



# WSSA NEWS

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Spring 2014



## The Politics of Inequality: Different Countries, Different Systems, Different Debates

Geoffrey Hale

I'm currently preparing a new edition of my text on the political economy of business and government in Canada.<sup>[1]</sup> Few topics illustrate the differences between the political cultures of the two countries as the ways in which debates over inequality and factors contributing to the legitimacy of the economic system have diverged since the turn of the century.

Although the debate over inequality has drawn considerable attention in Canada, the terms of the debate are fundamentally  
{cont. on pg. 6}

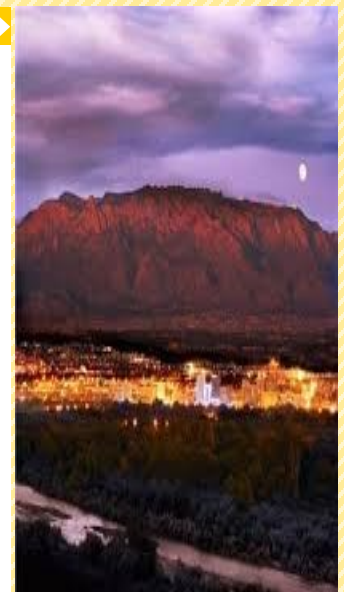
## President's Soapbox

I hope you have all made your plans to join us in Albuquerque in April where you will not only enjoy the beautiful scenery and friendly people of New Mexico but will once again participate in vibrant discussions spanning the scope of the social science disciplines. Albuquerque has been a regular meeting place for the Western Social Science Association, and for good reason. Sharon Billings and the rest of the staff at the Hyatt Regency Downtown make our stay a pleasant one with their attention to detail and willingness to go out of their way to help us enjoy our time in Albuquerque. Plus, the airport is only a few miles from downtown and both the University of New Mexico and "Old Town" are just over a mile away from the Hyatt Regency, making a {cont. on pg. 2}



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{President's Soapbox, cont. form pg. 1} visit a leisurely walk for most.

What I would like to do for this particular column is point out a few things that may enhance your visit to Albuquerque (or future WSSA conferences). First of all, take the time to say hello to one of the members of the Executive Council (see the website or the program for this year's listing of Sections), the program Director (Prabha Unnithan), the Conference Manager (Kate Herke), and our Executive Director (Larry Gould). All Council members are volunteers who donate their time, resources, and expertise to our organization. Kate and Larry work year-round to make sure that we remain on steady ground in all aspects. Prabha puts the program together, which means working with over 30 Section Coordinators, the hotel staff, the Council Members, and many others to ensure that the conference is successful. One easy way to meet these individuals is to attend the Wednesday Welcoming Reception or the Saturday President's Reception. Not only will you enjoy the food and drink, you get a chance to interact with your fellow travelers and meet the people responsible for the continued success of our organization and conferences. Second, visit a section completely out of your discipline. One of the unique aspects of the Western Social Science Association is its diversity of disciplines. Peruse the program and visit an area of expertise that is {cont. on pg.6}

# WSSA NEWS

## PRESIDENT

Tom Isern  
North Dakota State Univ.  
[isern@plainsfolk.com](mailto:isern@plainsfolk.com)

## PRESIDENT-ELECT

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Boise State University  
[lalm@boisestate.edu](mailto:lalm@boisestate.edu)

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[victor.heller@utsa.edu](mailto:victor.heller@utsa.edu)

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[halbanes@uccs.edu](mailto:halbanes@uccs.edu)

Geoffrey Hale (2014)  
University of Lethbridge  
[geoffrey.hale@uleth.ca](mailto:geoffrey.hale@uleth.ca)

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Utah State University  
[daniel.mcinerney@usu.edu](mailto:daniel.mcinerney@usu.edu)

Heather Nicol (2014)  
Trent University  
[heather-nicol@trentu.ca](mailto:heather-nicol@trentu.ca)

