The ISPP Junior Scholars Committee (JSC) gives voice and visibility to the needs and interests of graduate students, Junior faculty, and other Juniors within ISPP. A "Junior Scholar" is defined as "a grad student or person within 8 years of degree".

CHAIR’S ADDRESS

Greetings from the Junior Scholars Committee (JSC)! I am both honored and excited to serve as chair for the 2011-2012 term. I am happy to report that the JSC continues to offer many of the programs and services it has over the past several years, as well as several new initiatives.

Once again, the annual meeting was a huge success. Through our travel grant program, we were able to partially fund travel to Istanbul for thirteen junior scholars. Also, the JSC was responsible for several well-attended roundtables. The publishing roundtable was well received and provided participants an opportunity to hear from the editors of Political Psychology and other scholars regarding the publication process. Similarly, the career development roundtable resulted in a lively discussion about the challenges and rewards of being involved in an interdisciplinary field like ours. Our mentoring tea program continues to grow in popularity. The event attracted so much interest this year that we had a disproportionately high mentee to mentor ratio. Rest assured the Committee will continue to work to effectively pair mentors and mentees, and we are considering several strategies to increase interest among senior mentors, given such heavy demand.

I am also pleased to report on several recent initiatives. The JSC has been working to adapt to the changing nature of communication, by hosting and managing several online services. The JSC blog (http://polpsych.wordpress.com/) offers news, awards, and other announcements about the JSC, ISPP, and political psychology more generally. The blog grew in popularity in 2010. Visits to the site increased four-fold from the summer of 2010 to the summer of 2011. In the coming year, we plan to expand the blog as a venue for junior scholars to solicit advice from senior scholars. The JSC also maintains the International Society of Political Psychology Facebook page. As of October 2011, approximately 400 users actively followed the page and it continues to grow. JSC news and events can also be accessed on Twitter (@ISPP_JSC). We strongly encourage junior scholars to use these resources, and the Committee is always open for advice on how these services may be improved. In addition to these venues, please feel free to send comments, suggestions, and inquiries to issp.juniorschevalars@gmail.com

On a final note, I would like to thank our outgoing chair, Miriam Matthews, for her dedicated leadership. Also, thanks to the 2010-2011 Committee. I hope you all have a happy and productive semester.

Chris Weber
ISPP Junior Scholars Committee Chair
Summer in Istanbul
This summer, ISPP's annual conference was held at Bilgi University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Mentorship program
With 99 student mentees paired up with 31 leading scholars in political psychology, this year's annual tea in Istanbul was a great success (despite the less than ideal room situation for the event!). The purpose of this annual tradition is to provide junior scholars with the opportunity to connect with leading researchers in their area, offering the chance for mentorship beyond their advisors or committee members. We thank all of this year's mentors for generously offering their time and support for this annual event: Molly Andrews, Daniel Bar-Tal, Rezarta Bilali, Daphna Canetti, Emanuelle Castano, Xenia Chryssochoou, Christopher Cohrs, Stanley Feldman, Neil Ferguson, Helen Haste, Leonie Huddy, Art Kendall, Catarina Kinnvall, Yechiel Klar, Shana Levin, Evanthisa Lyons, Ifat Maoz, Clark McCauley, Davide Morselli, Paul Nesbitt-Larking, Masi Noor, Felicia Pratto, David Redlawsk, Steve Reicher, Sarah Scuzzarello, Chris Sibley, Bernd Simon, Ervin Staub, Beth Theiss-Morse, Colin Tredoux.

Monica Gerber and Joanneke van der Toorn will be organizing the mentorship lunch at the next meeting in Chicago. Given this year's overwhelming interest among students, some changes will be made in the selection and allocation process. We greatly welcome any suggestions you may have on this aspect of the mentoring program. Please email us at ispp.juniorscholars@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering to be a mentor in Chicago, or if you have any suggestions about the mentoring program.
**The ISPP SUMMER ACADEMY, Teresa Capelos**

What a summer!! The first ISPP Summer Academy took place between the 6th and 8th of July 2011 in Istanbul, Turkey, just prior to the 2011 annual ISPP meeting. The three-day workshop was attended by a truly interdisciplinary group of 36 fellows from the USA, Europe and Turkey with research agendas in Psychology, Politics and IR, Social Sciences and Humanities. Prominent political psychologists offered short courses addressing cutting edge theoretical debates and key methodological approaches to political psychology, on Terrorism (Martha Crenshaw), Political Leadership (Peg Hermann), Multiculturalism, Conflict and Integration (Catarina Kinnvall), the Social Psychology of Protest (Bert Klandermans), Social Identity (Steve Reicher), Inequality and Social Dominance (Jim Sidanis) and Key Debates in Political Psychology (Stanley Feldman and Leonie Huddy).

The Summer Academy’s central objective is to spread interest and promote training in political psychology around the world. In 2012 the Summer Academy will be held in Chicago, USA, in the three days prior to the ISPP International conference. Its fellows will receive a full fee waiver for the 2012 ISPP annual meeting, and free ISPP membership for 2012. The Summer Academy program is designed for young scholars who are likely to teach political psychology and/or conduct political psychology research in the future.

