

lie outside of the core of the mission of the National Archives.

In addition to recognized experience, Governor Carlin also brings the standing that a successful state-wide officeholder develops through repeatedly facing the electorate. His reputation is an asset that he is likely to protect, not squander. Such standing is invaluable in dealings with other institutions and their personnel. As the Archivist of the United States, the appointee needs standing to deal effectively with people in the executive and legislative branches. A peer is better able to say to a President that a particular action with government records would be unwise. In addition, an official who has had to face an electorate can have a sense of the boundaries of decision-making. A person who is a professionally trained specialist, may wander into difficulties that a person who has faced an electorate would recognize as a problem. The recent problems at the Air and Space Museum concerning the proposed Enola Gay exhibition provide an illustration of the shoals that a specialist can wander onto and the damage that can result. As the year began, 81 House members signed a petition calling for the ouster of the director.<sup>9</sup>

A former elected official who has gone through the process of opening his own records, Governor Carlin is aware of the issues involved in making such records available. Having made his own gubernatorial records available, Governor Carlin has a demonstrated record of carrying out an open information policy with government records. "Before Governor Carlin's day, governors owned their papers and disposed of them as they saw fit" observed a person familiar with the gubernatorial records process in Kansas. "Most sanitized them and then decided what was left to the State Archives with very strong reservations on their use. One former governor simply burned his records. In fact, before Governor Carlin came into office, a governor's records were a lot like the worst nightmare of the Presidential Records Act: the chief executive completely controlling and manipulating the record. Governor Carlin changed that by

creating a tradition of openness and access."<sup>10</sup>

Governor Carlin's bipartisan support from members of Congress indicates that he has the base to administer the National Archives in a nonpartisan manner without regard to the considerations of a political party. In his eight years as the governor of Kansas, he operated in a political setting that required the development of bipartisan coalitions to govern. While a Democrat, he was able to successfully deal with a Republican legislature. Robert Harder, Secretary of Social and Rehabilitation Services, noted Carlin's gifts in dealing with the legislature. "He certainly knows how to plot a legislative strategy," he said. "He knows how to count. During his eight years, not a single veto was overridden by the legislature, which demonstrated that he understood just how much support he could get."<sup>11</sup> As Archivist, his expressed intention is to serve in a nonpartisan manner. "I intend to be literally nonpolitical in terms of partisan politics," said Governor Carlin in our interview with him. "I am leaving partisan politics. I am going into a position where I serve several branches and both political parties. And the only way to do that is to be a true, legitimate, independent person. I intend to treat this like a judgeship. To be nonpartisan; to do what is right and serve all branches of government." Carlin's words should serve as the standard that he is held to by the Congress and by those interested in the operations of the Archives.

The National Archives serves as our national memory yet it has been the object of neglect by those it serves. In its ten years as an independent executive agency, it has had an Archivist for barely half of those years. Assuming that those leaderless years were dissipated in searches for an ideal candidate, no one has emerged who satisfies all of those involved in the process. It is now time to move on and fill that position with a professional who has the background to manage an independent executive agency and who has the support of officeholders from both sides of the aisle.

Governor John Carlin is such a person.

## Notes

1. Council of State Governments, *Book of the States, 1990-91* (Lexington, Ky.: The Council of State Governments, 1990), vol. 28, p. 292.
2. *Ibid.*, p. 358.
3. National Archives and Records Administration, *Annual Report, 1993*, The National Archives at Sixty, pp. 42-43.
4. Report by the Committee on Governmental Affairs, United States Senate, *Serious Management Problems at the National Archives and Records Administration* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1992), p. 37.
5. *Ibid.*
6. Interview with John Carlin, Terry Sullivan and Martha Joynt Kumar, May 3rd, 1995.
7. Telephone interview with Robert Harder, Martha Joynt Kumar, May 16, 1995.
8. See John Herbers, "Study Says States Seize Initiative on World Trade," *The New York Times*, August 5, 1985.
9. John Healey, "Government and Commerce," *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*, January 28, 1995, volume 53, no. 4, p. 274.
10. Background interview, Terry Sullivan, May 19th, 1995.
11. Harder interview.

