

didn't work out."

(h) to be sure that service responsibilities are spread equally around faculty, rather than burdening women with a disproportionately high share of assignments (if for no other reason than to show her off and prove "that you have one").

## Notes

\*Final report presented to the Executive Council of the Southern Political Science Association, Tampa, Florida, November 7, 1991.

1. The questionnaire used for the earlier survey of doctoral degree granting political science departments (Stetson, *et al.* 1990) was adapted for this survey. A cover letter signed by Bradley Canon, 1991 President of SPSA, and Mary Guy, CSW Chair, accompanied the questionnaire. Mailing labels were secured from the American Political Science Association office. The mailings to departments were made by SPSA Executive Director Michael Maggiotto. All bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree-granting political science programs in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, District of Columbia, and Delaware were surveyed. There were 92 returned surveys out of 412 that had been mailed, yielding a response rate of 22%. Of the returned surveys, 89 had been completed and were included in the tally of results. The response rate may have been depressed by the fact that the survey was conducted during the summer months and no attempt was made to contact departments that did not respond.

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## New England Political Science Association

The New England Political Science Association held its 1992 annual meeting in Providence, Rhode Island on April 3 and 4. The meeting, attended by almost two hundred scholars from around the nation, was organized by Association President Garrison Nelson, University of Vermont, and Program Chair Eileen McDonagh, Northeastern University. Current officers of the Association include President Deborah Miner, Simmons College, and President-Elect Harvey Mansfield, Jr., Harvard University. Highlights of the 1992 meeting included luncheon talks by Rep. Bernard Sanders (D-VT) and Alan Ehrenhalt, editor of *Governing*, and a plenary session marked by a debate between Madeline Kunin, former governor of Vermont, and former APSA President Theodore Lowi. The Donovan Prize for the best paper presented at the 1991 meeting was awarded to Mark E. Warren, of Georgetown University, for "Max Weber's Nietzschean Conception of Power," while the prize for the best paper offered by a graduate student at the 1991 meeting went to Robert J. Weiner, Cornell University, for "Making History in Vermont: The Election of Bernard Sanders to the U.S. Congress."

The association's 1993 annual meeting will be held on Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3, in Northampton, Massachusetts. Proposals should be submitted by December 1, 1992, and can be directed to the 1993 Program Chair, Christopher J. Bosso, Department of Political Science, 315 Meserve Hall, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 02115. Phone: (617) 437-4398.

## A Brief Look at 50+ Years of Scholarly Development in the Midwest Political Science Association

John P. Pelissero and  
Timothy B. Krebs  
*Midwest Political Science Association*

On May 5, 1939 a Conference of Midwest Political Scientists was held at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana. Organized by Clarence Berdahl, Gale Lowrie, James Pollock, Jr., and Harold Zink, the participants spent a day and a half discussing the problems of teaching political science, U.S. foreign policy, the Republican revival in the Midwest, public administration and colleges, and the "possibilities of a Mid-West Association of Political Scientists." The group collected \$29.50 in contributions and spent \$21.45 on the conference. That first program had just 21 people on the official panels (no unaffiliated groups had formed as yet) and filled only two small pages. So began what would later be called the Midwest Political Science Association.

The second conference, "Turkey Run II," organized by Charles Kneier (Illinois), was held at the same state park and began on May 3, 1940 at 2:30 P.M. (C.S.T.) (apparently Indiana was on "God's time" even back then) and included only 19 participants on four panels. The assembled again dealt with the "Problems of Teaching Political Science," confronted the "emerging issues of American Politics in the International Field," obtained their first exhibitor, and held their first business meeting. Estimated attendance at the meeting was 125 (35 individuals "snuck-in" to avoid paying the 50-cent registration fee (a practice that continues today!). Secretary-Treasurer Harold Zink noted that 110 attended one panel (could we ever expect 88 percent to attend a single panel today?).

