

Appendix: APSA Data Sources Used in the Report

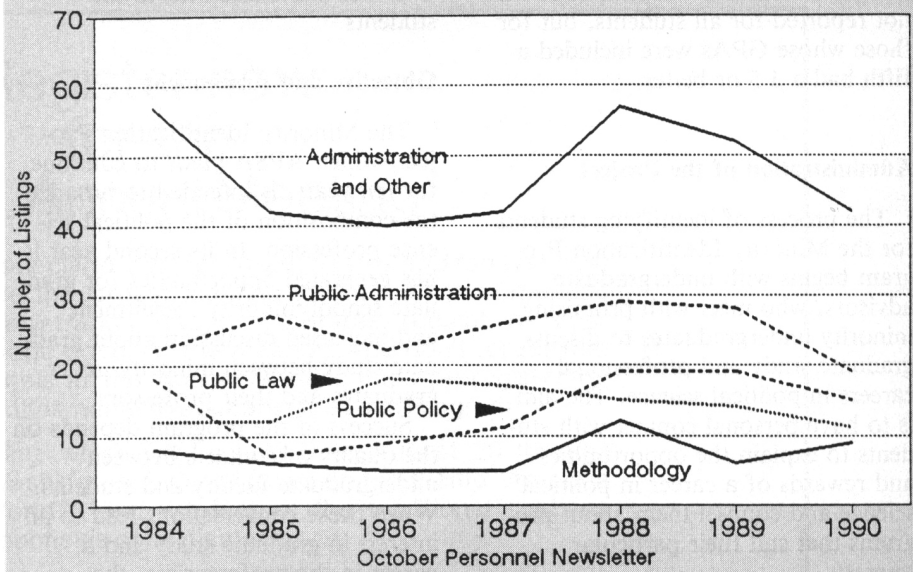
Departmental Survey. Departmental survey data are taken from the annual *Survey of Departments* completed by political science department chairs and compiled by APSA. This survey is mailed to all 1,300 political science department chairs offering political science in four-year colleges and universities in the United States. Overall response rates are typically about 54%. However, institutions of different sizes report at different rates, with many more surveys returned from graduate institutions than undergraduate.

Data from the Departmental Surveys used in this report have been weighted to reflect the universe of 1,300 departments. Responses from different subsets of institutions have been weighted differently to reflect the response rates for different schools. For example, for 1989-90, response rates for Ph.D. programs were 87%; for Masters programs, 90%; for undergraduate programs, 55%; and for undergraduate social science and combined departments, 33%. (These rates, incidentally, correct numbers reported on page 41 of the 1989-90 survey for undergraduate and combined departments.)

Personnel Service Newsletter. For purposes of this report, the October editions of the *APSA Personnel Service Newsletter* were used to gauge hiring trends. The October listings include carry-over listings from September as well as most new fall listings. September, November, and December issues showed similar patterns.

Graduate Student Survey. Each year, APSA collects information on graduate students and faculty from departments of political science. These are listed for each department in the annual report *Graduate Students and Faculty in Political Science Ph.D. and M.A. Programs*. Totals used in this report were weighted to adjust for missing data, and thus will differ from the tallies in the published results of the survey. Data not collected for 1983 was interpolated.

FIGURE 7. Political Science Fields Personnel Newsletter Listings by Year



References

APSA. Various years. *Graduate Students and Faculty in Political Science, Ph.D. and M.A. Programs*.
 APSA. October edition, various years. *Personnel Service Newsletter*.
 APSA. Various years. *Survey of Departments*.
 Bowen, William G. and Julie Ann Sosa. 1989. *Prospects for Faculty in the Arts and Sciences*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
 Mann, Sheilah. 1990. "Finding Jobs: Placement of Political Scientists, 1988." *PS: Political Science & Politics* XXIII (3): 495-99.

Minority Identification Project

Shelley Sallee, American Political Science Association

Participation in APSA's Minority Identification Project increased dramatically this fall. Political science faculty from 56 schools identified 482 promising minority undergraduates who are potential candidates for doctoral programs in political science. Last year the project identified 144 minority students interested in graduate study.

The increase in students identified this year is attributed to earlier and more active promoting of the program by undergraduate faculty and to participation by many more undergraduate and graduate pro-

grams. This year 26 graduate and 30 undergraduate schools have referred students for the project.

Development of the Project

APSA instituted the Minority Identification Project in 1989 under the leadership of Robert Keohane of Harvard University. The increased job opportunities for political scientists expected in the next decade provide an opportune time to increase the numbers of minorities entering political science programs now. Information about each of these students has been provided to leading graduate schools who actively recruit the students and make extra efforts to provide financial aid to those accepted to their programs.