## An Exchange of Letters

To: Larry Berman, President,  
Presidency Research Group

I was astonished and appalled to read that Martha Kumar testified *on behalf of the Presidency Research Group* in support of the Carlin nomination.

In your most recent newsletter you produced a fine statement about the need for a qualified Archivist of the United States. It seems that you then proceeded to toss it into the nearest wastebasket in order to support an out-of-work friend of Bill and Bob who possesses none of the qualifications your statement calls for.

The nomination certainly violates the spirit of the law and perhaps its letter. The PRG support of it, especially coming after your declaration on the post, makes the group look ridiculous.

I am sorry that I recently renewed my membership in the PRG.

I will not do so when I pay my APSA dues next spring.

Alonzo L. Hamby  
Professor of History  
Ohio University

#### To Alonzo L. Hamby

Larry Berman forwarded to me your letter expressing alarm over the appointment of Governor John Carlin to be Archivist of the United States. In addition, you conveyed astonishment that the Presidency Research Group testified in his behalf before the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. Indeed the Presidency Research Group found Governor Carlin to have a background suitable to be the Archivist. We did so on the basis of an inclusive decision-making process, the development of statements formulating the priorities of the group, and a process of weighing information on the governor's background and his stated positions with the current needs of the National Archives and Records Administration. Let me review with you the process by which we reached our conclusion and the information on which we based our decision.

Beginning in February, the officers, board members, and general members of the Presidency Research Group joined together in an on-line cross-country conversation. From that discussion we forged a series of resolutions expressing our interest in having as the Archivist an individual with the following qualifications: management experience; the standing required to provide the individual with independence; and a background demonstrating a commitment to an open records policy. Our management resolution provided: "The nominee should have experience managing a large government executive." We regarded management experience as an important qualifier for the post because the National Archives and Records Administration is an agency with a 1996 budget request of \$195,291,000 and approximately 3,000 employees housed within its walls.

A person with little management

experience has slight chance of succeeding in that post. Don W. Wilson, the nominee of the archival and historical communities, came into the position of Archivist of the United States with scant management experience. As the head of the Gerald R. Ford Library, he handled a budget of only \$1.596 million and a staff of less than 50 people. Since we regarded the Wilson experience as one to avoid, we were particularly sensitive to his lack of management qualifications. Our concern, it turns out, was shared by the members of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs. During Don Wilson's tenure at the National Archives, the Senate oversight committee was so concerned over the poor management operation at the National Archives that it conducted an inquiry and released a report on the matter. In its report, "Serious Management Problems at the National Archives and Records Administration," the committee commented that it "found that the management of the National Archives and Records Administration has, during the years 1989-1992, reflected a pattern of expedience and control which has been regularly substituted for sound management." The committee report placed responsibility for the management problems with Don Wilson. "Archivist Wilson bears primary responsibility for the myriad of expedient and short sighted actions raising questions of compliance with laws, regulations, and standards of conduct detailed in the report." The Senate report characterized the leadership during the Wilson years as deficient. The other years in the ten year history of the Archives were without a leader. There has been no Archivist of the United States during half of the agency's life as an independent executive service. Accordingly, we concluded that the Archivist first and foremost needed to have a record of successful management experience.

Our standards also called for the appointment of someone with "experience dealing directly with both legislators and chief executives since these officials set policy for government records." We required

such experience because of the difficult position of an Archivist. He must be a person with standing in order to effectively deal with the President and with members of Congress. Again the case of Don Wilson is an object lesson. The agreement he signed with president George Bush, we believe, is a covenant that should never have been arranged. As a person with no political experience behind him and in awe of the President he served, Don Wilson willingly signed an agreement he knew nothing about prior to affixing his signature. The *Washington Post* stated that "Wilson said he never saw the Bush agreement until the night of Jan. 19, was unfamiliar with its terms 'and signed it only upon advice of counsel,' Archives general counsel Gary L. Brooks." Wilson said that those who criticized his making the agreement did not understand "the political environment in which I was operating." According to the *Washington Post*, Wilson told Page Miller, director of the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, that he had been called "to the White House late at night," with "all these lawyers from the Justice Department and the White House there," saying to Wilson that everything in the papers "was legal and proper." It is hard to refuse a presidential request when you are called down to the White House. Consequently, it is particularly important to have someone in that position who has sufficient standing to challenge a President.