The decision to leave Turkey Run after two years was not an easy one for the fledgling association. The Managerial Committee met in Chicago in December, 1940 and the minutes report that:

After considerable discussion it was decided to hold the 1941 conference at Pokagon State Park, Indiana if suitable arrangements can be made. Carl Smith was appointed to ascertain whether such arrangements can be made at Pokagon Park. Spring Mill State Park was agreed upon as second choice in case Pokagon did not work out.

Inasmuch as the place of holding the 1941 conference is located some-

what farther north than Turkey Run, with weather conditions consequently more uncertain, and in view of the desire of the Kentucky colleagues to avoid the congestion of Derby week, it was decided to hold the 1941 conference the third weekend of May.

The Pokagon State Park conference spanned three days and program chair F. R. Aumann of Ohio State organized eight panels. It continued the trend in addressing teaching ("Some Problems of Teaching Constitutional Law"), included the first panel on defense policy, and began the first series of roundtables, including the rather optimistic "The Implementation of the Peace." One-hundred sixteen individuals registered for the meeting and total expenses amounted to a mere \$10.70. With \$65.83 on hand, the Midwest Conference rented a safety-deposit box and set about planning the next meeting for Spring Mill State Park.

The nation's involvement in the war dominated the proceedings of 1942, beginning with the panel, "The Role of the Political Scientist in Time of War" (at "8:00 o'clock C.W.T."). The managerial committee considered a proposal to distribute the names of all attendees at the 1939-42 conferences. "After considerable discussion a collection amounting to \$4.85 was taken to help defray the cost" and the list was prepared and mailed. The program was created by Arthur Bromage of the University of Michigan.

Although the Conference considered a 1943 meeting, the war rendered the plans unfeasible. The group would not meet for another five years, convening the fifth conference at the University of Notre Dame in May, 1947. Copies of the programs for the 5th, 6th, and 7th conferences cannot be located, but some notes on these meetings have survived. A preliminary program was mailed to 1,000 persons in 1947 and 140 individuals paid \$1 to attend the conference (eight folks got a special \$0.25 rate). The preliminary program and new membership directory "ate up the small nest egg remaining from the prewar period" but the registration fees put the group's finances in the black once again. Program organizer Llewellyn Pfankuchen of Wisconsin reported on an "unusually

smooth. . ." conference, and although Notre Dame had been a fine host for the meeting,

it was the sentiment that a state park in Indiana or Illinois offers the greatest advantages for the conferences and . . . future conferences should return to such parks if at all possible.

(The group was unable to secure a suitable park for any future meeting.)

Interestingly, the managerial group considered a problem that continues to confront the MPSA today:

Harvey Walker moved that a single appearance rule be adopted. He pointed out that he had been asked to appear more than once at the present conference and expressed the opinion that it was desirable for a single person to appear only once on the program. After considerable discussion he withdrew his motion, but it was the sentiment that in general the principle of a single appearance is desirable.

E. Allen Helms of Ohio State organized the 6th conference for the Claypool Hotel in 1948, where the group authorized a study of the "advisability (sic) of setting up a more permanent organization" and another to examine the "feasibility of a publication." They also decided to maintain the geographic region for the participation that was begun several years earlier, namely the states of Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri. But after selecting the University of Wisconsin as the site for the 1949 meeting, they agreed to invite the participation (but not the membership) of political scientists from Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Notre Dame's Paul Bartholomew was picked to organize the 7th conference in Madison with David Fellman handling local arrangements. We don't know what Bartholomew put together, how many attended, or if they made any money at this conference. However, we do know that at this meeting an official constitution for the Midwest Conference of Political Scientists was approved and that the group applied to the American Political Science Association for recognition as an official section. (Former chairmen of the managerial committee would now be recognized as past presidents of the Confer-

ence.) Despite its new found status, some feared the group was becoming too large. Harvey Walker suggested that the conference be divided into two parts—one for Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Kentucky, and another for Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri. The secretary-treasurer was authorized to conduct a membership study of the proposal. The group decided not to establish a journal at this time, but to observe the fortunes of the Western journal for awhile. The amount of \$84.29 was reported to be in the bank.

