



# WSSA NEWS

Since 1958

Scholarship - Service - Collegiality

wssa.asu.edu

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## Wait . . . . . This looks familiar . . . . . Isn't This Denver?

*Les Alm, President-Elect & Program Coordinator,  
Boise State University*

The last time the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) met in Denver, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of WSSA. Plan on coming to Denver April 10-13 of 2013 and, this time, help us celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the *Social Science Journal* (SSJ), the official journal of WSSA.



Denver offers many opportunities to explore the city, the Colorado Front Range, and the mountains, as well as many varieties of entertainment in the city itself. Our

AAA Four Diamond conference hotel, the Grand Hyatt, will give you easy access to all that the vibrant city of Denver offers. At the conference itself, the wide variety of sessions/research topics presents an excellent opportunity for you to share your ideas and explore the many disciplines that make up the social science field of study.

April weather is typically mild, usually ranging from 60 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit. For a more in-depth look at the areas, check the Visit Denver website at [www.denver.org](http://www.denver.org).

You may want to come early or stay after the conference ends to enjoy all that Denver has to offer.

See you there!



## SOCIAL SCIENCE AND THE WINDS OF CHANGE

*Ross Burkhardt, Boise State University*



How can social science research help account for the many challenges to established authoritarian political regimes in the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia? Several multidisciplinary ideas suggest themselves. Most immediate, from the social psychology and political conflict literature, appear to be issues of relative deprivation that are felt by a sufficiently large part of the general population, especially by those who are highly educated and are either unemployed or underemployed. This relative deprivation can originate from economic (either lack of wealth or lack of access to considerable wealth resources held by the governing elite), ethno-linguistic, historic-sociological, and / or cultural sources. This explanation seems to hold the most weight in the Arab Spring countries of Tunisia and Egypt (Bahgat 2012).

More long-term accounts for regime change locate themselves in either governing structural or sociological inertia which include popular discontent with one or more of the following: the continued dominance of the decision-making apparatus by a small number of actors within the government and the business, ethnic and/or corporate elite; a lack of an educated populace allowing itself to be taken advantage of by a knowledgeable elite, a longstanding unequal distribution of income causing a popular uprising against the ruling establishment (think Occupy), and the absence of a pivotal middle class demanding political voice ("no bourgeoisie, no democracy", in the words of Barrington Moore).

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# Board Actions

Kate Herke, WSSA News Editor, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance

The Poster Session was made a permanent feature for future conferences. A "Scholars Choice" award was established, to be chosen by an informal paper ballot at the session. The winner will receive a \$250 cash award with that year's registration refunded, and will receive registration and two nights hotel room free for the following year's conference. The winner will also be asked to write a short piece for the *WSSA News*.



Theodore Ransaw's term on the Council expired at the end of the conference, but he volunteered to act as Poster Coordinator for the 2013 Conference, and the Council gratefully accepted.

The fund-raiser for a local charity was made a permanent feature for future conferences. WSSA will match up to \$1,000 of the amount raised in donations, and will ensure that at least \$500 in total is donated to the chosen organization.

Both the Poster Session and the fund-raiser will henceforth coincide with the Conference Breakfast; the breakfast will run from 7:30-9:30 on the Friday morning and no sessions will be scheduled at that time. The Poster Session will run from 8:00-9:30.

The President's Luncheon will henceforth be the venue for presentation of awards to the student paper winners, the Vine DeLoria winner, and the poster winner. A check for the donations collected will also be presented to the local charity at that time, and arrangements will be made to have local media present. The student paper winners will present in a special session following the Luncheon.

Section Coordinators will be asked to police their own sections for no-shows, by reporting them to the registration desk. Registration workers will assist with recording. The no-shows' abstracts will be removed from the final version of the abstracts published online.

The Association will in future hire a financial professional to do the annual Federal Tax Return.

Several members of the Council will gather at the Denver Public Library in the next year, bringing stored materials for the archives, to catalog and label all of our holdings. A graduate student may be hired to assist.

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# WSSA NEWS

## 2012-2013 WSSA OFFICERS

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THE WESTERN SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION is a professional educational organization committed to multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary scholarship, service, and collegiality. The Association's mission is to foster professional study, to advance research, and to promote the teaching of social science. Founded in 1958 as the Rocky Mountain Social Science Association, WSSA draws on scholars and others in some 30 disciplines, or "sections," from across the United States, Canada, Mexico, and around the world; convenes an annual conference; conducts research competitions for students; and publishes *The Social Science Journal*, a juried, quarterly research journal, and *WSSA News*, the Association's newsletter. WSSA annual membership dues are included in the annual conference registration. For those who will not be joining us at the conference, but would still like to be voting members and to receive the publications, subscription only memberships can be purchased from our website. Prices are \$40 (individual); \$50 (joint includes spouse); \$25 (student); \$25 (retired). For information, contact Larry Gould, Executive Director, WSSA, c/o Northern Arizona University, Yuma Branch Campus, P.O. 6236, Yuma, AZ 85366-6236 (Phone: 928-317-6475; Fax: 928-317-6419; E-mail: [larry.gould@nau.edu](mailto:larry.gould@nau.edu))



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The diversity of explanations mirrors the complexity of human endeavor. Any compelling theory that attempts to account for dramatic regime change across global regions will out of necessity recognize the local nuances that create nearly unique historical and developmental circumstances in states, countries, and regions. But scholarly efforts to understand regime change, while daunting, are hardly impossible. Many a writing classic has been spawned by the desire to understand why countries change governments (the aforementioned Moore book *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy*, Theda Skocpol's *States and Social Revolutions*, and Robert Dahl's *Democracy and Its Critics* come to mind), and, quite frankly, all of the social science disciplines need to be invoked in some manner to stitch together a plausible account.

If you are seeking vigorous discussion of this topic, then you should be an active participant in the Western Social Science Association. *The Social Science Journal*, the peer-reviewed journal of the WSSA, has published significant articles on democratic change in recent times. Two articles that come to mind are "Why do richer democracies survive? The non-effect of unconventional political participation," by Daniel Stockmeier and Benjamin Carbonetti (2010), and "Democracy and the press: A comparative analysis of pluralism in the international print media," by Joshua Woods (2007). Stockmeier and Carbonetti explore how the type of political participation may affect the extent to which a country's democratic structure endures over time.

Provocatively, unconventional forms of political participation (defined often as strikes, riots, and boycotts that often skirt at the edges of what is legally acceptable) are not related to the enduring qualities of a democratic regime. Thus, stable democracies can absorb unconventional political participation without a notable effect on their stability. This research is a hopeful sign for democratic endurance.

Woods analyzes the extent to which press pluralism exists in democratic countries. Again, provocatively, the relationship between the points of view that are broadcast by the countries' media and the extent to which countries are democratic is mixed. When examining the press coverage of the events of 9/11 and the discussion of societal and governmental reaction to those events, those countries in which media displayed a more pluralistic reporting on these events were actually less democratic (as measured

by the democracy-tracking non-governmental organization Freedom House) than those countries whose media have a less pluralistic perspective. Pluralism, in this context, is meant to signify a media more open to alternative points of view regarding societal and government reactions to the events of 9/11. This may be a puzzling finding to many who automatically associate democracy with press freedom. However, as Woods points out, a constitutionally-guaranteed freedom of the press to broadcast what it sees fit to broadcast ("All the news that's fit to print" in the famous masthead words of *The New York Times*) does not ensure that it actually promotes a diversity of points of view. Those countries in which democratic freedoms are less secure may, in fact, practice more press pluralism because these alternative perspectives may be more on the public mind than in the more ossified, set-in-ways mature democracies.

These conclusions from Woods's article give us pause for thought as we reflect on how we gather information and decide on what knowledge to draw upon to make decisions in a democracy. Our ability to limit information that conflicts with our preconceived notions, which is a well-established tendency in the social science literature (think of the concepts of "perceptual screens" and "cognitive dissonance" in political psychology and international relations scholarship, for instance), can serve to dissuade us from considering alternative ideas that may well be prudent ones for our country to debate and discuss as we seek solutions to vexing public policy dilemmas.

In short, the WSSA through its publication of relevant and compelling scholarly research is fully engaged in discourse and analysis on fundamental issues for our society, and has remained so since its founding in 1958. In addition, the WSSA annual conference spends much time examining theory and practice that informs our democratic condition. Through such examination we hope that we can better our human condition and more fully understand the winds of social and political change that both batter and freshen us. We invite you to join us in Denver in 2013!



