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RC28 Members and Friends,

By following the different links, you'll learn about upcoming conferences and deadlines. You'll catch a few headlines regarding our committee, such as our new name and a historic essay RC28's founding president drafted. Please take a tour of our updated website and discover past events and newsletters, tidbits about our history, our officer's contact information, and easy access to membership information and updates. We hope this continues to be your go-to place for RC28 matters. If you haven't done so already, please be sure to update your bookmarks! Our web address is: ipsarc28.wordpress.com

This edition also marks my welcome as this Committee's chair. I've been handed the "baton" by Michael Stein last summer and have taken my time familiarizing myself with RC28 business. This was made easy thanks to input from past presidents, Lloyd Brown-John, Bob Agranoff and Micheal Stein, and thanks to the help of my fellow RC28 officers as well as IPSA's central office. My personal interest in comparative federalism stems from studying public policies and recognizing how important multi-tiered governance structures are to the business of government, in both decision-making and implementation. However, this is but one comparative federalism angle currently represented in RC28's Executive. Your [RC28 Officers'](#) federalism interests span the full gamut of what studying territorial power distribution is about: the study of policies, the study of parties, the study of institutions, the study of nations, the study of autonomous communities, the study of cultural diversity, the study of development, the study of decentralization, etc. Our revised [mission statement](#) makes that clear.

Welcome also to RC28's enhanced means of communication. Ultimately meant for members only, we've added a [\(Google\) discussion group](#) to our service, which allows RC28 members to get in touch with one another directly, ask questions, seek advice, share news, and promote their own work. Please let us know, and accept our apologies, if you feel you've been omitted from this service. We may not have your up to date contact information, or we may have failed to add you to the discussion group for other administrative reasons. Know that anyone interested can request access; but be prepared to join RC28 to continue enjoying its benefits. This service has allowed us to remove personal membership information from RC28's public website.

- Our IPSA Research Committee has a **new name!** IPSA recently approved our request. We're now known as RC28 "Comparative Federalism and Multilevel Governance", a name which will hopefully serve us well for years to come. [Click here to read more about our new name.](#)
- Conference call: [Our 2013 Annual Conference](#) will be held from November 14-16, 2013 in New Delhi, India, generously hosted by the Delhi University (DU) affiliated Ramjas College. Please spread the word! **Paper proposals are due soon**; they can be submitted using our website. [Click here to find out more.](#)
- Conference call: The next [IPSA World Congress 2014](#), will take place in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, July 19-24. We're calling on our members to submit federalism-related panels and bring them to our attention. We're also happy to submit and handle them for you. **The deadline is fast approaching on July 1, 2013!** And mark your calendars for the paper submission deadline on October 7, 2013. [Click here to access our call.](#) Note that IPSA changed the World Congress cycle from every three years to every two years. In accordance, RC28 decided to hold its annual business meetings primarily during the World Congress and pursue other options during off years (see New Delhi call above).

- In an effort to document our Committee's rich history on its website, you'll now find some links that take you to information about the past chairs. Most notably, you'll find [RC28's founding story by Lloyd Brown-John \(click here\)](#). I would welcome receiving whatever historic or contemporary pieces you may have to be added to our web presence, including photos. Requests to add links and post news are also very welcome, as are emails should you spot mistakes or misinformation.

Sonja Walti, RC28 Chair

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