
North Carolina

Political Science Association

Annual Newsletter

Spring 2015



www.ncpsa.net

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Troutman-Rainey

Undergraduate Paper Award

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Greetings

The Executive Council is pleased to present its annual newsletter to foster ongoing collaboration among political scientists in North Carolina. In addition to reports from our annual meeting, you will find news contributed by our member institutions and other departments teaching political science in our state. These highlights were received in response to an invitation in early 2015. Thank you to the contributors for sharing their news.

The Executive Council also began a discovery pertaining to the history and origins of our annual awards. If you have any information to share on that subject, please send to Liz Fournier, efournier@st-aug.edu. We hope to put that story together for next year's newsletter. Congratulations again to the 2015 awardees:

- Charles Prysby (UNC Greensboro) won the Oral Parks Memorial Award for Best Faculty Paper. The paper's title is Age and Voting in the South: Electoral Patterns in the 2012 Election.
- Justin Jones (UNC-Charlotte) won the Troutman-Rainey Award for his paper titled Paradox of Humanitarianism: A Quantitative Analysis of Humanitarian Aid and Civil War Violence (1995-2011)

In 2016, the NCPSA will recognize two best conference papers, one for faculty and one for graduate students. Information on the 2016 conference will be published in September. The annual conference is an excellent opportunity for NCPA members from around the state to present new or on-going research. There will surely be energizing conversations and productive networking. Please plan to join us!

Special Thanks

Michael Bitzer, Historian

Jody Baumgartner, Webmaster

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Report on 43rd Annual Conference

The 43rd annual conference of the North Carolina Political Science Association, hosted by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte provided an amazing intellectual exchange among North Carolina Political Science, Public Policy and Public Administration scholars. Though snow threatened to cancel the entire meeting, nevertheless, the meeting went forward on February 27, 2015 at UNC Charlotte's new Center City location.

Participants from 15 different colleges and universities presented a variety of scholarship from "*The Politics of Potholes*" to "*Women's Political Influence on the Violence in Guatemala*". More than 60 scholars from all over the state attended, including strong groups of the state's best undergraduates.

Our keynote speaker was Early Voting expert Dr. Paul Gronke from Reed College in Portland, Oregon. He is serving as the inaugural Daniel B. German Endowed Visiting Professor at Appalachian State University and is the editor of *Election Law Journal*.

This year's conference also featured a new poster session, which took place when no panels were scheduled after our keynote speaker. Undergraduates from all over the state had the opportunity to explain their research to interested scholars. There were also two undergraduate panels: one about election reform covering some of our state's most controversial issues right now (redistricting and voter identification) and one about contemporary issues in American Politics (religion and politics and gun control). Other panels prominently featured undergraduates.

Annual Membership Meeting

The members of the NCPSA met at the conclusion of the 43rd annual conference to discuss general membership issues. This included recognizing Jody Baumgartner for going the "Extra Mile" in service to the NCPSA in his capacity as webmaster. Incoming president Liz Fournier presented her slate of officers for consideration; the slate was approved. Members also expressed gratitude to outgoing president Martha Kropf for hosting the conference.

The members also discussed the future goals and mission of the NCPSA. Included in this discussion was whether the organization should engage in some sort of advocacy. The members wish to continue to receive input going forward, as this will be an ongoing conversation.

There was a discussion about what the future fee structure for membership and conference attendance should be. Treasurer Andy Taylor and Liz Fournier will continue to refine this new structure.

John Holder, president-elect, will pursue a joint conference with the South Carolina Political Science Association for 2017. The joint conference will take place at Winthrop University and expand to two days.

Finally, the NCPSA will pursue some sort of database and distributional network (e.g., SSRN) to collect and store conference papers in the future.

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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2016 Troutman-Rainey Undergraduate Paper Award

The North Carolina Political Science Association invites North Carolina political science faculty to submit outstanding undergraduate student papers for the Troutman-Rainey Undergraduate Paper Award. This award competition is an excellent opportunity for undergraduate students to become involved in an environment that promotes academic excellence and Professional development.

The winner of the award will be announced at the Luncheon during our annual Conference in February 2016. The winner will receive \$200, can be our guest at the Conference, and will receive a letter of recognition. The winner will be selected by a committee appointed by the NCPSA President using a blind review process.

Rules, Eligibility and Submission Instructions:

Each member of the Association who is a faculty member of a North Carolina college or university may submit one paper for consideration. Please note that only those who joined the Association at or before the February 2015 Conference are eligible to nominate a student's paper.

The paper must have been submitted to the nominator by an undergraduate student in full or partial fulfillment of the requirements of a Political Science class taught during 2015.

The nominator must ensure the academic integrity of the paper; that is, the paper is/was not plagiarized. Please use available resources such as TURNITIN.COM to assure of this.

The paper must be sent as a pdf file to the chair of the selection committee, Terza Lima-Neves of Johnson C. Smith University at tlneves@jcsu.edu , **by the deadline of 31 July 2015.**

The subject of the email should be titled: "2016 NCPSA Student Award".

The file containing the paper should be titled: "AuthorName_ShortPaperName.pdf"

The cover sheet of the paper should contain the following information (the student's name should not be on the body of the paper):

- a) Student's name
- b) Paper title
- c) Nominating faculty member's name
- d) Student and faculty member's Institution
- e) Course number and name of the course for which the paper was submitted
- f) Date the paper was submitted for course credit
- g) The following signed statement from the student:

This research paper is my own original body of work. I did not deliberately use someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source. Student Signature: _____

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Treasurer's Report

Largely as a result of Fidelity Investment's generous gift of hosting the 2014 conference and President Martha Kropf's terrific work organizing the 2015 event, NCPSA is in fairly good fiscal health. As of the end of March 2015, we had a balance of \$9,583.20.

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Institutional memberships cover all membership fees of affiliated faculty and students and provide discounts for them when they register for the conference.

News from Institutional Members

The Association invites news from all departments teaching political science in North Carolina. In this segment, we would like to highlight the universities who have become institutional members since this beneficial option was re-instituted in 2014. See Treasurer's Report for information about how to add your institution to this growing list.

Queen's University of Charlotte

Members of the Department of Political Science, International Studies, and Sociology at Queens University of Charlotte are delighted to welcome Dr. Aaron Houck, who will be joining them as Assistant Professor of Political Science in the fall semester of 2015. Aaron is a graduate of Davidson College and holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and a Ph.D. from Duke University. He will be teaching courses in American politics and law.

Saint Augustine's University

Located in the capital city, students and faculty of political science at Saint Augustine's University create civic engagement opportunities and research service learning (RSL) projects to improve understanding of the

political process. A recent visit to the NC General Assembly is pictured below.

The University recently welcomed its 11th president, Dr. Everett B. Ward, As a result of his state political achievements, Dr. Ward made history in 1989 as the first African-American executive director of the North Carolina Democratic Party.

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News from Institutional Members

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UNC - Wilmington

The department of Public and International affairs at UNCW wishes to highlight several recent additions to the curriculum. This past year, several new minors have been approved and implemented: Campaign Management, Nonprofit Management, and Security Studies. Additionally, the department just welcomed its first class of Masters in Coastal and Ocean Policy students. Finally, the Masters in Public Administration program continues to excel and have a broad impact both in southeast North Carolina and across the region.

The department is also pleased to report that Dr. Daniel Masters was an integral part of a team of scholars that received a \$1,000,000 grant from the Department of State. Dr. Masters also received the Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award this past year. He will assume chair responsibilities as of July 1.

We also want to recognize Dr. Earl Sheridan for his 35 years of service to the department and university. He currently serves as chair of the department and as a member of the Wilmington city council. Dr. Sheridan will be enjoying phased retirement as of July 1.

University of North Carolina - Charlotte

Our department had a very productive year. In 2014, our faculty published two books, 22 peer-reviewed articles, and three book chapters. Further, they garnered \$376,000 in external grants. Our undergraduates had a variety of successes. The UNC Charlotte delegation of the North Carolina Student Legislature attended all 6 Interim Councils and Annual Session. One student's bill on local government's utility relocation costs for NC Department of Transportation projects was subsequently introduced into the NC General Assembly. Meanwhile, more than 44 students participated as members of UNC Charlotte Model UN teams, travelling to four conferences- Southern Regional MUN-Atlanta, Harvard World MUN in Seoul, South Korea, National Model United Nations in NY, and SRMUN-Charlotte - winning 20 delegation and individual delegate awards, and building UNCC's stature in the Model UN global community. The Mock Trial team competed in two invitationals, including one cohosted by UNC Charlotte and the Charlotte School of Law. Finally, our MPA graduate students produced two detailed reports to local governments as part of their capstone course. MPA alumni have taken a wide variety of jobs in local and state governments, nonprofits, and universities.

Treasurer's Report

Continued

This year, for the first time, we were able to accept credit card payments from renewing members and conference registrants. This does cost NCPA a small fee per transaction but it is clear that people appreciate the convenience.

We will continue to review registration rates and membership fees. Institutional memberships are available for \$150 and cover all membership fees of affiliated faculty and students and provide discounts for them when they register for the conference.

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News from Other Departments

The Association invites news from all departments teaching political science in North Carolina. In the following stories, you will find highlights provided by our colleagues across the state.

UNCG Department of Political Science reports that Greg McAvoy completed a forthcoming book, *Collective Political Rationality* (Routledge, 2015). In it McAvoy argues that partisanship is a necessary feature of modern politics, making it feasible for citizens to make some sense of the vast number of issues that make their way onto the political agenda. Using unique data, he shows that the biases and distortions that partisanship introduces to collective opinion are real, but despite them, collective opinion changes meaningfully in response to economic and political news. David Holian and Charles Prysby coauthored *Candidate Character Traits in Presidential Elections*. (Routledge, 2015). They examine the effect that trait perceptions have on the vote, how these perceptions are shaped by other attitudes and evaluations, what types of voters are most likely to cast a ballot on the basis of these perceptions, and how varying patterns of media consumption affect voters' reliance on their perceptions of candidate character traits. In investigating these questions, they analyze ANES surveys from 1980 to 2012. Allison Bramwell published a coauthored work with Neil Bradford, *Governing Urban Economies: Innovation and Inclusion in Canadian City-Regions*. (University of Toronto Press, 2014). Their book is the first detailed scholarly examination of relations among governmental and community-based actors in Canadian city-regions. Comparing patterns of municipal-community relations and federal-provincial interactions across city-regions, this volume tracks the ways in which urban

coalitions tackle complex economic and social challenges. UNCG's MPA program was reaccredited last summer by NASPAA, the international Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration. The Political Science faculty who teach in the program includes Charles Prysby, Ruth DeHoog, Ken Klase, Greg McAvoy, Allison Bramwell, and Tamaki Onishi. The site visit team noted the program's strengths in job and internship placements, community outreach, and rigorous coursework.

ECSU Political Science Slated for Discontinuation

Despite tremendous successes, and after ongoing several program reviews, the Elizabeth City State University Provost recommended the Political Science Degree discontinuation. If the Board of Governors agree. Political Science will begin its teach out plan fall 2015. This program met its 10 graduates threshold but did not receive the support from the Academic Administration to continue. This has been a program that sent up to 80% of its graduates to Research One and Research II graduate institutions. At the CIAA breakfast, ECSU Chancellor extended a Chancellor's scholarship to an incoming freshman. We are saddened that this program is recommended for termination because its outstanding alumni can be found participating and greatly contributing to society. The current students and faculty hope that the Board of Governor will asked the tough questions as to why departments with less successful records were kept and this outstanding department recommended for discontinuation.

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The **Wingate University Political Science** program will graduate its first student -- Benjamin Davis -- since adding the political science major in 2013. The department consists of three faculty: Joseph M. Ellis, Magdalena Krajewska and Jake Wobig. Dr. Ellis teaches Comparative Politics and Political Theory, and specializes in Eastern European and Baltic Politics. Dr. Krajewska teaches Comparative and American Politics, and researches in the fields of immigration and national identification documents. Dr. Wobig -- newly hired in 2014 -- teaches International Relations and specializes in human rights and democratization."

Meredith College reports that Dr. Whitney Ross Manzo joined the faculty as an assistant professor beginning in the 2014-2015 academic year. Her primary field is American politics, with specialties in electoral and constitutional law, public opinion and voter behavior, and direct democracy.

Dr. David McLennan also joined Meredith College as a visiting professor for the 2014-2015 academic year. His research expertise includes: the impact of negative advertising on political attitudes, image restoration for politicians in trouble, and barriers to women's electoral success. He is also well-known in local and national media as a political analyst on North Carolina politics.

Faculty News

Dr. Jeffrey Martinson: Elected to second term as chair of Meredith Faculty Council; advised Meredith Model United Nations team for Third Annual Southern Regional Model United Nations

Conference in Charlotte, NC; served as Faculty Marshall in 2014 Commencement.

Dr. Whitney Ross Manzo: Published "The Impact of Cox v. Larios on State Legislative Population Deviations" with Tom Brunell in the Election Law Journal; attended APSA's 2014 annual meeting and presented "The Effect of Ballot Measures on Public Perception of Minority Groups;" attended APSA's 2015 Teaching and Learning Conference and was a discussant in the Teaching Political Theory and Theories track; hosted Meredith's Woman of Achievement Award Ceremony with ex-NC Supreme Court Justice Sarah Parker; co-directed the Meredith Poll with David McLennan.

