
[Legislative Studies Section Newsletter](#)

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From the Chair

[Lawrence C. Dodd](#)
University of Florida

As my term comes to an end, let me express my great appreciation to everyone who has served on LSS committees over the past two years. Thanks to Pat Sellers for serving as 2009 Program Chair, to Secretary-Treasurer Tracy Sulkin, and to the Council members for all of their work and guidance. My appreciation as well to Ron Peters, LaDonna Sullivan, and the Carl Albert Center at the University of Oklahoma for the excellent job they do with the LSS newsletter and web site, and to Val Heitschusen for her fine work as editor of Extension of Remarks.

I urge each of you to set aside time in Toronto to attend the outstanding panels that Pat has prepared for us. Our panel allotment has declined this year by five, owing to a lag in our attendance relative to other sections, so it is vitally important that we all take the time to participate in the panels this year. The LSS Council will have an extended meeting in Toronto to discuss this and related issues.

We have set aside the planned survey of members so that current and incoming Council members and officers will have an opportunity to meet and discuss more fully the circumstances and options facing the LSS. I note that our membership is holding relatively constant (currently at 599) while the APSA membership and conference attendance has been increasing in recent years.

The Annual Business Meeting for LSS will begin at 6:15 p.m. in room 206D of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. A reception in room 206C will follow at 7:30.

The primary agenda for the LSS Business Meeting at this point will be the presentation of awards for best book, article, and dissertation in legislative studies.

| [Front Page](#) | | [Book Notes](#) | | [Journal Articles](#) |
| [Legislative News](#) | [Papers Presented](#) | [Research & Teaching](#) |

| [Other Editions of the LSS Newsletter](#) | | [Announcements](#) |
| [Legislative Studies Section Home Page](#) | [APSA Home Page](#) |



Volume 32, Number 2, July 2009

● Book Notes

- [***So Damn Much Money: The Triumph of Lobbying and the Corrosion of American Government***](#) by Robert G. Kaiser
- [***The Strategic President: Persuasion and Opportunity in Presidential Leadership***](#) by George C. Edwards III

So Damn Much Money: The Triumph of Lobbying and the Corrosion of American Government, Robert G. Kaiser, Knopf, 2009, 9780307266545, \$27.95, cloth, 416 pages.

Bob Kaiser is a senior editor at *The Washington Post* and has reported on American politics since the 1960s. In this book he draws on that long experience to explain the fundamental changes that have taken place in American government and politics, changes that are in his view not for the better.

This book will make an excellent companion book in courses in American government, the Congress, interest groups, or money in politics. It ties its narrative into the topics and themes these courses address, and adds the insider perspective that good reporting brings.

Kaiser's vehicle is the career of Gerald Cassidy, the co-founder (with Ken Schlossberg) of Cassidy & Associates, the Washington lobby shop that led the way in developing and mining the congressional earmark industry. Kaiser draws on an extended series about Cassidy that was published in the *Post* in the past two years. The book interweaves chapters that tell the highly personal story of Gerry Cassidy with other chapters that explain the cultural, institutional, and political forces that have altered the environment in which Congress does its business.

The nub of this book's argument is that American government has become corroded at the nexus of campaign contributions and special-interest lawmaking. Cassidy cultivated the form, and many others have followed in his wake. His insight was to see that a lobbyist could serve as the interface (the "fixer") between organized interests and the congressional appropriations process; his genius was to see that the real money was to be made in creating the need his skills would serve. Starting out with a specialized clientele among institutions of higher education, the Cassidy method was to identify funding opportunities

rather than institutional (much less public) needs. If the Cassidy team could find authorizing legislation that could support claims on the federal treasury, then it remained only to explain to college presidents how their institutions could capture the federal largess. Building out from his base in the higher education community, Cassidy created an earmark shop that became the most lucrative lobbying practice in Washington. Although Cassidy eventually branched out into more mainstream policy representation, his legacy will surely be traced to his fundamental business model.

Kaiser explains quite clearly how Cassidy & Associates cultivated contacts on the Hill, in the higher education community, and in the world of commerce. Central to the firm's success was reliance on "finders," i.e. persons of influence who would bring earmark business to the firm in return for 10 percent of the profits generated. Cassidy 10-percenters numbered in the hundreds over the years. The firm also established close ties to members of Congress through an active political action committee, bundling, and sponsorship of fund-raisers for individual members and the national party committees. While originally identified primarily with the Democrats, Cassidy shifted seamlessly to the Republicans after 1994, hiring high placed Republican staffers to help run the company. The explosion of earmarks under the Republican congressional regime was no accident.

So much does this book rely on the story of Gerry Cassidy, that one might have expected it to present itself as his story rather than ours. Yet the book's title and Kaiser's explanation makes it clear that Gerry Cassidy was as much a symptom as a cause of "the corrosion of American government" referenced in the book's title. Kaiser sees Gerry Cassidy as a sort of tragic figure of the American type, a latter day Jay Gatsby. He came from nothing and rose to great prominence and wealth. He had the insight to see his opportunities, and the drive to take advantage of them. Kaiser, who interviewed Cassidy often and at length for this book, ends up expressing a sort of sympathy for the man, just as Nick Carraway does of Gatsby: "No – Gatsby turned out all right in the end; it is what preyed on Gatsby, what foul dust floated in the wake of his dreams that temporarily closed out my interest in the abortive sorrows and short-winded elations of men."

Professional political scientists may find themselves learning more about Gerry Cassidy than they need to know, although the personal narrative no doubt drives the interest of the general reader. Kaiser's discussion of campaign fundraising, congressional reform, the Democratic and Republican approaches to government, and the permanent campaign are all familiar to us. The contribution of this book lies in the adept meshing of these themes with the personal story of one man whose career unfolded in the context of this transformation of our politics.

Kaiser combines both a condemnation of the system and an understanding of the man who helped shape it. Still, one wonders if Kaiser would say of Cassidy what Nick says of Gatsby: "They're a rotten crowd," I shouted across the lawn. "You're worth the whole damn bunch put together."

— Ronald M. Peters, Jr.
Regents' Professor of Political Science
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The Strategic President: Persuasion and Opportunity in Presidential Leadership, George C. Edwards III, Princeton University Press, 2009, ISBN 9780691139470, \$29.95, cloth, 256 pages.

One of the big issues within the literature on the presidency is how presidents use persuasion to get what they want. Is their persuasion effective? Who are they trying to persuade? These questions and others are justly answered in *The Strategic President*. In this book, Edwards is not concerned with whether presidents matter since they undoubtedly do matter. He is concerned with why they matter. Through the use of test cases in regards to the public and Congress, Edwards is able to answer this question.

Before he goes into his test cases, Edwards outlines the recurring argument of institutional context versus the personal skills and traits of the president. Edwards presents two broad perspectives on the presidency. The first sees the president as the director of change, creating "opportunities to move in new directions, leading others where they otherwise would not go" (11). This supports the personal skills and traits argument. The second perspective sees the president as a facilitator of change, using strategies and tactics to exploit opportunities for change in the environment in which he is operating. To build his argument that presidents have to act as facilitators in regards to their relationships with Congress and the public, Edwards looks to Joseph Cooper and David Brady's conclusion that institutional context is more important than personal skills or traits.

While Edwards focuses on the public as well as Congress, it is chapter four, "Leading Congress: Best Test Cases," that is the most relevant to legislative studies. In this chapter, Edwards analyzes a number of Republican and Democratic presidents in regards to their relationships with Congress. He finds that while most of the presidents chosen acted strategically by trying to persuade the marginal members, they were not very effective. Edwards uses Ronald Reagan as an example of a president who often lobbied members of Congress, and, therefore, found it hard to persuade them since his direct contact with them was not uncommon. The more novel a president's contact with members of Congress, the better chance the president had at being effectively persuasive.

Edwards' findings strengthen the well-known concept that presidents can more easily persuade Congress in their first year as president. Therefore, it is less than surprising that "Ronald Reagan began his term with rave reviews for his handling of Congress, but his legislative relations soured considerably in the years that followed" (145). This happens to most presidents.

Edwards' ultimate finding is that the success of persuasion is more often than not the exception rather than the rule. Jimmy Carter's use of persuasion regarding the Panama Canal treaties was successful. However, other such cases of successful persuasion are rare.

Although this book's conclusions often enforce common knowledge, Edwards does an excellent job of using historical evidence and anecdotes to extend the debate over whether power is derived from the person or the position of the president. Any scholar interested in that ongoing debate should definitely read this book.

