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I. Mission Statement

The Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science is a regional caucus affiliated with the Women's Caucus for Political Science of the American Political Science Association. The Midwest Caucus promotes professional equity for women in the discipline of political science by sponsoring sessions at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, working with the Association to promote the interests of women political scientists, encouraging research that acknowledges and investigates the presence and activities of women in political life, and serving as a network for members between annual meetings.

We welcome your participation and membership. To join the Midwest Caucus or to renew your membership, please complete the form provided on the last page of the newsletter and return it to the Caucus Treasurer as indicated on the form.

II. Message from the Caucus President Christina Wolbrecht

Greetings! I hope everyone has survived what was a cold and snowy winter in these parts, and is looking forward to the MPSA conference in Chicago. We have put together an excellent set of roundtables for the 2007 conference (see below), thanks to organizers Leslie Schwindt-Bayer, Brigid Harrison, Karen Kaufmann, Maria Escobar-Lennon, and Elizabeth Bennion. Many thanks to those of you who are serving as chairs and panelists on those roundtables.

In a change to long-standing Midwest Women's Caucus tradition, we will *not* be having a breakfast business meeting this year, due to the new, extended MPSA conference schedule, wherein panels begin as early as 8 a.m. Instead, we will be holding our **annual business meeting on Thursday evening, from 6:10 to 7 p.m. in Parlor A**. Light snacks and drinks will be available to hold you over until dinner. All members and prospective members are enthusiastically invited to attend. We will be discussing various Caucus initiatives and plans for the future.

Our business meeting is also the occasion for Caucus elections. Our Treasurer, Tracy Osborn, and Secretary, Celeste Montoya Kirk, will continue in the second year of their two year terms. Elizabeth Bennion, the current President-Elect, will be nominated for President. I am delighted

to announce that Brigid Harrison will be nominated for President-Elect, and Candice Ortals will be nominated for Newsletter Editor. Biographies for our slate of officers are provided below.

You also are encouraged to attend the **MPSA Minority Caucuses Reception**, a joint reception cosponsored by the Midwest Women's Caucus, the Midwest Latino/a Caucus, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, and the Midwest LGBT Caucus. The **Minority Caucuses Reception** is scheduled immediately following our business meeting: **Thursday evening, 7 to 8:30 p.m., Crystal**. Please plan to attend both events. I hope to see you there!

Every year the Midwest Women's Caucus honors one of our colleagues with an **Outstanding Professional Achievement Award**. This year, the award is being given posthumously to an extremely worthy recipient, Iris Marion Young of the University of Chicago. Young's contributions to political philosophy and feminist theory, leadership in the discipline, and mentorship of especially female scholars cannot be overstated. A panel in Young's honor will be held on Friday at 4:25. Thanks to Eileen Braman for chairing the award committee, and to committee members Sue Carroll, Melinda Jackson, and Karen Kaufmann for their service.

I want to personally thank the Midwest Women's Caucus officers for their terrific service to the Caucus this year; they've made my job far easier than it might have been! I look forward to handing over leadership to Elizabeth Bennion at the MPSA conference. I know she'll do an outstanding job on behalf of women in the discipline.

Christina Wolbrecht
President, Midwest Women's Caucus
Wolbrecht.1@nd.edu

III. Caucus Events at the 2007 Midwest Political Science Annual Meeting

Bring your friends and colleagues! Non-Caucus members are invited to attend all events (and to become members!).

Overview of Midwest Women's Caucus Events

Mentoring Roundtable on Publishing with Colleagues and Publishers (Cosponsored with the Program Co-chairs; 1-112, 57-103), Thursday, 9:50 – 11:25 a.m.

Having It All and Doing It All: Achieving a Work-Life Balance (Co-sponsored with the Program Co-chairs, 1-113, 57-102), Thursday, 12:45 – 2:20 p.m.

Women Faculty in the Classroom: Strategies for Success (57-101), Thursday, 4:25 – 6 p.m.

Midwest Women's Caucus Annual Meeting, Thursday, 6:10 – 7 p.m., Parlor A.
Refreshments will be served!