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Mary Jo Tippeconnic Fox (2015)  
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[foxm@email.arizona.edu](mailto:foxm@email.arizona.edu)

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Colorado College  
[Kristina.Lybecker@ColoradoCollege.edu](mailto:Kristina.Lybecker@ColoradoCollege.edu)

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[rburkha@boisestate.edu](mailto:rburkha@boisestate.edu)

Reynold F. Nesiba (2015)  
Augustana College  
[Reynold.nesiba@augie.edu](mailto:Reynold.nesiba@augie.edu)

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[larry.gould@nau.edu](mailto:larry.gould@nau.edu)

Kate Herke, Communications Director  
Louisiana Office of  
Student Financial Assistance  
[WSSA.Admin@nau.edu](mailto:WSSA.Admin@nau.edu)

Scott Carson, Editor  
*The Social Science Journal*  
University Texas, Permian Basin  
[carson\\_s@utpb.edu](mailto:carson_s@utpb.edu)

Chris Hiryak, Webmaster  
Arizona State University  
[chris.hiryak@asu.edu](mailto:chris.hiryak@asu.edu)

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, and Mexico; convenes an annual conference; conducts research competitions for faculty and students; and publishes *The Social Science Journal*, a juried, quarterly research journal, and WSSA News, the Association's newsletter, two times a year. 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 (includes spouse); \$25 (student); \$25 (retired). For information, contact Larry Gould, Executive Director, WSSA, c/o Northern Arizona University, 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)) WSSA News is published twice a year by the WSSA. Editor: Kate Herke. For more info on WSSA News, 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;

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## FOOD BANK CONTRIBUTIONS

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In 2012, at our annual conference in Houston, the Western Social Science Association revitalized our organizational mission of service by hosting a fund drive for a local charity. Conference attendees gave generously and we were extremely pleased to raise over \$2,100 for the **Houston Food Bank**. The following year (2013) in Denver, we were pleased to raise even more, a total of \$2,671 for the **Food Bank of the Rockies**.

This year, the Western Social Sciences Association is proud to host a fund drive to benefit, **Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico**, <http://www.rrfb.org>

Attendees of the Albuquerque annual conference will have the opportunity to donate at our Friday complimentary breakfast and poster session (April 4th, 2014). WSSA has committed to make a double-matching donation, with a minimum of \$500 and maximum of \$1000 portion of the contribution coming from the WSSA.

**Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico** is the largest food bank in the state of New Mexico. New Mexico ranks 1st in the U.S. for childhood hunger (with 30% of children under 18). Every year, more than 90,000 children are served through Roadrunner and their affiliate agencies and programs. Roadrunner Food Bank is an efficient organization, using only 4 cents of every dollar for administration. It has a 4-star Charity Navigator rating.

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## BOOK

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### **Science, Democracy, and the Environment**

Leslie R. Alm, Department of Public Policy & Administration, Boise State University

Ross E. Burkhart, Department of Political Science, Boise State University

<http://www.praeger.com/catalog/A2985C.aspx>

The impact of science on environmental policymaking is profound. To be more exact, solving our environmental problems, locally or globally, is not possible without the guidance of scientists. Whether acting as hidden participants, active citizens or outright policy advocates, it is scientists who provide the parameters of our search for the solutions to our most vexing environmental problems. It is true that scientists cannot provide all of the answers, and sometimes the complexities and uncertainty ingrained in scientific analysis makes policymaking even more confusing than it need be. However, the one thing scientists can do is point us in the right direction. And this is no small thing. In the end, there is simply no way to avoid the requirement for scientists to shine the light on nature and its wonders and allow us to better judge what tarnishes them.

## Some Thoughts from the President: Building a New Generation of Social Scientists

By Leslie R. Alm

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At almost every Western Social Science Association (WSSA) conference I have attended, a few (and I want to emphasize that it is only a few) of my colleagues have been critical of the number of students (both graduate and undergraduate) who are attending and presenting their papers throughout the multidisciplinary panels that are the mainstays of our conference. Some have even stated that it was demeaning to have to participate on a panel with a student. When approached with such feelings, I am often at a loss for words, as one of the major missions of WSSA (maybe the primary mission) is to bring young scholars into the social sciences—and what better way to do this than having students participate in the scholarly activity of formally presenting their work at a scholarly conference?

