

Announcements

1997 Johan Skytte Prize

Members of the profession are invited to nominate candidates for the 1997 Johan Skytte Prize in Political Science. Awarded each year by the Johan Skytte Foundation of Uppsala University, Sweden, the award carries a cash prize of 350,000 Swedish crowns. Nominations, including a short motivation, should be sent no later than November 30, 1996 to Leif Lewin, Department of Government, Skytteanum, Box 514, 751 20 Uppsala, Sweden.

Best Dissertation on the Presidency Prize

The Center for Presidential Studies in the George Bush School of Government and Public Service announces a national competition for the best dissertation on the American presidency. The competition is open to scholars in any field, including but not limited to political science, history, sociology, speech communication, law, and psychology, and dissertations may focus on any aspect of the presidency. Nominations may be made by chairs of dissertation committees or other faculty members. Winners will be selected by a committee of nationally prominent scholars.

The winners will receive a \$1,000 award and expenses to present their work at Texas A&M University. The prize also carries with it the opportunity for an advance contract (contingent on positive peer review of a revised manuscript) with Texas A&M University Press for publication in the Joseph V. Hughes Jr. and Holly Oldfield Hughes Series in the Presidency and Leadership Studies, under the general editorship of James P. Pfiffner.

Nominations for the prize should include three copies of the dissertation and a cover letter. They should be sent to George C. Edwards III, Director, The Center for Presidential Studies, George Bush School of Government and Public Service, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843. Dissertations accepted for degree completion in 1995 and 1996 are eligible. The deadline for nominations is February 15, 1997. For additional information see our web site at www-polisci.tamu.edu/cps/.

Parliamentary Documents Center for Central Europe

The new Parliamentary Documents Center for Central Europe will collect essential documents from the new democratic parliaments of Central Europe.

A joint project of University of North Carolina at Greensboro and East Carolina University, the Center will collect initially two types of working parliamentary documents: Membership Directories and Sessional Summary Reports. We will include the first democratic decade of Central Europe, beginning with the parliaments initially elected in the 1989–91 period.

Parliamentary documents will be available to interested scholars, students, and others. Internet connections will make the collection available throughout the world, and requests for materials via fax, photocopying and personal visits are welcome.

Persons who wish to provide or use documents, or who have suggestions for parliamentary and democratization research, are invited to contact the project directors:

David M. Olson
William E. Crowther
Brian Lewis, Administrator
Dept. Political Science
237 Graham Building
University of North Carolina—
Greensboro
Greensboro, NC 27412-5001

E-mail: parldoc@uncg.edu
crowther@iris.uncg.edu
olsondm@iris.uncg.edu

or

Maurice D. Simon
Dept. Political Science
East Carolina University
Greenville, NC 27858

E-mail: insimon@ecuvms.cis.ecu.edu.

Marta Lange/CQ Award

This annual award recognizes an academic or law librarian who, through research, other creative activity, or service to the profession, makes distinguished contributions to bibliography and information service in law or political science. This award honors Marta

Lange, 1990/91 ACRL Law and Political Science Section (LPSS) Chair, whose exceptional talents as a leader were enhanced by her wonderful collegial spirit. Her bright career, cut short by a fatal automobile accident in 1992, was an inspiration to others and a model of professional service.

Award: \$1,000 and a plaque donated by Congressional Quarterly, Inc. The jury is the LPSS Marta Lange/CQ Award Committee.

Criteria: Nominees should have achieved distinction in one or more of the following areas:

1. Planning and implementing a model bibliography/information services program in a law or political science library.

2. History of contributions to the field through research, publications and other activities displaying active participation in the advancement of law/political science librarianship.

3. Service to the profession through ACRL or related regional and national organizations.

4. Promotion or development of an education program for law and political science librarianship that has served as a model for other courses and programs.

Submission Procedure: Nominations should include: 1) a letter of nomination including your name, address and phone number as well as the name and address of the nominee; 2) narrative supporting the nomination; and 3) a current vita.

Please note that membership in the Law and Political Science Section (LPSS) or the American Library Association (ALA) is not required.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others. Send 5 copies to the LPSS Marta Lange/CQ Award Committee Chair: Ronald Heckart, IGS Library, 109 Moses Hall #2370, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720-2370. If you have any questions, contact Ronald Heckart at (510) 653-6445 or rheckart@library.berkeley.edu. Deadline: December 1, 1996.

