

Call for the Editorship of *Journal of Political Science*, the Journal of the European Political Science Association

The European Political Science Association is announcing a call for the Editorship of the association's new journal, tentatively titled *Journal of Political Science (JPS)*. This call describes the EPSA, outlines the goals of the new journal, and lays out the procedures and time-line for launching the journal.

About the European Political Science Association

The European Political Science Association was founded in 2010 to pursue the following objectives:

- to represent and promote political science;
- to foster development in postgraduate training of political scientists;
- to promote undergraduate teaching of political scientists;
- to facilitate networking by political scientists worldwide;
- to host an annual general conference of political scientists, with the first to be held in June 2011 in Dublin.

The EPSA has had a very successful launching to date. The Association has now over 250 individual memberships and expects this to reach 500 by June 2011. The 2011 conference has attracted 500-600 attendees, most all of whom will choose to join the professional association. From 2011 we intend to expand steadily the activities of the EPSA, including holding an annual general conference and launching the professional journal described in this proposal.

The New Journal

The goals of the new journal will reflect the overall intellectual orientation of the EPSA which is to:

- a) Promote the scientific study of politics by publishing diverse work that includes the major fields of political science with a focus on research that is distinguished by being rigorous and analytical
- b) Develop a global reputation for scholarly excellence and innovation.
- c) Perform well in the journal performance metrics.

We believe that it is not by chance that journals perform better if they are published on behalf of a large and influential academic association with individual membership. The *European Political Science Association* will become the largest political science association with individual membership in Europe. Our aim is to ensure that the

Association will publish what will rapidly become one of the top five journals in political science.

Hence, there is a real niche for a journal that is unambiguously scientific, attracts the leading political science scholars, and has substantive interests that are distinctly non-U.S.-centric. Although it is important to sell the journal to top U.S. political scientists, it will also position itself as an *international* journal of political science and avoid any narrow geographic identification.

Editorship

Selection. An editorship selection committee chaired by Ray Duch has been established that consists of the following individuals:

- Ray Duch (Oxford)
- Ken Benoit (London School of Economics)
- Thomas Plumper (Essex University)
- Greg Caldeira (Ohio State)
- John Geer (Vanderbilt University)
- Simon Hug (Zurich)
- David Sanders (Essex University)
- Susan Stokes (Yale University)
- Duncan Snidal (Oxford)

This call for editorship proposals will be issued on April 25, 2011. The selection committee will select the editorship for *JPS* in the Fall of 2011.

Selection Criteria

The selection process will consist of an open call for institutional applications to house the journal and we will focus on the following primary criteria: adequate finances, the ability to attract (and obviously manage) manuscript submissions and the ability to launch a new journal and rapidly grow its subscriber base. We emphasize that geography does not matter here, nor does nationality. We are interested in the strongest editorial candidates – and these could come from non-European departments.

Editorship Proposal Guidelines

The EPSA is seeking an innovative editorship proposal designed to ensure the successful launch of its new journal. We invite applicants to address the following points:

1) Structure of the editorship

- describe in detail the editorship model being proposed (sole editor, team editorship model, etc.);

- describe the editorial board; your conception of its composition; and its role in the editorship.

2) *Marketing Plan*

- discuss your strategy for a successful launching of the new journal – what will your roll-out plan be for the new journal
- provide a detailed discussion of your plan for growing the readership of the journal

3) *Financial Package*

- include a detailed discussion of the financial support your institution will provide for your proposed editorship
- include discussion of the following points:
 - financial support for editors
 - teaching relief for editors
 - personnel costs – editorial assistants and research assistants
 - IT and computing
 - Travel and entertainment
 - Office expenses

4) *Manuscript Review*

- what peer review model you are planning to implement;
- what strategy you propose for attracting high quality manuscripts;
- how you propose to ensure a sufficient large and high quality pool of reviewers

5) *Personal Statement*

Provide a personal statement that describes why you are interested in being the editor of *JPS* and why you believe you would be particularly successful at editing a start-up journal of this kind.

As part of this personal statement we would like you to provide us with an indication of your intellectual vision for the discipline of political science. Would you include as part of your personal statement the following items:

- provide a list of the five articles from political science journals that you believe have had a major impact on the intellectual direction of the discipline;

- identify programmes, articles or scholarly directions that you would like to explore in order to put this journal on the leading edge of scientific scholarship in political science.

Editorial Proposal Submission

Editorial proposals should be no longer than 10 pages. These should be sent via e-mail to Ray Duch at raymond.duch@nuffield.ox.ac.uk. The deadline for submissions is August 15, 2011.