Over the past several years I have supported students of mine attending WSSA and presenting a paper at a particular disciplinary panel. My students have presented in the Public Administration, Political Science, Environmental and Natural Resources, Canadian Studies, and Association of Borderland Studies sections. Of the WSSA student attendees with whom I've worked, they have all gone on to a higher-degree level program (be it a master's or PhD program) or into social sciences related careers. All benefited enormously from their experience. All commented on the collegiality of the people attending the WSSA conference, and all went away with a positive feeling about how social science can directly affect the way we live. Just as importantly, for WSSA to continue to grow we need these young and upcoming scholars to become active members of WSSA and generate enthusiasm for the social sciences in general. With that said, several of the students I have supported have continued to return to WSSA, and that is a good thing!

In short, I hope that WSSA continues to emphasize student participation. What better way is there to continue to keep the generations of social scientists enjoying the knowledge and learning we all need in order to continue to make a difference in a very challenging world?

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## Get to Know Albuquerque, New Mexico

*Kristina Lybecker, The Colorado College*

The Western Social Science Association's **2014 conference** will take place in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**, April 2, 2014 through April 5, 2014. As the site of the 2009 WSSA annual conference, Albuquerque is a city familiar to many WSSA members. This article focuses on some lesser-known Albuquerque tidbits. Test your knowledge of Albuquerque and New Mexico trivia and learn a bit more about our next conference site.

1. The Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe is the oldest government building in the nation. (a) True; (b) False.
2. Santa Fe is the highest capital in the United States at \_\_\_\_\_ feet above sea level. (a) 5,000; (b) 6,000; (c) 7,000; (d) 8,000.
3. Albuquerque hosts the world's largest hot air balloon festival the first weekend in \_\_\_\_\_. (a) June; (b) August; (c) September; (d) October.
4. What is New Mexico's state flower? (a) Desert Paintbrush; (b) Yucca; (c) Apache Plume; (d) Lacy Phacelia.
5. The American International Rattlesnake Museum is located in \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Albuquerque; (b) Santa Fe; (c) Las Cruces; (d) Roswell.
6. White Sands National Monument is a desert, not of sand, but of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. One out of \_\_\_\_\_ families in New Mexico speak Spanish at home. (a) two; (b) three; (c) four; (d) five.
8. New Mexico has far more sheep and cattle than people. There are only about \_\_\_\_\_ people per square mile. (a) 6; (b) 9; (c) 12; (d) 15.
9. Doc Holliday operated a \_\_\_\_\_ in Las Vegas before moving on to Tombstone.
0. Since New Mexico's climate is so dry \_\_\_\_\_ of the roads are left unpaved. The roads don't wash away. (a) 1/3; (b) 1/2; (c) 2/3; (d) 3/4.

*{cont. on pg. 7, answers on pg. 9}*

{**President's Soapbox**, *cont. from pg. 2*} of interest to you, one that you have always liked to know more about but have never taken the time to investigate. Bring a fellow colleague along and make it a point to join in the discussion following the presentation and thank the presenters for taking the time to share their thoughts and ideas with others.

Third, stay in the designated hotel (in this case, the HYATT REGENCY DOWNTOWN). This ensures you are close to the action; all of the breakout rooms are in the hotel as well as the receptions, luncheons, and other conference-related activities. In addition, this helps out the Western Social Science Association immensely. At the current time we have a very reasonable registration and membership rate. Part of the reason we can keep the costs low is because we meet our room requirement at the conference hotel. If we do (and we did not in Denver last year), then we do not have to pay a hefty fine (thousands of dollars). While it may be tempting to find other hotels, please seriously consider staying at the Hyatt Regency, making your experience much more meaningful.