— Barrett Bulla
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• [Back to Front Page](#)

• [Back to LSS Page](#)

APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

Volume 32, Number 2, July 2009

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 Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 52, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 821-839.	Farhang, Sean.	Public Regulation and Private Lawsuits in the American Separation of Powers System.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 52, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 858-873.	Hogan, Robert E.	Policy Responsiveness and Incumbent Reelection in State Legislature.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 52, no. 4 (Oct. 2008) 891-909.	Frechette, Guillaume R, and Francois Maniquet and Massimo Morelli	Incumbents' Interests and Gender Quotas.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 52, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 910-925.	Heller, William B and Carol Mershon.	Dealing in Discipline: Party Switching and Legislative Voting in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, 1988-2000.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 53, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 55-72.	Fair, Ray C.	Presidential and Congressional Vote-Sharing Equations.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 53, no. 2 (Apr. 2009): 292-306.	Hirano, Shigeo and James M. Snyder, Jr.	Using Multimember District Elections to Estimate the Sources of the Incumbency Advantage.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 53, no. 2 (Apr. 2009): 324-342.	Gailmard, Sean and Jeffery A. Jenkins.	Agency Problems, the 17 th Amendment, and Representation in the Senate.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 53, no. 2 (Apr. 2009):. 343-359.	Shepsle, Kenneth A, Ropbert P. Van Houweling, Samuel J. Abrams and Peter C. Hanson.	The Senate Electoral Cycle and Bicameral Appropriations Politics.
<i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 53, no. 2 (Apr. 2009): 360-375.	Holyoke, Thomas T.	Interest Group Competition and Coalition Formation.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 102, no. 3 (Aug. 2008): 333-350.	Smith, Daniel, A. and Dustin Fridkin.	Delegating Direct Democracy: Interparty Legislative Competition and the Adoption of the Initiative in the American States.
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 102, no. 3 (Aug. 2008): 385-386.	Volden, Craig and Alan E. Wiseman.	Erratum to "Bargaining in Legislatures over Particularistic and Collective Goods."
<i>American Political Science Review</i> , vol. 103, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 99-112.	Keefer, Philip and Stuti Khemani.	When Do Legislators Pass on Pork? : The Role of Political Parties in Determining Legislator Effort.
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 36, no. 5 (Sept. 2008): 639-668.	Meinke, Scott R.	Who Whips? Party Government and the House Extended Whip Networks.
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 37, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 3-29.	Wilhelm, Teena	Strange Bedfellows: The Policy Consequences of Legislative-Judicial Relations in the American States.
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 37, no 2 (Mar. 2009): 327-352.	Bergan, Daniel E.	Does Grassroots Lobbying Work? : A Field Experiment Measuring the Effects of an e-Mail Lobbying Campaign on Legislative Behavior.
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 37, no. 3 (May 2009): 449-464	Treul, Sarah A.	Ambition and Party Loyalty in the U.S. Senate.
<i>American Politics Research</i> , vol. 37, no. 3 (May 2009): 508-533.	Kelley, Christopher S. and Bryan W. Marshall.	Assessing Presidential Power: Signing Statements and Veto Threats as Coordinated Strategies.
<i>American Sociological Review</i> , vol. 74, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 83-105.	Walker, Edward T.	Privatizing Participation: Civic Change and the Organizational Dynamics of Grassroots Lobbying Firms.
<i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 43, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 395-423.	Bach, Stanley.	Senate Amendments and Legislative Outcomes in Australia, 1996-2007.
<i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 43, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 635-648.	Economou, Nick.	Changing the Rules to Change the House: Electoral Reform and the 2006 Electoral Contest for the Victorian Legislative Council.
<i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 44, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 13-27.	Banfield, Andrew C. and Rainer Knopff.	Legislative Versus Judicial Checks and Balances: Comparing Rights Policies Across Regimes.
<i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 44, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 41-55.	Tolley, Michael C.	Parliamentary Scrutiny of Rights in the United Kingdom: Assessing the Work of the Joint Committee on Human Rights.
<i>Australian Journal of Politics and History</i> , vol. 54, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 545-561.	Bach, Stanley.	Crisp, the Senate, and the Constitution.
<i>Australian Journal of Politics and History</i> , vol. 54, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 579-596.	Warhurst, John.	Conscience Voting in the Australian Federal Parliament.
<i>Australian Journal of Politics and History</i> , vol. 55, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 64-79.	Young, Sally and Lisa Hill.	Uncounted Votes: Informal Voting in the House of Representatives as a Marker of Political Exclusion in Australia.
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 38, no. 3 (July 2008): 383-410.	Schonhardt-Bailey, Cheryl.	The Congressional Debate on Partial-Birth Abortion: Constitutional Gravitas and Moral Passion.
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 38, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 657-675.	Andrews, Josephine T. and Robert W. Jackman.	If Winning Isn't Everything, Why Do They Keep Score? Consequences of Electoral Performance for Party Leaders.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 38, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 719-738.	McGhee, Eric.	National Ties and Local Results in US House Elections.
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 38, no.3 (July 2008): 479-497.	Ezrow, Lawrence.	Parties' Policy Programmes and the Dog that Didn't Bark: No Evidence that Proportional Systems Promote Extreme Party Positioning.
<i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 39, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 117-139.	Negretto, Gabriel	Political Parties and Institutional Design: Explaining Constitutional Choice in Latin America.
<i>British Journal of Politics & International Relations</i> , vol. 10, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 571-589.	Russell, Meg and Maria Sciara.	The Policy Impact of Defeats in the House of Lords.
<i>British Journal of Politics & International Relations</i> , vol. 11, no. 2 (May 2009): 280-297.	Davis, Aeron.	Evaluating Communication in the British Parliamentary Public Sphere.
<i>Canadian Political Science Review</i> , vol. 2, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 103-124.	Small, Tamara A.	Blogging the Hill: Garth Turner and the Canadian Parliamentary Blogosphere.
<i>Commonwealth and Comparative Politics</i> , vol. 46, no. 3 (July 2008): 365-387.	Pond, Daniel.	Legislative Oversight of Political Patronage in Canada.
<i>Commonwealth and Comparative Politics</i> , vol. 47, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 100-126.	Moniruzzaman, M.	Parliamentary Democracy in Bangladesh: An Evaluation of the Parliament during 1991-2006.
<i>Comparative European Politics</i> vol. 6, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 463-485.	Stockemer, Daniel.	Women's Representation in Europe – A Comparison Between the National Parliaments and the European Parliament.
<i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , vol. 41, no. 12 (Dec. 2008): 1583-1606.	Hiroi, Taeko.	The Dynamics of Lawmaking in a Bicameral Legislature: The Case of Brazil.
<i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , vol. 42, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 56-81.	Jones, Mark P.	Gender Quotas, Electoral Laws, and the Election of Women: Evidence From the Latin American Vanguard.
<i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , vol. 42, no. 3: 360-391.	Hagopian, Frances and Carlos Gervasoni and Juan Andres Moraes.	From Patronage to Program: The Emergence of Party-Oriented Legislators in Brazil.
<i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> , vol. 25, no. 2 (Summer 2008): 136-151.	Arena, Philip.	Success Breeds Success? War Outcomes, Domestic Opposition and Elections.
<i>Conflict Management and Peace Science</i> , vol. 26, no. 2 (Apr. 209): 191-208.	Prins, Brandon C. and Bryan W. Marshall	Senate Influence or Presidential Unilateralism? : An Examination of Treaties and Executive Agreements from Theodore Roosevelt and George W. Bush.
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> , vol. 35, no. 2 (Autumn 2008): 1-16.	Lebo, Matthew J.	Divided Government, United Approval: The Dynamics of Congressional and Presidential Approval.
<i>Congress & the Presidency</i> , vol. 35, no. 2 (Autumn 2008): 17-38.	Holyoke, Thomas T.	Interest Group Competition and Cooperation at Legislative Hearings.
<i>Crime, Law, and Social Change</i> , vol. 49, no. 5 (June 2008): 349-364.	Bussman, Kai-D and Sebastian Matschke.	The impact of the US legislation on company measures of control and prevention.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Criminal Justice Policy Review</i> , vol. 20, no.2 (June 2009):15-135.	Marion, Nancy E. and Willard M. Oliver	Congress, Crime, and Budgetary Responsiveness: A Study in Symbolic Politics.
<i>Economics of Governance</i> , vol. 9, no. 4, pp. 363-392.	Indridason, Indridi H.	To dissent or not to dissent? Informative dissent and parliamentary governance.
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 28, no 1 (Mar. 2009): 62-69.	Brunell, Thomas L. and Bernard Grofman.	Testing sincere versus strategic split-ticket voting at the aggregate level : Evidence from split house-president outcomes, 1900-2004.
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 28, no. 1(Mar. 2009): 79-93.	Gordon, Sanford Clar, and Gregory Alain, Huber and Dimitri Landa.	Voter responses to challenger opportunity costs.
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 28, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 101-110.	Pereira, Paulo Trigo and Joao Andrade e Silva.	Citizens' freedom to choose representative: Ballot structure, proportionality and 'fragmented' parliaments.
<i>Electoral Studies</i> , vol. 28, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 123-128.	Butler, Daniel Mark.	A regression discontinuity design analysis of the incumbency advantage and tenure in the U.S. House.
<i>European Union Politics</i> , vol. 10, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 7-34.	Varela, Diego.	Just a Lobbyist? : The European Parliament and the Consultation Procedure.
<i>European Union Politics</i> , vol. 10, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 143-152.	Holand, Bjorn, and Indraneel Sircar and Simon Hix.	An Automated Database of the European Parliament.
<i>European Union Politics</i> , vol. 9, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 315-338.	Warntjen, Andreas.	The Council Presidency: Power Broker or Burden? An Empirical Analysis.
<i>European Union Politics</i> , vol. 9, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 459-486.	Schure, Paul and Amy Verdun.	Legislative Bargaining in the European Union: The Divide between Large and Small Member States.
<i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i> , vol. 4, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 349-370.	Brulevid, J.	Congress, Presidential Approval, and U.S. Dispute Initiation.
<i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i> , vol. 5, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 57-72.	Kastner, Scott L, and Douglas B. Grob.	Legislative Foundations of U.S.-Taiwan Relations: A New Look at the Congressional Taiwan Caucus.
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 223-231.	Burkhart, Simone and Matthias Lehnert.	Between Consensus and Conflict: Law-Making Processes in Germany.
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 232-251.	Brunner, Martin and Marc Debus.	Between Programmatic Interests and Party Politics: The German Bundesrat in the Legislative Process.
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 270-292.	Bachtiger, Andre and Dominik Hangartner and Pia Hess and Celine Fraefel.	Patterns of Parliamentary Discourse: How 'Deliberative' are German Legislative Debates?
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 305-322.	Miller, Bernhard and Christian Stecker.	Consensus by Default? Interaction of Government and Opposition Parties in the Committees of the German Bundestag.
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 367-380.	Lehnert, Matthias and Eric Linhart and Susumu Shikano.	Never Say Never Again: Legislative Failure in German Bicameralism.
<i>German Politics</i> , vol. 17, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 381-392.	Breunig, Christian.	Legislative Politics in Germany: Some Lessons and Challenges.
<i>Government and Opposition</i> , vol. 43, no. 3 (Summer 2008): 424-453.	Chaisty, Paul.	The Legislative Effects of Presidential Partisan Powers in Post Communist Russia.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Government and Opposition</i> , vol. 44, no. 2 (Apr. 2009): 125-145.	Childs, Sarah and Mona Lena Krook.	Analysing Women's Substantive Representation: From Critical Mass to Critical Actors.
