

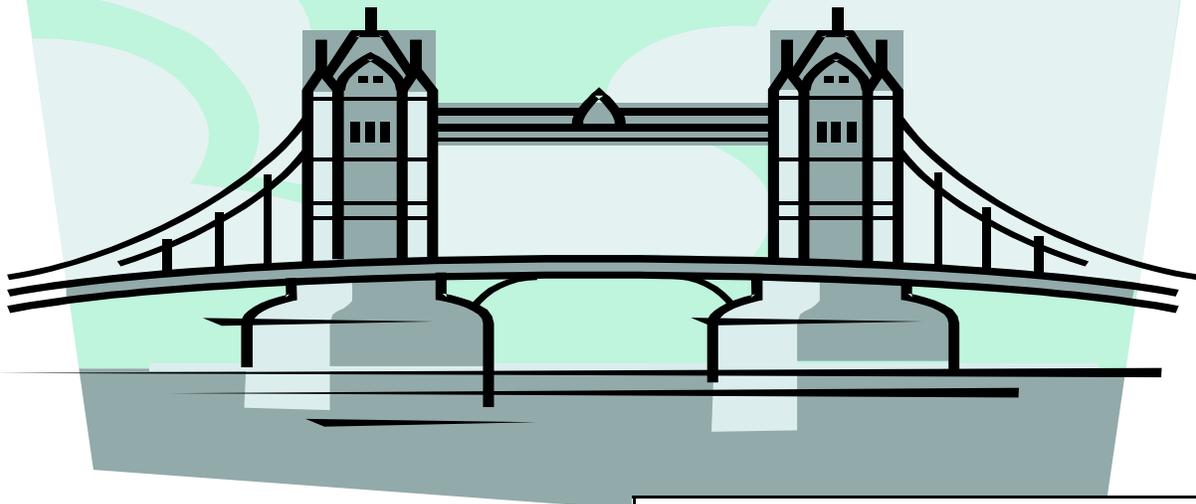
BRIDGING THE GAP

Newsletter of the Section for Women in Public Administration

Summer Edition

June 2006

Featuring Highlights of SWPA Breakfast



***SWPA Breakfast
Photographs on page five***

Letter from the Chair

I am so honored to be your chair for this program year!

First, I would like to thank Kathy Hensley for being chair for the last two years. Neither of us thought we would be called upon by Wendy Haynes to fill a void in the elected leadership succession. Kathy used her two years to clean up behind-the-scenes efforts to make SWPA operate more efficiently. She worked with Eileen Larence to



ensure our finances were secure and invested well. Kathy enlisted Marcy Crowley to examine our By-Laws and Operating Procedures and both are in shape and have been accepted by the membership.

Secondly, I would

like to thank past chair Wendy Haynes, our current ASPA President, for her work to document the contributions of women in public administration. *Outstanding Women in Public Administration*, published by M.E. Sharpe in 2003. She has supported our efforts to document the lives of other women who have contributed to public administration. Wendy and I are co-editing a “living document” which will be published by ASPA available this fall which offers vignettes of the women who have shaped our discipline and our role in professional associations. Please feel free to adopt this new book or the research oriented book from Sharpe in your Introduction to Public Administration classes or those which deal with Ethics.

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Finally, I would like to inform you that the Executive Committee and I are putting the finishing touches on a new website for SWPA. We really would like to see that if anyone is interested in women in public administration, they would be directed to our website. After that, Becky Shergens and I will be organizing committees which will work through the remainder of the year to routinize the workings of our standing committees to involve our membership and retain the momentum established in the past two years.

One last thank you to Janet Hutchinson for organizing and maintaining Bridging the Gap...every professional association needs workers like Janet. She keeps us organized and on time when we all have other personal and professional concerns.

The Board looks forward to working with all of you this year! Have a fun summer!

Claire L. Felbinger, Chair

Breakfast Keynote Address by Ambassador Gail Schoettler

Ambassador Gail Schoettler has had a varied and successful career in politics, diplomacy and business. Currently, she is Chairperson of the Board of Fischer Imaging Corporation and serves on the boards of CancerVax Corporation, A4S Security, and Aspen Bio, Inc., where she also chairs the nominating and corporate governance committees. She has been a United States ambassador, Colorado's Lt. Governor and State Treasurer, an entrepreneur, a professional speaker and a newspaper columnist. She has met with heads of state and traveled



to over 70 countries talking to and negotiating with political and business leaders.

As chairperson and board member of four public companies, Dr. Schoettler has a broad understanding of sound business management and best practices in corporate governance. In addition, her extensive experience in international business and politics underlie her knowledge of the economics and politics of globalization, successful political strategies for business, and issues of importance to women.

