

### **FOREWORD BY NEW APSA PRESIDENT**

It was with great pleasure that I took on the role of APSA President 2013/14 at the recent AGM in Perth. I would like to thank Professor Stephanie Lawson for her work during her presidential term. My thanks also to Professor Adrian Little, the outgoing Immediate Past President, Dr Kate Gleeson who had completed her term as an Ordinary Member, and to Postgraduate Representatives Ryl Harrison and Birte Ahlhaus who had shared the postgraduate role on the Executive.

We have a number of new members on the Executive Committee for the 2013/14 session and I would like to warmly welcome Professor Linda Botterill (University of Canberra) who has taken up the role of Vice President; Professor Jenny Lewis (University of Melbourne) who has been elected into the role of Ordinary Executive Committee member (2013 – 2016); and finally Lyn Macarayan (University of Queensland) who is our new Postgraduate Caucus Representative. Introductions to new members can be found in this edition of the Newsletter.

During my Presidential year, I am planning to focus on some of the key issues which were highlighted by members during the AGM. These include :

- Working with the editorial team of the Australian Journal of Political Sciences to ensure we have one of the leading journals in global political science, with new strategies to improve the citation and impact factor of the Journal;
- Working with the Local Organising Committee of APSA 2014 to raise the level of indigenous issues analysed at the Sydney conference;
- We will also work hard to ensure that the new website meets the needs of members, and that the new membership application and renewal system works efficiently.

As always, the culmination of the APSA Presidential year is the annual conference, which will be hosted in 2014 by the University of Sydney. APSA 2013 at Murdoch University was a huge success and I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of Dr Shahar Hameiri and his team for their efforts. The organising of such a conference is a large undertaking but I hope that all those involved thoroughly enjoyed the

experience and found it rewarding. The bar for APSA 2014 has been set very high indeed by recent conferences! We are hopeful that the conference for 2015 will soon be confirmed for Adelaide.

I look forward to the continued contribution of our members to APSA during the year.

**Professor Brian Head**  
**APSA President 2013-14**

### **APSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013**

The 2013 conference of the Australian Political Studies Association was hosted by Murdoch University and held on the University's South Street campus from 30 September to 2 October. 307 delegates from Australian and overseas universities attended the conference, reflecting the breadth and depth of political and international relations research. In fact, APSA 2013 was the biggest APSA conference to-date, demonstrating the exciting dynamism of our discipline in Australia. The conference was held over three full days, showcasing 85 panels and roundtables organised into seven streams – international relations, public policy, Asian politics, comparative politics, political theory, Australian politics, and the politics of natural resources.

Quite appropriately for a conference held in Perth, APSA2013's theme was The Politics of Natural Resources: Contemporary Patterns of Governance and Conflict. The keynote address by Professor Shaun Breslin from Warwick University (UK) reflected the significance of this theme for any assessment of contemporary world politics. China's growing international assertiveness has made many of its neighbours uneasy. Professor Breslin examined China's rising profile, paying particular attention to Chinese leadership concerns over the stable supply of energy and other essential resources in shaping China's international engagement. The conference theme also underpinned APSA2013's other key event, the Roundtable on Governing the Resources Boom. Chaired by Murdoch's own Dr Jeffrey Wilson, the roundtable brought together eminent international and Australian speakers from academia, NGOs and the private sector – Professor Shaun Breslin (Warwick), Professor Ronnie Lipschutz (UCSC), Serena Lillywhite

(Oxfam Australia), Professor Peter Vale (University of Johannesburg) and Sarah Hooper (WA Chamber of Energy and Mines) – to discuss the challenges and possibilities associated with the worldwide resources boom of the past decade. Finally, the Politics of Natural Resources stream, under Dr Wilson’s leadership, was vibrant and stimulating with 17 dedicated panels overall, covering a range of related topics.

APSA2013 was a large and difficult undertaking for the politics group at Murdoch University, and as chair of the organising committee, I would like to thank my colleagues on the committee, our student volunteers and the EECW event management team for all their efforts in making the conference a success. I would also like to thank our sponsors, the university management and the Dean of the School of Management and Governance for their support. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of Professor Caroline Hughes, who played an important role in the early months of preparations, before taking up a new position in the UK.

The next APSA conference will be held at the University of Sydney in 2014.