# Keystone, Energy Policies Interesting Challenge In “Intermestic” Policy-Making

Geoffrey Hale, University of Lethbridge

U.S. energy policies are often characterized by complexity, fragmentation and decentralization. Even so, observers such as Frank Verrastro have observed several consistent “themes” since the 1970s. Major priorities under the Obama administration (and its predecessors) include the broadening and diversification of domestic and international energy sources, improvements in conservation and fuel efficiency, security and reliability of critical infrastructure, and reliance on Saudi Arabia as the global swing producer of oil – moderating potential supply disruptions.



However, longstanding American dependence on energy imports and the necessary interaction of energy and environmental policies demonstrate the *intermestic*\* character of energy policies: their blurring of traditional distinctions between domestic and international policies, and the interdependence and mutual vulnerability of policy decisions made in Washington, various American states, and the governments of major trading partners – especially Canada.

Canada is America’s largest foreign energy supplier. It currently provides almost a quarter of U.S. oil imports, almost 90 percent of natural gas imports, and extensive two-way electricity trade with most “northern-tier” states. Many U.S. and Canadian-based oil and gas firms have operations (and often joint ventures) in both countries – creating deeply integrated energy markets. More than half of Canadian oil production (and more than 95 percent of its exports) goes to the United States. At the same time, declining Mexican oil production and Hugo Chavez’ redirection of Venezuelan energy exports to China and other allies have created considerable spare capacity at U.S. Gulf Coast refineries configured to refine heavy oil.

These realities have created substantial demand for heavy oil from Alberta’s oil sands – the world’s second largest oil reserves after Saudi Arabia – along with new pipeline capacity to deliver Alberta’s rising oil exports to American refineries. It has also triggered concerted opposition from environmental groups who view restrictions on new sources of oil production (inside *or* outside the United States) as a necessary precondition for the higher prices needed to promote the development of new technologies and substitution of alternate energy sources as part of a broader strategy to limit climate change.

As a result, the building of the Keystone XL pipeline from Alberta to Cushing, OK, a major oil hub, has become a subject of enormous controversy since it was originally proposed in 2005. Although such a policy would also reduce the growth of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Canadian oil sands production is equivalent to roughly 2 percent of GHG emissions from the American production and use of coal for electricity generation and other purposes. As a result, efforts to limit U.S. oil imports from Canada have the convenient effect of exporting the costs of adjusting to climate change policies to neighboring countries.

The realities of economic interdependence have meant that Canadian climate policies frequently parallel policies in the United States, and that the two countries often work together in international negotiations. However, just as congressional energy policies reflect political and economic trade-offs among competing interests, regions and industry sectors, Canada’s federal government must also balance regional interests, particularly as it lacks constitutional authority over most aspects of provincial governments’ ownership and regulation of resource development. Energy revenues are central to the financial stability of Canadian governments, together with the sustainability of social program funding through extensive federal transfers, most of which are governed by fewer conditions than U.S. federal block grants to states.

The State Department is responsible for regulating the authorization of cross-border pipelines entering the United States, in consultation with the EPA, Department of Energy, and other federal agencies. This process allows it to incorporate environmental objectives in authorizing pipeline routes and related conditions. With the failure of cap-and-trade legislation to pass Congress in 2010, persuading the Obama administration to withhold permission from the Keystone

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# Test Your ColoradoQ!

Kristina Lybecker, The Colorado College

The Western Social Science Association's **2013 conference** will take place in **Denver, Colorado**, April 10, 2013 through April 13, 2013. As the site of the 2008 WSSA annual conference, Denver is a city familiar to many WSSA members and one rich in entertainment and activities. This article focuses on some lesser-known Colorado tidbits. Test your knowledge of Denver and Colorado trivia and learn some interesting "nuggets" about our next conference site.



