Bahram Rajaee Joins APSA Staff

Dr. Bahram M. Rajaee joined the APSA staff in June 2003 as Director of Institutional and Research Support. At APSA, Dr. Rajaee will work with the International Committee to help expand APSA's global programs, including services for international members and efforts to support political science associations and departments internationally; with the Research Support Committee to coordinate efforts to identify and broaden resources available for political science scholarship; and with Organized Sections.



Previously, Rajaee was the Director of International Projects at the Center for International Studies at the University of Delaware, a former visiting assistant professor at Washington College, and earned a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Delaware in 2000. Rajaee is also on the governing council of the International Studies Association, Northeast and is former president of the Political Science Graduate Student Association. His areas of expertise include international relations and comparative politics with emphasis on Southwest Asia.

In announcing the appointment to the APSA Council, Michael Brintnall, APSA Executive Director, noted that Bahram Rajaee stands out in three ways—as a fine scholar with excellent administrative skills and experience, as someone with practical and programmatic insight to help APSA expand its international initiatives while also playing a lead role in other program areas, and as a pleasant colleague with a winning and positive manner.

Conference Commemorates APSA's Founding

Place: Tulane University
Date: January 10–12, 2004.
Organizer: Martyn P. Thompson (Political Science, Tulane). Contact: martynpt@aol.com

The location, timing, and theme of the proposed Conference for the Study of Political Thought are suggested by its occasion: the 100th anniversary of the founding of the American Political Science Association. On December 30th, 1903, a group of 25 distinguished American economists, historians, lawyers, sociologists, and other university educators met in the Howard Tilton Library of Tulane University to found a "national association that should comprehend within its sphere of interest the entire field of Political Science." On the occasion of APSA's centenary, an equally distinguished, similarly interdisciplinary group of scholars will meet at Tulane University to reflect on the character, presuppositions, past achievements, and future prospects of the "scientific" study of politics. This time, however, the group will be as much international as American and its analyses of "sciences of politics" will be culturally and historically much broader than has usually been the case.

The conference will address the same conceptual issues as confronted the founders themselves: what is the nature of political science, what is its place in university curricula, and what practical consequences might reasonably be expected to flow from its pursuit? The commemorative conference will address these questions from the vantage point of a hundred years experience of APSA and in the light of recurrent controversies (both inside and outside of APSA) about the changing nature of American political science. In particular, the conference is designed to add two missing or neglected dimensions to the current controversies within APSA. First, a more appropriate historical dimension, one that places the experience of the last hundred years within the context of endeavors to create scientific disciplines of political studies during the last 700 years. Second, the conference hopes to add to the broad dimension of cultural politics in American political science with respect to change and continuity. In this second dimension, particular attention will be paid to the cultural politics of political science as envisaged and practiced by the founders of APSA, and the reception, reworking and, on occasion, rejection of American political science by relevant constituencies in Europe and Asia.

A LOOK AHEAD
Perspectives on Politics

Here's an early look at some of the articles you'll see in the September *Perspectives on Politics*:

Articles

The Ontology of "Political Violence": Action and Identity in Civil Wars
Stathis N. Kalyvas

Executive Power in American Institutional Development
Keith E. Whittington and Daniel P. Carpenter

National Identity and Self-Esteem
Jeff Spinner-Halev and Elizabeth Theiss-Morse

Is American Multilateralism in Decline?
G. John Ikenberry

Review Essays

The Racial Retreat of Contemporary Political Theory
Hawley Fogg-Davis

Still Standing By: Why America and the International Community Fail to Prevent Genocide and Mass Killing
Benjamin A. Valentino

Perspectives

The Death and Life of China's Civil Society
Ian Johnson

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