
[Legislative Studies Section Newsletter](#)

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From the Chair

[Steven S. Smith](#)

Washington University, Saint Louis

Dear Section Colleagues,

The partnership of the Legislative Studies Section and *Legislative Studies Quarterly (LSQ)* has proven to be a great success. After an initial dip, Section membership is now at the level it was before Section dues were increased to accommodate a subscription to *LSQ*. We owe the success of the partnership to the vision and planning of previous Section leaders Diana Evans and Francis Lee and the *LSQ* editorial team, Jerry Loewenberg and Mickie Wiegand. Section members now enjoy a very modest subscription rate for one of the discipline's top journals.

As I approach the end of my term as Section chair, I would like to thank John Wilkerson, the outgoing Secretary-Treasurer, for his service to the Section and partnership with me. Ron Peters, Sean Kelly, LaDonna Sullivan, and the fine staff of the Carl Albert Center continue to make the *Legislative Studies Section Newsletter* the finest newsletter in the discipline. Many others deserve our thanks—the executive council members, program chairs, and awards committees have done a wonderful job over my years as Section chair.

Our field is thriving. We continue to produce theory and methods that are borrowed widely in the discipline and across the social sciences. Our scholars are disproportionately represented among the leading lights in the discipline. We continue to define and push the theoretical and methodological frontiers of the discipline. Much of this success is due to the deep dedication to the advancement of social science, the spirit of collaboration, and the extraordinary generosity in sharing ideas, data, and advice that characterizes the scholars in our Section.

I look forward to seeing you at the annual LSS business meeting in Chicago. We meet on Friday, August 31, at 6 p.m. in Skyway 260, located in the East Tower of the Hyatt Regency.

Best wishes,
Steve

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APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

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Book Notes

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Challenging Parties, Changing Parliaments: Women and Elected Office in Contemporary Western Europe, Miki Caul Kittilson, The Ohio State University Press, 2006, ISBN 081425148X, \$24.95, paper, 240 pages.

Miki Caul Kittilson offers scholars of both women and politics and political parties new insights into the opportunity structures available to female parliamentarians in Western European democracies. Considering the important gatekeeping role of parties, she provides a satisfying answer to the question: Why do some political parties provide greater opportunities to advance women candidates for parliament while others do not?

The answer is not simple but implicates nuances of party structure, social forces outside of the party and parliamentary institution, and strategically placed women among the party elite to influence the upward mobility of women in parliamentary systems. In short, both exogenous and endogenous factors are required to spur on women's representation and party change. She establishes that party-list, proportional representation systems are most conducive to women's representation, with women voters and women as leaders of their party being powerful simultaneous forces.

Employing multiple methods, Kittilson gathers an impressive array of data to answer her central question. Her analysis offers a more dynamic, time-sensitive explanation than has previously been offered in cross-sectional and cross-national research. She analyzes 50 political parties in ten countries and also provides detailed case studies of Great Britain, Germany and Finland. Acknowledging the limitations of her sample of Western European post-industrial democracies, Kittilson nonetheless provides new insights in opportunity structure theory. The nuances of the opportunity structure vary with the presence of women in the party hierarchy, the party ideology, the degree of centralization in the party, and the extent of permeability or factionalization of the parties. Specifically, she finds that less centralized and more factionalized parties lead to greater gains for women.

Focusing on the role of party quotas, Kittilson asks why some parties change their rules and become early adopters of policies to increase the representation of women. Kittilson finds that female party leaders play a key initial role in encouraging the adoption of party quotas. Her event history analysis points to a sequence of influences to explain why and when parties adopt quotas. Women who establish themselves in the highest ranks of the party elite tend to increase the likelihood of adoption of quotas through their advocacy. In turn, entrepreneurial parties and leftist parties appear to be most sympathetic to the advocacy of these women. Other parties, whether motivated by symbolism or electoral imperatives, are likely to follow suit as a contagion effect takes hold.

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Common Ground: Committee Politics in the U. S. House of Representatives, John Baughman, Stanford University Press, 2006, ISBN 0804754160, \$50, cloth/paper, 253 pages.

In this ambitious book and project, John Baughman seeks to identify the conditions under which House committees choose to cooperate with other committees in the presence of cloudy issue jurisdictions. The overlapping of issue jurisdictions is a central feature of the modern U.S. House. Hence, a study such as this about what committees do (cooperate or fight) in the gray jurisdictional areas and why, is indeed a timely one.

The introductory chapter serves to enlighten the reader to the topic and take issue with the conventional wisdom that turf wars between rival committees abound. Chapter 2 discusses the mechanics of committee interaction and how they might change after major reforms. The author introduces his theoretical framework of Transaction Cost Economics in Chapter 3. This theory “ suggests that when committees consider whether to compromise over shared legislation, they face costs in measuring the value of the turf and in enforcing an agreement, which might scuttle the deal” (5). There are also costs in fighting a committee turf war. In sum, the theory amounts to a cost-benefit analysis from the standpoint of committees. Chapter 3 traces the evolution of the House committee system from the 1940s until the late twentieth century, showing the increased propensity of committee interaction. In Chapter 4, the author argues that committees making policy together often form reciprocal relationships based on certain conditions. Chapter 5 highlights coalition-building activities of committees on major legislation. Chapter 6 demonstrates that the costs of cooperation can be reduced through overlapping committee memberships and staff interaction. In chapter 7, the author profiles the efforts of central party leaders to induce cooperation between committees. Chapter 8 looks at alternative explanations of committee behavior and finds the Transaction Costs Economics framework to be the most effective explanation.

