

## **MAY 2009 / Vol 22 (1)**

### **Approval of amended RC28 By-laws**

Recently we asked all RC28 Members to express their approval/disapproval of the by-laws, in light of a series of proposed amendments to them. It is with pleasure that we now announce that the RC28 by-laws have been approved. This is an advance in the way the Research Committee conducts its regular activities, especially with respect to the electronic voting procedures and the projected electronic Membership Network. It was recommended to all RCs by the IPSA Executive.

We thank all of you who actively participated in this important aspect of the Research Committee for your support. The text of the by-laws has been included in our Newsletter of December 2008 (Vol. 21, 2), and can be consulted by accessing it on our website.

### **Nominating Committee: Proposed Candidates for RC 28 Executive, 2009-2012**

As announced in the RC28 Business Meeting during the Annual Conference in Berlin, October 2008, a Nominating Committee, consisting of Uwe Leonardy (Chair), Bertus De Villiers and Robert Williams, was named by the current RC 28 Executive. It has since proposed a slate of candidates, with a view to the upcoming RC28 Elections, to be held after the IPSA World Congress in Santiago, Chile, in July 2009. The Nominating Committee has presented the following candidates for the consideration of all RC28 Members: Michael Stein (Chair), Sonja Walti (First Vice-Chair/ Programme Chair), Rekha Saxena (Second Vice-Chair/Recruitment Committee Chair) Wilfried Swenden (Executive/ Publicity Chair), Wolfgang Renzsch (Executive).

### **Short CVs of Nominated Candidates for the forthcoming RC 28 Executive, 2009-2012**

In order to provide more information to Members about these candidates, a short CV for each of them is included below.

#### **MICHAEL B. STEIN**

Currently Visiting Professor in Political Science, University of Toronto, 2007-2010, Emeritus Professor at McMaster University since 2007, and Chair, IPSA Research Committee 28 on Comparative Federalism and Federation, 2006-2009. Past Liaison Representative to the IPSA Executive Committee (elected), 2000-2006. He received his PhD degree (1967) and MA degree (1963) from the Department of Politics, Princeton University, Princeton, N.J. USA and his BA (Honours) degree in Economics and Political Science from McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (1961). He was Professor of Political Science at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada from 1977 to 2007 and Chair of that Department from 1980 to 1983, Associate Professor at McGill University, 1968 to 1977, and Assistant Professor at Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, 1965 to 1968. He was also a Visiting Professor, University of California at San Diego, in the spring of 1984 and Visiting Associate Professor, Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1973-1974. Among his selected publications are: co-editor of IPSA RC 33 Scholarly Book Series (with John Trent) on *The World of Political Science: The Development of the Discipline* (Barbara Budrich Publishers, 2004- the present (including 6 publications and 1 forthcoming publication), *Regime and Discipline: Democracy and the Development of Political Science* (co-edited with David Easton and John G. Gunnell) (University of Michigan Press, 1995), *The Dynamics of Right-Wing Protest: A Political Analysis of Social Credit in Quebec* (University of Toronto Press, 1973) and *Issues in Comparative*

Politics: A Text with Readings, (co-edited with Robert J. Jackson)) (MacMillan and St. Martin's Press, 1971).

### **SONJA WALTI**

Holds a doctorate in public administration from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. She is an Assistant Professor at the American University's School of Public Affairs in Washington DC, where she teaches courses in policy process, policy analysis, and public administration. Dr. Walti is also affiliated as a guest professor with the Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, where she served as a professor of public policy and administration before joining the American University. She has also held positions as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Georgetown University, as a Visiting Scholar at the University of Maryland, and as a Research Fellow at the University of Lausanne in Switzerland. Her fields of specialization include comparative public policy and public administration, comparative federalism, and environmental policy, energy policy, nuclear waste management, fiscal policy, and urban drug policy from both domestic and comparative perspectives. Her work has been published among others journals, in *Governance*, the *Policy Studies Journal*, and the *European Journal of Political Research*. She is a co-editor of a *Handbook on Multilevel Governance* to be published later this year (Edward Elgar), and contributed to a book on fiscal policies in federal states published by D. Braun (Ashgate, 2003). She currently serves as the Program Chair of the IPSA Research Committee 28, Comparative Federalism and Federation. She has contributed to a number of mandates, namely on behalf of the Swiss Federal Energy Agency, the Quebec Commission on Fiscal Imbalance, the Social Science Research Centre Berlin, the Agnelli Foundation in Italy, and the Swiss National Cooperative for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste.

