

Minutes of the 2013 Annual Business Meeting
Legislative Studies Section
American Political Science Association
Chicago, IL
August 30, 2013

Section chair Larry Evans called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. He reminded attendees of the section reception immediately following the business meeting.

Evans introduced Frances Lee, program co-chair for the 2013 LSS program. Lee noted that due to good attendance at the 2011 panels, APSA increased the panel allocation for LSS to 17 panels, up from 16 two years prior. Through co-sponsorship with other sections, the total number of LSS panels was 19 for the 2013 meeting. Lee noted that even with this larger number of panels, the acceptance rate for LSS was 33% because of a very strong number of paper and panel proposals. Lee thanked her co-chair, Gail McElroy, and encouraged strong attendance at the 2013 LSS panels.

Kathryn Pearson, the 2014 program co-chair with Scott Morgenstern, then spoke. She encouraged applications for the 2014 conference, particularly in areas such as big data and social media. She also encouraged proposals across Congress, the state legislatures, and comparative legislatures.

The meeting continued with the presentation of awards.

Carl Albert Dissertation Award for best doctoral dissertation in the area of legislative studies written in 2011 or 2012. Awarded to Nicholas Carnes for his dissertation at Princeton University, 2011: "By the Upper Class, For the Upper Class? Representational Inequality and Economic Policymaking in the United States." (Award Committee: Georg Vanberg, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Kathleen Bratton, Louisiana State University; James Curry, University of Utah)

CQ Press Award for the best paper on legislative studies presented at the 2012 annual meeting. Awarded to Charles Finocchiaro, University of South Carolina, and Scott A. MacKenzie, University of California, Davis, for "From Wild Horses to Work Horses: Electoral System Reform and Legislative Entrepreneurship in the House of Representatives." (Award Committee: Daniel Lee, Michigan State University; Caroline Tolbert, University of Iowa; and Jeffery Jenkins, University of Virginia)

Jewell-Loewenberg Award for the best article in *Legislative Studies Quarterly* in 2012. Awarded to Regina P. Branton, University of North Texas; Erin C. Cassese, West Virginia University; and Bradford S. Jones, University of California, Davis, for "Race, Ethnicity, and U.S. House Incumbent Evaluations" (LSQ 37:465-489). (Award Committee: Ryan J. Vander Wielen, Temple University; Kira Sanbonmatsu, Rutgers University; David Canon, University of Wisconsin)

Alan Rosenthal Prize for best book or article in legislative studies, published in 2012 by a junior scholar, that has potential value to legislative practitioners. Awarded to Kristin Kanthak (University of Pittsburgh) and George A. Krause (University of Pittsburgh), for *The Diversity Paradox: Political Parties, Legislatures, and the Organizational Foundations of Representation in America* (Oxford University Press). (Award Committee: Vineeta Yadav, Pennsylvania State University; Catherine Rudder, George Mason University; and Sarah Anderson, University of California, Santa Barbara)

Richard F. Fenno Prize for the best book in legislative studies published in 2012. Awarded to Lynda Powell (University of Rochester), for *The Influence of Campaign Contributions in State Legislatures* (University of Michigan Press). (Award Committee: Lanny Martin, Rice University; Michael Minta, University of Missouri; and Bruce Oppenheimer, Vanderbilt University)

LSS Chair Larry Evans congratulated the award winners and thanked the committees for their service.

Secretary-Treasurer Tracy Osborn reported on the section's finances. As in past years, the section earns a small surplus each year. The section's only incoming funds are dues, and the section expenses are fixed. However, the membership varies from year to year, making the section cautious about spending the surplus. Particularly, membership appears to have fallen slightly in the past two years, although we are not certain by how much. It is possible these funds could be allocated to additional section activities in the coming years, provided membership remains steady or increases.

Chair Larry Evans moved to the election of new officers: Brian Crisp (Chair), Kristin Kanthak (Secretary-Treasurer), and Jennifer Hayes Clark and Jeffery Jenkins (At-Large Members). The slate was approved by voice vote.

Evans then turned to other business. He recognized Mickie Wiegand, who updated the section on LSQ. She reported that submissions to the journal were strong, and thanked the board and editors. Frances Lee will replace Sarah Binder as the editor for Congress at LSQ at the end of 2013.

Evans then discussed *Extension of Remarks* newsletter. It is difficult to get writers and to publicize the writing. After discussion, it was agreed the LSS Executive Committee would consider possible connections with political blogs (such as the Monkey Cage) and other options.

Evans recognized David Canon. Canon encouraged submissions to the book series on legislatures at the University of Michigan Press, which he co-edits with Jan Box-Steffensmeier. LSS members should contact Canon if they have any questions.

Evans reported on membership levels. Levels have been stable since about 2005, with small ups and downs. APSA data shows that many (1600) are interested in legislative studies, yet the section membership remains between 560-620 members. He encouraged ideas about how to increase section membership.

John McLaughlin announced the organization of a roundtable at the 2014 APSA to honor Alan Rosenthal. Interested participants should contact McLaughlin with ideas.

Evans adjourned the meeting at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Osborn
LSS Secretary-Treasurer