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NEWSLETTER INFOLETTRE



CENTRE POUR L'ÉTUDE
DE LA CITOYENNETÉ DÉMOCRATIQUE
CENTRE FOR THE STUDY
OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP

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Arthur Spirling (New York University) presents at the CSDC Speaker Series

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE / MESSAGE DE LA DIRECTRICE

Dear readers,

As the new academic year rolls in, let me take this opportunity to share with you some of the new developments at the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship.

Nous soumettons cette année notre candidature auprès du Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et culture (FRQSC) pour le renouvellement de notre bourse de "Regroupement stratégique". Nous souhaiterions remercier tous nos membres et collaborateurs pour leur aide tout au long du processus. Comme vous avez pu le remarquer, nous avons obtenu une très bonne évaluation de mi-parcours. Le comité a souligné que "l'excellence du regroupement ne lui semble pas seulement déclarative, mais bien vérifiable à partir d'indicateurs solides. Ses membres retirent en outre de la visite l'impression d'être en présence d'un véritable regroupement stratégique, le centre mobilisant de façon optimale le potentiel existant au Québec dans le domaine concerné, en termes de chercheurs comme d'institutions." Nous demandons donc le renouvellement de notre subvention pour six ans à titre de regroupement reconnu.

Cet automne, nous accueillons dans notre équipe trois nouveaux membres: Roxane de la Sablonnière, professeure de psychologie à l'Université de Montréal, Colette Brin, professeure d'information et de communication à l'Université Laval et enfin Eran Shor, professeur associé au département de sociologie et titulaire d'une chaire William Dawson de l'Université McGill. Nous nous réjouissons de leur collaboration avec les membres et étudiants du Centre, qui pourront profiter de leur expérience précieuse. Vous pouvez vous référer à la page 13 pour en apprendre plus sur les nouveaux membres.

We are also starting the new school year with a number of changes in our staffing. Our coordinator, Sara Vissers, will be on

parental leave for the 2016-2017 academic year, so we welcome Heidi Hoernig and Holly Ann Garnett to our team in her absence. Holly will be taking care of many of the day-to-day tasks related to the administration of the Centre, and Heidi will be coordinating our grant renewal and other grant applications.

In February, we welcomed Alexandre Sheldon as our Public Affairs Coordinator. Alex has been working hard to help CSDC researchers communicate their work to the broader public. He made media connections, organized interviews and other media contributions of Centre members on a variety of topics. Based on his initiative, for example, our postdoc, Valerie-Ann Mahéo, and associate member Henry Milner shared their research in the media regarding youth political participation in the context of a CSDC-sponsored conference on "Youth Political Participation: The Diverse Roads to Democracy." The event sparked some serious debate about the role of young people in traditional and non-traditional politics. Currently Alex prepares the organisation and publicity of our public events for the fall (see more below).

Knowledge mobilization is indeed one of our major foci this year. This spring, we launched an important research in collaboration with Elections Canada. Five teams of CSDC members and students wrote research papers based on the 2015 National Youth Survey. These scholars tackled questions such as: access and motivational barriers to youth voting, participation of youth subgroups, alternative forms of political and civic participation, and the social, civic and family sources of political engagement. The paper authors are headed to Elections Canada's office in Gatineau later this month to present their results.

With discussions surrounding democratic renewal in Canada, CSDC researchers have both the responsibility and the ability to contribute to public debates.

Three major events this fall will focus on the renewal of Canadian democracy. We began the academic year with our first biennial conference, "The State of Democratic Citizenship in Canada," under the leadership of CSDC members Allison Harrell (UQAM) and Patrick Fournier (UdeM). Please see the article on page 10 for more details about the conference. In October, CSDC member André Blais (UdeM) is organizing a major public forum on electoral reform in Canada, which includes live streaming of the event on CPAC and a nationwide vote on electoral systems. Later in December, the CSDC will be co-sponsoring a workshop and public panel on Senate reform in Canada. Both events are fantastic opportunities for public engagement. More details can be found on page 11.

Our regular speaker series is sure to impress this academic year. This cornerstone of our Centre's activities brings scholars from around the world to Quebec to share their research, network with colleagues and provide valuable substantive and methods training to our graduate students. Please see a listing of all our speakers and dates on page 11. Here is a quick reminder that all talks are free and open to the public, and additionally live-streamed (more information on our website), so even if you can't attend in person, you are welcome to take part in the discussion.

