

Representatives of State Political Science Associations Meet in Boston

Ralph Baker (GA), Richard Brisbin Jr. (WV), Carl Grafton (AL), Kenneth Holland (TN), James Jordan (OH), Herbert Kritzer (WI), Elaine Martin (MI), Larry Pippin (N. CA), Don Racheter (IA), and Ed Schwerin (FL) gathered on September 4, 1998, at the annual APSA-sponsored luncheon for state political science associations. They were joined by APSA President-Elect Matthew Holden Jr., APSA Deputy Director Robert Hauck, APSA staff associate Jun Yin, and Alan Rosenthal of Rutgers University.

They met to discuss the importance of civic education and how their organizations could foster such efforts. As the invited guest, Alan Rosenthal shared his ideas on civic education and detailed the activities of APSA's Task Force on Civic Education for the Next Century. Believing that state legislators should take responsibility for civic education, Rosenthal has been working with and lobbying individuals and groups to improve the functioning of representative democracy. Jun Yin introduced the state association representatives to the civic education resources available on the APSA web site (www.apsanet.org/CENnet/) and invited them to subscribe to the email discussion list on civic education administered by Sheilah Mann with the assistance of Polly Leonard.

Other items discussed at the luncheon included the Pi Sigma Alpha Programs for Regional and State Political Science Associations, APSA's Centennial Campaign, PROceedings, *PSonline*, the planned career video for undergraduate political science majors, and the email discussion list for presidents of state political science associations. APSA President-Elect Matthew Holden Jr. talked about his plans for the 1999 APSA Annual Meeting.

The luncheon for the leaders of state political science associations is held every Friday at noon during the APSA Annual Meeting. The purpose is to promote communication

JPSA Representatives Participate in 1998 Meeting

Continuing its annual exchange with the Japan Political Science Association, the APSA hosted five members of the JPSA at the recent Annual Meeting in Boston. Sadafumi Kawato of the University of Tohoku, Yoshie Kawade of Tokyo Metropolitan University, and Hideo Otake of the University of Kyoto each presented papers under the auspices of the exchange program. Otake serves as chair of the JPSA Exchange Committee. Additionally, Yutaka Tsujinaka of the University of Tsukuba and Aiji Tanaka of Waseda University attended the meeting as JPSA representatives.

In early October, Martin P. Wattenberg, University of California, Irvine, and Richard Katz, Johns Hopkins University, traveled to Kyoto at the invitation of the JPSA as APSA representatives to the Japanese annual meeting. Both scholars participated on a special panel that included scholars from the JPSA/European Consortium for Political Research exchange program. At the meeting, JPSA celebrated its 50th anniversary which featured a special plenary address by International Political Science Association President and former APSA President Theodore Lowi of Cornell University.

Since 1990 the APSA and JPSA have exchanged delegations to their respective annual meetings, helping enhance the exchange of research and methods, and bridge the distance between colleagues.

Collaboration between APSA and PSA: Breaking New Ground

With the cooperation and assistance of the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom (PSA), the 16th edition of APSA's *Graduate Faculty and Programs in Political Science*, published in May 1998, features, for the first time, faculty listings, program descriptions, admission and degree requirements, and descriptions of available financial aid of 23 major British graduate programs in political science, in addition to U.S. and Canadian programs. On the heels of this initial project, the two associations have planned a series of exchanges and joint activities for 1998-2000.

The first official exchange concluded successfully with the participation of University of Rochester professor Richard Niemi at the annual conference of the Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties (EPOP) Section of the PSA in September 1998. APSA President Matthew Molden will also address the upcoming PSA Annual Conference in Nottingham to be held in March 1999. Virginia Saprio of the University of Wisconsin, Madison addressed the 1998 convention.

In planning for the 1999 APSA Annual Meeting is a joint APSA/PSA roundtable on citizenship, "Rogers M. Smith's 'Civic Ideals: Perspectives of U.S. and UK Scholars.'" Organized by PSA Executive Committee member Peter John, invitations have been accepted by Rogers Smith of APSA and Desmond King of PSA. Additionally, at its recent meeting in Boston, representatives from both associations agreed to explore the possibility of organizing two or three joint panels/roundtables at the 2000 PSA Annual Conference, focusing on civic education and the state of the discipline, the themes of the conference. The 2000 meeting will mark the PSA's 50th anniversary.

and coordination among state associations and between state associations and the APSA. All presidents and vice presidents of state political science associations are cordially invited.