The strengths of the book are many. First, Baughman adeptly merges theoretical discussion and quotes from interviews with systematic, quantitative evidence. This style makes the material interesting and persuasive. Second, the theoretical focus on explanations of cooperation as well as conflict is a significant step forward in the committee jurisdictions literature. In forming his framework, the author eschews being confined to one of the three major explanations of congressional organization (distributive, informational, partisan). Instead, he comes up with a conditional framework where all three explanations can matter, depending on issue area salience (readers will see familiarity with Forrest Maltzman’s excellent work *Competing Principals*).

As with any book, there are shortcomings. First, and at the risk of sounding like a parochial Americanist, the early references to IR literature are awkward and appear out of left field. The book started as a dissertation; I am guessing that one of Baughman’s dissertation advisors was from IR. Second, Baughman overstates the newness of his argument about committee cooperation and policymaking. While conflict and turf wars are more sexy topics for researchers than cooperation on more mundane matters, scholars have not completely ignored the latter. John Hardin’s 1996 *Journal of Politics* article (212) and much public policy literature holds up the possibility of cooperation in order to forge significant policy change. Indeed, the very health care jurisdictions paper by Baumgartner, Jones and MacLead that Baughman criticizes (21) acknowledges that overlapping jurisdictions can also lead to cooperation and policy innovation, but that in health care a threshold of jurisdictional complexity is crossed resulting in a quagmire. My own work on omnibus legislation demonstrates that much significant legislation in the health care policy area that bogged down in jurisdictional battles was later added to budget reconciliation bills by party leaders.

Still, the strengths of the book definitely outweigh the minor shortcomings. Legislative scholars, students of institutional development, and even issue network scholars from public policy should all read this book. It is a strong work that will be cited in the literature for many years to come.

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Freshman Orientation: House Style and Home Style, Ed Sidlow, CQ Press, 2006, ISBN 193311665X, \$29.95, paper, 172 pages.

Freshman Orientation presents the story of Michigan Republican Joe Schwarz as he sought and gained election to an open seat in the House of Representatives during the 2004 election and the two-year journey that followed. Professor Sidlow captivates the reader in novel like manner by personalizing every aspect of the Schwarz journey from personal introductions to Schwarz's staff, to the trials and tribulations of seeking election and re-election. Although lacking rigorous academic analysis, this descriptive work serves as a wonderful and easy to read introduction to the life of a United States Congressman and the challenges today's politicians face, ranging from election battles and fundraising, to issues of public policy in the district and on Capitol Hill, as well as the administrative challenges of organizing the congressional enterprise.

Professor Sidlow begins by introducing the reader to Michigan's 7th Congressional District, establishing the setting for the impending political battle. Sidlow then takes the reader along for the ride as he follows Dr. Schwarz through the crowded and challenging Republican primary, and then onto the less competitive general election. Along the way, Sidlow is careful and detailed in introducing the reader to the various characters involved in the journey from primary and general election opponents to the campaign workers and office staffers. Following the election story, Sidlow then presents the forgotten challenges "freshman" Congressman must face.

Once Dr. Schwarz is Congressman Schwarz, the reader is exposed to the various challenges of setting up a political enterprise – on The Hill and at home in the district. Beginning with staffing the Hill office, finding housing in D.C., formal freshman orientation to Congress, finding office space in the home district, and ending with the hiring and firing of district staff, Sidlow leaves no step in the journey unturned. Examples range from the Hill office battle with moldy walls, to the questionable reliability of district staffers. Finally, substantive political behavior is also a primary topic.

The reader is allowed into staff meetings to understand the types of goals and pursuits of primary emphasis to members of Congress and their staffs. In the sense the reader is the "fly on the wall" during discussion of what representation will mean to the Schwarz team, what committee assignments are favorable and why, as well as preparing and executing public policy battles. Sometimes a lone wolf challenging leadership and other times the consummate Republican, the reader lives the various ups and downs of the Schwarz freshman term. Unfortunately this captivatingly personal story ends with Schwarz's loss in the 2006 Republican primary.

Although *Freshman Orientation* serves as a fascinating introduction to political life, the work lacks a thorough link to political science. Throughout the work Sidlow utilizes instances of behavior by Congressman Schwarz to generalize regarding the behavior of members or freshman members throughout the institution. Although in many cases, this study would walk in-step with existing empirical research, Sidlow fails to clearly frame the Schwarz story within our existing understanding of congressional elections and behavior.

In general, *Freshman Orientation: House Style and Home Style* presents a fascinating introduction to the real life challenges faced by newly elected members of Congress. This book is perfect for undergraduates, especially for introductory congressional courses or Congress simulations. Unlike traditional political science, the easy to read and personal style of the work draws the reader into the story. Sidlow provides a brief introduction to congressional elections, congressional organization, and life of a politician or staffer on the Hill that is perfect for introducing students to the real world of national and local politics.

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Parliament in British Politics, Philip Norton, Palgrave Macmillon, 2005, ISBN 1-4039-0667-X, Paper, 260 pages, Index.

