Executive Director's Report 2002

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It is an honor to provide my first annual report as executive director of the American Political Science Association. The vital signs for APSA are healthy ones: membership at near record levels and growing; a vigorous agenda; new electronic services for members; and a positive financial status. Before recounting these details, and reviewing active and proposed initiatives on our agenda, however, I think it is useful to reflect about different aspects of the field, and about the place of APSA and of the national office in the larger world of political science.

The field of political science has different, somewhat layered structures, of which these four are key: (1) The **discipline** itself—the content and methodologies of the field, the norms that surround peer review and the integrity of scholarship, and other building blocks for scholarship. (2) The **academic and scholarly enterprise** of the field—the processes by which the field trains new scholars, manages advancement in the field, establishes outlets for research, undertakes contract research, and builds professional community. The field relies heavily on the cycle of graduate training, job placement, evaluation of scholarly production and teaching performance, etc., as an integrative mechanism. Academic programs use the components of this cycle as a way to learn about each other and as a kind of comparative performance measure. The cycle integrates as well the role of the professional journals, the Annual Meeting, the Association's recruitment services, and other mechanisms by which achievement in the field is shared. (3) The work of the **Association** itself—encompassing centralizing elements such as the roles of the Council, the presidency, the *APSR* editor, and the Annual Meeting organizer; integrative elements such as the work of the Status Committees; confederating elements such as the Organized Sections; member interests, which include students, faculty, other scholars, academic departments, and other institutions; infrastructure responsibilities such as advancement of teaching and maintenance of ethical practices; and collaborative work as we partner with other political science associations, institutes, and foundations. (4) The activities of the **national office**, including maintaining membership, managing the Annual Meeting, running the employment clearinghouse processes, hiring and retaining good people, developing and protecting the publications, staffing committees, and administering myriad program activities.

These all of course are more or less loosely coupled, and they make for a complicated business. Much of importance in political science crosscuts these different structures, making planning, coordination, and even the structures for conversation complex. Clearly we have benefited greatly in political science from initiatives that enhanced this complexity—the growth of organized sections, active outreach to diversify participation in the field, the continued development of specialized associations and groups in the field, the promise offered by a third scholarly journal within APSA, and so forth. These developments have also moved APSA from a sort of pyramidal structure to a much more multicentered, web-like one. This has been a change with enormous implications for how we all work together to develop the field.

It is thus valuable to be sensitive to what holds the many parts of the field of political science together—what we might call the "glue" that helps the various components to adhere—values, activities, and exchanges that keep the field, the enterprise, the Association, and its managing office somewhat synchronized and reinforcing—especially as the complexity of our systems has increased. These integrative processes have many dimensions and work in many ways. There are five that I think are critical: (a) **common meeting grounds**; (b) **the placement market**; (c) **integrated access to scholarship**; (d) **organizational partnerships and collaboration**; and (e) **curriculum**. Each of these areas is a way to bring people from different aspects of the field of political science together—and should they become weakened, they weaken the whole field of political science, not just the Association or other entities involved. There is no orthodoxy, on the other hand, in how to keep them strong—but we have a collective interest in assuring their strength. As you will see from the details of APSA activities reported here, we are seeking to be attentive in all of these areas.

Common meeting grounds refer to ways people interact, learn, and discuss with each other across all aspects of the field. The Annual Meeting continues to be a healthy and vibrant setting for this—bringing together panels from Organized Sections, divisions, and numerous related groups. We hope, as well, the new journal *Perspectives on Politics* will function as a kind of intellectual meeting ground, by emphasizing peak scholarship that cuts across fields or integrates diverse topics. A preprint and conference paper server—a kind of electronic commons for work in progress—is another idea.

The **placement market** refers to the structures we have in place to assure that all job listings are known and open to all interested and qualified political scientists, and that it works smoothly, transparently, and openly with low transaction costs. We are working on proposals to make job listings more readily available, to assure that job listings cover the full range of academic and applied opportunities for political scientists, and to coordinate listing services and on-site conference placement services and listings with other political science associations.

