
[Legislative Studies Section Newsletter](#)

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From the Chair

Lawrence C. Dodd
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My appreciation to Section members for the strong response to the LSS survey on the Extension of Remarks. Widespread support existed for continuing the EOR and for focusing it on scholarly essays and research reports, topical and timely roundtable discussions, and occasional discussions of teaching or research methods. Council members thus decided in March to authorize the search for a new editor. After widespread discussions with various section members, and an extensive search process, I am delighted to report that Valerie Heitshusen has agreed to become the new editor of EOR.

Val's research has spanned the study of Congressional Politics and the study of British Commonwealth Parliaments, and thus she brings a broad perspective on legislative studies to her role as editor. Val received her doctorate in political science from Stanford, taught at the University of Missouri-Columbia, and currently serves as Analyst on Congress and Legislative Process at the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. Elsewhere in the newsletter you will find a statement from Val about her goals as EOR Editor. I have known Val for many years and feel certain that she will do an excellent job as EOR editor, carrying on in the fine tradition of our outgoing editor, Sean Kelly.

During the APSA convention in Boston, the annual Business Meeting for LSS will be held on Friday, August 29, from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., in Room 107 of the Hynes Convention Center. The LSS Reception, featuring appetizers and a cash bar, will immediately follow the Business Meeting, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., in Gardner A on the third floor of the Sheraton Boston Hotel. Please note that the Sheraton is adjacent to the Hynes Convention Center and connected by an indoor walkway.

The primary agenda topic for the Business Meeting at this point will be the presentation of book, article, and dissertation awards. My great appreciation to the members of the various award committees, all of whom have now completed their work. My appreciation as well to 2008 Legislative Studies Program Chair Craig Volden, who has prepared an outstanding set of panels, and to Secretary-Treasurer Tracy Sulkin, Council Members, and the members of the nominations committee for their fine work this year in behalf of the section.

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APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

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Book Notes

- [**Congress at War: The Politics of Conflict Since 1789**](#) by Charles A. Stevenson
- [**Limits & Loopholes: The Quest for Money, Free Speech, and Fair Elections**](#) by Victoria A. Farrar-Myers & Diana Dwyre
- [**Nuclear Waste Stalemate: Political and Scientific Controversies**](#) by Robert Vandebosch and Susanne E. Vandebosch
- [**See Government Grow: Education Politics from Johnson to Reagan**](#) by Gareth Davies
- [**The Power of Money in Congressional Campaigns, 1880-2006**](#) by David C. W. Parker
- [**The President Shall Nominate: How Congress Trumps Executive Power**](#) by Michael A. Sollenberger

Limits & Loopholes: The Quest for Money, Free Speech, and Fair Elections, Victoria A. Farrar-Myers & Diana Dwyre, CQ Press, 2008, ISBN 9780872893290, \$26.95, paper, 190 pages.

Campaign finance reform has been one of the most highly contentious issues in American politics over the last few decades. Proponents of reforms argue that the current finance system encourages corruption and discourages potentially viable candidates who lack fundraising capabilities from participating in the campaign process. Opponents of reforms argue that regulation of campaign finance violates citizens' First Amendment rights to free speech in preventing individuals from supporting the candidates they please as vigorously as they choose. With such disagreement, can reforms of the current campaign finance system occur? If so, how is policy crafted and implemented in such a contentious and controversial issue area? In *Limits and Loopholes: The Quest for Money, Free Speech, and Fair Elections*, Victoria Farrar-Myers and Diana Dwyre provide answers to these questions through an interesting study of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act's (BCRA) journey through the "policy labyrinth" of congressional approval, Supreme Court challenges, and eventual implementation by the Federal Election Commission (FEC) en route to the law bringing about substantive policy changes for campaign finance.

