The American Political Science Association

Section on Migration and Citizenship

Minutes of the Business Meeting 2018

**Date**: Friday, August 31, 2018, 6.30-7.30 pm

**Location**: Hynes 202, Boston

**Note taker**: Daniel Naujoks (Section secretary)

**Agenda**

I. Welcome

II. Approval of Business Minutes from 2017 meeting

III. Officer Reports

IV. Elections Report & New Officers

V. Program Co-Chairs’ Report

VI. Award Committee Presentations

VII. New Business

**I. Welcome**

Section co-presidents Alexandra Filindra and Sara Wallace Goodman welcomed the 64 section members, who were able to attend the business meeting in person.

**II. Approval of Business Minutes from 2017 meeting**

The minutes of the 2017 business meeting that had been shared with the section two weeks prior to the meeting were approved unanimously by the present section members with no votes against and no abstentions.

**III. Officer Reports**

*Co-Presidents* Alexandra Filindra and Sara Wallace Goodman informed the section that as of September 5, 2018, section membership had risen to 365 from 345 the previous year, even though other APSA sections had seen decreasing membership. Thanking previous board members and the founding leadership for building a strong start for section, the co-presidents highlighted that they were looking forward to further strengthen the section and to offering tangible benefits of membership. The co-presidents extended special thanks to all members who volunteered their valuable time and expertise in the various committees, as well to the newsletter editors Marc Helbling and Kristy Belton for their exemplary work and dedication to produce a state-of-the-art newsletter that raises the profile of the section.

*Treasurer* Gerasimos Tsourapas provided an update on the section’s financial situation. In terms of the section’s overall fund balance, from the beginning of the period on October 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018, the balance grew from $5,220.93 to $8,025.93. In other words, the section is currently running a net surplus of $2,805.00, with section dues being the source of revenue. This continues the trend of the section’s positive fund balance from $4,350.15 on October 1, 2016. Gerasimos clarified that while the section didn’t have any expenses during the October 2017 - July 2018 period, the payments for the 2018 reception––our only annual expense––will only show up in our finances in a few months.

*Secretary* Daniel Naujoks urged members to make use of the section’s syllabus bank that is hosted on the section’s microsite (<https://connect.apsanet.org/s43/syllabus-bank/>) and that provides valuable teaching resources that members may want to consult when designing and revising their courses. He stressed that the syllabus bank is open to syllabi from non-section-members and provides open access to all. However, some areas of instruction were still underrepresented, such as refugee and forced migration, as well as emigration and diaspora courses. All members should share their latest syllabi with incoming secretary Abigail Williamson and encourage their colleagues to do the same (regardless if they are section members).

*Newsletter editors* Marc Helbling and Kristy Belton thanked all members for their high-quality contributions to the newsletter, which had turned the publication to a source of well-respected content and reflection, and not merely a document with internal updates. As both editors handed over the reins to the new editors Fiona Barker and Ruxandra Paul, they expressed their gratitude for having being able to edit the section newsletter in the past years.

*Grad student representative*s Kelsey Norman and Beyza Ekin Büyüker echoed the usefulness of the section’s syllabus bank, especially for those who design their first courses. Both emphasized that it is encouraging for graduate students to have a role on the board and to be involved in decisions of the section.

**IV. Elections Report & New Officers**

Co-President Alexandra Filindra recounted the hiccup with this year’s section election, when technical issues at APSA led to a situation, where the majority of members had not received the official emails asking members to vote. This meant that the election had to be repeated in the period June 14 - June 20, 2018. Individualized ballots were sent to each of our (then) 334 members over email through the Qualtrics system. A total of 153 members voted for a turnout rate of 46% which is comparable to last year’s election.

The newly elected officers are co-president Elizabeth F. Cohen (Syracuse University), secretary Abigail Williamson (Trinity College), and council members Osman Balkan (Swarthmore College), Loren Collingwood (University of California, Riverside) and Rita Nassar (Indiana University). Our new newsletter co-editors are Fiona Barker (Victoria University of Wellington) and Ruxandra Paul (Amherst College) and Amy Liu (University of Texas, Austin) and Rahsaan Maxwell (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) will serve as 2019 co-program chairs.

The ballot also included two ballot questions. First, 97% of members who voted approved the motion to conduct section business on the migration listserv currently hosted by Baruch College. Second, 96% of members who voted approved the motion to change the bylaws that now require a quorum of 10% of section membership for elections to be valid. Hence, both proposals passed.

