

Subject: Hybrid meeting presentation preferences

Good Morning,

We hope this email finds you safe and well during the challenging times of the pandemic. We have been hard at work adapting the meeting to the current circumstances, and we are pleased to announce that APSA's 2021 Annual Meeting will be a hybrid meeting from September 28-October 3. We are excited to return to an in person meeting in Seattle, while also offering a virtual option. Creating a meeting that is safe, inclusive, and accessible for the entire discipline during these challenging times is vitally important. It is essential to bring together our scholarly community, share the latest research and scholarship, provide opportunities for scholars to learn about the job market, and be able to network with one another.

The hybrid event will look different than past meetings. This email contains detailed information about panel formatting, accessing virtual and livestreamed panels, scheduling, and health and safety protocols. In addition, **we ask that you confirm your selection of in person, hybrid, or either preferences for your panel/paper/poster presentations by Thursday, February 11.** We believe adapting to this model will bring together political scientists in an innovative way and allow for attendees to pick a format that works best for their circumstances.

With the new format, we will offer both in person and virtual panels. All presenters on each panel will be in the same format, i.e. all presenters on a panel would be either all in person or all would be virtual. If you select the "either" preference, your attendance, in person or virtually, will be determined by the division chairs' decisions.

Virtual Attendees

Virtual attendees will have access to all virtual panels in real-time, as well as real-time access to view select livestreaming in person panels from Seattle. Virtual attendees will also have access to the virtual content on-demand for six months after the meeting.

In Person Attendees

In person attendees will have access to all the in person panels onsite, as well as virtual sessions during the conference and on-demand for up to six months on the virtual platform after the meeting. In person participants are able to present virtually from either a designated location or their hotel room onsite. There may be a circumstance in which we ask in person attendees to present virtually to help fill the panel slots for a virtual panel, but we will do our best to accommodate the preference selected.

The in person portion of the meeting will feature enhanced health and safety measures that will be determined as we move forward, taking into consideration guidance from the CDC, the WHO, and state and local authorities. Possible examples of new protocol, should they be necessary at the time of our event, include providing hand sanitizer and masks onsite; daily health evaluations and temperature screenings; and putting up plexiglass barriers around high-traffic areas. As more information becomes available, we will share our work in this area with you. We are committed to the safety of our members and being good stewards of public health.

Registration fees can be viewed online. Due to the more limited panel access, the virtual meeting registration will be discounted 20%.

Schedule

The schedule for virtual sessions would run Tuesday, September 28, through Sunday, October 3 with 35 concurrent sessions, three times daily. In person sessions would run from Thursday, September 30, through Sunday, October 3, with 55 concurrent sessions, three times daily. A proposed schedule and additional information are available on the [2021 APSA Annual Meeting website](#). We anticipate half of all panels will be presented virtually, and half in person.

Please take a moment to review the [schedule and details online](#) , and if necessary, [add or change your response](#) to your preferred meeting format in the submission system by **Thursday, February 11, 2021**. If individuals on in person panels have extenuating circumstances that prohibit them from attending in person at the time of the meeting, we have some flexibility to allow for their full panel to move virtual. Although virtual presenters can still take part in the on-site meeting if they decide to come to Seattle, it is much harder for us to move virtual presentations to in person, so we ask you to carefully consider your choice.

We will continue to monitor pandemic developments in Seattle and the United States throughout the coming months and will aim to provide up-to-date information in a timely manner. In the coming weeks, we will release further information regarding planning for business meetings, receptions, short courses, interview services, and ancillary events. You can always check our [2021 Meetings Update page](#) for the most current information on our meeting planning.

We remain committed to working with members to provide travel and accessibility grants, and we will have more information shortly.

We would like to thank our 2021 program chairs, Dino Christenson and Valeria Sinclair-Chapman, for their terrific leadership in adapting the 2021 event to a hybrid format. We are also very appreciative of the Council members, APSA staff, division chairs, section officers, and committee chairs who provided invaluable input and feedback as part of our planning process.

If you have any questions, please email the Meetings Team at meeting@apsanet.org or [visit the website](#) for the latest information on the meeting format.

We look forward to seeing you in Seattle and virtually soon!

Sincerely,

Janet Box-Steffensmeier
APSA President

and

Steven Rathgeb Smith
APSA Executive Director