

POLITICS AND LITERATURE NEWSLETTER

Summer 2001

2000-2001 Officers

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Please join us at the annual APSA annual meeting, August 30-September 2, in San Francisco.

The Politics and Literature Organized Section must meet a mandatory enrollment. It is important to pay section dues (\$5.00 per year) when completing your annual APSA registration form. Ask a friend to join or, better yet, celebrate his/her birthday by paying their dues.

**Politics and Literature Organized Section
American Political Science Association
PO Box 13220
Mobile, AL 36663**



Politics and Literature Panels
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting
San Francisco, August 30 – September 2, 2001

41-1 MISGIVINGS ABOUT MODERNITY IN CONTEMPORARY FILM
Saturday, 3:30 PM to 5:15 PM

Chair: Joseph M. Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University
Papers: "Awakening from the American Dream: The End of Escape in American Cinema?"
Patrick J. Deneen, Princeton University
"Disco and Democracy: The Decade Analysis of Jimmy Steinway, 'The Dancing Ad-Man'"
Peter Augustine Lawler, Berry College
"Where the Wild Things Are: Nature and Civilization in Chuck Palahniuk's 'Fight Club'"
Eduardo A. Velasquez, Washington and Lee University
"Ally McBeal: The 'Liberated' Woman's Subjugation"
Elizabeth R. Kaufer, Emory University
Disc: Joseph M. Knippenberg, Oglethorpe University
Daniel E. Cullen, Rhodes College

41-2 ROUNDTABLE ON PAUL CANTOR'S "GILLIGAN UNBOUND"
Saturday, 8:45 AM to 10:30 AM

Chair: Peter Augustine Lawler, Berry College
Part: Peter Augustine Lawler, Berry College
Pamela K. Jensen, Kenyon College
Wilson Carey McWilliams, Rutgers University, New Brunswick
Mary P. Nichols, Fordham University
Disc: Paul A. Cantor, University of Virginia

41-3 THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SELF AND THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL LIFE AS EXPLORED IN LITERATURE
Thursday, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Chair: Lilly J. Goren, College of St. Catherine
Papers: "Two Tales of Two Numantias: Polybius and Fuentes on the Problems of Identity, Otherness, and Conquest"
Joseph H. Lane, Jr., Emory and Henry College
"The Political Philosophy and Dramatic Literature of Vaclav Havel"
~~James F. Pontuso, Hampden-Sydney College~~
"The Outsider on the Inside: The Characters of Flem and Ratliffe in Faulkner's Snopes Trilogy"
Susan Storing Benfield, Fordham University
"Sources of the Self in Chinua Achebe's Novels"
Diana Akers Rhoads, Hampden-Sydney College
Disc: Lilly J. Goren, College of St. Catherine
Christine Dunn Henderson, Marshall University

41-4 HOLLYWOOD'S WASHINGTON: CHANGE AND CONTINUITY WHERE FILM AND POLITICS MEET
Saturday, 10:45 AM to 12:30 PM

Chair: William Issel, San Francisco State University
Papers: "Hollywood's Elections"
Philip John Davies, De Montfort University
"A Starring Role: Fact and Fiction in the Portrayal of the Presidency"
Ian Scott, University of Manchester
"Changing Notions of Politics in American Film and Political Culture"
Brian Neve, University of Bath

"The West Wing, the Presidency, and the Classroom: Left Wing or Right for the Times?"

Kevan M. Yenerall, Clarion University

Disc: William Issel, San Francisco State University
James W. Ceaser, University of Virginia

41-5 LOYALTY AND LITERATURE
Saturday, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Chair: Michael Keren, Tel-Aviv University

Papers: "Literature, Loyalty, and Justice: The Politics of Rorty's Literary Culture"

Christopher J. Voparil, New School University

"Loyalty, Character, and Evil: Reflections on 'The English Patient'"

Sharon A. Barrios, California State University, Chico

Troy Jollimore, California State University, Chico

"Kafka and Kundera: Towards a New Understanding of Exit, Voice, and Loyalty"

Lauretta Conklin Frederking, Washington University

Disc: Patrick D. Bernardo, Montclair State University

41-6.1 THE LITERARY IMAGINATION IN POLITICAL LIFE: ANCIENT AND MODERN PERSPECTIVES
Thursday, 10:45 AM to 12:30 PM

Chair: Lisa P. Vetter, American University

Papers: "The Artist in Politics: Selfish Justice in Acharnians"

Paul Ludwig, St. John's College

"Cervantes' Don Quijote and the Usefulness of Literature"

Arcelia Rodriguez, University of Maryland, College Park

"Utopians at Play"

Philip Abbott, Wayne State University

"Philosophy, Literature and Politics in Adam Smith"

Lauren Brubaker, University of Chicago

Disc: Catherine H. Zuckert, University of Notre Dame

Joshua Foa Dienstag, University of Virginia

41-7 TRUTH AND MYTH IN POLITICS
Saturday, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM (Co-sponsored by Society for Greek Political Thought)

Chair: Germaine Paulo Walsh, Texas Lutheran University

Papers: "Power and the Practice of Death: Therapy in Plato's 'Gorgias'"

Thomas W. Smith, Villanova University

"The Platonic 'Reconstruction' of Homer"

Lee Trepanier, Louisiana State University

"Children of Numenor: Politics and Statesmanship in J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*"

Allan Craig Waggaman, Radford University

"Homer as a Political scientist, the 'Iliad' as a Guide to Statescraft"

Donald J. Matthewson, California State University, Fullerton

Disc: Germaine Paulo Walsh, Texas Lutheran University

41-8 ROUNDTABLE ON SAUL BELLOW'S "RAVELSTEIN"
Friday, 8:45 AM to 10:30 AM (Co-sponsored by The Claremont Institute)

Chair: Ken Masugi, Claremont Institute

Part: Clifford Orwin, University of Toronto

Michael Davis, Fordham University

David K. Nichols, Montclair State University

Michael P. Zuckert, University of Notre Dame

Politics and Literature Business Meeting – Saturday, 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM

Awards

Congratulations to **Michael S. Kochin**, Tel Aviv University, and **Katherine A. Philippakis**, Arizona State University, recipients of the 2000 Politics and Literature Best Paper Award for their paper, "The Richardsonian Republic." The Award Committee was impressed by their contribution, which exemplifies the way in which literature can illuminate our understanding of political life.

The 2001 Foundations of Political Theory best first book prize in political theory has been awarded to **Sara Monoson**. In *Plato's Democratic Entanglements* (Princeton University Press, 2000) Monoson explores the connection between "two things usually viewed as thoroughly opposed - Plato's thought and Athenian democratic ideals and practices."

Patrick Deneen received the 2001 Foundations of Political Theory first book prize honorable mention award for *The Odyssey of Political Theory* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2000). "The book offers readers insights into The Odyssey, and it provides a new understanding of the classic works of Plato, Rousseau, Vico, Horkheimer, and Adorno. Through his analysis Deneen requires readers to rethink the issues that are truly at the heart of our contemporary 'Culture War'."

Announcements

Laurie Bagby's (Kansas State University) new book, *Political Thought: A Guide to the Classics* will be published this fall by Wadsworth/International Thompson Publishers. Chapters include Plato, Aristotle, Machiavelli, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and Mill. Each chapter has important historical background, a section on "careful reading" with selections from original texts to demonstrate that skill, and a section on the special quirks of each philosopher (such as Plato's use of metaphors).

Paul Cantor's (University of Virginia) *Gilligan Unbound: Popular Culture in the Age of Globalization* will be available from Rowman and Littlefield Publishers this November. Cantor shows how pop culture is influencing not only American audiences, but the entire world.

Lucas Morel (Washington and Lee University) is organizing a symposium commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, February 1-2, 2002. E-mail Professor Morel (morell@wlu.edu) for additional information.