

NZPSA

New Zealand Political Studies Association Te Kāhui Tātai Tōrangapū o Aotearoa

Kia ora,

Congratulations on starting your postgraduate qualification in politics! As postgrads, we know there are a lot of things that you need to do to settle in, like figuring out where you're going to be doing all of the writing, learning where to get the best free food on campus, and maybe figuring out how to navigate the student-supervisor relationship.

However, we think another important thing to do is to join the NZPSA. As outlined in this intro pack, we offer postgrad students, from honours through to PhD, a range of benefits including discounted registration for our annual conference, prizes and so on.

Plus it's only \$10 to join! See <http://nzpsa.com/membership> for details.

Facebook

A first, easy step is to like our [Facebook page](#). We post general NZPSA news and items of interest on there. The second thing to do would be to join the private [NZPSA Postgraduate Network Group](#). This is a group where we can chat more candidly about the postgrad experience (if anyone wants to!) and talk about more specific topics in a private forum.

Annual Conference

The NZPSA holds an annual conference at a different university around the country every year in late November/early December (although in 2022 the conference will be online for various Covid-related reasons). As postgrad reps we would strongly encourage you to submit an abstract for a paper, even if you aren't feeling confident about your work. Your first conference is always a bit scary, but the NZPSA conference is a friendly environment.

We also always have a postgraduate workshop/day which involves guest speakers, meeting other postgrads from throughout the country (you always find so much in common!), and a dinner in town.

Prizes

The NZPSA offers a range of prizes and awards. There are 2 prizes for excellent undergraduate essays – one in Māori politics, the other in New Zealand politics – so keep your eye out when you're tutoring! For postgrads there are 3 prizes (each worth \$500!): one in NZ domestic politics, one in all areas but NZ domestic politics, and a new prize in environmental politics and policy. To be eligible, firstly you need to present the paper at the annual conference. Secondly, you need to send the paper (which has to be 6-8,000 words and not a

dissertation) to the relevant convenor before the prize cut-off date. For more details see: <http://nzpsa.com/prizes>

Travel Awards

Thinking about attending an overseas conference? Well, the NZPSA has arrangements with the Australian, UK, and Canadian PSAs. This means that the NZPSA offers travel awards for postgrads wanting to attend these association's conferences. Check out: <http://nzpsa.com/grants-and-awards>

Networks

There are currently 9 networks within the NZPSA. They are the: [Aotearoa New Zealand Politics Network](#), [Civics, Citizenship and Political Literacy Network](#), [Environmental Politics and Policy Network \(EPPN\)](#), [Gender and Politics Network](#), [Media and Political Communication \(MPC\) Network](#), [Ako \(Teaching and Learning\) Network](#), [International Relations Network](#), [Local Government Research Network](#) and the [Political Theory Network \(PTN\)](#). Networks are technically specialised fields within the NZPSA, they have varying levels of member engagement, and are a good way to, well, network, and share your research with others in your field. There is normally someone you can email once you are an NZPSA member and be put on their network membership list. Network activities range from receiving relevant news to contributing to policy, through to meetings and organised panels at the NZPSA conferences.

Women's Caucus

The NZPSA aims to support women in political science in New Zealand. The Women's Caucus meets yearly at the conference and also supports the publication of *Women Talking Politics*.

Women Talking Politics

In 2014, the NZPSA relaunched the mini-journal [Women Talking Politics](#) (WTP). WTP is an annual research magazine that publishes blind, peer-reviewed research notes by women on politics (including gender and women's issues). WTP has the particular goal of supporting postgraduate (and early career) women and transwomen to publish, so head over to their website to check it out, and maybe write something up! <http://nzpsa.com/women-talking-politics>

We hope you can join us!

Best wishes for your upcoming postgrad studies, and feel free to email us if you have any questions.

[The NZPSA Postgrad Reps](#)