

**State Politics and Policy**  
**Organized section of the American Political Science Association**

BYLAWS

**Mission Statement:**

The mission of the State Politics and Policy organized section (the Section) of the American Political Science Association (APSA) is to promote, encourage, recognize and facilitate high-quality scholarship and teaching on the states and other sub-national governments in the U.S. and elsewhere.

In support of its mission, the Section pursues and promotes, in principle and practice, the diversity and inclusion of its membership and their scholarship. The Section promotes a culture of diversity and inclusion by encouraging and facilitating involvement and access regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, religion, age, sexual orientation, nationality, disability, appearance, geographic location, professional level or institution type.

**1. Membership**

**1.1** Members of the Section (members) are all those who are current on their annual Section dues. Dues are payable upon renewal of membership in APSA. Section dues include an annual subscription to the journal, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly (SPPQ)*.

**1.2** The major business of the Section will be conducted at its annual business meeting held at the State Politics and Policy Conference. Announcements of these meetings shall be emailed to the section membership and printed in the *State Politics and Policy Newsletter*. Voting on Section business will typically be done by members in person at the annual business meeting, but the Section's Council may authorize electronic voting in situations where waiting until the next annual business meeting would be deemed detrimental.

**1.3** Dues are established as voted upon by the Section membership at the annual business meeting.

**2. Officers**

**2.1** Legislative functions of the Section shall reside with the Section's Council and the annual business meeting. The Council shall consist of:

- President (elected 3-year term)
- Treasurer (elected 3-year term)
- Secretary (elected 3-year term)
- The APSA Program Organizer (appointed annually by the President)
- Five At-Large Council Members (elected 2-year terms)

The terms of the At-Large Council members will be staggered, with two of the five members being elected at each annual meeting. The terms of the President, Treasurer and Secretary will be staggered, with one such officer being elected each year. This staggering is done to increase the continuity of Section leadership and smooth leadership transitions. In the case of a mid-year vacancy in any of these officers (except the President), the President shall appoint an interim officer to serve until the next business meeting, where voting will occur for a person to fill out the rest of the vacating person's term. If the Section presidency is vacated mid-year, the Treasurer shall make the interim appointment.

**2.2** The President and the Council shall act as the Nominating Committee for the Section and shall solicit and make nominations for all elected section officer positions. The Nominating Committee will nominate at least one person for each such office, and, along with any nominations submitted by the Section membership, these will be presented for a vote by section members at the annual business meeting.

### **2.3 President**

The President shall be elected by the members participating in the annual business meeting to serve a three-year term. Duties include presiding at the annual business meeting, calling and chairing meetings of the Council, appointing all section committees, forming new committees as needed, and other activities as the Section shall authorize. The President also serves as liaison with the publisher of *SPPQ* and represents the section in APSA governance. The President is responsible for implementing the policies and programs adopted by the Section.

### **2.4 Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall be elected by the members participating in the annual business meeting to serve a three-year term. Duties include overseeing the Section's finances, presenting regular reports on the Section's finances to the Council, the annual business meeting and for the SPP Newsletter, and other activities as the Section shall authorize. In the course of his/her duties, the Treasurer shall follow all appropriate reporting procedures as outlined in the APSA Handbook for Organized Sections.

### **2.5 Secretary**

The Secretary shall be elected by the members participating in the annual business meeting to serve a three-year term. Duties include recruiting material for, editing, and publishing the *State Politics and Policy Newsletter*, taking minutes at the annual business meeting and Council meetings, and other activities as the Section shall authorize.

### **2.6 APSA Program Organizer**

The APSA Program Organizer shall be appointed to serve a one-year term by the President in consultation with the Council. Duties include preparing the Section's panels at the annual meeting of American Political Science Association.

### **2.7 At-Large Council Members**

Five At-Large Council Members shall be elected by the members participating in the annual business meeting to serve a two-year term each. Terms of these At-Large Council Members will be staggered with the goal of approximately half of them being elected each year.

Duties include attending Council meetings, advising other officers on Section governance, and other activities as the Section shall authorize.

### **3. Programs and Activities**

#### **3.1 State Politics and Policy Conference**

Each year, the Section will sponsor the State Politics and Policy Conference (SPPC). A committee appointed by the President will solicit and vet proposals to host the SPPC, and, in consultation with the President, determine the host for a given year's SPPC. A given year's committee may determine the SPPC host for multiple years into the future, as the number and quality of the proposals warrant. The committee will be composed of senior scholars, members of the Council and/or former SPPC hosts. The Section shall help in the coordination and continuity of this series of important events. The Section may provide financial support to the SPPC hosts.