<i>International & Comparative Law Quarterly</i> , vol. 57, no. 3 (July 2008): 659-673.	Xanthaki, Helen.	Legal Transplants in Legislation: Defusing the Trap.
<i>International Feminist Journal of Politics</i> , vol. 10, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 348-368	Bauer, Gretchen.	Fifty/Fifty by 2020: ELECTORAL GENDER QUOTAS FOR PARLIAMENT IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.
<i>Issues & Studies</i> , vol. 44, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 1-28.	We, Chung-li.	A Simple Model for Predicting the Outcome of the 2008 Legislative Yuan Elections in Taiwan.
<i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i> , vol. 47, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 127-151.	Settembri, Pierpaolo and Christine Neuhold.	Achieving Consensus Through Committees: Does the European Parliament Manage?
<i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i> , vol. 47, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 175-197.	Slagter, Tracy H.	National Parliaments and the ECJ: A View from the Bundestag.
<i>Journal of Common Market Studies</i> , vol. 47, no. 2 (Mar. 2009): 385-409.	Kardasheva, Raya.	The Power to Delay: The European Parliament's Influence in the Consultation Procedure.
<i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> , vol. 52, no. 5 (Oct. 2008): 623-640.	Fordham, Benjamin.	Economic Interests and Congressional Voting on Security Issues.
<i>Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law</i> , vol. 34, no. 2 (Apr. 2009): 157-179.	Laugesen, Miriam J.	Siren Song: Physicians, Congress and Medicare Fees.
<i>Journal of Theoretical Politics</i> , vol. 21, no. 1, pp.5-24, Jan 2009.	Fogarty, Brian J.	A Simple Model of Legislator and News Media Interaction: News.
<i>Journal of Theoretical Politics</i> , vol. 21, no. 2, pp. 161-186, Apr 2009.	Gailmard, Sean.	Multiple Principals and Oversight of Bureaucratic Policy-Making
<i>Latin American Politics and Society</i> , vol. 51 (Spring 2009): 1, pp. 1-30.	Cheibub, Jose Antonio and Argelina Figueiredo and Fernando Limongi	Political Parties and Governors as Determinants of Legislative Behavior in Brazil's Chamber of Deputies, 1988-2006.
<i>Latin American Research Review</i> , vol.44, no. 1 (2009): 218-246.	Power, Timothy J. and Cesar Zucco Jr.	Estimating Ideology of Brazilian Legislative Parties, 1990-2005.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 3 (Aug. 2008): 471-494.	Habel, Philip D.	The Consequences of Electoral Institutions for Careerism.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 501-510.	Loewenberg, Gerhard.	The Contribution of Comparative Research to Measuring the Policy Preferences of Legislators.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 511-541.	Clinton, Joshua D. and John Lipinski.	Laws and Roll Calls in the U.S. Congress, 1891-1994.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 543-572.	Carrubba, Clifford and Matthew Gabel and Simon Hug.	Legislative Voting Behavior, Seen and Unseen: A Theory of Roll-Call Vote Selection.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 573-601.	Rosas, Guillermo, and Yael Shomer.	Models of Nonresponse in Legislative Politics.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 603-618.	Cox Gary W. and William C. Terry.	Legislative Productivity in the 93 rd -105 th Congresses.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 33, no. 4 (Nov. 2008): 619-642.	Peress, Michael.	Strategic Voting in Multi-Office Elections.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 34, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 5-28.	Schwindt-Bayer, Leslie A.	Making Quotas Work: The Effect of Gender Quota Laws On the Election of Women.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 34, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 29-54.	Woon, Jonathan.	Issue Attention and Legislative Proposals in the U.S. Senate.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 34, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 55-86.	Kousser, Thad and Justin H. Phillips.	Who Blinks First? Legislative Patience and Bargaining with Governors.
<i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 34, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 87-116.	Aleman, Eduardo and Ernesto Calvo and Mark P. Joes and Noah Kaplan.	Comparing Cosponsorship and Roll-Call Ideal Points.
<i>Nationalism and Ethnic Politics</i> , vol. 14, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 487-522.	Young, Lori and Eric Belanger.	BQ in the House: The Nature of the Sovereignist Representation in the Canadian Parliament.
<i>Nationalism and Ethnic Politics</i> , vol. 15, no 1 (Jan. 2009): 1-26.	Bauder, Harald and Jen Semmelroggen.	Immigration and Imagination of Nationhood in the German Parliament.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 61, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 621-641.	Defty, Andrew	Educating Parliamentarians about Intelligence: The Role of the British Intelligence and Security Committee.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 61, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 694-708.	Kalitowski, Susanna.	Rubber Stamp or Cockpit? The Impact of Parliament on Government Legislation.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 62, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 19-31.	Cowley, Philip and Mark Stuart.	There was a Doctor, a Journalist and Two Welshmen: the Voting Behaviour of Independent Mps in the United Kingdom House of Commons, 1997-2007.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 62, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 32-52.	Russell, Meg and Maria Sciara.	Independent Parliamentarians En Masse: The Changing Nature and Role of the 'Crossbenchers' in the House of Lords.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 62, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 88-97.	Allen, Nicholas.	Voices from the Shop Floor: MPs and the Domestic Effects of Ethics Reforms.
<i>Parliamentary Affairs</i> , vol. 62, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 162-177.	Miller, Laura	Hansard Society: e-Petitions at Westminster: the Way Forward for Democracy?
<i>Party Politics</i> , vol. 14, no. 5 (Sept. 2008): 539-554.	Murray, Rainbow.	The Power of Sex and Incumbency: A Longitudinal Study of Electoral Performance in France.
<i>Party Politics</i> , vol. 14, no. 5 (Sept. 2008): 555-574.	Kunicova, Jana and Thomas Frederick Remington.	Mandates, Parties and Dissent: Effect of Electoral Rules on Parliamentary Party Cohesion in the Russian State Duma, 1994-2003.
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Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>Policy Studies</i> , vol. 29, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 405-419.	Peetz, David and Margaret Gardner, Kerry Brown, and Sandra Berns.	Workplace effects of equal employment opportunity legislation the Australian experience.
<i>Political Analysis</i> , vol. 16, no. 3 (Summer 2008): 235-249.	Lauderdale, Benjamin E.	Pass the Pork: Measuring Legislator Shares in Congress.
<i>Political Analysis</i> , vol. 17, no. 1: 25-44.	Gailmard, Sean	Discretion Rather than Rules: Choice of Instruments to Control Bureaucratic Policy Making
<i>Political Analysis</i> , vol. 17, no. 1: 83-88.	Anderson, Sarah and Philip Habel	Revisiting Adjusted ADA Scores for the U.S. Congress, 1947-2007.
<i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , vol. 61, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 458-467.	Hamm, Keith E. and Robert E. Hogan.	Campaign Finance Laws and Candidacy Decisions in State Legislative Elections.
<i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , vol. 61, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 479-483.	Druckman, James N.	Dynamic Approaches to Studying Parliamentary Coalitions.
<i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , vol. 61, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 502-516.	Martin, Lanny W. and Georg Vanberg.	Coalition Government and Political Communication.
<i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , vol. 62, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 55-69.	Jackson, Robert A. and Jeffery J. Mondak and Robert Huckfeldt	Examining the Possible Corrosive Impact of Negative Advertising on Citizens' Attitudes toward Politics.
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<i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , vol. 62, no. 1: 110-119.	Cann, Damon M.	Religious Identification and Legislative Voting: The Mormon Case.
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<i>Political Studies</i> , vol. 56, no. 3 (Oct. 2008): 725-736.	Childs, Sarah and Mona Lena Krook.	Critical Mass Theory and Women's Political Representation.
<i>Political Studies</i> , vol. 56, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 766-788.	Huysmans, Jef and Alessandra Buonfino.	Politics of Exception and Unease: Immigration, Asylum and Terrorism in Parliamentary Debates in the UK.
<i>Politics & Policy</i> , vol. 37, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 101-125.	Prier, Eric and Kevin Wagner.	Running Unopposed: Assessing the Impact of Term Limits on Competition in Florida and Maine.
<i>Presidential Studies Quarterly</i> , vol. 39, no. 2 (June 2009): 385-399.	Tatelman, Todd B.	The Law: Presidential Aides: Immunity from Congressional Process.
<i>PS: Political Science and Politics</i> , vol. 41, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 713-716.	Lockerbie, Brad.	Election Forecasting: The Future of the Presidency and the House.
<i>PS: Political Science and Politics</i> , vol. 41, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 723-728.	Klarner, Carl.	Forecasting the 2008 U.S. House, Senate, and Presidential Elections at the District and State Level.
<i>PS: Political Science and Politics</i> , vol. 41, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 729-732.	Kastellec, Jonathan P. and Andrew Gelman and Jamie P. Chandler.	The Playing Field Shifts: Predicting the Seats-Votes Curve in the 2008 U.S. House Elections.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>PS: Political Science & Politics</i> , vol. 41, no. 4 (Oct. 2008): 913-917.	Gerrity, Jessica C and Nancy S. Hardt and Kathryn C. Lavelle.	The Interest Group-Staff Connection in Congress: Access and Influence in Personal, Committee, and Leadership Offices.
<i>Public Choice</i> , vol. 136, no. 3-4 (Sept. 2008): 353-377.	Schwartz, Thomas.	Parliamentary procedure: principal forms and political effects.
<i>Public Choice</i> , vol. 137, no. 1-2 (Oct. 2008): 347-368.	Bertelli, Anthony and Lilliard E. Richardson Jr.	Ideological Extremism and Electoral Design. Multimember versus Single Member Districts
<i>Public Choice</i> , vol. 138, no. 1-2 (Jan. 2009): 9-27.	Uppal, Yogesh.	The Disadvantaged Incumbents: Estimating Incumbency Effects in Indian State Legislatures.
<i>Public Choice</i> , vol. 138, no. 1-2 (Jan. 2009): 83-95.	Mixon, Franklin G, Jr. and Rand W. Ressler and M. Troy Gibson.	False Advertising and Experience Goods: The Case of Political Services in the U.S. Senate
<i>Public Choice</i> , vol. 138, no. 3-4 (Mar. 2009): 367-386.	Carrell, Scott E. and Janice A. Hauge.	Politics and the Implementation of Public Policy: The Case of the US Military Housing Allowance Program.
<i>Regional Studies</i> , vol. 32, no. 2 (Mar. 2009): 384-403.	Brouard, Sylvain.	The Politics of Constitutional Veto in France: Constitutional Council, Legislative Majority and Electoral Competition.
<i>Romanian Journal of European Affairs</i> , vol. 8, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 18-26.	Lasa, Nicoleta.	How Far Can the European Parliament Correct the European Union's Democratic Deficit.
<i>Romanian Journal of European Affairs</i> , vol. 8, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 5-17.	Mihut, Liliana	Lobbying in the United States and the European Union: New Developments in Lobbying Regulation.
<i>Security Studies</i> , vol. 18, no. 1 (Jan. 2009): 58-78.	Mearsheimer, John J and Stephen M. Walt.	Is It Love or the Lobby? Explaining America's Special Relationship with Israel.
<i>Social Choice and Welfare</i> , vol. 32, no. 3 (Mar. 2009): 479-492.	Landau, Z. and I. Yershov.	A Fair Division Solution to the Problem of Redistricting.
<i>Social Problems</i> , vol. 56, no. 1 (Feb. 2009): 174-204.	Hughes, Melanie M.	Armed Conflict, International Linkages, and Women's Parliamentary Representation in Developing Nations.
<i>State Politics and Policy Quarterly</i> , vol. 8, no. 3 (Fall 2008): 239-262.	Jenkins, Shannon.	Party Influence on Roll Call Voting: A View from the U.S. States.
<i>Studies in American Political Development</i> , vol. 22, no. 2 (Fall 2008): 229-248.	Burns, Nancy, and Laura Evans and Gerald Gamm and Corrine McConnaughy.	Pockets of Expertise: Institutional Capacity in Twentieth-Century State Legislatures.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 264-278.	Hansen, Martin Ejnar.	Reconsidering the Party Distances and Dimensionality of the Danish Folketing.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 279-296.	Forestiere, Carolyn and Riccardo Pelizzo.	Dynamics in Legislative Budgeting in Italy: 1982-2001.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 315-338.	Petersen, Jurgen and Sibylle Hardmeier and Bruno Wuest.	Polls as Public-Politic Linkage: A Comparative Analysis of Poll Use and Roles of MPs in Parliamentary Debate.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 3 (Sept. 2008): 339-352.	Ang, Adrian U-Jin and L. Marvin Overby.	Retirements, Retentions, and the Balance of Partisan Power in Contemporary Congressional Politics.

