

105th Annual Meeting
TORONTO
 September 3–6, 2009



105th Annual Meeting and Exhibition Recap

Lauren G. West, *Director, APSA Meetings and Conferences*

The 105th Annual Meeting, held September 3–6, 2009, in Toronto, brought together political scientists from across North America and the world. As the first meeting of the American Political Science Association to take place outside of the continental United States, it was an opportunity to engage in intellectual discourse while fostering relationships with scholars across borders. The theme of this historic meeting, “Politics in Motion: Change and Complexity in the Contemporary Era,” encouraged discussion of the changing landscape of politics and political science. Program chairs Bruce Jentleson of Duke University and Simone Chambers of University of Toronto crafted their theme statement around this idea, asking scholars “to think about the pursuit of knowledge in a context of change and complexity as both a scholarly endeavor and for bringing that knowledge to bear on the crucial challenges that shape our contemporary era.” In addition to organizing panels and plenary sessions around this theme, the program chairs led a program committee of 59 division chairs. These division chairs organized more than 800 panels across 49 subfields of political science.

More than 6,000 scholars traveled to Toronto to take part in the 2009 Annual Meeting and Exhibition. With sessions in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre and the Fairmont Royal York, Toronto’s Front Street was bustling with attendees on the move. These new venues provided a comfortable environment for attendees, while showcasing the hospitality and warmth of our Canadian hosts. In

addition to attending sessions, attendees were encouraged to explore the city and some of its famous attractions, including the CN Tower and Queen’s Park.

Wednesday’s pre-convention professional day gave attendees the opportunity to attend 19 short courses sponsored by Organized Sections, Related Groups, and other affiliated organizations. Attendees connected with scholars on diverse topics such as blog analysis, climate change, multi-method research, and Latino politics, among others.

The meeting officially commenced on Thursday with a multitude of panel and roundtable discussions, as well as the opening of the exhibition hall filled with more than 75 political science publishers and related companies. The Awards Luncheon and Ceremony recognized more than 20 individuals for their outstanding books, dissertations, and notable career achievements. On Thursday evening, scholars were welcomed by APSA president Peter Katzenstein, delivering his address, “‘Those People’: Contrasting Perspectives on World Politics.” Following the address, the opening reception welcomed all attendees with an evening of entertainment, hors d’oeuvres, and cocktails.

Friday’s activities included a significant number of panels, posters, meetings, receptions, and plenary sessions. The first of two plenary sessions arranged by the program chairs, “Barack Obama: The Politics of Change” drew a large audience. The afternoon plenary session sponsored by Foundations of Political Theory featured Charles Taylor delivering his address “The Many Forms of Secularism.” In addition,

Larry O’Toole of the University of Georgia gave the John Gaus Award lecture entitled “The Ties That Bind? Networks, Public Administration, and Political Science.” Also on Friday evening, Pi Sigma Alpha sponsored the Reception Honoring Teaching, recognizing faculty who have won campus-wide and departmental awards for outstanding teaching and scholarship in the 2008–2009 academic year.

Saturday brought another round of captivating panels, meetings, and special events, as well as two plenary sessions. The first, arranged by the program chairs, was a Great Debate entitled “How Free Should Hate Speech Be?” That evening, New Political Science sponsored a plenary session featuring Tom Hayden, whose address was titled, “Movements Against Machiavellians, the Theory and Practice of Social Change.”

Perhaps one of the most important events to occur during the meeting was the APSA General Membership Meeting, held on Saturday evening. It gave APSA members the chance to engage in association governance. Attendees of the meeting also had the opportunity to witness president Peter Katzenstein pass the gavel to president-elect Henry Brady. The meeting officially concluded Sunday at noon, after three and a half days of discussions, presentations, and networking.

APSA would like to thank the sponsors of the 2009 Annual Meeting, including Cambridge University Press, Routledge, C-SPAN, Soomo Publishing, University of Toronto’s Department of Political Science, University of Toronto Press, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Pi Sigma Alpha, and Pearson. ■



The 105th Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Toronto attracted over 6,000 attendees.



Peter Katzenstein delivered the Presidential Address, titled, "Those People: Contrasting Perspectives on World Politics."



Catherine McArdle Kelleher, posing with APSA vice president Stephen Krasner, received the Hubert H. Humphrey Award in recognition of notable public service by a political scientist.



All international attendees were invited to a special reception.



Charles Taylor delivered the address "The Many Forms of Secularism" for the plenary session sponsored by the Foundations of Political Theory.



The plenary session Great Debate: How Free Should Hate Speech Be? featured the panelists Carissima Mathen (far left), Robert Post (not pictured), Jeremy Waldron (far right), and Keith Whittington (second from left) and was chaired by Amy Gutmann (second from right).



Larry M. Bartels chaired the plenary session titled “Barack Obama: The Politics of Change.”



Participants for “Change and Complexity: Political Science Enters the 21st Century” included, from left to right, Terri Givens, Manuel Avalos, Lisa Garcia Bedolla, Juan Carlos Huerta, and Sherri Wallace. Not pictured: Luis Fraga and Dianne Pinderhughes.



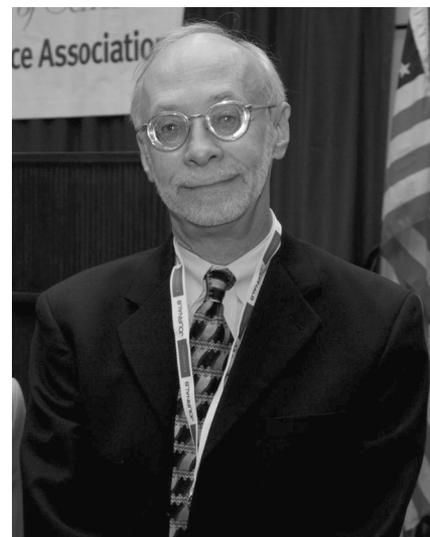
At the 40th anniversary of the Minority Fellowship, former APSA staff (second and third from left, respectively) Mae King and Maurice Woodward posed with Lucius Barker (left) and Tobe Johnson (right), original members of the Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession.



The Exhibition Hall hosted over 75 political science publishers and related groups.



The participants for the roundtable titled U.S. Standing in World Affairs, one of three roundtables hosted by the APSA Task Force on U.S. Standing in World Affairs, included (left to right) Peter Katzenstein, Jeffrey Legro, Theda Skocpol, Henry Nau, John Rugie, and Aaron Friedberg.



Larry O'Toole received the John Gaus Award. The text of his lecture, “The Ties That Bind? Networks, Public Administration, and Political Science,” will appear in January’s PS.