#### **3.2 Political Science Conference Participation**

The Section may establish panels, workshops, symposia, or social gatherings at the Annual Meeting of APSA or at the meeting of any of the major regional political science associations, as the President and Council see fit. The APSA Program Organizer shall develop and implement such programs for the APSA meetings.

#### **3.3 *State Politics and Policy Newsletter***

The Section will produce the *State Politics and Policy Newsletter* and distribute it to the Section membership at least once per academic year. The purpose of the *State Politics and Policy Newsletter* is to foster communications and exchange information particularly relevant to the study and teaching of state politics.

#### **3.4 Awards and Honors**

The Section may bestow awards and honors that recognize and encourage the research and teaching of state politics and policy, as authorized by the members voting at the annual business meeting. The Section currently supports the following awards and honors:

##### **3.4a Best Published Paper Award**

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best journal article on U.S. state politics or policy published during the previous calendar year in any peer-reviewed journal (book reviews, review essays, and chapters published in edited volumes are not eligible).

##### **3.4b Career Achievement Award**

This annual award is given to a political scientist who has made a significant lifetime contribution to the study of politics and policy in the American states.

##### **3.4c Christopher Z. Mooney Best Dissertation Prize**

This annual award is given to the author of the best PhD dissertation in American state politics and policy completed during the previous calendar year. The winner

receives a plaque and \$1000. Support for this prize comes from the annual return of the endowed Mooney Fund.

**3.4d Mac Jewell Enduring Contribution Book Award**

Every three years, this award is given to the author(s) of a political science book on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy published at least 10 years prior to the award being bestowed that stands as an enduring contribution to the literature.

**3.4e State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award**

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best paper on state politics and policy presented at any professional meeting in the previous calendar year. The selection committee may designate separate awards for papers presented by graduate students with no faculty authorships and for papers with solely faculty or faculty and graduate student participation. Graduate student winners will receive a plaque and \$100 and faculty winners will receive a plaque.

**3.4f Virginia Gray Book Award**

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best political science book published on the subject of U.S. state politics or policy in the preceding three calendar years. Thus, books would be eligible to be considered for the award for three years. E.g., for the 2018 award, books with a copyright of 2015, 2016, and 2017 would be eligible for nomination.

**3.4g Tom Carsey Graduate Student SPPC Travel Awards**

Once the Carsey Fund is endowed with at least \$75,000, these awards will be given to a limited number of graduate students to attend and participate in the annual SPPC. Support for this prize will come from the annual return of the endowed Carsey Fund.

**3.4h SPPC Best Graduate Student Poster Award**

This annual award is given to the author(s) of the best graduate student poster presentation at the SPPC. The SPPC hosts shall be responsible for organizing the poster session and selecting the award winner. The Section shall pay for a plaque commemorating the award.

**3.5 Continuing recognition of awards and support**

The President shall attach an appendix to these bylaws recording the names of those awarded and supported by actions set out in section 3.4 (with the exception of the Tom Carsey Graduate Student SPPC Travel Awards due to the many recipients each year).

**4. State Politics and Policy Quarterly (SPPQ)**

**4.1** SPPQ is the flagship journal of the Section, and it is owned by the APSA for the Section. The Section controls all aspects of SPPQ activity, including having the power to negotiate and execute publishing contracts and to select and monitor the performance of editors.

#### **4.2 Editor Selection**

The SPPQ editor's term of office shall be four years, subject to the continuing approval of the President and Council. The editor's term may be renewed once for two years, subject to the approval of the President and Council. Approximately two years prior to the end of an editor's term, the President shall appoint a committee to solicit and review proposals for a new editor of SPPQ. This committee will be composed of senior scholars who do not plan to apply to edit the journal, and it shall issue an open call for proposals for a new editor(s) approximately two years before the current editor's term is completed.

### **5. Finances**

#### **5.1 Fiscal Officers**

The Section President and Treasurer are the fiscal officers for the Section, with the responsibility to maintain sound fiscal practices for all the Section's activities. Authorization to spend funds comes from the Council and/or the annual business meeting to these officers. Spending from Section funds requires the signatures of both fiscal officers, which can include e-signatures via email.