The NES Guide to Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior

The *National Election Studies Guide to Public Opinion and Electoral Behavior* is now available free, online via the

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NES World Wide Web site: <http://www.umich.edu/~nes>. The *Guide* provides students, educators, social scientists, journalists, policymakers, and others with immediate access to tables and graphs that display the ebb and flow of public opinion and electoral choice in American politics since 1952.

Visitors to this web site can display responses to more than 100 questions asked of representative samples of the American electorate as part of the National Election Studies conducted over the last five decades. Topics include:

- Social and religious characteristics of the electorate (such as age, race, gender, education, and religion)
- Partisanship and evaluation of the political parties
- Ideological self-identification
- Public opinion on public policy issues (such as health care, affirmative action, abortion, military spending, and evaluations of the economy)
- Support for the political system (such as trust in government and government responsiveness)
- Political involvement and participation in politics (such as voter turnout, campaign contributions and other activities, attention to the campaign in the media, and interest in politics)
- Evaluation of the presidential candidates
- Evaluation of the congressional candidates
- Vote choice (for president, for the U.S. House of Representatives, and split-ticket voting)

Information in the *Guide* also can be broken out separately for sub-groups of the electorate (age, gender, race, education, income, occupation, union/non-union household, region, partisanship, and ideology). In addition, tables and graphs, which are in the public domain and can be freely redistributed, may be printed and/or downloaded to the user's desktop.

For more information, visit the NES Web site (<http://www.umich.edu/~nes>) or contact the NES Project Staff at nes@umich.edu or (313) 764-5494. The NES is a U.S. National Science Foundation-designated national resource for the social sciences, and is located in the Center for Political Studies at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

INTERNATIONAL IDEA INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance is an international organization that works for the promotion and advancement of sustainable democracy world-wide and within this context improvement and consolidation of electoral processes.

International IDEA was founded in 1995 by the governments of Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, India, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and Sweden.

The Institute is to include as members, on a basis of equality, governments, inter-governmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations, establishing a new pattern of international co-operation. The Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (Costa Rica) and Parliamentarians for Global Action (New York) have recently become members.

A programme was approved by the Council in November 1995 and focuses initially on four main areas of work:

- *Developing Rules and Guidelines* – assist in the development of rules and guidelines for normative democratic practice and electoral processes;
- *Capacity-Building* – provide advice and assistance to enhance local capacity for democratic development and culture, and for the management and monitoring of elections;
- *Applying Research and Learning from Practice* – serve as a bridge between academia and practitioners in making research findings accessible, in identifying at an early stage bottlenecks that would benefit from applied research, and in developing methodology for the promotion of democracy;
- *Information services* – the creation of a databank, harvesting of experience on good practices, and making the information available to those working on the promotion of democracy and free elections.

DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION EXPERTS ROSTER

THE ROSTER:

The Institute is building up a small professional staff, and will rely extensively on external experts for many of its future activities.

International IDEA is in the process to build up a Roster of Experts for use in its activities, and plans to make available on request names of experts on the Roster to other international or national organizations operating in the democracy and electoral assistance field.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The Roster will be composed of experts with senior professional practice (over 8 years experience) in the fields of democracy and/or electoral assistance and experts with limited experience.

Experts would normally have an academic qualification in political, social or economic sciences, or in international law, international relations or related studies.

They would have acquired substantial expertise in one or more of the following fields: the architecture of democracy, the constitutional foundations of democracy, the institutional structures of democracy (legislature, executive, judiciary, party system), the electoral process, information and media in democracy, and civic culture and civil society.

Persons with specific country or regional experience relevant to democratic development are also invited to register.

As one of the primary aims of IDEA is to build bridges between the academic community and practitioners, both scholars and persons with applied experience and skills are encouraged to respond.

HOW TO REGISTER:

Interested professionals are requested to send a CV written in English, highlighting qualifications, experience and skills, areas of specific interest and names of references. Respondents may wish to attach to their applications relevant articles, reports or books on democracy/electoral issues that they have authored.

Applications and/or requests for background information on the Institute can be sent by mail to International IDEA, 103 34 Stockholm, Sweden, or be faxed to +46 8 202422, or sent via e-mail to roster@int-idea.se.