We look forward to engaging with you in the future, as we embark on an exciting new academic year. Please do not hesitate to contact us (cscd-cecd@mcgill.ca) for more information on how to get involved.

Kind regards,

Dietlind Stolle

Dietlind Stolle is a Professor of Political Science at McGill University. She has served as Director of the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship since 2013.

MAKING RESEARCH THAT COUNTS: A YEAR IN REVIEW AT THE CSDC

By Alexandre Sheldon.

Une version en français est disponible sur csdc-cecd.ca

Making the climb up McTavish street on McGill campus today, you will most likely run into an imposing obstacle course made of orange cone sentinels, growling backhoes and an intricate maze of fences. Sitting as a watchtower atop this battlefield of urban development, our research center's main office peeks over the construction, observing a world swarming with change.

As one walks inside the CSDC's main office, the helter-skelter of the construction site gives way to an almost monastic stillness. The walls are covered with dozens upon dozens of charts and dotted data clouds. Silent researchers are working studiously at their desks, their computer screens showcasing a mix of coding, word processing and Twitter. To tell the truth, it can all seem quite esoteric. Quantitative researchers seem to belong to a private club, a *secret society*, where language is made of covert codes, hidden symbols and secret handshakes...well maybe not handshakes, but you get the picture.

But that's the nature of the trade. By talking with a few of the CSDC's members, we come to understand that the cryptic character of *quant* actually makes a lot of sense when one is trying to conceive an accurate representation of the world. Raw data can say pretty much what you want it to say, so the design of a sophisticated and clear-headed research project is of utmost importance. Only then can such projects give us a truthful snapshot of the political world. Once we see things for what they truly are, then research becomes a powerful tool whose impact can be felt well beyond the walls of academia.

Case in point: many of our CSDC members have been involved in the *Canadian Election Study* (CES) for many

years now. This year, the list included principal investigator Patrick Fournier, Dietlind Stolle, Éric Bélanger and Allison Harell, alongside associate members Stuart Soroka and Peter Loewen. If ever there was a project that demonstrates the potential influence of research, this is it. "This continuous research project is crucially important" says CES principal investigator Patrick Fournier without hesitation, "it's easily one of the most important studies in Canadian political science, and the fact that it has been ongoing for a half-century makes it both very rare and highly valuable."

Indeed, the CES celebrated its 50th year anniversary in 2015. For almost every federal election since 1965, the changing CES teams have been polling thousands of citizens in order to gauge public opinion on a wide variety of topics. "We only missed out on the 1972 election" adds Patrick Fournier. The main objective of the study is to make public opinion data available to the wider research community. "Rather than analyzing the data ourselves, our job as I see it is to ensure that we have well-balanced surveys, combining new themes with old themes, so that our data is consistent with the past election data, but also to ensure that it covers the issues that are specific to today."

For the 2015 election survey, two particularly interesting additions were included in the questionnaires. "Instead of limiting respondents to multiple choice answers, for the first time they were given the opportunity to fill out text boxes to freely express their views about each party" says Patrick Fournier, "we also included questions aimed at assessing the respondents' emotional reactions to parties and issues, which is

also a first."

This data is not only used by the research community at large. Indeed, institutional and political actors have also been using the CES data as a means of assessing public opinion.

"The CES is useful when looking at the national scale, but when trying to assess public opinion at the level of the local constituency, 4000 respondents isn't enough to break down the data by riding." Meet Peter Loewen,

CSDC associate member and one of the initiators of the *Local Parliament Project*. This project is all about increasing the political influence of local constituencies in the House of Commons.

In a political system in which the policy agenda is generally set by party leaders, Peter Loewen claims that local preferences and issues are often pushed aside.

"When local MPs are better informed about their constituents' views, they are better able to represent the will of the people."

**CSDC Associate Member
Peter Loewen**

During the 2015 federal election, the *Local Parliament Project* surveyed some 40,000 Canadians, asking them which party leader they thought was the most intelligent, the best, the most trustworthy, etc. The project also polled respondents' views on immigration, pipelines, ISIS, the carbon tax and fiscal policy. Because of the large number of participants, researchers at the *Local Parliament Project* were able to break down the data by constituency, giving them an accurate portrait of public opinion in various localities. They then brought this data to the attention of MPs.

