

WEST VIRGINIA POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
35th Annual Meeting
Minutes of the Business Meeting
October 26, 2001

Randy Adkins, association president called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Haymond Room at West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, WV. The following members were present: Robert Rupp (WV Wesleyan), Steven Jones (U. of Charleston), James Forrester (WLSC), Michael Smith (Glenville State C.), Allan Hammock (WVU), Susan Hunter (WVU), Richard Brisbin (WVU), Kwame Boateng (WV Wesleyan), Marybeth Beller (Marshall U.), Gerald Beller (WV State), Robert Behrman (Marshall U.), Randy Adkins (U. Nebraska Omaha) and Christopher Plein (WVU).

Professor Adkins distributed the meeting's agenda and asked for approval of the minutes of the 2000 meeting. The minutes were approved and the Treasurer's Report was distributed to the membership. It was noted by Rodney Pyles, Treasurer that the Association's financial affairs were in reasonably good order with a balance of \$966.96 as of October 27, 2001. The Treasurer's report was also approved.

In the "Report of the President" Professor Adkins noted that a number of West Virginia political science departments had not paid their dues. Treasurer Pyles listed the schools that had paid. Professor Hammock noted that his department at WVU (the association's home) sent out invoices with no followups. It was suggested that the members present contact those department chairs who were in arrears. The president also noted that the *Southeastern Political Review* had changed its name to *Politics & Policy*. The journal's Editor-in Chief, George Cox informed President Adkins that article submissions were down in part because political scientists were not as interested in publishing with a regional journal. *Politics & Policy* has the sound of a national journal with a national clientele.

President Adkins noted that the editorial board of *Politics & Policy* met in March 2001 and that the past president of WVPSA should be named to the editorial board as associate editor and that Professor James Forrester will be named to the editorial board. Discussion ensued over the nature of the WVPSA's affiliation with *Politics & Policy*. It was decided (recommended) by President Adkins that it be optional as to whether or not individual members should join.

In the "Report of the Program Chair" Professor Chris Plein noted that 56 persons were in attendance at the first panels and 64 attended the second panels. It was noted that Friday's attendance was healthy. Professor Plein also suggested that the next program chair talk to sociology professors about participation and panels in the 2002 WVPSA Annual meeting in Huntington. Upon the suggestion of Professor Forrester, the Association extended its accolades to Professor Plein for a fine program.

Professor Steve Jones of the Awards Committee brought up the problem of

logistics concerning the determination of the "best" paper. It was suggested that the membership contact directly members of the Awards Committee. Professor Hammock suggested contact by email. The sense of the discussion was that the Awards Committee Chair should set a firm date by which materials should be received by the committee. And the Awards Committee should report the awards at the annual banquet. The awards are:

1. Distinguished Political Scientist. Annual award given to a WV political scientist with a career of distinguished teaching, scholarship, and service. Candidates may be self-nominated or nominated by an Association member. The nomination process must include (a) nomination letter, (b) a current CV. There is no monetary value attached to this award.
2. Best Paper: Annual award given to the best paper presented at the previous meeting. Papers may be nominated by either the session chair or discussant and must include (a) nomination letter and (b) a copy of the paper. No money with this award.
3. Best Graduate Student Paper: Annual award given to the best paper presented by a graduate student at the previous meeting. Papers may be nominated by either the session chair or discussant(s) and must include (a) nomination letter, and (b) a copy of the paper. No money with this award.
4. Claude Davis Award for the Best Undergraduate Paper in West Virginia submitted to the Association. Members of the Association may nominate papers. The nomination process includes (a) letter of nomination and (b) copy of the paper. This award has monetary value.

Under "New Business" the Nominating Committee report was read by President Adkins. For Executive Council: 2001-3, Gerry Beller; 2002-2004, Kwame Boateng; 2003-4, Steve Jones; Rodney Pyles, Treasurer; James Forrester, Secretary; Cheryl Brown; Vice-President and Program Chair. The slate was unanimously approved. Professor Brisbin noted that Christine Brehm, student member, is no longer in the area.

Finally, President Adkins announced that Marshall University is the meeting site for the 2002 annual meeting.