Integrated access to scholarship is intended to assure that scholarship at all stages of its development is readily and widely available to scholars in all subsets of political science and across our many institutional structures, i.e., that we resist as best as possible a balkanization of our work. The availability of *APSR* in conjunction with many other political science journals in an integrated search through JSTOR is a key illustration of progress on this. As I noted, the new *Perspectives on Politics* journal is intended to support work that integrates different subfields. Another idea under development is the creation

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TABLE 1
APSA Members 1974–2002

Year	Regular	Unemployed	Associate	Retired	Life	Family	Student/HS	Total Members	Institutional Subscriptions
1974	7,793			217	101	137	4,006	12,254	3,504
1975	7,335			206	100	149	3,912	11,702	3,648
1976	7,428			245	96	134	3,603	11,506	3,588
1977	7,228			270	95	142	3,076	10,811	3,466
1978	7,094			301	97	154	2,655	10,301	3,338
1979	6,845			310	91	148	2,335	9,729	3,339
1980	6.592			344	91	135	2,159	9,321	3,337
1981	6,423			349	92	129	1,901	8,894	3,283
1982	5,838			388	97	134	1,984	8,441	3,156
1983	5,764			382	104	130	2,068	8,448	3,018
1984	5,891			378	111	151	2,511	9,042	3,059
1985	5,879		106	411	116	166	2,595	9,273	2,996
1986	6,009		145	432	117	173	2,589	9,465	3,046
1987	5,913		154	439	127	202	2,775	9,610	3,109
1988	6,171		173	450	129	186	2,728	9,837	2,975
1989	6,445		249	489	166	192	3,054	10,595	2,948
1990	6,708		258	488	163	180	3,436	11,233	3,004
1991	6,967		266	519	160	199	3,656	11,767	2,890
1992	7,046		279	557	159	182	3,740	11,963	3,057
1993	7,061		291	573	157	194	3,979	12,255	2,887
1994	7,505		343	593	159	195	4,121	12,916	2,908
1995	7,654		340	623	164	205	4,750	13,736	2,812
1996	7,349		323	596	168	210	4,618	13,264	2,841
1997	7,808	82	429	625	167	218	4,611	13,940	2,706
1998	7,464	226	400	607	165	206	4,428	13,496	2,653
1999	7,247	248	412	590	163	191	3,981	12,832	2,550
2000	7,454	247	415	617	164	196	4,065	13,158	2,475
2001	7,477	229	487	614	163	203	3,997	13,170	2,399
2002	7,599	276	450	631	163	188	4,357	13,664	

As of January 15.

of a web-based preprint and paper server that could provide common access to scholarship that is not yet formally published—preprints, conference papers, institute reports, and so forth. We need to build a commons here even if users wish to graze only on small parts of it, or for different things.

The organizational geography of political science is increasingly complex. Political scientists typically belong to many associations and groups within the field, and increasingly on campuses are aligned with many centers and institutes as well as, or instead of, a political science department. The glue for the field will not realistically come from actions of a single association or traditional departmental structures, but from collaborations and partnerships among them. We have made some small steps toward this end, but need to think about it in more depth. The preprint and paper server described above could be managed as a collaborative, for example, to offer access to conference papers from numerous conferences in the field.

Finally, of course, the **curriculum in our graduate programs** is central to the ways in which common understandings in political science and capacities for integrative work will develop. To this end, the naming of a Task Force on Graduate Education in Political Science, proposed by President-elect Theda Skocpol and approved by the APSA Council, is a significant development. The goal is a report about excellent practices, important issues, and suggestions for innovations—with a look at, among other things, "How can graduate programs balance and ensure mastery of a variety of literatures and methodologies, while still respecting the specialized expertise necessary for any one approach?"

