

is finding teaching experience for their graduate students and positions for their new Ph.D.s. The two problems could hardly be more complementary. For relatively little money, young American scholars could be acting as visiting lecturers throughout the region. In a few instances they already are. A number have come through projects such as the Peace Corps or Fulbright, though these programs were not really designed for this purpose. The Civic Education Project has had substantial success in placing American Ph.D.s, despite limited resources and other problems.

Relatively few direct bilateral exchanges have been arranged between eastern and western universities, though this is perhaps the greatest untapped potential. Those I have seen have been largely successful. This year our department is hosting a visiting graduate student from Miami University teaching international relations and a young scholar from Michigan State University teaching U.S. and European politics. In some instances the host school provides accommodation, while the lecturer's home school provides airfare and salary. Even where outside supplemental funds are not available, home universities find that they can keep a scholar abroad for a year cheaper than at home. If necessary, a graduate student with accommodation can usually live on a local salary for the nine-month academic year without serious hardship. A further benefit all around is that the visitor can also act as a kind of "advance man" for more extensive forms of cooperation

such as exchanges on the senior level or undergraduate study-abroad programs.

This leads to another very tangible benefit. Many American schools have found that they can send their students on junior-year-abroad programs in East-Central Europe for a fraction of what they would pay in Western Europe. Many of these schools are in attractive, historic settings and have rich cultures within the Western tradition. By the same token, they can also provide interesting (and generally more relaxed) settings for senior scholars on sabbatical or semi-retirement.

It would be wrong to assume that such arrangements are without problems. As one who has worked in the region for years, I have seen difficulties when different cultures come into contact. This is especially acute when one of the cultures has been through the devastating experience of forty years of communism.

Yet even here the frictions usually reflect some deeper underlying dysfunction, which the presence of foreigners can help rectify. This means that working to solve the specific logistical problem also means attacking some fundamental problem in the society or the educational system. For example, when a foreign lecturer cannot get a classroom or enough books or access to a computer, it probably means others are experiencing the same difficulty. Others may not complain about it, since they are used to it. The students too may feel the need, and they may be more ready than their instructors to do something about it.

In this respect a foreign lecturer may serve as a catalyst for mobilizing action for reform. A more serious example occurred earlier this year in our faculty when a lecturing post was about to be offered to a member of the former communist government with connections to the secret police. An alliance of foreign and younger Czech lecturers objected and effectively blocked the appointment. Neither group would have prevailed without the other. In this way, overcoming problems cements bonds, building trust and goodwill between cultures.

There is a real crisis in the educational systems of East-Central Europe, at least as acute as during the initial changes of 1989. The initial interest of foundations and charitable donors is now subsiding, and unilateral assistance is harder to get. This means there is increasing need for bilateral agreements which can help put institutions here on their own feet. At a time when western universities are themselves in a less-than-healthy state and face many uncertainties, the universities of this region have much to offer them in return. American and other western universities have an increasingly important role to play. If they are to thrive in their own land a wise strategy might well be to spread the benefits of their achievement as widely as possible.

Editor's Note: A list of civic education organizations working toward educational reform can be found on the APSA web site at www.apsanet.org/civics.

International Political Science Association News

Members of IPSA and members of national political science associations affiliated to IPSA are invited to participate in IPSA's Seventeenth World Congress, which will be held in Seoul, Korea, August 17–21, 1997.

The main part of the Congress program, sessions on the central theme of "Conflict and Order", has been drawn up by the program chair and the program committee on the

basis of invitations to individual convenors. In addition, panels have been offered by convenors of IPSA's research committees and study groups, and special sessions on particular topics have been organized on the basis of responses to earlier advertisements in the IPSA bulletin, *Participation*, and in the newsletters of national political science associations affiliated to IPSA and of

IPSA's research committees and study groups. The program is completed by a set of sessions assessing the state of the discipline and a set of regional panels. Full information on the program is contained in a special issue of *Participation*, which has been circulated to all IPSA members.

Although the outlines of the program have been finalized, members

of IPSA and of its affiliated national associations are invited to participate in the Congress by acting as chairs, papers givers or discussants. Even if the official deadlines have expired, session chairs may still require active participants. Please contact them directly as early as possible. Of course, a large number of participants will profit from simply attending the sessions in Seoul without necessarily being listed in the Congress program.

Further information on the Congress is available from a number of sources. Inquiries about the program itself should be directed to the program chair. Inquiries about local arrangements in Korea should be directed to the local organizers in Seoul. General information on the congress and on IPSA membership (which entitles one to full informa-

tion on all aspects for the program and to a greatly reduced registration fee) is available from the IPSA Secretariat. Each of these can be contacted by mail, telephone, fax and e-mail, and each maintains a page on the world wide web through which further information is available. Their coordinates are as follows:

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European Journal of Political Research Special Anniversary Issue

In order to mark not only the 25th anniversary of the ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, but also the 25th year of the *European Journal of Political Research*, and coinciding with the Bern Joint Sessions, a special anniversary issue of the *EJPR* was published in February 1997. For this special issue, Numbers 1–2 of Volume 31 (the journal switched to two volumes per year in 1991), editors Michael Laver and Peter Mair were joined as guest co-editor by Arend Lijphart, the original founding editor of the *EJPR*.

This special anniversary issue is divided into three parts, beginning with a series of reflective articles which include Lijphart's own considerations on the first 25 years of the journal, and in which he discusses some of the strengths and weaknesses of the political science profession on both sides of the Atlantic; a bibliometric analysis by Pippa Norris of the publication cultures in the U.S. and Europe; a thought-provoking assessment by Nadia Bovey on the future of political science publishing in a new electronic and etherized era, and the text of Kaare Strom's 1996 Stein Rokkan Lecture.

The second part of the special issue is made up of a series of commissioned pieces which look back over some of the more memorable articles which have been published in the journal over the years. For this, the members of the editorial board, as well as the editors themselves, were asked to look back through the journal archive and to nominate a particular article which they felt had made a special contribution to political science. The nominators were then asked to write a short piece setting out why they had chosen each of these articles, and each of the authors of the nominated pieces was asked to write a short retrospective reflection on their original contribution, and on the lessons that have been learned in the meantime. Both of these sets of nominations and reflections make for very interesting reading, not only in terms of what the nominators believe to have been of importance in the last 25 years of the journal, but also in terms of how the original authors conceived of their articles, and how in retrospect they now evaluate their own work.

The third part of the special issue

offers a cumulative index of the contributions to the journal from Volume 1, Number 1, published in April 1973, and which was led off by Luigi Graziano on "Patron-Client Relationships in Southern Italy," to Volume 30, Numbers 3–4, published in December 1996, and which was devoted to what is now the fixture of *The Political Data Yearbook* (edited by Dick Katz and Ruud Koole). This index was prepared by the publishers at Kluwer, and offers an invaluable source for future reference.

This special issue is both innovative and interesting, and offers a useful and enjoyable commemoration of 25 years of both the ECPR and the *EJPR*.

The contributors to Volume 31, Numbers 1–2 are Dag Anckar; Nadia S. Bovey; Francis G. Castles; Maurice Duverger; Tom Garvin; Richard S. Katz; Hans Keman; Michael Laver; Arend Lijphart; Robert D. McKinlay; Peter Mair; Wolfgang S. Müller; Pippa Norris; Gianfranco Pasquino; Mogens N. Pedersen; Hans Rattinger; Karlheinz Reif; Geoffrey K. Roberts; Manfred G. Schmidt; Norman Schofield; Gunnar Sjöblom; and Kaare Strom.