The Minority Identification Project augments other efforts already underway through APSA. The Ralph Bunche Summer Institute and the Graduate Fellowship Program both aim in part at recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students in graduate programs.

Composition of Student Pool

This year's pool of identified students is ethnically diverse. Forty-six percent of the students are African Americans, 2% American Indians, 13% Asian Americans, 35% Latinos,

and 3% were from other ethnic groups. The pool is relatively balanced by gender. Forty-three percent of the students are women. GPA was not reported for all students, but for those whose GPAs were included a fifth had a 3.5 or better.

Administration of the Project

The process of identifying students for the Minority Identification Program begins with undergraduate advisors, who meet with promising minority undergraduates to discuss graduate study and professional careers in political science. The aim is to have personal contact with students to explain the opportunities and rewards of a career in political science and counsel them about programs that suit their particular interests.

After these meetings, the schools send names of students who indicate interest in participating in the Minority Identification Project to APSA. APSA in turn compiles a report on the students including their addresses, school, year of graduation, gender, ethnicity, GPA, and any additional information submitted about the student. This report, accompanied with mailing labels and, if requested, a floppy disk with the student data, is then sent to all participating graduate schools. (Only graduate schools who refer students from their undergraduate programs receive the student list.) Graduate schools then contact the students following their own recruiting practices.

Participating graduate schools also supply brochures about their graduate programs, which APSA collates and distributes to undergraduate advisors in the participating schools. The package of brochures is intended to be a resource for their department libraries and a tool for interesting minority students in graduate study.

Each student receives a letter from APSA to encourage them to consider graduate study and to let them know that the participating graduate schools have agreed to make extra efforts to provide funding to the minority students accepted to their programs. A copy of the APSA pamphlet, "Earning a Ph.D. in Political Science," which outlines

admission procedures, how to choose a graduate program that matches students' interests, and where to seek financial aid is also sent to the students.

Objective and Assessment

The Minority Identification Project, which APSA plans to continue for ten years, is intended to broaden the composition of the political science profession. In its second year it has generated opportunities for graduate school minority recruitment and increased discussion about graduate study between minority undergraduates and their professors.

Success of the program depends on the quality of contacts between undergraduate faculty and students. When those conversations lead to an interest in graduate study and a career in the professoriate, the Minority Identification Project will assure that every opportunity exists to start a promising graduate career. All undergraduate programs are invited to submit names of promising students.

In the spring APSA will mail surveys to all of the students asking them to assess the project and report their decisions about graduate school. In addition, participating institutions will evaluate their own involvement in the program.

Section News

Law, Courts and Judicial Process Section

The Committee on the Pritchett Prize announced in the last issue of *PS* is composed of David O'Brien, University of Virginia, Chair; Sheldon Goldman, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Priscilla Machado, U.S. Naval Academy. The committee solicits nominations for the best book in the last two years by a political scientist working in the field of law, courts and judicial process.

Political Communication Section

The Political Communication Section of the APSA announces a new award to be given at the 1991 APSA annual meeting for an outstanding

paper in political communication.

The award will be made each year for the best paper in political communication delivered at the previous year's APSA annual meeting. It will be called the Ithiel de Sola Pool Award in Political Communication.

Russell Neuman from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will chair the nominating committee for 1991. Rod Hart from the University of Texas at Austin, and Susan Evans from the University of Southern California will also serve on this year's committee.

Now in its second year of existence, the Political Communication Section elected a new slate of officers. Doris Graber of the University of Illinois, Chicago, will chair the section. Other officers include Marion Just, vice-chair and chair-elect, from Wellesley College; Ann Crigler, secretary-treasurer, from the University of Southern California; Bob Boynton, Program Chair, from the University of Iowa; Ellen Mickiewicz, Chair of Nominations, from Emory University; and Robert Entman from Northwestern and David Paletz from Duke University, Members-at-Large.

The section publishes *Political Communication Report* three times annually. Each issue features original articles by political communication scholars, ranging across the broad spectrum of interests encompassed by the sub-field. In addition, the report includes recurrent feature articles on programs and curricula that focus on political communication. To enhance inquiry into political communication phenomena, the report also provides information about funding sources, projected and ongoing research, scholarly conferences, and similar matters. Currently a committee chaired by Bob Boynton from the University of Iowa and Jerry Mannheim from George Washington University is considering ways to create new publishing opportunities for political communication research.

The section invites scholars interested in the sub-field of political communication to join.

Political Organizations and Parties Section

The Political Organizations and Parties Section recently elected its