President Clinton appointed Dr. Schoettler United States Ambassador to the 2000 World Radiocommunication Conference held in Istanbul. She led a delegation of 162 U.S. telecommunications experts in a very successful treaty negotiation with 189 countries on the allocation of radio spectral for commercial and government uses. Subsequently, she headed the U. S. Defense Department's Presidential transition for global intelligence, security, communications and information technology.

SWPA Travel Scholarships Awarded to Three Outstanding Women.

Dr. Deniz Leuenberger, Chair of the SWPA Conference Scholarship Committee has announced the selection of the 2006 SWPA conference scholarships. Each winner received a \$500 check to assist with their conference expenses in Denver. They are:

Jill Cornett, is studying for her MPA at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Public Administration program.

Jessica Henning, is studying for her MPA at the University of Akron Department of Public Administration and Urban Studies. She is a new Public Administration professional.

Margaret Stout is studying for her doctoral degree at the Arizona State University School of Public Affairs.

Annual Honors Awarded at SWPA Breakfast

The *Rita Mae Kelly Distinguished Research Award to Judith Saidel* for distinguished research that contributes to our understanding of gender-related issues in public administration.

Judith Saidel is Research Associate Professor and Executive Director of the Center for Women in Government. She earned her doctoral degree from the State University of New York at Albany in 1990.



Dr. Saidel's research interests include interdependence issues between public agencies and nonprofit organizations, the implications of contracting for nonprofit governance, the demographic composition of top-ranking gubernatorial appointees, and questions related to representative bureaucracy. Saidel heads the Center for Women in Government, a research, policy education, leadership development, and training center, founded in 1978 as part of the Graduate School of Public Affairs. Saidel is co-principal investigator with Norma M. Riccucci of "Appointed Policy Makers in State Government," a multi-year project funded by the Ford Foundation. She just completed a study of "Advisory Groups and Nonprofit Governance," supported by a grant from the Aspen Institute Nonprofit Sector Research Fund, and is co-principal investigator of the Nonprofit Education Initiative, a four-year project with major support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Dr. Riccucci accepted the award in Dr. Saidel's behalf since she was unable to attend the conference.

The *Joan Fiss Bishop Award for distinguished public services to Sherri Greenberg*.

Sherri Greenberg served for 10 years as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, completing her final term in January 2001. In 1999, she was appointed by the

Speaker of the House to chair the House Pensions and Investments Committee, which oversees the Texas State Employee Retirement System, state employee health insurance program, Teacher Retirement System, local public employee retirement systems, and regulation of state investments

and public securities. After the 1999 legislative session, the Speaker appointed her as chair of the Select Committee on Teacher



Health Insurance. Greenberg served two terms on the House Appropriations Committee, which is the House's budget writing committee, and served on the Appropriations Committee's Education and Major Information Systems Subcommittees. Other committee assignments included the House Economic Development Committee and the Welfare-to-Work Committee. Greenberg's professional background is in public finance. She served as the Manager of Capital Finance for the City of Austin from 1985 to 1989, overseeing the City's debt management, capital budgeting, and capital improvement programs. Prior to that she worked as a Public Finance Officer for Standard & Poor's Corporation in New York, where she analyzed and assigned bond ratings to public projects across the country. Greenberg has a B.A. in Government from UT Austin and an M.S. in Public Administration and Policy from the London School of Economics. At the LBJ School she teaches courses in public financial management, policy development, and public administration and management. Her teaching and research interests include public finance and budgeting, Texas state government, local government, health care, education, utilities, transportation, and campaigns and elections.

The *Julia B. Henderson Award for service to the section* was awarded to *Marcy P. Crowley*

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and has been renamed in her honor. **Marcy**, who was surprised by the award which was kept secret by SWPA officers complicit with Marcy's daughter Joan Crowley who flew in for the occasion.



Marcy is pictured accepting the award. Her most recent service to SWPA has been that of section archivist.

Items of Note

August 31 to September 3, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, "Power Reconsidered", Philadelphia, Pennsylvania <http://www.apsanet.org/>

October 19-21, National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) Annual Conference "The Future of the Public Sector", Minneapolis, MN. <http://www.naspaa.org/>

November 2-4 Twenty-Eighth Annual Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Research Conference "Tax and Spend: Designing, Implementing, Managing and Evaluating Effective Redistributive Policies", Madison, WI. <http://www.appam.org/>

Senate approves site lease for Women's History Museum.

ASPA-SWPA is a founding member organization of the National Women's History Museum National Coalition. For the past three years, it has played a leadership role in securing a permanent site for the Museum at the Glass Pavil-

ion adjacent to the Old Post Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue.

The U.S. Senate passed S 501, The National Women's History Museum Act, by unanimous consent on July 29, 2005 led by Senator Susan Collins and 20 cosponsors. S 501 directs GSA to lease the site for the Museum. The action now shifts to the U.S. House of Representatives and its Committee on Transportation Infrastructure, which has yet to report out S 501 for a House vote.

Coalition organizations representing over 8.5 million members have been writing the committee leadership to move S 501 forward. ASPA Executive Director Toni Samuels has sent a letter to the Committee leadership on May 22, 2006 lending our support for this effort. For more information about how you can help, please visit www.nwhm.org.

Comings and Goings....

Lori M. SchraderBacher has earned her MPA from Drake University and has been inducted into Pi Alpha Alpha.

Bethany Stitch completed her Ph.D. at the Center for Public Policy at Virginia Tech and has taken a position as Assistant Professor in the Public Administration Department of Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS.

Meredith Newman has accepted an appointment as Professor and Director of the School of Public Administration, Florida International University. Meredith is also co-chairing the program committee for the 2007 ASPA conference in Washington, DC.

Barbara Chamberlain, MPA, Director of Communications and Public Affairs at Washington State University Spokane, will be announcing her candidacy for Spokane County Commissioner, District 3, in early June. Her personal

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contact information is barbchamberlain@hotmail.com, 509-869-2949. Her campaign Web site will be www.votebarbchamberlain.com.

Becky Schergens has been named for a fourth three-year term by the Board of Trustees of Southern Methodist University to the Libraries Executive Board. She currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Board.



Donna Handley, Kathy Hensley, and Anne Osborne Kilpatrick



Sherri Greenberg and Gail Schoettler



Sherri Greenberg, Gail Schoettler and Linda DeLeon



Marcy Crowley and Becky Schergens



Norma Riccucci accepting the Rita Mae Kelly award for Judith Saidel

I AM A WOMAN VOTER: HEAR MY ROAR

New research on an important group of women voters - unmarried women - is available from Women's Voices Women Votes. Yielded from a recent national survey and focus groups, Women's Voices Women's Vote (WVWV) has released its research in time for the 2006 elections and can be fully accessed at www.wvww.org. WVWV is a non-partisan organization that partners with the newly formed Women's Voices Women's Vote Action Fund to engage in the 2006 elections.

According to WVWV, unmarried America is growing: almost half of all US households are headed by an unmarried person. Unmarried women make up 46% of all voting age women; are approximately one-third never married, one-third divorced and one-third widowed. The survey finds unmarried women are different from married women - economically, socially and politically - and they are clearly seeking change in the 2006 elections and have a renewed focus on domestic and economic issues that directly affect their lives. Their top priorities include access to affordable health care, stronger retirement security, better educational opportunity, and raising the minimum wage. These women do not see the Republican Administration addressing these issues. Increasing the number of unmarried women who register and vote can have significant electoral benefit for Democrats, since unmarried women are more populist and share strong democratic values.

In 2004, unmarried women increased their share of the electorate by 3.4 percentage points, going from 19% of all voters in 2000 to 22.4% in 2004. Looking at the WVWV data, this group of voters and non-voters can be mobilized if the Democratic Party speaks to their issues with the right messages and

messengers. Recent history suggests that more than 6 million unmarried women who participated in the 2004 elections will not show up in 2006 unless mobilized. These drop-off voters can make the difference in November 2006 for Democratic candidates.

How do you use this information? Review the data, which in some cases is state specific. As all the research and related presentation materials are available to the public, you can encourage your state and local Party to talk to these important voters. Educate other women in your community by speaking about the research and how each of us can improve the outreach to unmarried women and ask them to participate in the electoral process.

Contributed by Kathy Hensley

Items of Note:

Celebrating Women in Literature:

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/>

Boston Women's Health Book Collective

<http://www.ourbodiesourselves.org/>

National Women's Health Resource Center

<http://www.healthywomen.org/>

Kaiser Family Foundation State Health

Facts.Org <http://www.statehealthfacts.org/cgi-bin/healthfacts.cgi>

Kaiser Health Policy Information Center

<http://www.kaisernetwork.org/>

Women of Color Policy Network

<http://www.nyu.edu/wagner/centers/wocpn.php>



DEAR SWPA MEMBERS: WELCOME!

SWPA Committees and Special Appointments

DEAR MEMBERS: We want you to know what we're doing. WE NEED FOR YOU TO BE INVOLVED!! Please take a look at our current committees and sign up! The leadership of the committees may change in the next few months, but the fundamental missions will remain constant in the next year. Please let the current committee chairs and your officers know the topics of great interest to you. At your suggestion, we may also add committees or action teams to gather forces for pursuing our section goals.

