

COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science

COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research in all subfields of political science along with interdisciplinary articles. Open to a variety of approaches and methodologies, *COMMONWEALTH* seeks manuscripts that are based on theoretical perspectives (empirical or normative) as well as those that employ an historical approach. *COMMONWEALTH* solicits manuscripts for a general issue and one or more policy options issues. An important part of the journal's mission is to encourage research on topics of Pennsylvania and regional importance (northeastern and mid-Atlantic United States). Manuscripts on state and local government, politics, and policy are especially desired. Book reviews are generally limited to essays on recently published works with a Pennsylvania or regional focus. The journal's special policy issues are devoted exclusively to dispassionate academic discourse on state and regional public policy issues and options.

COMMONWEALTH was founded by the Pennsylvania Political Science Association (PPSA) in 1987. In 2004, the Legislative Office for Research Liaison (LORL) of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives agreed to jointly publish and expand the journal. The journal's editorial staff, Editorial Review Board, and referees maintain the highest peer-review and publication standards. Public policy research emanating from academic fields other than political science is processed by the University Committee for Legislative Liaison, which advises LORL.

Copies of *COMMONWEALTH* are sent to all PPSA members — individual, departmental, and institutional. For PPSA membership rates, see the separate announcements in this issue. Mailing to PPSA members is generously assisted by the School of Public Affairs of Penn State-Harrisburg. LORL provides copies to members of both chambers of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, to key legislative staff, and to the presidents of each of the Pennsylvania colleges and universities that belong to the LORL Academic Network. In addition, LORL provides copies to the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, the National Governors' Association, various other national associations of state and local officials, and to all Pennsylvania state depository libraries. Back issues of *COMMONWEALTH* are available online at www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS. Hard copies in limited quantities may be obtained by contacting LORL.

SPEAKER'S JOURNAL

The *SPEAKER'S JOURNAL* is a series of essays important to the future of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Published by the Office of the Speaker, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, in cooperation with LORL, topics addressed include Access to Higher Education, How to Save for College Education, the Importance of Libraries, Autism, Geospatial Policy, and Early Childhood Education. Past issues will soon be available online.

Legislative Office for Research Liaison Pennsylvania House of Representatives

With initial funding from the National Science Foundation, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives established the Legislative Office for Research Liaison (LORL) in 1976 as the General Assembly's science and technology staff. LORL continues as a nonpartisan research office that enables legislators, committees, and staff to access the expertise of faculty in the LORL University Network, which includes most of Pennsylvania's institutions of higher education (Drexel University, Lincoln University, The Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh, the 14 universities in the State System of Higher Education, and the member institutions of the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Colleges and Universities).

The universities in the LORL Network fund the services of two faculty members each year to serve as University Visiting Scholars in Harrisburg throughout the legislative session. The Visiting Scholars and one to three undergraduate or graduate student interns complement LORL's full-time staff of six. LORL handles more than 1,000 legislative inquiries annually, from both the House and Senate, including about 200 a year that require university assistance. Inquiry topics vary widely, ranging from agriculture to workers compensation. In addition, the LORL Committee has commissioned major academic studies on topics such as telemedicine and state medical licensure, land-use policy, school curriculum reform, workforce development, and the policy implications of genetic research. LORL and its Network have also sponsored a range of policy workshops, seminars, and major conferences for legislators and staff. LORL agreed to join with the PPSA to publish *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* in 2004.

The Pennsylvania Political Science Association

Founded in 1939, the Pennsylvania Political Science Association (PPSA) is the nation's oldest state political science association. Its mission has always been to promote scholarship, research, and the exchange of ideas within the Pennsylvania community of political scientists. PPSA draws its membership principally from the political science and public administration faculties of Pennsylvania's public and private colleges and universities but also includes government professionals and faculty members from surrounding states.

PPSA's annual conference includes dozens of panelists covering a wide variety of subject areas. While university faculty comprise the vast majority of participants, legislators, legislative staff, executive officials, and undergraduates also have been participants. The PPSA began publishing *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* in 1987.

Guidelines for Submitting Manuscripts

Manuscripts from all fields of political science are welcome, especially those on Pennsylvania or regional research (northeastern or mid-Atlantic United States) in the areas of state and local government, politics, or public policy. State and regional policy research may originate from any relevant academic discipline. Manuscripts should be submitted in Microsoft Word format. The preferred length is 15–30 double-spaced pages, including notes, references, tables, and appendices. Citations should follow the American Political Science Association's *Style Manual for Political Science*. For guidance, authors should consult previous issues of *COMMONWEALTH*, the *American Political Science Review*, or the editor. Tables should be created with the MS-WORD tools, not created manually, and they should be placed in the body of the manuscript, not at the end. Content notes should be used sparingly, and they should be contained in endnotes rather than footnotes. Appendices should be placed after the content notes. A list of references should be placed last. The author's name and affiliation should appear only on a separate cover page. An abstract of no more than 200 words should accompany the manuscript. Submit *three* paper copies (not disks or e-mail attachments) to:

Dr. Gerard J. Fitzpatrick
Department of Politics
Ursinus College
Collegeville, PA 19426

Telephone: (610) 489-4111, ext. 2200
E-mail: gfitzpatrick@ursinus.edu

Guidelines for Submitting Articles for Special Policy Issues

Guidelines for special policy issues of *COMMONWEALTH* may vary by issue. Generally, the request for papers that is issued for each special issue provides guidelines for that issue. Inquiries concerning active requests for papers as well as proposals for special policy issue topics may be submitted to:

Dr. Michael R. King
Legislative Office for Research Liaison
House Box 202218
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Telephone: (717) 787-8948
E-mail: mking@legis.state.pa.us

Guidelines for Submitting Book Reviews

COMMONWEALTH will consider proposals for book reviews of texts currently in print, with an emphasis on Pennsylvania or the mid-Atlantic and northeast region, in any subfield of political science or political history. Reviews should not be undertaken until the book review editor has accepted a proposal. Submit proposals to:

Dr. Thomas J. Baldino
Department of Political Science
Wilkes College
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Telephone: (570) 408-4474
E-mail: tbaldin@wilkes.edu

**PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
DEPARTMENTAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

For a reasonable charge, on a single form, an entire department may join the PPSA. PPSA membership provides *each* member of a department listed on the application form the full benefits received by individual members. These include:

- personal copies of *COMMONWEALTH*.
- the **Pennsylvania Political Scientist**, the expanded PPSA Newsletter.
- advance "Call for Papers" to the annual meeting of the PPSA.

The departmental membership fee is based on the type of degree granted in political science by the member's institution and by the term of membership.

	1 Year	3 Years
* Doctoral degree institutions	\$100	\$200
* Masters degree institutions	\$75	\$150
* Baccalaureate degree institutions	\$50	\$50
* Associate degree institutions	\$25	\$25

To enroll prior to the annual meeting, mail by April 1 to:

Dr. Thomas Brogan
PPSA Treasurer
Department of Political Science
Albright College
P.O. Box 15234
Reading, PA 19612-5234

CHAIRPERSON'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Check enclosed for the sum of \$ _____

Please list alphabetically, on departmental (or university) stationary, the current faculty members in the department who are to receive PPSA membership along with their academic rank.

Libraries desiring copies of the Journal do not need a subscription or PPSA membership. Contact LORL for more information.

**PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP and
LIBRARY SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

To Individual Members: Please remember, when joining the **Pennsylvania Political Science Association** that membership includes a one-year subscription to *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science*.

Individuals unable to attend the annual meeting in any given year but wishing to maintain an individual membership (and thus to receive the next issue of *COMMONWEALTH*, the **Pennsylvania Political Scientist**, and all other mailings), should complete and mail the form below, postmarked before April 1.

Note: If an individual's department holds a departmental membership, then the individual simultaneously becomes a member and need not personally enroll or pay additional dues to receive the benefits of membership. In addition, as long as a department maintains its departmental membership, it is not necessary for the members of that department to renew their individual memberships each year. If your department has not yet joined the PPSA, the PPSA encourages you to share the Departmental Membership Form in this issue with your chairperson.

Annual Membership Rates:

- Individuals: \$10
 - Students: \$5
 - Institutional and Library: \$12
- (add \$2.00 for postage to foreign countries)

Mail to: Dr. Thomas Brogan
PPSA Treasurer
Department of Political Science
Albright College
P.O. Box 15234
Reading, PA 19612-5234

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