From 1950 to 1956 the annual meetings continued to be held on college campuses. The University of Michigan was the site of the 8th annual program assembled by John E. Stoner. Because Stoner was from Indiana, the local arrangements were handled by Michigan's "John Lederle, chairman, and R. F. Cornell (deceased)." (Apparently, Lederle did most of the leg work.) A general session address was delivered by Walter Reuther of the United Automobile Workers of America, while panels were offered on "Problems of Democracy Under Occupation" and "Political Theory Today: How Does It Relate to Research?" At the business meeting, the members approved with little debate annual dues of \$1 and a meeting registration fee of \$0.25. The big issue was where to meet in 1952. Minnesota's bid to host the next meeting was approved by a 66 to 65 vote but a motion to reconsider was then approved. After several exhausting parliamentary delays, Minnesota was again selected (with 61 votes) when Ohio State and Bradley split the anti-Minnesota vote. (The major concern was that Minnesota could not furnish enough dormitory rooms for the political scientists' stay.)

When the Minneapolis meeting began on May 4, 1951, the executive council took up its first moral issue when considering proposals from universities to host the 1952 meeting. The council passed a motion "that in the future the Secretary-Treasurer ascertain whether hotels in the host city discriminate against Negroes." The conference, organized by Harvey Mansfield, featured seven panels and three general sessions, including an address by U.S. Senator Hubert H.

Humphrey. The business meeting saw the approval of the Thursday to Saturday format (still used today) for future meetings, despite the concern that professors at small institutions would not be able to attend because of the "inelasticity of the teaching schedule of those institutions." One-hundred fifty-six individuals attended the 1951 meeting and meals were served in the student union cafeteria.

Notre Dame was selected as the site of the 10th annual meeting in 1952. The program noted that guests stayed at the Morris Inn, meals were served in the university dining halls, and the university's golf course (adjoining Morris Inn) was available to those wishing to take advantage of the facilities. Royden Dangerfield of Illinois served as program committee chair and his committee of five organized seven panels, two general sessions, a guided tour of the Studebaker Corporation, and a Friday at 9:30 p.m. "Post-Morten Session" in which chartered buses took participants to the Rathskeller of Drewrys Ltd. Registrants numbered 181 at this meeting. The executive council, faced with the recent deaths of three members (Ford P. Hall, Indiana; Frederic Austin Ogg, Wisconsin; and past president John E. Briggs, Iowa), debated the Conference's policy on memorials:

Next the policy regarding memorials to deceased members was taken up. It was finally taken by consent that hereafter memorials will be read and approved by the Executive Council and reported to the business meeting as having been received and read.

Memorials were attached to the meeting's official records.

The council also approved a formal policy on roundtables: no formal papers, participation by many persons, and they "should be headed by persons who know how to manage them, particularly with reference to keeping discussion short and moving the meeting along."

Michigan State College hosted the 11th meeting in 1953 and a record 261 persons attended. Marshall M. Knappen of the University of Michigan chaired the program committee which presented 12 panels and roundtables. Instead of spending Friday evening at a Rathskeller, this

meeting offered five roundtables for Friday night entertainment. A chartered tour of Lansing's Oldsmobile factory continued an interest in manufacturing established during the previous year. The executive council asked members to turn in any copies of the 1942 Spring Mill Park conference "in as much as the supply of these programs has fallen to a dangerously low point," and it approved a policy "to remove names from the mailing list when persons failed to pay their dues for two consecutive years." A suggestion was also approved that "the next program emphasize substance rather than the procedure in political science."

Wisconsin's David Fellman assembled the 1954 meeting in Iowa City, which emphasized legislative reapportionment in the Midwest, the new conservatism in American political thought, and emerging political issues in the Midwest. The Conference, attended by 215, approved a statement on academic freedom and forwarded it to the American Political Science Association for possible action. It also debated (again) how to handle the recurring problem of deaths among members and how to memorialize each. A policy was approved requiring a single announcement of all deaths for that year. The Council authorized the secretary-treasurer to spend up to \$100 per year for a secretary.

