

# Women/Politics

The Newsletter of the American Political Science Association  
Organized Section for Women and Politics Research

Hamideh Sedghi, Editor

Sari Long, Layout and Design

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## Message from Section President Debra Liebowitz

I hope that the new academic year is treating you all well!

I want to extend my thanks on behalf of the section for the terrific work of the outgoing officers —president Kira Sanbonmatsu, president elect-Georgia Duerst-Lahti, treasurer Melody Rose, newsletter editor Hamideh Sedghi, and council members Julia Jordan Zachery, Holloway Sparks, Mona Lena Krook, and Susan Mezey—for all of their efforts on behalf of the section. I also want to thank all of you who served on award committees and acted as chairs and discussants at our APSA panels. We were also very fortunate to have S. Laurel Weldon, Ange-Marie Hancock and Georgia Duerst-Lahti organize a very interesting and successful short course on intersectionality research on behalf of the section. In addition, I want to thank Kathleen Dolan and Aili Mari Tripp—they have completed their first year as co-editors of *Politics & Gender* and they continue to welcome your manuscripts. You can also assist the journal by serving as a reviewer and by reminding your library to subscribe to *Politics & Gender*.

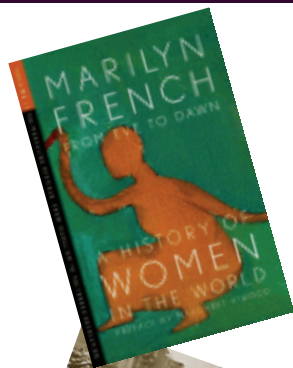
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## Message from Newsletter Editor Hamideh Sedghi

I hope 2009 will be the year of peace for you and everyone in the world.

In this issue, I am happy to extend our book summaries, provide the Section's new By-Laws, and offer announcements. I look forward to receiving information regarding your new book publications, collaborative efforts, grants, and conferences. Given the current climate of economic crisis, I like to print more news on available fellowships and employment opportunities.

We are a bit behind schedule because we conducted a search for a new layout assistant. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Julie Snyder-Yuly for her valuable work and welcome Sari Long from Harvard University for joining us.



### Message from the President (continued)

Please consider nominating a paper, article, or dissertation for a section award (including self-nominations). With the addition of the Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory, jointly given by the section, Foundations of Political Theory, and the Women's Caucus, the section now gives out three awards. The other two are for the Best Paper and Best Dissertation in women and politics research (complete details inside).

I'm looking forward to working with you all this year.

Best wishes,  
Debra Liebowitz  
dliebowi@drew.edu

### Message from the Editor (continued)

Please consider sharing your news with us. When submitting information, include your name, title, department, university affiliation, and address. The deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is March 10th, 2008. The expected date of publication is early May 2009.

With kind regards,  
Hamideh Sedghi  
hsedghi@fas.harvard.edu

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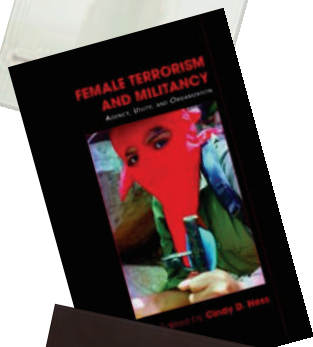
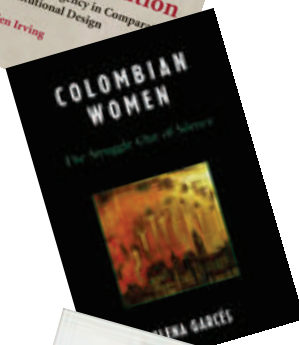
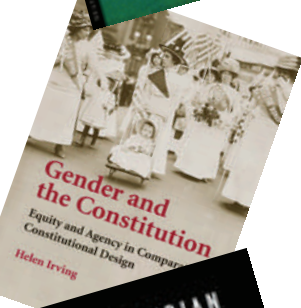
## Selected and Annotated Books

This is an annotated list. Unless stated otherwise, it is based on the publisher's description or authors' submissions of selected 2008 books. Works are organized by four subfields, although a few naturally cross those boundaries.

### Comparative Politics

**Garces, Elena. *Colombian Women: The Struggle Out of Silence*.  
Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008.**

Women deliver themselves from subjugation by recovering their voices, by educating themselves, and by speaking out in unison against forces that have kept them under heel. The scope of this work is both personal and global: personal to the interviewees and to Elena Garces herself, as she tells her own story; and global, in that many features of the patriarchy and its dysfunction extend well beyond the borders of Colombia.



**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)****Irving, Helen. *Gender and the Constitution: Equity and Agency in Comparative Constitutional Design*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.**

New constitutions are appearing in historically unprecedented numbers, following regime change in some countries, or a commitment to modernization in others. No democratic constitution today can fail to recognize or provide for gender equality. Constitution-makers need to understand the gendered character of all constitutions, and to recognize the differential impact on women of constitutional provisions, even where these appear gender-neutral. This book confronts what needs to be considered in writing a constitution when gender equity and agency are goals. Its goal is to establish a framework for a "gender audit" of both new and existing constitutions. It eschews a simple focus on rights and examines constitutional language, interpretation, structures and distribution of power, rules of citizenship, processes of representation, and the constitutional recognition of international and customary law. It discusses equality rights and reproductive rights as distinct issues for constitutional design.

**French, Marilyn. *From Eve To Dawn, A History of Women in the World, Volume II The Masculine Mystique: From Feudalism to the French Revolution*. New York: The Feminist Press of the City University of New York, 2008.**

Covering feudalism in Europe and Japan and European appropriation of lands across the globe, Marilyn French poses a provocative question: how and why did women, with no power or independence, nourish and preserve the family unit and their own culture? She analyzes women's lives in societies around the world between feudal times and the French Revolution. She draws upon fifteen years of collaboration with a team of researchers and prominent historians, and includes chapters that compare medieval Europe and Japan, disparate cultures which nevertheless shared traditions of male dominated aggression and competitiveness. French then shows how, in Europe, this tradition led to colonialism and imperialism, and the horrific subjugation of indigenous societies, just as women were subjugated in the conquerors' home countries. Only with the French Revolution, she argues, did the political force of women exert powerful changes in the course of history.