#### **5.2 Fiscal Notes**

Prior to the Council and/or the annual business meeting voting on a proposal that has implications for Section funds, a Fiscal Note is required that describes and estimates the potential for both revenue and expense obligations for the Section. This Fiscal Note must be circulated to the relevant decision-making body at least one week prior to the vote on the proposal. The responsibility for writing and circulating a Fiscal Note falls on the person(s) making the proposal.

#### **5.3 SPPQ Royalties Earmarked Spending**

Eighty-five (85) percent of the previous year's SPPQ royalties shall be earmarked to contribute to the financial support of the annual SPPC. These funds shall be transmitted from the Section to the host(s) of the SPPC and shall be used to offset the legitimate costs of hosting the SPPC.

Fifteen (15) percent of the previous year's SPPQ royalties will be earmarked to be deposited into the endowment account for the Tom Carsey Graduate Student SPPC Travel Awards. Once this account is endowed at \$75,000, the Section will determine how to allocate these royalties annually in the future.

### **6. Amendment of the Bylaws**

**6.1** These bylaws can be amended at the annual business meeting by a super majority vote (two-thirds) in the affirmative of the members present and voting.

**AMENDMENTS MADE AND APPROVED:**

- June 8, 2018

## Appendix 1: Section Award Winners

### A.) Best Published Paper Award

- 2018 James E. Monogan, III, David M. Konisky, and Neal D. Woods. 2017 "Gone with the Wind: Federalism and the Strategic Location of Air Polluters." *American Journal of Political Science* 16(2):257-70.
- 2017 Devin Caughey and Christopher Warshaw. 2016. "The Dynamics of State Policy Liberalism, 1936-2014" *American Journal of Political Science* 60 (4): 899-913.
- 2016 Frederick J. Boehmke, Tracy L. Osborn, and Emily U. Schilling. 2015. "Pivotal Politics and Initiative Use in the American States." *Political Research Quarterly* 68(4): 665-77.
- 2015 Eric McGhee, Seth Masket, Boris Shor, Steven Rogers, and Nolan McCarty. 2014. "A Primary Cause of Partisanship? Nomination Systems and Legislator Ideology." *American Journal of Political Science* 58(2):337-51.
- Barry C. Burden, David T. Canon, Kenneth R. Mayer, and Donald P. Moynihan. 2014. "Election Laws, Mobilization, and Turnout: The Unintended Consequences of Electoral Reform." *American Journal of Political Science* 58(1):95-109.
- 2014 Elizabeth Rigby and Gerald Wright. 2013. "Political Parties and Representation of the Poor in the American States." *American Journal of Political Science* 57(57):552-54.

### B.) Career Achievement Award

- 2018 Peverill Squire, University of Missouri, Columbia
- 2017 Tom Carsey, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2016 Melinda Gann Hall, Michigan State University
- 2014 Richard Winters, Dartmouth College
- 2013 David Lowery, Pennsylvania State University
- 2012 Christopher Z. Mooney, University of Illinois, Springfield
- 2011 Gerald Wright, Indiana University, Bloomington
- 2010 Kenneth Meier, Texas A&M University
- 2009 Ronald Weber, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- 2007 Virginia Gray, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- 2003 Malcolm Jewell, University of Kentucky
- 2001 Sarah Morehouse, University of Connecticut
- 1999 Thomas Dye, Florida State University

### C. Christopher Z. Mooney Best Dissertation Prize

- 2018 Julia Payson, Stanford University (Advisor: Terry M. Moe): "When Governments Lobby."
- 2017 Matthew N. Tokeshi, Princeton University (Advisor: Tali Mendelberg): "White Voters' Response to African American Candidate for High-Profile Statewide Offices."
- 2016 Srinivas Parinandi, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Advisors: Jenna Bednar and Charles Shipan): "Devolution and Policy Experimentation under Federalism: Essays on Innovation and

Emulation in the American States."

