

FRENCH POLITICS AND POLICY GROUP NEWS

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GREETINGS TO ALL !



This is the joint newsletter of 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. We begin with the activities of the US-based group and finish with the UK group's news. We invite you to also go to our websites for more information on both groups. Welcome to the new members of the APSA French Politics Group. We currently have 158 members – see our website for current members. Welcome to Nirmal Joshi, the new assistant coordinator of FPG-APSA at WSU.

Following the hugely successful 2006 APSA meetings—over 100 attendees at our panels and reception, we have continued the momentum of our international collaboration with our regular French institutional partners: Association Française de Science Politique, Sciences Po Paris, and CEVIPOF. With over 20 French political scientists attending the meetings, it is clear that the FPG is becoming an institutionalized arena for research on French Politics.



For APSA 2007 – Chicago August 29th-September 2nd, we are working on five panels, a short course and a working group. Of particular note will be a second roundtable on the state of the French political science that represents the full range of scholarship in France, with a special emphasis on the work being done at the IEPs outside of Paris. Our summer newsletter will give you the specific schedule so you can mark your calendars!! Also at the meetings, we will be making our third Frank L. Wilson Best Paper Award and also be awarding for the first time the Stanley Hoffmann Best Article on French Politics Award. Special thanks to Stanley Hoffmann and to Gérard Grunberg for their support and work on the award.



Beyond APSA, the group will be co sponsoring a roundtable on methodology at the upcoming AFSP meetings in Toulouse in September and working on an edited volume on the state of the discipline in France to be eventually published by the AFSP and APSA.

We appreciate all FPG members participation and support. We would like to recognize and thank the following people for their special contributions this past year: Nonna Mayer, Yves Deloye, Pascal Perrineau, Vincent Tiberj, Jocelyn Evans, Michael Bosia, Cindy Skach, Gérard Grunberg, Andrew Appleton and Harrick Chapman. A special thanks goes to the leadership at APSA, and in particular Bahram Rajaei, for their support of the group. We invite you to read-on

for more details about our activities on both sides of the Atlantic. And do let us know your comments and suggestions or if you know of anyone who should be added to our members list.

Amicalement,

Ben and Amy

News of the French Politics Groups-APSA

APSA- Philadelphia , 2006

APSA gave us an unprecedented number of panels last year—five in all, including two co sponsorships with European Politics Section of APSA. Over 100 people attended our various activities, including a late night reception which was rumored to be the hippest APSA reception in Philadelphia. Below is the list of the panels/roundtable we offered. Panel papers can be downloaded at the APSA website at <http://apsanet.org/>. Note that only panels will have papers on the web.



Panel: French Feminists and the Republic

Panel: Constitutional Crisis or Constitutional Compromise in the European Union?

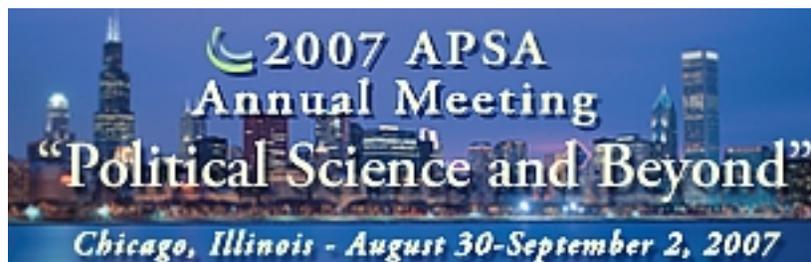
Roundtable: Mapping French Political Science I: The State of the Field

Roundtable: Was Paris Burning? Race, Power and Politics in France

Roundtable: What is Troubling the French? Current Assessments

The panel on French Feminists and the Republic has been proposed as a special issue of the journal of *French Politics*. Papers from the panel are currently under review.