The authors begin with a discussion of Madison's argument in Federalist 10 that core values that come in conflict with each other must be balanced against each other so that the negative attributes of each value can be minimized and the positive attributes maximized (1-8). In order to ensure that this balance would be achieved on most policy issues, the founders set up the U.S. governmental system to prevent majorities who support one value from totally drowning out the concerns of minorities supporting another value. The arguments made in Federalist 10 become very important in understanding the policy history of the most recent attempt to reform the U.S. campaign finance system, the BCRA. As the authors deftly discuss, despite being supported by majorities of legislators in both chambers of Congress, attempts to approve the BCRA were largely unsuccessful in the 105th Congress due to the minority faction's use of strategies like the filibuster and the fact that the leadership in Congress was sympathetic to the minority faction's viewpoints on the issue (chapter 2). In fact, the BCRA was only finally approved after the policy environment in subsequent Congresses became more advantageous for proponents of reform due to increased visibility of the issue as a result of the Enron scandal and the presidential campaign of reform proponent John McCain and increased sympathy on the part of congressional leadership toward reform efforts (chapter 3). Even then, the compromises that reform proponents were forced to make with opponents of reform so diluted the BCRA that the final product ended up being only an incremental change in campaign finance policy that addressed only a portion of the campaign finance issues that it was designed to address (92).

After passage of the BCRA, proponents of the bill still were forced to expend energy and resources to fight back efforts from opponents to diminish the impact of the law. First of all, although the constitutionality of the main provisions of the BCRA were upheld, campaign finance reform advocates were forced to expend resources in order to defeat the constitutional challenges of the BCRA in the Supreme Court by opponents of the law (chapter 4). Furthermore, opponents of the BCRA were also able to influence the FEC, the main agency responsible for implementing the BCRA, to interpret the law in ways that would diminish its impact (chapter 5). Thus, proponents of the BCRA were forced to put pressure on the FEC by engaging in acts such as testifying in congressional hearings in order to get the FEC to implement the law as pro-reform advocates had intended (23).

Farrar-Myers and Dwyre deliver a very intriguing account of the BCRA that really serves as a lesson for how policy is crafted in any issue area that is highly contentious like campaign finance reform has clearly proven to be. As the authors effectively demonstrate, creating substantive policy change in policy areas like campaign finance requires policy entrepreneurs not only to craft enough support within Congress for a bill, but also to defend the bill from being severely changed at later stages of the policy process including policy implementation. Even when policy entrepreneurs are successful in bringing about policy change, as was the case for the BCRA, policy change may only be incremental due to the compromises that are made as legislation makes its way through the "policy labyrinth." For better or worse, this is how policy is crafted in our governmental system and this book is successful in providing a concrete example of our policy system at work. Those unfamiliar with the policy process and the principles on which it was founded would be well advised to seek out this book and read it with care.

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Nuclear Waste Stalemate: Political and Scientific Controversies, Robert Vandenbosch and Susanne E. Vandenbosch, University of Utah Press, 2007, ISBN 9780874809039, \$25.00, paper, 313 pages.

As oil supplies have become scarcer and the threat of climate change has become more pronounced in the minds of citizens, the quest to phase out the use of fossil fuels and look to alternative energy sources has also become more vigorous around the world recently. Among the options discussed to meet the energy needs currently met by fossil fuel production is increased production of nuclear energy. Although nuclear energy is a proven energy source that emits no greenhouse gases, significant issues remain concerning where to store the waste byproducts of producing nuclear energy. In fact, although nuclear energy has been utilized around the world for around thirty years, no country has yet developed a permanent storage facility for spent nuclear waste (xii). In *Nuclear Waste Stalemate: Political and Scientific Controversies*, Robert and Susanne Vandenbosch discuss some of the political and technical issues related to the storage of nuclear waste, detail the history of the policy issue in the United States, and conclude with a discussion of the status of nuclear waste policy in countries outside the U.S.

After a quick overview of the nuclear waste policy issue (chapter 1), Vandenbosch and Vandenbosch begin with an interesting scientific discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of storing nuclear waste in monitored above ground storage facilities vs. storing the waste permanently deep in the earth vs. reprocessing the spent waste to create more nuclear energy (chapter 2). The authors also discuss some of the advantages and disadvantages of storing nuclear waste in areas with different geological characteristics (i.e. storing the waste in a geological area surrounded by salt vs. storing the waste in a geological area surrounded by clay) (10-15).

