

Fall 2019  
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# State Politics and Policy Newsletter

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## 1. Message from the Section President

Greetings! Since our last newsletter a year ago, the SPP has undergone significant reorganization and planning, while continuing to provide its suite of ongoing scholarly and teaching activities for its members.

Our routine activities include bestowing our six academic awards and holding our annual State Politics and Policy Conferences (SPPC). The 2019 conference was hosted by the University of Maryland, College Park. This three-day event was very well attended by over 120 scholars. Our other major ongoing activity is the publication of *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* (SPPQ). This year, SPPQ had a tremendous Impact Factor Score of 1.675 for 2018 (the most recent score), which placed the journal at 70<sup>th</sup> out of 176 political science journals—congratulations to all of us for making this happen! In particular, congratulations and thanks to Kris Kanthak and Chris Bonneau as they complete their sixth year as editors. Kris and Chris have done a tremendous job of not only making the train run on time but also in reaching out with new and exciting initiatives. Next year (2020), SPPQ will publish its 20<sup>th</sup> volume, demonstrating its importance and staying power in the discipline.

Over the past year, the section undertook two significant searches in relation to SPPQ. First, we searched successfully for a new editorial team for the journal. In June 2020, the team of Jonathan Winburn (Mississippi), Tracy Osborn (Iowa), and Conor Dowling (Mississippi) will begin taking new manuscripts for SPPQ, for a four-year term.

In the 2018-19 academic year, the section set up two ad hoc committees to study issues that the Council deemed of critical importance to the section: membership decline and inclusion and diversity. These committees filed impressive reports, which were presented at the 2019 business meeting. As a result of ensuing discussions, the section voted to establish the Inclusion and Diversity Committee as a permanent institution of the section. I have now appointed that committee and charged them with implementing the recommendations of the earlier ad hoc committee and with monitoring and improving the section's inclusivity and diversity going forward.

Finally, the section has made significant strides in fundraising, and we have ambitious plans going forward. About 10 years ago, the section initiated fundraising to endow its annual best dissertation prize, which it did at the initial level of \$25,000. About 18 months ago, in honor of our esteemed colleague and former SPPQ editor, Tom Carsey (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), who succumbed to ALS in 2018, the section undertook a fundraising campaign to endow a set of annual travel grants for graduate students for the SPPCs. The \$75,000 endowment goal was met in December 2018, allowing us to award the first “Carsey Scholars” travels grants to 10 graduate students attending the 2019 SPPC at UMD.

In addition to the great progress we have made in the past year, we now will consider future fundraising opportunities and where such a campaign might most help the section. I look forward to continuing to work with all section members in the coming year.

Chris Mooney  
State Politics and Policy Section President

## 2. State Politics and Policy Conference Information

The 20th Annual State Politics and Policy Conference will be held from March 19-21, 2020 at the University of California, San Diego. Please submit proposals here: [https://ucsd.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6QKeVjOCb7atfRr](https://ucsd.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6QKeVjOCb7atfRr)

**Proposals are due November 15, 2019.**

Highlights of this year's conference include a March 19 beach reception and a March 20 reception at the Birch Aquarium. Visit <http://cap.ucsd.edu/sppc/index.html> for more information. Thank you to Thad Kousser and Dan Butler for hosting.

## 3. 2019 SPPC Post-Conference: Identity Politics in the U.S. States

This year, there will be a mini-conference on Identity Politics in the U.S. States, organized in collaboration with the State Politics and Policy Conference at UC San Diego. The conference will take place immediately after the SPPC on March 21, concluding the morning of March 22.

Papers of broad interest relating to topics such as gender, race, ethnicity, immigration, sexuality, etc. are welcome. The conference is aimed at diversifying both the content of research on state politics and the membership of the section. Please submit proposals here: [https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5mW0tOmUc1iyEKx](https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5mW0tOmUc1iyEKx)

Thank you to Rebecca Kreitzer and Mirya Holman for organizing.

## 4. APSA Civic Engagement Campaign

In the run-up to the 2020 election, APSA is organizing a campaign that will provide political science faculty with specific tools for encouraging student registration, voting, and democratic engagement. Several members of the State Politics and Policy organized section have volunteered to write blog entries that share work on issues relevant to the upcoming elections.

