

### APSA 2015 Conference: Save the Date

Next year's conference will be hosted by the **University of Canberra** from **28-30 September 2015** with the usual postgraduate Workshop on Sunday 27 September. Please note this change from the announcement made at the 2014 APSA Conference.

### Latest round of ARC grant results puts paid to some myths

The latest round of ARC DPs and DECRA's was announced on 5 November 2014. There was an overall success rate in the DP applications of 18%, and in the SBE panel of 18.2%.

There were 12 successful DPs and 4 successful DECRA's in Political Science, a good result. Of the total 16, 5 were won by women, which is consistent with the national proportion of women in the profession at this time. In the DPs, 7 of the 12 were led by non-professorial Chief Investigators, and 8 out of the 12 were projects with single Chief Investigators.

Congratulations to all the successful applicants, and commiserations to the many who worked very hard on unsuccessful applications.

### The Future of Environmental Movements Workshop

On 28 September 2014 the APSA Environmental Politics and Policy Research Group and the Sydney Environment Institute hosted a day-long workshop on 'The Future of Environmental Movements' prior to the APSA Conference in Sydney. Ten scholars from the US, Asia and Australasia presented papers and debated topics with the audience that included food politics, climate justice, political fiction and community organising. The EPP Research Group Executive, who convened the workshop, intend to submit a journal special issue based on the workshop papers.

### Peter Hay Prize

Since 2011 the **Pete Hay Environmental Politics Prize** has been awarded annually to the best APSA conference paper on the topic of Environmental Politics or Policy.

This year's winner was **Adam Simpson**, University of South Australia, with the paper 'Identity, ethnicity and natural resources in Myanmar'.

**Honourable Mention: Chris Riedy and Jennifer Kent** 'Australian climate action groups in the deliberative system'.

**Selection Panel:** Matt McDonald (chair), Peter Christoff, Hayley Stevenson.

For more information, see: <http://www.auspsa.org.au/page/pete-hay-environmental-politics-prize>

### Call for Papers

#### **2015 Melbourne Conference on China, August 21-22, 2015 *Accountability and control in the Xi Jinping era* Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies, University of Melbourne**

The 2015 Melbourne Conference on China, for the first time organised by the newly inaugurated Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies at the University of Melbourne, provides a timely occasion to weigh up the state of the reform process in the Xi Jinping era. The purpose of this conference is to discuss the policy measures required to lift China over the middle-income hurdle, and whether the Xi administration has the will and institutional infrastructure to implement such measures.

We invite submissions of interest for individual papers that address, directly or indirectly, the following areas of contemporary Chinese public policy in economic, social or political contexts:

- China's path of development
- Law, legal system, legal culture
- Organisation of the Party and the bureaucracy
- Regulating the public and private economies
- Environmental concerns
- Financial and fiscal systems
- Social welfare reform
- Central-local relations
- Population policy

Please send an abstract of 500 words for your proposed paper to [china-centre@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:china-centre@unimelb.edu.au) by **12 December 2014**. A conference fee of \$60 will be charged to cover the cost of teas and lunch. Limited financial support for travel and accommodation will be available to select participants.

### Peace Essay Contest

The Kellogg-Briand Pact, or more formally the General Treaty for the Renunciation of War as an Instrument of National Policy, is an important international peace agreement, and one to which Australia is a signatory. Since 2012, the Chicago-based peace organization, the West Suburban Faith-Based Peace Coalition, or simply WSFBPC, has sponsored a Peace Essay Contest, with the aim of publicizing the Kellogg-Briand Pact.

This year, Australian academic Dr James Page was recognized as joint winner of the Contest. The essay by Dr Page, 'Reclaiming the Kellogg-Briand Pact', was recently republished by the United Nations of Australia Academic Network, and can be accessed here:

<http://tiny.cc/u3epnx> or here: [www.faithpeace.org](http://www.faithpeace.org)

**2015 Electoral Integrity graduate student essay  
competition**

**Department of Government and International Relations,  
University of Sydney**

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) and the Electoral Integrity Project (EIP; Harvard University & University of Sydney) call for submissions for the **2015 Electoral Integrity graduate student essay competition**. The theme for this year's essay competition is in line with a workshop on electoral integrity held prior to the 2015 APSA annual meeting in San Francisco.