- Denver is a rarity among cities in that it was founded near a road, railroad, lake, navigable river or other body of water. Instead it appeared where they found \_\_\_\_\_ in 1858.  
(a) silver (b) gold (c) oil (d) alien life forms
- The first permanent structure in Denver was a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) church (b) court house (c) jail (d) saloon
- Denver is one of only \_\_\_\_\_ cities in the U.S. with eight professional sports teams.  
(a) two (b) four (c) six (d) eight
- Metro Denver brews more beer than any other U.S. city.  
(a) True (b) False
- Over \_\_\_\_\_ people ascend Pikes Peak (elevation 14,115 feet) each year.  
(a) 300,000 (b) 400,000 (c) 500,000 (d) 600,000
- The U.S. Federal Government owns more than \_\_\_\_\_ of the land in Colorado.  
(a)  $\frac{3}{8}$  (b)  $\frac{1}{4}$  (c)  $\frac{1}{3}$  (d)  $\frac{1}{2}$
- Colorado is the only state to ever refuse the opportunity to host the Olympics.  
(a) True (b) False
- Colorado contains \_\_\_\_\_ of the land area of the U.S. with an altitude over 10,000 feet.  
(a) 50% (b) 62% (c) 75% (d) 80%
- Katherine Lee Bates wrote "America the Beautiful" after being inspired by the view from the top of Pikes Peak.  
(a) True (b) False
- \_\_\_\_\_ was determined to be the United States' millennium city because it best symbolizes the overall composition of America. The city is the most accurate representation of the American "melting pot," was by a Queens College sociologist who analyzed Census Bureau statistics to find the one city in the country that best represented the population make-up of the United States.  
(a) Fountain (b) Pueblo (c) Ft. Collins (d) Greeley
- The cheeseburger was invented in Denver.  
(a) True (b) False
- The United States Air Force Academy is located in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Denver (b) Boulder (c) Colorado Springs (d) Ft. Carson
- Denver's Colfax Avenue is the longest continuous street in America.  
(a) True (b) False
- Pueblo is the only city in America with \_\_\_\_\_ living recipients of the Medal of Honor.  
(a) three (b) four (c) five (d) six

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ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 14



# The Poster Session Competition: Promising Addition to the WSSA conferences

*Kate Herke, Conference Manager, Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance*

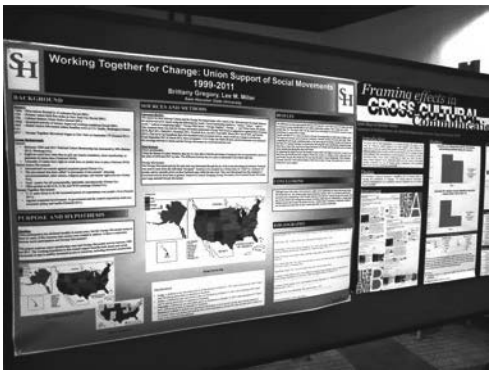


**W**SSA's first annual Poster Session was a success! It was one of the most popular sections of the conference, and the WSSA Council was so impressed by the participants that it decided that the winner deserved a cash prize in addition to a certificate. Our inaugural winner was the team from Utah State University, led by Allison Leonard.

The Council was so impressed with both the quality and the popularity of the competition that it not only decided to make the \$250 cash prize a permanent feature, it added refund of the registration at the conference in which the winner competed, and (non-transferable) free registration and two nights' free room for the following conference!

Poster sessions provide more than just prizes, though. They provide participants with a more informal forum for research than traditional panel presentations, and the commentary and advice is (usually) given in a much friendlier tone. It comes from a greater number of scientists, in a wider variety of fields, than is usually found in paper sessions, and will often present perspectives from other fields that may broaden the applicability of the research or sharpen its focus. Not subject to the same time restrictions as traditional sessions, they allow plenty of time to talk with the people who stop by, and those people are specifically interested in the topic of that poster, rather than possibly being interested in one of four papers being presented at a session. And they provide an effective way to quickly acquaint many people with your work. And to top it off, they provide a far greater opportunity for networking than does the traditional session.

We believe that the poster sessions will make the annual conferences even better, and invite anyone who is interested to contact Dr. Theodore Ransaw, of the University of Nevada Las Vegas, at [ransawt@unlv.nevadafa.edu](mailto:ransawt@unlv.nevadafa.edu) or at 702-578-6851, for further information. Dr. Ransaw did an exceptional job organizing the 2012 session, our first, and has agreed to coordinate the 2013 session as well. Poster session guidelines and rules can be found on the conferences page of our website, [www.asu.edu](http://www.asu.edu).



# WSSA Sections Receive Special Recognition for Houston Programs

James G. Linn, Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention

**W**hile all the WSSA sections that developed programs for the recent annual meeting in Houston did a splendid job, several deserve special recognition for having more presentations than the previous year.