If you would like to volunteer as well, by November 15, please write to Tanya Schwarz ([tschwarz@apsanet.org](mailto:tschwarz@apsanet.org)). Contributors should submit a publicly accessible 500-1000 word blog post, **covering a state primary or caucus**. For the entirety of January-February 2020, as well as parts of March and April 2020, APSA is hoping to post contributions each day focusing on a different state or territory. More broadly, APSA also is looking for contributors to their broader monthly themes, which you may also be interested in:

- Key Local and State Races for 2020
- Caucuses and Primaries
- Voting Behavior & Political Participation
- Candidate Recruitment and Campaign Finance
- Polling, Forecasting, and Data
- Candidates, Campaigns, and Political Communication
- Conventions & Party Politics
- Voter Suppression, Voter Fraud, Voter Engagement
- Theoretical and Philosophical Foundations for Democratic Engagement and Political Participation
- Best Practices in Encouraging Student Civic Engagement

- Best Practices for Getting Students to the Polls on Election Day
- Preparing Students for Post-Election Climate
- Tips for Continued Engagement Post-Election

All posts will be featured on PoliticalScienceNow.com, on the new campaign website (in development), and shared on social media. Some of the posts would also find a permanent home on the upcoming online teaching portal—a searchable database of materials that faculty can use in the classroom, including publicly-accessible discussions of research. APSA will have full editorial control; however, all potential changes will be run by the authors prior to posting. Post guidelines are as follows:

- Length: 500-1000 words
- Framing, language, and tone must be non-partisan
- Emphasis on *political science* contributions to civic engagement whenever possible
- Accessible and jargon-free writing (we want college students to be able to read easily and understand)
- Include photos if appropriate (of campus activities, etc)
- Include short bio and photo of author

Again, if you would like to contribute, please send Tanya Schwarz ([tschwarz@apsanet.org](mailto:tschwarz@apsanet.org)) a brief description of your proposed post and under which theme you think the post would best fit by November 15.

## 5. 2019 State Politics and Policy Section Award Winners

### *Career Achievement Award*

William D. Berry, Florida State University

### *Best Published Paper Award*

Mirya R. Holman (Tulane University) and Anna Mahoney (Tulane University), “Stop, Collaborate, and Listen: Women's Collaboration in U.S. State Legislatures.” *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 43(2):179-206.

### *State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award*

Mary Kroeger (University of Rochester), “Bureaucrats as Lobbyists.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2018.

### *Christopher Z. Mooney Best Dissertation Prize*

Tessa Provins (University of Pittsburgh), “The Value of Legislative Design: A Comparative Analysis of State Legislative Institutions.” Dissertation at the University of California, Merced. Dissertation Chair: Nathan Monroe.

### *Virginia Gray Best Book Award*

Jamila Michener (Cornell University). 2018. *Fragmented Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

### *Tom Carsey Scholars*

Amanda Sahar d'Urso	Northwestern University
Megan Goldberg	MIT
Courtney Juelich	University of Iowa
Megan Kennedy	Penn State University
Zoe Nemerever	University of California, San Diego
Lisa Pringle	Claremont Graduate University
Stefany Ramos	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
James Szewczyk	Emory University
Elizabeth Wiener	Emory University
Emma Ricknell	Linnaeus University

## 6. Call for 2020 Section Award Nominees

The State Politics and Policy section solicits nominees for the following 2019 section awards.

### *Best Published Article Award – Deadline February 1, 2020*

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best journal article on U.S. state politics or policy published during

the previous calendar year in any peer-reviewed journal (book reviews, review essays, and chapters published in edited volumes are not eligible).

Award Committee:

Anna M. Mahoney (Chair), Tulane University, amahone4@tulane.edu  
Bianca Easterly, Lamar University, beasterly@lamar.edu  
Daniel Bowen, The College of New Jersey, bowend@tcnj.edu

*Career Achievement Award – Deadline February 1, 2020*

This annual award is given to a political scientist who has made a significant lifetime contribution to the study of politics and policy in the American states.

Award Committee:

Gary M. Segura (Chair), UCLA, segura@luskin.ucla.edu  
Lynda Powell, University of Rochester, Lynda.powell@rochester.edu  
Caroline Tolbert, University of Iowa, caroline-tolbert@uiowa.edu

*Christopher Z. Mooney Best Dissertation Prize – Deadline February 1, 2020*

This annual award is given to the author of the best PhD dissertation in American state politics and policy completed during the previous calendar year. The winner receives a plaque and \$1000. Support for this prize comes from the annual return of the endowed Mooney Fund.

