

Participation by Women in the 1999 APSA Annual Meeting

Martin Gruberg, *University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh*

This is the twenty-eighth year I have been monitoring participation by women at our Annual Meeting. It is also the thirtieth anniversary of the Women's Caucus for Political Science. These *PS* reports have documented the ascent of women in our profession. While there are signs that women have continued to move ahead in their participation, the picture is mixed. The best year for female chairpersons was 1994. Since then, there has been some slippage. The most successful year regarding the ratio of female-to-male papergivers was 1996, though 1998 and 1999 had the most women papergivers to date. Nineteen ninety-three saw the apex for female discussants, though 1998 had the most female discussants.

Chairpersons

Year	Total	Women	Percentage
1971	154	12	7.8
1981	137	16	11.7
1991	439	107	24.4
1992	463	106	22.9
1993	452	115	25.4
1994	509	164	32.2
1995	480	134	27.9
1996	517	136	26.3
1997	503	143	28.4
1998	521	115	22.1
1999	637	161	25.3

Papergivers

Year	Total	Women	Percentage
1971	552	43	7.8
1981	520	98	18.8
1991	1940	512	26.4
1992	1986	445	22.5
1993	2053	525	25.6
1994	2200	576	26.2
1995	2160	598	27.7
1996	2414	781	32.4
1997	2419	669	27.7
1998	2825	811	28.7
1999	2809	789	28.1

Discussants

Year	Total	Women	Percentage
1971	184	13	7.1
1981	161	28	17.4
1991	455	120	26.4
1992	568	118	20.8
1993	521	152	29.2
1994	594	157	26.4
1995	583	157	26.9
1996	574	142	24.7
1997	575	161	28.0
1998	708	183	25.8
1999	630	171	27.1

As I've noted previously, where women head divisions or panels, there is a greater likelihood of other women being selected for program contributions. This year, a female co-chaired the Program Committee. In 1999, 21 of the 49 division chairs were women (42.9%) (cf., 1995: 38.8%; 1996: 30.06%; 1997: 37.3%; 1998: 36.2%). The divisions they headed had women as 29.1% (88 of 302) of the panel chairs, 29.6% (406 of 1370) of the papergivers, and 28.4% (92 of 324) of the discussants (cf., 1995: 30.7%, 34.2%, 31.0%; 1996: 26.1%, 35.1%, 29.8%; 1997: 35.4%, 32.1%, 31.4%; 1998: 31.8%, 38.8%, 36.7%).

The divisions led by women had 54.7% of the convention's female panel chairs, 51.5% of the papergivers, and 53.8% of its discussants (cf. 1995: 44.0%, 48.0%, 42.0%; 1996: 40.4%, 48.1%, 50.7%; 1997: 60.1%, 54.0%, 53.4%; 1998: 59.1%, 51.0%, 49.7%). Women-chaired panels had 38.7% female paper givers and 45.3% female discussants (cf., 1995: 41.0%, 42.5%; 1996: 38.7%, 33.9%; 1997: 37.7%, 43.0%; 1999: 41.1%, 49.4%). These constituted 35.6% of the women giving papers at the 1999 meeting and 45.6% of the women serving as discussants (cf., 1995: 48%, 43.3%; 1996: 30.9%, 30.3%; 1997: 38.0%, 40.4%; 1999: 33.8%, 43.7%).

The divisions with the strongest female representation were those on Foundations of Political Theory,* Normative Political Theory, Political Psychology, Comparative Politics,* State Politics and Policy,* Urban Politics; Women and Politics,* Race, Ethnicity and Politics,* and Political Communication.

The divisions with the weakest female representation in 1999 were those on Political Science and the World of Politics and Policy,* Formal Political Theory, Politics and Society in Western Europe, International Collaboration, International Security and Arms Control, Domestic Sources of Foreign Policy/ Foreign Policy Analysis, Conflict Processes,* Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence, Religion and Politics, Representation and Electoral Systems,* Elections and Voting Behavior,* Computers and Multimedia, and Ecological and Transformational Politics.*

Among the predominantly female panels (omitting the panels in Women and Politics) were those on Commodities and Enchantment; Sexual Violence and Political Legitimation; Gender Politics: Punishment, Tolerance, Care, Voice; Feminist Ethics and Political Theory; The Political Psychology of Scandals;

Citizenship and the Political Construction of American Identity; Feminist Methodology in Political Science; Public Policy and Women's Choices; Crossing Borders: Women as Migrants and Refugees; Courts, Citizens, Interest Groups, and Direct Democracy in the States; and Feminist Voices.

Panels lopsidedly "stag" included Enlightenment Political Science; Political Theory in Practice in the Real World; Thucydides and the Obstacles to Realism; Civilization, Statesmanship and the Scottish Enlightenment; Juries and Polls; Emerging Political Institutions; Roundtable on "Mr. President, If You Had Read My Book . . ."; Social Scientists in the Public World; Citizenship and the Political Construction of American Identity; Distance Learning Ventures; What Have We Learned about Democratic Consolidation?; Business Associations and the State in the Developing World; Thucydides on International Security after the Cold War; The Political Economy of Standards Setting in Integrated Markets; Innovation, Organizations, Beliefs and the Offensive-Defensive Balance; India, Nuclear Weapons, and World Order; Is Anyone Still a Realist?; Explaining Conflict; Recent Research on Power Transition Theory; Formal Models of Alliance Design; Quantitative Analysis of the Impact of Race, Gender, and Culture on Interstate War; Murder in the Middle of Pacification?; Saving the World One Coefficient at a Time; Political Careers at the Subnational Level from a Comparative Perspective; Presidential Elections; Georgia's HOPE Scholarship; Roundtable on Fifteen Years of Congressional Dominance; Federal Appellate Courts; Constitutional Interpretation; Elephants in Dixie; The Many Sides of Political Influence; Religion and Politics in Liberal Democracies; Religion, Pluralism, and the Social and Political Order; The Comparative Politics of Electoral Administration; Electoral Systems and Strategic Voting; Political Parties in Transition; Presidential Election Politics; The Effect of Competition on Vote Choice and Turnout; When and How to Go Negative; Economic Conditions and Electoral Choice; Political Parties and Democratic Choice; Issues in the Measurement of Attitudes and Behavior; Media as Dependent and Independent Variables in Political/Policy Processes; and Political Information Sources and Processing.

* Chaired by women.