MPSA Minority Caucuses Reception, Thursday, 7 – 8:30 p.m., Crystal. Co-sponsored with the Midwest Latino/a Caucus, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, and the Midwest LGBT Caucus.

Roundtable Honoring Iris Marion Young, Winner of the Women's Caucus Outstanding Professional Achievement Award (Co-sponsored with Political Philosophy: Approaches and Themes and the Program Co-chairs, 1-102, 57-106), Friday, 4:25 – 6 p.m.

Navigating Professional Service: When to Say "Yes" and How to Say "No" (57-104), Friday, 4:25 – 6 p.m.

Survive and Thrive: Successful Strategies for Tenure (57-105), Saturday, 12:45 – 2:20 p.m.

2007 Midwest Women's Caucus Roundtables in Detail

MENTORING ROUNDTABLE ON PUBLISHING WITH COLLEAGUES AND PUBLISHERS (Cosponsored with the Program Co-chairs), Thursday, 9:50 – 11:25 a.m.

Overview: This roundtable mentoring session will provide practical advice from both colleagues and publishers on publishing journal articles, academic trade books, and scholarly works in political science.

Chair: Brigid C. Harrison, *Montclair State University*

Susan Gluck Mezey, *Loyola University, Chicago*

Chuck Myers, *Princeton University Press*

Monica Eckman, *McGraw-Hill Publishers*

Joan Catapano, *University of Illinois Press*

HAVING AND DOING IT ALL: ACHIEVING A WORK-LIFE BALANCE (Co-sponsored with the Program Co-chairs), Thursday, 12:45 – 2:20 p.m.

Overview: This roundtable will discuss strategies for successful balance of professional and personal goals and responsibilities.

Chair: Christina Wolbrecht, *University of Notre Dame*

Lynne E. Ford, *College of Charleston*

Trudy Steuernagel, *Kent State University*

Michael Brintnall, *American Political Science Association*

Lisa Baldez, *Dartmouth University*

WOMEN FACULTY IN THE CLASSROOM: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS, Thursday, 4:25 – 6 p.m.

Overview: Female instructors often face a different set of obstacles in the classroom than do male instructors. What challenges do women face and how can we overcome them? This roundtable will discuss women's strategies for success in the classroom.

Chair: Leslie A. Schwindt-Bayer, *University of Mississippi*

Michelle Dion, *Georgia Institute of Technology*

Beth Leech, *Rutgers University*

Julie Dolan, *Macalester College*

Jodi Finkel, *Loyola Marymount University*

ROUNDTABLE HONORING IRIS MARION YOUNG, WINNER OF THE WOMEN'S CAUCUS OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (Co-sponsored

with Political Philosophy: Approaches and Themes and the Program Co-chairs), Friday, 4:25 - 6 p.m.

Overview: Young is the recipient of the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award from the Midwest Women's Caucus. Participants will reflect on the contributions and legacy of Young's work in philosophy, political science, feminism, and social activism.

Chair: Patchen Markell, *University of Chicago*

Melissa Williams, *University of Toronto*

Laurel Weldon, *Purdue University*

Isaac Balbus, *University of Illinois, Chicago*

Michaele Ferguson, *University of Colorado, Boulder*

David Ingram, *Loyola University*

Martin Matustik, *Purdue University*

NAVIGATING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE: WHEN TO SAY "YES" AND HOW TO SAY "NO", Friday, 4:25 - 6 p.m.

Overview: This panel will discuss the various service demands often placed on junior faculty, especially women and scholars of color, and provide feedback on the relative benefits and/or disadvantages associated with different kinds of professional service.

Chair: Karen Kaufmann, *University of Maryland*

Elsa Chen, *Santa Clara University*

Georgia Duerst-Lahti, *Beloit College*

Claudine Gay, *Harvard University*

Laurie Rhodebeck, *University of Louisville*

SURVIVE AND THRIVE: SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES FOR TENURE, Saturday, 12:45 – 2:20 p.m.

Overview: Panelists from diverse institutions provide advice on building a successful case for tenure and promotion.

Chair: Elizabeth A. Bennion-Turba, *Indiana University, South Bend*

Kathleen Dolan, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee*

Ann Lin, *University of Michigan*

Joanna Scott, *Eastern Michigan University*

Staci Rhine, *Wittenberg College*

IV. Outstanding Professional Achievement Award

Honoring Iris Marion Young

Each year the Midwest Women's Caucus gives an honorary award to a senior woman in the discipline. We honor those who have produced significant Political Science scholarship (not necessarily in the area of women and politics), who have generously given their time and energies to the profession, who have actively mentored other women in the profession, and who have consistently served as positive role models for women in the discipline. This year the Women's Caucus honors Iris Marion Young as the Recipient of our Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. Professor Young passed quite prematurely last year, so we regret that she cannot be with us to personally accept this honor. She is clearly deserving of this award for her fine scholarship, service and mentorship; moreover, we are happy to be able to commemorate her

contributions at the Midwest Political Science Association conference in Chicago where Professor Young spent much of her distinguished academic career.

Most recently Professor Young was on the Political Science faculty at the University of Chicago where she was a highly regarded teacher and colleague. She was an active force and participant in the University's Center for Gender Studies during her tenure at Chicago. Young was an undergraduate at Queens College before going on to receive her masters and doctorate degrees from Pennsylvania State University in 1974. Prior to joining the political science department at the University of Chicago she taught at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburg for several years. She also taught at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Miami University.

Professor Young's scholarly contributions to gender studies and political philosophy are widely acknowledged as numerous, important and impressive. Her writings on justice, democracy, race and gender issues (just to name a few areas of substantive concern) have been translated into multiple languages. *Justice of Politics and Difference* (1990), arguably Young's most famous book, has been adapted in countless graduate and undergraduate classrooms for its thought provoking insights. Her other works include *Throwing Like a Girl and Other Essays in Feminist Philosophy and Social Theory* (1990), *Intersecting Voices: Dilemmas of Gender Political Philosophy and Policy* (1997) *Inclusion and Democracy* (2000) and *On Female Body Experience* (2004).

Professor Young was known for being an international scholar and activist. She lectured and visited at universities all over the world. Her ideas remain influential in shaping thinking and policies pertaining to social justice for academics and political decision makers on multiple continents. As influential as she was, Professor Young is also remembered as being extremely generous with her time with regard to mentoring and teaching students interested in political theory and gender issues.

Please join us in honoring Professor Young's many professional achievements. There will be a plenary session at the Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association at 4:25 on Friday April 13 specifically dedicated to this purpose. We do hope you will attend.

**Call for Nominations:
Outstanding Professional Achievement Award 2007-2008**

Every year the Midwest Women's Caucus solicits nominations for the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. We encourage you to nominate an outstanding woman for the 2007-2008 award. To do so, please send a brief description of the nominee's accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, teaching, service, and mentoring to the 2007-2008 Award Committee Chair Michele Swers (Georgetown University). Her email address is: mls47@georgetown.edu.

Past Award Recipients

1993-1994 Doris Graber
1994-1995 Jewell Prestage
1995-1996 Susan Welch
1996-1997 Arlene Saxonhouse
1997-1998 Diane Blair

1998-1999 Roberta Sigel
1999-2000 Peggy Conway
2000-2001 Betty Glad
2001-2002 Karen O'Connor
2002-2003 Virginia Sapiro
2003-2004 Catherine Rudder
2004-2005 Pippa Norris
2005-2006 Susan Carroll

