

FRENCH POLITICS AND POLICY GROUP NEWS

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GREETINGS TO ALL

This newsletter continues to be jointly produced by the French Politics Group of the American Political Science Association and the French Politics and Policy Group of the Political Science Association in the UK. Welcome to the new PSA group coordinator, Ben Clift. We have a deep debt of gratitude to Robert Elgie, Ben's predecessor, who first pursued and nurtured the links between the FPG of APSA and the FPPG of the PSA. Welcome to the new members of the APSA French Politics Group as well. We currently have 130 members (non dues-paying).

2006 marks a new development; significant participation of French institutional partners: Association Française de Science Politique, Sciences Po Paris, CEVIPOF and Sciences Po Bordeaux/CERVL. Following our initial meetings last year at APSA-D.C. and two subsequent visits to Paris, we have an unprecedented level of French support. From financing our first annual French Politics reception to working on a Trans-Atlantic effort to "map French political science", both individuals and institutions in France are making this group an even more meaningful entity for political scientists on an international level. Over half of our APSA panel participants are from France, with an all-French graduate student panel on gender. Special thanks go to AFSP president Nona Mayer, Gerard Grunberg, Pascal Perrineau, Vincent Tiberj, Patrick LeGalès, and Andrew Appleton for their work on this collaboration as well as to the PSA group for its financial contribution to the APSA reception.

APSA continues to look to our group as a major example of successful international collaboration. We were invited to write an article for the April issue of the professional journal of APSA, *PS: Political Science* (pps. 289-291) and APSA gave us a special lunch-time panel slot for our panel on French Political Science in Philadelphia.

We invite you to read-on for more details about our ever diversifying activities on both sides of the Atlantic, including the schedule for our events at APSA. Let us know how you would like to participate or share your ideas about the work of either of the two groups. We look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

Amicalement,

Ben and Amy

News of the French Politics Groups-APSA

APSA- Philadelphia , 2006

APSA gave us an unprecedented number of panels this year—five in all, including two co sponsorships with European Politics Section of APSA. Thanks to Chris Andersen, Chair of EPS, for

working with us on these co sponsored panels. In order to maintain this number of panels for next year's conference, it is crucial to have high attendance. We invite you to attend the group's panels, business meeting, and reception. Bring your friends and colleagues too! Papers will be available to download on the APSA webpage (<http://apsanet.org/>) at the time of the meetings. Locations will be announced in the final conference program

SCHEDULE

Thursday, August 31st, 10:15 am

French Feminists and the Republic

Chair/Discussant:

Amy Mazur (Washington State University)

Papers:

Feminist and Republican Networks between 1918 and 1939: the Human Rights' League

Alban Jacquemart (EHESS, Paris)

Is the French Republic Familialist or Feminist? The Dilemmas of French State Feminists

Anne Revillard (ENS, Cachan)

The Case of Gender Parity Reform

Laure Bereni (ENS, Paris)

Women's Movement and French Secularism: When Feminism Confronts the Republican Ideal

Liane Henneron (EHESS, Paris)

Thursday, August 31st, Noon

FPG Business Meeting—Announcement of the Frank L. Wilson APSA Best Paper Award for 2005 and discussion of future group plan. One item on the agenda is the creation of a best article award for French politic articles in English.

Friday September 1, 8:00 am

Secondary Co Sponsor with European Politics and Society

Constitutional Crisis or Constitutional Compromise in the European Union?

Friday, September 1st, 12-2:00pm

APSA Committee Roundtable

Mapping French Political Science: The State of the Field

Chairs: Andrew Appleton (Washington State University) and Robert Elgie (Dublin City University)

Participants:

Nonna Mayer (AFSP and CEVIPOF)

Patrick Le Galès (CEVIPOF)

Gérard Grunberg (Sciences Po, Paris)

Michael Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa)

John Keeler (University of Washington)

Frank Baumgartner (Penn State University)

Friday, September 1st, 10:30 pm-Midnight

Reception co sponsored by Sciences Po Paris, Association Française de Science Politique, CEVIPOF and FPPG-PSA (Reception is complimentary)

Saturday, September 2nd, 10:15 am

Theme Panel and Co sponsored with European Politics and Society

Was Paris Burning? Race, Power and Politics in France

Chair: Amy Mazur (Washington State University)

Participants:

Vincent Tiberj (CEVIPOF-FNSP)

Daniel Sabbagh (CERI-Sciences Po, Paris)

Eléonore Lépinard (University of Montréal)

Sylvain Brouard (CEVIPOF-FNSP)

Jacqueline S. Gehring (University of California, Berkeley)

Olivier Ruchet (University of Toronto)

Sunday, September 3rd, 10:15 am

Roundtable: What is Troubling the French?: Current Assessments

Co Sponsored with European Politics and Society

Chair: Andrew Appleton (Washington State University)

Participants:

Kay Lawson (San Francisco State University)

Ben Clift, Warwick University

Michael Bosia, St. Michael's College

Vincent Tiberj, CEVIPOF-FNSP

Eric Kerrouche, Sciences Po- Bordeaux ?