The 13th annual meeting was held at Purdue University in 1955, organized by James W. Miller (Michigan State) and Jack Peltason (Illinois). Among the more interesting panels was one on Military-Strategic Aspects of Foreign Policy in which Hans Morgenthau (Chicago) presented the only paper and was then confronted by a panel of "Interrogators" and "Discussants." A footnote was added to the Midwest's history at this meeting. President Asher Christensen of Minnesota spent his presidential year on a Fulbright in Wales so Vice President Edward Buehrig presided over the meeting. The council decided that Buehrig's role warranted permanent recognition in the Conference's history, while Christensen's did not. Therefore, it awarded the following year's designation as Past President to Buehrig, not Christensen. Old lists of former officers

show Christensen's name in parentheses with no date of service as President. We rehabilitated Asher for the 1992 meeting and gave him and Buehrig designations as President in 1955.

The group moved to Milwaukee's Marquette University campus in 1956 for the 14th meeting organized by Al Hotz of Western Reserve University. The membership made an historic decision at this meeting:

That the Conference accept the offer of the Wayne State University Press for a 96-page quarterly Journal with annual dues increased to \$7.50 to include the subscription price of the Journal, and that the Executive Council be authorized to appoint the necessary Editor and assistants.

The decision to publish a journal was not overwhelmingly supported; it passed by a mere 10-vote margin at the annual business meeting. David Fellman, who had just completed a term as President, was named to be the first Editor of the *Midwest Journal of Political Science*. To oversee production at Wayne State, Charles Shull was appointed Managing Editor, while Ed Buehrig, Heinz Eulau, Louis Kesselman, Glendon Schubert, and Mulford Q. Sibley formed the editorial board.

The year 1957 is associated with two landmarks in MIDWEST history. Ralph Straetz (Miami University) assembled the first annual meeting to use a hotel site—the Abraham Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois. The program included panels on the 1956 elections, the communist strategy in Asia (which curiously had only one paper—on communists in India), and "Scientific Theory as a Goal of Graduate Training." The other important landmark was the publication of Volume 1, Number 1 of the *Midwest Journal of Political Science* in May that included six articles and 13 book reviews and notes.

American Political Science Association President V. O. Key addressed the 1958 gathering in Ann Arbor on the topic of "Emerging Problems of the Profession." His speech was apparently well-received as the executive council approved continuation of the practice of inviting the APSA president to the conference. This 16th meeting featured the first panel

on game theory in political theory, a reassessment of the council-manager plan, and two panels on rural-urban factionalism in Midwest political parties. In 1959 the Conference moved to Miami University of Ohio where for the first time each panel was integrated into one of several vistas: "The Local Scene," "The State Scene," "The National Scene," "The Comparative Scene," "The International Scene," and "The Professional Scene." This led the Conference to discuss the designation of a common theme for future meetings. At the 18th meeting at Indiana University in 1960, Merle Kling (Washington University) organized a special panel, "What Should Be the Nature and Content of Future Programs of the Conference?" This assembly also debated the merits of selecting a permanent site for future meetings. The results of a survey were reported which showed that a "western minority" favored Chicago as a permanent meeting place, while the "eastern majority" opposed this. The business meeting saw approval of a policy that continued the practice of rotation except that the executive council was given discretion to have "the Conference meet once every three years at the University of Chicago."

Vernon Van Dyke (Iowa), who would later become President, became the new editor of the *MJPS* in 1960. And unlike the peer-review process of which we are all familiar today, he received the following "advice" from the executive council following his first report on the *Journal*:

Considerable sentiment was expressed that the *Journal* should publish the paper of Herbert Muller ["Towards a Philosophy of Political Science"] (read to the general session the previous evening), if feasible.

(It was not published by the *MJPS*.)

Throughout the 1960s the Conference continued to meet on college campuses and the programs varied little from the pattern that had been established—usually 12 to 15 panels arranged from Thursday evening to Saturday morning. The Conference debated and largely rejected the possibility of a thematically-linked

program during the 1960 meeting:

Preponderant sentiment on the Council found the idea initially attractive, but very doubtful in perspective and on balance: program should grow out of individual research interests, which are diverse; a common theme would inevitably narrow the scope and appeal of the program, and probably cut attendance in some degree. The Council recommends that the whole program *not* be built around a common theme; but that we might experiment with some substantial number of sessions on one central focus, such as assessment of the contribution of the behavioral approach.