Students and academics who are interested in this unique opportunity to learn more about political psychology and engage with a international mix of participant in an interdisciplinary setting are invited to visit the Summer Academy website at . http://www.surrey.ac.uk/politics/research/researchareasofstaff/isppsummeracademy/index.htm where information about the 2012 program, and how to apply will be available soon.

*Felica Pratto and Mentees enjoy the ISPP*  
*JSC mentoring tea*  
*The ISPP publishing roundtable!*
ADVICE FROM THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE

One part of the JSC’s mission is to provide opportunities and advice to aid in its members’ professional development. To further this mission, we asked senior scholars for their advice. Here is what they had to say.

HOW TO GET PUBLISHED, RICK WILSON (EDITOR OF AJPS)

Write, write, write and edit, edit, edit. That’s a start. If I had a bullet-proof way for getting published, I would set up a corporation and charge a ridiculous amount of money for my advice. I clearly do not have such private information, but I can pass on advice based on what I have observed over the years.

My initial advice above is important. You, no doubt, have a good idea, you have thoroughly scoured the literature, you have planned a careful research design, you have collected the appropriate data and you have a conclusion in mind. Now you need to write it up. All that wonderful research is pointless if you cannot communicate it. Keep in mind that writing is hard and you need to continually exercise your capacity for writing. At the same time, little writing is perfect the first time around (or the second or third ...). Editing is a must. I usually find it useful to write a draft and then let is sit for a week or more. When I come back to it, I try to read it with a fresh eye. If I cannot understand what I wrote, I cannot expect a reviewer to do any better. When possible I also work to get feedback from colleagues. They will read what I’ve written with a more critical eye.

Before writing your article, decide where you will be sending it. Each journal has its own quirks and you should anticipate them when writing. Take a look at the requirements of the journal. As well, anticipate the audience for that journal. Ask yourself: Does this finding fit what is usually published in this journal? I desk reject many very good papers because they do not fit. Often what is written is posed in a very narrow sense and appeals to only a subfield audience. Yet I run a general journal and the work that I would like to see appeals to the general readership and constitutes a major advance for political science. Even though you may have “nailed” your question, it does not mean that a general journal is interested. However, your subfield journal may be very interested in what you have to say and your turnaround will be much faster.

Before sending your manuscript off to a journal make certain it is complete. Do not rush your work out. Will it really matter if you send the manuscript today or next week? Take the extra time to correct for typos, make sure the tables and figures are error-free, ensure the bibliography is complete and the grammar is correct. At most journals you only get one shot. If your manuscript seems sloppy to the reviewers, they will infer that the work underlying the manuscript is also sloppy. Hmmm, stereotyping?

If you’re fortunate and your manuscript is reviewed one of three things will happen. Your manuscript will be perfect and accepted without changes. This has happened to me once in my life, so consider this a rare event and celebrate (and maybe buy a lottery ticket). Second, the manuscript is declined. This is very likely and has happened to me quite a bit. Third, the manuscript will be given a revise and resubmit. This is not very likely – especially given that most journals have very low acceptance rates. For both case two and three, pay close attention to what the editor writes and what the reviewers say. If you have been declined, curse both the reviewers and the editor, put the reviews away for two days, and then bring them out and re-read what was written. The reviews are likely to be very valuable – they will point to problems you had not seen before and indicate where you are not clear. At this point it is time to see if you can salvage the manuscript and rewrite it before sending it out again. Resubmission is not akin to playing the lottery. You are very likely to get one of the same reviewers (the subfield in which you work is probably quite small) and editors usually pick the most appropriate reviewers for your manuscript. So, to avoid a reviewer who is irked that you avoided her advice, rewrite the manuscript. If your manuscript is given a revise and resubmit, praise the editor and the reviewers, put the reviews away for two days, and then re-read what needs to be done. Pay particular attention to the

(continued on page 5)
editor’s comments (written like an editor). If you have questions about what needs to be done, contact the editor.

Not everything you write will find a home. You need to figure out when a piece is going to be published and when it is time to consign that manuscript to the file drawer. A good way of doing this is to review for journals in order to see the standards and to help hone your own judgment. Most journals send all of the reviews back to the reviewers (as well as the editor’s letter). All of this can be helpful in your own work. Lee Sigelman said that a good scholar needed to write three reviews for every manuscript sent to a journal. I agree.

THE CHALLENGE & REWARD OF INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK, DOUGLAS R. OXLEY

I enjoy the consideration of interesting questions, and I do not confine those questions to any particular disciplinary boundary. If you are typical of the audience of the ISPP Junior Scholars Newsletter, then I suspect that you enjoy considering research questions that span disciplinary boundaries as well. While we can gain personal satisfaction from crossing disciplinary boundaries to answer these questions, there can be tangible costs and real barriers when engaging in interdisciplinary research and teaching. In 2004, the National Academy of Sciences published a report calling for an increase in interdisciplinary research and teaching.¹ At the same time, it acknowledged that scholars engaging in interdisciplinary work face substantial challenges and it provided specific recommendations for change in the Academy to alleviate the conditions that inhibit interdisciplinary research and coursework.

