline and Political Change* (1989), coauthor of *Controversies in Political Economy* (1992), and at work on *New Labour's New Beginnings: The Political Economy of Party Support in the Post-Thatcher Era* with Harold Clarke and Paul Whiteley. Her most recent articles include "The Dynamics of Party Identification in Federal Systems," *American Journal of Political Science* (1998), "New Models for New Labour," *American Political Science Review* (1998), and "Tory Trends," *British Journal of Political Science* (1997) with Clarke and Whiteley.

Stewart participated in the formation of NSF's Democratization Initiative and was a member of the Advisory Panel of NSF's Political Science Program. She also has been assistant editor of the *Journal of Politics*, a member of the editorial boards of the *American Journal of Political Science* and *Structural Equation Modeling*, a chair of the program committee of the 1994 Midwest Political Science meeting, and a member of the executive councils of the Midwest and the Southern Political Science Associations. She is a member of the American, Midwest, Southern, and Canadian Political Science Associations, the British Politics Group, and the Women's Caucus for Political Science. During the past two years, she has been director of graduate studies in the School of Social Sciences at her university.

More on Affirmative Action Bans and Higher Education

Over the past three years, a series of procedural and legal bans on using race and gender as criteria for admission to institutions of higher education have been put in place in California and Texas. Several other states and school systems are currently considering similar bans. *PS* has been reporting on the impact these bans have had on minority enrollments and will continue to do so. Some of the more interesting facts