Each program did seem to add something new to the range of interests explored by the Conference participants. The 1961 University of Missouri-Columbia program offered the first set of interdisciplinary panels when anthropologists, journalists, and American studies specialists joined three panel sessions. Three-hundred and fifty individuals attended the meeting. The 20th annual meeting in 1962 at Notre Dame had, we believe, the first event for spouses—"Tea for Wives of Members of the Conference" at the Art Gallery. (The group also returned to the popular Rathskeller of ten years earlier for a Friday night post-mortem session.) Conference attendance exceeded 400 for the first time.

Phillip Monypenny (Illinois), who became editor of the *Journal* in 1963, commented on evolving editorial policies of the *Journal*, indicating his preference for genuinely analytical articles over simply descriptive or "current history" pieces. The 21st meeting was also a year in which the conference moved back to the University of Chicago campus and Mayor Richard J. Daley welcomed participants to the opening session. Charles O. Jones of the National Center for Education in Politics (whose reputation was only beginning to be established), convened the first special panel on "Research on Teaching in Political Science," a session at which participants debated the relative merits of large lecture sections vs. small honors groups for the beginning course in political science. The Conference began its first Placement Center during this meeting.

Prior to the 1964 meeting, secretary-treasurer Harry Davis informed the executive council of "growth in the Conference assets to near \$3000, and asked whether the Conference should not do something creative with such unaccustomed wealth." The council authorized study of a publication for students on "political science as a profession." (Nine months later the council passed a resolution urging the APSA to prepare such a brochure and continued to keep its "unaccustomed wealth" in the bank.)

The 22nd annual meeting at the University of Wisconsin offered a special program for graduate students and a one-hour tour of the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory. Membership in the Conference grew to 403 professionals, three students, and 396 non-member subscribers to the *Journal*. The growing membership and annual conference responsibilities began to tax the time of the secretary-treasurer, so in 1964 the council "encouraged [the secretary-treasurer] to employ an 'executive assistant' to do as much of his routine work as possible, with payment of up to \$400 annually authorized."

In 1965 the Indiana University meeting reflected the issues of the times in several panels, including order in urban areas, violence in domestic politics, and the politics of convention control, and it featured four special panels organized by graduate students. At least 362 professors and an unknown number of students attended the meeting. The Conference returned to the University of Chicago in 1966 for a program in which the number of advertising pages (17) exceeded the number of program pages (8) and Merle Kling (Washington University) began service as editor of the *Journal*. Chicago apparently was a good draw for students interested in the meeting as 475 professionals and 218 students attended. The following action was taken at the executive council meeting in anticipation of another milestone:

Councillor [Clara] Penniman urged that some sort of recognition be given the fact that the 1967 meeting will be the 25th in the history of the Conference. It was variously suggested that recognition be given at the general

session on Thursday night to the event, that the whole question of what to do be turned over to the Program Committee, that the names of any individuals to be honored be read at the luncheon, and that a special table be reserved for them.

Apparently, the excitement of the silver anniversary was lost on the council, as Stephen T. Early, Jr. noted in the minutes: "No formal action was taken, however."

The 25th annual meeting in 1967, held at the Purdue University student union, is best remembered for its approval of a new constitution for the group and the renaming of the Conference as the Midwest Political Science Association. A 25th anniversary committee was headed by Orville Alexander of Southern Illinois University and included three former presidents, Clarence Berdahl, James Pollock, and Harry Voltmer. President Vernon Van Dyke organized a lunch to honor founding members of the Conference, the group was seated at a "founders" table, and they were required to pay for their registration and lunch. Malcolm Jewell (Kentucky) assumed editorship of the *Journal* in 1967.

The Sheraton-Chicago became the first Chicago hotel to host the annual meeting of the newly renamed Midwest Political Science Association in 1968. Several panels reflected the social concerns of the times—conflict, riots, and violence. The first dutch treat cocktail party was held at this meeting by Indiana University, a tradition that now enters its 26th year!

