

## **Call for Proposals to Host the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual State Politics and Policy Conference (2021)**

The State Politics and Policy Section of American Political Science Association announces a call for proposals to host the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual State Politics and Policy Conference. Stella Rouse (University of Maryland, College Park) (chair), Michael Nelson (Penn State University), and Joshua Dyck (University of Massachusetts Lowell) will serve on the committee to review proposals. This annual conference is the flagship event of the State Politics and Policy Section. Each conference is co-sponsored by the section and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*. The section will provide some support for the host institution and for graduate student attendees (see below), but the hosting institution bears primary responsibility for organizing and funding the conference. Recent conferences have been held at Dartmouth (2011), Rice (2012), Iowa (2013), Indiana (2014), Cal State-Sacramento (2015), UT-Dallas (2016), Saint Louis U-Wash U (2017), Penn State (2018), and Maryland (2019). Typically, between 120 and 150 scholars attend the conference.

### **The Mission of the Annual State Politics and Policy Conference**

The annual State Politics and Policy Conference provides scholars interested in state politics - broadly defined - the opportunity to gather and share the latest research developments in the field. Its mission is to expand the breadth and depth of scholarly knowledge about politics, policy, and policymaking as these processes unfold at the state level.

The primary interests of many of the scholars who attend these conferences lie squarely within the traditional domain of the state politics field. However, many others focus more generally on political institutions (such as legislatures and political parties), political behavior (such as voting and public opinion), specific policy areas (such as education or health care), or broader questions of policymaking and representation and use the states as an attractive research venue. Given the goal of expanding knowledge and defining the field broadly, the annual conferences strive to cast a wide net regarding the types of scholars who participate.

Previous conferences have taken a variety of forms in trying to meet these goals. In addition to the traditional conference format of paper presentations and panels, past conferences have featured a range of innovations, including graduate student poster sessions, parallel specialty conferences (e.g., on term limits), presentations and lectures by state elected officials, and so forth. The conference affords the host opportunities to promote their institution, department, and campus, and to play an important role in the continuing development of the field. Those proposing to host the 2021 conference should examine the websites of these earlier conferences or contact previous hosts for more information. All of this information is available at:

<http://politicalscience.olemiss.edu/state-politics-and-policy-annual-conferences/>.

Host universities have presented recent SPPC's with budgets ranging from \$15,000 to \$65,000. The section will contribute 85% of one year's royalties from SPPQ to help support the meeting, which should be approximately \$7-8,000. In addition, the Carsey Fund (<http://www.apsanet.org/section22>) will also provide approximately \$300 each for approximately 10 graduate students' travel to the meeting. Some conferences

have offered additional funds to provide stipends for participants and/or graduate student attendees, and the conferences have typically included an opening reception on Thursday, meals on Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. The host of the 2021 conference does not necessarily need to follow suit, but the proposal should make clear what (if any) amenities the host intends to provide for conference attendees.

### **Proposal Requirements**

Proposals for hosting the 21<sup>st</sup> State Politics and Policy Conference should consist of a 2-4 page document that includes the following information:

- Proposed theme of the conference (if any)
- Proposed budget for the conference
- Availability of resources and facilities for hosting the conference
- Proposed dates of the conference
- Any special features of the conference
- Complete contact information for those person(s) submitting the proposal

Proposals should be submitted to the selection committee chair, Stella Rouse (srouse@umd.edu). All proposals should be submitted by February 1, 2020, to guarantee full consideration. The committee hopes to make a decision by March of 2020 so that we may announce the winner at next year's SPPC in San Diego.

Please send electronic submissions to Stella Rouse at: srouse@umd.edu, including the proposal as an attached .pdf file. If you have questions, Stella may be contacted at:

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