

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/](http://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](http://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](mailto:psn@apsanet.org).