APSA-Chicago, 2007



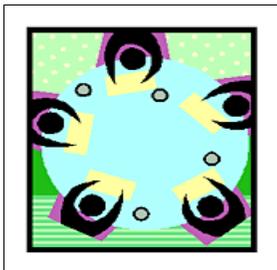
If it is possible, we have an even more exciting line-up of panels for you for this coming year. Thanks to the high attendance we received a second permanent panel slot, which allows us to put together 4 co sponsored panels every year. We have more papers being presented on French politics with some of the top people in the field from France and the USA presenting. Here we present the general lines of our program. We will send you a more detailed schedule and panel line-ups as soon as APSA releases the schedule. APSA

posts specific schedules on their website in early April. For all information concerning APSA in general and information about the upcoming meetings in Chicago, go to their website at <http://apsanet.org/>

FPG will co sponsor/sponsor the following two panels and two roundtables with two co sponsorships with the European Politics and Society Section and second with the Elections Section. Special thanks goes to Paulette Kurzer of EPS for her support of co sponsorships.

Models in Motion: The Dynamics of Political Change in France and Western Europe in an Age of Economic Austerity
The 2007 French Presidential Election: A Case Study for the Models of Electoral Choice
Changing France: An Interdisciplinary Roundtable on Globalization and French Politics in Light of the 2007 Presidential Elections
Mapping French Political Science: The State of the Field II

In addition, we will be sponsoring a pre conference short course on research on Political Institutions in France to commemorate the upcoming 50th Anniversary of the Fifth Republic. Sylvain Brouard will be coordinating the short course with the goal of producing a draft manuscript for an edited volume. If you are interested in being a part of the short course, contact Sylvain at sylvain.brouard@sciences-pofr.



Given the number of panels on French Politics, we will take advantage of a new program at APSA—the **working group**. What this means is that we will list all of the panels on French politics in the program and then hold regular meetings for people wanting to get together to discuss the issues related to the panels throughout the conference. We will also include a panel on Comparative Agendas, which we were not able to co sponsor, but has some excellent comparative research on French policy. With the working group we will be able to further institutionalize our international collaboration providing a space for us all to actually talk serious about our research – a great year for graduate students to attend!

Beyond just the sheer work of this all, we will also hold our second French Politics Group reception – in the hot Friday night slight at 10:30 – so we can get together and have some fun too!!



Frank L. Wilson Best APSA Paper Award

The second annual Best Paper Award was given to Roxanne Euben for her paper on “Theorizing Past and Future: Between Tocqueville and Tahtawi”. Thanks go to members of last year’s committee -- Joceyln Evans, Chair (University of Salford); Michael Bosia (St. Michael’s College) and Cyndy Skach (Harvard University). We look forward to the decision of next year’s committee, to be announced at our annual reception – Michael Bosia (St. Michael’s College), Roxanne Euben (Wellesley College) and Eric Kerrouche (IEP-Bordeaux).



Georges Lavau Dissertation Award for 2008

The award was first made in 1991 and is given every three years. Since 1998, it covers dissertations that are uniquely on French Politics or have a significant component on French politics. Previous Awardees include:

Cyndy Skach 2005 (Harvard University)

Virginie Guiraudon 1999 (European University Institute)

John Huber 1993 (Columbia University)

Amy Mazur 1993 (Washington State University)

We will be making the next award in 2008 for dissertations written from 2005-2007. Let Amy know if you would like to be on the selection committee. Special thanks goes to the *Journal of French Politics, Society, and Culture* and its editor Harrick Chapman. The journal will be helping to solicit submissions for our next round and has contributed money for the prize.



