Washington Insider

Comprehensive Government Grant Web Site Launched

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has launched a new web site that offers a comprehensive centralized source to locate and apply to over 900 programs from the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. The site "is focused on improving access to government services via the Internet, to support research communities, state and local governments, academia, not-for profits and other organizations in their development. To access this unprecedented new resource visit the new web site at www.grants.gov.

Bush Adds Political Scientists to Bioethics Panel

President Bush recently added two political scientists to the President's Council on Bioethics. Peter Lawler, chair, Department of Government and International Studies at Berry College in Georgia, and Diana Schaub, professor, department of political science, Loyola College, Maryland, join the 18-member Council, effective immediately. The Council advises the president on issues such as cloning and stem cell research. Lawler and Schaub join political scientists Francis Fukuyama, Johns Hopkins University, Michael J. Sandel, Harvard University, and James Q. Wilson, University of California, Los Angeles.

House Committee on Science Weighs in on FY2005 Budget

The House Science Committee released their annual report on the makeup of the president's budget, primarily how it funds science and science-related initiatives. The report finds that though research and development funding increases in the FY2005 budget, in areas not connected with the Department of Defense (7% increase in funding) and the Department of Homeland Security (15% increase in funding) funding levels remain stagnant (an average increase of 2.3%). Furthermore, the Committee finds that the research and development funding is almost entirely for development, while basic and applied research are almost flat-funded (0.6 and 0.5% increases, respectively). The Committee urges a fuller balance between defense and non-defense spending and between biomedical and non-biomedical spending noting that the research and development budgets of the DOD and NIH comprise 75% of the total research and development budget, including 93% of the FY05 increases. The report urges similar attention to other important science agencies, such as NSF, DOE, and NIST. The full report can be viewed at www.house.gov/science/press/108/viewsof.pdf.

Representative Proposes Western Civilization Curricula

Representative Tom Tancredo (R-CO) plans to introduce a resolution in the House calling for schools to make Western civilization the centerpiece of their curricula. The resolution will encourage school boards to focus more on Western, as opposed to world, culture and hopes to instill in young Americans a greater sense of political and cultural unity. The National Education Association responded to Tancredo's resolution, stating: "Is [Tancredo] going to write all our nation's textbooks? . . . If he's trying to legislate patriotism, he's going to have a hard time." A copy of the draft resolution is available at the congressman's web page www.house.gov/tancredo/ohoh/.

Sources for this column include the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History's NCC Washington Update, *the* Chronicle of Higher Education, *and the Consortium of Social Science Associations'* Washington Update.

A LOOK AHEAD
Perspectives on Politics

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

Articles

The Rehnquist Court and the Political Dynamics of Federalism
J. Mitchell Pickerill and Cornell Clayton

Beyond Monologue: For a Comparative Political Theory
Fred Dallmayr

Using Case Studies to Expand Economic Models of Civil War
Nicholas Sambanis

Quality Meets Quantity: Case Studies, Conditional Probability, and Counterfactuals
Jasjeet S. Sekhon

Symposium—Future of Political Science: Two Routes

Introduction
Henry E. Brady

Identities, Interests, and the Future of Political Science
Rogers M. Smith

Puzzles, Proverbs, and Omega Matrices: The Scientific and Social Significance of Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM)
Jim Granato and Frank Scioli

Perspectives

The Task of Liberal Theory after September 11
J. Judd Owen

Learning from Terrorism Markets
Adam Meirowitz and Joshua Tucker

Review Essay

The Greening of Political Science: Growth Pains and New Directions
Philip Brick

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