Frank L. Wilson Best APSA Paper Award

The Committee for the 2005 Award is: Joceyln Evans, Chair (University of Salford); Michael Bosia (St. Michael's College) and Cyndy Skach (Harvard University). The 2005 Award will be given at the group's business meeting at APSA.

Assessing French Political Science

The French Politics Group is working with AFSP and APSA to facilitate an 'inventory' of contemporary political science in France. A small team of researchers has been compiling data on various aspects of institutional and individual practices, such as methodology requirements for graduate training, publication patterns in French political science journals, etc. Some of these data have already appeared in essay form in the Data, Measures, and Methods section of *French Politics*. The team will conduct a survey of members of the AFSP in the near future, as well as sending out an institutional survey patterned after that used by APSA. This mapping will, we hope, be published as a symposium in *Perspectives on Politics* in the future. The roundtable on French Political Science at Philadelphia is an essential step in this mapping process.

Methodology and French Political Science, AFSP-Toulouse, 2007

The Association Française de Science Politique (AFSP) will be working with the French Politics Group and APSA more generally in organizing a roundtable on developments in political science methodology on both sides of the Atlantic at the Association's IXth Congress in Toulouse, September, 2007. Watch this space and the AFSP site (<http://www.afsp.msh-paris.fr/>) for more details on the Transatlantic dialog.

Group Award Fund Raising

The FPG agreed to establish a fund for prize money for both awards – the Wilson Best Paper Award is given annually and the Lavau Dissertation Award every three years. Ideally, we would like to have a large enough endowment to generate the prize money each year. Our overall endowment target for both awards combined is \$10,000, yielding \$200 per year. An account for the two awards has been set-up in the Department of Political Science at Washington State University. Once we reach \$5000 the monies will be invested through the WSU development program. Until then, we will use contributions directly in funding the prize money-- \$100 for each award per year. In 2002, thanks to Carol Wilson and Kay Lawson, we raised \$250, enough to cover the prizes for the first year. We now only have \$50 in the account, not enough to fund this year's award. So we need your help!! If you would like to make a contribution to either award, please fill out the attached form and send your contribution to Amy Mazur. Obtaining prize money for the awards will make a big difference in making them more legitimate and institutionalized over the long haul.

Teaching Resources

The group held a *Pre- Conference Short Course* on teaching French politics last year at APSA. The following topics were covered: Using *Developments in French Politics 3* (Palgrave, 2005) in the Classroom and A Focus on Public Administration by Alistair Cole (Cardiff University); France in a Global Perspective: Globalization, Transnational Activism, Diaspora Politics, Post Colonialism and AIDS by Michael Bosia (St. Michael's College); Teaching the French Case in Courses on Elections and Voting Behavior by Jocelyn Evans (University of Salford); Bringing Gender Politics Issues into the Classroom by Amy Mazur (Washington State University); and *French Politics* as a Teaching Source by Andrew Appleton (Washington State University). For the materials from this short course, contact Amy Mazur.

News of the French Policy and Politics Group-PSA

A Big Thank You to our outgoing convenor, Robert Elgie

Ben Clift took over from Robert Elgie as convenor of the PSA French Politics and Policy Group at this year's PSA conference. The group would like to thank Robert, the foundational convenor of the group, for all his efforts to make the group such a successful and vibrant space for academics interested in French politics to come together, share ideas and disseminate their research.

Annual PSA Conference at the University of Reading, 4-6 April 2006

The PSA conference was held at the University of Reading. The Group held a meeting at which the handover of power from Robert to Ben was formally conducted, complete with ermine robes and jewel-encrusted crown. The Group's transatlantic links were reinforced by helping to fund the attendance of Andrew Appleton (Washington State) at the Reading Conference. Our Group also sponsored three successful panels, including one on Electoral Geography in France, and one on French Political Parties. More details can be found at <http://www.psa.ac.uk/2006/streams.asp>.

Annual PSA Conference at the University of Bath, April 2007

Plans are already afoot for the 2007 PSA conference, including panels ignoring the golden rule that social scientists should not make predictions, especially not about the future. A number of panels will try to map out the likely outcomes of the 2007 elections in France. Rainbow Murray (Birkbeck) is

organising a panel, co-sponsored by the Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties PSA Group, which is likely to involve Vincent Tiberj (CEVIPOF-FNSP), Nicolas Sauger (CEVIPOF-FNSP), Gilles Ivaldi (URMIS-SOLIIS Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis), Jocelyn Evans (Salford) and Rainbow Murray (Birkbeck). These themes will then be re-visited at the joint PSA specialist group / ASMCF one day conference scheduled to take place at the Maison Française in Oxford in May 2007 (see below).

