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LEGISLATIVE STUDIES SECTION NEWSLETTER

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From the Chair

[David R. Mayhew](#)
Yale University

Celebration! The Legislation Studies Section is now 25 years old! In honor of that,

the LSS will sponsor two events at the upcoming APSA convention in Boston, not just the usual one.

Friday, 5:30 p.m.: The annual business meeting. Presentation of awards, of which we have four, is among the agenda items.

Friday, 6:30 to 8:00: Reception to celebrate the 25th anniversary. Right after the business meeting. Munchies, cash bar, and schmoozing. Please drop in. Toasts and reflections regarding the LSS will be presented somewhere around 7:00.

From the Editor

[Ronald M. Peters, Jr.](#)

Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma

I would like to take this occasion to remind section members that our list serve and bulletin board are available for your use. We have about three dozen members signed up for the list serve but so far very little traffic. I hope that more members will subscribe so that the list can build a constituency that will encourage its further use.

In the January 2002 issue of the newsletter, we offered members the opportunity to respond to a survey on the question of the creation of a working papers section for our web site. At the annual business meeting in Boston, we would like to discuss the results of that survey and other matters related to the section's web site.

If you do not plan to attend the meeting, please either fill out the survey or send us an email message indicating your view on the value of a working papers section. The survey form and brief discussion can be accessed through the announcements page at <http://www.apsanet.org/~lss/announce.html>).

We welcome feedback on any aspect of the newsletter, so please email me at rpeters@ou.edu if you have questions, comments, or concerns.

Elsewhere in this edition of the LSS Newsletter we note with sorrow the passing of our friend [Larry Longley](#). I suppose that all members of the LSS have been touched by Larry in one way or another. Before I met him personally, I had been on the receiving end of his massive renditions of the LSS Newsletter, at that time delivered in hard copy with much of it mimeographed. Many trees were sacrificed on the altar of our shared endeavor. Later, I had the privilege of participating in two events abroad that Larry had been instrumental in organizing in cooperation with Phil Norton, one in Berlin and the other in Wroxton, England. Larry, more than any other single person, has been responsible for the development of the LSS and the parallel development of legislative studies within the IPSA. And so, any time I work on this publication or contemplate participation in an international conference, I think of Larry. He was always full of enthusiasm, kindness, and dedication. I shall miss him.

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Book Notes

- [*A Chill in the House: Actor Perspectives on Change and Continuity in the Pursuit of Legislative Success*](#)
 - [*Congress and the Politics of Emerging Rights*](#)
 - [*Discharging Congress: Government by Commission*](#)
 - [*Hitching a Ride: Agenda-Setting in the Shadow of the Omnibus*](#)
 - [*The Impact of Women in Public Office*](#)
 - [*Political Parties and Policy Gridlock in American Government*](#)
 - [*Racialized Coverage of Congress: The News in Black and White*](#)
 - [*Reforming Parliamentary Committees*](#)
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A Chill in the House: Actor Perspectives on Change and Continuity in the Pursuit of Legislative Success. Lewis G. Irwin. State University of New York Press, 2002. ISBN 0791451747. \$25.95, paperback. 259 pages.

Irwin sets out to focus this work not on the changes that have taken place in the House of Representatives since the 1960s (as is common in current scholarly literature), but rather to focus on the element that has remained constant. That constant is the absolute necessity of coalition building to legislative success. Irwin argues that coalition building has become much more difficult in the House, and thus legislative success has become rarer.

Irwin uses several methods in this study, including comparative case studies (from the 87th, 88th and 103rd Congresses), actor interviews, and aggregate member characteristics. Irwin provides good justification for each of the methods used, as well as appendices detailing the case selection and interview processes. The methods are explained and seem to be used well in tandem to produce stronger support for the argument.

At no point in this work does Irwin deny that changes have taken place in the House, especially among the actors, processes and strategies involved in legislating. However, he continues to maintain that the underlying components of legislative success have remained largely the same over the decades.

Irwin concludes with a new model of legislative success, which accounts for two specific obstacles to building a successful coalition. First, members are constantly in the midst of the "money chase", which leads to an increased workload for all members and less opportunity (and less inclination) to form interpersonal relationships with colleagues. Second, there has been a general net decrease in trust among members. In short, members must work harder to build a support base for any piece of legislation.

One specific point that Irwin neglected to address adequately is the Republican Congress since 1995. In a very brief epilogue, he glances over the pessimistic views of current and veteran legislators regarding the Republican leadership and its effects on the policymaking process, but that is the end of his treatment of the subject.

Congress and the Politics of Emerging Rights. Colton C. Campbell and John F. Stack, Jr. Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 2002. ISBN 0742516474, \$24.95, paper, 208 pages.

The modern age can be marked by its dedication to and expansion of the concept of rights. Not only has our understanding of rights become more involved and complex, but also we have been faced with the creation of new rights (many of which have come to surface with the advent of advanced technology). In this edited volume, some organization is attempted for understanding this new age of rights, particularly regarding how Congress has dealt with the rise in rights conflicts. As the Constitution only scratched the surface of how far the rights issue would need to be addressed, Campbell and Stack and their contributors attempt to shed light on the unique role of Congress in defining the scope of rights in the American lexicon of justice.

While most of the articles in this book offer something closer to a report on how congressional action has shaped the evolution of old rights and the creation of new rights, a few of the articles draw deeper conclusions that help set this work in the camp of rights theory. The Regan chapter on privacy rights develops an important insight into contemporary rights debates: rather than focusing on rights as they exist because of our worth as moral beings, the dialogue of rights has evolved to focus on humans primarily as consumers. Thus, "the individual is protected as a consumer or purchaser, not as a moral being" (63). Rights, conceived as instruments of protection alone and outside the realm of moral inherency, can be dangerous as political actors can use them as bargaining chips in coalitions rather than as benchmarks for a just society. In a separate chapter about the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), Rae reminds us how the label "rights" can be used to frame an issue which might not get attention without that identification. When something is referred to as a "right", it assumes the power of trump. This has had a huge impact on how issues get placed on the policy agenda.

Each chapter offers a different angle on what rights have become. While the first and second segments of the book focuses on individual rights, the third segment focuses on the rights of institutions, and the final chapter filters American rights theory through a comparative lens. What results is a collection of articles that are very loosely tied together. There seems to be no overarching argument made by the book and, in lieu of a conclusion that ties the works together, the editors provide a reprint of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments.

-- Lynsey Morris
Carl Albert Fellow
University of Oklahoma

Discharging Congress: Government by Commission. Colton C. Campbell. Praeger Press, 2002. ISBN 0275975118, \$62.95, cloth, 216 pages.

In *Discharging Congress*, Campbell explores the proliferation in Congress of ad hoc commissions, i.e. "blue-ribbon commissions, committees, councils, boards, or task forces" (xiii). Commissions have become increasingly popular congressional tools, consisting of both elected and nonelected officials to address a wide range of policy issues. Critics of congressional commissions argue that they allow Congress to shirk its legislative responsibilities. Colton suggests, however, that "the circumstances that surround the creation of ad hoc commissions are complex and vary widely" (xvi). Avoidance is only one of many justifications for congressional commissions.

After examining the evolution and structure of commissions, the book turns to the "path and politics of the delegation process" (xvi). Campbell suggests that Congress delegates issues to ad hoc commissions for expertise, workload, and avoidance. The next three

chapters present examples of issues delegated by Congress because of information deficiency or the need for issue expertise, because of workload constraints, or because of blame avoidance. In the end, the author concludes that commissions are used by the modern Congress to reach a number of goals through delegation.

Combining both interview and non-interview data, Campbell surveys the congressional commissions established between the 93rd and 106th Congresses, while conducting interviews during the 103rd through the 106th Congresses. The contribution of this work to congressional theory is three-fold. First, this book examines a critical aspect of the modern Congress largely neglected by congressional theorists -- the proliferation of congressional commissions. Secondly, as the author suggests, it is the first study of congressional commissions to span a number of commissions rather than a single case study. Finally and perhaps most notably, the author develops a three-pronged theoretical framework (expertise, workload, and avoidance) for understanding the delegation of issues to commissions.

In the end, Campbell contends: "When used astutely, ad hoc commissions foster bargaining, consensus, and compromise in relation to policy proposals, mitigating conflict within Congress that might incapacitate the institution" (132). We must be aware, however, that commissions can also be used to shirk congressional responsiveness. It is the responsibility of Congress to use the ad hoc commission sparingly, when it is actually "better suited to resolving the policy problems... than is the normal legislative process" (134).

-- Jocelyn Jones
Carl Albert Fellow
University of Oklahoma

Hitching a Ride: Agenda-Setting in the Shadow of the Omnibus. Glen S. Krutz. Ohio State University Press, 2001. ISBN 0814208703, \$60.00, cloth, 232 pages.

Krutz begins this compact and tightly written book with two general goals: to investigate why Congress has made the move toward omnibus legislation; and secondly, to define omnibus legislation more clearly than the literature has to date. He succeeds in fulfilling both, and uses the omnibus vehicle aptly to address questions that are institutional in nature and pose some interesting challenges to existing assumptions about the nature of congressional and presidential behavior.

Krutz frames this investigation within Schattschneider's scope of conflict, and thus highlights the major fear of those who oppose this sort of legislation: omnibus bills focus on a necessary activity that Congress performs (such as the passage of a budget reconciliation bill), but may contain numerous controversial provisions that go relatively unnoticed. Omnibus bills enjoy fast-tracking through committees because they are often considered "essential" business, and therefore debate over legislation remains largely in the realm of the bill's broader issues. This overshadowing of more contentious agenda items serves two general purposes: first, it allows Congressional leadership the ability to minimize debate surrounding policy proposals that may not enjoy either broad support from Congress as a whole or more particularistic support from committees; and second, prior to the presidential line-item veto, it served as a means for Congress to push through legislation that it knew the president would find distasteful. By lessening the visibility of controversial issues and increasing the complexity of the legislative assessment process, the scope of conflict over such amendments remains narrow.

Since, as Krutz points out, omnibus bills are by and large successful in passing through the gauntlet of congressional and presidential approval, one might wonder why the majority of legislation debated by Congress is still traditional legislation, sponsored by one or two members, and far more likely to meet with failure. Krutz addresses this question by examining why, as he puts it, "some bills 'hitch a ride on the omnibus' while most must go it alone" (7), and by investigating who benefits from such legislation, Congress or the president? The book's theoretical framework addresses the longstanding "discussion"

between institutional scholars and behavioralists. As Krutz points out, these two camps offer competing theories as to what is responsible for change in the structure of institutional rules over time: pressures of the environment in which Congress operates; or the purposive actions of key members. Krutz then enters a discussion of the "organizational perspective" in congressional literature, which despite its obvious pertinence to the broader arguments laid out already, does not quite seem to gel. In contrast, his discussion of the "purposive explanations of institutional change" is far more cohesive, probably because he focuses primarily on two types of approaches: partisan and distributive, where the literature is better developed (and cross-referenced, one might add). This is a pity, since the organizational perspective is, as Krutz himself observed, an obvious fit for the thrust of his research questions, but sorely underutilized in research on political (as opposed to administrative) institutions. Perhaps the most telling point is Krutz' conclusion at the end of this chapter that in reality, the argument that these are competing theories of congressional change is really a straw man: both contribute to institutional change over time. Krutz then develops an integrated framework that allows an examination of both micro-level (individual action) and macro-level (institutional action) developments as well as the influence that both levels exert on each other. The key to the integrated model is both the differentiation between major influences for each level and the expectation that it is the interaction of these influences that creates the institutional capacity for change. Macro-level influences are those that affect both the behavior of individuals and the behavior of Congress in its relationship with the executive. Micro-level influences are the incentives that prompt individual members to form coalitions and thereby pass legislation.

In order to answer the questions posed above through the framework, the omnibus is described as a way for Congress and its members to "manage uncertainty in the legislative process" (32). Thus one would expect that the more complicated and unwieldy the process becomes, the more likely members of Congress would be to see omnibus legislation as viable. One of the implications of his observations of the benefits of omnibus legislation for party leadership is that the omnibus may also serve to coalesce party power and build solidarity among members. As he points out, the omnibus offers advantages to both leaders and rogue members who may want, in essence, to ride the bus for free. However, if such legislation is perceived as a tool of power wielded only by the majority party in Congress, this raises questions about how minority party leadership may view efforts to push such legislation through. The question of power distribution across party lines, especially under conditions of divided government, is addressed by noting that congressional party leadership is careful to craft such legislation "within certain limits observed by the actors" (13). However, this question returns as a potential challenger to some of the conclusions drawn, even after an extensive and careful analysis of the circumstances surrounding the creation, debate and passage of omnibus legislation.

The book's strengths are its attention to the detail and logic of the argument (or as Krutz puts it, the "logic of omnibus legislation") and the sound nature of the discussion of the extension of work done on the Baumgartner and Jones Policy Agendas Project. Krutz' definition of omnibus legislation is a notable addition to the existing selection and may arguably become the benchmark for such research in the future. The nature of the omnibus is interesting in its lack of formal rule definition, existing as Krutz describes it, within "the informal policy subsystems that abound in Washington" (89). The irony of this development, of course, lies in the first usage of omnibus legislation in 1950 as an attempt to consolidate the budget reconciliation into one bill in order to ensure that Congress not exceed its mandated ceiling. The push for professionalism in Congress and the presidency was at a peak on the heels of a number of reorganization acts meant to consolidate and formalize procedures in the name of efficiency. Thus, Krutz argues, there was a moment when institutional (collective) and individual incentives to change the way in which the game was played coincided. Thus Congress evolved by incorporating the omnibus into its repertoire, to be used on an increasingly frequent basis as a tool to strengthen the political power of the institution during years of divided government and to overcome gridlock within Congress itself. The discussion of how this takes place and its importance in defining the role of Congress as an institution is aptly executed and well worth reading.

If there is a weakness in the book's approach, it lies perhaps in the nature of the straw man

at the beginning. A return to the roots of organizational theory may have provided a more satisfying bridge across the individual-collective divide, as well as a more compelling discussion of the endogeneity-exogeneity problem when dealing with institutions that appear to be more than the sum of their parts. However, Krutz is in good company when he leaves the development of this discussion for another day, and one might argue that he does so in a manner that makes waiting for the next ride a pleasure.

-- Jill Tao
Associate Professor of Political Science
University of Oklahoma

The Impact of Women in Public Office Susan J. Carroll. Indiana University Press, 2001. ISBN 0253214882, \$24.95, cloth, 282 pages.

Bringing together a distinguished group of scholars of women in politics, this volume edited by Susan J. Carroll seeks to answer the questions: What impact are women public officials having on public policy, and what conclusions can be drawn about the connection between increased descriptive representation and substantive representation of women? This book marshals a wide range of empirical evidence from various legislative settings ranging from the U.S. Congress, state legislatures, and local government councils and about women serving in a variety of public offices such as top foreign policy advisors in the U.S. State and Defense departments, mayors and judges. The collection also employs a wide variety of empirical methods ranging from historical biography to survey research to in-depth interviews.

While little of the data is new, the volume's thematic analysis strengthens the collection. The eleven chapters in the book are organized around three main topics: the impact of women in state and local offices, the importance of political context, and the effects of identity politics. The last of these sections incorporates useful insights about the interplay between racial identity and gender and between feminism and gender.

The studies in this volume do not provide a single simple answer but rather paint a nuanced picture that gender-related impact depends in large part on the institutional and political context, historical circumstances, the number of other women serving in public office and the extent to which they work together, and the self-identification of women office holders with feminist values. A particularly striking illumination of these themes comes from Janann Sherman's reexamination of Senator Margaret Chase Smith's ambiguous relationship as a pioneering woman public official with the women's movement.

One of the conclusions reached is that "certain political contexts are less women-friendly than others and that gender differences usually are less apparent in these more hostile environments" (xx). By offering examples of women serving in varied public roles and contexts - local, state, federal, legislative, administrative, and judicial - Carroll and her contributors provide a useful marker by which women's impact in the future will be measured and the degree of hostility or friendliness will be assessed.

-- Cindy Simon Rosenthal
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University of Oklahoma

Political Parties and Policy Gridlock in American Government David R. Jones. The Edwin Mellen Press, 2001. ISBN 0773474269, \$79.95, cloth, 156 pages.

In *Political Parties and Policy Gridlock in American Government*, David R. Jones offers an explanation for legislative stalemate, popularly referred to as gridlock, which is not effectively captured by the divided government hypothesis. Abandoning the divided government hypothesis, Jones offers a system-wide perspective that accounts for how the president, Congress, and political parties create conditions conducive to legislative change or for gridlock.

Jones's study is particularly relevant for today's congressional scholars because his book addresses three popular issues that currently have captivated many within political science - sources of gridlock, consequences of divided government, and the importance of political parties. Basically, Jones believes that the widely adhered divided government hypothesis is based upon three flawed assumptions: one, the majority rules assumption that passage requires support from simple majorities; second, the absolute veto assumption where Congress and the president must agree to break gridlock; third, the distinctive party assumption that holds the policy preferences of parties are clearly different. His model claims to avoid these fallacies by taking into account institutional structure (filibuster, veto override), partisan strength, and the variation in party polarization.

In effect, Jones offers his own theory, entitled party polarization theory, which hypothesizes that unified government is just as prone to gridlock as divided government when parties are highly polarized and neither party has a large majority. Or, that divided government is just as productive when party polarization is low or one party has a veto-proof, filibuster-proof majority. To test his theory, Jones analyzes the effect of parties on the volume of major law production and analyzes the effect of parties on the likelihood that specific proposal will become law. Using his own original data set from 1947 to 1998, Jones finds that higher polarization reduces major law production and major policy proposals when neither seat has a large advantage. Nonetheless, this negative effect is diminished when a party has enough votes to overcome filibusters or vetoes. Particularly intriguing, Jones then examines 50 specific cases in the policy areas of labor-management, civil rights, and campaign finance reform; 32 of these the divided government hypothesis fails to explain (e.g., major policies passing during divided government or failing during unified government). With only four exceptions, his party polarization model explains what divided government cannot.

In conclusion, Jones's book is a search for an overarching theory that can more accurately account for policy gridlock. His model does not simply add to the divided government literature; rather, it overthrows this conventional wisdom in favor of a system-wide approach with institutional and partisan factors. These new findings carry very different implications. The implication of this research is that in order to correct for gridlock, one must address the origins of party polarization and the use of the filibuster.

-- Josh Stockley
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Racialized Coverage of Congress: The News in Black and White. Jeremy Zilber and David Niven. Praeger Press, 2000. ISBN 0275968413, \$62.95, cloth, 160 pages.

Jeremy Zilber and David Niven have produced an outstanding scholarly work in *Racialized Coverage of Congress*. This book is an ambitious look at the race question as it relates to important institutions in the United States. Not being content with merely reporting that inequalities exist, Zilber and Niven go to the very heart of the inequalities and attempt to find the root of the problem. This book is also ambitious in that the authors are not afraid to make normative statements about the *status quo* of race in America. Indeed the authors note that "the underlying premise of this book is that the existence of dramatic racial disparities -- in terms of both holding opinions and holding public office--is anything *but* a natural state of affairs" (2).

Zilber and Niven identify the perception of the minorities by the majority as one important factor in creating institutional inequalities. As perception is part of the root of the problem, the authors show the influence of the media in creating biased racial public opinion. Certainly the media does not overtly set out to create bias. However, in an environment of ratings-driven news, the selection of news stories and the content of those stories may intrinsically create bias.

In an attempt to illustrate how this bias is actually present, the authors look at the portrayal of minority representatives in Congress. Their contention is that news-stories about minority

representatives are fundamentally different than news-stories about white representatives. The research asks three questions. "To what extent is racialized media coverage the norm for sitting members of Congress? To the extent that we do find racialized media coverage of Congress, what is its cause? What are the real-world political effects of racialized reporting?" (13).

Zilber and Niven employ various methods to carry out their research. Content analysis of newspaper articles is used to establish the difference in reporting between minority and white members of Congress. Interviews with congressional press secretaries and congressional reporters are used to illustrate the perceptions of the important actors in the media process.

Finally, the authors intrepidly offer suggestions by which the media coverage of Congress might be improved to ameliorate racial bias. This research is an important step in the study of racial politics and the media. It is methodologically rich and the authors ask the important questions that make political science relevant.

-- Craig Stapley
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Reforming Parliamentary Committees. Reuven Hazan. Ohio State University Press, 2001. ISBN 0814208789, \$50.00, cloth, 183 pages.

The committee system of a parliament determines how well that parliament is able to perform its duties of legislation and government oversight. In this work, Reuven Hazan presents an important and insightful look at five committee structures, with a particular focus on the Israeli Knesset. By utilizing similar systems, Hazan is able to draw inferences across the systems and make suggestions for reform. The isolation of key components within the framework of Hazan's template aids in the comparative study of legislative committees and provides concrete examples for reform recommendations.

The first half of the book is dedicated to a comparative overview of the Israeli Knesset and its committee system in view of more studied Western Parliaments. He utilizes a research design which examines components of the committee structures of the Knesset, the British House of Commons, the German Bundestag, the Italian Camera dei Deputati, and the Dutch Tweede Kamer. This conceptual apparatus encompasses seven critical components which determine how well a legislative committee system will perform its two most critical functions: legislation and oversight. This method is useful for both distinguishing between the procedural, political, and legalistic aspects of a legislature, and in demonstrating how the combination of these different procedural, political, and legalistic aspects affect how well a legislature fulfills its legislative and oversight functions.

The second half of the book is dedicated to an intense look at what reforms are necessary to make the Knesset more capable of fulfilling its governing functions. In the first chapter of this section, all five systems are analyzed and Hazan points out the need for reforms in each of the five systems. The following chapters focus solely on the Knesset. Hazan draws from the template he creates and his considerable knowledge of the Israeli government and political structure to make an assessment of the required changes and the political feasibility of such changes in the Knesset's committee system.

This book is an important addition to the literature on legislative systems. The template Hazan presents for dissecting legislatures is a useful tool for comparative legislative scholars, and the information he presents is a quick reference for scholars on the functions of the legislatures. Finally, the inferences he draws regarding what reforms would work in different legislative structures are useful reference points for reformers interested in strengthening their nation's legislature.

-- Melody Huckaby

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This section is meant to provide LSS members with the basic citation information about journal articles dealing with legislatures. Numerous journals were searched in compiling this list. The major source for this information is *CSA Political Science and Government*.

American Journal of Political Science

"Conditional Party Government in the States," John H. Aldrich and James S. Coleman Battista, 46, 1 (January 2002): 164-172.

"Making Policy Stick: Why the Government Gets What It Wants in Multiparty Parliaments," William B. Heller, 45, 4 (October 2001): 780-798.

"Senatorial Delay in Confirming Federal Judges, 1947-1998," Sarah A. Binder and Forrest Maltzman, 46, 1 (January 2002): 190-199.

American Politics Research

"Bill Sponsorship and Intraracial Voting among African American Representatives," Kenny J. Whitby, 30, 1 (January 2002): 93-109.

"Partisanship, Consensus, and Committee-Floor Divergence: A Comparison of Member Behavior in the 96th and 104th Congresses," Jamie L. Carson, Charles Finocchiaro, David W. Rohde, 30, 1 (January 2002): 3-33.

"Presidential Influence and Minority Party Liaison on Veto Overrides: New Evidence from the Ford Presidency," Richard S. Conley, 30, 1 (January 2002): 34-65.

Dereito: Revista Xurídica da Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

"As fontes do dereito parlamentario galego (Bases of Galician Parliamentary Law)," Xosé A. Sarmiento Méndez, 9, 2 (2000): 245-257. (GAL)

Journal of Legislative Studies

"Dealing with Big Brother: Relations with the First Chamber," Roger Scully, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 93-104.

"Fundamentals of Institutional Design: The Functions and Powers of Parliamentary Second Chambers," Samuel C. and Anthony Mughan, 7, 2 (Spring 2001): 39-60.

"The History of Bicameralism," Donald Shell, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 5-18.

"From One Chamber to Two: The Case of Morocco," James P. Ketterer, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 135-150.

"Legislative Unicameralism: A Global Survey and a Few Case Studies," Louis Massicotte, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 151-170.

"Making Government Accountable - The Report of the Hansard Society Commission on Parliamentary Scrutiny," Greg Power, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 1-12.

"Methods of Composition of Second Chambers, R. L. Borthwick, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 19-26.

"New Scottish Parliament, New Scottish Parliamentarians?" Mark Shephard, Neil McGarvey, and Michael Cavanagh, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 79-104.

"The Office of Leader of the Opposition: An Examination of the Whitehall Version in the Commonwealth Caribbean, Hamid Ghany, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 105-122.

"Party Cohesion in the Danish Parliament," Asbjørn Skjaeveland, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 35-56.

"The Politics of Second Chamber Reform: A case Study of the House of Lords and the Passage of the House of Lords Act 1999," Michael Cockerell, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 119-134.

"Procedure: A Case Study of the House of Lords," Sir Michale Wheeler-Booth, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 77-92.

"Reconciling Accountability and Fiscal Prudence? A Case Study of the Budgetary Role and Impact of the German Parliament," Joachim Wehner, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 57-78.

"Responsibilities of Second Chambers: Constitutional and Human Rights Safeguards," Meg Russell, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 105-118.

"Socio-Economic Composition and Pay and Resources in Second Chambers," Michael Rush, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 27-38.

"Structuring Committee Decision-Making: Rules and Procedures in the US State Legislatures," Keith E. Hamm, Ronald Hudlund, and Nancy Martorano, 7, 2 (Summer 2001): 13-34.

"The Territorial Rule of Second Chambers," Meg Russell, 7, 1 (Spring 2001): 105-118.

Journal of Legislative Quarterly

"The Effects of Party and Preferences on Congressional Roll-Call Voting," Stephen Ansolabehere, James M. Snyder, Jr., and Charles Stewart III, 26, 4 (November 2001): 533-572.

"The Key Issue: Constituency Effects and Southern Senators' Roll-Call Voting on Civil Rights," M. V. Hood, Quentin Kidd, and Irwin L. Morris, 26, 4 (November 2001): 599-621.

"The Importance of Issues in Senate Campaigns: Citizens' Reception of Issue Messages," Kim Fridkin Kahn and Patrick J. Kenney, 26, 4 (November 2001): 573-597.

"Influencing from Impaired Administrations: Presidents, White House Scandals, and Legislative Leadership," Scott R. Meinke and William D. Anderson, 26, 4 (November 2001): 639-659.

"Legislative Professionalism and the Demand for Groups: The Institutional Context of Interest Population Density," Michael B. Berkman, 26, 4 (November 2001): 661-679.

"The Political Representation of Blacks in Congress: Does Race Matter?" Katherine Tate, 26, 4 (November 2001): 623-638.

Journal of Political Science

"Political Respect among Female and Male State Legislators," Mark C. Ellickson and Donald

E. Whistler, 29 (2001): 122-157.

Parliamentary Affairs

"The Commons: Mr. Blair's Lapdog?" Philip Cowley, 54, 4 (October 2001): 815-828.

Political Research Quarterly

"Explaining State Legislators' Casework and Public Resource Allocations," Mark C. Ellickson and Donald E. Whistler, 54, 3 (September 2001): 553-569.

Population Research and Policy Review

"Implications of Immigration for Apportionment," Karen A. Woodrow-Lafield, 20, 4 (August 2001): 267-289.

Public Choice

"Bargaining Power of Smaller States in German's Länderfinanzausgleich," Hans Pitlik, Günther, and Harald Strotmann, 109, 1-2 (October 2001): 183-201.

"Formal Human Capital Attainment of Career Legislators in the U.S. Congress: Modeling Legislatures as Unions," Franklin G. Mixon, Jr., 108, 3-4 (September 2001): 369-386.

"Loyal Political Cartels and Committee Assignments in Congress: Evidence from the Congressional Black Caucus," Franklin G. Mixon, Jr. and Rand W. Ressler, 108, 3-4 (September 2001): 313-330.

State Politics & Policy Quarterly

"Institutional Threat and Partisan Outcomes: Legislative Candidates' Attitudes toward Direct Democracy," Shaun Bowler, Todd Donovan, Max Neiman and Johnny Peel, 1, 4 (Winter 2001): 364-379.

"A Naturally Occurring Quasi-Experiment in the States: Research on Term Limits in Michigan," Shannon Orr, Eric Rader, Jean-Philippe Faletta, Marjorie Sarbaugh-Thompson, Lyke Thompson, John Strate, and Richard Elling, 1, 4 (Winter 2001): 433-445.

"On the Outside Looking In: Lobbyists' Perspectives on the Effects of State Legislative Term Limits," Gary Moncrief and Joel A. Thompson, 1, 4 (Winter 2001): 394-411.

Rasprave in Gradivo - Treatises and Documents

"Reprezentacija in participacija etninih skupin v zakonodajnih organih (Representation and Participation of Ethnic Communities in Legislative Bodies)," Mirjam Polzer Srienz, 36-37, (2000): 227-254. (SLV)

The Public Interest

"Moynihan's Legacy," Jeffrey O'Connell and Richard F. Bland, 142, (Winter 2001): 95-106.

West European Politics

"Parliamentary Government in Different Shapes," Guy-Erik Isaksson, 24, 4 (October 2001): 40-54.

Women & Politics

"A View from the Top: Gender Differences in Legislative Priorities among State Legislative

Leaders," Thomas H. Little, Dana Dunn, and Rebecca E. Deen, 22, 4 (2001): 29-50.

Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen

"Abgehobene Abgeordnete? Die gesellschaftliche Vernetzung der deutschen Volksvertreter (Representatives Alienated from their Constituency? The Social Integration of German Representatives)," Werner J. Patzelt and Karin Algasinger, 32, 3 (August 2001): 503-527. (GER)

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Volume 25, Number 2, July 2002

Links to recent articles on the *Governing* magazine web site
<http://www.governing.com/>

"Legislators Who Get It"
by Ellen Perlman

Recent articles from NCSL's magazine, *State Legislatures*:

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"The Battle Over Term Limits"
by Wayne Hoffman

"The Consensus Candidate"
by Randy Diamond

"The Incredible Shrinking Legislature"
by Edward Fitzpatrick

"The Initiative -- Take It or Leave It?"
by Jennifer Drage Bowser

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• This section contains a listing of papers in the area of legislative studies that have been presented at professional conventions in recent months. Entries were taken either from preliminary or official convention programs. The following meetings are represented:

- **MPSA**: Papers presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 25-28, 2002, Chicago, Illinois.
- **SWPSA**: Papers presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 27-30, 2002, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- **WPSA**: Papers presented at the Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 22-24, 2002, Long Beach, California.

MPSA

"Allies and Adversaries: The War of Words," Christine A. DeGregorio.

"Artisans and Artistes in the Senate: On the Patterns of Pre-Senatorial Political Experience," Geoffrey M. Vaughan and Thomas F. Schaller.

"Bringing Content to the Analysis of Roll Call Votes," Brian L. Lawson.

"Building Coalitions for Women's Issues: An Analysis of Cosponsorship in the 103rd and 104th Congresses," Michele L. Swers.

"Campaign Contributions by Member so Congress: The Spiraling Costs of the Permanent Campaign," Eric S. Heberlig and Bruce Larson.

"Campaign War Chests in Senate Elections," Jay Goodliffe.

"Campaigns and Issue Uptake in the U.S. House," Tracy E. Sulkin.

"Can Challengers Push Incumbents Around (or Out)?" Jeff L. Lazarus.

"Caucus and Conference: Legislative Party Organization in the U.S. House of Representatives," Ronald M. Peters.

"Choosing Your Playing Field: Abortion Politics and Committee Referrals," Scott Ainsworth and Thad E. Hall.

"Coalition Building in Transportation Policy: The Politics of Geography in the U.S. House of Representatives," Frances E. Lee.

"Conditional Party Voting: House Voting Reforms and Aggregate Voting Measures," Steven S. Smith and Jason M. Roberts.

"Congress, Change, and the Constitution: The Institutional," Arnold F. Shober.

"Congress, the President and Legislation," John S. Lapinski, Daniel Galvin, Matthew Glassman.

"Congressional Partisanship in Practice," Richard G. Forgette.

"Cooperation and conflict in Executive-Legislative Relations," Juan Andréa Moraes.

"Cracking the Whip: Participation on House Roll Call Votes in Lame Duck Sessions of Congress, 1870-1932," Timothy P. Nokken.

"The Decline of Committee Seniority," Russell D. Renka and Daniel E. Ponder.

"Does Sex Matter? Examining Distributive Differences Between Women and Men-Sponsored Legislation," Gregg D. Adams, Dena Levy, Christina Fastnow.

"The Enlightened Rationality of Business Campaign Contributors and Recipients: How business Contributions Influence Congressional Votes," Matthew C. Fellows and Patrick Wolf.

"The Expanded Party in Campaigns and in Congress," Jonathan Bernstein and Justin Buchler.

"Experience Counts: The Emergence of Congressional Leaders," Ron Vogel and Phillip Ardoin.

"Explaining Committee Outliers in State Senates," David W. Prince and L. Marvin Overby.

"Explaining Congressional Voting on Ethics Reform: Why Senators Voted to Limit Honoraria, 1981-1983," Beth A. Rosenson.

"Explaining Legislative Party Cohesion in America's Party Period, 1841-1917," Scott C. James.

"Follow the Money: Conditional Party Government and the Appropriations Process," Brad T. Gomez, John H. Aldrich, Jennifer L. Merolla.

"Ghost coalitions and economic reforms: Dollarization in Ecuador," André Mejia-Acosta.

"Giving Advice: Congressional lobbying in Supreme Court Selection," Christine L. Nemacheck and Rachel P. Caufield.

"House Members and Partisan Polarization in the House: How Demographics Effected Partisanship, 1964-1994," DeWayne L. Lucas.

"How Senators Decide Under Cross Pressure," Larry Evans.

"The Impact of Legislative Behavior on Candidate Emergence in House and Senate Elections," Jamie L. Carson.

"The Impact of Redistricting on Legislative Roll-Call Behavior," Marvin P. King, Jr. and Johanna L. Dunaway.

"The Influence of Senator's Electoral Strength on the Differentiation in Roll Call Voting," Jang S. Kim.

"Institutional Change, Party Discipline, and the House Democratic Caucus, 1911-1919," Matthew N. Green.

"Interest groups DO influence Congress (but it's not about money)," Jennifer N. Victor.

"Investigating the Electoral Roots of Conditional Party Government," Jamie L. Carson, Jeffrey J. Jenkins, Erick Shickler.

"The Job of Representation: Public Expectations for Members of Congress," J. Tobin Grant and Thomas J. Rudolph.

"Legislative Agendas in the American States," Kellie N. Sims Butler.

"Legislative System Performance in Civil Democracy," Stuart E. Hartger.

"Making Rain in Congressional Elections: The Motives and Mobilization of Individual Campaign

Contributors,” Peter L. Francia, John C. Green, Paul S. Herrnson, Lynda W. Powell, Clyde Wilcox.

“Making the Most of a Dollar: How Interest Groups Choose Between Spending Hard Money, Soft Money, and Lobbying,” Dorie Apollonio.

“Member-To-Member Campaign Contributions in the U.S. House of Representatives,” Kristin Kanthak.

“Minority Rights in the Senate and Property Rights in Slaves: The Importance of Dilatory Tactics in Maintaining Political Stability in the Antebellum Era,” Gregory J. Wawro.

“Modes of Moderation: Representational Styles of Ideological Moderates in the U.S. House,” Stanley P. Berard.

“National or Federal: Structuring Senatorial Preferences in the Early American Congress,” David W. Putz.

“Obstruction and Majority Rule in the Senate, 1913-1921,” Gregory Koger.

“Partisan and Strategic Considerations in Conferee Selection in Congress,” Jamie L. Carson and Ryan J. Vander Wielen.

“Partisan Competition for Media Coverage in Congress,” Patrick J. Sellers.

“Partisan Differences in Earmarking and Vote-Buying in the Senate Appropriations Committee,” Diana Evans.

“Partisan Influences on Roll-Call Voting in the U.S. House,” William Hixon and Bryan W. Marshall.

“Party and the Structure of Roll Call Voting in the State Legislatures,” Gerald C. Wright.

“Party Apostasy: The Case of Richard C. Shelby,” Martin Gruberg.

“Party Politics and the Growth of Judicial Power,” Scott J. Basinger.

“Perspectives on Amateurs and Professionals in the House of Representatives: 1970-1978,” Jacob R. Straus.

“The Pluralist Chorus in State Legislatures: Business versus Labor,” Adam H. Hoffman.

“The Political Geography of Nuclear Waste Disposal,” Lawrence A. Becker and Vincent G. Moscardelli.

“Political Strategy and Institutional Choice: Congressional Redistricting in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries,” Erik J. Engstrom.

“The Politics of Geography in Congress,” Wendy J. Schiller.

“The Politics of the Electoral Connection and the Changing Structure of Federal Aid,” Kenneth N. Bickers, Robert M. Stein, Barry S. Rundquist, Thomas M. Carsey, E. Scott Adler.

“Position Change in the Antebellum House of Representatives,” Scott R. Meinke.

“Preferences, Partisanship, and Whip Activity in the House of Representatives,” Barry C. Burden and Tammy Frisbee.

“The Processes of Drawing District Lines: Configuring Constituencies after Reapportionment,” James L. McDowell.

“Presidents, Senates, and Judges: The Politics of Judicial Selection,” Sarah A. Binder and Forrest Maltzman.

“Redistricting of the Texas Legislature 2001,” Gary M. Halter.

“Reform Politics as Public Policy: Towards Better Scholarly Analysis of Constitutional and Political Reform Proposals,” John D. Nugent.

"Representation Despite Ignorance: Subconstituency Influence on Foreign Policy," Benjamin G. Bishin.

"Representing Women: Consensus and Complexity," Debra L. Dodson. "Speaking as Women: Women and the Use of Floor Speeches in Congress," Tracy L. Osborn and Jeanette L. Morehouse.

"Republicans Play Musical Chairs: Determinants of Committee Chair Selection in the 107th Congress," Christopher J. Deering and Paul J. Wahlbeck.

"Responding to Challenges: The Electoral Connection in the antebellum Congresses, 1830-1862," Craig Goodman.

"Rewarding Party Loyalty in the U.S. Congress: Party Leaders' Use of Selective Campaign Incentives," Kathryn L. Pearson.

"Rhetoric on Representation: What Members of Congress Tell Constituents About Representational Roles," Daniel W. Lipinski.

"Senators Going Public During Supreme Court Confirmations," Michael S. Rocca and Stephen R. Routh.

"Strange Bedfellows: Strategic Voting and the Conservative Coalition in Congress in the 1930's," Brian Sala and Brian D. Humes.

"Struggling to Set the Campaign Agenda: Candidate Strategy and Campaign Dialogue in Elections," Kristin L. Campbell.

"Sunk Costs, Political Ambition, and Repeat Bids for Congress," Robert G. Boatright and Andrew J. Taylor.

"Term Limits, State Legislators, and the U.S. House of Representatives," Gretchen S. Carnes.

"A Test of Ideological Bias on House Subcommittees, 1979-2000," J. Mark Wrighton.

"Testing Competing Theories of Policy Production, 1894-1946," Garry Young and Valerie Heitshusen.

"Testing Theories of Congressional Organization: Committee Assignments from 1789-1946," David T. Canon and Charles Stewart, III.

"War for the Floor: Agenda Control and the Relationship Between Conditional Party Government and Cartel Theory," Charles J. Finocchiaro, David W. Rohde, Robert Erikson.

SWPSA

"Campaign Spending and Psychological Engagement in Election Campaigns," Robert K. Goidel, Don Gross, and Todd Shield.

"Candidate Quality in State Legislative Elections," Robert E. Hogan and Trevor A. Williams.

"Congressional Response to the Terrorist Attacks Beginning September 11th, 2001," Margaret F. Klemm and Albert C. Ringelstein.

"The Decision to Craft Agencies: State Legislators' Attitudes toward ex ante Agency Design," Sara Poggione and Chris Reenock.

"Delegation in the Devolution Era: State Legislatures and Bureaucratic Discretion," Michael Bitzer.

"Do Amateur Legislators Make Good Public Policy?" Daniel Franklin.

"Economic Tides and Candidate Emergence: From the Potential Candidate's Perspective," Denis Rey.

"Estimating Candidate Quality in the U.S. House Elections," Ben Arnold and Larycia Hawkins.

"Federal Agency--Congressional Relations: The Federal Communications Commission," Ronald Peters

and Michael Avery.

"The Full Court Press: The Executive Branch and the Legislative Process," Ken Collier.

"Gender Gap and Candidate Emergence," Marla Southerland.

"Hispanic Ascendancy, Black Empowerment and Anglo Representation on Local Councils in Miami-Dade County, Florida (circa 1952 to the present)," Allen Brierly.

"Legislative Leadership and Legislative Language: Using Media to Shape the Conditions of Conditional Party Government," Douglas B. Harris.

"Legislative Leadership in the States; Is Sinclair's Model Applicable?" Kathleen M. Dalton.

"Occupational Segregation in State and Municipal Bureaucracies: Glass Walls among Latinas, African-American Women, and White Women," Brink Kerr, Margaret Reid, and Will Miller.

"Parties, Issues and the War of Words: Promoting Policies in the 107th Congress," Christine DeGregorio.

"Politics in the New South: African Americans in the Florida State Legislature," Steven C. Tauber.

"The Replacements: Gender, Party and the Impact on Policy," Dennis Simon and Barbara Palmer.

"Representation of African American Interests in the Contemporary Mississippi Legislature," Charles E. Menifield and Stephen D. Shaffer.

"Representing Districts: Women in Congress," Richard Herrera and Michael Yawn.

"Soft Money and the 2000 Election: Democrats and Republicans Compared," Dave Wiltse and Alison Dagnes.

"Strategic Behavior of House Members: Post-Census, Pre-Redistricting," Joe Howard and Jeff May.

"Ten Years After: Assessing State Legislative Term Limits," Rob Kurfirst.

WPSA

"Congressional Options in the Face of the Supreme Court's New Federalism: The Role of Federal Enforcement Agencies," Mary McThomas.

"Congressional Scorecards and Elections: An Untapped Resource," Matthew Jarvis.

"The Consent Myth and Its Implications for Representative Legislative Bodies," Eric Prier.

"The Consequence of a Change in Government on Contribution Strategies of Political Action Committees," Marvin King, Jr.

"Defining the Terms of Debate: How Presidents, Party Leaders and Committees Influence the Decisions of the House Rules Committee," Alan Rozzi.

"Distributive Theory and Republican Committee Assignments: Are Republicans Preference Outliers?" Scott A. Frisch and Sean Q. Kelly.

"Does Legislative Diversity Lead to Good Government?" Gary W. Copeland and Courtney Cullison.

"The Impact of Redistricting on Legislative Roll-Call Behavior," Johanna Dunaway and Marvin P. King.

"The Influence of Polling in Congressional Candidate Recruitment and Emergence," Quin Monson.

"Legislative Procedures as Instruments of Political Control," Ben Webster.

"Legislator Responsiveness to Constituent Views on Low Information Issues," Benjamin G. Bishin.

"Obstruction and Majority Rule in the Senate, 1991-2000," Gregory Koger.

"Predicting Gridlock: A Multivariate Analysis of Roll Call Voting in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1789-1998." Ryan Claasen.

"Racial and Ethnic Minorities and Legislative Participation: The Role of Political Parties in the U.S. and Britain, 1970-2000," Miki C. Kittilson and Katherine Tate.

"What's a Nice Heterosexual Like You Doing With a Bill Like This?" Nicholas P. Ray.

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The Campaign Finance Institute

CFI announces a new disclosure portal now available on their website. The portal's direct address is http://www.cfinst.org/disc_links/index.html

The portal contains deep links -- not just home pages -- for:

- FEC disclosure by candidates, parties, PACs, soft money, etc.
- IRS disclosure of "527" political committees that do not disclose to the FEC.
- Lobbying disclosure reports under the Lobbying Disclosure and Foreign Agents Registration Act.
- State electronic disclosure websites for the states and some cities.
- Select nongovernmental websites for campaign finance data, issue advertising data, nonprofit organizations' tax filings, federal contractors, and more.

The general address for the Institute's website is <http://www.cfinst.org>

Dirksen Congressional Center Research Awards

The Dirksen Congressional Center invites applications for grants to fund research on congressional leadership and the U.S. Congress. The Center, named for the late Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen, is a private, nonpartisan, nonprofit research and educational organization devoted to the study of Congress and its leaders. Since 1978, the Congressional Research Awards (formerly the Congressional Research Grants) program has paid out over \$500,000 to support more than 300 projects. Applications are accepted at any time, but the deadline is February 1 for the annual selections, which are announced in March. A total of \$50,000 will be available in 2003.

The competition is open to individuals with a serious interest in studying Congress. Political scientists, historians, biographers, scholars of public administration or American studies, and journalists are among those eligible. The Center encourages graduate students to apply and awards a significant portion of the funds for dissertation research.

The awards program does not fund undergraduate or pre-Ph.D. study. Organizations are not eligible. Research teams of two or more individuals are eligible. No institutional overhead or indirect costs may be claimed against a Congressional Research Award.

For a list of grant recipients for year 2002, detailed information regarding the grants program, and instructions regarding the application process, visit the Dirksen Center's website at <http://www.dirksencenter.org/grantcongresearchaward.htm>

NCSL News

Representative Democracy in America ~ Voices of the People

The National Conference of State Legislatures, the Center for Civic Education, and The Center on Congress at Indiana University have formed an alliance to launch a new national project, ***Representative Democracy in America Voices of the People***. The project is designed to reinvigorate and educate Americans on the critical relationship between government and the people it serves. The project introduces citizens, particularly young people, to the representatives, institutions, and processes that serve to realize the goal of a government of, by, and for the people. The project is funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

The goals of the project are to:

- **Encourage Americans** to better understand better their representative democracy and play a responsible role in their government;
- **Strengthen classroom teaching** about representative democracy;
- **Develop mass media programs** to inform the public about representative institutions;
- **Provide legislators and staff** with resource materials to help improve public understanding of their institutions;
- **Support research** on public views about Congress and state legislatures.

Working over a five-year period the alliance expects to produce:

- **A video series** for teachers and their students in high schools and colleges — supported by printed materials;
- **A series of web-based, e-learning modules** designed to bring the work of legislatures alive for young citizens;
- **Classroom materials** that approach representative democracy from the point of view of elementary, middle and high school students that are designed to support America's Legislators Back to School Week;
- **Television documentaries** about representative democracy that describe how it works and the relationship between the people and their elected officials;
- **Television interview programs on C-SPAN** that feature members of Congress and state legislators discussing representative democracy with an audience of high school students;
- **A series of brief television, radio, and Internet messages** defining the roles of lawmakers and citizens in our representative democracy;
- A **resource kit** containing a variety of materials for lawmakers to help them explain representative democracy to the public;
- **Academic research** with practical application for improving public participation and support for representative democracy and its institutions.

For further information contact Karl Kurtz (karl.kurtz@ncsl.org) at NCSL.

Report and Recommendations on Initiative and Referendum

Over the last six months a task force of the National Conference of State Legislatures has reviewed the growing use of initiatives and referendums around the country and examined their effect on representative democracy at the state level.

The Initiative and Referendum Task Force found that opportunities for abuse of the process outweigh its advantages and does not recommend that states adopt the initiative process if they currently do not have one.

The task force also developed recommendations that would enable initiative states to make their processes more representative. For states that are intent upon adopting an initiative process, the task force offers a set of guidelines to enhance the process and to avoid many of the pitfalls currently experienced by the initiative states. The task force urges such states to consider giving preference to a process that encourages citizen participation without enacting specific constitutional or statutory language—specifically, the advisory initiative or the general policy initiative.

The 34 recommendations contained in this report acknowledge that the initiative process has outgrown the existing laws that govern it. After listening to expert testimony from a wide variety of witnesses and compiling data from all 50 states, the task force concluded that the initiative has evolved from its early days as a grassroots tool to enhance representative democracy into a tool that too often is exploited by special interests. The initiative lacks critical elements of the legislative process and can have both intended and unintended effects on the ability of the representative democratic process to comprehensively develop policies and priorities.

As a result, the task force suggests that initiative states reform drafting, certification, signature-gathering and financial disclosure statutes; adhere to single subject rules; and improve practices regarding voter education. It also recommends that initiatives be allowed only on general election ballots.

It is the task force's intent that the discussion and adoption of the reforms in this report lead to a more thoughtful lawmaking process, improve interaction between initiative proponents and legislatures, and ultimately produce better public policy and reinforce representative democracy.

The full report is available online at
www.ncsl.org/programs/legman/irtaskfc/IandR_report.pdf

The Rhodes Cook Letter

A former political reporter with Congressional Quarterly, Rhodes Cook recently founded a bimonthly political newsletter. He is offering an academic discount to members of LSS. [Click here to view the March and May issues of the newsletter and to print the subscription form.](#)

Third Annual Conference on State Politics and Policy

Causes and Consequences of American State Institutions on Political Behavior

**Co-Sponsored by the Department of Political Science, University of Arizona,
and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly***

[The Conference](#)

On March 14-15, 2003, the Department of Political Science at the University of Arizona and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* will co-sponsor the 3rd Annual Conference on State Politics and Policy. The conference, to be held at the Westward Look Resort near the University of Arizona in Tucson, welcomes participation by all social scientists interested in studying American state institutions or sub-national politics. Members of the organized section on State Politics and Policy of the American Political Science Association are especially welcome. **A stipend will be awarded to paper-givers to cover a portion of their expenses for the conference.**

Call for Papers

The focus of this conference will be on the causes and consequences of American state institutions. Thus, any research question relating to the impact of institutional rules or norms on political behavior or public policy would be appropriate for a paper proposal. Research inquiries on adoption or creation of institutional rules governing state politics also would be appropriate. Topics on inter-branch and intra-branch relations also would be welcome.

Political scientists studying American state institutions can best address such questions as: Do institutional rules shape access to governmental branches by the public, organized groups, or other government actors? Does access to governmental branches translate into influence? How are political actors influenced by and able to shape institutional rules and structures? How do institutional structures and powers shape intergovernmental relations between branches of government? The answers to these questions can advance our understanding of American state institutions and the important roles played by sub-national units of government. Moreover, such inquiries can make important theoretical contributions to the field of political science. Comparative studies of American state institutions offer tremendous opportunity to develop and test more general theories about government and political phenomenon.

Proposals

Proposals should address the questions posed above or other essential issues concerning American state institutions. However, proposals that deal with sub-national units of government in other countries also would be given serious consideration. The sponsors would be especially interested in proposals that have a comparative and longitudinal perspective. Strong theoretical foundations and rigorous hypothesis testing will be the most important ingredients for successful proposals.

Interested participants should submit a one-page proposal that identifies the research question (or questions) to be addressed in the paper. Proposals also should summarize the theoretical foundation from which the questions are derived, outline the significance of these questions, and discuss the methodology to be employed.

All proposals must be received by OCTOBER 18, 2003

Send proposals and inquires to:

Laura Langer
Department of Political Science
University of Arizona
315C Social Sciences Building
Tucson, Arizona 85721
Phone: (520) 621-8983
Fax: (520) 621-5051
Email: llanger@u.arizona.edu

Electronic submissions must be saved in PDF format or as a Microsoft Word document. The subject heading for electronic submissions should be as follows: Third State Politics

Conference Proposal and the last name of the author submitting the proposal (e.g., Third State Politics Conference Proposal Langer). For proposals with more than one author, please list only the last name of the first author.

For careful consideration of proposals, please include the following information for each author: full name, rank, institutional affiliation, address, phone number, fax number, and e-mail address.

Visiting Scholars Program

The Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center at the University of Oklahoma seeks applicants for its Visiting Scholars Program, which provides financial assistance to researchers working at the Center's archives. Awards of \$500 - \$1000 are normally granted as reimbursement for travel and lodging.

The Center's holdings include the papers of many former members of Congress, such as Robert S. Kerr, Fred Harris, and Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma; Helen Gahagan Douglas and Jeffery Cohelan of California; and Neil Gallagher of New Jersey. Besides the history of Congress, congressional leadership, national and Oklahoma politics, and election campaigns, the collections also document government policy affecting agriculture, Native Americans, energy, foreign affairs, the environment, the economy, and other areas.

Topics that can be studied include the Great Depression, flood control, soil conservation, and tribal affairs. At least one collection provides insight on women in American politics. Most materials date from the 1920s to the 1970s, although there is one nineteenth century collection.

The Center's archives are described on their website at <http://www.ou.edu/special/albertctr/archives/> and in the publication titled *A Guide to the Carl Albert Center Congressional Archives* by Judy Day et.al. (Norman, Okla.: The Carl Albert Center, 1995), available at many U.S. academic libraries. Additional information can be obtained from the Center.

The Visiting Scholars Program is open to any applicant. Emphasis is given to those pursuing postdoctoral research in history, political science, and other fields. Graduate students involved in research for publication, thesis, or dissertation are encouraged to apply. Interested undergraduates and lay researchers are also invited to apply. The Center evaluates each research proposal based upon its merits, and funding for a variety of topics is expected.

No standardized form is needed for application. Instead, a series of documents should be sent to the Center, including:

- (1) a description of the research proposal in fewer than 1000 words;
- (2) a personal vita;
- (3) an explanation of how the Center's resources will assist the researcher;
- (4) a budget proposal; and
- (5) a letter of reference from an established scholar in the discipline attesting to the significance of the research.

Applications are accepted at any time.

For more information, please contact Archivist, Carl Albert Center, 630 Parrington Oval, Room 101, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019.

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Washington University Summer Institute on the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models

A Program for Advanced Graduate Students and Junior Faculty on the Methodological Challenges Posed by Theoretical Models

<http://wc.wustl.edu/eitm.htm>

Washington University in St. Louis will hold its first summer institute on the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) in June 2003. The institute focuses on the methodological challenges posed by theoretical models. The institute is designed for advanced graduate students and junior faculty. Summer institutes will be held in June of 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006.

Participants will join four one-week seminars--a basic seminar and three advanced seminars. The Summer Institute program includes:

- a theoretical and methodological foundations seminar;
- seminars on the application of game theory, spatial models, quantal response models, and behavioral models;
- applied seminars on coalition theories, theories of judicial decision making, and theories of legislative politics; and
- seminars on quantitative, experimental, and field methods.

The seminars are conducted by nationally recognized faculty who drawn from universities throughout the country. Up to 25 advanced graduate students and junior faculty will be provided with travel and lodging subsidies each summer.

Application materials will be available online in the near future. The application deadline for the June 2003 summer institute will be in January 2003.

More information about the Washington University EITM Summer Institutes will be available at <http://wc.wustl.edu/eitm.htm>. To be added to the email list for notices about the program, email eitm@wc.wustl.edu. The summer institutes are sponsored by Washington University's Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Government, and Public Policy and the Department of Political Science; they are funded by the National Science Foundation.

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