In the end, we hope you have a wonderful stay in Albuquerque: a stay that not only enhances your educational interests but provides you a chance to meet the leadership of the Western Social Science Association and share the wonderful things that make this such a great organization.

Wishing you well,  
Les Alm,  
WSSA President,

{**Politics of Inequality**, *cont. from pg. 1*}

different in the two countries. In the United States, the median household income has declined 9 percent since 1999 – the peak of the 1990s American business cycle, and remains 1.3 percent below the 1989 level, adjusted for inflation. According to Berkeley's Emmanuel Saez, virtually all income gains since 2009 have accrued to those at the top of the income scale. Social concerns over growing inequality have been reinforced by the massive destruction of household wealth caused by the collapse of real estate values after 2007, and the sluggish pace of economic and employment growth in the four years since the end of the recession, with its inevitable effects on economic opportunities and security for lower- and middle-income earners.

In Canada, leading political figures from all parties worry publicly about the erosion of economic opportunities for the middle class. However, although real incomes declined and poverty levels and inequality increased between 1989 and 1996, these trends have been largely reversed or, for inequality, stabilized since the late 1990s. Average real total income (after government transfers but before taxes) increased from between 14 and 20 percent for all income quintiles between 1998 and 2010 – with families in the top and bottom quintiles enjoying the largest gains. Overall poverty levels have been on a declining trajectory since 1996, with small upward blips during the economic downturns of 2001 and 2009. By contrast, Americans' average household market income dropped 10.2 percent between 2000 and 2010. The earnings threshold for the "top 1 percent" was \$ 394,000 in the United States in 2012 – more than double the \$ 191,000 figure for Canada's highest income earners in 2011.

Secondly, household income inequality in Canada has been virtually unchanged since 1998 – whether measured pre-tax or after tax terms. This performance { *cont. on pg. 10*}

{Get To Know Albuquerque, *cont. from pg. 5*}

11. Albuquerque was once part of the confederacy. (a) True; (b) False.
12. In \_\_\_\_\_ the little cub that became the National Fire Safety symbol, Smokey the Bear, was found trapped in a tree when his home in Lincoln National Forest was destroyed by fire. (a) 1950; (b) 1960; (c) 1970; (d) 1980.
13. The world's first \_\_\_\_\_ was detonated on July 16, 1945 on the White Sands Testing Range near Alamogordo. Designed and manufactured in Los Alamos, the area of the first bombing site is today known as the Trinity Site.
14. The first area in the world to be designated as wilderness area was in the Gila Mountains of New Mexico. (a) True; (b) False.
15. Santa Fe is the oldest state capitol in the nation.(a) True; (b) False.
16. Which New Mexico city was its largest at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?
17. Silver City is remembered as the boyhood home of William Bonney, who gained notoriety as \_\_\_\_\_. (a) Billy the Kid; (b) Bonney of Bonney and Clyde; (c) Butch Cassidy; (d) Buffalo Bill.
18. There are \_\_\_\_\_ Pueblo groups in New Mexico, speaking four distinct languages. (a) 12; (b) 19; (c) 21; (d) 36.
19. The only town in the US to ever be invaded by a foreign army is Columbus, NM, by Mexico's Pancho Villa. (a) Albuquerque; (b) Bernalillo; (c) Columbus; (d) Sunland Park.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ of bats live in the Carlsbad Caverns. (a) Hundreds; (b) Tens of thousands; (c) Millions; (d) Billions.
21. In New Mexico, it is against the law to dance around a \_\_\_\_\_. (a) bottle of beer; (b) sombrero; (c) public fountain; (d) fire.
22. New Mexico has \_\_\_\_\_ National Forests including the nation's largest, 3.3 million acre Gila National Forest which includes the Gila Wilderness. (a) five; (b) six; (c) seven; (d) eighty.
23. The \_\_\_\_\_, are the United States' largest Native American Group, with 78,000 members in New Mexico, and a reservation that covers 14 million acres. (a) Apache; (b) Navajo; (c) Comanche; (d) Ute.
24. Las Vegas provided 21 Rough Riders to \_\_\_\_\_ in 1898, most of whom were at his side during the famed charge up San Juan Hill.

