



Newsletter

September 2013

Annual Conference

Perth

29 September – 2 October 2013

Preparations for the 2013 annual conference of the Australian Political Studies Association are in full swing. The final conference program has been published online <<http://www.apsa2013.com/program/program-outline>> and a dedicated conference app, which includes all the relevant information, is now available for download to handheld devices. 307 delegates from 21 countries will converge on the Murdoch University campus over three days, from 30 September to 2 October, to participate in 85 panels and roundtables, on a wide range of topics, reflecting the breadth and richness of political research in Australia and beyond.

The main events include a keynote address by Professor Shaun Breslin (Warwick University) on China's approach to resource security, as well as a special roundtable, *Governing the Resources Boom*, chaired by Murdoch's Dr Jeffrey Wilson, with eminent participants including, Professor Breslin, Professor Ronnie Lipschutz (University of California, Santa Cruz), Serena Lillywhite (Oxfam Australia), Professor Peter Vale (University of Johannesburg) and Sarah Hooper (WA Chamber of Mines and Energy). Professor Stephanie Lawson will deliver the annual APSA Presidential address, entitled 'Politics and Science in the Anthropocene'.

On behalf of the organising committee and my colleagues here at Murdoch I would like to welcome all the delegates to Murdoch University and wish everyone a stimulating and enriching APSA 2013 conference.

Shahar Hameiri
Convenor, APSA 2013

APSA-Revised Journal Rankings

Earlier this year the APSA Executive Committee decided to revisit the Association's journal ranking. The proposed revised journal ranking is now on the new APSA website, and it will be put to a vote at the Annual Meeting in Perth. The proposed new ranking is the successor to the one originally drawn up in 2006 for the Research Quality Framework, and that later underwent several revisions as part of the Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) initiative. Though the last round of ERA dropped the journal ranking criterion, many Australian universities still use these rankings for internal purposes, and the rankings for political science (1606) and public administration (1605) are still current for the Association. The aim of the revision was primarily to incorporate new journals not on the last list, but also to reflect changes in journals' standing and correct errors.

The Committee, led by Kath Gelber and Jason Sharman with assistance from Brian Head and Linda Hancock considered submissions from individuals and groups around Australia arguing for the promotion or (much more rarely) demotion of journals. Requests for changes had to be made with reference to objective evidence, most usually but not always Impact Factor. Those submitting also had to identify any potential conflict of interest (eg being an editor or contributor to the journal in question).

The upshot of the review is that the number of ranked journals on the APSA list increased from 489 to 586 journals. We ranked all journals coded FoR 1606 and FoR 1605 in the ERA 2012 list, except for some that were too far outside the discipline. We also ranked the most relevant journals ranked MD in the ERA 2012 list. We added some journals to the ranked list on the basis of submissions we received. The revision exercise was firmly committed to retain the 5:15:30:50 ratio of a*, A, B and C journals in order to retain the integrity and credibility of the exercise. Given this fixed ratio and the increased number journals in absolute terms, this of course means that there are now more journals at each level, eg the rise from 26 to 30 A* journals, 85 to

89 A journals, 163 to 176 B journals and 215 to 291 C journals.

Website Update

A significant amount of work has been undertaken to update the APSA website. The Executive Committee would like to thank members for their patience during this process. The new website will enable members to include information on their research and teaching interests as well as a photograph. This will enable members to network more effectively.

The new site also provides the National Office with the ability to communicate directly with members and this Newsletter is the first communication to be undertaken using this new method!

Please feel free to send the National Office any comments you have on the new site.

Gender Audit

As an outcome of the 2012 APSA Women in Political Science Report, APSA Executive committed to undertake a Gender Audit in 2013 and again in 2016. Accordingly, APSA Discipline Heads (covering political science, international relations and public policy) will be asked to respond to questions regarding their department's data/performance for contract and tenured staff.

This will include collection of gender disaggregated data on:

- PhD Completions,
- Appointments and Promotions Processes,
- Current Staff Appointments,
- CI's on Grant Applications and ARC Grant outcomes.

The Discipline Head's proforma will be followed by an invitation to all contract and tenured staff across these departments to participate in a short survey on their experiences.

We are just giving notice of this previously flagged initiative so that members know what is forthcoming.

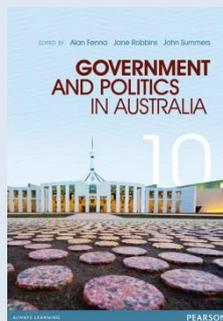
For the record, the 2012 report found that women make up:

- 47% PhD Students
- 33% Level A & B
- 24% Level C
- 25% Level D & E

Many thanks for your participation and assistance with this on-going audit.

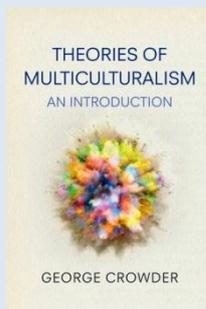
Prof. Linda Hancock- Women's Caucus Rep

Publications by Members



Alan Fenna, Jane Robbins and John Summers, eds, *Government and Politics in Australia*, 10th edn, Pearson Education, French's Forest, NSW, 2014 [sic].

