

## International Programs at the 2018 Annual Meeting

### RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT GROUP

APSA is hosting a Research Development Group (RDG) for scholars from the Arab Middle East and North Africa at the 2018 APSA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, August 30–September 2. The RDG is supported by the Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS). On August 29, prior to the official start of the annual meeting, seven PhD students and early-career faculty together will attend an intensive one day seminar to discuss and receive critical feedback on an article-length manuscript in progress. In addition to focused discussions on each paper, the seminar will address strategies and advice for publishing in peer reviewed international journals. Over the next several days, participants will be expected to attend panels of interest and enjoy the Annual Meeting program. APSA and POMEPS will assist participants in developing personalized schedules to promote linkages with different organized sections, related groups, and other scholars. ■

### JAPAN AMERICA WOMEN POLITICAL SCIENTISTS SYMPOSIUM

APSA is pleased to collaborate with the Rosenberg Institute for East Asian Studies at Suffolk University in presenting the 2018 Japan America Women Political Scientists Symposium (JAWS), taking place in conjunction with the 2018 APSA Annual Meeting in Boston, MA, August 30–September 2. JAWS, which was an initiative for promoting scholarly exchanges between Japan and the US and helping increase the representation of women political scientists, as well as add a gender perspective

## 2018 MENA Workshop

APSA will hold two sessions of its 2018 MENA Workshop, titled “The Evolving Role of Political Institutions in the Arab World,” in the upcoming months. The first workshop will be held from September 24–28, 2018 in partnership with the Center for Studies and Research in Social Sciences (CERSS) in Rabat, Morocco. A second workshop will be held from January 28 to February 1, 2019 at the University of Tunis El Manar in Tunisia. A total of 20 fellows and five leaders will meet to discuss theoretical and methodological approaches related to the theme as well offer peer review to the fellows’ manuscripts. Coleaders for the program are Ahmed Jazouli (Independent Scholar, Morocco), Tofigh Maboudi (Loyola University Chicago, US), Asma Noura (University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia), Abdallah Saaf (Mohammed V University, Morocco), and Peter J. Schraeder (Loyola University Chicago, US). The workshop is targeted at PhD students and post-doctoral fellows who are citizens of countries in the Arab Middle East and North Africa.

The 2018 program aims to explore the relationships between formal political institutions and political liberalization in the MENA region. The program adopts a broad interpretation of formal political institutions, including (but not limited to) government agencies, legislative and judicial bodies, political parties and organizations, electoral rules and systems, local government, and constitutions. Participants will explore core questions and theories of formal political institutions as well as the implications of these theories for political representation, channeling citizen interests, government performance, and more broadly, political liberalization. By employing diverse theoretical frameworks and case studies, the workshops aim to illustrate how we can better understand the role and influence of institutions and the prospects of political liberalization, accountability, and representation.

To provide a framework for reflection and investigation relating to these topics, the workshop will also focus on research design and methodology, issues associated with manuscript preparation and publication, and other professional development topics. Workshop sessions will include guest lectures, small seminar discussions, and presentations of participants’ research. Following their participation in the full workshops program, alumni will receive three years’ membership to APSA and will be eligible to apply for small research grants. ■

in the discipline, first began in 2000 at the Women and Politics Institute at American University.

Subsequently, over the past two decades, three iterations of JAWS have each met in the US (2003, 2006, and 2010) and in Japan (2004, 2009, and 2017). Dozens of American and Japanese women scholars have benefited from this network’s activities in the United States and Japan, which has resulted in numerous publications and networking opportunities. The 2018 JAWS will again provide an opportunity to advance current

research towards publication, participate in the APSA annual meeting, and develop new scholarly networks.

Focusing on the theme of “Gender and Democracy,” the program will bring together women who study related issues in Japanese Politics and American Politics at the intersection of gender. Building on the success of past JAWS, this year’s program will include research panels, engagement with local practitioners and/or policymakers, professional development sessions, and numerous networking opportunities. ■