**V. Program Co-Chairs’ Report**

The 2018 program co-chairs Jeannette Money and Tom K. Wong received submissions of 111 individual paper and 12 full panel proposals. The depth and breadth of the proposed research was excellent and many more proposals were submitted than could be accepted. They were able to accept a total of 24 panels, which corresponds to an acceptance rate of 53%. Jeannette emphasized that the section had come a long way since the allocation of three panels in the first year. The program co-chairs recommend to those submitting proposals to also check the “poster session” box. In some cases, the papers seem very interesting but don’t fit into other panels and this represents an additional opportunity to participate. More section members are encouraged to volunteer as discussant or chair. They also reminded those submitting panels to consider the composition of the panel with regard to displaying diversity in terms of gender, region of origin, institutions, and seniority (graduate students, young faculty, experienced scholars).

**VI. Award Committee Presentations**

The section awards received a significant number of submissions that highlight the expanding scholarship with regard to migration and citizenship. The 19 monographs were submitted for the best book award, 16 articles, 14 conference papers, and 5 book chapters. The winners of the 2018 awards and the award committees were:

***Best Book***

Committee Members: Terri Givens, Mary McThomas, Feliz Garip

Winner:

Margaret E. Peters. *Trading barriers: immigration and the remaking of globalization*. Princeton University Press, 2017.

***Best Article***

Committee Members: Maarten Vink, Elizabeth Cohen, Jamie Monogan

Winner:

Alex Street, Michael Jones-Correa, and Chris Zepeda-Millán. "Political Effects of Having Undocumented Parents." *Political Research Quarterly* 70, no. 4 (2017): 818-832.

Honorable Mention:

Michael Ahn Paarlberg. "Transnational Militancy: Diaspora Influence over Electoral Activity in Latin America." *Comparative Politics* 49, no. 4 (2017): 541-562.

***Best Dissertation***

Committee Members: Jeremy Ferwerda, Katrina Burgess, Fanny Lauby

Winners:

Volha Charnysh. Migration, Diversity, and Economic Development: Post-WWII Displacement in Poland. Harvard University.

Kelsey Norman. Reluctant Reception: Understanding Migration and Refugee Policy in Egypt, Morocco and Turkey. University of California, Irvine.

***Best Chapter***

Committee Members: Matthew Wright, Antje Ellermann, Anna Sampaio

Winner:

Jacqueline Stevens. “The Alien Who is a Citizen," in B.N. Lawrance and J. Stevens, eds., *Citizenship in Question: Evidentiary Birthright Statelessness*. Durham: Duke University Press.

***Best Paper***

Committee Members: Saskia Bonjour, Charlotte Cavaille, Jacqueline Chattopadhyay

Winner:

Claire L. Adida, Adeline Lo, and Melina Platas. “Engendering Empathy, Begetting Backlash: American Attitudes towards Syrian Refugees.”

Honorable Mentions:

Kim Voss, Fabiana Silva, and Irene Bloemraad. “The Limits of Rights: Claims-making on Behalf of Immigrants.”

Harris Mylonas and Marko Žilovića, “Foreign policy priorities and ethnic return migration policies: group-level variation in Greece and Serbia.”

**VII. New Business**

Section co-presidents emphasized that recruitment for new section members should also focus on graduate students and members should use their social networks to reach colleagues, who might be interested. Secretary Daniel Naujoks added that the section might adopt sponsoring schemes, borrowed from the American Sociological Association, where faculty members are encouraged to sponsor graduate students from their department when it comes to section dues.

Co-president Sarah Goodman introduced the idea to assign the role of webmaster or a promotional role to section members to support the work of the section leadership. No decision was taken in this regard.

Co-Presidents Alexandra Filindra encouraged members to submit manuscripts to the Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, where she now serves as editor-in-chief and as she also serves on APSA’s committee of committees, section members may address her directly with grievances about APSA.

Christine Brenner suggested that the co-presidents will investigate the feasibility, pros and cons of turning the current section newsletter into a full-fledged journal. The members present voted that the co-presidents would submit a report on this matter at APSA 2019 with all in favor, no abstentions and no votes against.

Christine Brenner mentioned that it could be wise to establish an audit committee to validate the treasurer’s report. Treasurer Gerasimos Tsourapas clarified that there were many safeguards in the APSA systems and that section treasurers never actually hold the section funds. The motion was discussed but members decided to not put it for a vote.

In the end, several section members shared current and upcoming job opportunities in their institutions.

*The meeting adjourned at 7.30pm*. The business meeting was followed by a reception at Sólás Irish Pub (710 Boylston).