**Shahar Hameiri**  
**Chair of Organising Committee**

## INTRODUCTION TO NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### Vice President



**Professor Linda Botterill** is Professor in Australian Public Policy in the Faculty of Business, Government & Law at the University of Canberra. Professor Botterill’s research builds on nearly fifteen years as a public policy practitioner in the Australian Public Service, as a policy officer in two industry

associations and as an adviser to two federal Ministers. She is the author of *Wheat Marketing in Transition: the Transformation of the Australian Wheat Board* (Springer 2012) and has published over 50 scholarly journal articles and book chapters. She is a regular media commentator on drought policy, the wheat industry and rural adjustment. She is also the co-editor of three books on drought and one on the National Party. Linda’s research is focused on the role

of values in public policy development and in Australian politics more broadly. Current projects include research into the impact of values on conflicts around land use in rural Australia for which she has recently been awarded an ARC Discovery grant along with Professors Geoff Cockfield (USQ) and Helen Berry (University of Canberra).

### Ordinary Executive Member



**Professor Jenny Lewis** is an Australian Research Council Future Fellow in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne, and Research Director for the Melbourne School of

Government. She was a public servant in Victoria for five years before undertaking a PhD, which she completed in 1997. She pursued an academic career at the University of Melbourne, and then moved to Denmark to take up the position of Professor of Public Administration and Public Policy at Roskilde University in 2010.

Jenny returned to Australia in January 2013 to take up her Future Fellowship, which is on the consequences of performance measurement. She is also currently researching the use of expertise and skills in policy decision making, and innovation capacity in the public sector (in five European cities).

Jenny is a public policy expert, with particular interests in governance, policy influence, and the policy process. She has published widely in international journals and is the author of four books. Her most recent book is titled ‘Academic Governance: Disciplines and Policy’, published by Routledge, New York in November 2013. Jenny’s work has been recognised with one American, one European and one Australian research prize.

### Postgraduate Caucus Representative



**Lyn Macarayan** is a PhD student at the Institute for Social Science Research and the School of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Queensland. Her research interests are on health policies,

health systems and inequalities. In particular, her thesis focuses on measuring health systems performances and its outcomes in low and middle-income countries. Prior to coming to Australia, she finished Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Masters in Health Social Sciences through the Ford International Scholarship Program. She also finished certificate programs in social entrepreneurship and business management through the Goldman Sachs International Scholarship Program. Lyn also worked as a presidential staff officer at the Presidential Management Staff of the Philippines and as a research associate at the Social Development Research Center and the Center for Environmental Social Applied Research and Anthropological Research Consultancy. She was also a cardiovascular-renal nurse and has as well travelled as a youth ambassador in Southeast Asia.

## APSA 2013 POSTGRADUATE CAUCUS WORKSHOP

By Ryl Harrison and Birte Ahlhaus

During 2013 Birte Ahlhaus (University of Queensland) and Ryl Harrison (James Cook University) had the opportunity to serve on the national executive of the Australian Political Studies Association as Postgraduate Caucus Representatives. It has been really interesting to participate in an association that is dedicated to progressing studies of politics in Australia. Quarterly teleconferences linked the Executive and our agenda items were diverse, ranging from the commissioning of the new website (see <http://www.auspsa.org.au/>) to the development of the Association's 'Preferred Journal List'.

The annual conference, this year hosted by Murdoch University in Western Australia, ran from 30 September to 3 October. We organised and facilitated a pre-conference postgraduate workshop day, which was well attended with approximately 30 registrations. We kicked the day off with a quick round of 'research speed dating'. After being put into triads, we all had just a couple of minutes to introduce ourselves, introduce our research topics, collaborate on potential journal article ideas, before the buzzer rang out and we had to move on to the next table, starting a new round. The air buzzed with discussion as wonderful and wild ideas were freely shared; you might even see some of these articles come out in future editions of the Australian Journal of Political Science! *How India can leverage the ANZAC discourse in Naval Policy vis-à-vis China* by Shanta-Maree Surendran (Murdoch University), Luke Heemsbergen (University of Melbourne) and Nicholas Bromfield

(Sydney University), or *The Islamic politics of stateless migrant fisherman and the transboundary marine resource governance in Southeast Asia* by Dirk Steenbergen, Charanpal Bal and Asep Iqbal (Murdoch University) or *International diplomacy and environmental policy: soft, green power* by Melissa Johnston (Murdoch University), LiYi Huang (Murdoch University), Rob Simms (Flinders University) and Shaomin Xu (Murdoch University).

