

## **APSA Organized Section on Experimental Research**

Business Meeting  
2014 APSA Annual Meeting  
August 29, 2014  
Washington, DC

### *Minutes*

Meeting called to order by James Kuklinski (JK) at 12:19 P.M EDT.

JK presented overview of agenda for business meeting.

#### 1. Update on Journal of Experimental Political Science (JEPS)

Gillian Greenough (GG) of Cambridge University Press provided an update on the JEPS. The first issue just came out. Initially, the editors are planning to release 2 volumes per year, at 100 pages per volume. This is to prioritize quality over quantity. She encourage sections members to submit articles, review for the journal, sign up for TOC alters, encourage their libraries to subscribe to the journal, cite articles from the journal, and take copies of the journal to conferences.

Donald Green (DG) asked if there was a public list of universities currently subscribing to the journal and GG said there was not. GG said that members should assume their libraries do not subscribe to it.

Scott Gartner (SG) asked why no short research notes had been published in the first issue. GG said that the editors have not received many of these types of submissions yet.

#### 2. Treasurer's Report.

JK summarized Ted Brader's (TB) treasurer's report. TB was not in attendance. On July 1 2013, the section had a balance of \$5,693.00. During the fiscal year, it received \$6,921.00 in dues payments. Total expenditures for the same fiscal year were a grand total of \$34.77. The section's balance at the end of the fiscal year thus was \$12,579.23. So far in the new fiscal year, the section has received an additional \$3,285.00 in dues payments from APSA. So, the section's current balance is \$15,864.23. We will soon be invoiced by Cambridge University Press for the costs of publishing the first issue of the section's new journal. The Section has not yet received this invoice, although Ted estimates that the bill will be a little under \$2,500 for the first issue (between \$4,500 – 5,000 for the year). Interestingly, from the list provided by APSA, as of August 2014, only one section member had selected "online only" subscription; everyone else selected print + online. Maybe people are excited to have the commemorative first edition!

DG asked whether the section has plans to have receptions and JK said that the issue will be tabled to the end of the meeting.

DG asked what the current membership is. Neil Malhotra (NM) reported that the current membership is between 200-300 and it had significantly declined since when dues were

implemented.

### 3. Nomination of officers

The following slate of individuals was nominated (Nominating Committee: Shanto Iyengar, Jason Barabas, Jake Bowers) and approved/elected unanimously for calendar years indicated in parentheses:

- President: Lynn Vavreck
- President-elect: Macartan Humphreys
- Treasurer: Peter Descioli
- Secretary: Scott Clifford
- APSA Program Chair: Matt Levendusky

John Bullock made a motion to accept the committee nominations. Dan Butler seconded. Voice vote was unanimous.

### 4. Open Discussion Period

DG: How many panels are we entitled to?

Lynn Vavreck (LV): Function of section membership (45%), attendees at previous conference (45%), and other fudging (10%).

DG: Raised concerns about decreased membership

Diana Mutz (DM): What can we do to save money from press and reduce dues to bring more people back in?

Rick Wilson (RW): One issue is that there is a large fixed costs for journal to publish print copies, and then marginal costs are lower so we need more members. Also most costs are mailing costs so we need to nudge it right to get people to only accept online copy.

JK: Maybe people don't want the journal because it is methods based, not substantively based?

DG: Idea of journal was to introduce new norms and publishing practices, and it is not yet that bold or different. Also could be an avenue to publish null findings that there is not room for in general journals.

KE: Reported that there are currently 230 members, very low to putting the section on probation.

### 5. Awards

Yanna Krupnikov presented Best Paper award.

Kevin Arceneaux presented Best Dissertation Award.

David Nickerson presented Best Book Award.

## 6. Discussion of reception

DM: They are very expensive to have in hotel.

Neil Malhotra (NM): Could it be done at pizza joint a few blocks away for cheaper?

SG: Need to be strategic about investing money to increase membership

LV: Can we pass clipboard around to get members?

KE: Can also email recently lapsed members

DG: Can there be a \$1 grad student membership

Kevin Arceneaux (KA): Need to remind people to sign up (especially life members) at end of year

DG: Need to canvass; can be effective way to save membership. Even APSA membership driven by people attending conference.

LV: Should have life membership for section

NM: Need to get APSA staff to implement these reforms by keeping up on them. Experiments section needs to be perceived as desirable club.

JK adjourned meeting at 1:03 p.m. EDT

Submitted by: Neil Malhotra, Secretary