Although nuclear waste has not begun to be stored in the area yet, plans have been made to store nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. Vandenbosch and Vandenbosch expertly guide the reader through the policy decisions that led to Yucca Mountain being named and approved as the permanent storage site. These policy decisions include the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982, which named Yucca Mountain as one of the nine possible sites for a waste repository (chapter 4); the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987, which directed the Department of Energy to consider only Yucca Mountain as a possible site for storing nuclear waste (chapter 5); the Energy Policy Act of 1992, which set the radiation standards for Yucca Mountain (chapter 8); the 2002 presidential approval of Yucca Mountain as the permanent repository site for nuclear waste (chapter 9); the attempts by Nevada to veto the presidential approval of Yucca Mountain, and the subsequent congressional override of the Nevada veto that firmly approved Yucca Mountain as the official storage site for nuclear waste in the U.S. (chapter 9). The authors then discuss some of the scientific issues involved with storing waste in (chapter 7), and transporting waste to (chapter 11), Yucca Mountain. Vandenbosch and Vandenbosch finally conclude with a discussion of the nuclear waste policies in the countries of France, which interestingly still does not have a permanent nuclear waste repository set up despite the fact that a large percentage of its electricity is generated by nuclear energy, Germany, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Finland, Japan, Russia, India, and China (chapter 12).

Vandenbosch and Vandenbosch are largely successful in providing an evenhanded detailed description of the nuclear waste policy issue in the U.S., and to a lesser extent, in other countries. Their work is particularly novel in combining the expertise of two scholars in two very different fields (chemistry and political science) to get a full perspective on both the scientific and political issues that comprise nuclear waste policy, which is particularly important in a technical policy area like nuclear waste policy. Future nuclear waste policy scholars can surely use this work as a jumping off point to attempt to further explain how the United States and its policymaking institutions, particularly Congress, deal with risky policy areas such as nuclear waste policy.

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See *Government Grow: Education Politics from Johnson to Reagan*, Gareth Davies, University of Kansas Press, 2007, ISBN 9780700615322, \$39.95, cloth, 352 pages.

Historians generally characterize federal politics in the United States since the 1960s as a continued conservative reaction against Great Society liberalism. While an extensive list of evidence from electoral and governmental changes since the 1960s could easily be tallied to document the general rightward shift, Gareth Davies effectively argues and demonstrates this is not the case regarding the issue of public education. Utilizing an array of in-depth case studies, Davies argues that a path dependent liberalism in education policy steadily led to increasing federal spending and involvement in elementary and secondary education. In general, Davies finds that conservatives have come to champion a level of federal responsibility in public education, that even if set forth by liberals, would have been considered “daring” in 1965. By tracing the history and development of U.S. elementary and secondary education policy from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2002, the author shows how the path dependence of U.S. political institutions transformed conservative opponents into conservative champions of “big government” in education.

See Government Grow proceeds in three general sections. This first, composed of chapters 1 through 4, examines how the initially controversial standard of federal involvement in public schooling became accepted and established. Evidence primarily points to the institutional inertia created by federal funding established by the initial ESEA, and the relationship between funding and enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Meanwhile, Part II (chapters 5 through 8), focuses on the changes in American government that resulted from inertia created by the landmark legislation mentioned above. Many institutional changes accompanying the civil rights revolution enabled and legitimized a once unthinkable expansion of federal authority in education politics. A primary change discussed is the expansion of unelected actors into the policy-making arena. A variety of institutional changes allowed for the continued liberalization of education policy that began under Johnson to expand through the Nixon-Ford era.

Finally, Part III (chapters 9 and 10) explores how the institutional inertia proceeded somewhat unintentionally through the presidencies of Carter and Reagan, continuing the expansion of federal involvement in education. Although Carter, a “post new deal” Democrat, and Reagan, leader of the “Reagan Revolution,” both sought to improve education but not necessarily by deepening federal intrusions into public education. Their ultimate impact, however, continued the increasing liberalization of education policy by catapulting educational achievement to the top of the national political agenda. This continued liberalization set the table for a unified Republican government, countering traditional ideology, to pass the NCLB in 2002, the most liberal reach of federal authority into education to date, occurring partly as a result of Gingrich Republicans scrambling to avoid being labeled “anti-education” politicians. Meanwhile, the conservative reaction against Johnson’s Great Society continued in other policy areas, yet the inertia created by the ESEA and the Civil Rights Act facilitated increasing liberal education policy over the last half-century.

