

# NEWSLETTER

CANADIAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

VOL III - No 1

September 1973

## C.P.S.A. CORRESPONDENTS

Communication between departments and the C.P.S.A. is maintained through a system of departmental correspondents. Each department chooses its correspondent and he or she becomes the contact with the Association.

In the department the correspondent is responsible for seeing that colleagues are informed about the activities of the CPSA and for encouraging all department members to join the Association. The correspondent is also the person through whom the CPSA requests departmental information. In the case of the Newsletter, the correspondents send in departmental news and, in turn, are responsible for distributing the Newsletter to CPSA members in their department and to graduate students.

Each year there are a number of changes among the correspondents. It is vital that new correspondents be chosen and that contact not be allowed to drop. If your department does not have a CPSA correspondent at the moment, please suggest that one be chosen.

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*All correspondence  
relating to the newsletter  
should be directed to the editor:*

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PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

The Board of Directors of the CPSA met in June 1972 in Montreal, in October 1972 in Ottawa, and is scheduled to meet once more in August 1973 in Montreal prior to the annual General Meeting. The financial difficulties (we started 1973 with a deficit) forced us to cancel the board meeting which had been scheduled for March, 1973 and to hold instead a smaller meeting of the Steering Committee (President, President Elect, Past President, Vice-President and Secretary Treasurer).

The decisions and activities of the Board in the last year were of two kinds, (a) those resulting from specific instructions given us by the 1972 general meeting and (b) those initiated by the Board.

I. Execution of the general meeting instructions.

The 1972 General Meeting had asked the Board to conduct three surveys; the first, on the problem of discrimination within the profession with special reference to women, the second, on the Canadian content in the teaching of political science at Canadian universities, and the third, on the orientation of political science research in Canada.

Committees were set up to report on the first two topics: one chaired by Professor Jewett, the other chaired by Professor Fox. Both committees have completed their work and will present their report at the Sir George Williams General Meeting. As for the study of political science research, the Board decided to wait a few months in order that it could do its own study in collaboration with the SSRCC which has an ambitious project covering all the social sciences.

II. Activities initiated by the Board.

Parliamentary Internship Program.

The Board discussed and approved a new system of financing the parliamentary internship program, a new system rendered necessary by the coming to an end of the Donner Foundation grant which had enabled us to launch the PIP. Professor Hurley will report on the new arrangement made possible thanks to a generous contribution of Canadian Insurance Companies.

Election Study.

Professors Wilson and Laponce were asked to make a submission to

the Canada Council on behalf of both the CPSA and the Société Canadienne de Science Politique to study the 1972 Federal Election in order that the election time series which had been started in 1965 be not broken in 1972. The submission was made after it had become known to us that the Canada Council had failed to support any of the applications submitted earlier and on the understanding that the request should not in any way conflict with any application from individuals for the study of the same election. The Canada Council considered our application, reacted favourably to it while asking us to re-submit it with suggested modifications. After consultation with our election committee, we decided not to re-submit the application since the mandate given to Laponce-Wilson did not extend to in-between election studies. John Wilson will report on the matter and subsequent activities of the election committee.

#### Strathclyde Summer School.

The Canada Council having offered the CPSA, \$4,000 to send four fellows to the Strathclyde summer programme in quantitative research, a committee under the chairmanship of Professor Angell selected the four candidates. We hope that this programme will be continued in the years to come.

#### Reprint Series of CJPS article.

After consulting the membership through the newsletter, Professors Meisel and Pammett selected twelve articles with which to start the reprint series. The reprinted articles were selected from among those most likely to be of use in undergraduate teaching. They will be sold by the CPSA Secretariat to instructors, departments or book stores.

#### Manpower Survey.

Professors Engelmann and Cox made a survey of the career plans of Ph.D. students at Canadian universities, a survey based on personal rather than written questionnaire interviews. Professor Engelmann will report on his findings.

#### The Corry-Bonneau Report.

Professor Engelmann, Meekison, Trent and Laponce attended various meetings and submitted briefs to the SSRCC and to the AUCC on this and other related reports on the 'streamlining' of teaching and research, reports whose implementation would have profound and serious effects on the discipline. Professor Meekison will report to the general meeting.

#### The High School and the Junior Colleges Committee.

Professor Wilson has established an extensive network of local correspondents. He will report to the general meeting on the work and on

the future plans of his committee.

Preparation of the IPSA Congress.

Much of the time of the Secretary Treasurer has been taken by the preparation of the World Congress; Professor Trent has been remarkably successful in obtaining extra financial support from the Secretary of State, from UNESCO, from External Affairs and from Political Science departments. Thanks to his efforts our original budget has doubled from \$50,000 to about \$100,000. We are very grateful to all those who have so generously contributed to the congress budget.

Financial Difficulties.

The financial difficulties faced by the CPSA at the beginning of the year were temporarily and partially resolved by cutting down on the number of meetings of the Board and by concentrating the membership of most of our committees in a single city; that in order to cut down on travel costs. A permanent solution to the financial problems resulting from expanded activities is either in an increase in the contribution which we receive from the Canada Council or in an increase in the membership dues. The first solution should not even be contemplated, the Canada Council being already remarkably generous in its support of our association. My very strong recommendation to the membership is to endorse the suggestions for a fee increase made by the Board upon the recommendation of the Secretary Treasurer.

Jean Laponce  
C.P.S.A. President 1972-1973

Is everyone in your department  
a member of the C.P.S.A.?

Encourage those people who are not  
yet members of the Association to join.

THE ROLE OF THE C.P.S.A.

John Trent  
C.P.S.A. secretary-treasurer  
Report for 1972-73

From time to time the question is asked: what does the Association do for the membership? Such a question is asked especially when there is talk of a membership fee increase. My report this year will be presented in a way that will attempt to provide an answer to this question, as well as giving a brief summary of my stewardship of the Association during the past four years. For those desiring information on the main thrust of the Association's activities during the year just past, I would refer you to the President's report.

I will try to avoid mountains of supportive detail by simply summarizing the Association's activities during the past four years and its plans for the future. However, I will trust in the empathy of all those who have agonized over their departmental administration (and that includes most of us now) to understand what each of these activities have necessitated in the way of administration, budgeting, personnel, negotiations and meetings.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Since 1969 the Association, often in collaboration with the Société canadienne de Science politique and the Social Science Research Council of Canada, has attempted to: 1) extend communications and contacts between political scientists; 2) develop and improve the services offered to the membership and to the community; 3) represent the interest of the profession and the discipline to other institutions. In practical terms, this has meant creating an infra-structure of information on the profession and the discipline; increasing the participation of members in the organization of the Association and its committees; working with other disciplinary, professional, research, scientific and governmental institutions; undertaking specific projects; and developing the financial and administrative support to do all this. In other words, the CPSA has developed to the point where it undertakes all the normal tasks of an association, that is to say, the creation of an organization capable of breaking the sound barrier between the individuals, departments, sub-disciplinary groups, and regional groups which form the profession; trying to overcome common problems; and representing their interests to the surrounding community.

DEVELOPING AN OVER-VIEW OF THE PROFESSION AND THE DISCIPLINE

Much of the Association's time and efforts have been taken up in trying to discover the nature of the political science community in Canada and what it does. This was a task that imposed itself, considering that we have gone from 20 or 30 full-time political scientists in Canada in the 1950's to approximately 750 at the present time.