**Khanna, Ranjana. *Algeria Cuts: Women and Representation, 1830 to the Present*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008.**

This compelling work discusses the figure of woman, both under colonial rule in Algeria and within the postcolonial independent nation-state. It is an interdisciplinary project that spans fine art, film, colonial and legal policy, manifestos, prose fiction, and theoretical and philosophical texts concerning the relationship between France and Algeria. Ranjana Khanna investigates gendered representation, identification, and justice, and in the process, calls into question the ways in which conventional disciplinary frameworks foreclose certain avenues of reflection while foregrounding others. She seeks to understand Algeria and Algerian women as a philosophical site that facilitates an understanding of justice and the pursuit of feminism.

**Maslak, Mary Ann. *The Structure and Agency of Women's Education*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2008.**

This collection examines the educational policies, programs, and practices that offer and/or deny adolescent girls and young women the opportunity for change and advancement, from both comparative and international perspectives. The essays focus on the dynamic interaction between agency and structure.

**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)**

The book outlines fundamental principles of public policy and provides examples of their application. The essays explore, within the context of globalization, the impact of international organizations—large and small—on the local level. It includes an examination of the influence of socio-cultural forces on women's ability to participate in educational programs and innovative methodologies that demonstrate how the agency of voice within the structure of the research setting ultimately furthers our understanding of women's education. The complexities in delivering and improving education for females in India, China, Kenya, the United States, and other parts of the world are revealed.

**Ness, Cindy D. (Ed.) *Female Terrorism and Militancy: Agency, Utility, and Organization*. New York: Routledge Press, 2008.**

This edited volume provides a window [to] the many forces that structure and shape why women and girls participate in terrorism and militancy, as well as how states have come to view, treat, and strategize against them. This volume seeks to . . . examine some of the structuring conditions that play a part in a girl or woman's decision to commit violence. Amidst the contextual factors informing her involvement, the volume seeks also to explore the political agency of the female terrorist or militant. Several of the articles are based on research where authors had direct contact with female terrorists or militants who committed acts of political violence, or with witnesses to such acts.

**Roth, Silke. *Gender Politics in the Expanding European Union: Mobilization, Inclusion, Exclusion*. New York: Berghahn Books, 2008.**

In May 2004, after bringing their legislation into accordance with EU regulations, ten more countries joined the European Union. The contributors to this volume assess the impact of this historical development on gender relations in the new and old EU member states. . . This book investigates the similarities and differences in diverse parts of Europe. Although initially limited, gender equality was part of the original framework of the European Union, an organization often more open than national governments to feminist demands. . . The enlargement process thus provides some important policy instruments for increasing equality between men and women.

**Salmenniemi, Suvi. *Democratization and Gender in Contemporary Russia*. New York: Routledge, 2008.**

This book examines civic activism, democratization, and gender in contemporary Russian society. It describes the character and central organizing principles of Russian democratic civic life, considering how it has developed since the Soviet period, and analyzing the goals and identities of important civic groups—including trade unions—and the meanings they have acquired in the context of wider Russian society. In particular, Suvi Salmenniemi investigates the gender dimensions, both masculine and feminine, of socio-political participation in Russia, considering what kinds of gendered meanings are given to civic organizations and formal politics, and how femininity and masculinity are represented in this context.

**Shamsie, Muneeza. *And the World Changed*. New York: The Feminist Press of the City University of New York, 2008.**

Facing war, displacement, and colonialism, several generations of Pakistani women powerfully narrate their search for home. This anthology includes dynamic voices from a nation that has become central to the

### Selected and Annotated Books (continued)

"War on Terror." Filled with nostalgic memories of Pakistan, critical commentary on political realities behind today's headlines, and optimism about the future, [this book] delivers a subtle, if unblinkered, portrait of Pakistan, its relation to the West, and the women who live in both. The only English language anthology by Pakistani women published in the United States, [this book] goes beyond the sensational headlines to reveal the stories of Pakistani women. Immigrants and refugees, established authors, and new voices, the twenty-five writers in this collection are as innovative and diverse as their stories.

**Sarkar, Mahua. *Visible Histories, Disappearing Women: Producing Muslim Womanhood in Late Colonial Bengal*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.**

Mahua Sarkar examines how Muslim women came to [be] represented as invisible, backward, and victimized in the written history of late colonial Bengal. [The author] surveys recent feminist and postcolonial scholarship to assess when and where Muslim women enter, or are written into, the history of colonial Bengal. Drawing on extensive archival research, she follows Muslim women as they appear and disappear in colonial, Hindu nationalist, and liberal Muslim writing about [this area and period.] [Sarkar] interviewed Muslim women who lived in Calcutta or Dhaka in the first half of the twentieth century, and their oral accounts provide a rich source of information about the social fabric of urban Bengal during the final years of colonial rule. [The book] concludes with an exploration of the complex links between past constructions of Bengali Muslim women and the ways that they are represented in academic and popular discourses in India today.

**Smith, Andrea. *Native Americans and the Christian Right: The Gendered Politics of Unlikely Alliances*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.**

In this work, Andrea Smith examines the interplay of Biblical scripture, gender, and nationalism in Christian Right and Native American activism. In so doing, she rethinks the nature of political strategy and alliance-building for progressive purposes, highlighting the potential of unlikely alliances, partnerships that one of her Native activist interviewees calls "cowboys and Indians coalitions." Smith draws on archival research, interviews, and participation in Native struggles and Christian Right conferences and events. Turning to evangelical and Native American feminisms, she reveals anti-violence organizing to be a galvanizing force within both communities, discusses theories of coalition politics among both evangelical and indigenous women, and considers Native women's visions of sovereignty and nationhood. She concludes with a reflection on the implications of her research for the field of Native American studies.