The 27th annual meeting was the final one to be held on a university campus—the University of Michigan in 1969. This meeting saw the expansion of the number of panels to 20 and the creation of conference scholarships for needy graduate students. The association agreed to pay up to \$20 for the preparation and supplying of graduate students' papers if their school was too small or otherwise financially unable to fund these expenses.

With the 1970 meetings, hotels in large Midwestern cities became the locales for all future meetings of the association. The first panel on women in political science was presented at this meeting. Chicago's

Pick-Congress Hotel was the site of the 1971 meeting and became the de facto permanent meeting location for a decade. The program expanded to 27 panels and would continue to grow with the ever widening range of interests in the discipline and the hotel's ability to accommodate many more simultaneous panel presentations. Two special programs on women's studies were presented, including the first interdisciplinary panel on teaching and research in this area.

Sam Patterson (Iowa) became the new editor of the *Midwest Journal* in 1971 and the cover design was changed for the first time in 15 years.

Chuck Jones, who by now had begun associating himself with MPSA milestones, served as program chair for the 30th annual meeting in 1972. He expanded the number of panels and sessions to 31, increased official presentations to 190, and added the first index to participants on the program. A printer's error on the final program booklet was alleged to be the work of the behaviorists in the profession, a charge that Chuck Jones denied. The program read:

30th Annual Meeting,  
MIDWEST SCIENCE POLITICAL  
ASSOCIATION

The number of panels and participants continued to grow at the subsequent meetings in Chicago. The 46 panels in 1973 included a special panel "Publishing—Its Substantive Future." In recognition of the growing importance of the *Journal*, the association changed the name to the *American Journal of Political Science* in 1973.

The 1974 meeting promoted discussion of "Unconventional Education in Political Science," and included the first set of exhibits on computer aids to instruction in political science. John Kessel (Ohio State) assumed the editorial duties of the *Journal* in this year.

The first "Watergate" panel was presented at the 1975 meeting that also featured a panel on a "More Morally Responsible Political Science." The 34th annual meeting in 1976 included a new section devoted to "Innovation and Politics" and

Phillips Shively (Minnesota) was appointed editor of the *Journal*. And perhaps anticipating a sobering agenda, the executive council's 10 a.m. meeting was announced as follows:

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE OF THE MIDWEST  
POLITICAL SCIENCE  
ASSOCIATION,  
OPEN BAR AND LUNCH  
*Music Room*

The 35th annual meeting was not marked with any particular celebration other than a special cover on the program and a series of panels on "New Careers for Political Scientists."

The year 1978 saw the organization of a program that included a special panel on civil liberties that honored the work of MPSA past president David Fellman. But this year will forever be represented on the shelves of political scientists by the inauguration of the familiar green cover volumes of the *American Journal of Political Science*.

The battle over ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment was carried to the MPSA in 1979, when the executive council decided to discontinue meetings in Chicago after 1980 unless Illinois ratified the ERA. The 37th and 38th (1980) meetings were to be the final events for the association at the Pick Congress. The executive council used the 1980 meeting to establish the first award for best paper on women and politics, the Sophonsiba P. Breckenridge Prize, to be awarded for the first time in 1981. Herb Asher and Herb Weisberg became the first co-editors of the *Journal* in 1980.

Illinois' failure to ratify the ERA pushed the annual meeting for 1981 to Stouffer's Towers in Cincinnati. Although the meeting was not a financial success for the association, program chair Barbara Hinckley (Wisconsin) managed to fill 119 panels with nearly 700 official participants.

The 25th volume of the *Journal* was published with little or no fanfare in February, 1981. The articles appearing in issue number one certainly reflected the changes in the *Journal* and the discipline in 25 years (multivariate models and fuzzy sets

were not among volume one's articles in 1957).

