

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING 2025**

November 6-7

Historic Davenport Hotel, Spokane

**All locations to be confirmed for the final program which will also be
distributed at the conference**

Draft Conference Schedule

FRIDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

**SESSION 1
8:30-10:00AM**

Environmental Politics & Policy 1 | Indigenous Politics | Election Post-Mortem

ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY 1

Chair: **Erika Allen Wolters**, Oregon State University

Discussant: **Christopher Klyza**, Middlebury College

Mateo Caso, Erika Allen Wolters and Hilary S. Boudet, Oregon State University

“Public Participation Amid a Fast-tracked Process: Assessing Public Sentiment around the McDermitt Lithium Project”

Tommy Kegler, UC Riverside

“Roots as a Mode of Knowing: Unpacking Frontline Knowledge”

Erika Allen Wolters and Brent S. Steel, Oregon State University, **Tamara Krawchenko** and

Michael Paramchuk, University of Victoria

“Plans on the Shelf or Living Frameworks? Community Wildfire Planning and Adaptive Capacity in the Pacific Northwest”

**INDIGENOUS POLITICS: INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP, AND
POLITICAL BEHAVIOR**

Chair & Discussants: **TBD**

Shane Day, Portland State University

“Intertribal and Intergovernmental Conflict over the Expansion of Tribal Gaming in Oregon”

Cheryl Ellenwood, Washington State University

“Achieving Full Management Authority of Two National Fish Hatcheries: IDSov as a Framework and Methodology”

Margo Hill, Eastern Washington University

“Tribal Leadership and the Fight for Tribal Sovereignty with Tribal Leader Mel Tonasket”

Kait Pinkerton, University of Oregon

“Observing the Friends and Neighbors Voting Effect in the Cherokee Nation”

MIDTERM ELECTION POST-MORTEM

Thessalia Merivaki, Washington State University

Kevin Pirch, Eastern Washington University

Travis Ridout, Washington State University

Todd Schaefer, Central Washington University

SESSION 2
10:15-11:45AM

American Politics | International Relations 1 | Politics and Pop Culture

AMERICAN POLITICS

Chair & Discussant: **Todd Schaefer**, Central Washington University

Emre Balikci, Boise State University

“The Populist as a “Hero”: The “Great Man” Theory and Modern Populism”

Dustin Ellis, Eastern Oregon University

“Charlatans, Demagogues, & Sycophants: An Autopsy of American Conservatism”

Joseph Akowuah, **Francis Benjamin**, and **Nicholas Lovrich**, Washington State University;

William Schreckhise, University of Arkansas; **Brent Steel**, Oregon State University; **Stephanie**

Witt and **Jaclyn Kettler**, Boise State University; **John Piece**, University of Kansas; and **Steven**

Stehr, Washington State University.

“Perceptions of State Legislative Civility and the Endorsement and Use of Political Violence Across the United States”

Zach Baum, Rutgers University

“Equal Seats, Unequal Power: LGBTQ Legislators and Institutional Inequality in State Legislatures”

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 1

Chair: **Ross Burkhart**, Boise State University

Discussants: **Leif Hoffmann**, Lewis-Clark State College

Ross Burkhart, Boise State University

“Pumping Blues: Global Energy Crises and Executive Punishment”

Richard Mbayo, China-Uganda Research Network

“Between Rival Powers: Strategic Agency and Kenya’s Security Partnerships in the Emerging U.S.-China Order”

Mridani Pandey, University of Allahabad

“Hedging as Systemic Practice: Neoliberal Interdependence, Strategic Multipolarity, and India’s Role in the Emerging World Order”

POLITICS AND POP CULTURE

Chair & Discussant: **Edwin Taylor**, Missouri Western State University

Paul Pope, Montana State University-Billings

“Service Guarantees Citizenship”: Starship Troopers, the Hero Fallacy Paradox, and the Performative Patriotism of the Trump Regime

Jay Gentry, Montana State University-Billings

"Security Above All: Race, Place, and Heroism in Tom Clancy’s The Division"

Adriana Lozjanin, University Canada West

"Rebellions are Built on Frames: From Atomization to Mobilization in Andor"

LUNCH WITH MAYOR LISA BROWN

12:00-1:15PM

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE!

