Inaugural Teaching and Learning Conference a Huge Success

The inaugural APSA Conference on Teaching and Learning in Political Science brought 40 political scientists from around the country to Washington, D.C. to share their ideas and models of teaching and learning. Hosted by American University from February 19th to 21st, the conference entailed four thematic tracks: Pedagogy and Technology, Civic Education and Service Learning, Student Assessment and Learning Outcomes, and Global Perspectives and Diversity. The program committee selected a working group model for the meeting to allow greater dialogue and interaction among participants. Participants were selected through a program review process and assigned to the thematic track most appropriate to their application proposal. The conference included publisher booths, a reception at the APSA Centennial Center, and plenary talks by Dr. Eugene Rice, Scholar-in-Residence and Director of the Forum on Faculty Roles & Rewards at the American Association for Higher Education, and Dr. Richard Guarasci, President of Wagner College. Based on the evaluations received some participants noted:

"This has been a terrific experience! The format has been very conducive to sharing of ideas and has been very informative. I very much look forward to attending in future years."

"This was great. I could not have imagined a better executed or better planned conference."

"This was very useful. I gained so much from participating—the skills, tools, models, resources, and network will be invaluable. Thank you."

"It is so exciting to see APSA embrace—more completely—the role of, the importance of, the value of teaching. I believe this conference is an excellent first step. I am hopeful more conferences of this type will occur."

"Best APSA conference I've ever been to."

"Being at a small teaching-oriented university, I have let my APSA membership lapse, thinking the organization served primarily the research oriented schools. I will now re-join, this conference convinces me the APSA is working for all of us with valuable opportunities."



Track 3 Moderator John Ishiyama summarizes the track's presentation.



Alan Gitelson comments on the track 2 civic education presentations.

If you would like to contact presenters to learn more about their teaching and learning models, please email the track moderators at the following:

Track 1: Pedagogy and Technology
(Moderator: Sharon Alter, William Rainey Harper College, salter@harpercollege.edu)

Track 2: Civic Education and Service Learning
(Moderator: Alan Gitelson, Loyola University (Chicago), agitels@luc.edu)

Track 3: Student Assessment and Learning Outcomes
(Moderator: John Ishiyama, Truman State University, jishiyam@truman.edu)

Track 4: Diversity and Global Perspectives
(Moderator: Alan Lamborn, Colorado State University, Alan.Lamborn@ColoState.edu)

To see all of the conference participants and their presentations visit the Teaching and Learning page on the APSA web site www.apsanet.org/tlc/.

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