Journal	Author	Title of Article
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 367-393.	Millard, Frances.	Executive-Legislative Relations in Poland, 1991-2005: Institutional Relations in Transition.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 394-420.	Hiroi, Taeko.	Timing and Outcome of Legislation: Brazilian Pension Reform in a Bicameral Perspective.
<i>The Journal of Legislative Studies</i> , vol. 14, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 451-473.	Salamey, Imad and Rhys Payne.	Parliamentary Consociationalism in Lebanon: Equal Citizenry vs. Quotated Confessionalism.
<i>The Journal of Modern African Studies</i> , vol. 46, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 603-635.	Kandeh, Jimmy D.	Rogue Incumbents, Donor Assistance and Sierra Leone's Second Post-conflict Elections of 2007.
<i>The New England Journal of Political Science</i> , vol. 3, no. 1 (Fall 2008): 39-48.	Cunningham, Maurice.	Massachusetts Republicans: The 2004 Challenge to Democratic Legislative Hegemony.
<i>The Political Quarterly</i> , vol. 80, no. 1 (Jan.-Mar. 2009): 42-48.	Lankina, Tomila and Michael Phillips.	The House of Lords: The Working of the Electoral Process in the 1999 Act of Parliament.
<i>The Political Quarterly</i> , vol. 80, no. 1 (Jan-Mar 2009): 119-125.	Russell, Meg.	House of Lords Reform: Are We Nearly There Yet?
<i>The Social Science Journal</i> , vol. 45, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 646-658.	Crow, Desarai Anderson	Stakeholder Behavior and Legislative Influence: A Case Study of Recreational Water Rights in Colorado.
<i>The Social Science Journal</i> , vol. 45, no. 4 (Dec. 2008): 659-672.	Herrick, Rebekah	The Responsiveness of State Legislatures and Their Agenda Concerning Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Interests.
<i>The Social Science Journal</i> , vol. 46, no. 1 (Mar. 2009): 89-110.	Schechter, David L.	Legislating Morality Outside of the Legislature: Direct Democracy, Voter Participation and Morality Politics.
<i>West European Politics</i> , vol. 31, no. 5 (Sept. 2008): 978-1003.	Zittel, Thomas and Thomas Gschwent.	Individualised Constituency Campaigns in Mixed-Member Electoral Systems: Candidates in the 2005 German Elections.
<i>West European Politics</i> , vol. 32, no. 2 (Mar. 2009): 310-326.	Sauger, Nicolas.	Party Discipline and Coalition Management in the French Parliament.
<i>West European Politics</i> , vol. 32, no. 2 (Mar. 2009): 327-344.	Costa, Olivier and Eric Kerrouche.	MPs under the Fifth Republic: Professionalisation within a Weak Institution.

• [Back to Front Page](#)

• [Back to LSS Page](#)

APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

Volume 32, Number 2, July 2009

● **Legislative News**

Link to a recent article on the *Governing* magazine website:

“[Austin’s Surprise Speaker](#)” by Alan Greenblatt

Joe Strauss won power very quickly by not asking for it.

Link to a recent article on the *Government Executive* website:

“[Out in the Cold](#)” by Robert Brodsky

Now that Sen. Ted Stevens is out of office, Congress could begin dismantling the contracting preferences for Alaska native corporations.

Link to a recent article from the Associated Press:

“[Minnesota, land of the freshman senator](#)” by Brian Bakst

APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

Volume 32, Number 2, July 2009

Papers Presented

[MPSA](#) – Papers presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2-5, 2009, Chicago, Illinois

[SWPSA](#) – Papers presented at the Southwestern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 8-11, 2009, Denver, Colorado

[WPSA](#) – Papers presented at the Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, March 19-21, 2009, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Midwest Political Science Association

Author	Title of Paper
Adler, Scott; Wilkerson, John D.	Wait Until Next Year: The Timing and Degree of Legislative Change
Akirav, Osnate	Setting the Agenda by Motions: Comparison Between Israel and England
Ardoin, Phillip J.; Bumgardner, Erik; Ward, Zachary	Patterns in State Legislative Partisan Polarization: A case Study of NC and MA
Baer, Denise L.	Performance Management From Both Ends of the Avenue: Issues and Challenges Related to Institutionalizing a Congressional Role in Performance Measurement
Baer, Neil	Groups in the U. S. Senate: A Social Network Approach
Bailey, Delia; Sinclair, Betsy	Partisan Polarization via Term Limits: Political Networks in the CA Assembly
Bailey, Michael E.	Presidential Format Powers in Divided Government
Baker, Harriet; Cochran, Kathryn McNabb	The Effects of Local Casualties on the 2006 Midterm Elections
Basinger, Scott James; Sidman, Andrew H.	Campaign Advertising, Credit Claiming, and Fenno's Paradox
Beckmann, Matthew Nolan	The Presidential Thumb on the Bicameral Scales: Presidents' Influence in Conference Committees

Author	Title of Paper
Bekafigo, Marija Anna	Party Leadership in the U. S. House of Representatives in the Age of Committees, 1947-1970
Bernhard, William T.; Sulkin, Tracy	Cosponsorship and Commitment
Birkhead, Nathaniel Andrew	Polarization in American Legislatures: Empirical Tests of Congressional Theory
Bishin, Benjamin George; Callen, Toby; Conklin, Heather; Hayes, Thomas J.	Institutional Design and Democracy: Assessing Representation in the U. S. House vs Senate
Bourbeau, James Robert	The Conference Stage and Legislative Organization: A New Approach to the Study of Congressional Conference Committees
Bowen, Daniel Christopher	Searching for Expressive Harms: District Population and Traditional Districting Principles at the U. S. State Legislative Level
Box-Steffensmeier, Janet Marie; Campisano, Charles; Scott, Kevin	The Confirmation Process and a Senatorial Norm: Historical Quantification and Analysis of the Senate Blue Slip Process
Braeuninger, Thomas; Brunner, Martin	Cosponsorship Networks in the German Bundestag
Bratton, Kathleen; Rouse, Stella M.	When to Exit: Exploring Differences in Length of Political Service Among State Legislators
Brick, Jennifer c.	Representation Without Law: Interest Articulation in Rural Afghanistan
Browning, Robert X.	The Speaker is Recognized: Floor Behavior of House Speakers, 1983-2007
Brunell, Thomas; Smith, David	Do Special Elections Foretell the Results of General Election Outcomes in the U. S. House of Representatives?
Brunell, Tom; Grofman, Bernard; Merrill III, Samuel	Putting Critical Elections in Historical Context, 1856-2006
Buchler, Justin	Get 'Em While They're Young: Party Influence and Preference Formation in Congress
Burdett, Tracy	The Effect of Minority Party Experience in the State Legislatures on Legislative Effectiveness in Congress
Burmila, Edward Matthew	Convenience Reconsidered: Polling Place Accessibility in the Individual-Level Calculus of Voter Turnout in Presidential and Midterm Elections
Butler, Larry	An Early Assessment of the Pelosi Speakership
Cain, Sean A.	Campaign Consultants and Congressional Party Unity: Are Consultants Agents of Parties or Candidates?
Calvo, Ernesto F.; Sagarzazu, Inaki	Legislative Success in Fragmented Congresses
Cantu, Francisco; Desposato, Scott	The Rise of Federal Politics in Mexico's Legislative Branch
Carson, Jamie L.; Crespin, Michael H.; Eaves, Carrie P.; Wanless, Emily	Constituency Congruency and Candidate Competition in Primary Elections for the U. S. House
Carson, Jamie; Madonna, Anthony L.	Coalition Formation in a Bicameral Context, 1871-1941
Casey, Kimberly L.	Are Family Politicians Better Fundraisers? An Analysis of Fundraising Totals in Congressional Elections: 1978-2008
Choi, Jangsup	The Incumbent Senator's Ideological Vulnerability and Challenger Entry into Senate Elections
Cicenia, Daniel	Surviving Legislative Deadlock: The 17th Amendment and Institutional Change in the U. S. Senate
Costello, Rory	Does Bicameralism Promote Stability? The Impact of Legislative Procedure on Coalition Formation in the European Parliament
Crisp, Brian Ford; Malecki, Michael; Olivella, Santiago	Spatial Patterns of Electoral Support
Davidson-Schmich, Louise Karen	Electoral Systems and Political Ambition: Evidence from the German Laender