See Government Grow provides a well developed history of the of national education policy in the United States. By providing a political science perspective focusing on the path dependence of institutions, Davies presents a unique take on post Great Society politics in the United States. Like many contemporary works on American politics and public policy, this book highlights a growing theme that American politics may be best explained via an issue by issue approach, as general governmental trends, such as the counter attack on the Great Society, may seem general, yet beneath the surface the opposite trend is uncovered by looking at specific issues in greater detail. As an accessible but exhaustive study, this book is a must read for those seeking to understand how U.S. education policy reached the high level of funding and regulation we see today, or those with a general interest in American political history and what happens when policy issues become interdependent to stimulate a variety of unintended consequences for decades to come.

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The Power of Money in Congressional Campaigns, 1880-2006, David C. W. Parker, University of Oklahoma Press, 2008, ISBN 9780806139036, \$45.00, cloth, 296 pages.

In *The Power of Money in Congressional Campaigns*, David Parker provides a well developed and much needed theory of congressional campaign behavior. Attacking the current delineation between the “party-centered” campaigns of the nineteenth century and the “candidate-centered” campaigns of the twentieth century, Parker shows that existing theories of congressional campaigns are at best incomplete, and, for the most part, unnecessarily static and misleading labels of individual time periods. Parker unifies these existing conceptions with his “resource theory” of congressional campaigns. Resource theory is dynamic, time variant, and takes into account the variation of institutionalized rules governing campaigns to provide the most complete theory of elite level behavior in congressional campaigns to date. It not only explains but also predicts variation across time and space. Resource theory provides much needed answers to the questions of when and why parties dominate and control some campaigns, while candidates independently run their own show in others, during any time period.

Parker argues that campaigns are “always resource-centered.” Defining resources in both monetary and reputational terms, rational candidates pursue the appropriate mix of candidate-centered or party-centered behavior that, under campaign rules, allows for the accumulation of resources to compete in an election. Beginning with the second chapter, Parker’s argument and theory are well drawn out, illuminating the inability of party, candidate, and service centered models to explain the dynamic variation in campaign tactics that resource theory more fully captures. Chapters 3 and 4 begin the test of resource theory, utilizing qualitative and some quantitative evidence to demonstrate how institutional rules influence the strategies of candidates and parties, and the relationship between “political players” over time. Here Parker finds that “candidate-centered” behavior has more to do with state level partisan institutionalization and the adaptation of electoral rules than the growth of communication technology.

Chapters 5 and 6 examine the role of the Federal Elections Campaign Act in federalizing the campaign process and altering the incentives of parties and interest groups assisting candidates in resource accumulation, transforming candidate behavior. Parker provides quantitative evidence that money indeed influences party unity on floor votes, as well as nationalizing campaigns where candidates utilize party developed issue agendas in advertising. Finally, chapter 6 completes the campaign circle by incorporating the voter, finding that parties can assist candidates financially, enabling them to design and alter their public image. Utilizing a vast array of evidence, Parker’s empirical chapters succinctly and convincingly support this timely theory of congressional campaigns, before concluding with a look toward the future in terms of how rule changes from the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002 may influence the strategies of parties, candidates, and interest groups in elections to come.

Overall, Parker’s *The Power of Money in Congressional Campaigns* is brilliant. Incorporating candidates, parties, interest groups, voters, and, finally, *institutions*, the “resource-theory” of congressional campaigns is the most complete theory of congressional campaign behavior in the political science tool box. With a little something for everyone, Parker develops and tests resource theory with evidence from historical studies, member biographies, journalist accounts, as well as statistical analysis of roll-calls, campaign advertising, and voter surveys. The resource centered framework provides simple and direct expectations, as well as nuanced explanation. This book should become required reading for congressional and party scholars, as well as graduate seminars.

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Congress at War: The Politics of Conflict Since 1789, Charles A. Stevenson, Potomac Books Inc., 2007, ISBN 9781597971812, \$10.00, paper, 103 pages.