Get To Know Albuquerque, *cont. from pg. 7*

25. The Santo Domingo Mission between Albuquerque and Santa Fe was built one hundred years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. (a) True; (b) False.
26. What is New Mexico's officially designated State Question? (hint: think chiles)
27. During the late 1800's when Lew Wallace served as territorial Governor, he wrote the popular historical novel \_\_\_\_\_, later made into a movie in 1959 starring Charleton Heston.
28. Cimarron was once known as the "Cowboy capital of the world". (a) True; (b) False.
29. New Mexico's capital city of Santa Fe was the ending point of the 800 mile \_\_\_\_\_.
30. Standing on the crest of 8,182-foot Capulin Volcano in Union County, you can see five states. Can you name them?

## PET PEEVES

### “Myth: Economics is the study of money”

*Kristina M. Lybecker*  
*The Colorado College*  
 word count 436

In the course of teaching a variety of microeconomics courses over an entire year I never use the word money...with the exception of telling my students that we aren't going to study money. To be fair, macroeconomists do study money: its creation and its impact on other macroeconomic variables such as inflation, investment and growth. However, fundamentally, economics is about scarcity, not money. Economics is the study of the consequences of decisions made about the use of scarce productive resources. In his introductory text, *Principles of Economics: An*

*Introductory Volume* (1890), Alfred Marshall wrote, “Economics is the study of people in the ordinary business of life.”

This begs the questions, what *do* microeconomists study and what *is* the ‘ordinary business of life’? Virtually everything is scarce, and economists have extended their reach to study all of it: whether to produce apple juice or apple sauce with the harvest, how many jerseys to produce for each MLB player, how to set the prices of different cable tv packages, whether to adopt new fuel efficiency standards now or later, how to find the correct mix of labor and machines, when to introduce a new iPhone, and how to understand addiction, marriage choices and childbearing decisions. Economics is a study of human behavior and people, it turns out, are rather wily creatures. This makes economics both an exciting field of study and a rather difficult one, hence all the jokes about the inaccuracy of economic predictions. President Harry S. Truman famously quipped, “Give me a one-handed economist! All my economists say, ‘On the one hand, on the other.’” While “Myth: Economics is the study of Money” cont. economists analyze all aspects of human decision-making, it's far from an exact science. Economists rely on large datasets and



empirical analysis of naturally occurring phenomena, blended with complex mathematical models to build theories. While these theories are helpful in making predictions, at the end of the day they are still predictions based on a lot of assumptions. It's the best that we can do, but far from foolproof. After all, *Economics* is the only field in which two people can get a *Nobel Prize* for saying the *opposite thing*.

Trivia sourced from "New Mexico Legends: Fun Facts and Trivia." Available at: <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/nm-funfacts2.html>

1. (a) True. The Spanish built it as part of a fortress during the winter of 1609-1610.
2. (c) 7,000
3. (d) October
4. (b) Yucca. The leaves of the Yucca, New Mexico's state flower, can be used to make rope, baskets and sandals.
5. (a) Albuquerque
6. gleaming white gypsum crystals
7. (b) three
8. (c) 12
9. dental office, saloon and gambling hall
10. (d) 3/4
11. (a) True.
12. (a) 1950
13. atomic bomb
14. (a) True.
15. (a) True.
16. Las Vegas was the largest city in New Mexico at the turn of the 20th century. It was established long before its Nevada counterpart.
17. (a) Billy the Kid
18. (b) 19
19. (c) Columbus
20. (b) Tens of thousands of bats live in the Carlsbad Caverns. The largest chamber of Carlsbad Caverns is more than 10 football fields long and about 22 stories high.
21. (b) sombrero
22. (c) seven. Though many people picture New Mexico as desert terrain, ¼ of the state is actually filled with forests.
23. (b) Navajo
24. Teddy Roosevelt
25. (b) False. The Santo Domingo Mission between Albuquerque and Santa Fe was built *fifteen* years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth.
26. "Red or green?"
27. Ben-Hur
28. (a) True. Cimarron was once known as the "Cowboy capital of the world". Some of the old west's most famous names, such as Kit Carson and "Buffalo Bill" Cody lived there. A quote from the Las Vegas Gazette illustrates how lawless Cimarron was, "Everything is quiet in Cimarron. Nobody has been killed in 3 days."
29. Santa Fe Trail
30. New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Colorado and Kansas