The challenges that face those of us interested in interdisciplinary questions and those of us who work in interdisciplinary environments can be subtly difficult. For example, publishing in a journal which is well known and respected in one discipline may not generate excitement among colleagues from another discipline. Further, presenting research to an interdisciplinary audience also presents challenges because of differences in the jargon, methodological training, and standards of different disciplines. Even the social norms regarding issues like when it is appropriate to interrupt a speaker can vary across disciplines. Teaching in a department comprised of faculty from multiple disciplines also requires vigilance because the course content of a “standard” course in one discipline can vary from another discipline. These are merely examples of the many challenges involved in interdisciplinary research. Many of these challenges are relatively easy to overcome, but this is more likely to occur when the problems are acknowledged and an effort is made to overcome them.

While there is challenge and risk to interdisciplinary work, there can also be reward. Some of the most important discoveries in the Academy have been in the interstices of traditional disciplines. Genetics research, for example, falls somewhere between the traditional fields of biology and chemistry. Herbert Simon’s contributions were influential in many disciplines and it is arguable that his cross-disciplinary knowledge provided the groundwork for some of his more important contributions. If Simon had been working in an environment where forays into artificial intelligence were discouraged, then his institution, those fields of study involved, and the Academy as a whole would be the worse for it.

Therefore, my plea to the broader Academy is to be patient and understanding when the challenges of interdisciplinary work arise. Encouraging a diversity of thought and perspectives can lead to genuinely positive outcomes. My plea to scholars interested in questions that span disciplinary boundaries is to be vigilant and keep up the good work. Research and teaching involving interdisciplinary questions and conducted in interdisciplinary environments can be rewarding even if the journey to that reward is filled with difficulty.

¹ http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11153
JSC EXPANDS REACH INTO SOCIAL MEDIA, ANDREW PILECKI

The JSC has taken steps in the past month to utilize social media to better serve junior scholars. Responding to feedback given in the 2011 Junior Scholars Committee Survey, quantity and quality of information provided on the ISPP Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/ISPPJuniorScholars) has been improved. Be sure to look for information on calls for papers, upcoming conferences, and funding opportunities that is being posted daily! Don’t have a Facebook account? You can now follow ISPP on Twitter @ISPP_JSC and still get all the same information on conferences, funding opportunities and more.

In our most experimental social media initiative, we have created an ISPP wiki page (http://ispp.wikispaces.com/). A wiki is a webpage that allows visitors to contribute or make edits (e.g., Wikipedia). Know of an upcoming conference that may be of interest to other ISPP members? Put it up on the wiki! Hear of funding opportunity that would be ideal for scholars outside the US? Put it up on the wiki! The ISPP wiki provides a forum for collaboration and the sharing of information and will become an invaluable resource for young scholars. Currently, the ISPP wiki contains lists of many funding opportunities for US-based scholars as well as a fast-growing list of academic conferences to be held in 2012 but it still needs more contributions from users like you. Visit and check out the wiki today!

UPCOMING EVENTS, compiled by ANDREW PILECKI

January 26-28: Annual meeting of Society for Personality and Social Psychology (San Diego, CA) https://www.apsanet.org/content_77049.cfm


March 22-24: Western Political Science Association (Portland, OR) http://wpsa.research.pdx.edu/

April 12-15: Midwest Political Science Association (Chicago) http://www.mpsanet.org/ Poster proposals due Dec. 2


UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

May 30-June 2: 11th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences (Honolulu, HI) http://www.hicsocial.org/ Proposals due January 27, 2012

June 1-3: 25th annual conference of the German Peace Psychology Association (Konstanz) http://www.friedenspsychologie.regener-online.de/ Proposal deadline Feb 29, 2012


July 4-6: 4th ECPR Graduate Conference (including a Political Psychology section) (Bremen) http://www.ecprnet.eu/conferences/graduate_conference/bremen/


July 8-12: World Congress of Political Science (Madrid) http://www.ipsa.org/events/congress/madrid2012/congress-theme

July 11-14: International Association for Conflict Management (Stellenbosch, South Africa) http://www.bus.umich.edu/Conferences/IACM-2012 Proposals due Feb 1, 2012


July 18-20: PsyPAG 2012 Postgraduate Student Conference (Northumbria University) http://www.psypag2012.co.uk/ Paper proposals due May 11 Poster proposals due June 1


THE ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF ISPP
JULY 6TH - 9TH, 2012
CHICAGO, USA

CONFERENCE THEME: IDENTITY POLITICS AND POLITICIZED IDENTITIES. POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY IN TIMES OF CONTENTION

TO SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL, VISIT:
HTTP://CONVENTION2.ALLACADEMIC.COM/ONE/ISPP/ISPP12

SUBMISSIONS DUE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2012
YOUR 2011 – 2012 JSC
We want to hear from you!
Please email us with feedback at ispp.juniorscholars@gmail.com

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Web resources
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