This workshop, sponsored by EIP and the Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior organized section (EPOVB), is titled "What Works? Strengthening Electoral Integrity" and it will explore the following question: *What the most effective policies and types of strategic interventions which rectify common electoral problems and thereby improve the quality of elections?*

**Application instructions:** Submissions must be received by 1 January 2015, papers are welcome from students enrolled in a graduate program. The award recipient will be notified by 1 March 2015. Please submit applications by email to [electoralintegrityessay@gmail.com](mailto:electoralintegrityessay@gmail.com) or by mail to:

Electoral Integrity Project  
Department of Government and International Relations 259  
Merewether Building (H04)  
University of Sydney, NSW 2006  
Australia

**Website:** [www.idea.int](http://www.idea.int) / [www.electoralintegrityproject.com](http://www.electoralintegrityproject.com)

**Quantitative Methods Research Group Report**

The first business meeting of the Quantitative Methods Research Group (QMRG) of the Australian Political Studies Association (APSA) was held on 30 September 2014, 12:30-2pm, at the University of Sydney, during the APSA annual conference. Approximately 25 people attended.

The discussion focused on the three core goals of QMRG: 1) to strengthen connections among Australia-based political science researchers and students using quantitative methods, 2) to encourage the participation of these researchers and students in APSA conferences, and 3) to contribute to tertiary quantitative methods training at post-graduate and undergraduate levels in Australia.

Specifically, the major issues discussed were the following. We discussed ways to support research methods training at the universities of our members including sharing teaching materials, distributing a list of contacts for advice on particular methods and types of training, and getting a better sense of the methods training already offered and opportunities for inter-university cooperation (as well as cross-disciplinary cooperation within universities). Initial discussion took place of possible panels facilitated by QMRG for the 2015 APSA meeting, with a number of specific ideas raised which we will pursue. The idea of offering short courses ahead of the 2015 APSA meeting, and/or at subsequent meetings was also raised. Copies of the first edition of our newsletter were distributed, and a call for short articles for the 2nd edition was made. We also committed to establish an email list for members (in the works). Membership now stands at 22.

**Dissertation Fellowship Award**

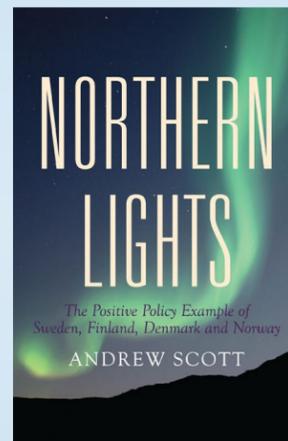
ACUNS would also like to invite advanced doctoral level students to apply for the ACUNS Dissertation Fellowship Award. The ACUNS Dissertation Fellowship Award recognizes emerging students of extraordinary potential who have reached the stage of writing an advanced doctoral level dissertation on a topic of direct and demonstrable relevance to the United Nations and/or the UN system.

An important component of the Award for its winner is the recognition of excellence that this entails throughout ACUNS' global community of scholars and practitioners. The Award also includes a monetary component in the amount of \$1,500.00 US, and additional financial support to help the Award recipient attend the next ACUNS Annual Meeting in order to present a Workshop Panel paper.

For eligibility and application procedure information for the Dissertation Award, see, <http://acuns.org/da2015/>

**Publications by Members**

Scott, Andrew. *Northern Lights: The Positive Policy Example of Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway*, Monash University Press, VIC, 2014.



<http://www.publishing.monash.edu/books/nl-9781921867927.html>

**Positions Vacant:**

The Positions Vacant page of the APSA website is regularly updated with details of vacancies. If you are looking for a new position check out the listings at

<http://www.auspsa.org.au/vacancies>

If you would like to advertise a post on the page please contact the APSA National Office at the address below.

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**W :** [www.auspsa.org.au](http://www.auspsa.org.au)

**E :** [blancks@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:blancks@unimelb.edu.au)



**WORLD CONGRESS - 15-19 July 2018**

The International Political Science Association World Congress 2018 will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, next to the Southbank parklands, restaurants and cultural attractions. The APSA annual conference and the OCIS biennial conference will be held in conjunction with the World Congress that year. WC2018 will provide a unique opportunity to bring political science and international relations scholars from Australia, the Asia-Pacific and the world to one conference.

IPSA has 52 Research Committees, to which panels and papers can be submitted. Additionally, APSA will have a number of allocated panels. All panel and paper submissions will go through the IPSA web site.

**Important dates:**

July 2017	Open panel proposals open
Aug 2017	Open panels notified
Oct 2017	Closed panels and paper abstracts open
Jan 2018	Closed panels and abstracts notified
Mar 2018	Deadline for early bird registration
April 2018	Registration deadline to be included in program
May 2018	Final registration deadline

There will be a reduced registration rate for the Congress for APSA members.

**Thank you to the current sponsors of the World Congress:**



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AND  
School of Political Science and International Studies**



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