Panels:

Political Science in the Public Space: Comparing Experiences and Contexts

Palais des congrès - 522b - Sunday, July 20th - 17:00-18:45

Convenor: Olga Malinova (Russian Academy of Science, Moscow)

Chair: Olga Malinova (Russian Academy of Science, Moscow)

Discussant: Teresa Sasinska-Klas (Jagiellonian University, Cracow)

In his 2009 report summarizing the results of the Research Committee 33’s book series the then chair of RC 33 Prof. J.Trent qualified the issues of “visibility, recognition, relevance and identity” as a principal dimension of the relationship between political scientists and political reality. The panel addresses the problem of “visibility” and practices of representation of political science outside the academic community, i.e. at multiple public arenas in different national and international contexts. It is aimed at discussion of the following questions: What problems do political scientists meet trying to present their knowledge to nonacademic public? What ordinary citizens know about political science and political scientists? What kind of “products” can we propose for the public of non-specialists? Are they relevant enough? Who speaks by the name of the corporation, what is the division of labour in this field and whether it is satisfactory? What is the role of universities, professional associations, think tanks and other types of organization in representation of our professional community? How political scientists can influence the public agenda and should they strive to do it at all? What could be done for better relevance, visibility and recognition of our professional community?

Papers:

"Experts" as Settlers of the Public Agenda: Analysis of Practices of Political Communication in Russia
Olga Malinova (Russian Academy of Science)

La science politique dans l'espace public: contexte et expérience de l'Institut d'Études Politiques Madagascar
Davida Rajaon (Sciences Po Madagascar), Christiane Rafidinarivo (Université de la Réunion / Institut d'Etudes Politiques Madagascar)

Nemo Profeta in Patria: The Difficult Impact of Italian Political Science on the Public Sphere
Luca Verzichelli (University of Siena), Giliberto Capano (Università di Bologna)

Political Science and Politics: Addressing a Missing Agenda in the Discipline
J. R. Joel Flores-Mariscal (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

The Many Faces of Political Science: Orders, Uses and Effects of Scientific Knowledge within Three Organizational Settings
Nicolas Kacif (Université Lille II / CERAPS), Thomas Alam (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Administratives, Politiques et Sociales, Lille)

“Governance”, the Neoliberal University and Critical Epistemologies: A Quest For Dialogue
Pieter Heydenrych (North-West University, South Africa) Gideon van Riet (North-West University, South Africa)
The importance of political science in Latin America, today, is beyond doubt. Since the establishment of political science after the Second World War, it has achieved full social recognition as a profession and prominence within the different fields of knowledge. It has fullfilled an independent profile; with theories and an own conceptual background, and even, in the opinion of authors, with methods that distinguish it from other social sciences.

The diversity of universities that offer bachelor and postgraduate degrees and have research programs; the growing number of published academic journals and books; the presence of political scientists at academic events and media, as well as its organization in associations dedicated to the promotion of the discipline, show that political science has accomplished institutional consolidation in the region.

Nevertheless, it is necessary to develop a reflection on its development in order to identify new horizons and research agendas. In this sense, it seems relevant to ask: what are the currents or theoretical approaches used in Political Science to explain the political phenomena? What is the responsibility of academics to explain problems and to propose solutions? What political scientists need to be present in national and international debates? How to create links between researchers? How to disseminate research on national and regional problems? These questions are open.

Papers:

A Critical View at the Historical Institutional Development of Academic Political Science in Mexico
Karla Valverde (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

Accreditation and Professional Development of Political Science in Mexico
María Del Carmen Roqueñí Ibargüengoitía (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)

Community Participation in Security Policies in Bucaramanga and Its Metropolitan Area (Colombia)
Maria Eugenia Bonilla Ovallos (Universidad Autónoma de Bucaramanga, Colombia)

Political Science in Latin America: Publication, Quality and Impact
Daniel Buquet (Universidad de la República, Uruguay)
Paradigms and Historiography in Political Studies

Palais des congrès - 512e, Wednesday, July 23rd - 17:00-18:45

Convenor: John E. Trent (University of Ottawa)
Chair: John E. Trent (University of Ottawa)
Co-Chair: Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki)

Discussants:
Erkki Berndtson (University of Helsinki)
Michael Stein (University of Toronto)

It has been variously argued that the discipline of political science is too quantitative and scientific, too specialized and narrow and that these trends have stultified the relevance of political science to on-going social problems. Thus it has been said that, practice-wise, political science is a largely useless science that does not supply knowledge for use. We say more and more about less and less. To this it has been responded that it is both necessary and sufficient for science to advance society through the research interests of scholars operating in the protective shield of an independent science system. Those who hold this view also claim there is no consensus about what constitutes relevance and in any case ‘relevance’ takes us back to ‘social-engineering’ which does not work. This panel asks whether the study of politics can and should develop visions of the ‘good society’ and help citizens to understand policies designed to provide solutions. Can we relate explanation and evaluation? The basic question is whether and how the study of politics could be improved? To answer these questions, the panel focuses 1) on the history of the discipline, 2) new forms of teaching political science, and 3) the need for alternative paradigms in political studies.