Bunche Poster Session at the Annual Meeting in Boston

Nine Ralph Bunche Summer Institute participants presented posters

at APSA's 1998 Annual Meeting in Boston. Fifteen outstanding undergraduate students are chosen to participate in the Bunche Institute every year and, of these, several are chosen to present their research at the APSA Annual Meeting. Below is the list of the students, their affiliations, and poster topics.

Gloria Anglón, Providence College: "Black Women and Feminism"

Ray Block, Howard University: "The Puzzle of Black Political Participation: An Analysis of the Effects of Alienation, Income, and Political Efficacy on Black Community Activism"

Doris Clark, Central Arkansas University: "The Traditionalists vs. Modernists"

Katrina Gamble, Smith College: "Strengthening the Black Vote: Responsiveness and Representation"

Andra Gillespie, University of Virginia: "The Effects of Income on Blacks' Cultural Connections: Perceptions of Racism, Group Consciousness, and Policy Preference"

Elizabeth Green, Texas A&M University: "Education and Its Effect on the Progressive Role of Women in the Black Community"

Monique Lyle, Michigan State University: "The Relationship Between Blacks' Perceptions of Racism and Support for Black Nationalism"

Aisha Raj, Pepperdine University: "Religiosity Among African Americans: What Really Affects Political Participation in the Community"

Melvin Rogers, Amherst College: "The Effects of Racial Discrimination on the Political Participation of Blacks"

Committee Suggestions Welcomed

APSA welcomes suggestions for individuals interested in serving on APSA standing committees for terms beginning January 1, 2000. Appointments vary from one to three years and include award committees, *PS* Editorial Board, and a host of others. A list of committees and their area of responsibility can be found in the March 1998 issue of *PS*. These positions are held on a volunteer basis. Interested members should make their suggestions by mail to President-Elect Robert Keohane, c/o APSA, 1527 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036-1206 or by email to nominations@apsanet.org.

In addition to presenting their research, the students attended several panels and many receptions sponsored by political science departments. At the reception hosted by the Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession, the students were applauded for their exceptional presentations and acknowledged for their achievements at the Bunche Institute held earlier in the summer at the University of Virginia. Two students, Katrina Gamble and Elizabeth Green, spoke on behalf of Professor Steven Finkel, who received an award for his outstanding leadership of the Bunche Institute at UVA.

While at UVA, the Ralph Bunche students are introduced to the world of graduate study and encouraged to apply to Ph.D. programs in political science. Students take two graduate-level courses for credit, one in quantitative analysis and another on race and American politics and attend guest lectures. They also meet recruiters from Ph.D. programs and are prepped for GREs by volunteers from the Kaplan Educational Center.

For more information about the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute please contact, Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, APSA, 1527 New Hampshire Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036-1206; (202) 483-2512; bunche@apsanet.org.

Survey of APSA Minority Identification Project Students

Jun Yin, *American Political Science Association*

A survey of students who participated in the Association's Minority Identification Project in 1997 was

conducted in April 1998. The purpose of the survey was to assess the effectiveness of the project and to seek suggestions and comments from the students on how the graduate application and admission processes might be improved and how the Association might interest more minority students in pursuing careers in political science.

The survey was sent to all 228 students identified by the Project in 1997. By August 21, 35 completed surveys were returned. The response rate was 15%. Due to the low response rate, the summary findings in this report are suggestive rather than definitive. Highlights of the findings follow.

- The project continued to involve the students early in their undergraduate years. Nine percent of the students identified by the Project in 1997 were freshmen and 29% were sophomores.
- Twenty-nine percent of the students who responded to the survey reported meeting individually with a faculty member to discuss graduate schools and careers in political science. Fifty-four percent of the students reported having such discussions during group meetings held by their departments.
- The students who responded to the survey have been contacted by an average of 16 graduate schools, reporting a range of four to 50 schools. By comparison, the 1996 MID students were contacted by an average of 11 schools.
- Fourteen percent of the respondents have applied to graduate schools in political science. Among those who graduated before the summer of 1998, 24% have applied. These percentages are comparable to their counterparts in the survey conducted last year.
- This year, we specifically asked those who had not applied to graduate school in political science their reasons for not applying (respondents could check multiple reasons): 27% said it was still too early but they would apply later; 37% said they still had not decided whether to pursue gradu-