Thank you!

Claire Felbinger, Chair

List of Committees and their charges

Awards – solicits nominations, appoints selection committees in consultation with the Section Chair, and recommends award recipients for: (1) Rita Mae Kelly Distinguished Research Award; (2) Joan Fiss Bishop Award; and the (3) Julia Henderson Service to the Section Award. The Committee may also, from time to time, recommend the creation of new awards. Coordinates closely with ASPA national staff to ensure timely award solicitation announcements.

BTG (*Bridging the Gap*) Managing Editor – plans, solicits input/columns/items of interest, and orchestrates the text preparation of three Section newsletters each year. The Managing Editor sends full text to the Production Editor, who takes it from there. SWPA publishes three editions of *BTG* each year: summer; fall; and late winter/early spring (pre-conference focus).

BTG Book Review Editor – keeps an eye out for books and articles of interest to the SWPA membership and ensures that the most noteworthy

are reviewed in *BTG*. The Editor will, in some cases, write the column, but more often arranges for others to review the publications and then edits the reviews.

Bylaws/Constitution Revision – periodically appointed to review the bylaws and recommend to the general membership appropriate changes and updates in collaboration with the SWPA leadership team. A particular focus in 2002-2003 will revolve around establishing a two-year term for the Chair, a 2-3 year term for the student member, and appropriately distinguishing between the Constitution and the Bylaws.

Conference – coordinates the Section presence and activities at the ASPA national conference each year. Includes, but not limited to, arranging the annual breakfast meeting and collaborating with others on locating an appropriate keynote speaker; arranging, setting up and ensuring staffing for the SWPA exhibit table; and arranging other events, such as the ice cream social.

Leadership – issues of leadership for women in government.

Membership – responsible for activities aimed at retaining and gaining new members, including recruitment initiatives, welcoming new members to the Section, checking with former members to find out why they are no longer with the Section, and keeping special watch over ensuring that members are receiving value for their dues and efforts. The Chair maintains close contact with ASPA national staff to ensure that SWPA has access to and uses the most recent membership lists.

National Council Liaison – keeps the Board apprised of Council issues and activities, and ensures that Section issues are presented to the Council and or appropriate Steering Groups. As needed, submits material to the *BTG* managing editor on relevant national ASPA developments.

Nominations – in collaboration with SWPA officers, builds slate of officers and assists in ensuring that we tap long-time leaders appropriately and that we develop and encourage new leaders.

Research Committee – develops a strategy for revitalizing, supporting, and pursuing the research agenda on women’s issues in public administration. May include development of <womeningov.org> web site in agenda. Also solicits nominations, appoints selection committee in consultation with the Section Chair, and recommends award recipients for the Student Scholarship Award.

Student Member – provides essential point of connection between SWPA and the new professionals/workforce of the future initiative, a matter high on ASPA’s national agenda. Coordinates with Membership Chair in attracting and retaining “new professionals” in SWPA.

Contributions Committee – will during the next year craft criteria and process for determining to whom SWPA will make financial contributions to individuals and institutions that promote projects and research that are consistent with SWPA’s goals and values.

The **nominating committee** for 2006 was composed of *Wendy Haynes*, *Claire Felbinger* and *Sheryl Broome*. The slate of officers and board members was proposed and voted upon at the annual meeting, and are as follows:

SWPA 2006-2007 Officers

Claire L. Felbinger, Chair
(*c.felbinger@starpower.net*)

Becky Schergens, Vice Chair
(*bschergens@hotmail.com*)

Kathy Hensley, Immediate Past Chair
(*kathrynhensley@hotmail.com*)

Sharon H. Mastracci, Secretary
(*mastracc@uic.edu*)

Treasurer, Eileen Larence, Treasurer
(*erlarence@cox.net*)



SWPA Board Members (Term ending 2007)

Alexandra L. Jones
(*alexandrajones@phoenix.gov*)

Jerri Killian (*jerri.killian@wright.edu*)

Rosemary O’Leary (*roleary@maxwell.syr.edu*)

(Term ending 2008)

Donna M. Handley (*donnamilam@charter.net*)

Deniz Leuenberger (*dleuenberger@bridgew.edu*)

Phin Zaypangna (student member)

(Term ending 2009)

L. Dara Baldwin (*dbaldwin@acnj.org*)

Patricia M. Shields (*ps07@txstate.edu*)

Vera Vogelsang-Coombs (*vera@urban.csuohio.edu*)

Bridging the Gap

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Book reviews, summaries of original research, ,
member news, both professional and personal, and
other items of interest to SWPA
members are welcome.