The President Shall Nominate: How Congress Trumps Executive Power, Michael A. Sollenberger, University Press of Kansas, 2008, ISBN 9780700615766, \$39.95, cloth, 312 pages.

These two books address disparate topics but are sufficiently connected by theme to warrant discussing them together. Stevenson sets his study of the war powers of the Congress and the presidency explicitly in the controversy between the 'presidentialist' school (which later metastasizes into unitary executive theory) and 'constitutionalists.' The former argue that the president has inherent authority to use military force to protect vital national interests (preemptively if necessary); the later argue that the initiation of armed hostilities requires prior congressional authorization except in case of an invasion or insurrection. These disputes must, Stevenson believes, be set against the backdrop of historical experience. Both sides, he notes, appeal to historical precedent to buttress their cases and both acknowledge that precedents matter. What are the precedents?

In eighty concise pages Stevenson arrays precedents under five heads: declaring war; raising and supporting armies/rules governing conflict; strategy; oversight; and termination. For each he provides tables and narratives summarizing incidents of executive/legislative interaction on war issues. He demonstrates that the historical patterns are quite variable. As opposed to the contentions of competing academic theories, history is replete with examples in which presidents asserted themselves against congressional preferences, and in which presidents choose to accept congressional direction or accede to congressional preference. Congress can and has asserted itself in a variety of ways but, as Stevenson puts it, it has "not always been a pretty sight" (79). His conclusion is that Congress and the presidency have engaged in a process of mutual adjustment and accommodation that defies simplistic constitutional interpretations or prescriptions.

Sollenberger, addressing a different aspect of presidential-congressional relations, comes to a similar conclusion. Like Stevenson, his aim is to provide a narrative description of historical experience, in this case the 'pre-nomination' interactions between presidential administrations and members of Congress. Here again, unitary executive theory argues that Congress's constitutional role is limited to a consideration of nominees that the president has presented to the Congress, and not in the administration's deliberations about them. Yet historical experience reveals an ongoing process of collaboration between presidents, members of Congress, and congressional committees.

Whereas Stevenson organizes his discussion analytically, Sollenberger proceeds chronologically, starting with Washington and ending with George W. Bush. While judicial nominations occupy a major focus of his study, he also addresses subaltern executive branch appointments especially in the context of civil service reform. He gives less attention to diplomatic nominations. The chronological approach gives rise naturally to an attempt to identify key eras and transitions. The spoils era, for example, offers a different framework for nominations than the reform era, in which civil service limited patronage. With respect to judicial nominations, the most recent partisan era sets a different context than earlier and more bipartisan periods. Sollenberger also discusses ongoing norms such as senatorial courtesy and institutional practices such as the Senate blue slips.

Sollenberger's sources include presidential papers, Senate records (including in particular those of the Judiciary Committee), memoirs, secondary sources, and private correspondence. His effort has been prodigious, and it takes nothing away from it to observe that, for all the ground he covers, more remains to be done. For example, both the public administration and congressional literatures address Congress's relationship with the bureaucracy, to include influence over executive branch appointments. Some executive agencies have appeared to be wholly-owned subsidiaries of congressional committees or subcommittees. To canvas these relationships would require additional research, perhaps drawing upon the papers of key congressmen.

Sollenberger reserves his theoretical discussion for the concluding chapter, in which he launches a rebuttal of unitary executive arguments. Central to his argument is the historical finding that presidential nominations almost always involve prior interaction and consultation. Even when presidents have declined to heed the advice of some members of Congress, they have listened to others. Political party affiliation has often played a decisive role. Sollenberger would certainly agree with Stevenson, that the historical relationship between Congress and the presidency has been marked by a process of mutual accommodation within the framework of a Constitution that permits, encourages, and demands it.

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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>Acta Politica</i> , vol. 42, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 355-379	Lane, Jan-Erik; Maeland, Reinert	Towards an Analysis of Voting Power in Parliament: an Exploration into Coalition-Making in Nordic Parliaments
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> 51, no. 1 (Jan. 2007): 17-33	Marschall, Melissa J.; Ruhil, Anirudh V.S.	Substantive Symbols: The Attitudinal Dimension of Black Political Incorporation in Local Government
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 51, no. 3 (Jul. 2007): 433-448	Bailey, Michael A.	Comparable Preference Estimates across Time and Institutions for the Court, Congress, and Presidency
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 51, no. 4 (Oct. 2007): 921-939	Wolbrecht, Christina; Campbell, David E.	Leading by Example: Female Members of Parliament as Political Role Models
<i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , vol. 112, no. 5 (Mar. 2007): 1458-1494	Jacobs, David; Tope, Daniel	The Politics of Resentment in the Post-Civil Rights Era: Minority Threat, Homicide, and Ideological Voting in Congress
<i>American Journal of Sociology</i> , vol. 112, no. 6 (May 2007): 1713-1774	Chen, Anthony S.	The Party of Lincoln and the Politics of State Fair Employment Practices Legislation in the North, 1945-1964
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 101, no. 2 (May 2007): 289-301	Carson, Jamie L.; Engstrom, Erik J.; Roberts, Jason M.	Candidate Quality, the Personal Vote, and the Incumbency Advantage in Congress
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 101, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 657-676	Chen, Jowei; Malhotra, Neil	The Law of k/n: The Effect of Chamber Size on Government Spending in Bicameral Legislatures
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 101, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 847-850	Montero, Maria; Vidal-Puga, Juan J.	Demand Commitment in Legislative Bargaining
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 101, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 851	Morelli, Massimo	Demand Commitment and Legislative Bargaining: A Response

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 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>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 35, no. 6 (Nov. 2007): 771-789	Wagner, Michael W.	Beyond Policy Representation in the U. S. House
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 35, no. 6 (Nov. 2007): 790-807	MacDonald, Jason A.; Franko, William W., Jr.	Bureaucratic Capacity and Bureaucratic Discretion
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 35, no. 6 (Nov. 2007): 808-825	Karch, Andrew; McConaughy, Corrine M.; Theriault, Sean M.	The Legislative Politics of Congressional Redistricting Commission Proposals
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 35, no. 6 (Nov. 2007): 826-845	Victor, Jennifer Nicoll	Strategic Lobbying
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 35, no. 6 (Nov. 2007): 878-904	Carson, Jamie L.; Crespin, Michael H.; Finocchiaro, Charles J.; Rohde, David W.	Redistricting and Party Polarization in the U. S. House of Representatives
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 36, no. 1 (Jan. 2008): 62-84	Born, Richard	Party Polarization and the Rise of Partisan Voting in U. S. House Elections
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 36, no. 1 (Jan. 2008): 130-152	Rocca, Michael S.; Sanchez, Gabriel R.	The Effect of Race and Ethnicity on Bill Sponsorship and Cosponsorship in Congress
<i>Australian Journal of Public Administration</i> , vol. 66, no. 2 (2007): 210-222	Ward, Stephen; Lusoli, Wainer; Gibson, Rachel	Australian MPs and the Internet: Avoiding the Digital Age?
<i>Australian Journal of Public Administration</i> , vol. 66, no. 3 (2007): 307-328	Lindell, Geoffrey	The Combet Case and the Appropriation of Taxpayers' Funds for Political Advertising – An Erosion of Fundamental Principles?
<i>Australian Journal of Public Administration</i> , vol. 66, no. 3 (2007): 371-375	Ashe, Stewart	Undermining Senate Scrutiny? Changes to the Senate Committee System
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 37, no. 4 (Oct. 2007): 711-730	Grossback, Lawrence J.; Peterson, David A. M.; Stimson, James A.	Electoral Mandates in American Politics
<i>Canadian Journal of Political Science/Revue canadienne de science politique</i> , vol. 40, no. 3 (Sep. 2007): 615-637	Tremblay, Manon; Mullen, Stephanie	The Standing Committee of the Feminine Condition of the House of Commons in Canada: A Tool of Representational Politics of Women?
<i>Communist and Post-Communist Studies</i> , vol. 40, no. 3 (Sep. 2007): 281-299	Crowther, William E.; Matonyte, Irmina	Parliamentary elites as a democratic thermometer: Estonia, Lithuania and Moldova compared
<i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , vol. 41, no. 3 (Mar. 2008): 338-361	Tripp, Ali Mari; Kang, Alice	The Global Impact of Quotas
<i>Comparative Strategy</i> , vol. 26, no. 3 (May-Jun. 2007): 231-248	Madalia, Jonathan	Water Power: Why Congress Zeroed 'Bunker Buster' Appropriations
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> , vol. 34, no. 1 (Spring 2007): 79-99	Peake, Jeffrey S.; Jackson, David J.; Biglaiser, Glen	'Don't Go Changing to Try and Please Me': A Preference-Consistency Analysis on Trade Policy in the U. S. House
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> , vol. 34, no. 2 (Autumn 2007): 1-22	Green, Matthew N.	Presidents and Personal Goals: The Speaker of the House as Nonmajoritarian Leader
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> , vol. 34, no. 2 (Autumn 2007): 23-34	Thorson, Gregory R.; Nitzschke, Tasina; Maxwell, Nicholas	Rule Assignment in the Postreform House: A Test of Three Competing Theories of Legislative Organization
<i>Current History</i> , vol. 107, no. 707 (Mar. 2008): 105-111	Calingaert, Michael	Italy's Choice: Reform or Stagnation
<i>Desarrollo Economico</i> , vol. 47, no. 185 (Apr.-Jun. 2007): 73-94	Barreiro Lemos, Leany	Free Market Reforms in Brazil: The Legislative Treatment toward State Monopolies in the Cardoso Government

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Economics & Politics</i> , vol. 19, no. 1 (Mar. 2007): 97-121	Patty, John W.; Boehmke, Frederick J.	The Selection of Policies for Ballot Initiatives: What Voters Can Learn from Legislative Inaction
<i>Economics & Politics</i> , vol. 19, no. 3 (2007) 289-315	Magee, Christopher S. P.	Influence, Elections, and the Value of a Vote in the U. S. House of Representatives
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 26, no. 2 (Jun. 2007): 381-391	Lago, Ignacio; Martinez, Ferran	The Importance of Electoral Rules: Comparing the Number of Parties in Spain's Lower and Upper Houses
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 26, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 803-808	Klesner, Joseph L.	The July 2006 Presidential and Congressional Elections in Mexico
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 26, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 828-832	Lean, Sharon F.	The Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Nicaragua, November 2006
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 26, no. 4 (Dec. 2007): 832-837	Aarts, Kees; van der Kolk, Henk	The Parliamentary Election in the Netherlands, 22 November 2006
<i>European Journal of Political Economy</i> , vol. 23, no. 3 (Sep. 2007): 674-692	Tridimas, George	Ratification through Referendum or Parliamentary Vote: When to Call a Non-required Referendum?
<i>European Journal of Political Research</i> , vol. 26, no. 3 (2007): 367-394	Krook, Mona Lena	Candidate Gender Quotas: A Framework for Analysis
<i>European Journal of Political Research</i> , vol. 26, no. 3 (2007): 417-444	Konig, Thomas	Divergence and Convergence? From Ever-growing to Ever-slowng European Legislative Decision Making
<i>European Journal of Political Research</i> , vol. 46, no. 2 (Mar. 2007): 237-267	Alonso, Sonia; Ruiz-Rufino, Ruben	Political Representation and Ethnic Conflict in New Democracies
<i>Foreign Affairs</i> , vol. 86, no. 5 (Sep.-Oct. 2007): 95-107	Howell, William G.; Pevehouse, Jon C.	When Congress Stops Wars: Partisan Politics and Presidential Power
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 16, no. 3 (Sep. 2007): 379-390	McKay, Joanna	Women MPs and the Socio-Environmental Preconditions for Political Participation in the Federal Republic
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 16, no. 3 (Sep. 2007): 391-407	Davidson-Schmich, Louise K.	Ahead of Her Time: Eva Kolinsky and the Limits of German Gender Quotas
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Charting the Congressional Experience: The Papers of Richard Gephardt

The inaugural Gephardt Fellow, Daniel E. Ponder, had the privilege of perusing the letters, records, press clippings, and other minutiae of Richard Gephardt's congressional career. The collection is housed at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis. [Click here to read Ponder's description of the Gephardt collection.](#)

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.html>. 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>.

