

Women's Caucus for Political Science: South Newsletter

Spring 2008

Volume 28, Number 1

2009 SPSA Conference

The 80th annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association will be held at the InterContinental Hotel in New Orleans, LA, January 8-10, 2008. Below is a list of important dates and information about the conference.

- Pre-Registration for the meeting will be August 1 - December 1.
- Program notification will be August 15.
- The preliminary program will be posted by mid-October.
- The SPSA InterContinental Hotel rate begins October 1.
- Travel grant applications will be accepted from October 1 to December 1.
- Information will be provided in future correspondence concerning the availability of childcare at the meeting.

The President's Message

For over 20 years, The Women's Caucus for Political Science: South (WCPS) has provided personal and professional support for women political scientists through service. The Caucus serves as a clearinghouse for information, informal networking, and publishing opportunities. While our bi-annual newsletter contains news, job information, and other items of interest, caucus members can anticipate the launch of our very own website. The site will have links to past newsletters, current bylaws, lists of officers and winners of the Erica Fairchild Award. The Southern Political Science Association has agreed to allow the Caucus to link its site to theirs and to store hard copies of Caucus documents in its archives. Besides this, membership in the Caucus provides access to female faculty, practitioners, and graduate students stretching across the entire Southern region.

The WCPS is one of five regional caucuses, which strives to increase panel and convention activity, provide greater input in the Southern Political Science Association, and promote policies that support the interests of women in the profession. To date, we have 24 dues-paying members. Many thanks to all who continue to support the Caucus by organizing and co-sponsoring panels, presenting papers and attending our annual business meetings.

With that said, let us not forget to nominate a worthy scholar for the Erika Fairchild Award. Criteria for the award include: a strong record of scholarship, a demonstrated commitment to students, teaching, and mentoring women in the profession, as well as a thoughtful, collegial spirit exhibited by service to the discipline. The deadline for nomination letters is **July 1, 2008**. The selection committee is made up of the past award winner (Julie Dolan, Macalester College, dolan@macalester.edu), the current president (Evelyn Simien, University of Connecticut, simien@uconn.edu) and the past president (Karen Kedrowski, Winthrop University, kedrowskik@winthrop.edu). Before I close, I must express a note of gratitude to Karen Kedrowski who as past president of the Caucus was instrumental in the creation of our website and the APSA's comprehensive study of women Ph.D.s in the profession.

Inside This Issue

1	2008 SPSA Conference
1-2	The President's Message
3-4	Meeting the WCPS-South Officers
4-5	Business Meeting Minutes
5-6	Job Postings
7	Announcements and Reminders

Always courteous and interested in what others have to say, Karen remains committed to these tasks associated with achieving our goals.

President Evelyn M. Simien, University of Connecticut



Courtesy of University of Connecticut

MEET THE OFFICERS

Evelyn M. Simien, President

Evelyn M. Simien is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Connecticut. She graduated cum laude from Xavier University of Louisiana with a B.A. in political science. She received both her M.A. and Ph.D. from the Department of Political Science at Purdue University. A nationally recognized teacher, she was awarded the 2006 Anna Julia Cooper Teacher of the Year Award from the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS). She teaches courses on black leadership and civil rights, black feminist theory and politics, as well as African American Politics.

Her first book, *Black Feminist Voices in Politics* (State University of New York Press, 2006), charts a course for black women's studies in political science. Other publications have appeared in the *Journal of Black Studies*, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women's Studies*, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Politics and Gender*, *Social Science Quarterly*, as well as *Women and Politics*.

Laura Olson, Vice President

Laura R. Olson is professor of political science at Clemson University. A native of Racine, Wisconsin, she earned a B.A. in political science from Northwestern University in 1990, as well as an M.A. (1991) and Ph.D. (1996) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She spent the 1999-2000

academic year as a visiting research fellow at the Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University.

Her research focuses on contemporary religion, civic engagement, and American politics, with special emphasis on the political attitudes and behaviors of clergy. She is the author, coauthor, or coeditor of eight books, including *Beyond Red State, Blue State: Electoral Gaps in the Twenty-First Century American Electorate* (Prentice Hall, 2008); *Religious Interests in Community Conflict: Beyond the Culture Wars* (Baylor University Press, 2007); *Women with a Mission: Religion, Gender, and the Politics of Women Clergy* (University of Alabama Press, 2005); *Religion and Politics in America: Faith, Culture, and Strategic Choices* (Westview Press, 2004); *Christian Clergy in American Politics* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001). She is also the author of many scholarly articles and book chapters.