New Stanley Hoffmann Best Article Award on French Politics

Thanks to funding from Science Po-Paris, Gérard Grunberg’s work and support, and Stanley Hoffman’s generous offer to use his name for the prize, we will be awarding for the first time the semi-annual award for the best English-language article on French politics. This year’s award will be made at our reception at APSA and will cover articles published in 2005 and 2006. Articles may be on any aspect of French Politics and the selection committee will systematically consult a full range of journals that publish scholarship on French Politics. Some preference will be given to scholars at earlier stages of their careers. The awardee will receive 2000 euros and will be required to accept the award at the annual APSA meetings the year the award is made. The 2007 selection committee includes Stanley Hoffmann--Chair (Harvard University), Gérard Grunberg (Sciences Po Paris), Pierre Hassner (Sciences Po Paris).



Assessing French Political Science



The FPG 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. In addition to the survey, the two APSA roundtables on mapping French Political Science will provide the foundation for an edited volume on the *State of French Political Science*. The second APSA roundtable being held in Chicago this year brings together political scientists from the full range of political science research in France from outside of Paris.

Methodology and French Political Science, AFSP-Toulouse, 2007

Our group will be co sponsoring with the AFSP a workshop on "Réflexions sur les méthodes en Science politique des deux côtés de l'Atlantique" at the upcoming 9th Toulouse Congress for the AFSP (5-7 September 2007). Janet Box Steffensmeier (Head of the Political Methodology Section – APSA), Gary King (Harvard University), Gary Goertz (University of Arizona) and Andrew Appleton (Washington State University) will participate in the roundtable discussions. For more details on the Toulouse conference, the AFSP-FPG collaboration and the AFSP more generally go to <http://www.afsp.msh-paris.fr/>.



Teaching Resources



The group held a *Pre- Conference Short Course* on teaching French politics at APSA in 2005. 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). The materials from this short course, including a lot of useful syllabi, are now available on the FPG website.

News of the French Policy and Politics Group-PSA

Annual PSA Conference at the University of Bath, 11th-13th April 2007



**Political Studies
Association**

CONFERENCE
CONFERENCE
2007/7

The Group has organized or co-organized three panels at the 2007 PSA conference. Each addresses the Electoral showdown of 2007. Two of the panels will try to map out the likely outcomes of the 2007 elections in France. The third will explore the broader political context of the 2007 Elections. The details are as follows:-

2007 France legislative elections (co-sponsored by EPOP)

Chair – Jim Cordell

Nicolas Sauger

‘Assessing Predictive Power of Polls to Forecast the French Presidential Election’

Bruno Cautres

What factors are likely to influence the French electorate in the 2007 presidential election choice?

Rainbow Murray

Will 2007 be the year for women in French politics?

France’s presidential and legislative elections in 2007: 2

Chair - Rainbow Murray

Vincent Tiberj

(un)Partisan voting? Forecasting the French presidential election in an Era of political re-composition

Jocelyn Evans & Gilles Ivaldi

Extreme right, right-wing souverainisme and presidential first-round vote: predicting the nuisance effect in 2007?

The 2007 French Presidential Election

Chair - Alistair Cole

Alistair Cole
France in Crisis

Helen Drake
*New Britons in a New France? A Case Study of Migration and Mobility in the
21st Century European Union*

Ben Clift
Political Economy and Economic Policy

Andrew Knapp
The Parties of the Right

Discussant: Nick Startin

The Group will hold a meeting to discuss future activities – your attendance is encouraged and any and all suggestions will be welcome. More details about the conference can be found at <http://www.psa.ac.uk/2007/programme.htm>



Seminar:- ‘Writing on the Ballot: Spoiled Papers and Blank Votes in France since 1789’ Professor Malcolm Crook (Keele University)

Sponsored by ASMCF - North-West and European Studies Research Institute (ESRI) in association with the PSA Politics of Representation group.