- 2015 Jaclyn J. Kettler, Rice University (Advisor: Keith E. Hamm): "The Right to Party (Resources): Political Party Networks and Candidate Success."
- 2014 Julianna Koch, Cornell University (Advisor: Peter K. Enns): "States of Inequality: Government Partisanship, Public Policies, and Income Disparity in the American States, 1970-2005"
- 2014 Steven Rogers, Princeton University (Advisor: Nolan McCarty): "Accountability in a Federal System"
- 2013 Daniel Biggers, University of Maryland (Advisor: Karen Kaufman): "Direct Democracy and the Culture Wars"
- 2013 Jeffrey Harden, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Advisor: Tom Carsey): "Multidimensional Democracy: The Supply and Demand of Political Representation"
- 2012 Jason Windett, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Advisor: Tom Carsey): "Understanding Female Candidates and Campaigns for Governor"
- 2011 Julianna Pacheco, Pennsylvania State University (Advisor: Michael Berkman): "Dynamic Public Opinion and Policy Responsiveness in the American States"
- 2010 Nicole Kazee, Yale University (Advisor: Jacob Hacker): "Wal-Mart Welfare: Business, Fiscal Regimes, and the Politics of Health Policy in the American States."

**D.) Mac Jewell Enduring Contribution Book Award**

- 2017 Virginia Gray, Russell Hanson, and Thad Kousser, eds. 2017. *Politics in the American States: A comparative Analysis*. 11th ed. (Washington, DC: CQ Press).
- 2014 Robert Erikson, Gerald Wright, and John McIver. 1993. *Statehouse Democracy: Public Opinion and Policy in the American States* (New York: Cambridge University Press)

**E.) State Politics and Policy Quarterly Best Paper Award**

- 2018 Mary Kroeger, "Bill Changes in State Legislatures."
- 2017 Christina Ladem, Jeffrey Harden, and Jason Windett, "Follow the Leader: Prominent Female Politicians and the Emergence of Women Candidates for Public Office."
- 2016 Mona Vaklifathi, "Constraining Bureaucrats Today Knowing You'll Be Gone Tomorrow: The Effect of Legislative Term Limits on Statutory Discretion."
- 2015 Graeme T. Boushey and Robert J. McGrath, "Experts, Amateurs, and Bureaucratic Influence in the American States."
- 2014 James Monogan III, Neal Woods, and David Konisky, "Gone with the Wind: Federalism and the Strategic Placement of Air Polluters."
- 2013 Christopher Mooney, "Legislative Thinking: Responsibility, Motivation, and Cognitive Complexity in U.S.Statehouses"
- 2012 Melinda Gann Hall, "Democratic Initiatives in State Supreme Courts: Judicial Behavior in the Terminal Term"
- 2011 Michael Berkman and Eric Plutzer, "Multi-Level Policy Responsiveness to Public Opinion: From Statehouse to Street-Level"

- 2010 Jeffrey Lax and Justin Phillips, "Explaining Democratic Performance in the States"
- 2006 Gary Cox, Thad Kousser, and Mathew McCubbins, "What Polarizes Parties? Preferences and Agenda Control in American State Legislatures"
- 2003 Raymond Wolfinger, Ben Highton, and Megan McMullin, "Between Registering and Voting: How State Laws Affect Voter Turnout of Young Registrants"

**F.) Virginia Gray Book Award**

- 2018 William W. Franko (West Virginia University) and Christopher Witko (University of South Carolina), *The New Economic Populism: How States Respond to Economic Inequality*. Oxford University Press.
- 2017 Jeffrey J. Harden (University of Notre Dame), *Multidimensional Democracy: A Supply and Demand Theory of Representation in American Legislatures*. Cambridge University Press.
- 2016 Christopher W. Bonneau (University of Pittsburgh) and Damon M. Cann (Utah State University), *Voters' Verdicts: Citizens, Campaigns, and Institutions in State Supreme Court Elections*. University of Virginia Press.
- 2016 Ray La Raja (University of Massachusetts, Amherst) and Brian Schaffner (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). *Campaign Finance and Political Polarization: When Purists Prevail*. University of Michigan Press.
- 2015 Sarah F. Anzia (University of California, Berkeley), *Timing and Turnout: How Off-Cycle Elections Favor Organized Interests*. University of Chicago Press.
- 2014 Thad Kousser (University of California, San Diego) and Justin Phillips (Columbia University), *The Power of American Governors: Winning on Budget and Losing on Policy*. University of Cambridge Press.
- 2014 Lynda Powell (University of Rochester), *The Influence of Campaign Contributions in State Legislators: The Effects of Institutions and Politics*. University of Michigan Press.

**G.) SPPC Best Graduate Student Poster Award**

- 2018
- 2017
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014
- 2013