The 40th annual meeting in 1982 headed north to Milwaukee and the Marc Plaza Hotel. This was the first meeting under the new reorganization that established the position of Executive Director of the MPSA, a post held by DePaul's Dick Farkas for a decade. Many will remember this meeting for its brewery tours, fine German restaurants, and the shooting by Milwaukee police of a burglary suspect across the street from the hotel. On a loftier note, Bob Erickson (Houston) was selected to become Journal editor beginning in 1983.

The year 1983 saw the Midwest return to Chicago (even though the state had failed to ratify the ERA) and begin its long-standing relationship with the historic Palmer House hotel. Many members welcomed the return to the Windy City, sentiments that were represented in the 1984 program cover with a variation on a Sinatra tune—"Chicago . . . MWPSA Kind of Town."

A mature, professional organization was an apt description of the Midwest Political Science Association from the 1970s to the present. The organization has been able to attract first-rate scholars to its meetings, which by the 1980s had made the MPSA meeting the second "national" meeting for political scientists. Top political scientists were eager to edit the Journal, as the association has been fortunate to have had John Aldrich and John Sullivan (Minnesota) co-edit the Journal during the middle of the decade, and David Rohde (Michigan State) to take the publication into the 1990s.

Marjorie Randon Hershey (Indiana) institutionalized a more professional approach to organizing the annual program when, in 1986, she published the first guide to the themes that section heads sought to incorporate into the program. At the 1987 meeting, Joel Grossman (Wisconsin) assembled the first panel of "trivialists" in political science—Nelson Polsby, Chuck Jones, Bob Salisbury, Barbara Farah, Graham Wilson, and Lucius Barker—who agonized over political minutiae for

the better part of a night. (This practice has continued—less formally—in Palmer House lounges ever since.)

The 1989 program incorporated the first formal theme of a Midwest meeting—"Looking to the Future." Organized by Alan Monroe (Illinois State) and Bill Crotty (Northwestern), the conference included formal presentations and discussions of the current state and future directions of political science. This successful program has evolved into a book series on the discipline, edited by Crotty and published by Northwestern University Press.

The 48th annual meeting added two new features to the program—a set of "Meet the Author" panels, and the formalization of a section on higher education politics (to increase the opportunities for our wayward administrative colleagues to get back on the program). The executive council also made two new appointments: Michael Lewis-Beck (Iowa) was named editor of the Journal and John Pelissero (Loyola Chicago) was picked to be the new executive director.

Paul Allen Beck (Ohio State) organized the 49th annual meeting's program around the concept of the "Interdisciplinary Foundations of Political Science," headlined by a plenary session panel featuring colleagues who had interdisciplinary research interests. A set of panels targeted to graduate students was also begun at this meeting. For the first time the MPSA videotaped a few panels and has sold these tapes to enhance services to members and to generate new revenues for the association. The new MIDWEST logo was unveiled at this meeting, incorporating the blue and gray colors that we are told the executive council informally designated as association colors some time ago. The *AJPS* now uses these colors, after more than a decade of forest green.

We have sponsored 50 annual meetings. The 1992 meeting had a record number of participants (1,420) who listened to nearly 1,000 presentations on 170 panels. We were honored to have 27 of our past presidents with us to receive a modest

amount of recognition for their contributions to the discipline and our organization.

The executive council approved the establishment of an Endowment Fund to see the association continue for at least another 50 years. (Donations can be mailed to the MPSA office.)

We thank all who have participated in our meetings over the past 50 years. We hope you'll continue coming to this meeting in years ahead and be with us to celebrate the 75th jubilee in 2017!

A final note. . . . We are indebted to the fine individuals who, through 50+ years, served as Secretary-Treasurer or Program Chair and kept such careful, interesting, and ever curious records of this association's events. We assume responsibility for any inaccurate or misleading characterizations of the events since 1939 and for any errors in citing years (above) associated with so many fine political scientists who served our association. We hope that the records that we are keeping can be used—with accuracy and humor—in a similar program of celebration in about 50 years. [If you would like a copy of our commemorative booklet on the history of the association, complete with reproductions of a sample of programs and Journal contents and 28 glossy photographs, please send a check for \$3 (which will go to the endowment) to Midwest Political Science Association, 6525 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, IL 60626.]