SESSION 3
1:30-3:00PM

Media and Politics | Policy and Technology | Political Theory

MEDIA AND POLITICS

Chair: **Parakh Hoon**, South Puget Sound Community College

Discussants: **Travis N. Ridout**, Washington State University; **Parakh Hoon**, South Puget Sound Community College

Ashley Caggiano, Indiana University

“Resonance over Volume: Quantifying the Impact of Social Media Engagement on Right-Wing Populist Success in Argentina, Brazil, and El Salvador”

Parakh Hoon, South Puget Sound Community College

“What Is AI? Rival Understandings, Political Assumptions, and Governance Choices”

Travis N. Ridout, Washington State University; **Erika Franklin Fowler**, Wesleyan University; and **Michael M. Franz**, Bowdoin College

“AI-Generated Advertising and Deepfakes in the 2026 U.S. Midterm Elections”

Robert C. Zinke, Eastern Washington University

“Star Trek’s ‘The Menagerie’, Artificial Intelligence, and the Politics of Epistemic Illusion in Democratic Societies”

POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY

Chair/Discussant: **Eliot Dickinson**, Western Oregon University

George Busenberg, Soka University of America

“The Policy History of Hydropower”

Paige Kolnes, The College of Idaho

“Lessons from Ghost Towns: What Congress’s Policy Responses to U.S. Deindustrialization Reveal About the Possibilities for Guiding the Development of Artificial Intelligence Technology”

Aaron J. Ley, **Brendan Mark**, and **Christopher Parker**, University of Rhode Island

“The New Surveillance State: Explaining the Adoption and Distribution of Automated License Plate Reader Cameras”

POLITICAL THEORY

Chair: **Tom Hawley**, Eastern Washington University

Discussant: **Tom Hawley**, Eastern Washington University

Emily Beatty, University of Oregon

“Reconstructing Pluralism – The Embodied Roots of Freedom and Counter-Hegemonic Practice”

Patrick Mahoney, Washington State University

“Repressive State Apparatuses and Militaristic Signifiers: Looking the Part”

Choudhury Amir Hamza, Idaho State University

“Disaster Response from Literature to Legislation Through the Rawlsian Lens of Justice”

Andrew Johnson, Gonzaga University

“Historical Vertigo: Everything, Everywhere, All at Once”

SESSION 4
3:15-4:45PM

Law and Courts | Peace and Conflict Studies | Poster Session | Voting and Elections 1

LAW AND COURTS

Chair/ Discussant: TBD

Nathan Carrington, St. Louis University

“Disproportional Sentences and Court Support”

Aaron Ley, University of Rhode Island

“Legal and Extra-Legal Mobilization Campaigns against Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Surveillance”

Adriana Lozjanin, University of Canada West

“Faith Against the Machine: Religious Exemptions in Canadian Law and Intersections with AI”

Chris Shortell, Portland State University

“Evaluating State Sovereign Immunity and the Rule of Law”

PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Chair & Discussant: **Paul E. Lenze, Jr.**, Northern Arizona University

Caden Hicks, University of Oregon

“Conflict Related Targeting of Sexual Minorities: Insurgent Militant Masculinity”

Nasrin Jabin, Washington State University

“Legitimacy and Competitive Authoritarian Regimes: A Comparative Investigation on Why Narratives Fail”

David Malet, American University

“Is Good Help Hard to Find? Non-State Agents and Outsourcing Violence”

POSTER SESSION

Chair and Discussant: **Leif Hoffmann**, Lewis-Clark State College

Garrett Dyemartin, Western Oregon University

“Removal of the Dams on the Lower Snake River”

Tristan Hoffmann, Lewis-Clark State College

“Education in Action: How Field Trips Enhance Learning in History and Political Science”

Paul Plato, Northern Arizona University

“European Security amid the War in Ukraine”

Jeneane Sorensen, Idaho State University

“New Guinea: A Land with Many Conflicts and Poor Governance”

Michael Goldsby, **Mirren Edwards**, and **Roberta Simonson**, Washington State University

“Democrats and Republicans agree they hate AI, but don’t agree on why”

VOTING AND ELECTIONS 1: VOTING SYSTEMS, TURNOUT, AND TRUST

Chair: **Lia Merivaki**, Washington State University

Discussant: **Paul Gronke**, Reed College

Todd Donovan, Western Washington University and **Caroline Tolbert**, University of Iowa

“Estimating Effects of Social and Moral Ballot Measures on Voter Turnout Using State Voting Records.”

