
North Carolina

Political Science Association

June 2021 Newsletter

Dear NCPA Membership,

Greetings to you in this second summer of a COVID world. Perhaps some traditional ways of doing higher education will be returning back to normal, while no doubt many things have changed for us too, some in positive ways, including our ability to more easily connect with one another.

This newsletter contains a report of the first Virtual North Carolina Political Science Association Conference, held on Friday, February 26th, 2021, along with planning news of the NCPA 2022 conference, which will be held jointly with the South Carolina Political Science Association in February 2022, at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC.

In addition, you will find an invitation to submit Department news of scholarly research for the Fall newsletter which will be published in November, along with new opportunities for members to connect with one another.

Thank you for your interest and engagement with the North Carolina Political Science Association!

February 2021 Conference Report

Message from the Conference Chair and current NCPA President, Elizabeth Wemlinger:

This year's virtual conference was unlike any conference that the NCPA has conducted, as was experienced by most organizations in 2020-2021.

We held a virtual all-day conference on Zoom. Even though we missed being in-person, this year's conference brought together a wide range of panelists and papers.

We had a full day of sessions and an excellent roundtable discussion on North Carolina politics after the 2020 election. A total of 71 graduate and undergraduate students registered for the conference and 36 faculty registered.

This year's conference was able to bring together the diverse work of scholars throughout North Carolina and continue our tradition of providing several sessions with a specific focus on the always evolving political climate in North Carolina.

You can find the full conference program on the NCPA website:

<https://ncpsa.net/conference.html>

Thank you for making it a great success!

Recognition of Awardees for Papers Submitted in 2020:

Oral Parks Memorial Award (for best conference paper presented by faculty):

Anup Phayal, UNC-Wilmington, *"Does Terrorism Lower Interpersonal Trust?"*

[award committee chaired by Magdalena Krajewska, Winthrop University]

Fidelity Investments Award (for best conference paper presented by graduate students):

Sarah Merkle, UNC-Wilmington, *"Indo-Pakistani Hydro-politics."*

[award committee chaired by David McClennan, Meredith College]

Troutman-Rainey Award (for best undergraduate paper):

Bilal Laghari, UNC-Charlotte, *"Natural Resources and Civil Conflict Intensity."*

[award committee chaired by Jason Giersch, UNC-Charlotte]

Additional Acknowledgements

- Thank you to Jody Baumgartner (East Carolina University) for his continued service as the NCPA webmaster.
- Thank you to Bruce McDonald and the North Carolina Public Administration Alliance (NCPAA) for collaborating with us for the joint conference held on February 26th, 2021. Our members enjoyed the conversations linking theory and research to practice. We may pursue another joint conference in the future!

NCPA Executive Council Members, 2021-2022

On February 26, 2021 at the Business Meeting following the conference, the following members were selected to serve on the NCPA Executive Council for 2021-2022:

NCPA President: Dr. Elizabeth Wemlinger, Salem College

• Phone: (336) 721-2610

• Email: elizabeth.wemlinger@salem.edu

President Elect: Dr. John Holder, Winthrop University

- Phone: (803) 323-4665
- Email: holderj@winthrop.edu

Vice President: Dr. Aaron King, UNC-Wilmington

- Phone: (910) 962-2287
- Email: kinga@uncw.edu

Secretary: Dr. Michael Callaghan Pisapia, WSFC Schools

- Phone: (336) 904-3636
- Email: mcpisapia@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dr. Whitney Manzo, Meredith College

- Phone: (919) 760-8540
- Email: wrmanzo@meredith.edu

(Immediate) Past President: Dr. Elizabeth Fournier, Saint Augustine's University

- Phone: (919) 516-4834
- Email: eafournier@st-aug.edu

At-large Member: Dr. Magdalena Krajewska, Wingate University

- Email: m.krajewska@wingate.edu
- Phone: (704) 233-8282

At-large Member: Dr. David McLennan, Meredith College

- Phone: (919) 760-2287
- Email: dbmclennan@meredith.edu

At-large Member: Dr. Chris Cooper, Western Carolina University

- Phone: (828) 227-3861
- Email: ccooper@wcu.edu

At-large Member: Dr. Nadine Gibson, UNC-Wilmington

- Email: gibsonn@uncw.edu

Awards Committee Chairs

- Fidelity Investments Award Committee Chair: Dr. David McLennan
- Oral Parks Memorial Award Committee Chair: Dr. Magdalena Krajewska
- Troutman-Rainey Award Committee Chair: Dr. Chris Cooper

Planning the 2022 Conference and a Call to Service

Message from NCPA President, Dr. Elizabeth Wemlinger, Salem College

As North Carolina continues to be one of the most dynamic political environments in the country, the work we do as scholars, educators and practitioners continues.

Please encourage your colleagues and students to attend our annual conference and share the work that they are doing.

With two years partnering with the North Carolina Public Administration Association, we hope that this coming year we can strengthen this connection. Please reach out to practitioners that work in the nonprofit or governmental sector to become involved in the organization and present their work at future conferences.

We look forward to these connections and collaborations at the upcoming joint conference in February of 2022 with the South Carolina Political Science Association. This conference will be held in Rock Hill, South Carolina, and more details will be forthcoming.

There are openings to serve on the NCPA/SCPSA 2022 Program Committee. If you've always wanted to be more involved in the NCPA but aren't quite ready to join the Executive Council, serving on one of the committees is a great way to get started!

To help with the NCPA/SCPSA Program Committee, please contact John Holder, holderj@winthrop.edu, to express your interest.

Thank you!

Connections

We invite you to use the NCPA to help you stay connected with other political scientists in North Carolina. You can learn more about our conferences and activities on our website, www.ncpsa.net

Our organization keeps a list of all active scholars teaching and publishing in the field of political science at educational institutions in the state, including both members and non-members of NCPA. Currently, we are working to add research interests of scholars to the database.

We hope this information will help connect political scientists with shared research interests and support collaboration across institutions, and make it easier to find experts who can sit in on panels, or sit in as a guest lecturers for classes we teach.

Please contact the NCPA Secretary, Dr. Michael Callaghan Pisapia, for help with connecting to other political scientists in North Carolina, or to help with keeping the database of scholars up to date with your professional contact information, title and research interest. Dr. Pisapia can be reached at mcpispia@gmail.com

Finally, please consider joining the organization as a member, and participating in our 2022 conference! The membership form can be found here: <http://www.ncpsa.net/member.html>