### **REKHA SAXENA**

Currently Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Delhi, India. She was a Doctoral and Faculty Research Fellow of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute at the Department of Political Studies and Institute of Intergovernmental Relations at Queen's University in Canada in 1999-2000 and 2003 respectively. She was appointed as a country co-coordinator for India on a Global Dialogue Program for the Forum of Federations, Canada on the theme of "Legislative and Executive Governance in Federal Countries". She has been appointed as a member of the Consultative Group by the Inter-State Council Secretariat (ISC), Union Ministry of Home Affairs and is also nominated as a Task -force Member of the Second Commission on Centre-State Relations. Her recent publications include: *Situating Federalism: Mechanisms of Intergovernmental Relations in Canada and India* (2006), *Mapping Canadian Federalism for India* (2002) (edited), *India at the Polls: Parliamentary Elections in the Federal Phase* (2003) and *Indian Politics: Contemporary Issues and Concerns*, (2008) (co-authored).

### **WILFRIED SWENDEN**

Currently Lecturer in Politics and Convenor Territorial Politics Research Group, School of Social and Political Studies, University of Edinburgh. He received his D. Phil degree in Politics at St. Antony's College, Oxford University (2000), his degree in Relations Internationales at l'Universite Libre de Bruxelles (1995), and his Licentiaat in de Politieke Wetenschappen, University of Leuven (1994). Prior to his current position he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow of the Fund for Scientific Research, University of Leuven, Flanders, Belgium, 2000-2004, and a Visiting Scholar, Centre for European Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., USA (2002-2003). Among his selected publications are *Territorial Party Politics in Western Europe* (co-edited with Bart Maddens), Palgrave-Macmillan (forthcoming), *Federalism and Regionalism in Western Europe: A Comparative and Thematic Analysis* (Palgrave, 2006), *Federalism and Second Chambers: The Australian Senate and German Bundesrat Compared* (PIE-Peter Lang, 2004), and *Journal Special Editor*, The

Politics of Belgium (co-edited with M. Brands and L. De Winter), West European Politics, vol. 29 (5), 2006.

### **PROF. DR. WOLFGANG RENZSCH**

Currently Professor of Political Science at the Otto-von-Guericke University at Magdeburg (since 1994), and holder of the Jean-Monnet Chair for European Studies at Magdeburg University (since 2005). He received his PhD for Social Sciences at Gottingen University (1978), after pursuing higher educational studies in Political Science and German Literature and Language at Gottingen University (1973-1978), the London School of Economics and Political Science (1972-73) and Hanover University (1969-72). Prior to his current position he was with the Ministry of Finance of the Land Brandenburg (1992-1994), the Research Institute of the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation (1979-1992), and a Visiting Scholar at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (1986).

### **Electronic Voting Procedures for RC 28 Elections**

According to the amended by-laws, an electronic vote procedure will be used in the upcoming RC 28 Executive elections. Therefore, voting will take the form of emails, and the ballots must be sent to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Uwe Leonardy (uwe.leonardy@web.de). The election period will endure for 14 days, beginning with the posting of the final list of candidates on the RC 28 website. This posting of the names and short CVs of all candidates, whether proposed by the Nominating Committee or nominated by other RC 28 members, must occur within 14 days after the closure of the Santiago IPSA World Congress (July 12-16, 2009).

### **RC28 Panels at the Santiago IPSA World Congress, Santiago, Chile, July 12-14, 2009**

Our Research Committee is pleased to announce its participation in the forthcoming IPSA World Congress "Global Discontent? Dilemmas of Change", to be held in Santiago, Chile, July 12-16 2009. There will be four panels devoted to federal studies, put together by our Programme Chair and panel convenor at the Congress, Sonja Walti. The panels are as follows:

- 207 Federalism, regionalism and political parties
- 208 The contribution of the concept of multilevel governance to studies of federalism and intergovernmental relations
- 210 Causes and consequences of territorial reforms
- 211 Public policy innovation at the national and sub-national levels

We are delighted to see such a significant participation of RC28 in the IPSA World Congress and we take this opportunity to thank Sonja Walti again for all her hard work and commitment. A full description and structure of each panel can be found in our previous Newsletter, of December 2008 (available on the RC28 website).

