News and notes

As astute readers will have already noticed there has been a change of editor and an enlargement of the editorial board since the issues published in May this year.

As the new editor, in conjunction with the Executive, it was decided to enlarge the board so as to try and ensure quick turnaround of submitted papers so that, with luck, the journal will come out regularly in May and November each year. However this can only happen if we receive enough manuscripts of quality to give us a good publication.

The May 2005 Autumn edition will included selected material from the highly successful ASPG Conference held in Perth this year as well as other pieces. However there is still room for more materials.

So I encourage all of you to submit articles, research reports (which can be quite short and include preliminary findings) or interesting speeches as well as lively correspondence. All materials should be sent to me: <u>e.thompson@ozemail.com.au</u> Address: Associate Professor Elaine Thompson

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I would like to see more comparative material in the journal so encourage you to submit material on matters related to politics, parliamentary affairs (broadly defined), parties and elections from other countries. I also exhort you to encourage others if you know of people who either work in overseas parliaments or research and write on comparative material of relevance.

Please note the changed requirements for articles in terms of format. In the first place, all materials must be submitted in electronic form (as well as ideally hard copy), and the Harvard system of referencing used.

Finally I encourage you to contact Clem MacIntyre (email: <u>clement.macintyre@</u> <u>adelaide.edu.au</u>) who is our book review editor, either with short book reviews (800 words), an indication of a willingness to do a book review of a book you have found interesting and relevant, or with suggestions of new books which should be reviewed by the journal.

All materials will be double blind refereed, mostly by our now large expert editorial board. However, depending on whether the material submitted is intended as a full 'academic style' article; a major report on a piece of research; a report of preliminary findings or an address or speech; the criteria used for evaluation will vary. Hence each published piece will indicate exactly which category it falls under, to ensure its purpose is clearly understood by the readers.

I would also encourage you to recruit others to both write for, and subscribe, to our journal, and of course become members of the Australasian Study of Parliament Group. Please get in touch with Anthony Marinac, email: <<u>marinaca@aph.gov.au></u> if you wish to subscribe or join the group, or if there have been any problems with respect to your receipt of the journal, or if you know of any such problems with respect to our mailing list.

Please let me know if you have ideas for enlivening the journal or would like to see other sorts of materials included.

Elaine Thompson Editor