Author	Title of Paper
DeBacker, Jason Matthew	Flip-Flopping: Ideological Adjustment Costs in the United States Senate
Doriean, Charles	Electoral Feedback, Legislator Adaptation and the Dynamics of Party Unity in the U. S. House
Dougherty, Keith; Heckelman, Jac C.	Personality Interests at the Constitutional Convention: New Tests of the Beard Thesis
Ellis, William Curtis	Information Management in Congressional Policy Making: A Macro-Congressional Analysis and Issue Level Case Study
Evans, C. Lawrence; Husband, David B.; Minnichelli, Laura F.	The Senate Republican Whip System, 1996-2002
Faber, Michael J.	Critical Congressional Elections: A Time Series Analysis of Partisan Realignment in the United States
Farrell, Ian M.	Modeling the Effects of Congressional Tenure on the Support for the President's Program
Feinstein, Brian D.	The Dynasty Advantage: Political Families in Congressional Elections
Fortelny, Gregory	Congressional Travel and Informal Relationships: How Moneyed Interests Can Promote Democratic Principles of Compromise and Deliberation
Fortunato, David	Agents and Outliers: Committee Preferences and Majoritarian Constraint
Frederick, Brian Paul	Gender Turnover and Roll Call Voting in the U. S. Senate
French, Stewart L.	EDMs and the Electoral Connection in the British House of Commons
Friedman, Sally	Where Are the Women: Committee Assignments in an Era of Responsible Parties
Fukumoto, Kentaro	A Game Theoretic Model of Bicameral Conference and Amendment
Gailmard, Sean; Patty, John W.	Congressional Development of the Institutional Presidency
Garretson, Jeremiah J.	Estimating Legislator Ideal Points with a Paucity of Roll Calls: A Cosponsorship-Roll Call Hybrid Ideal Point Model of Support for Gay Civil Rights in the U. S. House
Ginsberg, Wendy	The Congressional Toolbox: Legislative Powers to Control the Desires of a Powerful Executive
Godbout, Jean-Francois; Hoyland, Bjorn	Legislative Voting in the Canadian Parliament
Godwin, Erik Kinji	Congressional Control of Agency Policymaking: Chamber Conflict and Bureaucratic Stalemate
Gonzalez, Raul Cipriano	Committee Leadership under Strong-Party Rule: A Study of Legislative Politics in Mexico, 1999-2008
Grant, J. Tobin; Kelly, Nathan J.	Legislative and Executive Policy Production in the U. s. since 1789
Green, Matthew N.	The Power and Influence of the Minority Party in the U. S. House of Representatives
Greene, Zachary d.; Bowen, Daniel	Legislating Professionalism? The Conditional Effect of Partisanship and Workload on Legislative Professionalism
Griffin, John; Newman, Brian	Assessing Accountability
Groarke, Margaret M.; Minnite, Lorraine c.	Purging Voter Lists under the NVRS
Grossmann, Matt	The Consultant Effect: Why some Campaigns Are More Negative
Grossmann, Matt; Pyle, Kurt	Core Consensus: How Bipartisan Interest Group Coalitions Help Pass Legislation
Hadley, Nathan J.	Party Advertising in Congressional Elections: Understanding How Parties Serve Candidate Interests and Their Own

Author	Title of Paper
Hagley, Annika	Voting For It Then Voting Against it: Members of congress, Discretionary Dissent and the Iraq War
Hannagan, Rebecca J.; Hagel, Alisa von	Threat and Gendered Decision Making in State Legislatures
Hanson, Peter Christopher	The Vote Not Taken: How Omnibus Spending Bills Help Majorities Tame the Senate Floor
Hanson, Peter Christopher	Examining the Origins of Ideological Diversity Among Senate Republicans
Harbridge, Laurel	Bipartisanship, Polarization and Electoral Responsiveness: Reexamining the Electoral Connection
Hardwick, Kevin R.	Second Helpings: Another Peek Inside the Pork Barrel
Healy, Andrew; Gammie, Gena	Has McCain-Feingold Reduced the Influence of Money in Politics? Evidence From Stock Price Changes for Firms of different Sizes
Heberlig, Eric; Larson, Bruce	Contribution Strategies and Institutional Advancement in the U. S. House of Representatives
Herrick, Rebekah	Gender and Representation: Do Female State Legislators Pay More Attention to Their Districts Than Male Legislators?
Herrnson, Paul; Morris, Irwin; McTague, John	The Impact of Presidential Campaigning on Congressional Support for the President's Agenda
Herron, Erik; Boyko, Nazar	Ask and You Shall Receive?: Legislator Requests and Representation in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada
Hicken, Allen; Stoll, Heather	Legislative Policy-Making authority and electoral coordination
Hickey, Patrick T.	Moving Targets: Members of Congress and Presidential Persuasion
Hill, Tony L.	District Compactness and Electoral Volatility in Canada and the United States
Hind, Wendy	Is Substantive Representation Enough? A Quantitative Analysis of Policy Preference by Gender
Hindman, Matthew; Adamic, Lada	Lawmaking and Law Unmaking: A Survival Model of Federal Law in the United States
Hirano, Shigeo	Estimating the Value of Majority Status in the 1930s
Hirsch, Alexander Victor	Common Agency Lobbying and Majority Rule Institutions
Hochschild, Jennifer L.	Does Factual Knowledge Affect How Americans Vote? A View from the Perspective of Members of Congress
Howell, William; Berry, Chris	Advantage Democrats: Assessing the Ability of Congressional Members to Direct Federal Outlays to Their Home Districts
Hudak, John; Johnson, Gbemende E.	A Formal Theory of Presidential Signing Statements
Hussey, Wesley	2008 Wall Street Bailout Bill: Ends Against the Middle in the United States Congress
Ilderton, Nathan	The President and the Polarized Congress
Jacobson, Gary C.	The Bush Legacy in the 2008 Congressional Elections
Jarvis, Matthew G.	Bush's Veto Threats: What Happens When You Cry "Wolf" 140 Times
Jenkins, Jeffrey; Weaver, Vesla; Peck, Justin	Between Reconstructions: Congressional Action on Civil Rights, 18890-1950
Jensen, Grace Michelle; Johnson, Gbemende E.; Orces, Diana Maria	Immigration as a Second Dimension? Evidence from the 109 th Congress
Jeong, Gyung-Ho; Miller, Gary J.; Sened, Itai	Closing the Deal: Negotiating Social Policy Legislation on the Floor of the U. S. Senate
Jones, David R.; McDermott, Monika L.	Disapproval of Congress and the 2008 House Elections
Jusko, Karen Long	The Political Representation of the Poor: Electoral Politics and Poverty Relief in Contemporary Democratic Societies

Author	Title of Paper
Kailitz, Steffen	Two Sides of the Same Coin? About the Connection Between the Form of Government and the Arrangement of Bicameralism
Kathak, Kristin; Morton, Rebecca B.	Minding Payoffs and Cues: Measuring Voter Accuracy in Evaluating Elected Officials
Kim, Ji Eun	The Seventeenth Amendment and Mandate Politics: Woodrow Wilson and the Senate's Public Tour for the League of Nations
Kintz, Melanie	Parliamentarians' Careers in the German Bundestag: When Getting in is Just the Beginning
Kirkland, Justin	Strategic Legislators and Redistricting
Koger, Gregory; Victor, Jennifer Nicoll	The Beltway Network: A Network Analysis of Lobbyists' Donations to Members of Congress
Kohler, Theresa J.	Federal Budget Reform on the Horizon: Historical Trends and Future Change
Kousser, Thad; Gamm, Gerald	The Embattled Metropolis: Big Cities in American State Legislatures
Krasno, Jonathan; Robinson, Gregory; Farrer, Benjamin	The Personal Vote Revisited: Factoring the Electoral Considerations
Krichelil, Ruth	Estimating Presidential Influence on Legislation
Kypriotis, Chris	Legislative Effectiveness, Institutional Advantage, and Committee Chairs
Langston, Joy K.; Aparicio, Jevier F.	Committee Assignments in a No-Re-election system: The Case of Mexico
Lawless, Jennifer L.; Fox, Richard L.	Run for Office? I Could Never Do That: Gender, Self-Perceived Qualifications, and Political Ambition
Lazardeuz, Sebastien G.	Cohabitation and Policy Moderation in Semi-Presidential Systems. The Case of the French Fifth Republic
Lee, Dan	Anticipatory Cooptation: Campaign Advertising and Third Party Threat
Lucas, Jennifer c.	Incumbent Responsiveness to Female Challengers
Lynch, Michael S.; Madonna, Anthony J.	Asking for the Yeas and Nays: An Examination of Recorded and Unrecorded Votes in the 110th Congress
Mack, William R.	The Voting Response of the Congressional Border Caucus to Post-9/11 Border Issues
Magleby, Daniel Blyth	Pretended Legislation: Explaining Conference Committee Frequency in the United States Congress
Martin, Shane	Electoral Institutions and the Internal Organization of Legislatures: Exploring the Effect of Mechanisms to Cultivate a Personal Vote
Martin, Shane	MP-Constituency Congruence and Representation of British Muslims
McGrath, Robert J.	To Write or Review? A Model of Strategic Delegation and Oversight
McKelvy, Andrew	Minority Government in Canada: Impediment to, or Impotence Against, the Government's Legislative Agenda?
Meinke Scott R.	A House Less Divided? Secession, Party Size, and Constituency in the 35th-38th Congresses
Miller, Kris	Protecting Your Constituents: Congressional Testimony at the International Trade Commission
Miller, Susan M.; Hall, Ben L.	The Determinants of Power: State Speaker Power and Conditional Party Government
Monroe, Nathan W.; Hartog, chris Den	Costly Consideration: Agenda Setting and Majority Party Advantage in the U. S. Senate
Mycoff, Jason D.	Prospectors, Raiders, and Invaders: Committee Ambition and Jurisdictional Expansion

Author	Title of Paper
Naoi, Megumi; Kearney, Matthew	Are Pork and Policy Substitutes? Evidence from Japanese Legislator Surveys
O'Geen, Andrew; Lebo, Matthew	The President's Success in Congress: An Investigation of Dynamics
Oliver, Eric; Callen, Zachary A.	Lines on a Map: Comparing American Congressional District Shapes Across States
Olson, Adam Kyle; O'Laughlin, Paula	Gender in Congress: When Does It Matter?
Overby, L. Marvin; Miller, Susan M.	Discharge Petitions and the Changing Power of Parties in the U. S. House of Representatives
Park, Hong Min	Partisan Dynamics of Committee Bias in the U. S. House of Representatives
Parker, Christopher	Bureaucratic Accountability in Personal Vote Systems
Peskowitz, Zac	Event Studies and Overreaction: An Analysis of the 2001 Jeffords Defection
Petersen, Seth Walter	Canaries in a Coal Mine: Do congressional Elections Predict the Presidential Vote?
Platt, Matthew Bartholomew	Black Representation and Responsiveness to the Black Agenda
Poggione, Sarah; Deitz, Janna L.	Jack and Jill on the Hill: The Electoral Implications of Gender and Incumbent voting Behavior
Powell, Eleanor Neff	Who Benefits? Party Interest vs Self-Interest
Powell, Lynda	Modeling the Rate of Return on the Time State Legislators Spend Fund
Pyeatt, Nicholas L.	Candidate Entry in U. S. Senate Elections: The Conditional Effect of Ideology
Ragusa, Jordan Michael	The Determinants of Cooperation and Conflict in Legislative Conference Committees
Raher, Stephen	Judicial Review of Legislative Procedure: Determining Who Determines the Rules of Proceedings
Ramey, Adam Joseph	Is the Majority Party Just an Interest Group?: Reconciling Legislator Ideal Points and the Roll Call Record
Ray, Betty D.; Tyburski, Michael D.	Gender and Candidate Emergence in Comparative Perspective
Reeves, Andrew	Malapportionment and Party Voting in the House of Commons, 1836-1901
Rey, Denis Alberto; Ozymy, Josh	Careerism, Legislative Professionalism, and Interest Group Influence in State Legislatures
Richman, Jesse Travis; Battista, James	Outliers Incorporated: Are Committees Composed of Policy-Specific High Demanders?
Rogowski, Jon C.	Moving toward the Middle: Does Candidate Convergence Produce Electoral Gains?
Rohde, David W.; Steiglitz, Edward H.; Weingast, Barry R.	Parties, Committees, and Pivots: A Reassessment of the Literature on Congressional Organization
Routh, Stephen R.; Rocca, Michael S.	The Calculus of Confirmation: A Study of the Determinants of Senate Roll Call confirmation Voting, 1946-2000
Rozzi, Alan	Who goes to Conference: The Role of Partisanship in the Selection of House Conference Delegates in the Post-Reform Era
Saferstein, Rhonda J.	The Effects of Partisan Redistricting on the House of Representatives
Sanders, Arthur	Political Parties, Interest Groups, Money, Elections and Health Care Policy: The 2008 Iowa State Legislative Elections
Schatzinger, Henrik M.	PACs in the Budgetary Process: Contributions to the budget or Appropriations Committee?
Schiller, Wendy; Stewart III, Charles	The 19th Century Revolving Door: Legislative Turnover and Party Cohesion in State Legislatures

Author	Title of Paper
Schonhardt-Bailey, Cheryl; Bailey, Andrew	Congress and the Oversight of U. S. Monetary Policy, 1976-2008
Sellers, Patrick Joel; Anderson, John; Chamberlin, Trevor; Schaffner, Brian F.; Vinson, Danielle	Loyalty, Defection, and Going Public in the U. S. Congress, 1981-2007
Sempolinski, Joseph	Sterner Stuff: A New Measure of Ambition Among Members of Congress
Seo, Jungkun	The Reagan Defense Buildup and Partisanship on Capitol Hill: Has Foreign Policy Promoted Party Polarization?
Seo, Jungkun	Playing the Wedge Issue Card in a Polarized Congress: Vote-Switching Over China Trade Policy, 1990-2001
Settich, John F.	Specifying a Model of Political Infeasibility for Voter Fraud in State Representative Elections
Shin, Jae Hyeok	Voter Demands or Electoral System Effects?: Explaining Party Switching in the South Korean National Assembly, 1988-2008
Shineman, Victoria Anne	Isolating the Effect of Compulsory Voting on Political Sophistication: Exploiting Intra-National Variation in Mandatory Voting Laws in Austrian Provinces, 1969-2004
Shor, Boris	All Together Now: Putting Congress, State Legislatures, and Individuals on a Common Ideological Space
Shvetsova, Olga; Mershon, Carol	Legislative Party Switching and the Midterm Effect: The Electoral Connection Revisited
Sievert, Joel A.; Ostrander, Ian	Congress and the Politics of Presidential Signing Statements
Signh, Shane	Party-Voter Correspondence and Political Dimensionality
Simmons, Joel W.	Rainfall and Representation: How voter turnout Shapes the Effective Constituency for Legislators
Skipworth, Sue Ann; Baumann, Zachary	Taking the Stationary and Going Home: The Effect of Legislative Power Disparity on Congressional Retirement Decisions
Skjaeveland, Asbjorn	Party Unity, Party Cohesion, or Party Discipline
Smith, Steven S.	An Essay on Theories of Congressional Organization
Socket, Erica M.	Female Legislative success: Does Gender Disadvantage Female Legislators in the Policy Arena?
Sotiropoulos, Evan	Priming the Electorate: How the Conservative Government Targeted Its "Statements by Members" in the 39th Parliament: A Comparative Content Analysis
Stonecash, Jeffrey M.; Bond, Jon; Fleisher, Richard	The Rise and Decline of Moderates in Congress, 1900-2006
Straus, Jacob R.	Dear Colleague Letters in the House of Representatives: The Impact of Internal House Communications
Thames, Frank; Williams, Margaret	Incentives for Personal Votes and Women's Representation in Legislatures
Therault, Sean M.	The Procedurally Polarized Congress
Tofias, Michael	Partisan Banners: Adaptive Parties in the Multi-District competition
Tofias, Michael; Ensley, Michael; de Marchi, Scott	Houses in Motion: Getting to the Unidimensional Congress 1953-2004
Toner, Brendan	An Inside Job: Political Ambition and Career Paths Within Congress
Treier, Shawn	Problems in Comparing Preferences Across Institutions
Treul, Sarah	Crossover: House Influence on Senators' Legislative Agendas
Valdivieso, Patricio	Legislative Agenda and Foreign Policy in Latin America: Case of Chile

Author	Title of Paper
Velluti, Samantha	EU Gender Equality Policy and Legislation in the 21st Century: Putting Flesh on the Principle of Equal Opportunities?
Vlaicu, Razvan; Diermeier, Daniel	The Stability of Legislative Organization
Volden, Craig; Wiseman, Alan E.	Measuring Legislative Effectiveness in Congress
Wakao, Shinya	Is it for the Rich or the Poor? Analysis of the Vote for the Bailout Bill in 2008
Wang, Jianying	The Rules Committee in the Foreign Policy-Making Process
Wichowsky, Amber	What the District Thinks: Public Opinion and Policy Conflict in Congressional Elections
Wielen, Ryan J. Vander; Lindstaedt, Rene; Slapin, Jonathan Benjamin	Legislative Shirking with Multiple Principals: A Bayesian Analysis of EP Roll Call Data
Williams, Blair Shaffer	What's the Cavalry to do with Economics?: The Political and Economic Implications of Military Base Closures and Realignment
Williams, Blair Shaffer	Social Networks in Congress
Yoshinaka, Antoine; Murphy, Chad	Redistricting, Uncertainty, and Representation