By the time we had 'dated' ahh, been 'introduced' to everyone, our guest speaker had arrived – Winthrop Professor Carmen Lawrence. Carmen generously spoke of her political experiences and expertly wove the content of the talk she had prepared into the various research areas she had just discovered we were looking at. There was lots of time to ask questions but Katie Atwell (Murdoch University) stole the show by sharing that Dr Lawrence had awarded her first prize in a primary school writing competition many years earlier! A little bit of encouragement goes a long way!

After lunch, the *enthusiasm* of the HDR students met the *experience* of the Professors. APSA's incoming President, Professor Brian Head (University of Queensland), Treasurer Professor Jason Sharman (Griffith University), Standing Committee on International Relations Professor Jacqui True (Monash University) and Women's Caucus representative Professor Linda Hancock (Deakin University) worked with us throughout the afternoon as we ran small groups on research funding and the transitions from being a student to an (employed!) early career researcher. We also had a panel on publishing, where the professors were joined by Luke Heemsbergen, in his role as an editor of The Melbourne Journal of Politics, to discuss just how we can get our research in print.

The day concluded with Lyn Macarayan (University of Queensland) elected as the Postgraduate Representative for 2014. Congratulations to Lyn 😊 We would like to thank the APSA Executive, Dr Shahar Hameiri (Murdoch University) and fellow postgraduate student Charan Bal (Murdoch University) for their help with the logistics of organising the 2013 postgraduate day – very much appreciated.



Birte Ahlhaus with baby Hannah, Carmen Lawrence, Brian Head, Linda Hancock



Postgraduate Caucus Workshop attendees

## Postgraduate Training Programme Advanced Methods in Political Science and International Studies

By Tim Dunne

Griffith University (GU) and the University of Queensland (UQ) hosted a week-long intensive research training workshop in **Brisbane 18-22 November 2013**. The initiative was funded by the two universities in association with the Australian Political Studies Association. Reflecting the distribution of resources supporting the workshop, there were 5 postgraduates from GU, 5 from UQ, and 13 from institutions across Australia. There were over 60 applications, suggesting a strong demand for programs such as this one.

The co-conveners were Dr Hun Joon Kim and Professor Tim Dunne; they were strongly supported by Professor Jason Sharman who provided a link to APSA in his capacity as the Association's Treasurer. All three scholars anchored the program through the week. The program was strengthened immeasurably from contributions by researchers from both hosting institutions, and by senior scholars who flew to Brisbane to lead particular sessions, including: Professor Sarah Percy (UWA), Professor Jacqui True (Monash), Colin Wight (Sydney).

The advanced methods workshop was designed to give students a working knowledge of a range of methods used in political science and international studies. The course introduced a variety of forms of social scientific methods for doing research, from causal to interpretive analysis, and techniques for building explanations, from statistical analysis to discourse-based approaches. In addition, we created time for conversations about professional development – challenges in relation to getting published, getting appointed, and recognising and

overcoming gender-based barriers to career progression.

A detailed course evaluation was completed by all 23 participants: a full report is available from the organisers. Two responses – of most relevance to APSA – are foregrounded below (1-5 scale from strongly agree to strongly disagree):

- Question 1. 'The course succeeded in providing guidance on difference methods in Political Science/IR research'. Response: 18 'Strongly Agree' and 5 'Agree' (average: 1.21).
- Question 18. 'APSA should not continue to support this program as it will not be useful to others'. Response: 21 'Strongly Disagree' and 2 'Disagree' (average: 4.91).

As soon as it feasible, we hope to build a modest web-page that can be shared by GU/UQ/APSA, including audio files from some of the key presentations by the PhD students and by the instructors.

The program was made possible by the excellent professional support provided by Angela MacDonald (GU) and Bronwyn Crooks (UQ).

**The organisers appreciate the support that was provided by the APSA Executive and hope that consideration will be given to providing funding – on the same basis – to other universities prepared to host future programs like this.**

## APSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014



### CALL FOR PAPER AND PANEL PROPOSALS

**When:** Sunday 28 September to Wednesday 1 October 2014

**Where:** University of Sydney, Australia

**Conference theme:** Elections, Democracies and Autocracies

**Details:** [www.apsa2014.org](http://www.apsa2014.org)

**Deadlines:** Proposals must be uploaded online by 1 March 2014.

The annual conference of the Australian Political Studies Association will meet from Sunday 28 September to Wednesday 1 October 2014 at the University of Sydney, NSW, Australia.