Integrative actions are not the only important ones on the agenda, and there is much else underway at APSA in support of other key goals. The *American Political Science Review* is under new editorial direction by Lee Sigelman at George Washington University, and continues in its efforts to encourage, identify, and disseminate the very best in scholarship in the field. President Robert Putnam has convened a discussion group on ways to enhance the **public presence of political science**—to assure that our scholarship and our scholars are engaged, as appropriate, in key public issues of the times. Efforts to identify, protect, and increase **resources for political science scholarship** are leading activities for APSA: we participate in leadership roles in the Consortium of Social Science Associations and in the National Humanities Alliance addressing NSF, NEH, and other agency budgets and practices. We have joined with Public Citizen and the American Historical Association in the presidential records lawsuit seeking to assure scholars' timely access to presidential papers. Our **diversity initiatives** continue as well, with examples including support for the Ralph Bunche Institute, continuation of the Minority Identification Project, planning on new funding strategies for Minority Fellowships to

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TABLE 2
Organized Section Members, 1999

	Organized Section	Number of Members*
1	Federalism and Intergovernmental Relation	416
2	Law and Courts	866
3	Legislative Studies	593
4	Public Policy	854
5	Political Organizations and Parties	622
6	Public Administration	545
7	Conflict Processes	395
8	Representation and Electoral Systems	393
9	Presidency Research	421
10	Political Methodology	816
11	Religion and Politics	481
13	Urban Politics	386
15	Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy	309
16	Women and Politics	638
17	Foundations of Political Theory	754
18	Information Technology and Politics	243
19	International Security and Arms Control	478
20	Comparative Politics	1604
21	Politics and Society in Western Europe	499
22	State Politics and Policy	445
23	Political Communication	436
24	Politics and History	647
25	Political Economy	650
26	Transformational Politics	195
27	New Political Science	347
28	Political Psychology	398
29	Undergraduate Education	357
30	Political and Literature	291
31	Foreign Policy	548
32	Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior	738
33	Race, Ethnicity & Politics	551
34	Interdisciplinary History & Politics	442
35	Comparative Democratization	660
36	Human Rights	385

*As of June 1, 2001

be sure resources actually reach minority graduate students in ways that are of net additional value to them in their studies, and so forth. And there is increasing attention to ways we can provide **mentoring** support to emerging minority and women graduate students and professors, and bolster **family-friendly working conditions** for our faculty. You will hear more about these latter two initiatives very soon.

Additionally, there are some areas where I think we can press further in our activities, and the APSA office will be developing some ideas for consideration by the Council. One of these is our **support for teaching**, and we will be looking at ways in which we might be able to develop a regular conference on teaching political science, or some other enhanced means for political scientists to present, discuss, and learn about teaching issues in the field. This topic would certainly include attention to ways to use new electronic and distance technologies in teaching. I also feel that we have not been fully supporting, or engaging, **academic departments in APSA** procedures, and I am looking forward to exploring ways that departmental memberships in the Association can play a more active role. And as well, we can do more in the **international arena**—certainly in liaison with and support for international travel and scholarly exchange, but perhaps more significantly in the leadership we can provide in support of building national and regional political science associations, and where apt, in support of building political science departments. I'll report more on the progression of these ideas in future report, and as with every theme here, we welcome everyone's comments and contributions.

Jennifer Hochschild of Harvard University has been named the inaugural editor of the Association's new journal, ***Perspectives on Politics***. The new journal aims to fill the gap between refereed political science journals focused mainly on individual research, and the popular press focused on "politics." Articles in *Perspectives* intend to enable members of different subfields of political science to speak to one another, and with knowledgeable people outside the discipline, on issues of common interest. To aid her in identifying and shaping articles that will speak to an interdisciplinary audience, Hochschild has named five associate editors: Henry Brady, University of California at Irvine; William Galston, University of Maryland; Atul Kohli, Princeton University; Paula McClain, Duke University; and Jack Snyder, Columbia University. The first issue of *Perspectives* will arrive in your mailbox next March.

