

## **COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science**

*COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes original research in all subfields of political science along with interdisciplinary articles. Open to a variety of approaches and methodologies, *COMMONWEALTH* seeks manuscripts that are based on theoretical perspectives (empirical or normative) as well as those that employ an historical approach. *COMMONWEALTH* solicits manuscripts for a general issue and one or more policy options issues. An important part of the journal's mission is to encourage research on topics of Pennsylvania and regional importance (northeastern and mid-Atlantic United States). Manuscripts on state and local government, politics, and policy are especially desired. Book reviews are generally limited to essays on recently published works with a Pennsylvania or regional focus. The journal's special policy issues are devoted exclusively to dispassionate academic discourse on state and regional public policy issues and options.

*COMMONWEALTH* was founded by the Pennsylvania Political Science Association (PPSA) in 1987. In 2004, the Legislative Office for Research Liaison (LORL) of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives agreed to jointly publish and expand the journal. The journal's editorial staff, Editorial Review Board, and referees maintain the highest peer-review and publication standards. Public policy research emanating from academic fields other than political science is processed by the University Committee for Legislative Liaison, which advises LORL.

Copies of *COMMONWEALTH* are sent to all PPSA members — individual, departmental, and institutional. For PPSA membership rates, see the separate announcements in this issue. Mailing to PPSA members is generously assisted by the School of Public Affairs of Penn State-Harrisburg. LORL provides copies to members of both chambers of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, to key legislative staff, and to the presidents of each of the Pennsylvania colleges and universities that belong to the LORL Academic Network. In addition, LORL provides copies to the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, the National Governors' Association, various other national associations of state and local officials, and to all Pennsylvania state depository libraries. Back issues of *COMMONWEALTH* are available online at [www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS](http://www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS). Hard copies in limited quantities may be obtained by contacting LORL.

## **SPEAKER'S JOURNAL**

The *SPEAKER'S JOURNAL* is a series of essays important to the future of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Published by the Office of the Speaker, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, in cooperation with LORL, topics addressed include Access to Higher Education, How to Save for College Education, the Importance of Libraries, Autism, Geospatial Policy, and Early Childhood Education. Past issues will soon be available online.

## **Legislative Office for Research Liaison Pennsylvania House of Representatives**

With initial funding from the National Science Foundation, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives established the Legislative Office for Research Liaison (LORL) in 1976 as the General Assembly's science and technology staff. LORL continues as a nonpartisan research office that enables legislators, committees, and staff to access the expertise of faculty in the LORL University Network, which includes most of Pennsylvania's institutions of higher education (Drexel University, Lincoln University, The Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh, the 14 universities in the State System of Higher Education, and the member institutions of the Pennsylvania Association of Independent Colleges and Universities).

The universities in the LORL Network fund the services of two faculty members each year to serve as University Visiting Scholars in Harrisburg throughout the legislative session. The Visiting Scholars and one to three undergraduate or graduate student interns complement LORL's full-time staff of seven. LORL handles more than 1,000 legislative inquiries annually, from both the House and Senate, including about 200 a year that require university assistance. Inquiry topics vary widely, ranging from agriculture to workers compensation. In addition, the LORL Committee has commissioned major academic studies on topics such as telemedicine and state medical licensure, land-use policy, school curriculum reform, workforce development, and the policy implications of genetic research. LORL and its Network have also sponsored a range of policy workshops, seminars, and major conferences for legislators and staff. LORL agreed to join with the PPSA to publish *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* in 2004.

## **The Pennsylvania Political Science Association**

Founded in 1939, the Pennsylvania Political Science Association (PPSA) is the nation's oldest state political science association. Its mission has always been to promote scholarship, research, and the exchange of ideas within the Pennsylvania community of political scientists. PPSA draws its membership principally from the political science and public administration faculties of Pennsylvania's public and private colleges and universities but also includes government professionals and faculty members from surrounding states.

PPSA's annual conference includes dozens of panelists covering a wide variety of subject areas. While university faculty comprise the vast majority of participants, legislators, legislative staff, executive officials, and undergraduates also have been participants. The PPSA began publishing *COMMONWEALTH: A Journal of Political Science* in 1987.

