



Newsletter

June 2013

Standing Committee on International Relations (SCIR) News

At the APSA Perth annual conference 30 September – 2 October), in addition to the keynote address and standard IR papers and panels, the SCIR will be showcasing three roundtables that highlight broad current themes of interest to International Relations folk especially PhD students and early career scholars. They are :

1) Hierarchy and Order in Asia

- Professor Sarah Percy (Chair, University of West Australia)
- Dr Andrew Phillips (University of Queensland)
- Professor Evelyn Goh (Australia National University)
- Professor Shaun Breslin (University of Warwick, UK)
- Professor Tim Dunne (University of Queensland)

2) Cutting Edge Methodologies for International Relations Research

- Professor Jacqui True (Chair, Monash University)
- Professor Jason Sharman (Griffith University)
- Professor Robyn Eckersley (Melbourne University)
- Professor Ted Hopf (National University of Singapore)
- Professor Toni Erskine (University of New South Wales – ADFA)

3) International Relations Theory in Australia Today

- Associate-Professor Richard Devetak (Chair, University of Queensland)
- Professor Toni Erskine (University of New South Wales – ADFA)
- Dr Hunjoon Kim (Griffith University)
- Emily Tannock (University of Queensland)
- Professor Colin Wight (University of Sydney)

The APSA SCIR will also be co-hosting with University of Queensland and Griffith University a one week research training course on Political Science and International Relations methods for primary PhD students in late November. Applications will be invited shortly, by the end of June, for partially-funded places on the course.

APSA-preferred journal rankings - review

Members will be aware that in spite of the dropping of journal rankings in the ERA2012, many universities around the country continue to use the ERA 2010 list in internal assessments. Many in APSA are of the view that, on balance, having the peak body in political science shape the rankings is preferable either to outdated references to ERA 2010 or other metric data which have limitations when applied to Politics/IR. As a result, in 2011 APSA formed its own list of preferred journal rankings for the 1606 and 1605 FOR coded journals. The list is available on APSA's web site.

In order to maintain the list as up to date and relevant, APSA is currently undertaking a review of the APSA 2011 preferred journal rankings. The review focuses primarily on those journals that APSA has not previously considered, although where there is a strong case existing rankings may be reconsidered.

The APSA Executive has formed a working party of Jason Sharman (Griffith), Brian Head (UQ), Linda Hancock (Deakin) and Kath Gelber(UQ) to conduct this review.

The working party sent out invitations in March through Heads of School/Department to encourage submissions to the review. At that time, we advertised a closing date of 3 June 2013.

In order to ensure as consultative a process as possible, the deadline for submissions has now been extended to **30 June 2013**. Submissions

should be emailed to Jason Sharman
(j.sharman@griffith.edu.au).

Please note that:

- a) Submissions should be evidence-based, and rely on data such as impact factor, citation rates, percentage of submissions accepted, and other issues to do with reputational quality.
- b) Group submissions are particularly encouraged, but individual submissions will also be accepted.
- c) If a person or group making a submission has an interest in a journal being considered (ie is an editor, has had work published in or forthcoming with that journal, or is otherwise directly involved with the journal), this interest should be declared in the submission.
- d) To retain the credibility of the list, and encourage its use by universities, we will aim for an overall percentage of A*-ranked journals at 5% of the total, A-ranked at 15% of the total, B-ranked at 30% of the total, and C-ranked at 50% of the total.
- e) Submissions should be entirely merit-based. Arguments for the representation of a journal in a rank based on its sub-field or area of study will not be considered.
- f) Arguments for both promotion and demotion will be considered, based on the evidence presented.

Website Update

Work is ongoing to develop the new look APSA website. It is hoped the new website will enable increased interaction with members, offer a platform to disseminate learning and information and will streamline administrative processes such as membership renewal.

It is anticipated that the website will go live in the next three months. The website address will remain www.auspsa.org.au.



Introducing the new APSA National Office Executive Assistant

Nichola Matthews has recently taken over the role of Executive Assistant at the National Office. Nichola is new to the University of Melbourne and is also new to Australia having arrived from Northern Ireland a few months ago.

Nichola said "I am looking forward to working with the Executive Committee and am especially interested in developing our methods of communication with members and also the development of the new website which will be a great way to interact with members. I would like to thank Georgi Cahill for all her help in ensuring a smooth transition into my new post".

Nichola can be contacted at the National Office (contact details below).



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APSA Annual Conference 2013

Post Graduate Seminar, Sunday 29th
September 2013

As a part of the APSA annual conference at Murdoch University in Perth, Ryl Harrison and Birte Ahlhaus, your 2013 APSA Post Graduate Representatives, in conjunction with the APSA Conference Organizing Committee, will host a one day postgraduate seminar on Sunday, the 29th of September 2013. While the final program is still being developed, the seminar will consist of a number of workshops aimed at network building, research and funding information and career development. The seminar is free of charge and catered for.

Guest Speaker: Winthrop Professor CARMEN LAWRENCE



After training as a research psychologist at the University of Western Australia and lecturing in a number of Australian universities, Dr Lawrence entered politics in 1986, serving at both State and Federal levels for 21

years. She was at various times W.A Minister for Education and Aboriginal affairs and was the first woman Premier and Treasurer of a State government. She shifted to Federal politics in 1994 when she was elected as the Member for Fremantle and was appointed Minister for Health and Human Services and Minister assisting the Prime Minister on the Status of Women. She has held various portfolios in Opposition, including Indigenous Affairs, Environment, Industry and Innovation and was elected national President of the Labor Party in 2004. She retired from politics in 2007. She is now Director of the Centre for the Study of Social Change in the School of Psychology at the University of Western Australia and Chair of the Australian Heritage Council.

Details for the Post Graduate Seminar:

Who: all postgraduate students
When: Sunday, 29th September 2013
Time: 10am – 3pm
Where: Murdoch University, Perth

For questions – or to register for the Seminar please contact:

APSA Postgraduate Representatives:

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Or have a look on **Facebook:** Politics and IR Postgraduates of Australia (PIRPA).

