

*American Political Science Association***Perspectives on Politics****Announcing
a New
Editor-in-Chief:****Jeffrey C. Isaac**
Indiana University, USA

Jeffrey C. Isaac, James H. Rudy Professor of Political Science and Director of the Indiana Democracy Consortium at Indiana University, has been named Editor-in-Chief of *Perspectives on Politics*, one of the core journals of the American Political Science Association.

Professor Isaac is a widely published political theorist whose work centers on contemporary challenges to democratic politics. He has written books and scholarly articles on a range of topics, including the meanings of the Eastern European revolutions of 1989, the contemporary relevance of the writings of Hannah Arendt and Albert Camus, pragmatism, the future of political theory, and political science debates about the concept of power. He has also written regularly for *Dissent* magazine, on whose editorial board he serves. Professor Isaac is currently editing a new edition of *The Communist Manifesto* for Yale University Press's "Rethinking the Western Tradition" series.

Professor Isaac assumes responsibility for editing the entire journal, including the Book Review, following his service since 2005 as the journal's Book Review Editor. He has also recently completed an extended term as political science department chair at Indiana University, Bloomington. He has worked with a variety of editorial boards, campus research centers, and civic action organizations. He is also a professional jazz and blues keyboard player who is active on the local Bloomington music scene.

Professor Isaac builds on the exemplary efforts of his predecessors, Jennifer Hochschild and Jim Johnson. He sees the journal as a uniquely valuable part of a rethinking process that has taken place in American political science in recent years. He views *Perspectives* as a space for broad and synthetic discussion within the political science profession and between the profession and the broader scholarly and reading publics. Such discussion necessarily draws upon and contributes to the scholarship published in the more specialized journals that dominate our profession. At the same time, *Perspectives* seeks to promote a complementary form of broad public discussion and synergistic understanding within the profession that is essential to scholarly advancement and scholarly community.

Perspectives seeks to nurture a **political science public sphere** that transcends subfield and methodological boundaries and facilitates discussion of the big orienting questions at the heart of political science at its best – the foundations of political order and disorder; the productivity and destructiveness of organized violence; the relationship between politics, economics, and society; the distribution of inclusion and exclusion, power and vulnerability, as this relates to race, class, gender, ethnicity, and other identities; the dynamics of democratic politics and the forms of democratic citizenship; and the limits of the nation-state.

Such broad and relevant discussion enriches academic scholarship and teaching. It is also important to the communities and constituencies beyond the academy to whom political scientists are necessarily connected. We draw on these communities and constituencies as sources of the themes we analyze. We also draw upon them for the resources that support institutions of higher learning and advanced research, and for the civil freedoms that we exercise in the course of our intellectual work. And we contribute to these communities and constituencies, as teachers, experts, producers of social scientific research and scholarship, and as writers more generally.

There is an ethical responsibility, especially in a democratic society, for the social sciences—and especially for political scientists—to take seriously our connections to this broader public world and the human challenges and opportunities these connections present. In promoting such seriousness, *Perspectives* seeks to promote mutually enlightening discussion between political science and the broader public worlds inhabited by journalists, politicians, military, business, professional and civic leaders, NGOs, and citizen organizations.

Effective communication is the key to success in any human endeavor, but especially to the enterprise of editing and publishing. The very purpose of publishing is to bring new ideas, discoveries, perspectives, and conversations into broad public view, so that they can be topics of ongoing, constructive dialogue. Publishing *is* communication. And the single most important key to the success of any serious journal is prompt, clear, and constructive communication with the colleagues who are its writers, reviewers, and primary readership, audience and constituency. If *Perspectives* can sustain this kind of communication then it will continue to flourish and grow as a respected source of first-rate scholarship and innovative and exciting dialogue.

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of the American Political
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Political Science
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The entire journal is now edited at Indiana University. This includes the Book Review section. Please note that all book reviews and review essays are solicited; the journal does not accept unsolicited book reviews.

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Manuscript submission information

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