Dr. David McLennan: Directed the first iteration of the Meredith Poll, which analyzed North Carolinian attitudes toward female candidates and Hillary Clinton; published "The Status of Women in North Carolina Politics" report; quoted in many media outlets concerning the 2014 elections and other political issues, including ABC, NC Policy Watch, the Charlotte Sun Times, and the Raleigh News and Observer.

Student Achievements

Emily Hawkins spent last year interning at the White House and serving on the finance team for Senator Kay Hagan's 2014 re-election campaign.

Bernadette Gonzales and Miriam Zouhri won Best Delegation, African Development Bank, and Beth Rosser and Jordan Cefalo won Most Improved Delegation at the Third Annual Southern Regional Model United Nations Conference.

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The **Department of Government and Justice Studies at Appalachian State University** has had an exciting year. Our Department now includes 36 tenure track faculty serving 720 undergraduate majors and 80 graduate students in our MPA and Political Science M.A. Programs. We are also excited to announce that the Dept of GJS at AppState was awarded the Editorship of PS: Political Science and Politics with Dr. Phillip Ardoin and Dr. Paul Gronke serving as co-editors of the journal. The Department welcomed to its American Politics curriculum this Fall Semester Dr. William Hicks who is a graduate of the University of Florida with a focus on state politics. Dr. Paul Gronke also joined the Department for a two year Distinguished Visiting Professorship. Paul is on leave from Reed College and is Director of the Early Voting Information Center. Former Vice President of NCPSA, Dr. Adam Newmark, was promoted to Full Professor.

The Program in Political Science at Johnson C. Smith University reports that two of our stellar graduating seniors, Lerato Motaung and Briana Robinson were invited and attended the 2014 Multicultural/ Historically Black Institution (HBI) Visitation Program at Purdue University Graduate School. The HBI Visitation Program was established in 1988. Among other activities, the HBI Visitation Program provides an opportunity for outstanding, undergraduate minority students interested in pursuing graduate studies to visit the Purdue University campus. Generally, students selected to participate in this program have relatively high GPA's and a strong likelihood of gaining admission to one of Purdue's graduate programs. During the three-day visit, students

tour campus facilities, receive a comprehensive view of departmental programs, and meet with faculty, administrators, and graduate students.

In April, assistant professor of political science, Dr. Tonya Williams organized a lecture event, "Reimagining The South, Transforming Political Discourses and Politics. The keynote address was delivered by Providence College political scientist Tony Affigne. Affigne's keynote lecture was entitled "Latino Politics, White Supremacy, and the New South." Affigne is a national expert on Latino politics and lead editor of a new textbook, *Latino Politics en Ciencia Política*, from New York University Press. He has previously taught at Brown University, and given invitational lectures on Latino politics at Trinity College, Roger Williams University, and Syracuse University. The event was well attended by JCSU students, faculty and staff as well as members of the Latino community and media.

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The **Political Science faculty at Methodist University** continued their emphasis on experiential learning. Chris Cronin (PhD, UMass, Amherst) took his Latin American Politics class on a Study Abroad trip to Nicaragua where students attended language training, visited various municipal agencies and departments, and participated in cultural activities. Dr. Cronin's Congress and the Presidency course teamed up with Frank Trapp's (PhD, Florida State) International Relations students to participate in a two-day joint simulation exercise involving role playing and crisis decision making as world leaders grappled with an international crisis. Dr. Trapp's Model United Nations team competed in one event in Charlotte, and Dr. Cronin's State and Local Politics class spent two days in Raleigh, visiting the local delegation and other offices.

The **NCCU Political Science Department** joined UNC-Chapel Hill, NC State University and Duke University in securing a \$1.7 million grant from the Defense Intelligence Agency to develop a Global Security Studies Program. This grant will be administered by Dr. Rolin Mainuddin. The department has also welcomed visits by Congressmen Butterfield and Price during the academic year. And the department's Institute for Civic Engagement and Social Change, directed by Dr. Jarvis Hall, was so successful at registering citizens to vote that the North Carolina Legislature intervened to terminate the program despite the fact it was not receiving public funds.



Visit our Website

Membership forms are available on the NCPA website, www.ncpsa.net .

The call for papers for the 2016 conference will be posted on the NCPA website in the fall.

North Carolina



Political Science Association

Professional Service Opportunities

All NC political scientists who would like to increase their involvement with the North Carolina Political Science Association are invited to submit their names for consideration to serve on a NCPA committee or as a member of the Executive Council. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the current members of the Executive Council. Our contact information is listed on the NCPA website, www.ncpsa.net .