Southwestern Political Science Association

Author	Title of Paper
Bishin, Benjamin; Hayes, Thomas; Conklin, Heather	Institutional Design and Democracy: Assessing Representation in the U. S. House versus Senate
Choi, Eunjung; Suresh, Shyam	The Effect of Campaign Spending in Congressional Elections, 2002 and 2004
Daum, Courtenay	Term Limits, Female Representatives and the Colorado State Legislature
Evans, Sean; Swain, John; Reed Brian	Strategic Retirement from the U. S. House of Representatives, 1946-2008
Hicklin, Alisa; Trouset, Sarah, Hellman, Alyssa	Undocumented Students and In-State Tuition: Examining Bill Introduction in State Legislatures
Jones, David	Legislative Activity and Public Evaluations of Congress
Kerevel, Yann	Legislative Behavior in Mixed-Member Electoral Systems: The Case of Mexico
Knight, Robert	Legislative Coalitions and Governability: The U. S. and Germany in Comparison
Malecha, Gary Lee; Reagan, Daniel	Public Relations on the Hill: How Congressional Parties Carry Out Their "Branding Operations" in a 24-7 News World
Mirjanian, Donald	Direct Democracy and State Legislatures: Does Professionalism Matter?
Neff-Sharum, Emily	Defining Sexual Harassment: A Comparison of Problem by the Courts and Congress
Olds, Christopher	Does it Take a Crisis to Spark Active Representation? The Response of African-American Bureaucrats Following Hurricane Katrina
Roberds, Stephen	Strategic Behavior in Senate Elections: Allegations of Ethical Misconduct and Their Consequences
Romero, David; Ganguli, Madhuwanti	Primary Competition and Individual House Vote
Seo, Jungkun	Playing the Wedge Issue Card in a Polarized Congress: Vote-Switching over China Trade Policy, 1990-2001

Author	Title of Paper
Shaffer, William; Camara, Luis	The Legislative Capacity of the Puerto Rican Legislature
Trautman, Linda	Symbolic or Substantive Representation: An Analysis of Bill Sponsorship Patterns in the Ohio Legislature
Trautman, Linda	The Impact of Racial Redistricting upon State Legislative Decision Making
Videl-Liberman, Carmen	The Campaign Trail of Ben Ray Lujan Jr.
Wilson, Walter	When Latinos Speak: Latino Representation in Floor Speeches to Congress

Western Political Science Association

Author	Title of Paper
Yap, Fiona	Strategic Government Spending and Legislative Fragmentation: Evidence and Lessons from Pre- and Post-democratization South Korea and Taiwan
Castaneda, Nestor	Legislative Bargaining, Separation of Powers, and Fiscal Policy: An Approach to the Economic Reform in Latin America
Kuhlmann, Robin	Representational Access Points and Short-Term electoral Forces – State Legislative Characteristics, Competitive Elections, and Voter Turnout
Tankersley, Holley	Keeping Up with the Joneses: Professionalization and Competition in State Institutions
Pevevill, Squire	The Original State Legislatures
Franceschet, Susan	When and Why do Female Legislators Represent Women? An Institutionalist Account of Women's Substantive Representation
Rohr, Lia	The Effect of Descriptive Representation on "Women-Friendly" Social Policy in the U. S.
Andersen, Kristi; Mathews-Gardner, Lanethea; Mariani, Mack	Gender and Candidate Quality: How do College Students View Male and Female State Legislators as Candidates for Congressional Office?
Jenkins, Shannon	The Scarlett W? Tracing the Fate of Bills Sponsored by Female State Legislators
Kang, Eunju	Women Politics and the Welfare Reform: TANF
Sitasari, Arnita	Can We Change Our Perspective? A Comparative Analysis of Indonesian Women Political Representation
Norton, Noelle	Voting Beyond Their Shores: An Analysis of Legislative Activism on Global Women's Rights Issues
Taylor, Lisa	The Need for A Name: Reading Deconstructive Feminism as a Mode of Radical Feminist Politics
Veazey, Linda	Campaigning for Women: Female Political Elites, Activism, and CEDAW in the U. S.

• [**Back to Front Page**](#)

• [**Back to ISS Page**](#)

APSA Legislative Studies Section Newsletter

Volume 32, Number 2, July 2009

● **Research & Teaching**

- [Brookings Report on Congress](#)
- [Call for Proposals – Southern Political Science Association](#)
- [Call for Proposals – Western Political Science Association](#)
- [Charting the Congressional Experience: The Papers of Richard Gephardt](#)
- [Civil Rights Documentation Project](#)
- [Congress and History Conference](#)
- [Congress to Campus Program](#)
- [Congressional Bills Project](#)
- [Data on Legislative Voting and Representation](#)
- [Dirksen Center Invites Applications for Grants](#)
- [Election Results Archive](#)
- [European Consortium for Political Research](#)
- [International Political Science Review](#)
- [Political Science Blog: *Voir Dire*](#)
- [SSRN Political Science Network](#)
- [State Politics and Policy Quarterly Archive](#)
- [The Thicket at NCSL](#)
- [Visiting Scholars Program, APSA Centennial Center](#)
- [Visiting Scholars Program, Carl Albert Center](#)

Brookings Institution Report: "Assessing the 110th Congress, Anticipating the 111th"

Sarah A. Binder, Thomas E. Mann, Norman J. Ornstein, and Molly Reynolds have extended their previous analysis to include the full, two-year 110th Congress. They conclude by looking ahead to the 111th Congress and what it will take to overcome the shortcomings of the 110th, deliver on President-elect Barack Obama's promises regarding policy and process, and restore the responsibilities and comparative advantages of the first branch of government. [Click here to read the full report.](#)

Call for Proposals SOUTHERN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION January 7-9, 2010 in Atlanta

Proposals are now being accepted for the 2010 Southern Political Science Association meeting. Legislative Politics Chair [Jamie Carson](#) welcomes proposals for papers, panels, chairs, and discussants. Deadline for proposal submissions is **August 5, 2009**. Proposals can be submitted anytime before then at the SPSA website: <http://www.spsa.net/>.

SPSA has [travel grant programs](#) to help defray expenses for junior faculty members and graduate students. The application period for these awards begins in October, shortly after notification of proposal acceptances.

Call for Proposals WESTERN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION April 1-3, 2010 in San Francisco

Proposals are now being accepted for the 2010 Western Political Science Association meeting. Legislative Politics Chair [Sean Q. Kelly](#) welcomes proposals for papers, panels, chairs, and discussants. Deadline for submissions is **September 18, 2009**. To submit a proposal, please visit this website: <http://205.138.54.124/aParticipation.asp>

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 Koepfel by email at ckoepfel@dirksencenter.org if you have any ideas or comments about this new feature.

Congress and History Conference

Videos of all sessions of the 8th Annual Congress and History Conference, which was held at the Miller Center of Public Affairs, University of Virginia, May 20-21, 2009, are now accessible on the Miller Center's website at <http://millercenter.org/scripps/archive/conference/detail/4661>.

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.

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>.

International Political Science Review

International Political Science Review, the official journal of the International Political Science Association edited by [Kay Lawson](#) and [Yvonne Galligan](#), 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 y.galligan@Queens-Belfast.AC.UK.

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 Political Science Network

The new Political Science Network (PSN) provides 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

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

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 call 202-483-2512 or email to center@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; Sidney Clarke of Kansas; Richard Arme of Texas; 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 at <http://www.ou.edu/carlabertcenter/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

• [Back to Front Page](#)

• [Back to LSS Page](#)

Extension of Remarks



Legislative Studies Section

American Political Science Association

July 2009

Note: The following articles will be posted soon. Please check back next week.

Editor's Introduction:

[Current Issues in Congressional Procedure](#)

Valerie Heitshusen, Congressional Research Service

[Whither the Role of Conference Committees, or Is It Wither?](#)

Walter J. Oleszek, Senior Specialist in American National Government,
Congressional Research Service

[Reconciliation: Majoritarian Tool in the Senate](#)

Bill Heniff Jr., Analyst on Congress and the Legislative Process,
Congressional Research Service

[Filling the Amendment Tree in the Senate](#)

Elizabeth Rybick, Analyst on Congress and the Legislative Process,
Congressional Research Service

• **[Back to Front Page](#)**

• **[Back to LSS Page](#)**