V. Nominations for Caucus Officers

President

Elizabeth A. Bennion is a faculty member in the Department of Political Science at Indiana University South Bend. Bennion's research agenda incorporates her commitment to teaching, service and civic engagement. She is interested in the effects of registration and mobilization campaigns on both citizens and young canvassers. Her recent publications in the *Journal of Political Science Education* (Philadelphia, PA: Taylor and Francis, 2006) and *Quick Hits for Educating Citizens* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2006) focus on the impact of voter mobilization campaigns on student canvassers. She has designed and implemented both door-to-door and phone-based voter mobilization field experiments, one of which was recently published in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2005). Her commitment to expanding the assessment of civic engagement activities is reflected in her work with the American Democracy Project and in a chapter she authored in the 2006 AASCU monograph *Electoral Voices: A Best Practices Guide to Engaging College Students*. Bennion is currently the principal investigator of a \$215,000 multi-campus field experiment testing the relative effectiveness of different voter registration methods. A four-time recipient of Indiana University's Trustees' Teaching Award, and member of IU's Faculty Colloquium on Excellence in Teaching, Bennion also serves on several advisory boards including the executive council of APSA's Undergraduate Education Section. She is a long-time member of the Caucus, serving as treasurer from 2002-2004, as secretary from 2004-2006, and as President-Elect from 2006-2007. E-mail: ebennion@iusb.edu

President-Elect

Brigid C. Harrison is Professor of Political Science and Law at Montclair State University, where she teaches courses in American Government, Women and Politics, Campaigns and Elections, Political Parties, and Quantitative Analysis. She is the lead author of *An Invitation to American Government* (with Susan J. Tolchin, Jean Wahl Harris and Suzanne U. Samuels), which is forthcoming from McGraw-Hill Publishers in 2008. She also is the author of *Power and Society 11th edition* (with Thomas R. Dye) (Wadsworth, 2007) and *Women in American Politics: An Introduction* (Wadsworth, 2003). Her research interests include the civic engagement of Americans, particularly the role of new technologies as tools of civic engagement, as well the role of more traditional entities in civic engagement, and women's political participation. She received her B.A. from The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, her M.A. from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and her Ph.D. from Temple University. E-mail: harrisonb@mail.montclair.edu

Treasurer (second year of a two-year term)

Tracy Osborn is an assistant professor of political science at Bridgewater State College in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. She received her Ph.D. from Indiana University in 2004. Her work focuses on women's representation in the state legislatures and Congress, as well as political communication between women and men at the mass level. She is currently working on a book manuscript about women legislators' efforts to create a women's issues agenda across different state legislative contexts as well as several articles about the effects of political discussion between men and women. Tracy will join the faculty of the University of Iowa in the Fall of 2007. Email: T0sborn@bridgew.edu

Secretary (second year of a two-year term)

Celeste Montoya Kirk (Ph.D., Washington University, 2005) is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She teaches a variety of courses in comparative politics, including courses on social movements and gender politics. Her research focuses on the examination of national and transnational advocacy coalitions and their impact on policy. Her current projects include: an in-depth study of women's rights policy and advocacy in Italy, a project on gender networks in the European Union, and a comparative study of gender violence policy in Southern Europe. Email: cmmontoy@siu.edu

Newsletter Editor

Candice D. Ortobals (Ph.D. Indiana University, 2004) is an assistant professor at Pepperdine University. Her dissertation is entitled *Embedded Institutions, Activisms, and Discourses: Untangling the Intersections of Women's Civil Society and Women's Policy Agencies in Spain*. She recently worked on a grant from the Ministry of Education in Spain to conduct research on women's policy agencies in the Canary Islands. She is a research member in the Research Network on Gender, Policy, and the State (RNGS). Her publications pertain to state feminism in the Spanish regions of Andalusia and Galicia and include a chapter in the forthcoming RNGS books, *Changing State Feminism: Women's Policy Agencies Confront Shifting Institutional Terrain* (co-authored with Maria Bustelo), an article in the *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, and a forthcoming article in *PS: Political Science and Politics*. Email: Candice.Ortbals@pepperdine.edu

VI. Panel Solicitations for the 2008 MPSA

Each year the Midwest Women's Caucus for Political Science sponsors roundtables pertaining to professional development concerns that are salient to graduate students, junior faculty, and senior faculty. Topics covered at recent conferences are listed below. If you are interested in proposing a roundtable topic for the 2008 MPSA Conference or serving on a roundtable, please contact incoming Caucus President Elizabeth Bennion. Her email address is: ebennion@iusb.edu

2006 Meeting

How to Land your First Job: Tips for the Academic Job Market

Women Should Ask: Negotiation in the Academic Workplace

Where Most of Us Are: Navigating the Profession of Political Science in Non-Ph.D.

