## **Introduction to the Virtual Issue**

## R. Michael Alvarez

Division of Humanities and Social Sciences
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, CA 91125
email: rma@hss.caltech.edu

## Jonathan N. Katz

Division of Humanities and Social Sciences California Institute of Technology Pasadena, CA 91125 email: jkatz@hss.caltech.edu

Beginning in the spring of 2011, *Political Analysis* has published six virtual issues.<sup>1</sup> Each of those virtual issues has focused on an important topic of political methodology: discrete choice, causal inference, Bayesian methods, election fraud, big data, and measurement. Appearing about every six months, these virtual issues have been edited by top scholars in each area. They contain important papers that have been previously published in *Political Analysis*, and thanks to Oxford University Press, the papers in the current virtual issue are available for free downloading.

To celebrate the success of the *Political Analysis* virtual issue series, we take a different approach for this particular virtual issue. Instead of organizing this virtual issue around a particular methodological or substantive topic, the editors of *Political Analysis* have instead selected eight papers, published in the last two years, that we believe are making important contemporary contributions to political methodology. Like previous virtual issues, these papers will be available for free downloading for a limited period.

The papers in this virtual issue are:

- Kai Arzheimer and Jocelyn Evans, "A New Multinomial Accuracy Measure for Polling Bias," *Political Analysis*, Winter 2014, 22(1): 31-44.
- Matthew Blackwell, "A Selection Bias Approach to Sensitivity Analysis for Causal Effects," *Political Analysis*, Spring 2014, 22(2): 169-182.
- Graeme Blair and Kosuke Imai, "Statistical Analysis of List Experiments," *Political Analysis*, Winter 2012, 20(1): 47-77.
- Michael J. Hanmer, Antoine J. Banks and Ismail K. White, "Experiments to Reduce the Over-Reporting of Voting: A Pipeline to the Truth," *Political Analysis*, Winter 2014, 22(1): 130-141.
- Simon Hug, "Qualitative Comparative Analysis: How Inductive Use and Measurement Error Lead to Problematic Inference," *Political Analysis*, Spring 2013, 21(2): 252-265
- Thomas Konig, Moritz Marbach and Moritz Osnabrugge, "Estimating Party Positions across Country and Time A Dynamic Latent Variable Model for Manifesto Data," *Political Analysis*, Autumn 2013, 21(4): 468-491.
- James Lo, Sven-Oliver Proksch and Thomas Gschwend, "A Common Left-Right Scale for Voter and Parties in Europe," *Political Analysis*, Spring 2014, 22(2): 205-223.
- Jacob M. Montgomery and Josh Cutler, "Computerized Adaptive Testing for Public Opinion Surveys," *Political Analysis*, Spring 2013, 21(2): 172-192.

 $<sup>^{1}</sup> The \ six \ previous \ virtual \ issues \ are \ archived \ at \ http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/polana/pavirtualissues.html.$