**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)**

**Tucker, Judith. *Women, Family, and Gender in Islamic Law*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008.**

In what ways has Islamic law discriminated against women and privileged men? What rights and power have been accorded to Muslim women, and how have they used the legal system to enhance their social and economic position? In an analysis of Islamic law through the prism of gender, Judith Tucker tackles these complex questions relating to the position of women in Islamic society, and to the ways in which the legal system impacted on the family, property rights, space and sexuality, from classical and medieval times to the present. Working with concepts drawn from feminist legal theory and by using particular cases to illustrate her arguments, the author systematically addresses questions of discrimination and expectation—what did men expect of their womenfolk—and of how the language of the law contributed to that discrimination, infecting the system and all those who participated in it. [This is the] first book [that discusses] how Islamic law negotiates questions of gender.

**International Relations/International Political Economy**

**Agustin, Laura Maria. *Sex at the Margins: Migration, Labour Markets and the Rescue Industry*. London: Zed Books, 2008.**

This book “rips apart distinctions between migrants, service work and sexual labour and reveals the utter complexity of the contemporary sex industry.” One reviewer wrote that “based on five years of research, both academically and through fieldwork in Latin America and Asia,” Laura Maria Agustin “concludes that the figures [on trafficking] are based on ‘sweeping generalisations’ and frequently on ‘wild speculation.’ Most of the writing and activism [on trafficking] does not seem to be based on empirical research, even when produced by academics...Many of the authors rely on ‘media reports’ and ‘statistics published with little explanation of methodology or clarity about definitions’.”

**Parpart, Jane L., and Marysia Zalewski. *Rethinking the Man Question: Sex, Gender and Violence in International Relations*. London: Zed Books, 2008.**

[Men still constitute] the reality of international relations and its academic studies. [This] book is a crucial investigation and reinvigoration of debates about gender and international relations. [It] looks at the increasingly violent and 'toxic' nature of world politics post 9/11. Contributors consider the diverse theoretical and practical implications of masculinity for international relations in the modern world. The book covers theoretical issues including masculine theories of war, masculinity and the military, cyborg soldiers, post-traumatic stress disorder, and white male privilege. The book also focuses on the ways in which masculinity configures world events from conscientious objection in South Africa to 'porno-nationalism' in India, from myths and heroes in Kosovo to the makings of Zimbabwe.

**Parrot, Andrea, and Nina Cummings. *Sexual Enslavement of Girls and Women Worldwide*. Westport, Conn: Praeger, 2008.**

This work chronicles the lives of women who are part of horrific sex slavery that has drawn the attention of officials in countries around the globe. It is not rare; officials say it is increasing, at least partly due to the

**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)**

billions of dollars it brings in for organized crime. The U.S. State Department estimates 800,000 victims, mostly women and children, are trafficked for sex trade across nations each year and millions more are trafficked within countries—including the U.S., Britain, Spain, and the Netherlands. As a *Seattle Times* reporter explained, the reality is that sex slaves for the most part are young women and teenaged girls who come from "almost every one of the world's poorer countries and end up in almost every country where there is a combination of sexual demand and money." But they are also in undeveloped Africa, in prisons internationally, locked in forced marriages, or sold to men by parents.

**Rai, Shirin, and Georgina Waylen. *Global Governance: Feminist Perspectives*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.**

This book provides the first comprehensive analysis of global governance from a gendered perspective. It not only furthers the emerging feminist theorizing on global governance, but also provides a theoretically informed and empirically based analysis of both institutions and transformative practices.

**Shepherd, Laura J. *Gender, Violence and Security: Discourse As Practice*. London: Zed Books, 2008.**

In this highly original poststructural feminist critique, the author maps the discursive terrains of institutions, both NGOs and the UN, which formulate and implement resolutions and guides of practice that affect gender issues in the context of international policy practices. The author investigates UN Security Council Resolution 1325, passed in 2000 to address gender issues in conflict areas, in order to examine the discursive construction of security policy that takes gender seriously. In doing so, she argues that language is not merely descriptive of social/political reality but rather constitutive of it. Moving from concept to discourse and in turn to practice, the author analyses the ways in which the resolution's discursive construction had an enormous influence over the practicalities of its implementation and how the resulting tensions and inconsistencies in its construction contributed to its failures.

**Staudt, Kathleen. *Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear, and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2008.**

Between 1993 and 2003, more than 370 girls and women were murdered; their often-mutilated bodies were dumped outside Ciudad Juárez in Chihuahua, Mexico. Kathleen Staudt analyzes femicide, domestic violence, and transnational anti-violence social movement networking and activism on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. She frames her study in terms of gender power relations, globalization on the border, and the grounded analysis of institutions, both civil society organizations and comparative law enforcement institutions. She draws both on participant observation in the bi-national Coalition Against Violence and on surveys and workshops with a representative sample of women aged 15-39 in collaboration with a large non-governmental health organization in northern Mexico. Staudt examines the growth in and tension among local and transnational human rights activists who used dramatic tactics to call attention to femicide primarily and domestic violence murder secondarily.

## Selected and Annotated Books (continued)

Political Theory/Research Methods

**Bumiller, Kristin.** *In an Abusive State: How Neoliberalism Appropriated the Feminist Movement against Sexual Violence.* Durham: Duke University Press, 2008.

This book argues that the feminist campaign to address sexual violence has evolved into a problematic alliance with the neo-liberal state. It chronicles this evolution by examining the history of that campaign, the production of cultural images about sexual violence, professional discourses on intimate violence, and the everyday lives of battered women. Kristin Bumiller also scrutinizes the rhetoric of high-profile rape trials and the expansion of feminist concerns about sexual violence into the international human-rights arena. She reveals how the feminist fight against sexual violence has been shaped over recent decades by dramatic shifts in welfare policies, incarceration rates, and the surveillance role of social-service bureaucracies. Drawing on archival research, individual case studies, testimonies of rape victims, and interviews with battered women, she raises fundamental concerns about the construction of sexual violence as a social problem.