In this book, Philip Norton has provided the long-awaited follow-up to his 1993 examination of the British Parliament, *What is Parliament?* He offers insight concerning the effects of the institutional reforms and evolution wrought over the last decade. His book differs from many others on the British Parliament in that it is not restricted to a discussion of the House of Commons, but rather, addresses the role of both Houses, Lords and Commons, in parliamentary activity. In doing so, he utilizes a two-fold approach, one which addresses the relationship between each of the two Houses and the Government, and one which addresses the relationship between each of the two Houses and the people. This book would serve as an excellent text for the study of both the British Parliament and comparative legislatures. The chapters are self-contained and can be utilized as guides for understanding the myriad aspects of legislative politics. This book is a necessary addition to the library of any legislative politics scholar.

In the opening chapters of the text, Norton provides an overview of legislative systems, their power, and their function. He then addresses the unique history and constitutional environment of the House of Commons and House of Lords. This overview provides scholars with a basis for understanding legislatures in general and the Westminster model in particular. Norton proceeds to discuss the policymaking process within the British government throughout Part I. This includes not only the creation and approval of legislation, but the relationships between the government, the Commons, and the Lords. While Parliament is considered a policy-influencing body, as are nearly all other legislatures outside of the United States, its power and resources have steadily increased over time. While these chapters certainly indicate that Parliament has an influence on policy, it is also clear that the government has the upper hand, both in agenda-setting and in the institutional constraints on Parliament. It would appear that while Parliament's impact is minimal, it is more often the House of Lords that is able to influence policy rather than the House of Commons. The House of Commons is most often bound by the majority party, while the increasing diversity in the House of Lords makes it a more likely House for dissent. Ultimately, however, the Commons can veto any amendments of the Lords, and so, even that power is weakened. Norton does demonstrate that Parliamentary scrutiny of the government's policy has increased both prior to implementation and through both formal and informal oversight. To conclude his discussion of the policy-making process, Norton also discusses the impact of the European Union on Parliamentary action.

In Part II, Norton examines the representative nature of the Parliament. He first discusses the history, the different types of representation and how well the British Parliament measures in terms of representation. He then discusses the various means that members use in order to meet constituent demands and the increasing use of time that members in the House of Commons devote to their constituency work. In the final chapters, Norton addresses impact of interest groups and other voices on the Commons and the Lords, as well as a discussion of the members' increasing role of educator and information source. Finally, Norton concludes with a discussion of "Whither Parliament?" and finds that while Parliament could certainly matter more, it does in fact matter, and more so than is popularly realized.

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Platypus and Parliament: The Australian Senate in Theory and Practice, Stanley Bach, Department of the Senate, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600 Australia, 2003, ISBN 0642712913, paper, \$29.95, 387 pages.

The Australian Senate is an institution apart from other upper house legislatures. It serves as a body both within parliament and outside of it. Its powers are limited; however, as Bach explains, certain constitutional provisions enable the Senate to slow the efficiency of the government party. These constitutional provisions give the Senate the power to support or reject spending bills, and thus, when the Senate is controlled by the Opposition or by a Coalition, which is likely in modern Australian politics, the Senate may effectively stop the government in its tracks.

Bach does an excellent job of discussing the constitutional design, the electoral and party systems, and thus, effectively explaining the theoretical dilemma, before addressing the very real crisis that emerged as a result of Senate power in 1974. In seeking to find a solution to such crises as that which emerged in 1974, Bach examines the original intent and expectations of the constitutional authors, as well as the political realities of modern politics. The Senate in Australia stands as a House of Review, and as one which gives power to the less populous states. In the former case, it is similar to the British House of Lords, and in the latter, to the United States Senate. The power to stop spending measures of the government increases its power in both respects, and makes it a greater force than the Upper House in the Westminster model. In addition, modern political trends have shown an increase in third party representation in the Senate. This indicates that the Senate may also serve as a more ideologically, as well as geographically, representative body. The results are difficult to judge, while, as Bach points out, no crisis similar to that of 1974-1975 has again emerged, calls for reform and constitutional amendment have been debated.

Bach argues that to amend the provision which grants the Senate power to support or stop spending bills would not only remove the power of the less populous states, it would also remove any effect the Senate may have as a House of Review. Rather, the Senate serves as a balance to majority politics, one that is singularly Australian. The Senate clearly serves as a brake on majoritarian politics, and in doing so, it balances the power of the majority party by requiring the government party to deal the opposition in on important policies. As it requires two electoral cycles for a majority to be overturned in the Senate, it is unlikely that the government party will be without significant challenge as it seeks to govern the nation. As Bach points out, the Australian system is not, nor does he argue that it should be, a system of checks and balances like that in the United States; however, it also does not allow for an efficient government program like that of the Westminster model. The Australian Senate is indeed a platypus, a hybrid of the two systems, and yet, unique unto itself.

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The K Street Gang: The Rise and Fall of the Republican Machine, Matthew Continetti, Doubleday Books, 2006, ISBN 038551672X, \$14.95, cloth, 273 pages.

In *The K Street Gang: The Rise and Fall of the Republican Machine*, Michael Continetti enters a long-standing debate in the political science community on the American interest group system with a revealing descriptive study of the corruptive influence of interest group money on both the lobbyists that the interest groups use to gain influence within the institutions of government and the government officials themselves. More specifically, Continetti focuses on how the greed of conservative lobbyists and Republican governmental officials transformed them from true believers in the conservative ideology of a limited federal government into vessels for federal government expansion during Republican control of Congress, and thus, destroyed the values upon which the Republican revolution of 1994 that resulted in the takeover of both houses of Congress was built.