"We did our first test-drive around the time medically assisted dying was being debated in parliament," explains Peter Loewen, "we found that most MPs were very interested in knowing exactly where their local constituents stood on this issue." With a book in the works, the

researchers are highly enthusiastic about the future of their project, especially in its ability to increase the influence of local preferences and local MPs in the decision-making arena. "We're very optimistic that this project can have a real positive impact on our democracy. When local MPs are better informed about their constituents' views, they are better able to represent the will of the people," says Peter Loewen.

One remarkable development in the world of quantitative research is the increasing feasibility and affordability of online surveying, itself associated with the ever-expanding presence of the internet in every sphere of society. Much thought has been given to the political paradigm shift of the digital era. Some of our members have been hard at work, problematizing the multiple interactions between the internet and the world of politics.

"For all of the political benefits we derive from the internet, we can't help but notice that by making these new technologies ubiquitous, we have created new inequalities." That's Frédéric Bastien, the associate director of the CSDC, who is currently conducting research on Canadians' digital skills.

"We set out asking whether people were really able to use the internet in a politically emancipatory way," explains Frédéric Bastien, "are they taking advantage of the internet's multiple benefits, namely the snowballing volume of information, the greater means of communication and organization, and

the increasing transparency of public institutions?"

His research shows that those who show low levels of digital skills are often among already marginalized groups: low-income, low-education and senior citizens. In a context where public information and public services are increasingly accessible solely online, many citizens are being left out of this otherwise celebrated digital turn.

"Also, we need to remember that, contrary to television or radio, the internet is a medium wholly dependent on text," adds Frédéric Bastien, "if you have a hard time reading or writing, then participating in online public discussions becomes very complicated."

Sara Vissers, CSDC member and coordinator, and Dietlind Stolle, CSDC director, conduct annual surveys with McGill students, assessing their use of social networks and trying to determine whether *online* political engagement translates into *offline* political engagement. "When looking at the student population, we are dealing with an educated, literate and computer-savvy section of the population," explains Sara Vissers. "And what we find is that yes, in this population, political engagement on social networks does lead to spill-over effects in other forms

of political participation." This research also established positive relationships between the political use of Facebook and protesting. In other words, it seems to confirm the positive impact of social media on political engagement in general.

"If you have a hard time reading or writing, then participating in the online public discussion becomes very complicated."

**CSDC Member
Frédéric Bastien**

The political arena is presently adjusting itself to the omnipresence of the internet. The way in which this takes shape will have a significant impact on the way citizens can engage with politics. For Frédéric Bastien, research should serve as a healthy dose of nuance when it comes to such matters:

"It will be important to retain a plurality of communication mediums in the future, so we can insure that everyone can participate in the public discussion to the best of their abilities."

What's most striking when looking at the CSDC's research is the deep sense of purpose that imbues these different projects. I've met enough *PhDs* and *post-docs* that suffer from acute cases of the *graduate blues* to know that Purpose is by far the greatest remedy for this breed of spiritual vertigo. Knowing that one's work actually radiates onto the real world is the most soothing of all balms, and one that is thankfully present in ready quantities at our center.

Alexandre Sheldon is the public affairs coordinator at the CSDC.



YOUTH POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: THE DIVERSE ROADS TO DEMOCRACY

By Valérie-Anne Mahéo

Our era is characterized by democratic deficits and rising inequalities, which affect young people in particular. To address these challenges, the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship hosted the conference “Youth Political Participation: The Diverse Roads to Democracy” at McGill University. Over the course of three days, 130 participants from more than a dozen countries asked important questions about the future of democratic citizenship: How and why do youth connect (or do not connect) with the democratic process? What are the policy avenues that can address these challenges?

Professor Jan van Deth from the University of Mannheim (Germany) opened the conference with a keynote address titled “Youth and Democracy: The Endless Story of an Awkward Relationship.” van Deth presented some well-known evidence that young people stay away from institutionalized politics, but noted that the meaning and implications of these findings leave academics and practitioners divided. Is it really worrying if young people do not participate in democratic life in traditional ways as much as older citizens? If this problem is serious, what should we do about it?