Diana Pasquali, Secure Democracy Foundation

“Building Trust on The Ground: the Trusted Neighbors Campaign

Michael Ritter, Washington State University

“Understanding and Assessing Mail Voting through a Postal Voting Theoretical Framework”

MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND RECEPTION

5:00-7:00PM

SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

SESSION 5

9:00-10:30AM

Political Issues in the Pacific Northwest | Political Psychology | Supreme Court Roundtable

POLITICAL ISSUES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Chair: **Leif Hoffmann**, Lewis-Clark State College

British Columbia: **Adriana Lozjanin**, University Canada West

Idaho: **Leif Hoffmann**, Lewis-Clark State College

Montana: **Seán Eudaily**, The University of Montana Western

Oregon: **Earlene Camarillo**, Western Oregon University

Washington: **Season Hoard**, Washington State University

POLITICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Chair: **Kylee Britzman**, Lewis-Clark State College

Discussant: **Kylee Britzman**, Lewis-Clark State College

Joseph Shaw Akowuah and Francis Benjamin, Washington State University, "Democratic Citizens, Undemocratic Actions: Perceived Illegitimacy and Support for Political Violence in the United States"

Edward Greer, Idaho State University "“What About Straight Pride?” Heterosexuality as a Political Identity"

Anika Wood, Washington State University, “Social Determinants of Vigilante Violence”

SUPREME COURT ROUNDTABLE

Scott Lemieux, University of Washington

Chris Shortell, Portland State University

Gene Straughan, Lewis-Clark State College

SESSION 6
10:45AM-12:15PM

International Relations 2 | Race, Gender, and Politics | Teaching Roundtable

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS 2

Chair: **Ross Burkhart**, Boise State University
Discussant: **Ross Burkhart**, Boise State University

Do Kyung (Christy) Kim, Seoul National University

“Strengthening the Cyber Resilience of the US NC3 System and its Implications for the US Allies in East Asia”

Jason Kindree, Idaho State University

“National Security Conceptions and Operationalization: Theoretical Case Study of Canada”

Matthew Rains, Whitworth University, **Ella Schoenfelder**, Whitworth University, and

Chun-Young Park, Nazarbayev University

“Unequal in Influence: Advocacy Non-Governmental Organizations at the Universal Periodic Review”

RACE, GENDER, AND POLITICS

Chairs and Discussants: **Sandra Reineke**, University of Idaho, and **Dustin Ellis**, Eastern Oregon University

Adam Hobbs, Whitworth University

“Group Threat and Solidarity: Evidence from Yelp Reviews of Mexican Restaurants”

Kylee Britzman, Lewis-Clark State College, **Karra McCray Gibson**, University of South Carolina, **Paul Testa**, Meta Corporation, and **Tarah Williams**, Allegheny College

“When You See Me, Do You Hear Me? The Persuasive Power of Black Women in U.S. Politics”

Sydney Smith, Washington State University

“State Feminism and the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention in Slovenia and Croatia”

Nick Squires, University of Oregon

“The Choreography of Refusal: Absurdist Tactics and the Racialized Politics of Immigration Enforcement”

TEACHING POLITICAL SCIENCE IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER

Chair: **Erin Richards**, Cascadia College FRIDAY AFTERNOON OR SATURDAY

Earlene Camarillo, Western Oregon University

Dustin Ellis, Eastern Oregon University

Mary Pettenger, Western Oregon University

Alouise Urness, Pierce College

SESSION 7
12:30-2:00PM

AI Ethics and Policy | Environmental Politics and Policy 2 | Voting and Elections 2

AI ETHICS AND POLICY

Sherri Conklin, Washington State University

Ashlynn Main, Washington State University

Samantha Noll, Washington State University

ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICY 2

Cosmos Ansah, Northern Arizona University

“Policy Design, Cost Distribution, and Public Support for Climate Policy in Africa”

George Busenberg, Soka University of America

“The Policy History of Wind Power”

Dakota Kuhn, Lewis and Clark College

“Talk and Talk, and Something Done: Nimiipuu Energy Sovereignty and the Lower Snake River Dams.”

VOTING AND ELECTIONS: ELECTION 2026: THE VIEW FROM THE FRONTLINES

Chair: **Paul Gronke**, Reed College

Discussant: **Lia Merivaki**, Washington State University

Paul Gronke, Reed College

“Perceptions of trust among US local election officials”

Wren Orey, Bipartisan Policy Center

“Federal Involvement in US Elections”

Andrew White, Center for Tech and Civic Life

“The Cost of Excellent Elections”

CONFERENCE CONCLUDES

2:00PM

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