I hope your knowledge of Albuquerque and New Mexico has served you well, and that you've learned a few things as well. Here are the answers:

{**Patterns of Inequality**, *cont. from pg. 6*}

contrasts sharply with patterns of growing inequality and declining real incomes in 1980-98 resulting from the cumulative effects of recessions, structural economic changes resulting from globalization, and government deficit reduction efforts which reduced some transfer payments. By contrast, U.S. median household incomes decreased 6.1 percent between 2007 and 2012 – returning to average 1995 levels.<sup>[2]</sup> The ratio of disposable incomes between the top and bottom 10 percent of U.S. households is 15.9, compared with a shrinking 8.9 in Canada.

Several factors explain these diverging trends. Canada's federal government – whose aggregate spending is significantly smaller than that of provinces and municipalities – ran annual surpluses for more than a decade after 1997, reducing its net debt by two-thirds relative to GDP. Disciplined fiscal policies by both governing parties enabled both substantial tax reductions for all income groups, although targeted more at lower and middle income earners, as well as sustained increases in federal transfers to fund provincial health and education spending that have continued to the present. Despite providing net stimulus of more than 6 percent of GDP in 2009, the federal government is on track to balance its budget by next year, focusing its economy drive on its internal operations rather than cutting transfers to individuals or provincial social spending.

Governments of both parties have encouraged savings and wealth creation by businesses and households across the income scale, both through collective provision and incentives paralleling American measures from the 1980s. Refunding of the Canada Pension Plan – analogous to the retirement component of Social Security – and longer-term policy changes restored the public pension system to a sustainable footing. Public sector pensions have also been subjected to the same regulatory disciplines as private sector counterparts, becoming a major (yet decentralized) source of investment capital in the process rather than a net drain on the public purse. Financial sector and corporate governance regulation have typically benefited from a "second mover" advantage – avoiding both over-optimistic approaches to deregulation and compensatory regulatory excesses visible in Washington (and large parts of Europe), along with the political and regulatory cronyism that often fostered these excesses.

Both employment levels and quality have improved, both before and after the 2008-09 recession, despite the same structural challenges facing manufacturing employment in the United States. The deferred U.S. recovery has seen growing "job polarization" with 58 percent of new jobs generated in "low-wage occupations," 20 percent in "high-wage occupations" and only 22 percent in "mid-wage occupations" – a much smaller proportion than those lost to the recession. However, this trend applies more to men – particularly those formerly employed in declining manufacturing sectors – than to women, whose workforce participation, education and earnings levels have increased relative to men since the 1990s. By comparison, Canadian government statistics indicate that 68 percent of jobs created since mid-2009 have been in "high wage industries" (not quite the same thing), and 32 percent in "low wage industries." Technological change has increased demand for skilled over unskilled labour, while growing participation in post-secondary education has somewhat reduced wage-gaps. Although aging populations in both countries are contributing to lower labor force participation rates, U.S. participation rates have dropped much further – to about 62 percent in 2012, compared with about 68 percent in Canada, just below the 2008 peak.

Although the post-2000 commodities boom has contributed to some of these statistics, es-

pecially in many smaller communities, so have a relatively functional education system and immigration policies specifically aimed at recruiting immigrants with relatively high levels of education and marketable skills. These incremental shifts, reflecting longer-term trends, have reduced the politicization of immigration debates, in sharp contrast to the zero-sum rhetoric of immigration debates in the United States. There has been considerable policy continuity between Liberal (1993-2005) and Conservative (2006-present) governments, with greater variation among provincial governments – although not nearly as much as in the United States.