Papers:

A New Paradigm for Political Studies: Competency-based Teaching and Learning
Terrie Groth (Universidade de Brasília)

Exploring the Political Through Music as a Method of Tuition in Multi-Track Diplomacy and Intrastate, Interstate and Intraregional Power Dynamics
Marlene Elwell (Bilkent University, San Jose, United States)

The History of Political Science in Latin America: Historical Trends and Defiant Futures
Víctor Alarcón-Olguín (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana - Unidad Iztapalapa, México)

The Making of a Bilingual (Chinese/English) Political Science Department in Hong Kong
Shu Yun Ma (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

The State of Political Studies in the World: Thinking About New Paradigms
John E. Trent (University of Ottawa)
The roundtable will discuss the state of our discipline by raising three topical issues: 1) its actual strength; 2) its relevance to society and politics; and 3) the impact of current politics on the discipline. Its background paper is based on the critical overview of the development of political studies around the world between 1990 and 2012, published in the book series ‘The World of Political Science’. The book series, set up by the IPSA Research Committee 33, has produced specialized studies on various fields of the discipline. Although political science has developed into a recognizable discipline, with its national and international academic infrastructures, it should still be asked whether it is living up to its promises and how current teaching and research practices might be improved. Although most political scientists work hard, the issue of its relevance to society and politics should be raised, given the outcomes of the critical survey. Finally, political developments going on in several countries and regions may be regarded as a threat to the discipline’s coherence, which raises the question of how it should react. The roundtable’s participants belong to the younger generations who will carry the discipline into the coming decades. They present views from Latin America, Southern Africa, Australia and Eastern Europe. There are five propositions to be discussed.

Chair: Richard D. French (University of Ottawa)

Participants:

Luciana Ghica, (University of Bucharest)
Thomas Linders (IAPSS Secretary-General, International Association of Political Science Students)
Sarah Maddison (University of New South Wales, also chair of RC 19 on Gender Politics and Policy)
Paulo Ravecca (York University, Toronto, originally from Uruguay)
Joleen Steyn Kotze (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa)
Joint Panel with
RC31 Political Philosophy and RC32 Public Policy and Administration

Governance, the State and Making Sense of Governing (Part I)
Palais des congrès - 524c - Monday, July 21st - 11:00-12:45

Convenor: Hal Colebatch (University of New South Wales)
Chair: Poland Lai (York University, Toronto)
Co-Chair: Tamara Krawchenko (Mount Saint Vincent University, Canada)
Discussant: Hugo Canihac (Sciences Po Bordeaux)

The state has been a central concept in political science, although public authority has been exercise by diverse hands. The concept is now challenged by the widespread use of ‘governance’, which signals that public authority is exercised by a variety of organisations, and accomplished through negotiation rather than coercion, raising questions about the relationship between conceptual maps and observable practice. Have these bodies not previously been part of governing, or has their place in governing not been recognised in the conceptual formulations?

This calls for empirical and conceptual research. We need empirical research on how public authority is constituted, how the exercise of authority relates to ‘the government’, and the empirical indicators of concepts like ‘the state’ or ‘metagovernance’. We can then address the empirical question of the extent to which ‘governance’ can be seen as a radical change in the mode of governing?

We also need conceptual work on how we theorise governing, how the exercise of authority relates to that condensation of political leadership and bureaucratic practice called ‘the government’, and what (beyond this) is meant by ‘the state’? Is it an actor, or an arena in which contending actors (and agendas) compete for place and legitimacy? Should we avoid talking about ‘the state’ as a thing, and talk instead about the stateness of things? And in this case, what are the empirical determinants of ‘stateness’?

Papers:

Emerging Governance-Speak within Australian Parliamentary Discourse 1983-93: Reshaping the Language of Governing?
Jim Jose (University of Newcastle, Australia), Tod Moore (University of Newcastle, Australia)

Governing Education in Europe: Negotiating a "New" Policy Space of European Schooling
Sofia Carlos (University of Oxford)

Leviathans on Paper and Party Patronage in Practice: Contested Civil Service Reforms in Albania and Macedonia
Nisida Gjoksi (European University Institute, Firenze)

Making Sense of Being Governed: Governance, the State and Interpretation
Hal Colebatch (University of New South Wales)

Subnational Governments and Models of Analysis
Jill Tao (Incheon National University, South Korea)
Governance, the state and making sense of governing (Part II): Governing Up, Governing Down
Palais des congrès – 524c - Monday, July 21st - 13:00-14:45

Convenor: Hal Colebatch (The University of New South Wales)
Chair: Jill Tao (Incheon National University, South Korea)
Co-Chair: Jim Jose (The University of Newcastle, Australia)

Papers:

How New Governance Shapes Changes in the Long-Term Care Sector in Ontario
Poland Lai (York University, Toronto)

Sovereignty Beyond the State? From Supranational Authority to Supranational Governance in the EU
Hugo Canihac (Sciences Po Bordeaux)

The Legitimacy of Participatory Institutions for the Environmental Public Policy in Brazil: Between Governance and Governability
Priscila Specie (Universidade de São Paulo)

The Various Faces of Juridification of the Victims’ Reparation Policy in Colombia: Transformation of the Sub-system Governance
Lucas Gomez (Universidad Externado de Colombia), Sarah Tadlaoui (Universidad Externado de Colombia)

Transnational Governance of Sub-State Authorities: The Case of the Catalan Migration Policy
Elena Sanchez-Montijano (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, CIDOB)