Award Committee:

David Fortunato (Chair), Texas A&M University, fortunato@tamu.edu  
Bruce Desmarais, Penn State University, bdesmarais@psu.edu  
Jaclyn Kettler, Boise State University, jaclynkettler@boisestate.edu

*State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award – Deadline February 1, 2020*

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best paper on state politics and policy presented at any professional meeting in the previous calendar year. The selection committee may designate separate awards for papers presented by graduate students with no faculty authorships and for papers with solely faculty or faculty and graduate student participation. Graduate student winners will receive a plaque and \$100 and faculty winners will receive a plaque.

Award Committee:

Mary Kroeger (Chair), University of Rochester, mkroege@UR.Rochester.edu  
William D. Hicks, Appalachian State University, hickswd@appstate.edu  
Raymond La Raja, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, laraja@polisci.mass.edu

*Virginia Gray Book Award – Deadline February 1, 2020*

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best political science book published on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy in the preceding three calendar years. Thus, books would be eligible to be considered for the award for three years. E.g., for the 2018 award, books with a copyright of 2015, 2016, and 2017 would be eligible for nomination.

Award Committee:

Daniel M. Butler (Chair), University of California, San Diego, daniel.butler@gmail.com  
Shannon Jenkins, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, shannon.jenkins@umassd.edu  
Cynthia Rugeley, University of Minnesota, Duluth, crugeley@d.umn.edu

*Malcolm Jewell Book Award – Deadline February 1, 2020*

To be awarded every three years to a political science book on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy published at least 10 years prior to the award being bestowed that stands as an enduring contribution to the literature. Such books would be those classic works frequently assigned in graduate seminars, typically found on the bookshelves of state politics scholars, and that have been crucial in setting the direction of scholarship the field since their publication.

Award Committee:

Charles Shipan (Chair), University of Michigan, cshipan@umich.edu  
Kimberley H. Conger, University of Cincinnati, congerky@ucmail.uc.edu  
Michael P. McDonald, University of Florida, dr.michael.p.mcdonald@gmail.com

### *Tom Carsey Scholars– Deadline December 1, 2019*

These awards will be given to support graduate student participation in the 2020 State Politics and Policy Conference. The committee will consider graduate student applicants to the upcoming meeting, and past winners are ineligible.

#### Award Committee:

Todd Makse (Chair), Florida International University, toddmakse@gmail.com

Emily Schilling, University of Tennessee, eschill2@utk.edu

John Cluverius, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, John\_Cluverius@uml.edu

## 7. Reminders and Important Dates

November 15, 2019	Deadline for the 2020 State Politics and Policy Conference Proposals in San Diego, CA
January 14, 2020	Deadline for the 2020 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in San Francisco
February 1, 2020	Nominations for Section Awards
March 19-21, 2020	2019 State Politics and Policy Conference in San Diego, CA
March 21-22, 2020	Post-Conference on Identity Politics in the U.S. States in San Diego, CA
April 9-11, 2020	Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA
April 16-19, 2020	Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago, IL
September 10-13, 2020	Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco

## 8. 2019-2020 State Politics and Policy Section Officers

President:	Christopher Mooney, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2017-2020
Treasurer:	Shanna Pearson, University of Rhode Island, 2016-2021
Secretary:	Jamie Monogan, University of Georgia, 2019-2022
Council Members:	Rebecca Kreitzer, UNC Chapel Hill, 2018-2020 Becki Scola, St. Joseph's University, 2018-2020 Seth E. Masket, University of Denver, 2019-2021 Jennifer M. Jensen, Lehigh University, 2019-2021 Christopher J. Clark, UNC Chapel Hill, 2019-2021
Webmaster:	Boris Shor, University of Houston
<i>SPPQ</i> Journal Editors	Kristin Kanthak, University of Pittsburgh Chris Bonneau, University of Pittsburgh
2019 APSA Program Chair	Srinivas C. Parinandi, University of Colorado, Boulder

Any announcements or information for future newsletters should be sent to Jamie Monogan at [jmonogan@gmail.com](mailto:jmonogan@gmail.com). The State Politics and Policy newsletter is a publication of the APSA Organized Section on State Politics and Policy. Copyright 2019, American Political Science Association. All rights reserved. All address corrections should be sent directly to APSA.