

**2022 December Council Meeting Minutes
December 12, 2022, APSA Council Meeting**

Present:

Lisa Martin, University of Wisconsin-Madison, *President*
John Ishiyama, University of North Texas, *Past-President*
Mark Warren, University of British Columbia, *President-Elect*
Andy Aoki, Augsburg University, *Vice President*
Maria Escobar-Lemmon, Texas A&M University, *Vice President*
Ashley Leeds, Rice University, *Vice President*
David Lublin, American University, *Treasurer*
Khalilah Brown-Dean, Quinnipiac University; **Menna Demessie**, Universal Music Group;
Scott Desposato, University of California, San Diego; **Pearl Dowe**, Emory University;
Raymond Foxworth, First Nations Development Institute; **Terry Gilmour**, Midland College;
Terri Givens, McGill University; **Catherine Guisan**, University of Minnesota; **Nancy Hirschmann**, University of Pennsylvania; **Eileen Hunt**, University of Notre Dame; **Nahomi Ichino**, Emory University; **Leigh Jenco**, London School of Economics; **Mary McHugh**, Merrimack College; **Susan McWilliams**, Pomona College; **Tamara Metz**, Reed College; **Ido Oren**, University of Florida; **Costas Panagopoulos**, Northeastern University; **Aseem Prakash**, University of Washington; **Bassel Salloukh**, Doha Institute; **Christina Schneider**, University of California, San Diego; **Erica Townsend-Bell**, Oklahoma State University

APSA Staff:

Steven Rathgeb Smith, Dan Gibson, Jon Gurstelle, Kim Mealy, Ashley Vande Bunte, Nathan Bader, Mellissa Bell, Brenna Dames, Jess Okeze

Introduction:

APSA President Lisa Martin calls the 2022 APSA December Council Meeting to order.

Consent Agenda:

Smith introduces the consent agenda for Council approval. The consent agenda includes the 2023 record dates. McHugh moves to approve the consent agenda; the motion is seconded and passes unanimously.

Presidential Task Force Update:

Ishiyama provides an update on the work of two presidential task forces, beginning with the Presidential Task Force on Rethinking Political Science Education. Co-chaired by David Lake, University of California, San Diego, and Michelle Deardorff, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the task force is focused on making recommendations on best practices regarding the curricular structure of undergraduate and graduate political science programs. He reports that the task force met at APSA headquarters in the summer of 2022. The task force expects to complete a rough draft of their report in early 2023, with a full report issued later in 2023.

The second task force, the Presidential Task Force on Responsible Political Party Behavior, launched in spring 2022. The task force is co-chaired by Liliana Mason, Johns Hopkins University, and David Lublin, American University. He reports that the task force expects to complete an edited volume in the first half of 2023.

Civic Education Standing Committee Proposal:

Ishiyama introduces a proposal for establishing a new Civic Education Standing Committee. He reports that the committee would leverage the expertise and experience of political scientists to provide assistance to educators teaching advanced high school core civic studies and politics courses and engage with and develop guideline recommendations for the national advanced placement high school political science programs. Additionally, he notes that the committee would help coordinate with various civic education efforts across the nation. Ishiyama reports that the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee has endorsed this proposal. Martin notes that the Executive Committee has also discussed the proposal. Smith notes staff support for the committee. In response to Jenco and Prakash, Ishiyama notes that the primary focus of the committee would be in relation to the United States with an opportunity to expand the work of the committee to additional countries in the future. Gilmour moves to approve the proposal for the creation of a Civic Education Standing Committee; Panagopoulos seconds and the motion is approved with 26 ayes, 0 nays, and 2 abstentions.

FY2023 Budget Proposal and Discussion:

Smith introduces the FY2023 budget proposal for discussion by the Council. He begins the discussion by noting that at the previous Council meeting in September he reported that APSA was facing pressure on traditional revenue sources, including membership, the annual meeting, publications, rental income, and investments. The FY2023 budget development process began shortly after the 2022 Annual Meeting. He notes that greater costs for the 2023 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles and inflation are contributing to budgetary pressure. He indicates that staff have worked to reduce costs and identify areas to raise additional revenue. Smith reports that the proposed budget outlines a moderate increase in member dues and registration rates with two percent raises for staff. He reports that dues and registration rates have not been raised in seven years, and that a modest increase is in line with peer associations. He notes that a proposed increase in dues and registration rates are taken with great consideration for members. Martin notes that the stock market and performance of APSA's investments do not directly contribute to the deficit but are a factor in the amount of the draw that can be taken. Lublin expresses caution about raising member dues or registration rates until a review of costs and programs is undertaken. Martin notes that due to increasing pressure on traditional revenue sources, she would support a program review to permit long-term fiscal planning. Other members of Council express support for a program review. Smith expresses support for a program review but notes that the timeline for such a review may be compressed due to the budget cycle. Jenco asks if there is data on the percentage of annual meeting attendees or members whose registration or dues are paid for by their institution or from personal funds. Council discusses the value of APSA membership and the structure and siting of the annual meeting. Prakash asks if peer associations are facing similar budgetary pressures. Smith replies that many peer associations are facing similar budgetary pressures, with many increasing registration rates and member dues. More broadly, he notes that the environment for academic associations is increasingly competitive, and although membership has recovered to pre-pandemic levels, only incremental growth is projected in the coming years. Next, Smith reports that membership revenue has declined as a share of total revenue for approximately two decades, with annual meeting revenue, publication revenue, and investment income comprising a greater percentage of total revenue; however, those revenue sources are under increased pressure. Martin notes that the proposed

budget assumes that the proposed increases in member dues and registration rates would not have an impact on membership numbers or annual meeting attendance, but she expresses concern about that assumption.

Lublin moves to provisionally adopt the proposed 2023 budget with the addition of several amendments and conditions, specifically: No increase in membership dues or conference fees; a two percent salary increase for non-newly hired staff members; a review of APSA programs and costs led by the President, Treasurer, and Executive Committee that shall consider both the cost of various programs as well as the benefit to a diverse and wide range of APSA's membership among other factors; the Executive Director and staff shall work closely with the Executive Committee and provide information requested by either the President, Treasurer, or other members of the Executive Committee in a timely manner to facilitate the review; the Executive Committee shall report back to the Council at the Spring meeting with the expectation of budget modifications, including potential for further increases to staff salaries; that APSA shall not hire any new staff members until the completion of the review unless deemed urgent and previously approved by the executive committee; and approval of a temporary 5% draw, above the 4.5% limit, until the completion of the review, with the Executive Director working to identify opportunities for cost savings in the meantime.

Ichino seconds the motion. Warren asks about the feasibility of conducting a review by the Spring 2023 Council meeting. Smith expresses openness to the review but notes that a program review would expand upon a budget review to examine who certain programs are serving. In response to Leeds asking about the involvement of the President, Treasurer, and Executive Committee, Smith notes that he is committed to providing additional budget information to the Executive Committee. He reports that changing the fiscal year to align with the calendar year has had the unanticipated consequence of compressing budget development and review cycle. Oren expresses concern about the temporary 5% draw. Bell replies that the draw would be a temporary draw and notes that a draw of that amount is the only method by which the proposed amendments to the budget can be supported without increases to member dues or registration rates. Ishiyama expresses optimism due to APSA's significant endowment and assets. The set of proposed amendments passes with 26 ayes, 0 nays, and 2 abstentions. Lublin moves to approve the budget as amended; Panagopoulos seconds and the motion passes with 26 ayes, 0 nays, and 3 abstentions.

Proposed Changes to Submission Survey:

Gurstelle introduces proposed changes to the author and co-author submission survey. He reports that in 2017 Council authorized the collection of demographic data of authors and co-authors for APSA's three flagship journals. The editors of *American Political Science Review* have recommended changes to the submission survey to include language or questions regarding sexual identity, disability, and additional response categories relating to the existing gender identity question. In response to Jenco's question about the definition 'disability' that is used, Ichino notes that since varied definitions exist, authors and co-authors can self-identify. Mealy and Gurstelle note that there may be additional work to ensure consistency across how data and responses are currently collected. Gurstelle expresses appreciation for the Council's feedback and notes that the proposal will be sent back to the editors for review.

Best Book Award Renaming Update:

Martin introduces an update to the renaming of the Best Book Award. She reports that additional naming suggestions are being solicited. She notes that after the after additional suggestions are compiled, the Executive Committee will provide a short list of recommendations to be voted on by Council at the Spring Council meeting.

Committee on the Status of Disability in the Profession Discussion:

Smith introduces a discussion on a proposed Committee on the Status of Disability in the Profession. Hirschmann reports that the proposed committee would seek to provide professional support to any political scientist confronting issues of discrimination related to their disability or role as a carer for those with a disability as well as to promote those studying disability politics. Hirschmann notes that a formal proposal is not yet submitted but will hopefully be submitted in time for review and vote by the Spring Council meeting. Martin expresses interest in the committee also advising APSA on topics relating to accessibility.

New Business:

Hirschmann introduces the question of what APSA is doing or can do in regard to ameliorating the effects of climate change, particularly consideration of online conferences. Martin notes that the structure and format of the APSA Annual Meeting will continue to be discussed.

Martin adjourns the meeting.