

There are still some 118,229 full-time faculty in two-year colleges, and this is

- more than twice as many as the number of faculty at either private research or private doctoral institutions
- nearly twice the number who teach at either private comprehensive or private liberal arts colleges,
- one and one-half times the number at public doctoral institutions
- less by about 20,000 than public comprehensive universities and by 30,000 than public research universities

Consequently, there is a sizeable professional community-college faculty that should be better served by the American Political Science Association and other disciplinary associations. The APSA launched an effort to contact two-year college faculty. Roundtable discussions were held about the role of political science faculty in these colleges at the last two Annual Meetings.

These recommendations were given at a 1995 APSA Annual Meeting Roundtable on "Career Opportunities and Teaching Responsibilities for Community College Faculty." Roundtable participants were: Sharon Z. Alter, William Rainey Harper College; Richard H. Baker, St. Louis Community College, Meramec; Daniel W. O'Connell, Palm Beach Community College; Gary C. Rehm, Capital Community-Technical College; and Richard Reitano, Dutchess Community College

The panelists were unanimous in identifying teaching as the primary professional activity—and genuine commitment—of community college faculty. They agreed that teaching skills, teaching experience (especially in introductory level courses), and demonstration of effective teaching are the most important qualities sought in job applicants. Two-year colleges recognize and reward good teaching. All of the panelists are enthusiastic teachers and committed to working with students and to developing programs. For example, Dan O'Connell is a leader in the on-campus adaptation of the "National Issues Forums." Richard Reitano organizes Model United Nations for students from Vassar College and Dutchess Community College.

The panelists recognize the diversity of their student populations—in skills and motivation, as well as demographics. There are students who go on to public and elite liberal arts colleges, and there are students who successfully pursue careers in local politics and business. Many students work nearby full-time and don't spend much time on their studies. Faculty in two-year col-

leges need to be realistic about the considerable range of students' intellectual engagement and educational objectives.

The panelists pointed out that, while the teaching and course loads are heavy in two-year colleges, these are not more burdensome than in many four-year colleges. However, more two-year college faculty are asked to teach in more than one discipline. Faculty who have administrative responsibilities have a reduced teaching load. Faculty need to expect and be comfortable with institutional flexibility in developing courses and programs. The pay scale in many two-year college systems is equal to or ahead of that for neighboring four-year institutions, and there are attractive arrangements for sabbaticals. There can be time to do research, and, often, computer facilities and access to library data collections are excellent.

On the crucial subject of the availability of faculty positions in community colleges, the panelists' messages were mixed. There are jobs, due to retirements and to growth in the higher education sector. But, as is the pattern in four-year colleges and universities, some positions are being filled with part-time, adjunct faculty. The panelists advised political scientists seeking employment to accept positions as adjunct faculty. Doing a good job and teaching successfully are an opportunity to get an inside track when a permanent position opens up.

It may not be easy to learn about community college job opportunities. Institutions that advertise nationally do so most often in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Many institutions contact local/regional universities when there is a need for part-time or adjunct faculty. And, many institutions hire local lawyers or community leaders to teach some political science courses. The market, the pay scale, and the department/division curriculum in political science will vary state by state. Job candidates are advised to contact community colleges about openings, to be willing to start out in part-time positions, and to develop their teaching skills and experience.

The APSA will continue to organize sessions about and for community college faculty at the Annual Meeting. There will be an open meeting for community college faculty and for graduate students interested in teaching in community colleges on Saturday, August 31, at the 1996 Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

References

Faculty and Instructional Staff: Who Are They and What Do They Do? 1993 National Study of Post Secondary Faculty. 1994. Washington: Department of Education.

Committee Update

The roster of APSA Committees and their chairs printed in the September 1995 *PS* on page 553 inadvertently omitted the listing for two APSA standing committees: the Committee on the Status of Lesbians and Gays in the Profession, and its chair, Mark Blasius, CUNY-LaGuardia, 718-482-5795; and the Organized Sections Committee, chaired by Barbara Romzek, 913-864-3257, romzek@weber.ucsd.edu.

The chair of the Committee on the Status of Lesbians and Gays in the Profession beginning in 1996 is Harry Hirsch, University of California at San Diego, 619-534-2897, hhirsch@weber.ucsd.edu. Barbara Romzek continues as chair of the Organized Sections Committee.

Section News

Computers and Multimedia

The Computers and Multimedia Section seeks nominations for its 1996 competition for Best Software. Interested persons should submit the following: 1) A statement of the intended uses of the program; 2) a 3.5 diskette containing the software with written operating instructions (DOS or Mac); 3) Author

Addition

On page 756 of the December issue of *PS* it was noted that the round table "The End of Liberalism" was the best attended panel of the 1995 Annual Meeting. William A. Galston, University of Maryland, was a member of that panel and his name was inadvertently not included among the participants.

contact information. One copy of each should go to the judges: Carl Grafton, Department of Political Science, Auburn University at Montgomery, Montgomery, AL 36117 and Morton Sipress, Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004.

Entries must be received by May 1, 1996 and will be judged on the criteria of substance, technical quality, utility, and effectiveness. Awards (if both instructional and research categories) will be made, if merited, at the 1996 APSA convention in San Francisco. Questions or comments should be directed to David Martin, President, Section on Computers and Multimedia, at martidl@mail.auburn.edu.

Foundations of Political Thought

The Foundations of Political Thought Organized Section awarded its 1995 First Book Prize to William Scheuerman, University of Pittsburgh for his book, *Between the Norm and Exception: The Frankfurt School and the Rule of Law* (MIT Press). The award

Philip Klinkner, winner of the Political Organizations and Parties 1995 Emerging Scholar Award, was incorrectly listed in the December 1995 issue of *PS: Political Science and Politics* as being affiliated with Loyola Marymount University. He is a faculty member of Hamilton College.

was presented at the 1995 annual meeting.

Section Update

The following listing for Section 29 updates the officers and shows the section's new title of **Undergraduate Education**.

Section 29: Undergraduate Education

The purpose of this section is to promote and improve the quality and use of experience-based techniques such as internships, service learning, simulations, and international travel in teaching political science.

Chair: Glen Halva-Neubauer, Dept of Political Science, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Green-

ville, SC 29613-0468; phone (803) 294-3282, e-mail: halva-neubauer-glenfurman@furman.edu.

Vice-Chair: Norman Provizer, Dept of Political Science, Metropolitan State College, Campus Box 43, P.O. Box 173362, Denver, CO 80217; phone (303) 556-3220, e-mail: provizen@mscd.edu.

Secretary/Treasurer: Don Racheter, Dept of Political Science, Central College of Iowa, Pella, IA 50219; phone (515) 628-5259, e-mail: racheterd@central.edu.

Program Organizer: Sally Mitchell Edwards, Dept of Political Science, University of Louisville, Ford Hall, Louisville, KY 40292; phone: (502) 852-3313, e-mail: smedwa02-@ulkyvxx.louisville.edu.

Council: Mary E. Carroll, San Jose State University; Sally Mitchell Edwards, U of Louisville; Lynda McCann Gillman, Charles Walcott, Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

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