A third area of concern for us was selecting for the post of Archivist someone with experience in records management. Our resolution provided: "The nominee should have experience promoting the proper treatment of government records, including their storage, preservation, dissemination, and public access." We were concerned that the nominee have a record of having worked on behalf of an open records policy. While it is easy for a person to state that he or she will work on the behalf of opening records, what has that person actually done in the course of his or her work experience to pro-

mote such a policy? That was the question we sought to answer.

Once we developed our resolutions, we moved on to the task of applying them. We did not envision our role as one seeking out persons whom we thought should fill the post and then informing the White House who the nominee should be. The President of the United States nominates a person to be Archivist of the United States, not the Presidency Research Group. Our role was to consider the person President Clinton selected and determine if that person's background was one suitable to manage the National Archives. While he was yet to be nominated, the candidate the White House had settled on was Governor John W. Carlin. In order to properly apply our resolutions to a consideration of the President's nominee, Terry Sullivan, Secretary of the Presidency Research Group, and I spent a month gathering information reflecting Governor Carlin's conduct in his 16 years of elected political life. We talked with persons who had worked with Governor Carlin in his role as an administrator, in his post as the chairman of the National Governors Association, and as a person who controlled his gubernatorial records. We read articles appearing in the *New York Times* and in the *Washington Post* describing his gubernatorial years and his work as chairman of the National Governors Association. We searched through library shelves looking for entries on Carlin's administration appearing in works on state government and on governorships. We read articles written about him and by him, including "The Governor as Administrator, Leader, and Communicator." We spoke with people who currently work in the National Archives and with persons who worked there in an earlier time period.

In addition, I went to Washington to speak with Senator Mark Hatfield, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. In his 28 years in Washington, Senator Hatfield has especially cherished the Archives as an agency. I was aware that he was a sponsor of Governor Carlin. I asked him to

comment on his perception of the state of the National Archives and to assess Governor Carlin's fitness for that post. He strongly supported John Carlin and provided good reasons for doing so. Having gathered information about the current state of the National Archives and on Governor Carlin's background, we then moved to gather information from the nominee himself. Terry Sullivan and I interviewed Governor Carlin over a two hour period and found him to be both responsive and informed.

With our information assembled, Terry Sullivan and I recommended to the board members of the Presidency Research Group that we find Governor Carlin's background to be a suitable one to manage the National Archives. We did so because we found him to have strong management experience, the standing that derives from successfully holding statewide elected office, and a history of an open records policy. During his years in public office, John Carlin regularly dealt with budgets and a work force of considerable size. In his last year in office, for example, Governor Carlin had a budget with expenditures of \$3.629 billion and revenues of \$4.112 billion. He was in charge of 42,857 full time employees, or 54,093 employees if you include the part-time people. As an elected official at the state level, he is a person with standing. Who better than a peer to say to a President that an action would not be in anyone's interest. No one with the standing of a governor would have acceded to the request of the Bush White House to sign the kind of agreement that Don Wilson did. When Eliot Richardson was Attorney General he held the line against a determined President and White House staff. During his years as the lieutenant governor and as the attorney general of Massachusetts, Richardson built a reputation for rectitude and strongly protected it when challenged by the Nixon White House. Those elected at the state level with successful careers in office have a reputation to protect. It is not something they are likely to squander on a bad presidential deal.

To intimate as you do that because Governor Carlin has served in public life he is not fit to be Archivist is to cast calumny on the notion of public service. Persons who rise to positions of authority in politics spend their lives weighing conflicting interest and values and, unless they perform this function well, their political life is not a long one. Those who do this key task well command the trust of the people to whom they are ultimately responsible and are rewarded by a continuation in office. Governor Carlin served the two full terms a Kansas governor is allowed. During his eight years in office, John Carlin successfully worked with a Republican legislature. His veto record provides a measure of his success. He vetoed 127 measures, none of which was overridden by the legislature. His ability to weigh the interests of persons from both political parties is a strength an Archivist needs. After all, the current political environment in Washington is one where the Archivist will need to work with a Democratic President and a Republican Congress. In reviewing the nominee's work with government records, we found Governor Carlin to be qualified for the post. The real test for a person on the issue of open records is what that person has done in the past. Once he left office, Governor Carlin had a wide range of options for handling his gubernatorial papers. One of the previous occupants had burned his, while others had gone through what they had removing material at will and then releasing the remainder with bountiful restrictions placed on their use. Governor Carlin made public the full range of his papers and did so within a year.

You may not like our decision, but "ridiculous" it is not. We carefully thought through the needs of the Archives, systematically gathered information in several areas, and weighed the information against what we knew of the nominee and of the requirements for the position. For Terry Sullivan and me, the process took three months of consistent work. For our board members and for others who joined our on-line conversation, it also



took time and energy. We all willingly gave our attention to the issues surrounding the Archives because the National Archives serves as our nation's memory. And we find that in recent years it has been the object of neglect by those it especially serves. As we said in our testimony before the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs:

"In its ten years as an independent executive agency, it has had an Archivist for barely half of those years. Assuming that those leaderless years were dissipated in searches for an ideal candidate, no one has emerged who satisfies all of those involved in the process. It is now time to move on and fill that position with a professional, who has the background to manage an independent agency and who has the support of officeholders from both sides of the aisle." Governor Carlin's nomination was unanimously approved both by the members of the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs and by the members of the United States Senate.

As scholars, we believe the hallmark of the academic community is the recognition that many points of view are acknowledged and accepted. Scholarly groups have contributions to make, even if the judgements they render are not similar to one another. Why should groups be expected to replicate the decision-making process and the pronouncements of others? We are simply one voice among many and one that acted in good conscience. While I appreciate your point of view, I find it difficult to understand how a person could entertain and act upon such feelings of deep duddgeon without having first inquired what was said and how we arrived at our decisions. As officers of the Presidency Research Group, we worked hard to gather relevant information for those we serve. I am a member of the American Historical Association and plan on retaining that membership. I will remain a member even though I do not agree with that organization's characterization of John Carlin nor with its failure to interview the governor and to inquire into his past record. While I am disap-

pointed that you have so roundly condemned us, I regret neither our decisions nor the process we used to arrive at our conclusions.

Martha Joynt Kumar  
Vice-President, PRG

### Response to Martha Kumar

As a historian who is a member of the APSA and a number of its sections, I was heartened last spring to learn that the Presidency Research Group (PRG) had taken an interest in the selection of a new Archivist of the United States. The PRG's statement of qualifications for the positions struck me on the whole as solid and constructive. I was, to put it mildly, amazed by the PRG's subsequent decision to testify before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee in support of the Clinton administration's nomination of former Governor John Carlin of Kansas. The PRG was one of only two professional groups to support Governor Carlin. (The other was the National Association of Government Records Administrators.) Arrayed against his nomination was a coalition of 16 scholarly associations, including the American Council of Learned Societies, the Society of American Archivists, the American Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians. (The APSA took no position on the nomination.)

Governor Carlin, a longtime friend of President Clinton and also well-regarded by his fellow Kansan Senate Republican leader Robert Dole, was of course quickly confirmed. Given the bipartisan character of the nominee's sponsorship and given the unhappy fact that the National Archives had lingered for more than two years without permanent leadership, the confirmation was probably as close to inevitable as such things can be. Still the PRG lent the Carlin designation significant legitimacy. My own correspondence with incoming PRG president Martha Kumar and my attendance at the PRG's business meeting at the Chicago convention has left me with no doubt that the PRG leadership remains convinced

that it understood the merits of this appointment far better than all those unaware scholars and archivists who were on the other side. The PRG sponsored with pride a reception (paid for by section dues? the National Archives? a friendly philanthropist?) at which the new Archivist was guest of honor. President Kumar conducted the business meeting with the objective of informing those who attended that its officers had acted as they did; comments from the floor were not requested. One individual had planned to offer a resolution to require a canvass of the entire membership in future such instances. Time expired before the chair got around to asking the floor for new business. Clearly the PRG officers feel that they have scored a coup.

Although most political scientists do little work with archival sources, a substantial and (one senses) growing number do. Scholars of the presidency, whether historians or political scientists, make heavy use of the presidential library system, a division of the National Archives. Many students of international relations use both presidential libraries and the State Department documents at the Archives. Writers on American politics, whether interested in the historical development and analysis of institutions or political parties or in contemporary political processes, often use sources organized and maintained by the National Archives. Political scientists, perhaps especially analysts of the presidency, have a significant interest in the leadership of the National Archives. I remain unconvinced that the PRG has served that interest wisely.

First, there is the quite real issue of whether Governor Carlin knows much about the post to which he was appointed and just how long it will take him to learn about it. The law clearly states that the Archivist must possess professional qualifications for the position. Governor Carlin holds a B.S. in dairy husbandry from Kansas State; his archival experience and training are invisible to the naked eye. Granted that the language of the law is vague enough that his tenure prob-

ably could withstand a legal challenge, his appointment clearly violates the spirit of the statute. And there is a reason for that language. As Kumar points out in her response to me, the National Archives is a large institution with diverse missions. Above all, it is a primary repository of the nation's historical memory. It seems reasonable to many of us that the Archivist, whatever that person's other merits, should come to his post with considerable experience in the field he is called upon to lead, a precise sense of the functions of the National Archives, and a program of action to meet both urgent present-day problems and future challenges.

Karen Benedict, a prominent archival consultant who happens also to be the spouse of a noted historian with considerable archival research experience, was one of three representatives of the Society of American Archivists who interviewed Governor Carlin after he became a candidate for the job. Writing to the *New York Times* [May 12, 1995], which already had editorially opposed the nomination, she described a charming, ill-informed man with little understanding of the job to which he aspired and no appreciation of its traditional independence from direct executive control. Governor Carlin, I have been told, is a fast learner. Let us hope so. It is true that by the time of his perfunctory confirmation hearings in late May, he insisted with a straight face that he could say "no" to his old friend the President on potentially important disputes involving the distinction between publicly-owned presidential papers and Mr. Clinton's personal documents. And who can doubt that he would do the same with a President Robert Dole, his other major sponsor? Only the most jaded cynic?

Such questions are far from hypothetical. The Presidential Papers Act requires the Archivist to make these critical distinctions. Former Archivist Don Wilson incurred a firestorm of criticism when he signed an agreement with President George Bush exempting many electronically stored records from the

law—and then resigned as Archivist to become director of the Bush Library. The agreement has since been overturned in a federal district court, the decision of which has been appealed by the Clinton administration. To the best of my knowledge, Carlin has not progressed beyond exceedingly fuzzy generalizations on the electronic records issue, although it will have increasing relevance—"urgency" is not too strong a word—throughout the federal government. It is perhaps the most pressing example of the sort of archival decision-making for which he seems quite unprepared, as well as severely handicapped by his lack of an independent claim to his position.

In her communication with me, Professor Kumar's arguments in Carlin's favor seem to come down to the following propositions:

- (1) He is not Don Wilson. True enough, and who would argue otherwise? What Kumar chooses to ignore, however, is that he is widely believed to be Don Wilson's choice as a successor, a point that was brought out in the brief testimony allowed at the confirmation hearings.
- (2) He is an excellent manager. Well, perhaps he is—but of everything and anything? By Kumar's reasoning, any governor of a small state who has evaded impeachment or major scandal can manage anything. One wonders why Governor Carlin was not put up for surgeon-general? Was it a belief that maybe just this one post required some professional credentials? If the administration wanted to give Governor Carlin larger managerial responsibilities, it is a shame that another out-of-work Kansan had already been appointed Secretary of Agriculture, a post he might have filled very capably. As it is, at least Warren Christopher is relieved of the need to look apprehensively over his shoulder.

Need one add that it is hyperbole to claim, as Kumar has, that to doubt Governor Carlin's qualifications for this professional position "is to cast calumny on the notion

of public service?" The argument is not about the new Archivist's former public service, which has many admirers; rather it is about whether he is fit for this particular job.

No one can deny the existence of major managerial problems at the National Archives. They are overwhelming enough to mandate an appointment from the outside rather than promotion from within. But how will Mr. Carlin—lacking experience in the field, innocent of much knowledge of the Archives and its constituencies—go about dealing with these? If his remarks to Karen Benedict's group are indicative, he intends to play the role of Mr. Outside, dealing with Congress and the President. Initial indications are that he has been pretty successful in defending the National Archives' funding. Mr. Inside presumably will be the new Deputy Archivist, Lewis Bellardo, a well-regarded career federal archivist. Will he have the ability and authority to act as a strong hands-on manager? And can even a first-rate insider do the sort of job that seemed to demand an outside appointee?

Other professional associations bear some blame for this result. In retrospect, too many of the candidates they advanced were notable scholars with a keen knowledge of the issue but less impressive managerial credentials, although one was the president of a major college and another the head of an important scholarly organization. It is best all around if the Archivist of the United States is an archivist with a strong managerial track record and demonstrated sensitivity to the concerns of scholars. Contrary to the apparent assumption of the PRG leadership, such persons exist and are capable of dealing with the issues that confront the National Archives. In fact, solid professional experience is essential for doing so.

For now, Mr. Carlin is the only Archivist we have. His post is of great importance to all social scientists, and we must all hope he handles it well. May we also hope that when he leaves it, it will revert to its former status as a position to be



filled by an individual with professional qualifications?

Alonzo L. Hamby  
Ohio University

### Response to Alonzo Hamby

While I believe it is not particularly fruitful to revisit the issues considered in our earlier correspondence, I do challenge Hamby's assertion that the Presidency Research Group acted improperly and in an ill-informed manner. We did neither. In fact, it was not the officers who made the decisions on the nomination, but rather the board members as a whole. The board is specifically empowered by our by-laws to make such decisions outside of our general annual meeting. The vote in favor of finding Governor Carlin's background to be a suitable one to manage the Archives was an overwhelming 13 to 1.

As political scientists, we are indeed interested in archival materials and in record-keeping policies. Following decisions concerning records as we do, I was particularly surprised by Professor Hamby's assertion that "Carlin has not progressed beyond exceedingly fuzzy generalizations on the electronic records issue." In fact Archivist Carlin has issued regulations concerned with the retention of electronic mail. The electronic records regulations published in the Federal Register on August 28th call for similar standards to be used in the retention of electronic records as paper ones. "Supporters of broader public access to government records praised the effort," noted the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. While there were those who wanted all records to be retained electronically, many agencies do not have the software to accomplish the task nor the money to acquire it. "We are in a transition period," noted Margaret L. Hedstrom, who is on the board of the Society of American Archivists. "What is important to me, as an archivist, is that the integrity of the record is kept." The Archives is working together with other agencies to develop requirements for

electronic recordkeeping systems. Archivist Carlin said the aim is to have agencies and the computer industry develop systems that "ensure that the content, context, and structure of electronic records are preserved." Until such time as electronic systems can be created to accomplish the preservation goals, paper records will satisfy the need.

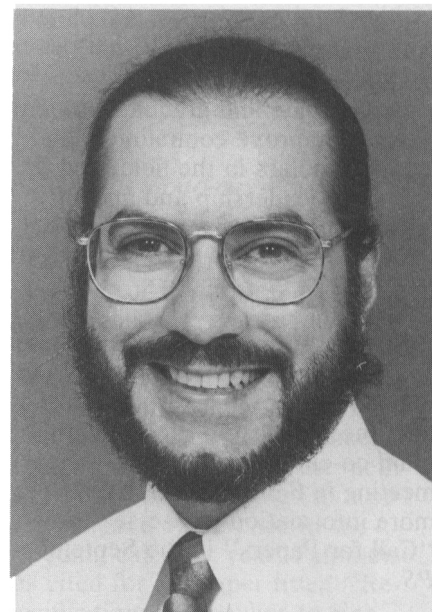
Martha Joynt Kumar  
Vice-President, PRG

### New Section on Race, Ethnicity and Politics Launched in Chicago

Nearly one hundred members and supporters were in attendance as APSA Vice President and University of New Mexico Professor F. Chris Garcia presided over the very first business meeting of the Association's newest organized section, "Race, Ethnicity and Politics," on Friday, September 1, during the Chicago Annual Meeting.

Garcia introduced Anthony DeSales Affigne, Providence College, and Toni-Michelle Travis, George Mason, the section's organizing co-chairs. More than anyone else, he said, Affigne and Travis were the "leaders and organizers whose vision, energy and commitment have made this section possible."

Travis, a member of the APSA



Anthony Affigne

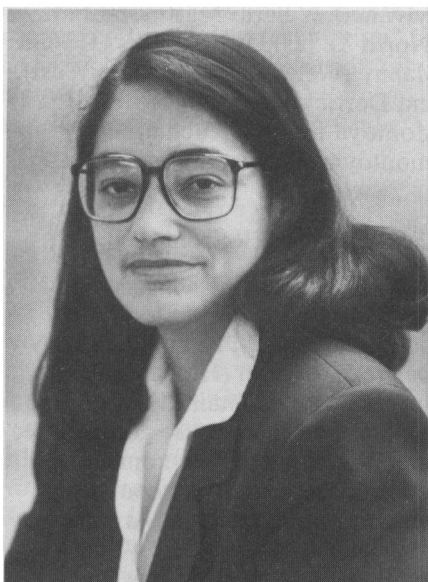
Council, reported that nearly 300 scholars from the disciplines of political science, sociology, history, ethnic studies, and law had pledged to join the section, even before its formal recognition at the April 8 council meeting. The organizing drive to gain approval for the section, she reported, began at the end of January and was completed just two months later.

Affigne called the section's formation a historic moment for the Association, and he described a changing world of politics and scholarship in which people of color and the politics of their communities are increasingly prominent.

"As a subfield within the discipline," Affigne said, "we will explore the limits of conventional and alternative theoretical frameworks, to move our subject away from the margins of political science, locating the realities of racial and ethnic politics where they truly belong, at the very center of political analysis."

"After today," he said, "the discipline of political science will never be the same again."

The new section's focus is primarily—but not exclusively—the politics of Native, African, Latino, and Asian American communities in the United States, and in other countries of the Western Hemisphere. The section's purposes are to foster the development of race-



Toni-Michelle Travis

conscious theoretical models, facilitate research and publication opportunities, encourage undergraduate and graduate student interest, improve communication among scholars in the field, and recognize leadership and accomplishment by scholars and activists.

#### Plans For 1996 Meeting

Franke Wilmer of Montana State and William E. Nelson, Jr. of Ohio State were introduced to the business meeting as the section's program co-chairs for the 1996 annual meeting in San Francisco. For more information please see the "Call for Papers" in the September PS.

#### Elections and Appointments

Affigne and Travis were elected by acclamation to serve as the section's first co-chairs; Joseph P. McCormick II, Howard University, was elected secretary; and Sumi Cho, DePaul College of Law, was elected Treasurer. Five standing committees were approved and their members appointed.

#### Committee for Theoretical and Professional Development

A Committee for Theoretical and Professional Development (F. Chris Garcia, chair), will plan activities to foster theoretical discourse, and will consider ways to protect the professional standing of scholars in the field. Other members appointed to this committee include A'Lelia Henry (Hobart & William Smith), Ronald Schmidt, Sr. (California State-Long Beach), Wilbur Rich (Wellesley), Michael Preston (USC), Cathy Cohen (Yale), Frances Fox Piven (CUNY), Frank Gilliam (UCLA), Sumi Cho (DePaul), Don Nakanishi (UCLA), Jose Angel Gutierrez (Texas-Arlington), William E. Nelson, Jr. (Ohio State), Edith Barrett (Brown), Arnie Vedlitz (Texas A&M), Tali Mendelberg (Princeton), Franke Wilmer (Montana State), Toni-Michelle Travis (George Mason) and Tony Affigne (Providence). For information please contact: F. Chris Garcia at [cgarcia@unm.edu](mailto:cgarcia@unm.edu).

#### Committee on Publishers and Research Markets

University of Illinois Professor Dianne Pinderhughes will chair the Committee on Publishers and Research Markets, charged with facilitating relationships between publishers and scholars, and with identifying alternative sources of research support. Her committee will also include Paula McClain (Virginia), Georgia Persons (Georgia Tech), Valeria Sinclair (Ohio State), David Wilkins (Arizona), James Jennings (Massachusetts-Boston), Christine Marie Sierra (New Mexico), Clarence Lusane (Howard), Jerry Stubben (Iowa State), Ted Jelen (Illinois Benedictine), Sally Coleman Selden (Oklahoma), and Toni-Michelle Travis (George Mason). For information please contact: Dianne Pinderhughes at [dpinderh@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu](mailto:dpinderh@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu).

#### Committee on Graduate Student Issues

Lisa Montoya (Texas-Austin) was appointed chair of the Committee on Graduate Student Issues, which will plan activities to support graduate students including mentoring, advising, and assistance with placement. The committee membership also includes Gerald Alfred (Concordia-Montreal), Valeria Sinclair (Ohio State), Cynthia Duncan (Ohio State), Andaiye Kariamu (Ohio State), Kerry Haynie (Pennsylvania), Valerie Martinez-Ebers (North Texas), Boris Ricks (USC), Manny Avalos (Arizona State-West), and Derrick Cogburn (Howard). Montoya may be reached at [lmontoya@jeeves.la.utexas.edu](mailto:lmontoya@jeeves.la.utexas.edu).

#### Committee on Electronic Communications

The Committee on Electronic Communications, to be chaired by Derrick Cogburn (Howard), will develop and maintain the section's mailing lists, listserver, gopher site, and World Wide Web home page. Other members of this committee include Manny Avalos (Arizona State-West), Carol Hardy-Fanta (Boston University), Gary Klass (Illinois State), Clarence Lusane

(Howard), and Joseph P. McCormick II (Howard). For information contact Derrick Cogburn at [dcogburn@cldc.howard.edu](mailto:dcogburn@cldc.howard.edu).

#### Committee for Annual Awards in Race, Ethnicity and Politics

The Committee for Annual Section Awards in Race, Ethnicity and Politics will be chaired by Carol Hardy-Fanta (Boston University); other members are Gerald Alfred (Concordia-Montreal), Frank Gilliam (UCLA), and Robert T. Starks (Northeastern Illinois). The committee will make nominations for the Section's annual publication, recognition, and service awards. Hardy-Fanta can be reached at [hardyfanta@aol.com](mailto:hardyfanta@aol.com).

Michael Preston (USC) was appointed chair of the by-laws committee; he will be joined by Toni-Michelle Travis and Tony Affigne.

#### The Future of Racial and Ethnic Political Studies

There are now hundreds of active scholars in the United States whose interests focus on the politics of race and ethnicity. The new section within the American Political Science Association will serve as an important focus for these scholars, providing a forum for their substantive, methodological, and theoretical contributions, and will be a collegial, cooperative environment for the exchange of ideas. If you are not now a member, you are invited to join. All are welcome, all can contribute, all can serve. For more information please contact Tony Affigne at [affigne@providence.edu](mailto:affigne@providence.edu).

#### APSA Organized Sections Distribute Awards at Annual Meeting

Twenty of the thirty-three APSA Organized Sections presented awards at the 1995 Annual Meeting to recognize distinctive scholarship and career service within their fields of political science.