Kathleen Bratton, Secretary

Kate Bratton is Associate Professor of Political Science at Louisiana State University. She holds an MA and PhD in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focuses on gender and politics, legislative politics, state politics, and judicial politics. Her research has been published in such journals as *Politics & Gender*, the *American Journal of Political Science*, and the *Journal of Politics*. She is currently involved in an NSF funded collaborative research project examining the role of race, gender, and ethnicity in political representation. She serves as the senior associate editor for the *National Women's Studies Association Journal*, on the editorial board of *Politics & Gender*, and as Director of Graduate Studies for Political Science at LSU.

Sara Zeigler, Treasurer

Sara Zeigler is a Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Government at Eastern Kentucky University. She received her B.A. from Reed College and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles. Her major fields are political theory and public law, and her minor field is women's studies.

Sara's research interests include such subjects as women's labor, women in the military, feminist theory, and abortion policy and interest group activity. Her work has appeared in several journals, including: *Ethics and International Affairs*, *Review of Public Personnel Administration*, *Journal of Conflict Studies*, *Polity*, and *Social Science History*. She is also the coauthor of *What's Next for G.I. Jane? Women Warriors and the U.S. Military* (2005).

Jocelyn J. Evans, Newsletter Editor

Jocelyn Jones Evans is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of West Florida where she teaches American Politics and Women and Politics. Evans earned her B.A. from Berry College in 1997 and her Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma in 2002. Before joining the faculty at the University of West Florida in 2003, she served as an APSA Congressional Fellow in 2001 and as a lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay during the 2002-2003 academic year.

Jocelyn's research interests include: women and partisanship, the impact of terrorism on Capitol Hill, legislative behavior, and antifeminism. She is the author of *Women, Partisanship, and Congress* (Palgrave, 2005). Her work also appears in the *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Social Sciences Quarterly*, and *Political Research Quarterly*.

Michelle Hale Williams, Website Manager

Michelle Hale Williams is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of West Florida. She teaches courses on comparative politics, West European politics, East European politics, democratization, and political radicalism. She earned a B.A. from Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC, an M.A. from Villanova University in Philadelphia, PA, and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in Boulder, CO.

Her research focus is on far right parties, political party behavior, nationalism and ethnic politics, and information literacy. Her book *The Impact of Radical Right-wing Parties in West European Democracies* was published in September 2006 (Palgrave). In the book, she develops measures for gauging the effect that far right parties are having on popular discourse, political party competition, and government policy-making in Germany, France and Austria. Her work appears in *PS: Political Science and Politics*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, and forthcoming in 2008 in *German Politics*.

Business Meeting Minutes

**Women's Caucus for Political Science—South
Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 10, 2008
5:30 p.m.—6:30 p.m.**

Present: Kate Bratton (Louisiana State University); Nancy Bednar (Delmar College); Wendy Gunther-Canada (University of Alabama at Birmingham); Michelle Hale Williams (University of West Florida); Allison Calhoun-Brown (Georgia State University); Laura van Assendelft (Mary Baldwin College); Cytha Stottlemeyer (Mary Baldwin College); Karen Kedrowski (Winthrop University); Krista Billingsley (University of West Florida); Challen Nicklen (Louisiana State University); Denise Baer; Susan Carroll (Rutgers University); Georgia Duerst-Lahti (Beloit College); Marianne Githens (Goucher College); Susan MacManus (University of South Florida); Marian Lief Palley (University of Delaware); Barbara Presnall (Texas Woman's University); Kathleen Simon (Appalachian State University); Mary Thornberry (Davidson College), and Valeria Sinclair-Chapman (University of Rochester).

President Karen Kedrowski (Winthrop University) called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Intercontinental Vieux Carre Room A of the Intercontinental Hotel (New Orleans). She invited all to attend the reception, which was scheduled to take place after the business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes from the last business meeting, January 2007, were distributed and approved by the body.

2007-2008 Officers: President, Evelyn Simien (University of Connecticut); Vice President, Laura Olson (Clemson University); Secretary, Kathleen Bratton (Louisiana State University); Treasurer, Sara Zeigler (Eastern Kentucky University); Newsletter Editor, Jocelyn Evans (University of West Florida); Website Manager, Michelle Williams (University of West Florida).

Treasurer's Report: Sara Zeigler (Eastern Kentucky University) gave the Treasurer's Report. The Women's Caucus is in good financial standing. At this time, Zeigler solicited dues and collected renewal payments. The Treasurer's Report was distributed and approved by the body.

Recognizing Karen McCurdy: Karen Kedrowski extended thanks to Karen McCurdy (Georgia Southern University), who set up this year's reception. She also announced that McCurdy has been offered the position of Executive Director of SPSA and has accepted the position.

Study of the Status of Women in the Profession: In 2007, the Caucus passed a resolution proposing that the SPSA update its studies on the status of women in the region (in conjunction with the APSA's committee on the status of women). At that time, APSA Executive Director Michael Britnall expressed interest in the project and volunteered to have APSA cover the costs and administer the survey instrument nationally with the input of both the WCPS-South and APSA's status of women committee.

Britnall offered a report updating the Caucus on this effort. He noted that the planned survey of members is a collaborative effort of several regional associations that came together for an omnibus study.

Factors to be incorporated in the survey instrument include:

- Progress through faculty ranks – leaky pipeline for women and others
- Degree to which demographic traits relate to success
- Two study populations:
 - Every new Ph.D. from last five years
 - Entire U.S. professoriate

APSA is supporting research assistance for the project, which will proceed through the University of Iowa. The survey will go into the field late Spring 2008, and data analysis is scheduled for Fall 2008. All instruments have been collected and compiled, resulting in a very lengthy survey of 236 questions. Those interested in working on instrument should contact Britnall at APSA.

A Question-and-Answer session regarding the survey ensued after Britnall's report:

Q: This seems more comprehensive, but a survey of all department chairs has been conducted in past years. Will there be any effort to provide more data on women as department chairs?

Britnall: There may be some information that is relevant, but those questions have not been retained. APSA has been working on a departmental survey project, and it should take about a year to sort that material. Chair questions could be added to that survey. It is important to hear the chairs' voices.

Kedrowski: Many of the older questions from our surveys have been incorporated into the survey. One benefit of the new survey will be that we will be talking to faculty themselves rather than filtering through the department chairs. We want to be sure that there are separate analyses of women of color and distinct regional analyses. Presumably Simien will continue to make those same points.

Britnall: There's no reason to think that the dataset will not be available to all interested parties.

Kedrowski: Please ask your colleagues to complete the survey.

Britnall: The survey will go out on paper and includes everyone who teaches in a political science department (all those listed in APSA's directory). The survey will not go to graduate students at this time.

Q: If it's a paper survey, won't you have problems with the response rate – are people going to be required to put a stamp on this and how will you ensure adequate numbers of Latino, Asian, and Black women? Might be wise to appear at events where those groups gather to encourage participation. But I have worries about response rates and follow-through.

Britnall: Excellent idea, and response rates are always a concern. It might be an advantage to do a short form online, but online response rates there are not necessarily better. I will take the suggestions back to the Iowa group.

Kedrowski: I think we should mention the survey on our listservs and in other places, very broadly across the discipline. The 200+ questions are divided between the instruments – no one will receive the entire form. I

thank APSA for taking on this project and especially Vicki Hesli, who has put in a large number of hours.

New Business: Kedrowski distributed a copy of a draft of a website, which seems better than carrying the box about and worrying about who has the box. The website can be loaded to the SPSA website and linked there. Kedrowski reviewed the box and decided that only the materials from 2000 onward will be posted, and the remainder will go to the SPSA archives. We will maintain history on the website from here on.

Sue Tolleson-Rinehart noted that she helped to create the first documents when she was President of the Caucus in 1983. Our often students don't understand the past, and it is important to make it available. Laura van Assendelft suggested that it might be nice to scan some of the documents for our younger members—for example, handwritten commentary from Diane Blair. Kedrowski said she would look into this possibility.

A motion to proceed with the building of the website was approved by the body.

A motion to approve changes to the Bylaws to create a Web Manager officer was approved by the body.

A motion to elect the 2008 officers was approved by the body.

Announcements: Members were encouraged to attend reception and roundtable, keynote, and other panels relating to the section. Members were encouraged to nominate individuals for the Best Dissertation on Women and Politics Award.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Olson
Clemson University

and

Sara Zeigler
Eastern Kentucky University

Job Postings

Position: Assistant Professor

Salary: Unspecified

Institution: [University of West Georgia](http://www.westga.edu)

Location: Georgia

Date posted: 3/6/2008

Application deadline: 3/25/2008

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The Political Science/Planning Department invites applications for a tenure-track position in international relations at the assistant professor level to begin August 1, 2008.

Qualifications include a Ph.D. in political science or international relations, potential for scholarly research and publications, evidence of teaching excellence, and commitment to public service. Duties will include teaching courses in international relations, international law and/or organizations, and introductory American government. Further specialty in international gender and ethnicity theory, foreign policy, or regional international relations encouraged. Participation in Global Studies program possible. Review of applications will begin March 25, 2008, and will continue until the position is filled. Candidates should send a letter of application, vitae, and the names of three references to:

Dr. Heather A. D. Mbaye
Search Committee Chair
Department of Political Science and Planning
University of West Georgia
Carrollton, GA 30118

UWG is a culturally diverse university and an equal opportunity, affirmative action educational institution. Please be advised that should you be recommended for a position, University System of Georgia Board of Regents policy requires the completion of a background check as prior condition of employment.

E-mail : hmbaye@westga.edu

Phone : 678-839-4988

Fax : 678-839-5009

Dr. Heather Mbaye

Assistant Professor
Political Science/Planning
University of West Georgia
1601 Maple Street
Carrollton, GA 30118 USA

Position: Assistant Professor American Politics
Salary: Unspecified
Institution: [Valdosta State University](http://www.valdosta.edu)
Location: Georgia
Date posted: 3/6/2008
Application deadline: 4/8/2008

Political Science: The Department of Political Science seeks candidates for a tenure-track faculty position beginning August 1, 2008. Possession of a Ph.D. in Political Science is required for appointment. The Department is seeking a candidate with demonstrated teaching skills and an active research agenda in American institutions and/or Political Behavior. The Department currently consists of 18 full-time political science and public administration faculty in a program that offers a B.A. in Political Science, the B.A. in Legal Assistant Studies, MPA, and DPA degrees. Teaching load includes upper-division courses in the specialty and lower-division courses in American government and introduction to political science. Previous teaching experience is preferred. To apply, submit a letter of interest, faculty application form (http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/documents/Faculty_Employment_APP.pdf), curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, sample of written scholarly work, graduate transcripts, course syllabi and teaching evaluations (if available) to Dr. Michael Baun, Search Chair, Political Science, VSU, Valdosta, Georgia 31698-0056. For more information phone 229-333-5771 or email mbaun@valdosta.edu. VSU is an equal opportunity educational institution. Review of applications begins April 8, 2008, and continues until position is filled.

E-mail : mbaun@valdosta.edu

Web Site :

http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/documents/Faculty_Employment_APP.pdf

Phone : 229-333-5771

Dr. Michael Baun

Search Chair

Political Science

Valdosta State University

1500 N Patterson St

Valdosta, GA 31698-0056

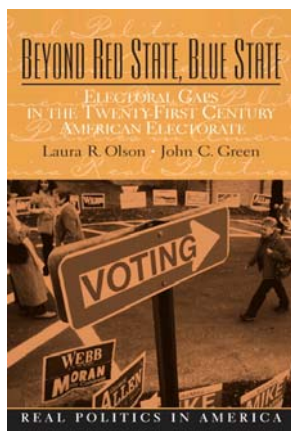
USA

Position: Head of its Department of Political Science
Salary: Unspecified
Institution: [The University of Tennessee \(UT\), Knoxville](http://www.utk.edu)
Location: Tennessee
Date posted: 2/22/2008

Political Science: The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, seeks applications and nominations for the **Head of its Department of Political Science**, beginning Fall 2008. Applicants should have scholarly and research credentials appropriate for appointment at the rank of Professor. We seek a nationally recognized scholar with strong interpersonal and communication abilities, a commitment to support quality teaching, and demonstrated knowledge of and commitment to AA/EEO/Diversity. The Department offers the B.A. degree in Political Science, as well as MPA, M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. We seek a Department Head who will help us to continue to grow as we seek national prominence. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is the state's flagship research institution, a campus of choice for outstanding undergraduates, and a premier graduate institution. As a land-grant university, it is committed to excellence in learning, scholarship, and engagement with society. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. The university welcomes and honors people of all races, creeds, cultures, and sexual orientations, and values intellectual curiosity, pursuit of knowledge and academic freedom and integrity. More information about the department is available at: <http://web.utk.edu/~polisci>. We ask that applicants send a letter of interest, a vita, and the names of four references to: Professor Scott Frey, Chair, Head Search Committee, Department of Political Science, 1001 McClung Tower, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-0410. Review of applications will begin March 14, 2008, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

Announcements

Laura Olson and John Green are the editors of the recent publication: *Beyond Red State, Blue State: Electoral Gaps in the Twenty-First Century American Electorate* (Prentice Hall, 2008).



Reminders

Please send dues to the Treasurer at the following address:

Sara Zeigler
Treasurer, Women's Caucus South
113 McCreary Building
521 Lancaster Avenue
Department of Government
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, KY 40475

Please send newsletter submissions to the Newsletter Editor at the following address:

Jocelyn Evans
Newsletter Editor, Women's Caucus South
Bldg. 50, Rm. 125
11000 University Parkway
Pensacola, FL 32514
jevans@uwf.edu