### Call for Panel and Paper Proposals

The Association welcomes paper and panel proposals falling within any area or subfield within the discipline of political studies, broadly defined. This includes: International Relations, Public Policy, Australian and Indigenous politics, Political Theory, Comparative Politics, Environmental Politics, Thematic stream: Elections, democracy and autocracy, Open stream.

### Conference theme: Elections, democracies, and autocracies

In addition, the organisers encourage submissions addressing the main conference theme of '*Elections, democracies and autocracies*' from multiple disciplinary and methodological approaches.

### Pre-APSA Workshops Sunday 28 September

Several thematic workshops will be held the day before the main conference and are designed to bring together scholars presenting research papers around a common topic. Workshops include a graduate student workshop; the legal regulation of political parties; electoral integrity in Asia-Pacific; comparative immigration policy and politics; and the future of environmental movements.

### Submission Deadline: 1 March 2014

Contributors are invited to go online to the conference website, [www.apsa2014.org](http://www.apsa2014.org) by the deadline of 5pm (AEDT) 1 March 2014, to submit a proposal.

More details are available at: [www.apsa2014.org](http://www.apsa2014.org)

Queries should be sent to the conference assistant: [apsa2014sydney@gmail.com](mailto:apsa2014sydney@gmail.com)

Conference Conveners: Pippa Norris (University of Sydney and Harvard University) and Richard W. Frank (University of Sydney).

## AUSTRALASIAN STUDY OF PARLIAMENT GROUP 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SYDNEY, 1 - 3 OCTOBER 2014 'HOW REPRESENTATIVE IS REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY?'

The conference is being hosted by the Parliament of New South Wales and organised by the NSW Chapter of the ASPG. The Secretary/Treasurer is Mr John Young, email: [john.young@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:john.young@parliament.nsw.gov.au) tel: 61 2 9230 3464

The call for papers and a draft conference program will be available in early 2014 on the ASPG website [www.aspg.org.au](http://www.aspg.org.au). Without limiting the scope of papers that may be submitted, potential sub-themes include:

### *Elections and electoral boundaries and systems:*

Commentary on or comparison of different electoral and voting systems; regulation, funding and administration of political parties, regulation and funding of election campaigns; correlation between demographics of elected representatives and the electorate; length of elected terms and the difference in terms between Upper and Lower Houses

### *Government and Parliament:*

The impact on parliament of majority or minority governments, the impact of a non-government majority in an Upper House and the influence exerted by small and micro parties holding the balance of power.

### *Parliaments and decision making:*

Where are decisions made and what is the influence of parliamentary debate? The prevalence of conscience votes. Party control versus party loyalty.

### *Parliaments of emerging democracies:*

Case studies of, and lessons learned from, emerging parliamentary democracies.

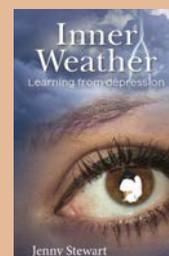
## GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Griffith University *Centre for Governance and Public Policy* recently completed two projects, one on evaluating research publications and the other on the status of doctoral studies in political science in Australia. We think this material may be useful and have therefore taken the liberty to send it to you. This information is also available at the CGPP web site (<http://www.griffith.edu.au/business-government/centre-governance-public-policy>). We are happy to provide the original data that we've used for this research. Please feel free to distribute this material to others.

## MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS

*Inner Weather Learning from Depression* by Jenny Stewart

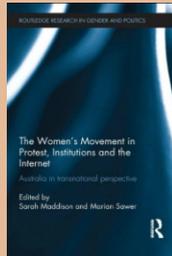
A lucid, honest and deeply searching account of the author's struggle to



come to terms with anxiety and depression. Jenny Stewart shows how, over many years, with considerable help from others, she was able gradually to take control of her depression, not by focusing on its causes, but by understanding how best to fight it. The author offers practical advice as well as personal revelations.

<http://www.hybridpublishers.com.au/inner-weather-learning-from-depression.html>

Sarah Maddison and Marian Sawer have recently co-edited a new book on *The Women's Movement in Protest, Institutions and the Internet: Australia in Transnational Perspective*. Routledge. July 2013. A review may be found



at: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/lsereviewofbooks/2013/09/30/book-review-the-womens-movement-in-protest-institutions-and-the-internet-australia-in-transnational-perspective/>



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