Departments and Institutions

How to Pursue a Non-Academic Career
How to Communicate with the Media

2005 Meeting

The Politics of Studying Gender
Success in Graduate School and in Finding Academic Employment
Becoming Faculty: Transition to the First Year
News You Can Use: Tips for a Successful Post-Tenure Career
Recruiting and Retaining Women Graduate Students

2004 Meeting

Getting Tenure: Strategies for Success
How Do I Get My Book Published?
Same-Sex Marriage
The Professional and the Personal: Striking a Balance in Your Life
Agents of Change: Women in Higher Education Working to Transform the Academy
Escaping the Quota Frame: Conversations on Minority Representation in Contested APSA Elections

2003 Meeting

Beyond the Women's Caucus? Reflections on the Caucus in the 20th and 21st Centuries
The Joys and Frustrations of Baccalaureate-only Departments
The Rewards and Punishments of Administrative Service in Higher Education
The Future of Graduate Education
Soaking and Poking: Interview Techniques and Strategies for Women and Men

2002 Meeting

What They Don't Teach You in Graduate School
When to Say 'Yes' and How to Say 'No'
Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Making it in the Profession But Were Afraid to Ask
From Dissertation to Alternative Careers in the Academy: Women's Tales from the Field
Poster Session: Experiential Learning and Research: Internships and Fellowships for Graduates and Undergraduates Interested in Women and Politics

VII. MIDWEST WOMEN'S CAUCUS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE MEMBERSHIP

RENEW NOW!

If you did not renew your membership at the 2007 Annual MPSA Meeting, be sure to fill out and mail the attached membership form. This will ensure that you continue to receive the Midwest Women's Caucus newsletter and important information related to the Caucus. If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact, Tracy Osborn (TOsborn@bridgew.edu).

SPREAD THE WORD!

Do you know someone who might benefit from learning more about the Caucus? We are trying to reach out to more women in the discipline. If you know of faculty or graduate students who might be interested in the Caucus, please forward this newsletter to them and encourage them to join.

Membership Form 2007-2008

MIDWEST WOMEN’S CAUCUS FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

If you would like to renew your membership or become a member, please complete this form and return it with your payment to:

Professor Tracy Osborn*
Bridgewater State University
Department of Political Science
Summer Street House, 180 Summer Street
Bridgewater, MA 02325
**Make checks payable to “Midwest Women’s Caucus”*

Name _____

University Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

Is this a new address within the last 12 months? _____

E-mail Address _____
(We need an accurate e-mail address so that you will receive the newsletter.)

Phone _____

New member _____ Renewing member _____

MIDWEST WOMEN’S CAUCUS DUES:

Student/Unemployed	Free _____	One-Year Membership	\$10.00 _____
Low Income	\$2.00 _____	Two-Year Membership	\$20.00 _____

Breakfast at the Business Meeting during MPSA 2006 in Chicago:

(For those who attended the business meeting in Chicago)

Student/Unemployed	\$5.00 _____	Faculty/Staff	\$10.00 _____
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You also have the option of joining and paying your

NATIONAL WOMEN’S CAUCUS DUES:

(These dues will be forwarded to the Treasurer of the APSA Women’s Caucus)

Student/Unemployed/Retired	Free _____	Salary \$15,000 - \$40,000	\$20.00 _____
Salary under \$15,000	\$10.00 _____	Salary over \$40,000	\$30.00 _____

Donation to Midwest Women’s Caucus: _____ *(Please enter the amount you would like to contribute)*

TOTAL: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to “Midwest Women’s Caucus.”

VIII. Officer Names and Contact Information

President: Christina Wolbrecht (University of Notre Dame), wolbrecht.1@nd.edu

President-Elect: Elizabeth Bennion (Indiana University South Bend), bennion@iusb.edu

Secretary: Celeste Montoya Kirk (Southern Illinois University), cmmontoy@siu.edu

Treasurer: Tracy Osborn (Bridgewater State University), Tosborn@bridgew.edu

Newsletter Editor: Regina Branton (Rice University), branton@rice.edu

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