The ThinkLab, Maxwell Building, University of Salford, **02 March 2007, 4pm**

For further details please contact Dr Jocelyn Evans j.a.evans@salford.ac.uk

**One Day Conference At the Maison Française, Oxford, 25 May 2007
The French Presidential and Legislative Elections of 2007**

Many of the themes of the PSA panels will be re-visited at the one day conference at the Maison Française in Oxford on 25 May 2007. Ben Clift is co-organizing this conference with Professor Raymond Kuhn (Queen Mary, University of London) of the *Association for the study of Modern and Contemporary France*. This event will reflect on the results of the Presidential elections and attempt to predict the outcome of the Legislative elections. The programme features a host of leading French, US- and UK-based French Politics scholars, including Michael Lewis-Beck (University of Iowa), Bruno Cautrès (Sciences-Po CEVIPOF), Jocelyn Evans (Salford), Gilles Ivaldi (URMIS-SOLIIS Université de Nice-Sophia



Antipolis), Rainbow Murray (Birkbeck) and Vincent Tiberj (Sciences-Po CEVIPOF). Further details will be circulated in the near future. Please do try and make the effort to attend what will be a very interesting conference.

Maison Française d'Oxford, 2-10 Norham Road, Oxford, OX2 6SE;
Email: maison@herald.ox.ac.uk Website: www.mfo.ac.uk

**A One-day Conference at the University of Bath 6 July 2007
'New dimensions in political competition in France'**

The Group is sponsoring the conference 'New dimensions in political competition in France' which will take place on 6 July 2007 organized by Joseph Szarka and Marion Demossier of the Department of European Studies and Modern Languages at the University of Bath.

**CALL FOR PAPERS
'New dimensions in political competition in France'**

Have the 'accidents' of 2002 left French political life been in a state of fruitless turmoil or in deep coma? The 2007 presidential and parliamentary elections provide an opportunity to take the political pulse of the nation. But the aim of this conference is not so much to comment on election results as to investigate underlying processes of political change in France and the reasons behind them. Situating current developments in their medium to long-term contexts, the conference will probe questions relating to the nature and impact of new dimensions of political competition.

The working languages of the conference are English and French. Submissions for papers are invited in the form of a title and 300 word abstract. The deadline is 31 March 2007.

Expressions of interest are also invited from colleagues who are considering attending.

The conference organizers can be contacted at:

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University of Bath
Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7AY

J.P.Szarka@bath.ac.uk

M.Demossier@bath.ac.uk



Mapping France: ASMCF conference at Reading, 6-8 September 2007

The Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France will hold its annual conference at the University of Reading on 6-8 September 2007, under the auspices of the Centre for the Advanced Study of French History. The conference theme is 'Mapping France'. The call for papers is still open, but will close on 28 February 2007. Confirmed speakers so far include Alistair Cole on decentralisation, Hugh Clout on France's socio-political geography, and Hervé Le Bras and Michel Bussi on the geography of French elections, past and present. Details and a conference booking form may be found on the ASMCF website at <http://www.asmcf.org/conferences.asp#2007>



Research Conferences

As demonstrated above, the Group is always interesting in organizing its own conferences, and we try to do this on a regular basis. We would welcome suggestions for our 2008 annual conference. Please send any suggestions, to Ben Clift (B.M.Clift@Warwick.ac.uk). We normally have some funds available to subsidize the conference.

PSA Vincent Wright Memorial Award 2006



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 2007 Vincent Wright Award was decided by Professor Raymond Kuhn (Queen Mary), and was won by Yohei Nakayama, Associate Professor, at the University of Tokyo for his paper 'Associations, Party Models and Democracies: changing Organizational Patterns of French Parties in Historical Perspective.' Professor Kuhn said of Nakayama's paper;



“This paper consists of a very broad historical sweep and covers various parties in an analytic framework constructed around different party models. The author shows an enviable acquaintance with the literature, both historical and political science. The paper is very scholarly. The thesis concerning the links between parties and the ‘particular patterns of the country’s associational life’ (p.2) is well exemplified and the author makes a strong case in its defence ... The paper reads more like a proto book than an article ... it is the sheer scale and ambition of Nakayama’s paper which makes me plump for this one.”

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 academics 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.

