

Section News

Computers and Multimedia

The Computers and Multimedia Section of the American Political Science Association annually gives awards to the Best Instructional and Best Research Software. Entries are invited in the two major categories: course instruction and research methods. Deadline entry is May 1, 1995. To enter, please provide three copies of the following to the address below:

1. a diskette containing the software;
2. instructions for operating the software;
3. a cover letter stating:
 - a. authorship
 - b. intended uses of the program
 - c. names and contact information of one who can respond to queries regarding the software; and
4. any other supporting documentation that speaks to the program's utility, utilization, and effectiveness.

The section will also offer a short course on use of the Internet at the 1995 APSA annual meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 30. There will be two sections offered. A morning session, from 9:00 am–12:00, will serve as an introduction to the Internet for beginners and will explore the fundamentals of tapping into the Internet's resources. The afternoon session, from 1:00 pm–2:00 pm, will be for those who would like to go beyond the basics of e-mail, telnet and FTP. The advanced Internet session will touch upon gophers, world-wide webs, etc. A \$30 course fee will be charged for each session (\$60 for both). The location will be announced at a later date.

Direct all inquiries to: Cecilia G. Manrique, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI 54601; Phone: (608) 785-6642; or e-mail: manrique@uwlax.edu or manrique@uwlax.bitnet.

March 1995

Law and Courts

Each year the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association sponsors a competition for the best paper written by a graduate student. If you have a graduate student who has recently completed a paper of particularly high quality, consider nominating the paper for this year's competition.

The rules for the competition are as follows: the paper must have been written by a full-time graduate student. Co-authored papers are eligible, but each author must have been a full-time graduate student when the paper was written. The paper must have been completed between January 1, 1994 and July 1, 1995. The subject matter should fall within the area of law and courts, broadly defined with respect to subject matter and methods of inquiry. The paper may have been produced for a course, presented at a conference or written for some other purpose. Submissions should be of normal paper length; this is not a dissertation competition.

To be considered, three copies of the paper should be submitted by July 1, 1995 to Professor Bradley C. Canon, Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. Other members of the award committee are Professor Donald Downs of University of Wisconsin and Professor Karen Orren of University of California-Los Angeles. Papers may be nominated by a faculty member or submitted directly by the student author. The winner of the competition will be announced at the annual meeting of the section at the APSA convention in Chicago.

Political Methodology

The Twelfth Annual Political Methodology Summer Conference, organized by the Methodology Section of the American Political Science Association, will be held July 27–30, 1995 at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Interested faculty and advanced graduate students are invited to apply to attend.

Attendance will be limited to approximately 35 participants, with roughly equal representation of senior faculty, junior faculty, and graduate students. The aim of the conference is to spur the development, evaluation, an application of quantitative and qualitative research methods in political science. Previous conferences have typically consisted of six three-hour sessions, each featuring two papers and two discussants, plus additional informal sessions to discuss graduate student research.

Faculty applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and a brief (3–5 page) outline of research they propose to present. Original research in all areas of political methodology is welcome. Papers may propose new research methods, evaluate existing methods, or apply existing methods to substantive problems of interest to political scientists. Methodological work with important implications for comparative politics, international relations, formal theory, or public policy is especially welcome.

Graduate student applicants should submit a curriculum vitae and a letter describing their methodological interests. Graduate student applicants should also arrange for a faculty member to submit a letter of recommendation including a brief description of the student's methodological training and research program. Graduate students who are invited to attend will be asked to prepare in advance of the meeting a brief (3–5 page) statement of their major research interests.

Some conference expenses for faculty participants and all expenses for graduate student participants (including travel to and from Bloomington, food and lodging) will be defrayed by the Methodology Section (through a grant from the National Science Foundation) and by Indiana University.

Applications to attend the conference must be received by March 31, 1995. Applications will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the president of the Methodology Section, and invitations to attend the conference will be extended by May 1, 1995. For further

information or to apply, contact Larry M. Bartels, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544-1013. Email: lbartels@wvs.princeton.edu. Next year, the Political Methodology Section of APSA will inaugurate an annual award for the best conference paper on a political methodology topic presented during the previous year. Eligible papers include those presented at the annual summer methodology meeting, the APSA annual meeting or any of the regional (e.g., Midwest, Southern, Western) conferences. The first award will be presented at the 1995 APSA Annual Meeting in Chicago.

The committee seeks nominations from section members for the award. Members are urged to send as many as three nominations to any of the committee members by no later than January 31, 1995. For each paper nominated, please provide the author(s), the title and the name to the 1994 meeting (Wisconsin summer meeting, NY APSA meeting, or any regional political science meeting) at which the paper was presented.

Committee members can be reached as follows:

Bill Berry
Dept. of Political Science
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2049

Henry Brady
Dept. of Political Science
Univ. of California-Berkeley
210 Barrows Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720

Doug Rivers
Dept. of Political Science
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305

Religion and Politics

The Religion and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association announces the creation of the Aaron Wildavsky Dissertation Award. The award carries a cash prize of \$250, and will be presented for the first time at the APSA Meeting in Chicago in 1995. For the first award, the committee will consider any dissertation com-

pleted in the past three years in the general area of religion and politics. Nominations should be sent to Duane Oldfield, Department of Political Science, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167. Nominees or their institution are responsible for providing three copies of the dissertation. The deadline for submissions will be April 1, 1995.

Wildavsky was a member of the Religion and Politics Section, and was an active participant in the early meetings that led to the establishment of the Section. He was president of APSA the year that the Section was formally established. In his final years, he was involved in a major project to reinterpret the lives of Moses and Joseph in the Old Testament.

The Religion and Politics Section seeks to endow the Wildavsky Award through contributions in Wildavsky's memory. Contributions should be made out to the APSA Religion and Politics Section Aaron Wildavsky Award and mailed to APSA, c/o Michael Brintnall, 1527 New Hampshire Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Correction

Anne Petersen's name was incorrectly spelled as Peterson in the December *PS*. She is the new deputy director of the National Science Foundation.