The following section coordinators deserve kudos for growing their section participation: Stephen Brown, African American Studies; Linda Chiang, Asian Studies; John Burke, Chicano Studies; Dwight Kiel, Environmental Policy and Natural Resources; Monica Gallamore, History; Ignacio Nunez & Jesus Ruiz-Flores, Latin American Studies; Mary Jackson-Pitts & Lily Zeng, Mass Communications; Viola Fuentes & Jake Heller, Public Administration; Thomas Sammons, Urban Studies; and Diane Calloway-Graham, Women's & Gender Studies.

Also, Michele Companion, Coordinator of our newest section, Globalization and Development, and Theodore Ransaw, Coordinator of our very successful new Poster Sessions should receive special praise.



*Keep up the great work!*

## Western Social Science Association

55th Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado  
April 10—13, 2013

### Poster Competition

*Winner will receive \$250.00 at the 2013 conference  
and two night's free room and free registration to the conference in 2014!*

Poster Competition Abstracts Due to Section Coordinators by  
December 1, 2012

For more information and a list of Section Coordinators,

see the WSSA web site at:

<http://wssa.asu.edu>



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**Please Share This Information With Your Colleagues**

FUTURE  
CONFERENCE  
SITES

2014 – 4/22/14 through 4/26/14 – San Francisco, California  
Hyatt Regency Embarcadero  
Five Embarcadero Center  
San Francisco, California



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# President's Soapbox

Vic Heller, WSSA Past President 2011-2012

Dear WSSA Colleagues,

I hope you found the 54th Annual Western Social Science Association Conference ---a conference which honored a tradition of "Scholarship, Service, & Collegiality" ---rewarding and you enjoyed Houston!

For fifty-four years the WSSA's annual conference has been a leader in inviting academicians and practitioners to a place that offers time and space to explore 'imaginatively' the questions that matter to the social sciences. The "how" questions we ask in order to meet the challenges of our disciplines assumes that the "what" and the "why" questions have been successfully addressed. Paper presentations at the numerous, informative sessions, in their open and collegial settings, enabled us to open our thoughts to the more powerful "what" and "why" questions of our disciplines. They naturally called us into true inquiry and a dialogue into possibilities. They raised the questions that matter. Your participation made this possible.

While in Houston, I hope you enjoyed the recreation found in America's fourth-largest city. A city of world-class arts, dining, entertainment, historical sites, shopping and an abundant nightlife awaited you. Did you take a stroll through the historic Heights; spend time exploring the Museum District or head down to Space Center Houston? There was a lot to do. Texas...it's like a whole other country!

Thank you for joining us and for supporting WSSA. I look forward to seeing you in Denver April 10-14, 2013 at the Grand Hyatt Denver.



Food Bank donations



Hyatt Houston welcomes WSSA

# Board Actions

Kate Herke, WSSA News Editor, Louisiana  
Office of Student Financial Assistance

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Scott Carson is currently filling the positions of both the Editor and the Book Review Editor of the *Social Science Journal*. He and Larry Gould, as the Executive Director, will structure a search for a Book Review Editor.

Section Coordinators were empowered to refuse to accept, for a period of time, papers from persons who were no-shows twice.

It is in the interest of the Association to encourage sections to have business meetings, therefore the WSSA will offer assistance for refreshments for those meetings.

The WSSA Business Meeting will henceforth be combined with the Section Coordinators' Meeting.

The Nominating Committee for the 2012-2013 elections will consist of Victor Heller, Gil Fowler, and Jack Hou. Nominations were due by August 31.

Extensive discussions culminated in Council approval for a procedure by which travel grants will henceforth be awarded to students. Flyers containing information on the awards and instructions for applying will distributed at the 2013 conference.



Western Social Science Association  
2013 Call for Papers

# Student Paper Competition



Students affiliated with the WSSA can win **\$500**, a free one-year subscription to the *Social Science Journal*, free conference registration at the April **2013 WSSA conference** in **Denver, Colorado**, and the opportunity to **present your paper** at that conference. Each winning paper will also receive one room/2 nights free lodging. WOW, what a deal!

**Competition Guidelines** - Papers are judged based on a) advancement of knowledge, b) appropriateness for a broad social science audience, c) development and implementation of valid research design, d) definition and significance of topic, e) analysis of findings and discussion of their implications and f) clarity and cogency of writing. Undergraduate and graduate papers are evaluated separately, and multiple-authored papers will be considered separately if quality papers are submitted. Authors of high quality papers that are not chosen for the award are eligible to receive an Honorable Mention Certificate, a \$100 cash award, and free conference registration.

