Notes from the Editor

The first thing most readers will notice about this issue is the cover, which is colored blue this time and is adorned by a clock to signify “Taking Temporality Seriously,” the first article in the issue. After noting the cover (admiringly, I hope) and browsing through the table of contents, readers are hereby invited to shift their attention briefly to the roster of editorial board members inside the cover. There they will see something new: as previewed in an earlier “Notes from the Editor,” an executive committee of the Review’s editorial board is now in operation. The six-member executive committee consists of four representatives of major subfields of the discipline (Darren Davis for American politics, James Morrow for international politics, Kirstie McClure for political theory, and Sven Steinmo for comparative politics) and two “at-large” members (Neta Crawford and Robert Goodin). The members of the executive committee are intended to be the “first among equals” in advising me on matters of editorial policy, serving as an initial sounding board and source of new ideas before issues come to the full editorial board. Pertinent examples of the committee’s responsibilities include planning an appropriate commemoration of the Review’s centenary and revisiting our procedures for handling “Forum” submissions and responses. Executive committee members also constitute a first line of defense in advising me when issues arise concerning particular manuscripts, though such responsibilities tend to be infrequent and, given the diversity of the manuscripts we consider, are fairly widely dispersed among members of the editorial board rather than confined solely to executive committee members. All editorial board members also share responsibility for recruiting promising manuscripts within their areas of expertise, but executive committee members are asked to be especially active in this regard. Finally, it is the executive committee that will, early in 2003, review the performance of our editorial office in general and my performance as editor in particular. With the latter point in mind, I want to emphasize (1) that I selected the executive committee with an eye toward diversity of various sorts (substantive, theoretical, methodological, demographic, and so on), and (2) that the executive committee consists of individuals with whom I have not been associated professionally or personally, apart from my familiarity with their work, and with whom I have no more than a nodding acquaintance, if that.

Let me also take this occasion to alert or remind readers that the December issue of the Review will be the last one in which book reviews appear. The book review operation, under the continuing editorship of Susan Bickford and Gregory McAvoy, is shifting over to the APSA’s new journal, Perspectives on Politics, the first issue of which is scheduled to appear during the first quarter of 2003. Jennifer Hochschild, the editor of Perspectives on Politics, has announced ambitious plans for a journal that will, in her words, “enable members of different subfields of political science to speak to one another—and with knowledgeable people outside the discipline—on issues of common interest.”

Of course, that is a worthy aspiration for the Review as well, notwithstanding differences between its mission and that of the new journal. Besides book reviews, Perspectives on Politics will feature review essays, research articles that are more broadly focused than standard reports of individual research results, and “intervention” essays (brief commentaries on some political phenomenon or problem, exchanges about substantive or methodological issues, and introductions to or assessments of new ideas and trends). The advent of the new journal is an exciting development for our discipline, and I look forward to its appearance early next year.

In this Issue

In this issue’s first article, Tim Bütke takes political scientists to task for their inattention to the historical dimension. The proper role of history in political analysis has been a source of heated debate, and oceans of ink have been spilled in attempts to determine where and how history “fits.” Going beyond this debate in “Taking Temporality Seriously: Modeling History and the Use of Narratives as Evidence,” Bütke suggests ways to improve models by incorporating historical narratives. This exploration of the use and abuse of historical analysis by political scientists, though unlikely to settle major issues with finality, impressed our reviewers as having the potential to direct the ongoing debate in productive new directions.

Also likely to spur controversy is Arash Abizadeh’s “Does Liberal Democracy Presuppose a Cultural Nation? Four Arguments.” In this essay, Abizadeh challenges the idea that liberal democracy is viable only within the context of a single cultural nation. Drawing from diverse approaches to political theory, he contends that the identity derived from a cultural nation (defined in linguistic-cultural terms) may undermine democratic principles and may fail to take into account multinational and post-national contexts. By systematically reconsidering widely accepted ideas about cultural requisites, this analysis should constitute a fine starting point for creating a broader normative theory of liberal democracy.

In contrast to many political scientists who study the American judicial system, Howard Gillman perceives the courts as enmeshed within party regimes rather than as an outside force constraining or balancing political parties. In “How Political Parties Can Use the Courts to Advance Their Agendas: Federal Courts in the United States, 1875–1891,” Gillman details the changing and expanding role of the federal courts in advancing the long-term Republican goal of altering America’s economic foundations. In a study whose implications extend far beyond the courts and
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tive question: Does "descriptive" or "passive" represen-
Catherine Holland shift from McDonagh's focus on the
Institutional Context, and Representative Bureau-
or the Problem of Virtue," the responses that have been
offered to date are problematic. Virtue, he
he contends, cannot be reduced to a dichotomy between public and private good, individual and community, duty and happiness. Based on his intensive exegesis of Plato's Meno, Bartlett suggests that including nobility in the definition of virtue will bridge the dichotomies of previous scholarship.

Two contributions to this issue focus on gender pol-
ics. In the first, Eileen McDonagh tries to explain how women win the rights to vote and hold office and how much representation they gain in national legislatures. In "Political Citizenship and Democratization: The Gender Paradox," McDonagh challenges conventional wisdom by arguing that liberal principles that protect individual rights, such as suffrage and equality, do not explain the extension of political rights to women. Analyzing the constitutions of 190 countries and presenting an in-depth case study of the process through which women won suffrage in the United States, McDonagh shows that national differences in extending greater rights to women reflect the extent to which constitutions embrace both group and individual rights. Paradoxically, the political inclusion of women stems from a dual emphasis on what defines them as a group (i.e., their difference from men) and their status as individuals who deserve the same rights as all other individuals.

In "Lipstick and Logarithms: Gender, Identity, Institutional Context, and Representative Bureaucracy," Lael Keiser, Vicky Wilkins, Kenneth M. eier, and Catherine Holland shift from McDonagh's focus on the "descriptive" representation of women to the next logical question: Does "descriptive" or "passive" representation lead to "substantive" or "active" representation? Evidence of gains for racial minorities through passive representation has been abundantly documented, but gains for women are not well documented. As a test case, Keiser and her colleagues ask whether female students in schools with more women math teachers perform better on standardized math tests. Their analysis brings new data to bear on an issue that has important policy implications, while speaking to an array of issues in feminist, democratic, and neoinstitutionalist theories.

In "Self-Interest, Social Security, and the Distinc-
tive Participation Patterns of Senior Citizens," Andrea Louise Campbell's point of departure is the well known positive correlation between personal income and political participation in the United States. Although that relationship is well established, Campbell uncovers an intriguing exception: It reverses for senior citizens when Social Security comes into play. Social Security occupies a unique status as a government policy that

the poor depend on more than the rich, but also as one to which no "welfare" stigma is attached because it is considered earned. Thus, Social Security mobilizes the elderly segment of the poor population to act politically in their own self-interest in a way unmatched by other economic policies. This study will have to be taken into account in future analyses of the socioeconomic bases of mass political behavior and of the role of self-interest in shaping political attitudes.

A simple account of the timing of elections in par-
liamentary systems rests on the idea that officeholders behave strategically, calling new elections when they think their party's prospects are brighter than they are likely to be in the future. In "Strategic Parliament-
dary Dissolution," however, Kaare Strøm and Stephen Swindle contend that the matter is not nearly that simple, for the conventional account ignores institutional arrangements imposed on leaders by their countries' constitutions. By cataloguing the diverse set of pertinent constitutional provisions, constructing and solving games in which payoffs to the incumbents are based on these provisions, and using data on 192 elections in 18 parliamentary democracies to test hypotheses derived from these games, Strøm and Swindle greatly enrich our understanding of this familiar parliamentary tactic. More broadly, they provide superb demonstrations of the impact of institutional arrangements and of the fruitful interplay between formal theory and empirical testing.

Finally, in "Commerce, Coalitions, and Factor Mo-
bility: Evidence from Congressional Votes on Trade Legislation," Michael Hiscox notes that at some points in U.S. history, conflict over international trade has centered on broad class divisions. At other times, though, the conflict has been between narrower and more fluid coalitions of industries. Hiscox invokes factor mobility—"the ease with which owners of factors of production (land, labor, and capital) can move between industries"—to identify the points at which an industry-based coalitions model has been a better predictor of congressional voting on international trade issues than a class-based model. His analysis helps us understand the divisiveness of tariff and trade issues, and has direct implications for pluralist and Marxist models of political conflict.

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