**DesAutels, Peggy, and Rebecca Whisnant.** *Global Feminist Ethics. Feminist Constructions.* Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008.

This volume is fourth in the series of annuals created under the auspices of The Association for Feminist Ethics and Social Theory (FEAST). The topics covered in [this volume] include peacekeeping and terrorism, sex trafficking and women's paid labor, poverty, and religious fundamentalism.

**Hesford, Victoria, and Lisa Diedrich.** *Feminist Time against Nation Time: Gender, Politics, and the Nation-State in an Age of Permanent War.* Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2008.

This work combines philosophical examinations of "Women's Time" by Julia Kristeva and "The Time of Thought" by Elizabeth Grosz with essays offering case studies of particular events, including Kelly Oliver's essay on the media coverage of the U.S. wars on terror, in Afghanistan and in Iraq and Betty Joseph's on the anticolonial uses of "women's time" in the creation of nineteenth-century Indian nationalism. The authors juxtapose feminist time against nation time in order to consider temporalities that are at once "contrary" but also "close to" or "drawing toward" each other. As an untimely project, feminism necessarily operates in a different temporality from that of the nation. Against-ness is used to provoke a rupture, a momentary opening up of a disjuncture between the two that allows us to explore the possibilities of creating a space and time for feminists to think against the current of the present moment.



## Selected and Annotated Books (continued)

**Hirschmann, Nancy J. *Gender, Class, and Freedom in Modern Political Theory*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008.**

In her latest book, Nancy Hirschmann demonstrates not merely that modern theories of freedom are susceptible to gender and class analysis but that they must be analyzed in terms of gender and class in order to be understood at all. Through rigorous close readings of major and minor works of Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Kant, and Mill, Hirschmann establishes and examines the gender and class foundations of the modern understanding of freedom. Building on a social constructivist model of freedom that she developed in her award-winning book *The Subject of Liberty: Toward a Feminist Theory of Freedom*, she makes in her new book another original contribution to political and feminist theory.

**Kraus, Natasha. *A New Type of Womanhood: Discursive Politics and Social Change in Antebellum America*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2008.**

In this work, Natasha Kraus retells the history of the 1850s woman's rights movement. She traces how the movement changed society's very conception of "womanhood" in its successful bid for economic rights and rights of contract for married women. Kraus demonstrates that this discursive change was a necessary condition of possibility for U.S. women to be popularly conceived as civil subjects within a Western democracy, and she shows that many rights, including suffrage, followed from the basic right to form legal contracts. She analyzes this new conception of women as legitimate economic actors in relation to antebellum economic and demographic changes as well as changes in the legal structure and social meanings of contract.

**Riley, Robin L., Chandra Talpate Mohanty, and Minnie Bruce Pratt. *Feminism and War: Confronting American Imperialism*. London: Zed Books, 2008.**

Women across the globe are being dramatically affected by war as currently waged by the U.S. But there has been little public space for dialogue about the complex relationship between feminism, women, and war. The editors of this work have brought together a diverse set of leading theorists and activists who examine the questions raised by ongoing American military initiatives, such as, "What are the implications of an imperial nation/state laying claim to women's liberation?," and "Did American intervention and invasion in fact result in liberation for women in Afghanistan and Iraq?" The book reveals and critically analyzes the complicated ways in which America uses gender, race, class, nationalism, [and] imperialism to justify, legitimate, and continue war. Each chapter builds on the next to develop an anti-racist, feminist politics that places imperialist power, and forms of resistance to it, central to its comprehensive analysis.

**American Government & Politics****Freeman, Jo. *We Will Be Heard: Women's Struggles for Political Power in the United States*. Lanham, Md: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 2008.**

From J. Ellen Foster's address to the 1892 Republican Convention to Nancy Pelosi's 2007 election as the first female Speaker of the House, women have worked to influence politics at every level. Well before most could vote, women campaigned for candidates and lobbied to shape public policy. Men welcomed

**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)**

their work, but not their ideas. Even with equal suffrage, women faced many barriers to full political participation. The fifteen case studies of women's struggles for political influence in this book provide the historical context for today's political events. Starting with an overview of when and why political women have been studied, the three sections of the book look at different ways in which women have broken barriers, practiced politics, and promoted public policy. These engaging and accessible stories are even more important in today's political climate, when a woman can finally be a front-runner in a presidential race.

**García, Sonia R. *Políticas: Latina Public Officials in Texas*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2008.**

In this book, five Latina political scientists profile the women who have been the first Latinas to hold key elected and appointed positions in Texas government. Through interviews with each woman or her associates, the authors explore and theorize about Latina officeholders' political socialization, decision to run for office, leadership style, and representational roles and advocacy. The profiles begin with Irma Rangel, the first Latina elected to the Texas House of Representatives, and Judith Zaffirini and Leticia Van de Putte, the only two Latinas to serve in the Texas Senate. The authors also interview Lena Guerrero, the first and only Latina to serve in a statewide office; judges Linda Yanes, Alma Lopez, Elma Salinas Ender, Mary Roman, and Alicia Chacón; mayors Blanca Sanchez Vela (Brownsville), Betty Flores (Laredo), and Olivia Serna (Crystal City); and Latina city councilwomen from San Antonio, El Paso, Dallas, Houston, and Laredo.

**Palmer, Barbara, and Dennis Michael Simon. *Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Women and Congressional Elections*. Women in American politics. London: Routledge, 2008.**

Why has the integration of women into Congress been so slow? Is there a "political glass ceiling" for women? Although women use the same strategic calculations as men to decide when to run, the decision regarding where to run is something else. This book is the most comprehensive analysis of women in congressional elections available. The Second Edition is fully updated to reflect the pivotal 2006 mid-term elections, including Nancy Pelosi's rise to Speaker of the House, Hillary Clinton's bid for the presidency, and a record number of women serving as committee chairs. Additionally, the authors have created a website, found at [politicsandwomen.com](http://politicsandwomen.com), to highlight key features of the book and provide updates throughout the election cycle.

**Reingold, Beth. *Legislative Women: Getting Elected, Getting Ahead*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2008.**

This wide-ranging new study grapples with the increasingly complex array of opportunities and challenges that face women today as both legislative candidates and elected officials. Offering cutting-edge, original research, the book expands our knowledge on an array of critical topics. The contributors address everything from campaign finance to the significance of race and ethnicity, from media relations to how women advance within the ranks of the elite, and more. As they examine exactly how and in what circumstances gender matters, they bring new depth to the study of women and politics. This wide-ranging new study grapples with the increasingly complex array of opportunities and challenges that face women today as both legislative candidates and elected officials.

**Selected and Annotated Books (continued)**

**Schreiber, Ronnee. *Righting Feminism: Conservative Women and American Politics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008.**

This work shows that one of the key —albeit overlooked—developments in political activism since the 1980s has been the emergence of conservative women's organizations. It focuses on the most prominent of these groups, Concerned Women for America and the Independent Women's Forum, to reveal how they are using feminist rhetoric for conservative ends: outlawing abortion, restricting pornography, and bolstering the traditional family. Ironically, these organizations face a paradox: to combat the legacy of feminism — particularly its appeal to the majority of American women—they must use the rhetoric of women's empowerment. Based on numerous interviews with colorful conservative activists and extensive analyses of organizational documents, this book offers a new way of understanding the unlikely intersection of women's activism and conservative politics in America today.

**Whitaker, Lois Duke. *Voting the Gender Gap*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2008.**

This book concentrates on the gender gap in voting, [defined as] the difference in the proportion of women and men voting for the same candidate. Evident in every presidential election since 1980, this polling phenomenon reached a high of 11 percentage points in the 1996 election. The contributors discuss the history, complexity, and ways of analyzing the gender gap; the gender gap in relation to partisanship; motherhood, ethnicity, and the impact of parental status on the gender gap; and the gender gap in races involving female candidates. This work analyzes trends in voting while probing how women's political empowerment and gender affect American politics and the electoral process.

**Wolbrecht, Christina, Karen, Beckwith, and Lisa Baldez. *Political Women and American Democracy*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008.**

The last thirty years have witnessed a remarkable increase in women's participation in American politics and an explosion of research on female political actors—and the transformations effected by them—during the same period. This book provides a critical synthesis of scholarly research by leading experts in the field. The collected essays examine women as citizens, voters, participants, movement activists, partisans, candidates, and legislators. The authors provide frameworks for understanding and organizing existing scholarship; focus on theoretical, methodological, and empirical debates; and map out productive directions for future research.

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## **2008 Section Business**

The Business Meeting of the APSA Organized Section of Women and Politics Research was held in Boston on August 29, 2008 and included the following:

### **Minutes**

1. Meeting was called to order at 12:15 by Kira Sanbonmatsu.
2. A motion to approve the minutes of the 2007 section business meeting was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice vote.
3. Treasurer's Report – Melody Rose discussed the section's financial status and various expenses the section has incurred. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

**2008 Section Business (continued)**

4. Deb Liebowitz gave a report on the section's 2008 program.
5. Several changes to the section's by-laws were proposed. A motion to approve the changes was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice vote.
6. Section Awards were announced. [ Please consult the following section, "Award" for a listing of winners.-- Hamideh Sedghi, Editor]
7. Laurel Weldon reported on the Intersectionality short course that took place on the Wednesday before the APSA meeting started. She organized this event with Georgia Duerst-Lahti and Ange-Marie Hancock. Over 90 people attended the full day program. A related reading list will be posted to the section's website.
8. The Nominations Committee put forward the following slate of candidates for approval:
  - President: Debra Liebowitz, Drew University
  - President Elect/Program Chair: S. Laurel Weldon, Purdue University
  - President Elect Designate: Kim Fridkin, Arizona State University
  - Treasurer: Melody Rose, Portland State University
  - Secretary: Alesha Doan, University of Kansas
  - Council Member: Mona Lena Krook, Washington University
  - Council Member: Susan Mezey, Loyola University
  - Council Member: Nikol Floyd-Alexander, Rutgers University
  - Council Member: Pamela Paxton, Ohio State University
  - Newsletter Editor: Hamideh Sedghi, Harvard University
9. Kathleen Dolan made a report on the status of *Politics & Gender*, presenting data on submissions, acceptance rates, turnaround time, and subfield representation.
10. Update on New Orleans 2012 and Boycott - Martha Ackelsberg discussed the present situation and raised issues for future consideration.
11. Brian Humes, National Science Foundation, announced a new funding program that is a partnership between NSF and the U.S. Department of Defense.
12. Deb Liebowitz briefly discussed coming changes to the APSA website and their impact on the section website. Raised a call for volunteers to serve as section webmaster and asked the section to think about ways of communicating in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM  
Submitted by: Kathleen Dolan

**Budget Report**

Based on the treasurer's report, for the period of 7/1/2007 through 6/30/2008, the Section's budgetary outlook was as follows: total revenue was \$14,898.86; total expenditure was \$10,910.00; and net activity for the period was \$3,988.86. Thus, funds available in the Section's account at the Bank of America for the period ending 6/30/08 were \$12,773.94.

**By-Laws of the APSA Organized Section for Women and Politics Research**

1. All members of the American Political Science Association are eligible to become members of the Section. Annual membership dues are \$25.00.
2. The Executive Council of the Section consists of a President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and four other members, chosen to assure representation of the diverse fields of interest within the Section.

**2008 Section Business (continued)****3. Duties of the members of the Executive Council are:**

a. **President:** serves as overall coordinator of Section business, including arrangements for the following year's annual meeting, distribution of information to the membership, and coordination with other groups such as the Women's Caucus for Political Science and the APSA Committee on the Status of Women. The President makes all appointments, including that of a Newsletter Editor, and organizes the selection of the Best Dissertation on the topic of Women and Politics, the Best Paper on Women in Politics presented at the Annual Meeting, and the Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory. Responsibilities include: soliciting nominations of papers, dissertations and articles; establishing a selection committee for each award; notifying the award recipient(s), the Treasurer, and the APSA in writing; and announcing the award and presenting the prizes at the following business meeting. The President appoints and serves on the Editorial Selection Committee. The President also negotiates the terms and conditions of the contract governing the publication of *Politics & Gender*.

b. **Secretary:** is responsible for taking minutes at the following year's annual meeting and submitting them for publication in the newsletter; also assists in publicizing section awards and other activities of the Section.

c. **Treasurer:** has responsibility for the financial affairs of the Section, including but not limited to accounts coordination with the APSA, paying out awards money, reimbursing or advancing funds for the newsletter, and forwarding membership applications to the APSA. The Treasurer will present a written and oral account of the Section's finances at each annual Business Meeting, with the written report published in the Newsletter.

d. **President-Elect:** serves as Program Chair and issues a call for papers in time to meet APSA deadlines for program organization. The President-Elect serves as President the year after serving as Program Chair.

e. **Other Council members:** serve as an advisory board and actively assist in Section business.

**4. Terms of Office:** The President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Newsletter Editor serve a one-year term upon election by the general membership of the Section. The other four Executive Council members serve two-year terms with two new Executive Council members elected each year.

**5. Nominating Procedures:** The Executive Council solicits nominations in January through the Newsletter email list and forwards them to a Nominations Subcommittee consisting of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. A slate of candidates will then be submitted to the full Executive Committee for approval. The slate of nominees will then be submitted to the general membership at the APSA Annual meeting for a vote at the Section's Business Meeting.

**6. A President Elect Designate** will be nominated and elected one year in advance of serving as the President-Elect in order to be available for inclusion on the APSA Program Committee.

**7. A business meeting** will be held at each APSA meeting.

**8. *Politics & Gender*** is the official journal of the Section. The journal is edited by a team of three to five faculty members, headed by a managing editor. The editors are chosen by the Editorial Selection Committee and are appointed for a three-year term (renewable for no more than three years). The editorial board consists of 20 to 35 members. The journal is published quarterly. Section members receive a subscription

### 2008 Section Business (continued)

to the journal. The journal editors present an editorial report to the Section's annual business meeting.

The editorial team must represent breadth and balance of areas and approaches in the broad and interdisciplinary field of gender politics. Four key criteria are used by the Editorial Selection Committee: comprehensive vision of the journal; demonstrated breadth and balance in the sub-field; editorial and administrative experience; and effective organizational plans and financial/institutional support.

9. The Section confers three awards annually: a. The Best Paper Award is given for the best paper on women and politics at the previous year's APSA conference. Any individual can nominate a paper for the award, including self-nominations. In addition, all papers presented in the Women and Politics Research Section and posted to the APSA conference paper website will be considered nominated.

b. The Best Dissertation Award is given for the best dissertation in women and politics completed and successfully defended in the previous calendar year.

c. The Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory is jointly given by the Section, Foundations of Political Theory, and the Women's Caucus for Political Science. The award commemorates the scholarly, mentoring, and professional contributions of Susan Moller Okin and Iris Marion Young to the development of the field of feminist political theory. This annual award recognizes the best paper on feminist theory published in an English language academic journal during the previous calendar year. Papers are considered by self-nomination or nomination by other individuals. Nominations are due no later than 15 February and the Award decision is announced by 1 June.

The Section is responsible for annually coordinating with the other two sections to constitute the Award Committee, on which there will be a nominee from each of the three sections. The role of chair of the Award Committee rotates sequentially on a three year cycle among the three sections, and the Section keeps track of this cycle. Presentation of the Award also rotates: it is presented at the business meeting of the section from which the chair of the Award Committee is appointed that year. The Section is also responsible (with the assistance of the other two sections and APSA) for ensuring the Award is well publicized annually. The Section oversees the financial aspects of the award process.

10. The By-Laws may be amended by the Executive council, printed in the newsletter, and approved in a vote of the general membership at the business meeting.

[Note: The Executive Council decided in a meeting in Boston in 2008 to submit a proposal to amend the By-Laws to include the newsletter editor as a member of the Executive Council in 2009.

-Hamideh Sedghi, Editor. ]



## 2008 Section Business (continued)

**Elected Officers, 2008-2009****President:**

Debra J. Liebowitz  
Drew University  
Political Science & Women's Studies  
203 Smith House  
Madison, NJ 07940  
dliebowi@drew.edu

**Secretary:**

Alesha E. Doan  
University of Kansas  
Political Science  
1541 Lilac Lane  
Lawrence, KS 66044-3177  
adoan@ku.edu

Aili Mari Tripp

University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Political Science  
401 North Hall, 1050 Bascom Mall  
Madison, WI 53706  
tripp@polisci.wisc.edu

**Program Chair and President Elect :**

S. Laurel Weldon  
Purdue University  
Political Science  
Room 2232 BRNG  
100 North University Street  
West Lafayette, IN 47907  
weldons@purdue.edu

**Treasurer:**

Melody Rose  
Portland State University  
Mark O. Hatfield School of Government  
PO Box 751  
URBN 650  
Portland, OR 97207  
rosem@pdx.edu

**Newsletter Editor:**

Hamideh Sedghi  
Harvard University  
Center for Middle Eastern Studies  
38 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
hsedghi@fas.harvard.edu

**President-Elect-Elect:**

Kim L. Fridkin  
Arizona State University  
Political Science  
Lattie Coor Hall 6752  
Tempe, AZ 85287-3902  
kahn@asu.edu

**Editors, Politics & Gender Journal:**

Kathleen Dolan  
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
Political Science  
3210 N. Maryland Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53211  
kdolan@uwm.edu

**Council:**

Nikol Alexander-Floyd, Rutgers University  
Pamela Paxton, Ohio State University  
Mona Lena Krook, Washington University in Saint Louis  
Susan Mezey, Loyola University Chicago

**Awards, 2007-2008**

**1. The Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory** committee chair, Nancy Hirschmann, thanked fellow committee members Kathy Ferguson and Joanna Vecchiarelli Scott. Two co-winning papers were announced: **Stephen Leonard and Joan Tronto**, "The Genders of Citizenship," *American Political Science Review*, and Tamara Metz, "The Liberal Case for Disestablishing Marriage," *Contemporary Political Theory*.

**2. The Best Paper Award** was given to: **Mala Htun and S. Laurel Weldon**, "When and Why Do Governments Promote Women's Rights? Toward a Comparative Politics of States and Sex Equality." Committee members were Suzanne Mettler (Chair), Suzanne Dovi, and Sherry Martin.

**3. The Best Dissertation Award** was given to co-winners: **Rachel Rinaldo**, University of Chicago, "Mobilizing Piety: Women, Islam, and the Public Sphere in Indonesia" and **Heather Ondercin**, Pennsylvania State University, "The Changing Social Definitions of Men and Women and Their Effect on the Partisan Gender Gap, 1953-2003." Committee members were Susan Mezey (Chair), Richard Fox, Evelyn Simien, Leslie Schwindt-Bayer, and Mia Bloom.

[Note: The above information on awards was submitted by Kathy Dolan. - Hamideh Sedghi, Editor.]

## Section Award Committees, 2008-2009

**The Best Dissertation Award on Women and Politics.** To be eligible, a dissertation must be completed and successfully defended in the previous calendar year. Please mail a copy of the dissertation to each member of the award committee. **The deadline for submissions or nominations will be January 15, 2009.**

### Award Committee Chair:

Mona Lena Krook  
Washington University, St. Louis  
Political Science  
Campus Box 1063  
One Brookings Drive  
Saint Louis, MO 63130-4899

### Committee Members:

Karen Zivi  
University of Richmond  
Leadership Studies  
Jepson School of Leadership Studies  
28 Westhampton Way, University of Richmond  
Richmond, VA 23173

Alice Hearst  
Alice L. Hearst  
Smith College  
Government  
Neilson 2/07  
Northampton, MA 01063

**The Best Paper Award on Women and Politics.** The Paper should have been presented at the 2007 APSA meetings. Self-nominations are welcome. Please submit paper nominations as an email attachment to each member of the selection committee. previous year's APSA Annual Meeting. **The deadline for submissions or nominations will be February 15, 2009.**

### Award Committee Chair:

Sylvia B. Bashevkin  
University of Toronto  
Political Science  
15 King's College Circle  
University College, room 173  
Toronto, ON M5S 3H7 Canada

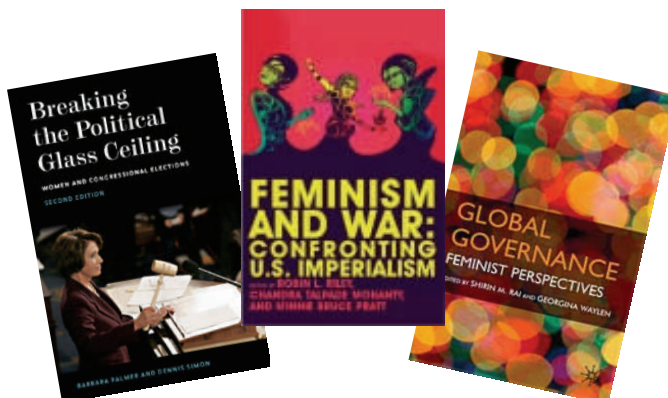
### Committee Members:

Ronnee Schreiber  
San Diego State University  
Political Science  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182-4427

Georgina Waylen  
University of Sheffield  
Political Science  
Elmfield  
Northumberland Road  
Sheffield S10 2TY United Kingdom

### The Okin-Young Award in Feminist Political Theory.

This is a new award, co-sponsored by Women and Politics, Foundations of Political Theory, and the Women's Caucus for Political Science. This award commemorates the scholarly, mentoring, and professional contributions of Susan Moller Okin and Iris Marion Young to the development of the field of feminist political theory. This annual award recognizes the best paper on feminist political theory published in an English language academic journal during the previous calendar year. Papers will be considered by self-nomination or nomination by other individuals. The award carries a cash award of \$600. **To be eligible, the article must have been published in 2008. The deadline for submissions will be February 15, 2009.** To be considered for this award, one copy of the article should be sent to each committee member of the Award Committee by mail or electronically as a PDF attachment." Award Committee Members: TBA



## Announcements

### Employment

The Department of Political Science & Law at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside invites applications for a full-time, tenure track assistant professor position in the field of Public Law and Identity Politics. Primary responsibilities include teaching introductory and advanced undergraduate courses in public law, identity politics, and maintaining an active research agenda leading to successful publication. The successful applicant may teach courses such as Introduction to Law, Legal Research and Writing, Diversity Law, and Constitutional Law. Such courses could be taught as they are typically done in most departments or restructured with identity politics being the heuristic through which these courses are offered. If offered in the more traditional way, the successful applicant would be expected to offer at least one new stand alone course that would fit into the identity politics theme. The Legal Studies component of the major has long been popular with our students. The successful applicant will be expected to continue this tradition but will have the opportunity to revise the curriculum to meet the latest thinking and practice in undergraduate legal studies programs. He/she will be expected to become the faculty advisor to the Legal Studies/Pre-Law student association. We welcome applications from scholars engaged in research that seeks to explain the relationship between law/courts and social movements, changing social and legal constructions of citizenship and identity, law and globalization, critical race theory, human rights, and international legal institutions. Applicants must submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, samples of syllabi from courses taught, unofficial graduate transcripts (official required before hire), three current letters of recommendation (including the names, phone numbers, and email addresses of the references). Applications received by **November 1, 2008** are ensured full consideration; position is open until filled. Send to: Dr. William J. Murin, Professor & Chair, Dept. of Political Science & Law, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, 900 Wood Road Kenosha, WI 53141-2000.

### Call for Papers

**Competition:** Junior scholars (graduate students and assistant professors) are invited to apply to attend the Women in Politics – Global Perspectives Conference, Friday April 24, 2009 at Ohio State University. The conference will include sessions such as women and democracy, national security, and conflict; women's global organizing; and women in politics – gaining access, changing institutions. The conference website is <http://www.sociology.osu.edu/wip/index.php>. Ten junior scholars will attend the conference and receive lodging, meals, and up to \$350 in travel expenses. Interested graduate students or assistant professors should send a vita and a one-page statement on their related research to Pam Paxton, Department of Sociology, 238 Townshend Hall, 1885 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210-1222. The application deadline is February 1, 2009 and award decisions will be made by mid-February. The conference is sponsored by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies at Ohio State University. Additional funding for junior scholar participation was provided by the Ohio State University Departments of Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, and Women's Studies, as well as the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

**Meetings:** Women in Politics – Global Perspectives Conference, Friday April 24, 2009 at Ohio State University. Themes include “women and democracy, national security, and conflict,” “women's global organizing,” and “women in politics – gaining access, changing institutions.” The conference is sponsored by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies at Ohio State University with additional support from the Ohio State University Departments of Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, and Women's Studies, as well as the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Organized by Pam Paxton. For more information, see <http://www.sociology.osu.edu/wip/index.php>.

Announcements (continued)

### A Feminist Christmas Tree!



#### Which Laws Are We, through the One Million Signatures Campaign, Seeking to Change?

While experiencing harsh measures by the state, members of the One Million Signatures Campaign for gender equality in Iran offer their holiday wishes through their Christmas Tree. View Noushin Ahmadi Khorasani's *Feminist School* at: <http://feministschool.biz/english/spip.php?article201>

See also <http://www.campaign4equality.info/english/> Sign the petition to support of Campaign for One Million Signatures and for release of women's rights activists.

#### The New Orleans Boycott

Please join the more than 325 political-science faculty members and graduate students who so far have endorsed the boycott of the 2012 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in New Orleans. We believe that a substantial risk of serious discrimination against visiting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered political scientists and their families exists in the Crescent City because of a 2004 Louisiana state constitutional amendment banning all forms of relationship recognition for same-sex couples. Embargo signers include a former APSA President, current and former Vice Presidents, current and former Council members, and a former APSR Editor. The boycott statement, the complete list of signatories, their institutional affiliations, and additional commentary about the boycott are available online at: <http://www.danpinello.com/Boycott.htm> Thank you. Dan Pinello, Professor of Government, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

## Announcements (continued)



## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

### **DEADLINE: 17 DECEMBER 2008 (Applications accepted through the end of January)**

The *Women's Policy Journal of Harvard, Harvard Kennedy School* is accepting submissions for its summer 2009 volume. The journal is a student-run, nonpartisan review dedicated to publishing interdisciplinary work on policy making and politics affecting women. By bridging the divide between academics and practitioners, the journal seeks to educate and provide leadership that improves the quality of public policies affecting women with the intention of furthering female economic, social, and political empowerment.

We seek papers that explore the impact public policies have on women both in the United States and around the world and that provide new insight into issues affecting diverse groups of women. Articles and commentaries can also offer a gendered or a woman's perspective on pressing political, social, and economic policy issues or investigate the role of women in the policy-making sphere.

**SELECTION CRITERIA** The *WPJH* will be selecting papers for publication based on the following criteria: Timeliness of topic to current policy discussions. Originality and depth of research and ideas. Sophistication and style of arguments. Contribution to scholarship and policy making

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES** **Research articles** should be between 4,000 and 7,000 words and include a 100-word abstract. **Commentaries** should be between 2,000 and 3,000 words. Work must be original and unpublished. Work should be formatted in any version of Microsoft Word. Citations should be formatted in the author-date system via running text, according to the guidelines in the *Chicago Manual of Style*. Footnotes are not accepted. All figures, tables, and charts must be submitted as entirely separate files. A cover letter should include the author's name, address, e-mail address, daytime phone number, and a brief biography. Five hard copies of the article should be provided. An electronic copy of the submission on a labeled CD should be provided.

*Authors are required to cooperate with editing and fact checking.*

**SUBMISSIONS** [wpjh@ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:wpjh@ksg.harvard.edu) *Women's Policy Journal of Harvard, John F. Kennedy School of Government* Harvard University 79 John F. Kennedy Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138 Tel: (617) 496-8655 Fax: (617) 384-9555  
<http://www.hks.harvard.edu/wpjh> • [wpjh@ksg.harvard.edu](mailto:wpjh@ksg.harvard.edu)

### **Women & State Government Posts**

Women Making Small Strides in State Government Posts, According to University of Albany's Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. "Glass Ceiling in Gubernatorial Appointments, 1997-2007" outlines gains and losses by individual states. The percent of top-ranking executive leadership positions held by women in state government has increased since 1997, but women still lag far behind men in the number governor-appointed leadership posts, according to the University at Albany's Center for Women in Government and Civil Society (CWGCS). Governors in the 50 U.S. states have appointed women to 34.9 percent of the executive posts in 2007, up from 28.3 percent in 1997, a 6.8 percentage point change over the 11-year period. "The report shows that the glass ceiling still exists for women in state government posts," said Judith Saidel, lead author and Executive Director of CWGCS. "It's encouraging that women are making inroads in just over half of the states, but the disparity still exists and by a large margin." To view a copy of the report, please visit [www.cwig.albany.edu](http://www.cwig.albany.edu)