French Political Science Association

The French Political Science Association (AFSP) has created a new research group on legislative studies (GRPP). Several conferences are planned for 2009:

1. *Parliamentary Violence*, 16 January 2009, Paris
Deadline for applying: 5 September 2009
Website: <http://www.afsp.msh-paris.fr/activite/groupe/grpp/grpp.html>
2. *Assemblies within Parliaments*, 7-9 September 2009, Grenoble
For the biennial congress of the AFSP, there will be 3 panels: plenary debates, committees, and parliamentary party groups.
Deadline for applying: 15 October 2009
Website: <http://www.congresafsp2009.fr/sectionsthematiques/st11/st11appel.html>

Participants are expected to understand French (even approximately), but presentations in English are welcome. For additional information, contact:

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International Political Science Review

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 subdisciplinary 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.

Political Science Blog: Voir Dire

University of George faculty members Jeff Yates and Andy Whitford have established a new blog that focuses on law, courts, politics, and policy. They also address topics concerning academia generally and have very occasional discussion of pop culture and other topics of lighter fare. The blog address is <http://lawandcourts.wordpress.com/>.

SSRN Announces New Political Science Network

The new Political Science Network (PSN) will provide a world-wide, online community for research in all areas of political science, following the model of the other subject matter networks within the Social Science Research Network. PSN provides scholars with access to current work in their field and facilitates research and scholarship. PSN is directed by Professors David A. Lake and Mathew D. McCubbins (UC – San Diego). The website address is <http://www.ssrn.com/psn/index.html>.

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

The Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs can be an invaluable resource to political and social scientists. The Center has space for hosting 10 scholars for extended periods of time, ranging from weeks to months. Space for shorter "drop-in" stays is also available. Scholars are expected to pursue their own research and teaching projects and contribute to the intellectual life of the residential community by sharing their work with Center colleagues in occasional informal seminars.

Located within the Association's headquarters building near Dupont Circle, with easy access to the Washington Metro system, the Center offers visiting scholars furnished work space, telephone, fax, personal computers, Internet connection, conference space, a reference library, and library access at the George Washington University. Scholars are responsible for securing their own housing, but the Center will make every effort to assist scholars in locating suitable accommodations.

Eligibility is limited to APSA members. Senior or junior faculty members, post-doctoral fellows, and advanced graduate students are strongly encouraged to apply.

The Center also has a limited number of funding opportunities to support scholars working at the Centennial Center or other research locations.

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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Extension of Remarks



Legislative Studies Section

American Political Science Association

July 2008

Let me begin by offering my sincere thanks to those at the Legislative Studies Section who have entrusted me with the editorship of *Extension of Remarks*. I have great respect for the editors who have held the position previously, and hope to continue successfully on the path they have forged by bringing thought-provoking and insightful perspectives on the study of legislatures to our section's membership.

Based on discussions with former *EOR* editors and others involved in the newsletter, I will continue the practice of producing sets of short essays touching on a selected theme. Of course, thematic topics will most frequently focus on research and analysis of all types of legislative institutions and elections (congressional, state-level, and comparative), with occasional attention to recent developments in relevant data and methods. Since *EOR* provides a unique forum for thinking about how our theories play out in practice (as well as for thinking about how political developments fit into our theories), I hope to produce several issues that connect political science insights and findings to current political events and legislative trends. From my current vantage point (a political scientist who now conducts research on congressional procedure at the Congressional Research Service), I straddle the worlds of academic research on Congress and the operation of the institution on-the-ground, so I am particularly sympathetic to efforts to bridge gaps between theory and practice. My past work on comparative parliaments also underscores my keen interest in using *EOR* as a forum for work on legislatures around the world. Finally, I am excited about the increased attention that the subfield is devoting to historical research, as well as data collection efforts in recent years that promise to allow more longitudinal analysis; I want *EOR* to help with dissemination of these ideas and developments to the LSS membership.

I anticipate that *EOR* will see its first essays under my editorship in the January 2009 edition of the *LSS Newsletter*. I encourage readers with ideas for themes (or even with a set of proposed interrelated essays) to contact me with any suggestions.

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