The prosperity of the last fifteen years has not been evenly spread across the country – being relatively greater in energy rich provinces of Western Canada (and Newfoundland) than the regions in between, and in larger cities as opposed to medium-sized cities or rural areas. Other significant challenges include rising housing costs spurred by low interest rates, especially in major cities, which are placing a squeeze on family incomes. Far too many families report living from paycheck to paycheck – leaving little flexibility in the event of an economic downturn or sharp spike in interest rates. As for most of Canada’s history, economic growth across the country remains uneven, and probably too dependent on major commodity (and related manufacturing) sectors.

Arguably, the decentralization of Canada’s political system has enabled different parts of the country to experiment with different approaches that limit the risks of a “one-size-fits-all” response to social and policy challenges. In some cases (though far from all), it has also fostered the kinds of policy learning that has softened ideological differences and encouraged policy adaptation and innovation across the ideological spectrum. These factors are reinforced by limits on the gerrymandering of electoral districts, forcing all political parties to seek support from a broader cross-section of income and ethnic groups than might otherwise be the case. Although ideological differences remain between political parties, large-scale voter skepticism towards all politicians generally encourage parties that aspire to govern to “play the game” between the “thirty yard lines.” (By contrast, the “voteview” lifetime ideological voting scale places Harry Reid about the 30, for reasons that are far from obvious, Mitch McConnell about the 40, and John Boehner and Nancy Pelosi above the “50s” in their respective hemispheres, although not far from the medians in their respective parties. Never the twain shall meet.)

For these and other reasons, Canada’s political and economic lessons of combining economic growth, fiscal sustainability, and some measure of distributive equity are not easily transplanted to the very different political system and cultures of the United States. They had to be learned over more than twenty years of serious political and economic dysfunction before 1995, involving the substantial collapse and reinvention of both of Canada’s major political parties. Nor can these gains be taken for granted in a world of continuous economic and social change. However, as with the renewal of American political and economic systems in the 1980s and 1990s and those of Europe-leading Germany after 2000, they suggest that political institutions that are capable of recognizing and learning from their own mistakes, rather than blaming their problems on others can engage in the kinds of creative policy learning, independent of ideology that can help unleash their citizens’ creative energies in the interests of greater prosperity and social opportunity.

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*.

# WSSA 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Program Overview

Albuquerque, New Mexico

## April 2<sup>nd</sup> --Wednesday

WSSA Executive Council Meeting  
7:30am to 4:00pm

Conference Registration  
&  
Publishers' Book Exhibit  
3:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

WSSA Welcoming Reception  
*All Attendees Invited*  
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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## April 3<sup>rd</sup> --Thursday

Conference Registration  
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Concurrent Panel Sessions  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Publishers' Book Exhibit  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Coffee Break  
9:15 a.m.

Coffee Break  
2:30 p.m.

## April 4<sup>th</sup> -- Friday

Full Breakfast  
*All Attendees Invited*  
7:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Poster Session  
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
*held in conjunction with  
Full Breakfast*

Conference Registration  
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Publishers' Book Exhibit  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Concurrent Panel Sessions  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Presidential Luncheon  
WSSA President  
Les Alm  
*Ticketed Event*  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Coffee Break  
2:30 p.m.

WSSA Business Meeting  
4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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Section Coordinators Meeting  
*All Current and New Section Coordinators Are  
Required to Attend*  
5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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## April 5<sup>th</sup> --Saturday

Conference Registration  
7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

WSSA Executive Council Meeting  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Publishers' Book Exhibit  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Concurrent Panel Sessions  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Coffee Break  
9:15 a.m.

WSSA President's Reception  
*All Attendees Invited*  
Music and Refreshments  
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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Information regarding special events and Section business meetings may be found in the conference program, online, on the Conferences page of our website  
<http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences>