



## Call For Papers

### Eighth Annual Conference on State Politics and Policy **Elections and Representative Democracy in the States**

Temple University • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 30 – 31, 2008

Proposals are invited for the Eighth Annual Conference on State Politics and Policy, co-sponsored by Temple University's Institute for Public Affairs and Department of Political Science, and *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*. The conference will be held in Philadelphia on May 30 – 31, 2008, with the theme *Elections and Representative Democracy in the States*. Special panels and presentations will be organized around connections at the state level among elections and public opinion, legislators' preferences, and public policy, and proposals for papers addressing these topics are particularly encouraged. Proposals involving any area of state politics and policy, as well as relations among local, state, and federal governments, will be welcome, however. The conference will include scholars with diverse interests employing a multiplicity of methodological approaches. The organization of panels will reflect the topics addressed in the proposals accepted.

Proposals for papers should describe, in no more than 250 words, the research questions to be addressed, their theoretical significance, and the analytic approach to answering them.

Please include a title for the paper and list authors' names, affiliations, and contact information. Offers to serve as panel chairs and discussants also will be most welcome. Please submit proposals and offers via e-mail, with "SPP proposal" and the lead author's last name in the subject line of the e-mail.

**Proposals must be received by  
January 15, 2008, at [ipa@temple.edu](mailto:ipa@temple.edu).**

#### **Institute for Public Affairs Temple University**

Michael G. Hagen, Director  
Joseph P. McLaughlin, Jr., Senior Fellow

#### **Political Science Department Temple University**

Gary Mucciaroni, Chair  
Kevin Arceneaux  
Richard Joslyn  
Robin Kolodny  
Megan Mullin  
Christopher Wlezien



# OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTE

## MISSION

Temple University's Institute for Public Affairs conducts, supports, and disseminates interdisciplinary research to inform and improve public policy, focusing particularly on Philadelphia, the greater metropolitan area, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## FOCUS AREAS

Politics and Public Opinion  
Policymaking and Policy Analysis  
Philadelphia and Urban America  
Children, Families, and Communities

## PROGRAMS

**Institute for Survey Research.** ISR is one of the nation's leading university-based survey research facilities, conducting contract-funded and grant-funded research on a broad spectrum of health, population, and environmental issues.

**Social Science Data Library.** SSDL is Temple's centralized, interdisciplinary repository for computerized social science data and expertise in the analysis of social science data.

**Center for Intergenerational Learning.** CIL strengthens communities by bringing generations together to meet the needs of individuals and families throughout the life cycle.

Please direct inquiries to:  
Institute for Public Affairs  
Temple University  
University Services Building, Suite 105  
1601 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19122-6099  
E-mail: [ipa@temple.edu](mailto:ipa@temple.edu)  
[www.temple.edu/ipa](http://www.temple.edu/ipa)

## SELECTED CURRENT PROJECTS

**The Temple/Inquirer Poll** is a periodic survey of the region and state, conducted in partnership with the Philadelphia Inquirer. Surveys focus on public opinion about current policy issues, quality of life, city and state politics, and elections.

**The Pennsylvania Policy Database Project** is an effort led by Senior Fellow Joe McLaughlin to develop a comprehensive historical database tracking the state government's activity on a wide range of policy issues. The full-text, web-based database will contain information dating back to 1945 and will include documents from all branches of state government, most of which are not now centrally organized or indexed, as well as newspapers, journals, and other media that cover state policy. The project is funded by the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

**The Pennsylvania and Metropolitan Philadelphia Survey** is an annual project that entails extensive telephone interviews with household residents, collecting information about subjects of vital concern to citizens in the region and state, with the goal of providing accurate, reliable, and timely information to civic leaders, policymakers, and researchers. Statewide results on the core topics, those repeated each year, are summarized in reports produced by the Institute for Public Affairs.

**Building IT Skills among Inner City Youth in North Philadelphia** is directed by principal investigator Michele Masucci, Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Urban Studies, and is funded by the ITEST program of the National Science Foundation. The project builds technological literacy among at-risk high school students by providing instruction in information technology, spatial analysis, and cartographic and design skills, all by involving the students in developing a geographic information system for their community.

**The Philadelphia Outcomes Measurement Project** collects and analyzes data on children and families who have come to the attention of the Department of Human Services Children and Youth Division via reports of abuse and neglect.