### **Proposed Agenda, IPSA RC 28 Business Meeting, Santiago IPSA World Congress, July 13, 2009**

1. Welcome to New Members (Stein)
2. RC 28 Financial Report, October, 2008-July, 2009 (Stein)
3. Conferences, October 2008- March 2010 (Walti, Stein)
  - Berlin, October 2008 (Walti)

- St. Petersburg, November 2008 (Leonardy)
  - Santiago, July 2009, RC 28 panels (Walti)
  - Toronto, September 2009 (pre-APSA and APSA section on Intergovernmental Relations) (Stein)
  - Luxemburg, March 2010, IPSA and University of Luxemburg (Stein)
4. By-law Amendments, April 2009 (Stein)
  5. Nominating Committee's proposed slate, further nominations, and the forthcoming electronic ballot, August 2009 (Leonardy)
  6. Recruitment Committee, March 2009-(Saxena)
  7. Proposed Future RC 28 Publications
    - Berlin Conference papers (Walti)
    - Others (Stein)

## **2nd IPSA International Conference, Luxemburg, March 18-20, 2010**

The conference will include 12 bilingual (English and French) panels in all. The local organisers at the University of Luxemburg have proposed that they convene 6 sessions, and that these should be co-sponsored (and co-chaired) by IPSA Research Committees whose work focuses on relevant subfields of our discipline. The remaining 6 sessions will be constituted from the panel proposals submitted by both research committees and national political science associations. IPSA has recently encouraged greater interaction and closer academic and organisational ties among its Research Committees and subsections of National Associations. Last year the first international inter-congress conference entitled "International Political Science: New Theoretical and Regional Perspectives" took place in Montreal. This year IPSA is organising, in collaboration with the University of Luxemburg, a second conference to be held on March 18-20, 2010. The conference theme will be "Is there a European Model of Governance? A Comparative Perspective". The IPSA Programme Co-Chairs are Wyn Grant, UK (w.p.grant@warwick.ac.uk) and Daniel Tarschys, Sweden (daniel.tarschys@statsvet.su). The local organisers' coordinates are eur@uni.lu.

The theme of the six joint panels are:

1. Contributions of Systems Theory to Sociology and Political Theory
2. EU Enlargement and its Social and Political Consequences for the new Member States
3. European, National, and Regional Parliaments and EU Law-Making
4. European Electronic Governance and its Results on Decision-Making in a Comparative Perspective
5. Statement and Nature of European Institutions' Ethical Standards
6. A Critical Look at Europe's Human Rights Regime: Lessons from other World Regions and Neighbouring Countries

All panels will have a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 8 papers. The call for papers is now open, and has a July 31 deadline. Your paper proposals should include titles and abstracts related to one of the themes listed above for the 6 joint sessions. Paper proposals will then be reviewed by the two panel coordinators (one from IPSA, one from the University of Luxemburg). October 31 will be the deadline for the acceptance of papers by the reviewers. Although the conference is a year away, we encourage our Members to start thinking about it and to contemplate the possibility of participating in this important IPSA initiative.

## **2009 Recruitment Committee**

The Executive of IPSA RC 28 has recently announced the creation of a Recruitment Committee and the selection of its Chair, Rekha Saxena, Associate Professor in the

Department of Political Science at the University of Delhi, India. The Recruitment Committee is designed to expand the membership of our RC to include more young specialists on comparative federalism and federations. We hope to persuade them to become dues-paying members of our Committee, and in that way enable them to benefit from and participate in the many activities and sources of information related to federalism that our Committee organizes and provides.

The Committee has sent out a number of invitations to potential Recruitment Committee representatives and to possible new RC28 Members. It is with great pleasure that we report that this initiative has made some notable progress thus far. We are currently expanding our membership and, more importantly, we are also incorporating new Members from a wide variety of countries, such as Australia, Germany, Ethiopia, and Switzerland, among others.

### **Reminder Concerning Renewal of Membership Fees**

On 24 February 2009 we sent you emails informing you that the RC28 tri-annual fees period ended in March, commencing a new period (2009-2012). As you know, the fees amount to only US \$45 or \$15 annually. They are a crucial financial source for the Research Committee and its ability to carry out all of its regular activities. We express our great appreciation to all those members who have already responded to this reminder . But we would like to remind those who have not yet done so to take a few minutes of your time to turn to this task immediately.

Members can pay their fees electronically via the Paypal System. In order to do so, they should log into our website and look for the Paypal link, located on the bottom of the home page. After you click on this icon, you will be able to obtain simple further instructions for fee payment. Alternatively, Members can pay their fees by sending a check or bank draft in US dollars payable to:

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