Continetti effectively shows how lobbyists like Jack Abramoff came to power after the Republican takeover of Congress due to their inside influence with congressional Republicans like, most notably, Tom DeLay. These lobbyists then went on to use this influence to advance the causes of the interest groups who paid large sums of money for their services. For instance, Continetti demonstrates how Abramoff was able to convince legislators to devote a great deal of time and effort on likely trivial legislation to limit U.S. federal government involvement in the Marianas islands, a region notable for its poor working conditions, through the use of "lavish junkets" to the region to court legislators to construct the legislation and columnists to speak out in favor of the legislation (Chapter 3). In fact, in many cases, lobbyists like Abramoff were able to write legislation themselves that contained benefits on behalf of their interest group clients that legislators would in turn introduce unaltered in Congress, a finding that is likely particularly troubling to those concerned that interest groups have far too much influence in governmental affairs.

However, Continetti's discussion of the depths of hypocrisy and corruption that certain conservative lobbyists went to in order to satisfy their insatiable appetite for money is where the book shines. For instance, Continetti discusses how Christian Coalition lobbyist Ralph Reed forsook his previous commitment to anti-gambling values by using statements from some of his religious right allies in order to defeat legislation detrimental to Indian gaming interests, and in the process, assist the very Indian gaming establishments that Reed had spoken out vehemently against in the past (145-151).

Particularly intriguing is Continetti's discussion of the schemes that Abramoff and his partner in crime, former Tom DeLay press secretary Michael Scanlon, used to extract money from clients. According to Continetti, Abramoff and Scanlon developed a scheme, in which Abramoff would tell his clients that certain political consulting services that Abramoff himself could not provide were necessary for success in Washington and would convince his clients that Scanlon was the best at providing these benefits (161). In turn, Scanlon would charge exorbitant amounts of money for very simple almost unnecessary services, such as advising clients to state their name and what office they are running for (167). Scanlon split the profits between Abramoff and himself without ever letting the clients know that they were business partners. However, while the corruption that occurred in this scheme should be troublesome enough, the unremorseful way in which the two discussed their schemes was downright appalling. In their e-mail discussions with each other, Abramoff and Scanlon referred to their clients very condescendingly (i.e. calling them "monkeys," "morons," and "troglodytes" among other things) and greedily celebrated each opportunity to extract more money from a client. On one occasion, Scanlon wrote to Abramoff in reference to a client, "I want all their MONEY!!!" (176).

Continetti's research does provide a powerful cautionary tale about the lobbying environment in the United States and how it can lead its members and those government officials it seeks to influence down a path of corruption. With this said, due to the fact that Continetti only looks at the lobbying of a few prominent conservative lobbyists during the era after the Republican takeover in 1994, it is very difficult to derive substantive conclusions on what occurred that caused lobbyists like Abramoff to stray down the corruptive path. Continetti seems to argue in his conclusion that the big government environment corrupted conservative lobbyists and legislators and a more limited government, in which pork barrel spending is controlled and legislators' terms are limited, is the answer to the problem of corruption in government (Epilogue). However, lobbying throughout history needs to be more extensively studied before arriving at the merits of a plan like Continetti describes here. With this said, Continetti's intentions in writing this book were not necessarily to write the definitive word on lobbying in the United States, but instead to provide evidence of how the lobbying environment, as it exists in the United States today, can cause lobbyists and legislators to be corrupted. In demonstrating what can happen to lobbyists and legislators exposed to the incentives for greed, his book in large part is a rousing success.

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Journal Articles

This section is meant to provide LSS members with the basic citation information about recent journal articles dealing with legislatures. The source for this information is Cambridge Scientific Abstracts' database, Worldwide Political Science Abstracts, using the query: KW= congress OR parliament OR legislative. The report is arranged in alphabetical order by journal name.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>American Political Science Review</i> 100, no. 3 (Aug 2006): 419-427	Engstrom, Erik J.	Stacking the States, Stacking the House: The Partisan Consequences of Congressional Redistricting in the 19 th Century
<i>American Political Science Review</i> 100, no. 4 (Nov 2006): 674	Erikson, Robert S.	Top 20 Commentaries: #5. Warren E Miller and Donald E. Stokes. 1963. Constituency Influence in Congress.' <i>American Political Science Review</i> 57 (March) 45-46 Cited 457 Times
<i>American Political Science Review</i> 100, no. 4 (Nov. 2006): 684-685	Polsby, Nelson W.	Top 20 commentaries: #17. Nelson W. Polsby. 1968. 'The Institutionalization of the U.S. House of Representatives.' <i>American Political Science Review</i> 62 (March): 144-68. Cited 287 Times
<i>American Politics Research</i> 34, no. 1 (Mar 2006): 3-21	Green, Matthew N.	McCormack Versus Udall: Explaining Intraparty Challenges to the Speaker of the House
<i>American Politics Research</i> 34, no. 2 (Jan 2006): 135-158	Crespin, Michael H.; Gold, Suzanne M.; Rohde, David W.	Ideology, Electoral Incentives, and Congressional Politics: The Republican House Class of 1994
<i>American Politics Research</i> 34, no. 5 (2006): 583-604	Brasher, Holly	Listening to Hearings: Legislative Hearings and Legislative Outcomes
<i>American Politics Research</i> 34, no.6 (Nov 2006): 705-731	Chiou, Fang-yi; Rothenberg, Lawrence S.	Preferences, Parties, and Legislative Productivity
<i>American Politics Research</i> 34, no.6 (Nov 2006): 732-758	Xie, Tao	Congressional Roll Call Voting on China Trade Policy
<i>American Politics Research</i> 35, no. 1 (Jan 2007): 79-102	Moscardelli, Vincent G.; Haspel, Moshe	Campaign Finance Reform as Institutional Choice: Party Difference in the Vote to Ban Soft Money
<i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> 41, no. 3 (Sep 2006): 385-406	Flinders, Matthew	Volcanic Politics: Executive-Legislative Relations in Britain, 1997-2005
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 1 (Jan 2006): 113-132	Medina, Luis Fernando	Party Discipline with Legislative Initiative

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 2 (Apr 2006): 291-315	Powell, G. Bingham, Jr.	Election Laws and Representative Governments: Beyond Votes and Seats
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 3 (July 2006): 407-436	Sides, John	The Origins of Campaign Agendas
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 3 (July 2006): 561-574	Kam, Christopher	Demotion and Dissent in the Canadian Liberal Party
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 4 (Oct 2006): 691-704	Carrubba, Clifford J.; Gabel, Matthew; Murrah, Lacey; Clough, Ryan; Montgomery, Elizabeth; Schambach, Rebecca	Off the Record: Unrecorded Legislative Votes, Selection Bias and Roll-Call Vote Analysis
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 4 (Oct 2006): 705-721	Moon, Woojin	The Paradox of Less Effective Incumbent Spending: Theory and Tests
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> 36, no. 4 (Oct 2006): 745-758	Van heerde, Jennifer; Johnson, Martin; Bowler, Shaun	Barriers to Participation, Voter Sophistication and Candidate Spending Choices in US Senate Elections
<i>Comparative Politics</i> 39, no. 1 (Oct 2006): 63-82	Randall, Vicky	Legislative Gender Quotas and Indian Exceptionalism: The Travails of the Women's Reservation Bill
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> 33, no. 1 (Spring 2006): 1-23	Frisch, Scott A.; Kelly, Sean Q.	Committee Assignment Politics in the U.S. Senate: Democratic Leaders and Democratic Committee Assignments, 1953-1994
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> 33, no. 1 (Spring 2006): 75-94	Rottinghaus, Brandon; bergan, Daniel E.	New Data and New Directions in Inter-branch Lobbying: Congressional Mail Summaries of the George H. W. Bush White House
<i>Constitutional Political Economy</i> 17, no. 3 (Sep 2006): 165-187	Santoni, Michele; Zucchini, Francesco	Legislative Output and the Constitutional Court in Italy
<i>European Journal of Political Research</i> 45, no. 2 (Mar 2006): 181-208	Cairney, Paul	The Analysis of Scottish Parliament Committee Influence: Beyond Capacity and Structure in Comparing West European Legislatures
<i>European Journal of Political Research</i> 45, no. 4 (Jun 2006): 551-579	De Dios, Manuel Sanchez	Output of the Spanish Cortes (1979-2000): A Case of Adaptation to Party Government
<i>European Union Politics</i> 7, no. 4 (Dec 2006): 505-530	Hausemer, Pierre	Participation & Political Competition in Committee Report Allocation: Under What Conditions Do MEPs Represent Their Constituents?
<i>European Union Politics</i> 7, no. 4 (Dec 2006): 553-574	Konig, Thomas; Luetgert, Brooke; Dannwolf, Tanja	Forum Selection Quantifying European Legislative Research: Using CELEX & PreLex in EU Legislative Studies
<i>Europe-Asia Studies</i> 58, no. 1 (Jan 2006): 25-55	Golosov, Grigorii V.	Disproportionality by Proportional Design: Seats and Votes in Russia's Regional Legislative Elections, December 2003-March 2005
<i>Europe-Asia Studies</i> 58, no. 5 (July 2006): 731-750	Clark, Terry D.; Verseckaitė, Egle; Lukosaitis, Alvidas	The Role of committee Systems in Post-communist Legislatures: A Case Study of the Lithuanian Seimas
<i>French Politics</i> 4, no. 1 (Apr 2006): 100-123	Petry, Francois; Pennings, Paul	Estimating the Policy Positions of Political Parties from Legislative Election Manifestos
<i>French Politics</i> 4, no. 3 (Dec 2006): 269-291	Francois, Abel	Testing the 'Baobab Tree' Hypothesis: The Cumul des Mandats As a Way of Obtaining More Political Resources and Limiting Electoral Competition
<i>French Politics</i> 4, no. 3 (Dec 2006): 292-311	Foucault, Martial	How Useful Is the cumul des Mandata for Being Re-Elected? Empirical Evidence from the 1997 French Legislative Elections
<i>French Politics</i> 4, no. 3 (Dec 2006): 312-332	Dewoghelaere, Julien; Berton, Raul Magni; Navarro, Julien	The Cumul des Mandats in Contemporary French Politics: An Empirical Study of the XIIe Legislature of the Assemblée Nationale

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Futures</i> 38, no. 1 (Feb 2006): 115-119	Tonn, Bruce; Hogan, Michael	The House of Lords: Guardians of Future Generations
<i>German Politics</i> 15, no. 3 (Sep 2006): 249-268	Auel, Katrin	The Europeanization of the German Bundestag: Institutional Change and Informal Adaptation
<i>German Politics and Society</i> 24, no. 2 (Summer 2006): 23-43	Davidson-Schmich, Louise K.	The Origins of Party Discipline
<i>Government and Opposition</i> 41, no. 2 (Spring 2006): 230-248	Burns, Charlotte	Co-Decision and Inter-Committee Conflict in the European Parliament Post-Amsterdam
<i>Harvard Journal on Legislation</i> 43, no. 2 (Summer 2006): 375-436	Kirsch, Michael S.	The Tax Code as Nationality Law
<i>Harvard Journal on Legislation</i> 43, no. 2 (Summer 2006): 517-534	Wong, Katherine	The NSA Terrorist Surveillance Program
<i>Information, Communication & Society</i> 9, no. 4 (2006): 452-472	Cardoso, Gustavo; Cunha, Carlos; Nascimento, Susana	Bridging the E-Democracy Gap in Portugal: MPs, ICTs and Political Mediation
<i>International Journal of Public Administration</i> 29, no. 12 (2006): 997-1019	Christensen, Jorgen Gronnegaard	Ministers and Mandarins under Danish Parliamentarism
<i>International Journal of Public Administration</i> 29, no. 12 (2006): 1021-1047	Lee, Mordecai	Political-Administrative Relations in State Government: A Legislative Perspective
<i>International Journal of the Sociology of Law</i> 34, no. 2 (Jun 2006): 105-140	Wong, Kam C.	The Making of the USA PATRIOT Act II: Public Sentiments, Legislative Climate, Political Gamesmanship, Media Patriotism
<i>International Review of Administrative Sciences</i> 72, no. 2 (Jun 2006): 171-185	Salminen, Ari	Accountability, Values and the Ethical Principles of Public Service: The Views of Finnish Legislators
<i>International Studies Quarterly</i> 50, no. 2 (June 2006): 421-444	Foster, Dennis M.	An 'Invitation to Struggle'? The Use of Force against 'Legislatively Vulnerable' American Presidents
<i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i> 44, no. 2 (Jun 2006): 281-304	Cooper, Ian	The Watchdogs of Subsidiarity: National Parliaments and the Logic of Arguing in the EU
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<i>Journal of European Public Policy</i> 13, no. 5 (Aug 2006): 647-669	Konig, Thomas; Proksch, Sven-Oliver	Exchanging and Voting in the Council: Endogenizing the Spatial Model of Legislative Politics
<i>Journal of the Social Sciences</i> 34, no. 3 (2006): 129-167	Al-Khozah, Hussain O.	Jordanian Women and Challenges to Enter into the Parliament: A Sociological Field Study Regarding Female Electoral Candidates
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<i>Policy Studies Journal</i> 34, no. 1 (Feb 2006): 113-129	Richardson, Lilliard E.; Cooper, Christopher A.	E-mail Communication and the Policy Process in the State Legislature
<i>Policy Studies Journal</i> 34, no. 2 (May 2006): 245-263	Escobar-Lemmon, Maria C.	Executives, Legislatures, and Decentralization
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<i>The Harvard International Journal of Press/ Politics</i> 11, no. 4 (Fall 2006): 115-130	Grose, Christian R.	Bridging the Divide: Interethnic Cooperation; Minority Media Outlets; and the Coverage of Latino, African-American, and Asian-American Members of Congress
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APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

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● **Legislative News**

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

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["Connecting Kids and Lawmakers"](#) by Jan Goehring and Stephanie Walton

Students are getting involved in American democracy, and legislators are helping them.

["The Unexpected Legislator"](#) by Jane Carroll Andrade

In the midst of their grief, and with little time to prepare, these widows stepped into the political spotlight to fill their late husbands' legislative seats.

["Direct Democracy's Disaster"](#) by John A. Straayer

Through the initiative process, Colorado recently passed a law with loads of unintended consequences—Amendment 41.

APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

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Papers Presented

MPSA – Papers presented at the Midwestern Political Science Association annual meeting, April 12 – 15, 2007, Chicago, Illinois.

SWPSA – Papers presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association annual meeting, March 14 – 17, 2007, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

WPSA – Papers presented at the Western Political Science Association annual meeting, March 20 – 22, 2007, San Diego, California.

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Civil Rights Documentation Project

THE DIRKSEN CONGRESSIONAL CENTER

The landmark civil rights legislation of the mid-1960s has attracted considerable scholarly attention, deservedly so. Much of the analysis of this legislation has centered on the social and cultural conditions that gave birth to such laws as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

As valuable as the emphasis on the civil rights movement has been, an equally vital chapter has been neglected – the story of the legislative process itself. The Dirksen Congressional Center has posted a new feature on "CongressLink" that provides a fuller accounting of law-making based on the unique archival resources housed at The Center, including the collection of then-Senate Minority Leader Everett McKinley Dirksen (R-IL), widely credited with securing the passage of the bills.

Intended to serve the needs of teachers and students, [The Civil Rights Documentation Project](#) demonstrates that Congress is capable of converting big ideas into powerful law, that citizen engagement is essential to that process, and that the public policies produced forty years ago continue to influence our lives.

The project takes the form of an interactive, Web-based presentation with links to digitized historical materials and other Internet-based resources about civil rights legislation created by museums, historical societies, and government agencies.

Please contact Cindy Koeppel by email at ckoeppel@dirksencenter.org if you have any ideas or comments about this new feature.

Congress to Campus Program

THE UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

The [Congress to Campus Program](#) is designed to address several aspects of the civic learning and engagement deficit among the country's college-age young people, combining traditional educational content with a strong message about public service. The Program sends bipartisan pairs of former Members of Congress - one Democrat and one Republican - to visit college, university and community college campuses around the country. Over the course of each visit, the Members conduct classes, hold community forums, meet informally with students and faculty, visit high schools and civic organizations, and do interviews and talk show appearances with local press and media.

In the summer of 2002, the Board of Directors of the U. S. Association of Former Members of Congress (USAFMC) engaged the Center for Democracy & Citizenship (CDC) at the Council for Excellence in Government to help manage the Congress to Campus Program in partnership with the Stennis Center for Public Service (Stennis). CDC and Stennis, with the blessing of the USAFMC, agreed to undertake a number of initiatives to greatly increase the number of campuses hosting program visits each year, expand the pool of former Members of Congress available for campus visits, develop new sources of funding, raise the profile of the program and its message in the public and academic community, and devise methods of measuring the impact of the program at host institutions.

To access full report on Congress to Campus, [click here](#).

Congressional Bills Project

A new website at <http://www.congressionalbills.org> allows academic researchers, students, and the general public to download information about public and private bills introduced in the U.S. Congress along with information about those bills' sponsors.

Each record is a bill. The download tool allows you to select a large number of related variables to include in your download request. Obviously, limited requests will download more quickly.

- The bill's title and progress (from government resources)
- The bill's subject (using the topic codes of the [Policy Agendas Project](#))
- Member biographical, committee, and leadership positions (much of this comes from Elaine K. Swift, Robert G. Brookshire, David T. Canon, Evelyn C. Fink, John R. Hibbing, Brian D. Humes, Michael J. Malbin and Kenneth C. Martis, [Database of Congressional Historical Statistics](#); as well as more recent data available through Charles Stewart's website)
- Member DW-Nominate Scores (from Poole and Rosenthal of course)

The website is a work in progress by John D. Wilkerson and Scott Adler at University of Washington, Seattle.

Data on Legislative Voting and Representation

Professor John Carey has established a website at Dartmouth that includes various resources from his field research and data collection in an organized data archive. Of particular significance is the data from a project on legislative voting and representation. That project includes:

- Transcripts from interviews with 61 legislators and party leaders from 8 countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, and Venezuela) from 2000-2001). The interviews followed a stable protocol for the most part, regarding how decisions are reached within parties and carried out (or not) in the legislative environment, and how legislators interact with party leaders, the executive, and the citizens they represent. The interviews frequently cover other topics as well, however, according to the subject's train of thought. The transcripts are available in both English and Spanish.
- Recorded vote data from 21 legislative chambers in 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russia, United States, Uruguay). In addition to the data and codebook, also available on the site are some files with STATA code to produce the measures of party voting unity employed in the research.

Visitors are invited to use any of the data, qualitative or quantitative, that is available on the site. The address of the website is <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~jcarey/dataarchive.htm>. Professor Carey's email address, in case of questions, suggestions, or problems related to the data, is john.carey@dartmouth.edu.

Dirksen Center Congressional Research Grants

[The Dirksen Congressional Center](#) invites applications for grants to fund research on congressional leadership and the U.S. Congress.

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 who have successfully defended their dissertation prospectus 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.

There is no standard application form. Applicants are responsible for showing the relationship between their work and the awards program guidelines. Applications are accepted at any time. Incomplete applications will NOT be forwarded to the screening committee for consideration.

All application materials must be received no later than February 1. Awards are announced in March. Complete information about eligibility and application procedures may be found at The Center's Web site: http://www.dirksencenter.org/print_grants_CRAs.htm.

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.

For more information about the Congressional Research Awards, contact Frank Mackaman by email at fmackaman@dirksencenter.org or phone 309.347.7113

Election Results Archive

CENTER ON DEMOCRATIC PERFORMANCE AT BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

The Center on Democratic Performance at Binghamton University is pleased to announce the launch of the Election Results Archive (ERA), a collection of electronic files containing data on election results from around the world. This unique online database with global coverage provides researchers, policy-makers, scholars, and others interested in elections with information on over 900 elections from around the world. It includes information on the following:

- Types of Elections: Results for presidential and national legislative elections.
- Countries: The Archive currently contains election results from 134 countries that have met a minimum threshold of democratic performance for the year in which the elections took place.
- Dates of Elections: The ERA contains results back to 1974. This date was selected because it is frequently cited as a beginning point of the recent phase of democratic expansion (democratic elections in Greece and Portugal).

More election data will be added to this Archive as time and resources permit.

The archive can be searched by country, region, or year and type of election. Please visit the archive at <http://cdp.binghamton.edu/era/index.html>

European Consortium for Political Research

ECPR has a new standing group on Parliaments, coordinated by Shane Martin, University of California, San Diego) and Matti Wiberg (University of Turku).

For a number of years the study of legislatures has concentrated on the US Congress. Parliaments in Europe have not been a subject of investigation to any comparable extent. Nevertheless, the body of knowledge is ever expanding on both the long-standing parliaments in Europe and the new institutions of the European Union and Central and Eastern Europe.

The Standing Group's aim is to promote comparative research and theory-building on the institutionalisation, capacity, operation, and performance of legislatures and the dissemination of such research.

For more information, and to register for membership (which is free) please see the web site at: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/standinggroups/parliaments/index.htm>

International Political Science Review

The International Political Science Review, the official journal of the International Political Science Association edited by Kay Lawson and James Meadowcroft, would be pleased to receive quality submissions likely to be of interest to its international readership from the members of Legislative Studies Section of the American Political Science Association.

The IPSR is committed to publishing material that makes a significant contribution to international political science. It seeks to meet the needs of political scientists throughout the world who are interested in studying political phenomena in the contemporary context of increasing international interdependence and global change.

IPSR reflects the aims and intellectual tradition of its parent body, the International Political Science Association: to foster the creation and dissemination of rigorous political inquiry free of disciplinary or other orthodoxy. We welcome work by scholars who are focusing on currently controversial themes, shaping innovative concepts of methodologies of political analysis, and striving to reach outside the scope of a single culture.

Authors interested in submitting their work should consult either a recent copy of the journal or <http://ipsr.sagepub.com> and follow submission guidelines, sending electronic copies to both klawson@sfsu.edu and jmeadowc@connect.carleton.ca. Preliminary queries are welcome.

Parliamentary Representation in the Internet Age

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD, UK

ESRI has announced a new research project that looks into parliamentarians' use of internet based technologies in the UK and Australia. In particular, they are examining the role of new technologies in shaping the work of MPs and the nature of parliamentary representation. The project is wide ranging, looking at a number of complementary issues, and does involve a range of research activities and methodologies:

- Regular analyses of parliamentary/MPs websites to assess the function of such sites (over the next two years);
- Postal surveys of parliamentarians to gauge the attitude toward, and importance of, Internet communication and online participation;
- Interviews with MPs to understand Internet communication strategies, and their associated benefits and problems;
- Public opinion survey to evaluate citizen awareness, usage and problems of internet communication with representatives;
- Focus group assessment of the design and content of parliamentary websites.

For more information, visit the web site at <http://www.ipop.org.uk> or contact Wainer Lusoli by email at s.lusoli@salford.ac.uk.

State Politics and Policy Quarterly Archive

NEW ON-LINE, FULL-TEXT ARCHIVE

Every article in every issue of SPPQ is now on-line in pdf format, accessible free of charge to SPPQ subscribers and those whose university libraries subscribe. Furthermore, non-subscribers may purchase a time-limited “research pass” for a reasonable price.

To access this archive, go to: <http://sppq.press.uiuc.edu/sppqindex.html> and follow the links on the tables of contents to the articles. When you find an article you wish to view, click on the “view pdf” button at the bottom of its page. If your library subscribes to SPPQ, you will be sent straight to the article in pdf format. If your library does not subscribe (or if you are connecting from off campus), do one of the following:

1. If you are an individual SPPQ subscriber, set up a personal access account. Simply register with SPPQ by using your personal subscription ID number, as shown on your journal mailing label (note: save your mailing envelope to get your subscriber number). Alternatively, you can contact the SPPQ access helpdesk at sppq@merlyn.press.uiuc.edu and request your subscriber number.

2. If you are an institutional SPPQ subscriber, you should have already received access to full on-line content automatically. Your on-campus computers can access the archive automatically through the use of institutional IP numbers and, therefore, your students and faculty do not need to login personally. If your institution subscribes to the paper journal but you find that you cannot access the full-text on-line version from your campus, please ask your librarian to fill out the Online IP Registration Form at http://sppq.press.uiuc.edu/ip_submit.html, which will add their institutional IP numbers to the SPPQ control system.

If you have any questions or difficulties accessing the *State Politics and Policy Quarterly* Archive, please contact the University of Illinois Press SPPQ help desk at: sppq@merlyn.press.uiuc.edu.

The Thicket at NCSL

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

The National Conference of State Legislatures has established a new blog, [The Thicket at State Legislatures](#), about the legislative institution and federalism. By and for legislative junkies, the blog includes these categories: American Democracy, Budgets, Congress, Courts and Legislatures, Elections, Ethics, Executives and Legislatures, Federalism, Initiative and Referendum, Leadership, Legislation, Legislative Culture, Legislative Staff, Legislators, Media, NCSL, Redistricting, and Term Limits.

Visiting Scholars Program

SPACE AVAILABLE IN APSA CENTENNIAL CENTER FOR SUMMER AND FALL '07

The Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs can be an invaluable resource to political and social scientists. Housed in the APSA headquarters near Dupont Circle, the Center provides a great base of operations for scholars researching in Washington, DC. It offers Visiting Scholars furnished work space, telephone, fax, computers, Internet access, conference space, a reference library, and access to George Washington University's Gelman Library.

Visiting Scholar stays range from a few days to 12 months. Space is limited to APSA members and available to faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and advanced graduate students from the U.S. and abroad. Scholars are expected to cover their own expenses and a modest facilities fee for the use of the Center. There are also a **limited number of funding opportunities available** to support Visiting Scholars. Prospective visiting scholars may apply at any time. Positions are awarded on a space-available basis.

Full details on the Center and the Visiting Scholars Program, including an application form, can be found online at www.apsanet.org/centennialcenter. Scholars may also contact Brian Daniels at APSA: 202-483-2512; bdaniels@apsanet.org

Visiting Scholars Program

CARL ALBERT CENTER

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. Telephone: (405) 325-5835. FAX: (405) 325-6419. Email: cacarchives@ou.edu

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