



# CenterPAGE

A Look at the Centennial Center for  
Political Science & Public Affairs



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The Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs is an invaluable resource to political and social scientists. Since its opening in September 2003, the Center has housed more than 100 scholars. The center, located in the APSA headquarters near Dupont Circle, provides a great base of operations for scholars researching in the D.C. metro area. The Center offers Visiting Scholars furnished work space, telephone, fax, computers, Internet access, conference space, a reference library and access to George Washington University's Gelman Library. Visiting Scholar stays range from a few days to 12 months. Space is limited to APSA members and is available for faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and advanced graduate students from the U.S. and abroad. Scholars are expected to cover their own expenses and a modest facilities fee for the use of the Center. Prospective Visiting Scholars may apply at any time. Positions are awarded on a space-available basis. Full details on the Center and the Visiting Scholars Program, including application form, is online at [www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter](http://www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter). You may also e-mail [center@apsanet.org](mailto:center@apsanet.org) for more information.

## InProfile

### Isis Leslie

Professor Isis Leslie is an interdisciplinary scholar who draws on film studies, history, and literature to examine questions of social justice. Some of her special interests include globalization, the intersections of racial politics and political theory, comparative political thought, human rights—their definition and abuses, and the relationships between psychoanalysis and politics.

An assistant professor at Texas Tech University, she is currently working on a book, *The Vicissitudes of American Romanticism*, that is a study of the nineteenth-century emergence of diverse, romantic conceptions of the self in the U.S. and the resistance African American intellectuals have historically presented to mainstream American romanticism. The project investigates the historical and contemporary consequences of American romanticism for American political culture, economic justice, and punishment.



Isis Leslie

During this time at the center she is at work on a chapter titled "Boredom: A Symptom of Romantic Selfhood." Leslie argues that the nineteenth-century emergence of boredom as a widespread cultural phenomenon is a symptom of romantic selfhood that leaves many dissatisfied. Romanticism initially was a reaction against class hierarchy, religious, and social orthodoxy. But it was a reaction that does not provide the means to ethical, communal, or political well being. Rather romantic ideals promote individual isolation. In her work, Leslie examines the ethical theories of Alain Badiou and Giorgio Agamben for the insights their theories offer into social and political ethics beyond orthodoxy.

Leslie received her Ph.D. from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, in 2005. Before her time at Texas Tech she taught at Georgetown University, the George Washington University, and Rutgers University. She has also been a dissertation fellow at Northeastern University.

This is month-long stay is the second time Leslie has been able to make use of the Center. Her first stay was a six-month residency in 2006, funded by the Marguerite Ross Barnett Research Fund, while she was an assistant professor at George Washington University.

## Research Funding Available

The APSA sponsors a number of funds to help finance research. Many of these funds can support your stay at the Centennial Center or elsewhere.

### Rita Mae Kelly Fund

Supports research on the intersection of gender, race, ethnicity and political power.

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Provides supplemental support for the study of women and politics.

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Provides supplemental support to assist young scholars in publishing their research.

### Fund for Latino Scholarship

Provides support to individuals or programs that promote the recruitment, retention, and promotion of Latino and Latina political scientists.

### James Bryce fund for International Political Science

Provides supplemental support for research residencies, collaborative research workshops, and teaching and curriculum development programs for emerging political science communities.

To see all available funding opportunities offered by APSA, please visit [www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter](http://www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter).