



New Zealand Political Studies Association



Happy New Year and I hope you've had a good break. Welcome to the 2015 Summer Edition of the NZPSA's quarterly newsletter. Those of you who attended our December conference will be well aware of its success thanks to the University of Auckland and, in particular, the conference organisers, Julie MacArthur and Thomas Gregory. The Minutes from the AGM will be sent to you shortly and as you will see we have a very busy year ahead of us as we develop a new constitution so we can become an incorporated society, and join the Royal Society and IPSA. I am extremely pleased to announce, too, that the politics team at Massey University has very kindly agreed to host the conference this year. If you have an upcoming event or deadline you wish to include in the next newsletter, please send it to admin@nzpsa.co.nz by March 30 –

Vicki Spencer NZPSA President

Employment Opportunities

As a service to members, NZPSA promotes employment and research opportunities via the NZPSA website. If you or your institution wish to advertise any relevant opportunities, placements, grants or scholarships, send the details to admin@nzpsa.co.nz.

Election of New Representatives

Following the December AGM, we would like to welcome our new Officers for 2015-16:

Treasurer: Ben Thirkell-White

Executive Secretary: Julie MacArthur

Māori Representative: Dominic O'Sullivan

Auckland Representative: Tom Gregory

AUT Representative: Jane Verbitsky

Postgraduate Representative: Lara Greaves

Otago Representative: Philip Nel

Canterbury Representative: Scott Walker

Lincoln Representative: Jacob Kambuta

Thank you to all outgoing Officers and, in particular, to Julienne Molineaux and Xavier Marquez for their excellent service over the past 4 years.

Women Talking Politics Now Online

The first issue of *Women Talking Politics* as the new Research Magazine of the NZPSA is [now online](#). Edited by Dr Valentina Cardo of the University of Auckland, *Women Talking Politics* has been re-launched in this new format after a five-year break due to the Christchurch earthquakes.

Constitutional Update

As we discovered last year that we have no formal Constitution, I am currently drafting an NZPSA Constitution in consultation with a working party consisting of Janine Hayward, Kate McMillan, Dominic O'Sullivan and Julienne Molineaux. A draft will be sent to all NZPSA Officers including the University representatives for comment and we will then send the final version to all NZPSA members to vote on electronically in February. It is vital that you vote, as we need a majority of members to accept it for us to become an Incorporated Society, and to join the Royal Society and IPSA.

New Prize in Māori Politics

We are very pleased to announce a new prize for the Best Undergraduate Paper in Māori Politics. Details on how to apply will follow in the next newsletter.

Congratulations to our Prizewinners

Best Postgraduate Conference Paper in NZ Politics:

Joanne Waitoa, 'The Role of Social Media in Māori Political Engagement', Institute of Development Studies, Massey University.

Best Postgraduate Conference Prize in a field other than NZ Politics:

John Gray, 'Help or Hindrance? Analyzing the impact of post-conflict security sector reform', National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago.

Best Undergraduate Essay in NZ Politics:

Kieran Gainsford, POLS352 New Zealand Parties, Leaders and Elections, Discipline of Political Science and International Politics, University of Auckland.

Honorary Lifetime Membership

The following people were nominated and approved for [lifetime membership](#) for their services to the NZPSA:

Prof Elizabeth McLeay

Alan McRobie

Prof Mark Francis

Joe Atkinson

Prof Nigel Roberts

Peter Aimer

Associate Prof. John Henderson

Tony Wood

Networks Update

Recent rule changes have been introduced, which current Convenors and those thinking of establishing a new network should check out on the [Network page](#). There is also a new network: [New Zealand Politics](#). Contact Jack Vowles at jack.vowles@yuv.ac.nz if you wish to join, and Julie MacArthur, the new convenor of the [EPPN](#), is looking for new scholars interested in joining. They should contact Julie at j.macarthur@auckland.ac.nz with EPPN in the subject line. Also contact Julie as the new Executive Secretary if you are interested in becoming the Convenor of the Media and Political Communications Network.

2015 NZPSA Conference

NZPSA is pleased to announce that the 2015 NZPSA Conference will be hosted by Massey University in Palmerston North 1-3 December with the Postgraduate Pre-Conference Event on Sunday 29 November. There will also be a half day Women Caucus Workshop on Gender Equity to look forward to.

Upcoming Dates/Deadlines

Applications to the NZPSA Secretary for the [Canadian PSA Award](#) are due 1 February 2015.