Over the next two days, forty-three researchers from various disciplines presented their work grappling with these difficult questions in twelve academic panels. Participants discussed the use of social media and web resources for youth engagement, how immigrant youth conceive of their role as citizens, the impact of teachers and schools on political learning, and the complicated relationship between young people and political parties, among other topics.

What made this event so unique, however, was the opportunity for scholars and practitioners to exchange ideas on the topic of youth political engagement. Social scientists and

practitioners often have the same questions about youth participation, but approach them from very different perspectives. On one hand, social scientists have the theoretical grounding and methodological tools to assess the various factors that may explain political engagement. Governmental and community organizations, on the other hand, have an understanding of youth dynamics, an awareness of complex local contexts, and practical experience with engagement programs. In this sense, scholars have the ability to inform organizations’ strategies with the results of their empirical research, while practitioners have the knowledge to inform relevant research questions and effective field investigations given their presence on the ground.

To facilitate exchanges between scholars and practitioners, three round tables were co-organized with Elections Canada and Elections BC. During these roundtables on civic education, the mobilization of young voters, and strategies to reach out to diverse youth, a dozen community organizations, youth groups, civic associations and election management bodies from across Canada presented their own strategies to engage youth.

The round table on civic education, for example, featured presentations by CIVIX Canada, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada, and the Directeur Général des Élections du Québec. Their comments echoed the questions and findings addressed by scholars during the earlier academic panels. CIVIX described their experiential learning programs, in which they help children learn about politics through practice. However, they recognized the difficulty of changing political behaviors permanently, and advocated for more political activities aimed at building an active role for children as citizens. The Boys and Girls Clubs noted that youth should not just be considered as ‘citizens in training’, but as active members of the community. If

youth feel that they are valued and that they can contribute to the projects of the community, they are much more likely to be engaged.

One common question among all the panelists was the long-term impact of their programming on youth participation and democratic citizenship more generally. This led one panelist to tell scholars in the audience: “I want to know if my work actually pays off. I have access to youth, I know how to work with them, but I don’t know (unlike you) how to evaluate the short term and long term effects of our programs. So let’s team up and assess these civic strategies.” The door is wide open for collaborations!

Since there is increasing recognition that empirical knowledge should be the basis for the development of public policies and programs, partnerships between the scientific community and community organizations are increasingly valued. Further collaborative research is needed to understand the differential impacts of programs on diverse youths, the impact of inequality on youth political participation, and the importance of social groups and networks in youth political development. Further study is also needed to understand the contribution of non-electoral forms of participation in building democratic citizenship. This conference served as the beginning of many new partnerships and projects to tackle these important issues in the future.

The conference was organized by Valérie-Anne Mahéo with the financial support of Elections Canada; Elections BC; McGill’s Dean of Arts Development Fund; the Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship; Making Electoral Democracy Work; the Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas; Observatoire Jeunes et Société; La Chaire de recherche sur la démocratie et les institutions parlementaires; McGill’s Political Science Department; and the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada.

THE PARTICIPEDIA PROJECT: A WEBSITE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

By Isadora Borges Monroy and
Dietlind Stolle

Imagine you are interested in civil society and its activities around the world. You might need examples of civic action around a certain theme such as LGBT politics or tax havens, or you would like to understand whether civil society events in a certain region, such as Latin America, have increased or decreased over time.

Imagine you are an activist wanting to organize a new action group on poverty issues. You need to find out under which conditions these groups can evolve and can bring about change. If previous events have been organized around similar themes, you may like to know what the organizers thought about their events and why they were successful or not. In all these instances, normally, researchers or activists will have to go to online sites that report about events via news sources or academic articles. Several case studies might appear, but systematic findings will be spotty and incomplete; events will be covered to different degrees of detail.

Well, all of that is changing with the largest collaborative initiative to collate citizens' participation across time and space.

This project is called Participedia, an SSHRC-funded international research group led by Prof. Mark Warren at the University of British Columbia that seeks to systematically record the instances and the progress of new forms of participatory politics, democratic innovations, and citizen-involved governance. With the help of international scholars, activists and the public, it crowdsources, tracks, catalogues, and compares the successes and failures of public participation. Eventually the project will enable researchers to understand the conditions that facilitate citizen involvement in political decision-making and strengthen representative democracy.

The Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship is a partner in this

international project and Centre director Dietlind Stolle is a co-investigator. From June 6th to 9th in 2016, Participedia members from around the globe met at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver for the first large-scale meeting to discuss the direction of the platform. PhD student, Isadora Monroy Borges, represented the Centre and met fellow RAs, collaborating students, supervisors, and the technology team. Her particular focus in this project will be on recording events related to internet governance and online participation to shape technology policy.

The recent meeting in Vancouver kicked off a number of important discussions about the project. The Research Design group debated new ways of allowing for big-data downloads of civic action events for comparative quantitative analysis. Ideas were bounced around to improve the qualitative information that is recorded by researchers and activists. The Communication and Knowledge Mobilization group discussed how to best bring practitioners and engaged citizens into the process of describing the goals and landmarks of their mobilization efforts, in an effort to make Participedia outward-facing and not just a site for researchers or by-researchers. The goal is to revamp Participedia into a service for everyone who needs systematized information on civic action as well as a safe space for activists to get organized. Participedia also aims to become more inclusive to crowdsourcing efforts and to gain insight into processes in smaller communities or in burgeoning groups. So, watch out for the Participedia database, contribute to it, let your students use it for their papers, and utilize its insights in your research. Visit the website at: www.participedia.net

Isadora Borges Monroy is a PhD student in Political Science at McGill University.

Dietlind Stolle is the Director of the CSDC and Professor of Political Science at McGill University.



A LOOK BACK / RÉTROSPECTIVE

ELECTION PREVIEW: CANADA VOTES

The CSDC hosted a panel discussion on October 16, 2015 on the upcoming Canadian federal elections, which took place three days later. The panelists showcased their research on the campaign, and discussed public opinion and media trends leading up to Election Day. Themes included the reliability of the election polls, new approaches in election studies and polling, comparing the 2015 campaign dynamics with earlier elections, the usage of the Vote Compass, local aspects in this election, media highlights, and the diversity of political candidates.

2015-2016 VISITING SCHOLARS / CHERCHEURS INVITÉS

The CSDC was very pleased to welcome four visiting scholars this past year. **Laura Stephenson** (University of Western Ontario) visited the CSDC the first week of February, 2016. She presented a talk on the 2014 Municipal Elections in Toronto, in both Montreal and at the Université Laval. **Peter Söderlund** (Åbo Akademi University) spent one day a week at the Centre during his one-month visit at UdeM in February, 2016. During the second week of May, the Centre welcomed **Tom van der Meer** (Universiteit van Amsterdam), who gave a talk for the speaker series on political trust as a reflection of state performance and offered a methods seminar on cross-national multilevel research. In June, **Jan van Deth** (University Mannheim) visited the CSDC and gave the keynote speech at the Youth Political Participation conference.

ÉCOLE DE MÉTHODES DU CÉCD

Le candidat au doctorat Alexandre Blanchet (UdeM) a organisé une école de méthodes pour les étudiants du CÉCD les 7 et 8 janvier 2016. L'objectif était d'initier les étudiants à une gamme de méthodes quantitatives et de logiciels utilisés en sciences sociales.

