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The Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom was founded in 1950. Its purpose is the advancement of education by promoting the development of political studies and encouraging the advancement of learning in the art and science of government and in other branches of the political sciences. The PSA is the premier British learned society in the field of political studies and has an excellent reputation for its work, both in the UK and internationally. Its membership is drawn from the academic community throughout the UK and from overseas. The PSA is frequently consulted by policymakers and practitioners for its views and advice.

The Association is affiliated to the International Political Science Association and represents its members on the Council of that body. It is also affiliated to the Academy for the Learned Societies in the Social Sciences (ALSISS). The Association also maintains close links with the British International Studies Association (BISA), the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), the American Political Science Association (APSA), and many other national political science associations throughout the world.

PSA JOURNALS

Published by the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom in association with Blackwell Publishers.

- Political Studies, founded in 1952, is one of the most cited journals in the field. It reflects the vigour and importance of the discipline of politics and contributes significantly to the development of political science internationally.
- Politics, founded in 1980, is the second journal of the PSA. It has secured a reputation for lively writing, and contains debates and analyses by both established and up-coming political scientists.
- The British Journal of Politics and International Relations, founded in 1999, is a new journal aimed at influencing international debates in political science. It is fast attaining a reputation for innovative interdisciplinary research.

PSA PUBLICATIONS

- PSA News. Published quarterly, this newsletter includes Annual Conference details, forthcoming events, and many other items of interest to members.
- Directory of Political Studies. Produced jointly with BISA, the Directory lists all political scientists in the UK by university and department. This is available on-line at the PSA website http://www.psa.ac.uk
- Media Register of Experts. Compiled by the PSA from the latest research information, the Register lists expertise on politics and political science in the UK.

PSA PRIZES

- The W.J.M. MacKenzie Prize for Best Book published in political science is awarded annually.
- Best Dissertation Prizes in any field of political studies (4) are awarded annually.
- The Isaiah Berlin Prize for Life-Time Achievement in Political Studies is awarded annually.
- The Bernard Crick Prize for Teaching in any field of political studies is awarded annually.

PSA WEBSITE

- http://www.psa.ac.uk. This award-winning site was voted the ‘Best Political Science Site in the World’ in November 1999. It offers many resources in political science to the wider community and also a range of services exclusive to members of the PSA.

PSA ACTIVITIES

- Annual Conference. This is a major forum for exchange of ideas attracting leading figures from political science and politics, and comprising more than 100 specialist panels.
- Specialist Groups. These include more than 40 groups covering all major fields of specialization in political science, and many sub-fields. PSA specialist groups often hold their own conferences.
- Heads of Department Conferences. These are held to assist UK politics and political science departments with planning and training for research and teaching.

PSA GRADUATE NETWORK

- Graduate students at all institutions of higher education may be admitted as members at a reduced rate, and membership of the Graduate Network is automatically included.
Membership is open to those teaching and researching in the field of political science in the UK and elsewhere in the world, to research students on the same basis, and to those interested in the study and practice of politics.

Benefits of membership:
All members receive the following journals and publications free of charge:

- *Political Studies*, five issues annually.
- *Politics*, three issues annually.
- *PSA News*, four issues annually.

Other publications and services available to members:

- Member’s Handbook. This is revised every year and contains details of interest to new members, including the Articles and Memorandum of Association of the PSA, the full membership and contact details of the Executive Committee, a full list of current specialist groups and contact details, the Professional Code of Conduct Guidelines, and the Code of Conduct for the Employment of Part-time tutoring Staff.
- Members-only services on the PSA Website http://www.psa.ac.uk, including on-line access to PSA journals, personal membership details, and other areas of interest, including an automatically updated Membership Directory.
- Reduced registration fees at the PSA Annual Conference.
- Special offers made by Blackwell Publishers on a selection of politics titles.
- Discounted rates for graduate students at all institutions of higher education, including automatic membership of the PSA Graduate Network.

Full Membership fees for the calendar year 1 January–31 December 2000:

- Full members UK/Europe £50
- Full members USA/Canada £99
- Full members Rest of World £68
- Retired/concessions (UK only) £37
- Corporate membership (UK only) £95

Graduate membership fees for the 12 months 1 October 1999–30 September 2000:

- Graduate members UK/Europe £28
- Graduate members USA/Canada £62
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