

## **NOMINATIONS**

The Governance Committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for the one at-large opening on the Governance Committee for next year:

- Elisabeth Ellis, Associate Professor, Political Science Dept., Texas A&M University
- Keally McBride, Assistant Professor, Politics Dept., University of San Francisco
- Jeanne Morefield, Associate Professor and Garrett Fellow, Politics Dept., Whitman College

The election will take place at the business meeting at the annual conference this fall. More information about the candidates will be distributed prior to the conference.

## **AMENDMENT TO THE APT CONSTITUTION**

### **Proposed Changes**

The Governance Committee recommends the following changes to the APT governance structure:

1. Increase the size of the Governance Committee from seven voting members to nine voting members by splitting the duties of the current Secretary-Treasurer into two officer positions, Treasurer and Secretary, and by adding an additional at-large position.
2. Create two new positions, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, each of whom will be appointed by the Governance Committee for one-year, renewable terms. The Newsletter Editor and the Webmaster shall be ex officio, nonvoting members of the Governance Committee.

### **Background**

Last year, the Governance Committee (GC) created three ad hoc positions to help with the increasing work of the Association: a Membership Secretary, a Newsletter Editor, and a Webmaster. These changes have worked well over the past year, especially in easing the workload of the executive directors, so the GC believes that they should be made regular, permanent positions.

Given the nature of the duties of the Membership Secretary, we recommend that this position be turned into an elected “Secretary” officer position with a three-year term. In addition to approving new membership applications and keeping member records, this officer would also take on the current “secretary” duties assigned to the Secretary-Treasurer, like taking minutes at the business meeting and GC meetings. The Secretary-Treasurer position would be changed to simply Treasurer.

The GC recommends that the Editor and Webmaster positions be one-year, renewable appointments, made by the GC. To facilitate communication, the Editor and Webmaster would participate in GC discussions but not have voting power, as was true this past year.

Given that these changes would result in an additional officer position, the GC thinks it is important to add another “at-large” position on the GC in order to maintain an odd number of voting members and to ensure that the number of non-officer committee members remains larger than the number of officers. Thus, the total number of voting members on the GC would increase from seven to nine: four officers elected to three-year terms (2 Co-Executive Directors, one Treasurer, one Secretary), four at-large members elected to three-year terms (one of whom is selected by the GC to chair the committee), and one representative from the Conference Program Committee, selected for a one-year term by the Program Committee itself.

As provided by the APT Constitution, these changes will take effect if ratified by two-thirds of the members attending the business meeting at the APT conference in October at Texas A&M. If these changes are ratified, the GC will continue with the ad-hoc positions for another year and nominate candidates for the newly-created positions in spring 2010 for elections in fall 2010.

### **Textual Changes**

These proposed changes would alter the text of Article III of the APT Constitution as follows (additions in CAPS):

#### Article III: Officers and Committees

1. The Association shall have the following ELECTED officers: ~~a Governance Committee Chair~~, two Executive Co-Directors, ~~and a Secretary-Treasurer~~ A TREASURER, AND A SECRETARY. IN ADDITION, AT OR FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING BUT NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15, THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE SHALL APPOINT A NEWSLETTER EDITOR AND A WEBMASTER FOR ONE-YEAR RENEWABLE TERMS, RESPECTIVELY.

a. The Governance Committee Chair shall be responsible for convening and directing meetings of the Governance Committee, for communicating decisions of the Governance Committee to the membership, and for presiding over the business meeting.

b. The Executive Directors shall be responsible for implementing the decisions of the Governance Committee; and for corresponding with scholarly societies, associations, and related groups on behalf of the Association. The terms of the Executive Directors shall normally be staggered.

c. The ~~Secretary-Treasurer~~ shall be responsible for ~~keeping minutes of all meetings, for recording decisions of the membership and Governance Committee regarding association policies, and for the collection and disbursement of all monies, at the direction of the Governance Committee.~~

D. THE SECRETARY SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROVING NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND KEEPING ALL MEMBERSHIP RECORDS, KEEPING MINUTES OF ALL MEETINGS AND FOR RECORDING DECISIONS OF THE MEMBERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING ASSOCIATION POLICIES.

E. THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING NEWS ITEMS, WRITING THE NEWSLETTER, AND CIRCULATING IT AMONG THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

F. THE WEBMASTER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL ASPECTS OF THE WEBSITE AND CONFERENCE PAPER ARCHIVE.

Each ELECTED officer shall be limited to no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

2. ~~The Governance Committee shall consist of the three directly elected officers and three at-large members, as well as the Program Committee representative (see below III. 5).~~ THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF NINE VOTING AND TWO NON-VOTING MEMBERS. THE ASSOCIATION'S FOUR OFFICERS, THE FOUR AT-LARGE MEMBERS, AND THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE (SEE BELOW III.5) SHALL HAVE FULL VOTING RIGHTS. THE WEBMASTER AND NEWSLETTER EDITOR SHALL BE NON-VOTING MEMBERS. Terms of all elected members shall typically be staggered. Upon formation, the Governance Committee shall select a Chair from among its at-large membership. The terms of all members (except the Program Committee representative) shall be three years, and no member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms as an at-large member of the Governance Committee. A majority of the Governance Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and decisions shall be made by majority vote of said quorum.

3. Officers and Committee Members may be removed from office at any time for failure to carry out their responsibilities or for disrupting or otherwise impeding the work of the Association. Removal from office shall follow only upon a unanimous vote of all members of the Governance Committee (excluding the person being removed, if a member of that Committee).

4. Association officers and at-large members of the Governance Committee (with the exception of the Program Committee representative) shall be elected by the membership at the business meeting. The Governance Committee shall have the responsibility of nominating at least two candidates for each officer and each at-large position that must be filled in a given election. The process shall be as follows:

a. By five months prior to the next scheduled business meeting, the Governance Committee shall inform all Association members of which positions need to be filled and invite members to nominate themselves or others.

b. From those nominations the Governance Committee shall propose a slate of candidates to the Association membership by four months prior to the business meeting; in finalizing such a slate, the committee shall attempt to ensure that nominations represent the diversity of the Association and the academy more generally.

c. In addition, candidates may be nominated, either by a petition signed by 25 members at least one month prior to the business meeting, or by nomination and seconding from the floor at the business meeting itself. At all stages of the nomination process, members may nominate themselves.

5. A ~~seventh~~ NINTH member of the Governance Committee shall be elected by a majority of the previous year's Program Committee to serve a one-year term on the Governance Committee. No continuing member of the Program Committee may serve in this capacity as a member of the Governance Committee for more than three consecutive one-year terms.