CONFÉRENCE ANNUELLE DES ÉTUDIANTS DE CYCLES SUPÉRIEURS DU CÉCD

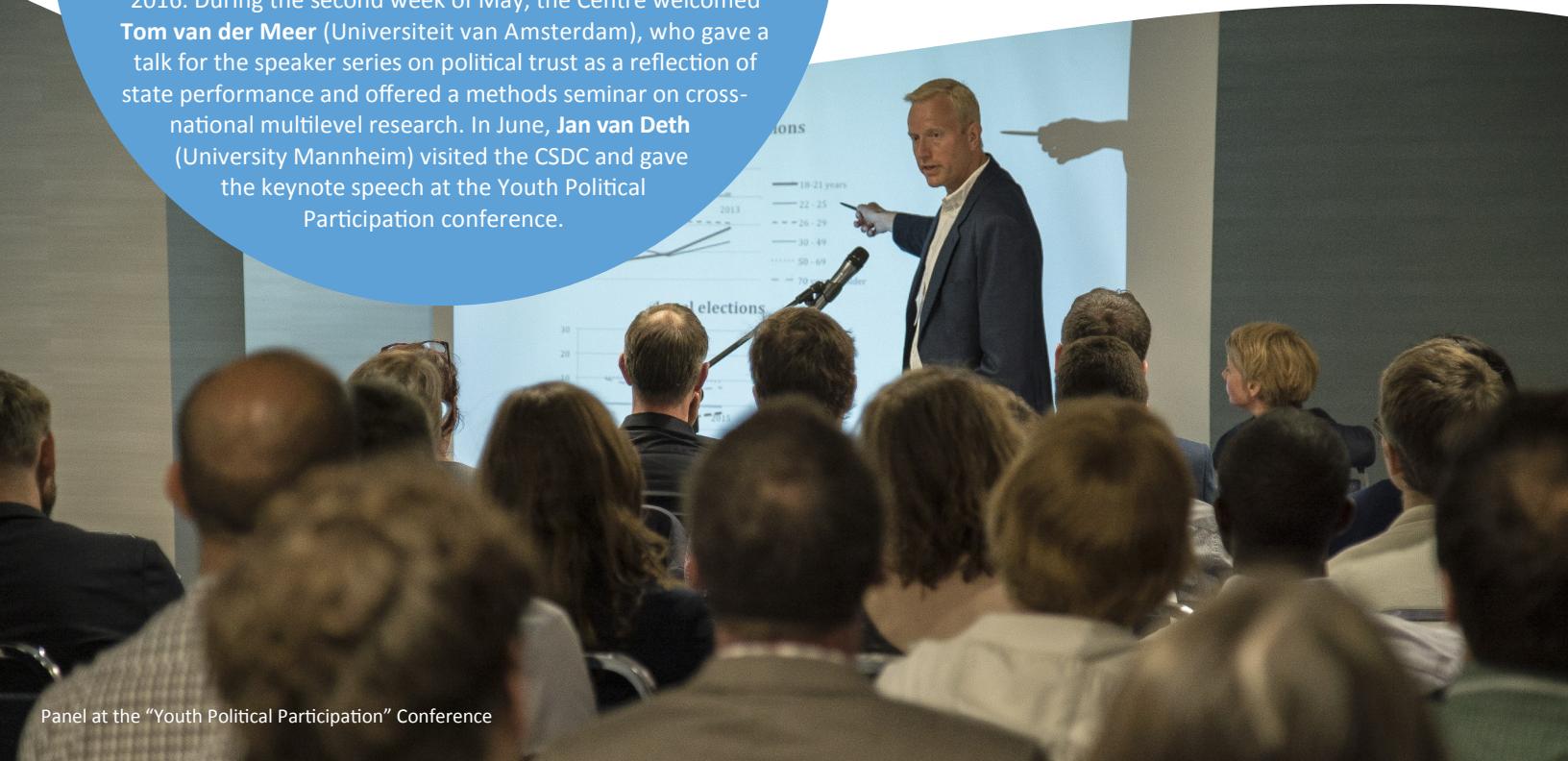
Le CÉCD a accueilli sa sixième conférence annuelle des étudiants de cycles supérieurs les 10 et 11 mars 2016 à Québec. L'objectif de cette conférence était d'offrir aux étudiants de maîtrise, doctorat et post-doctorat intéressés par les thèmes de recherche du Centre une occasion de présenter leur recherche et de recevoir des commentaires, aussi que de faire connaissance avec les autres étudiants du centre.

WORKSHOP YOUR MANUSCRIPTS FOR PUBLICATION OR PRESENTATION

The Centre organized two one-day workshops, on March 5th and April 1st, 2016, to help students improve their manuscripts for presentation and publication. The workshops were organized in collaboration with Graphos, housed within the McGill Writing Centre. The purpose of these one-day sessions was to give students an opportunity to benefit from providing and receiving constructive feedback to revise their work.

YOUTH POLITICAL PARTICIPATION: THE DIVERSE ROADS TO DEMOCRACY

The CSDC sponsored an international conference on youth political participation, organized by postdoc Valérie-Anne Mahéo at McGill University on June 16th and 17th, 2016. The conference brought together experts on political participation, socialization and civic education from around the world, to discuss the state of the field, recent research findings, and to explore future avenues of research. For more details, see the feature article on page 6.



CO-SPONSORED EVENTS/ÉVÉNEMENTS CO-SPONSORISÉS

FROM LONDON TO PARIS: SOCIAL MEDIA AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF CRISIS REPORTING

On September 17, 2015, the CSDC co-sponsored a talk by Valerie-Belair Gagnon on BBC journalists' use of social media following the 2005 London terror bombings. The talk was organized by Fenwick McKelvey at Concordia University.

RESISTING GENDERED AND STATE VIOLENCE: INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S ACTIVISM

The CSDC co-sponsored the Indigenous Women's Activism Symposium, which was organized by the Institute for Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies and the Canadian Women's Foundation, on September 24th to 25th, 2015. The symposium was focused on the relationship between resisting gender violence and demanding sovereignty, bringing together key experts from academia and activism. The symposium welcomed Ellen Gabriel and Prof. Audra Simpson (author of *Mohawk Interruptus*) as keynote speakers. Other panels included participants from the Native Aboriginal Circle Against Family Violence, the Native Women's Association of Canada, Quebec members of Idle No More, Native Youth Sexual Health Network, and Families of Sisters in Spirit.

THE LEUVEN- MONTREAL WINTER SCHOOL

The Leuven-Montréal Winter School, held this year from February 26th to March 5th, 2016 in Montréal, offered a week-long program focused on theories and methods in the study of elections and voting behavior. The program aimed to provide graduate students focusing on electoral behavior, comparative politics, or political parties with the core theoretical frameworks and empirical tools in the field of electoral behavior. The Winter School is organized jointly by the universities of Montréal and Leuven. The CSDC sponsored the tuition fees of its participating PhD students.

INTERNET ET LA POLITIQUE

Le 6 novembre 2015, à l'Université du Québec à Montréal, le candidat au doctorat Philippe Duguay a tenu un atelier sur la relation entre Internet et la politique. L'atelier a abordé plusieurs sujets allant de l'impact d'Internet sur l'implication citoyenne dans les processus électoraux et démocratiques aux implications internationales, économiques et politiques d'Internet.

IMMIGRANT INCLUSION IN THE POLITY: PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS VS. IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCES

On March 5, 2016, the CSDC sponsored a workshop organized by Allison Harell at the International Metropolis conference in Toronto. The workshop looked at the ways in which immigrant-driven diversity is integrated into the political community, from both the perspective of the majority, native population and the immigrant communities.

AISTHESIS AND THE COMMON: RECONFIGURING THE PUBLIC SPHERE

The CSDC co-sponsored this international colloquium organized by Media@McGill at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal on March 18th and 19th, 2016. It brought together artists, designers, art historians, curators, philosophers and scholars in urbanism and media studies to reflect on emerging models of the public sphere and the role of aisthesis (αἴσθησις: the faculty of perception by the senses and the intellect) in this emergence.

THE CENSUS IN CANADIAN SOCIETY: THEN AND NOW

The long-form census controversy has raised awareness of the multiple vital roles of the Canadian census. The CSDC co-sponsored (with the Centre on Population Dynamics and the Institute for Health and Social Policy) a two-part series of roundtable discussions this Winter, examining the census from an interdisciplinary perspective.

ATELIER INTERNATIONAL SUR LA COMMUNICATION POLITIQUE

Le CÉCD a co-sponsorié la quatrième édition de l'Atelier international sur la communication politique, organisé par le Groupe de recherche en communication politique (GRCP) les 22 et 23 avril 2016, à l'Université Laval. L'atelier a donné aux participants une vue d'ensemble des innovations dans la recherche en communication politique. Durant deux jours, cinq éminents chercheurs ont présenté les derniers développements dans les sous-champs de la discipline et ont discuté de leurs travaux récents. Les présentations de cette année ont abordé la citoyenneté numérique dans une perspective comparée, les transformations économiques et technologiques du journalisme, les prédictions de comportements politiques grâce à l'analyse de banques de données à grande échelle issues des médias sociaux, l'authenticité dans la communication politique et le cadrage médiatique racialisé des politiciens.

THE MEDIATION OF GENDERED IDENTITIES IN CANADIAN POLITICS

The CSDC sponsored a multi-panel workshop on the mediation of gendered identities in Canadian Politics organized by CSDC Postdoc Angelia Wagner (McGill) and Joanna Everitt (University of New Brunswick), that took place at the Canadian Political Science conference in Calgary from May 31 to June 2, 2016.