Preparations are already underway to complete the successful **Centennial Campaign** in 2003 and to prepare the new study **Center** in Washington to receive its first resident and visiting scholars in September 2003. Due to the generosity of Association members and friends, the Campaign's general and restricted endowments have either reached or are on the verge of reaching their goals. Indeed, several funds—including the Artinian, Miller, and Volcker Endowments—have exceeded their original goals and will be able to expand the level of support they will provide to scholars. The Campaign has already raised $2.2 million in pledges, gifts, and transfers, and has benefitted from additional investment earnings over the past several years.

During its final stage, the Centennial Campaign will concentrate on increasing the level of unrestricted endowment support to provide the Association with the financial flexibility needed to be able to adapt to the changing circumstances and needs of future generations

TABLE 3
Annual Meeting Registration, 1968–2000

1968	3723	(Washington, DC)
1969	4142	(New York)
1970	2397	(Los Angeles)
1971	2732	(Chicago)
1972	3380	(Washington, DC)
1973	2312	(New Orleans)
1974	2773	(Chicago)
1975	2478	(San Francisco)
1976	2295	(Chicago)
1977	2624	(Washington, DC)
1978	2373	(New York)
1979	2687	(Washington, DC)
1980	2745	(Washington, DC)
1981	2887	(New York)
1982	2205	(Denver)
1983	2859	(Chicago)
1984	3391	(Washington, DC)
1985	2842	(New Orleans)
1986	3602	(Washington, DC)
1987	3524	(Chicago)
1988	4161	(Washington, DC)
1989	3496	(Atlanta)
1990	4505	(San Francisco)
1991	5179	(Washington, DC)
1992	4998	(Chicago)
1993	5635	(Washington, DC)
1994	5902	(New York)
1995	5559	(Chicago)
1996	6055	(San Francisco)
1997	6391	(Washington, DC)
1998	6633	(Boston)
1999	5818	(Atlanta)
2000	6167	(Washington, DC)
2001	6492	(San Francisco)

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TABLE 4
Market Value of APSA Funds, 1989–2002

Year*	Trust and Development and Centennial Campaign Funds	Congressional Fellowship and Endowed Awards Funds
1989	1,643,552	394,837
1990	1,630,718	419,021
1991†	1,555,574	5,452,252
1992	1,905,090	6,188,105
1993	2,118,787	6,847,760
1994	2,190,976	7,218,462
1995	2,807,182	7,774,290
1996	3,248,013	9,442,658
1997	4,283,425	10,624,573
1998	5,965,087	12,656,326
1999	6,984,978	14,166,705
2000	8,137,173	16,597,076
2001	7,466,348	13,450,477
2002 (projected)	7,118,040	11,836,420

*June 30 of each year.

†Figures for 1991–93 were restated to reflect a change in accounting practice.

TABLE 5
Operating Budget Summary, FY 1988–2002

Year	Income	Expenditures	Surplus
1987–88	1,637,637	1,563,252	74,385
1988–89	1,847,151	1,731,248	115,903
1989–90	1,891,773	1,871,302	20,471
1990–91	2,158,118	2,133,524	24,594
1991–92	2,256,647	2,199,632	74,804
1992–93	2,290,313	2,202,419	87,894
1993–94	2,574,436	2,294,128	280,308
1994–95	2,734,375	2,524,663	209,712
1995–96	2,822,154	2,590,227	231,927
1996–97	2,979,845	2,793,237	186,607
1997–98	3,068,237	2,981,914	86,323
1998–99	3,150,001	3,086,546	63,455
1999–00	3,395,355	3,224,919	170,436
2000–01	3,545,669	3,351,744	243,925
2001–02*	3,934,401	3,899,802	34,599

*Projected.

of political scientists. Program development for the Centennial Center will also figure prominently in the coming year. As originally conceived, the Association's new study center is to spawn a colloquia series addressing new frontiers and controversies in political science research; workshops dealing with substantive issues in comparative and international politics; resource development projects focusing on classroom instruction, projects promoting civic education; and a multi-year program concentrating on the issue of inequality and politics. APSA members are strongly encouraged to participate in giving direction to these undertakings and to work with the Association to raise the external support needed to make them a reality. Please submit your ideas and proposals to Rob Hauck at rhauck@apsanet.org.