## **Guidelines for Submitting Manuscripts**

Manuscripts from all fields of political science are welcome, especially those on Pennsylvania or regional research (northeastern or mid-Atlantic United States) in the areas of state and local government, politics, or public policy. State and regional policy research may originate from any relevant academic discipline. Manuscripts must be submitted in Microsoft Word format. The preferred length is 15–30 double-spaced pages, including notes, references, tables, and appendices. Format must follow the American Political Science Association's *Style Manual for Political Science*. For guidance, authors should consult previous issues of *COMMONWEALTH*, the *American Political Science Review*, or the editor. Tables should be created with the MS-WORD tools, not created manually, and they should be placed in the body of the manuscript, not at the end. Content notes should be used sparingly, and they should be contained in endnotes rather than footnotes. Appendices should be placed after the content notes. A list of references should be placed last. The author's name and affiliation should appear only on a separate cover page. An abstract of no more than 150 words should accompany the manuscript. Manuscripts should be submitted as e-mail attachments (no paper copies) to:

Dr. Gerard J. Fitzpatrick  
Department of Politics  
Ursinus College  
Collegeville, PA 19426

Telephone: (610) 409-3000, ext. 2200  
E-mail: [gfitzpatrick@ursinus.edu](mailto:gfitzpatrick@ursinus.edu)

## **Guidelines for Submitting Articles for Special Policy Issues**

Guidelines for special policy issues of *COMMONWEALTH* may vary by issue. Generally, the request for papers that is issued for each special issue provides guidelines for that issue. Inquiries concerning active requests for papers as well as proposals for special policy issue topics may be submitted to:

Dr. Michael R. King  
Legislative Office for Research Liaison  
House Box 202218  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Telephone: (717) 787-8948  
E-mail: [mking@legis.state.pa.us](mailto:mking@legis.state.pa.us)

## **Guidelines for Submitting Book Reviews**

*COMMONWEALTH* will consider proposals for book reviews of texts currently in print, with an emphasis on Pennsylvania or the mid-Atlantic and northeast region, in any subfield of political science or political history. Reviews should not be undertaken until the book review editor has accepted a proposal. Submit proposals to:

Dr. Thomas J. Baldino  
Department of Political Science  
Wilkes College  
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

Telephone: (570) 408-4474  
E-mail: [tbaldin@wilkes.edu](mailto:tbaldin@wilkes.edu)

**PENNSYLVANIA POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION  
DEPARTMENTAL MEMBERSHIP FORM**

For a reasonable charge, on a single form, an entire department may join the PPSA. PPSA membership provides *each* member of a department listed on the application form the full benefits received by individual members. These include:

- personal copies of *COMMONWEALTH*.
- the **Pennsylvania Political Scientist**, the expanded PPSA Newsletter.
- advance “Call for Papers” to the annual meeting of the PPSA.

The departmental membership fee is based on the type of degree granted in political science by the member’s institution and by the term of membership.

	1 Year	3 Years
* Doctoral degree institutions	\$100	\$200
* Masters degree institutions	\$75	\$150
* Baccalaureate degree institutions	\$50	\$50
* Associate degree institutions	\$25	\$25

To enroll prior to the annual meeting, mail by April 1 to:

Dr. Thomas Brogan  
PPSA Treasurer  
Department of Political Science  
Albright College  
P.O. Box 15234  
Reading, PA 19612-5234

CHAIRPERSON’S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed for the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please list alphabetically, on departmental (or university) stationary, the current faculty members in the department who are to receive PPSA membership along with their academic rank.

Libraries desiring copies of the Journal do not need a subscription or PPSA membership. Contact LORL for more information.

Back issues of *COMMONWEALTH* and  
the *SPEAKER'S JOURNAL* are available online at:  
[www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS](http://www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS)

© Copyright 2009 by the Pennsylvania Political Science Association and the Legislative Office for Research Liaison, Pennsylvania House of Representatives ISSN 0890-2410. Printed by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives with assistance from the Democratic and Republican caucuses. Copyright on volumes published prior to 2007 are held by the Pennsylvania Political Science Association.

Back issues of *COMMONWEALTH* and the *SPEAKER'S JOURNAL* are  
available online at: [www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS](http://www.house.state.pa.us/CJPS)

