

## Editor's Note

For a journal such as this one, a change in editors presents an opportunity to reflect on where the journal has been, and where it is going. With respect to the former, it is no conceit to say that *Political Analysis* has been a singular success. Four years ago, *Political Analysis* had just been added to the Social Science Citation Index; by 2005, the journal's ranking on that index placed it among the top 20 journals in our discipline. The journal now boasts more than 100 institutional subscriptions, and well over 1,000 organizations receive *Political Analysis* through consortia. Online usage surpassed 40,000 downloads in 2007, and is growing rapidly. Clearly, and by any measure, *Political Analysis* has in its relatively short history risen to become a leading political science journal.

From my own perspective, the future of *Political Analysis* is equally clear. Upon assuming the editorship four years ago, my predecessor Bob Erikson stated that "(T)his change of editors portends no change of mission for *Political Analysis*. We do not plan to tamper with success." I could not have said it better myself, so I won't attempt to do so. My goal for the journal is simple: that it remain the premier scholarly outlet for the publication of research in political methodology, broadly defined.

To that end, I have retained many of Bob's innovations, most important among them being the recruitment of three associate editors: Wendy Tam Cho of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Robert Franzese of the University of Michigan, and Andrew Martin of Washington University—St. Louis. These associate editors will assist me with the management of the journal, and I will rely on their expertise to complement my own (where the latter exists) in making editorial decisions. As is customary, there have also been some changes to the editorial board. These individuals are often called upon for manuscript reviews and for informal advice on specific topics.

But the most important contributor to the success of *Political Analysis* is, as it has always been, the community of scholars engaged in the development and application of political methodology. The ongoing commitment of the journal's authors, reviewers, and readers is the foundation of its rise in quality and reputation. In the spirit of fostering that commitment, I offer "Seven Things You Can Do For *Political Analysis*."

1. Submit your best work to *Political Analysis*.
2. Agree to review *Political Analysis* manuscripts sent to you, and do so in a timely fashion.
3. Assign *Political Analysis* articles in your classes, when appropriate.
4. If and when you do #3, link to *Political Analysis*'s web content at Oxford University Press for those courses, rather than keeping electronic copies of articles on local servers.
5. Cite work published in *Political Analysis* if and whenever appropriate.
6. If it does not already do so, convince your institution's library to subscribe to *Political Analysis*.
7. Likewise, prevail upon your colleagues to subscribe to *Political Analysis* if they do not.

Finally, I wish to offer some thanks. The Publications Committee of the Society for Political Methodology thought well enough of me to select me for the editorship. The University of South Carolina provided support for the journal during the last six months of 2007, and Pennsylvania State University will do so for the remainder of my editorship. Bob Erikson has been a patient tutor and a model for how to run this (or any) journal, and the previous editors of *Political Analysis*—Neal Beck, Walter Mebane, John Freeman, and Jim Stimson—have also freely and generously offered valuable advice.

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