The 2002 **Annual Meeting** in Boston is expected to equal and possibly surpass the attendance record of 6633 set by the 1998 meeting in the same city. The 2001 meeting in San Francisco challenged the record, with attendance of 6492. The upcoming Boston meeting involves over 3,000 presenters and includes a record number of poster presenters, as well as the new poster presentation format, or colloquia. Overall acceptance rates for the 2002 Meeting are 53% for organized panels, 37% for papers (excluding poster sessions), and 50% for papers and poster sessions. The Association is also gearing up for the Centennial Celebration and events during the 2003 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Events are being organized to honor and highlight former presidents, the fiftieth anniversary of the Congressional Fellowship Program, Teaching and Undergraduate Education, and the future of the profession with receptions celebrating diversity, graduate students, and nontenured faculty in the profession.

APSA membership is at its highest level in five years and has only been higher two years (1995 and 1997) since the mid-1970s when we began keeping data. We've experienced most of that growth in the professional and student member categories, which bodes well for the future of the Association. Our program to provide sponsored memberships to first- and second-year Ph.D. students has been highly successful, with 649 students receiving a complimentary year of membership (with costs shared between APSA and the students' departments) since the program was launched at the end of 2000. *Personnel Service Newsletter* and *PSNonline* subscriptions are up, and we're on track for a year of record participation in the individual access program that provides access to the online archives of *APSR*, *PS*, and other selected political science journals through JSTOR. A significant service we've added for members within the past year has been MyAPSA, which allows members to log in as themselves and provides easy access to all the online services to which they are entitled, lists a year's worth of financial transactions with APSA, displays membership expiration date, includes access to our secure online membership form, and allows members to verify and update all the data in their membership records, including their listings in *Directory of Members Online*, which is updated daily. In the coming year, we're looking forward to adding more components to MyAPSA, including *Directory of Department Chairs Online* and *Directory of Political Science Faculty Online*, both of which will be updated daily; improving our paper and email renewal notices; the launch of *Perspectives on Politics*; and instituting some creative ideas for member recognition in conjunction with our upcoming centennial. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the membership team or any questions about your membership, please feel free to contact us at membership@apsanet.org.

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APSA finances remain strong. We ended last year with a significant operating surplus, and have projected a modest one for this year as well. The market value of APSA invested funds is of course facing strains from the current adverse stock market of which we are all well aware. But we use these funds conservatively, are not forced to alter any programming because of short-term market forces, and have over the long run benefited greatly from the decisions to invest for greatest long-term growth.

APSA as an association and as an office is blessed with **good people**. This has indeed been noted often. One is no more aware or appreciative of it as when one joins the organization with fresh eyes and expectations. I can affirm that it is indeed so. The leadership and attentiveness from President Putnam and all the members of the Administrative Committee and the Executive Council in a difficult year of transition to a new executive director and to a new journal and new editors have been remarkable. This group along with staff and many attentive members has kept the Association work moving ahead smoothly and has continued the flow and vetting of new ideas. Robert J-P. Hauck has served in really two full-time jobs during this transition, working as acting executive director as while fulfilling his many other APSA responsibilities. He did this seamlessly and splendidly. And the contributions of Catherine Rudder will be with us for a long time. She and her predecessors have provided for us an Association rich in resources, staffed with imaginative and dedicated people, and stocked with well-conceived projects. The field, the enterprise, and the Association will benefit for many years. It is a privilege to follow in this position.

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