In addition to panels dealing with the 2007 elections, the group is always interested in organising panels on any aspect of French politics, or indeed panels on comparative themes which include discussion of the French case. Just contact Ben Clift if you would like to be involved in, or organize a panel at the 2007 PSA conference (which is likely to be held in Bath). A panel needs to include three speakers and a discussant or four speakers. The Group is always keen to sponsor panels with other French Groups. The Group has some funds that may facilitate speaker costs. We are always keen to place the study of France in comparative perspective. So, a panel does not have to have solely a French focus. We welcome panels with a comparative focus.

Annual APSA Conference, Philadelphia, August-September 2006

The FPPG-PSA is committed to continuing to forge its transatlantic links. The Group will make a contribution to the sponsorship of a reception organised by the APSA French Politics Group at this year's APSA conference. The group will be represented at APSA this year by Ben Clift, who will be participating in a roundtable on French politics.

Last Year's 'France on a World Stage' Conference

Professor Mairi Maclean and Dr Joe Szarka have collected together the papers presented at the July 2005 'France on the World Stage' conference which they organised, and which the Group sponsored. A publishing proposal for an edited collection has been submitted to Palgrave Macmillan, and a decision is awaited. Contributors include Professor Guillaume Parmentier of the Centre Français sur le Etats-Unis at the Institut Français de Relations Internationales in Paris, Professor Bernard Baraqué of the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris, Professor Herman Lebovics of the State University of New York (Stony Brook), USA, Dr Albrecht Sonntag of the Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Commerciales in Angers and Dr Reuben Wong of the National University of Singapore.

Research Conferences

The Group is always interesting in organizing its own conferences, and we try to do this at least once every two years. We would welcome suggestions for our 2006 annual conference. Please send any suggestions, however tentative, to Ben Clift (B.M.Clift@Warwick.ac.uk). We do have some funds available to subsidize the conference.

Ben Clift is at the early stages of planning a conference on the 2007 elections with Professor Raymond Kuhn (Queen Mary, University of London) of the *Association for the study of Modern and Contemporary France*. This is likely to take place at the Maison Française in Oxford in May 2007, between the Presidential and Legislative elections. A number of French-based academics, including Bruno Cautres (CEVIPOF) and Gilles Ivaldi (URMIS-SOLIIS Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis), have provisionally accepted invitations to contribute to the conference. The programme will also include a number UK-based academics, and further details will be circulated in due course.

PSA Vincent Wright Memorial Award

In 2004, the Group decided that we wanted to honour the late Vincent Wright's contribution to

the study of French Politics. To this end, we decided that it would be appropriate to make an award for the best paper with a substantial French component given at the PSA annual conference. We decided that we would call the award the Vincent Wright Award and that the winner would receive a cheque for £100.

The 2006 Vincent Wright Award was decided by Professor John Gaffney (Aston), and was won by Rainbow Murray at Birkbeck College, University of London, for her paper 'The Power of Sex and Incumbency: a longitudinal study of electoral performance in France'. Deliberations are ongoing regarding the 2007 Award, and the winner will be announced in a future edition of this newsletter.

French Politics and Policy Group Website

The Group's website been recently been updated. It has also has changed location to <http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/pais/staff/clift/psafpp/> .

Any thoughts as to how we can make additions to website to help its functioning as a resource for the Group, and how we might improve the usefulness of the website for scholars of French Politics should be sent to Ben Clift (B.M.Clift@Warwick.ac.uk).

Teaching Resources

Some years ago, Robert Elgie invited members of the Group, and indeed any academics involved in teaching French politics, to share their teaching resources. The Group built up a 'bank' of reading lists and module/course documents. These reading lists were originally designed help to junior faculty who were drawing up a reading list on French Politics for the first time; however they may be helpful to others as well. These teaching resources are still available. Any updates would be gratefully received, and should be sent to Ben Clift.

CONTRIBUTION FORM FOR FRENCH POLITICS GROUP AWARDS

Please fill out the following form and send it to Amy Mazur, Department of Political Science, Washington State University, Box 644880, Pullman WA 99163-4880. Checks should be made payable to the **Department of Political Science-WSU**. A receipt for your records will be sent to you. This is a tax deductible contribution

NAME: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

E-MAIL: _____

AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION: _____

SPECIFIC AWARD (IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPECIFY)

_____ FRANK L. WILSON BEST APSA PAPER AWARD

_____ GEORGES LAVAU DISSERTATION AWARD