<http://www.pearsoned.co.nz/student/university/product-listing-page/product-details-page/?isbn=9781486000517>



George Crowder, *Theories of Multiculturalism: An Introduction*, Polity Press, Cambridge, UK.

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Theories-Multiculturalism-Introduction-George-Crowder/dp/0745636268/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1378691134&sr=1-1&keywords=george+crowder

Calls for Papers

**Panel for IPSA Conference
Montreal
19-24 July 2014**

Role of Ideology in Shaping Governance Outcomes

We are often told we live in a post-ideological world and ideology does not play a significant role in shaping governance outcomes. We are told that if ideology has a role at all, it is simply to

provide a legitimating public veneer to outcomes that are a product of a balancing of material interests. This panel will bring together scholars that are seeking to challenge that accepted wisdom. It invites scholars that are examining the ways ideologies impact on how problems are understood, in the solutions that are advanced, and in the ways that citizens and political actors are mobilised to shape governance outcomes. In taking this approach, the panel welcomes scholars from both the global north and the global south that are exploring the ways in which discourse influences each of these elements of the governance process and its outcomes. It will particularly prioritise scholars that are examining how ideologies from both the north and the south inform those discourses and the ways in which old ideologies are being remade and redeployed in the contemporary governance landscape.

Abstract submissions must be submitted by **7 October 2013**.

Please contact Dr Lindy Edwards (l.edwards@adfa.edu.au) if you would be interested in being a part of this workshop and are planning to submit an abstract.

Second Annual Conference of the Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science University of Sydney 9-10 December 2013

**Keynote Speaker : Professor Kosuke Imai,
Princeton University**

Please submit an abstract (250 words maximum) proposing a paper either :

- 1) using quantitative methods for political analysis,
- 2) discussing particular quantitative methods of analysis, and their reliability, application, or how they might be improved.

Papers on any topic using any sort of quantitative method(s) of analysis are welcome. Those addressing Australian politics or content relevant to Australia are particularly encouraged.

Abstracts must be submitted by **1 October 2013** to ben.goldsmith@sydney.edu.au

2014 Public Policy Network Conference

**Main Conference: 30 - 31 January
2014**

**Graduate Conference: 29 January
2014**

The ANZSOG Institute for Governance at the University of Canberra invites you to the 2014 Public Policy Network Conference. The Public Policy Network is an informal network of Australasian public policy scholars that meets annually to discuss research, teaching and cognate issues in public policy, public administration and governance. Our focus is on public policy issues in Australia and New Zealand, theoretical debates within the field and comparative research that informs practice.

We are currently inviting paper proposals that fall within any area or subfield of public policy, public administration and/or governance broadly defined.

This year's conference will also feature several panels dedicated to addressing the theme, From Labor to the Coalition: Continuity and Change in Australian Public Policy. Authors who contribute to these panels are invited to evaluate, first and foremost, the former Labor Government and its legacy, but also the new Coalition Government and the likely direction/s that it may take. These 'thematic panels' are being organised as a precursor to a refereed Special Issue on the same topic in the international journal, Policy Studies (Routledge-Taylor and Francis). Further information on the thematic panels is provided on the website.

A one day graduate conference will also be held prior to the main conference on 29 January 2014. PhD students who are travelling interstate, and honours students who are interested in pursuing a PhD in public policy, public administration and/or governance, are eligible to **apply for one of up to six graduate bursaries**. These bursaries will cover conference fees, travel and accommodation costs.

The deadline for paper proposals and bursary applications to attend the Graduate Conference is **14 October 2013**.

The deadline for paper proposals for the Main Conference is **28 October 2013**.

Authors will be notified about whether their papers have been accepted by **4 November 2013**.

For further information about the conference, how to submit your paper proposal and how to register, please visit the website, www.ppnc.com.au, or email either the Academic Convenor, Dr Paul Fawcett, or the Graduate Convenor, Richard Reid, at ppnc2014@canberra.edu.au.



**NZPSA 2013 Conference
University of Canterbury,
Christchurch
2-3 December 2013**

Registration is now open for the New Zealand Political Studies Association's Annual Conference.

As well as the conference, a Postgraduate Workshop will be held on 4 December 2013. Registration is required for the Workshop. There is no cost to postgraduate students.

For further information on abstract submission, registration, accommodation, keynote speakers and plenary sessions, conference dinner and more click on:

<http://www.saps.canterbury.ac.nz/conferences/nzpsa/>

Abstract submission date has been extended to **1 October 2013**

Contact: nzpsa2013@canterbury.ac.nz

If you have any comments on this edition of the newsletter, or you would like to contribute to a future edition, please contact Nichola Matthews at the address below.



APSA National Office
School of Social and Political Sciences
The University of Melbourne
Parkville, VIC 3010

T : +61 3 90357575

E : nichola.matthews@unimelb.edu.au

W : www.auspsa.org.au