## Paper Requirements

- **Papers, including bibliography, tables, figures, appendices and other supporting materials, cannot exceed 25 pages. This requirement will be strictly enforced; papers longer than 25 pages will not be read.** Abstracts and cover sheets are not included in the page count.
- The paper packet must include an abstract (not to exceed 200 words), with the title of the paper, but NOT the author(s)/affiliation(s).
- All pages must be double-spaced and in 12 pt font, with one inch margins.
- Papers may not be theses or dissertations previously presented or published, and papers are to be written solely by students; papers co-authored with faculty or post docs will not be accepted.
- **All submissions must be endorsed through submission of a cover sheet that is signed by the student and faculty advisor. The cover sheet is available through the WSSA Website. Papers without the sponsoring professor's endorsement will not be accepted.**
- Authors may wish to consult the *Social Science Journal's* style guide for formatting information.
- Winners of the student paper competition are expected to attend and present their paper in order to receive their cash award.
- The paper and the cover sheet discussed above are to be submitted by EMAIL and must be received on or before **January 15, 2013**. Please EMAIL the paper as a Word file with a scan of the cover sheet, with faculty signature and endorsement, to the chair of the WSSA Student Paper Committee by the 15 January 2013 date:

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**Submission Cover Sheet**  
**Western Social Science Association (WSSA)**  
**2013 Student Paper Competition**

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department and university affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address where student can be contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's phone number and EMAIL address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the paper I am submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is not part of a completed dissertation or master's thesis. This is work I have done on my own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Student's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Endorsement: By signing below, I affirm that the student signing above is a student in our department currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree. Also, the paper the above student submitting is original research, has not been presented or submitted elsewhere, and is not part of a completed dissertation or master's thesis. This is work the student has done on his or her own and is not co-authored with a faculty member or post doc.

Sponsoring faculty member's signature and title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## So - - - - the Terminal

So - - - - we did a survey. Well, sort of. . . . . What you might call an informal survey. . . .

It seems that the majority of those we talked to would prefer to get their newsletter online – and those who wouldn't, think they'd just as soon print it out themselves when they're ready to read it. Yes, yes, I know, we tried this once before and it didn't work out. But apparently our readers have changed. . . . .

You may have noticed that there's been a lot of budget-cutting going on out there. Well, turns out that WSSA is not immune to the forces causing the chopping, and getting rid of the printing and postage costs would save the Association a lot of money. More than \$6,000 a year, in fact!

## So - - - - this will be the last, terminal, paper-copy-in-the-mail version of the WSSA Newsletter.

The next issue, the Spring 2013 issue, will be online, on our website, <http://wssa.asu.edu>. We'll send out notices by email when it's posted.

We would really very much like to hear from our readers – comments, suggestions, complaints, whatever you have to say. In particular, we'd just love to hear what you like about the newsletter, and what you don't like, and what you think might make you more likely to read it. Not that we're promising to actually *do* anything about them, you understand, but we'd really like to see them.

And if it turns out that our survey was overly informal, and came to the wrong conclusions, well, tell us so! ☺☺☺

Send those comments, boys and girls, to [WSSA.Admin@nau.edu](mailto:WSSA.Admin@nau.edu). We'll be looking for them!



# Keystone, Energy Policies Interesting Challenge In “Intermestic” Policy-Making

Geoffrey Hale, University of Lethbridge

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XL project became a major goal for many environmental groups, including the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Sierra Club. This campaign was countered in part by intensive lobbying by oil interests, construction workers' unions whose expected the project to generate employment for their members, Senators and governors of oil-producing plains states for whom the recent shale oil boom has become a major source of development in otherwise economically depressed regions, and the Canadian government.

With Congressional Republicans (and some Democrats) strongly supporting Keystone as a vehicle for job creation and energy security as part of a broader narrative for the 2012 election campaign, President Obama's November 2011 announcement that he would defer approving the project until after the election sought to conciliate environmentally-minded supporters without being seen to abandon unionized construction workers more likely to be swing voters. The ostensible grounds for this decision – the decision of the Republican-controlled Nebraska legislature to shift the pipeline's route away from the state's environmentally sensitive Sandhills region and its Ogallala Aquifer – demonstrates the continuing importance of place-based environmental and land use issues in a decentralized policy environment. The President subsequently endorsed construction of a southern leg of the pipeline from Cushing to the Gulf Coast – enabling increased refinery access for existing north-south suppliers.

The Canadian government's response to Keystone's deferral has been to pursue alternate export markets (and related pipeline routes) for its energy resources. The week WSSA members met in April, Ottawa approved a 500,000 barrel expansion of the existing Trans-Mountain Pipeline – two-thirds the scale of Keystone XL. The proposed Northern Gateway pipeline through northern British Columbia faces significant environmental and other legal challenges from aboriginal communities. However, Prime Minister Harper has made the diversification of Canada's energy exports to China and other Asia-Pacific countries a major priority to limit Canada's vulnerability to conflicts among American interest groups. Some senior policy observers have advocated pipeline expansion to Eastern Canada (and beyond) – further reducing Canadian dependence on U.S. markets, and making American consumers more dependent on oil imports from regions in which governments and oil companies pay little attention to environmental goals or the well-being of local populations.

These initiatives are rational responses to political and ideological polarization and policy gridlock in the United States. There is little reason that continuing goals of economic growth, energy security, and ongoing improvement to environmental standards (including improved pipeline construction and fuel efficiency rules) cannot be reconciled as they have been in other areas. However, it is not surprising that all-or-nothing policy agendas that seek to shift the costs of U.S. domestic policies to citizens of other countries trigger responses that undercut these policy goals.



Geoffrey Hale is professor of political science at the University of Lethbridge. His most recent book is *So Near Yet So Far: The Public and Hidden Worlds of Canada-U.S. Relations* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2012), available through University of Washington Press.

# Test Your ColoradoQ!

Kristina Lybecker, The Colorado College

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

15. With 205 parks inside of city limits and an additional 20,000 acres of parks in the nearby mountains, Denver has the largest city park system in the nation.  
(a) True (b) False
16. The Denver Zoo is the \_\_\_\_\_ most popular zoo in America (based on those with paid admission fees) and has the 7<sup>th</sup> most diverse animal collection. The Zoo has 3,500 animals representing over 685 species of which 157 are classified as threatened or endangered. It costs \$38,000 a day to care for the animals and operate the zoo.  
(a) 4<sup>th</sup> (b) 5<sup>th</sup> (c) 6<sup>th</sup> (d) 7<sup>th</sup>
17. Operated by the Denver City Parks Department, the road to the top of the 14,260-foot \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest paved road in North America.  
(a) Pikes Peak (b) Mount Evans  
(c) Longs Peak (d) Mount Sneffels
18. Denver has \_\_\_\_\_ days of annual sunshine, more annual hours of sun than San Diego or Miami. (a) 200 (b) 250 (c) 300 (d) 350
19. Denver is the \_\_\_\_\_ most educated city in the United States.  
(a) second (b) third (c) fourth (d) fifth
20. The Democratic National Convention was hosted in Denver in 2008. Previous to this, the last time Denver hosted the Democratic National Convention was in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) 1880 (b) 1908 (c) 1932 (d) 1948
21. Colorado has the lowest obesity rate of the 50 U.S. states.  
(a) True (b) False
22. The dome of the State Capitol in Denver is covered with 200 ounces of 24K gold, but the really priceless building material was used inside as wainscoting. It is Colorado onyx, a rare stone found near Beulah, Colorado. The entire world's supply was used in this building and no more of it has ever been found.  
(a) True (b) False
23. The Colorado Trail is a 500-mile-long hiking trail, stretching from Durango to Denver, and crosses \_\_\_\_\_ mountain ranges, seven national forests, six wilderness areas, and five river systems.  
(a) four (b) six (c) eight (d) ten
24. The sky really is bluer in Colorado. This is due to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) sunlit reflection from the snowcapped mountains  
(b) large open spaces  
(c) fewer carbon emissions in the environment  
(d) less water vapor in the air at this altitude
25. Central City, located about 45 minutes west of Denver, is known as the "Richest Square Mile on Earth" due to the half billion dollars of gold that was mined there. (a) True (b) False
26. Through a self-imposed 10<sup>th</sup> of a cent sales tax for the arts, Metro Denver collects more for the arts on a per capita basis than any other city.  
(a) True (b) False
27. Colorado's southwest corner borders \_\_\_\_\_, New Mexico and Utah, and is the only place in America where the corners of four states meet. (can you come up with it?)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14  
ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 14



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# Test Your ColoradoQ!

Kristina Lybecker, The Colorado College

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28. The 13<sup>th</sup> step of the state capital building in Denver is exactly \_\_\_\_\_ above sea level.  
(a) 10,000 feet (b) 1234 feet  
(c) zero feet (d) 5280 feet
29. Denver International Airport is the \_\_\_\_\_ busiest airport in the United States and the 11<sup>th</sup> busiest in the world.  
(a) second (b) sixth (c) tenth (d) fifteenth
30. During the Civil War, a Confederate army from Texas marched on the state in hopes of seizing the gold fields. A volunteer army was hastily put together in Denver and, although they were hardly trained and badly outnumbered, they managed to defeat the Rebels from Texas at the Battle of Glorietta Pass, saving Colorado for the Union.  
(a) True (b) False

I hope your knowledge of Denver and Colorado has served you well, and that you've learned a few things as well. Answers are in next column.

Facts and information collected from the following websites:

<http://www.denver.org/metro/facts>

<http://www.50states.com/facts/colorado.htm>

<http://www.buildingstapleton.com/denver-relocation-guide/denver-trivia/>

<http://www.maureenforhomes.com/Facts.html>

[http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-250\\_162-4374077.html](http://www.cbsnews.com/2100-250_162-4374077.html)

<http://www.denver.org/metro/history>

## Answers to "ColoradoQ"

30. (a) True  
29. (b) sixth  
28. (d) 5280 feet (1 mile!)  
27. Arizona  
26. (a) True  
25. (a) True  
24. (d) less water vapor in the air at this altitude.  
23. (c) eight  
22. (a) True  
21. (a) True  
20. (b) 1908  
19. (a) second  
18. (c) 300  
17. (b) Mount Evans  
16. (a) 4<sup>th</sup>  
15. (a) True  
14. (b) four  
13. (a) True  
12. (c) Colorado Springs  
11. (a) True  
10. (a) Fountain  
9. (a) True  
8. (c) 75%  
7. (a) True (1976 Winter)  
6. (c) 1/3  
5. (b) 400,000  
4. (a) True  
3. (a) two  
2. (d) saloon  
1. (b) gold

## Answers to "ColoradoQ"





**Western Social Science Association**  
**Conference Registration – Membership Renewal - for 2013**  
**Conference: April 10—13, 2013, in Denver, CO**  
**Grand Hyatt**  
**1750 Welton Street, Denver, CO**  
**1-800-233-1234**

Or go to <http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences/default.htm>

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Your 2013 WSSA **conference registration will include membership** from 04/01/2013 to 03/31/2014. Pre-registration must be done online or received by mail no later than March 30, 2013, to receive the rates shown below. Late registration rates will apply March 31 through on-site registration.

Registrations received after March 31 cannot be refunded.

**To pre-register on-line for the 2013 conference please go to**  
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**Late and on-site registration is \$30 more for all categories shown below.**

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- \$125 individual members
- \$80 student member (full-time students, only)
- \$90 retired member (not employed full-time in field)
- \$35 spouse/partner/guest (who is not presenting a paper)

Name of guest: \_\_\_\_\_

*As it should appear on nametag*

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- \$25 each ticket, President's Luncheon & Awards Ceremony, on Friday, April 12, 2013
- \_\_\_\_\_ # of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount for tickets

**IF paying by check,**  
**Total amount enclosed:**

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**For Payment by Check Only**, mail this form and your check (\$US) for the total amount owed to: Larry A. Gould, WSSA Executive Director, PO Box 6236, Yuma, AZ 85366-6236

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**IF** you **know** that you will not be attending the 2013 conference, you may still renew your membership,

and retain your voting rights and subscription to the *Social Science Journal* and the *WSSA News*, either on-line at <http://wssa.asu.edu/membership/default.htm> (after January 1, 2013),

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\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Retired \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Joint membership

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Western Social Science Association  
c/o Larry Gould, Chief Executive Officer  
Northern Arizona University - Yuma Campus  
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SBS 1100

# Position Announcements



The WSSA is pleased to announce that, beginning October 15, 2012, our website will have a “Position Announcements” page. All legitimate institutions and businesses seeking to hire social scientists may post announcements on the site free of charge. Logos or other appropriate images will be accepted. Information should be sent to [WSSA.Admin@nau.edu](mailto:WSSA.Admin@nau.edu) for posting.