CITOYENNETÉ DÉMOCRATIQUE AU CANADA : LA PREMIÈRE CONFÉRENCE BIANNUELLE DU CÉCD

Par Allison Harell et Patrick Fournier

An English version is available on our website: www.csdc-cecd.ca

La citoyenne démocratique au Canada fait face à une multitude de défis et d'opportunités. Une diversité sociale en croissance, des technologies de l'information et de la communication en transformation, de même que des préoccupations à propos de la transparence et de l'imputabilité gouvernementales ont été accompagnées par une baisse de la participation électorale, une instabilité du système de partis à différents niveaux de gouvernement et d'importantes contestations hors de l'arène électorale. Qu'est-ce que ces changements impliquent pour la santé de la démocratie au Canada? Quelles sont les avenues par lesquelles les citoyens peuvent se faire entendre des décideurs? Comment citoyens et institutions répondent-ils à des circonstances économiques, sociales et politiques changeantes?

Le Centre pour l'étude de la citoyenneté démocratique accueillera sa première conférence biannuelle les 23 et 24 septembre à Montréal afin d'aborder ces questions. La conférence, qui aura pour thème *L'État et la citoyenneté démocratique au Canada*, accueillera un large éventail de chercheurs du Québec, du Canada et d'ailleurs.

Un des moments forts de la conférence sera une table-ronde qui examinera les

défis auxquels fait face la citoyenneté dans d'autres démocraties. Comment la citoyenneté a-t-elle évolué à l'âge de l'information et quels sont les défis auxquels elle est confrontée au 21^e siècle? La table-ronde rassemblera des chercheurs reconnus internationalement travaillant sur la communication politique, la philosophie politique, la psychologie sociale et la politique des partis. Elle inclura Francis Cheneval, de notre organisation partenaire, le *National Center of Competence in Research in Democracy* (NCCR) à Zurich, Rachel Gibson de l'*Institute for Social Change* de l'Université de Manchester, et Miles Hewstone, le Directeur du *Oxford Centre for the Study of Intergroup Conflict*. André Blais, titulaire de la Chaire de recherche du Canada en études électorales et membre de longue date du Centre, participera aussi à la discussion.

En outre, la conférence cherche à mettre en valeur les recherches originales et diverses des membres du Centre. Durant les deux journées et demie de conférence, ils présenteront une vingtaine de travaux, couvrant des sujets allant du vote économique au rôle des médias sociaux dans la joute électorale. Il y aura aussi deux séries de panels animés par l'équipe de l'Étude électorale canadienne et portant sur les élections fédérales de 2015.

La conférence accueillera également nos partenaires non-académiques pour un dîner spécial avec des discussions sur le partage d'idées, la diffusion de la

recherche et les préoccupations de différents acteurs quant aux questions de citoyenneté démocratique. Le dîner suit un panel où nos partenaires de la société civile et du gouvernement nous partagent leurs besoins et priorités. Le CÉCD est présentement en partenariat avec un certain nombre d'organisations de la société civile et du gouvernement, pour qui la conférence permettra de voir ce sur quoi nous travaillons et fournira une occasion de discuter de la manière dont nos recherches peuvent être liées au travail qu'elles réalisent.

L'évènement aura lieu au Cœur des sciences, sur le campus de l'Université du Québec à Montréal. Les organisateurs, Allison Harell et Patrick Fournier, invitent les gens du grand public à assister à l'évènement. Pour plus d'information, écrivez au csdc.cecd2016@gmail.com ou visitez le site web du CÉCD (www.csdc-cecd.ca).

Allison Harell est professeure agrégée au Département de science politique de l'UQAM et membre du CÉCD. Elle est aussi titulaire de la Chaire en psychologie politique de la solidarité sociale de l'UQAM.

Patrick Fournier est professeur titulaire au Département de science politique de l'Université de Montréal et membre du CÉCD. Il est aussi le chercheur principal de l'Étude électorale canadienne.



Photo: Ottawa Fireworks, Canada Day 2012 by Joel Bedfordis

DEBATING DEMOCRATIC REFORM AT THE CSDC

With a new government in Ottawa, questions of 'democratic renewal' have been the focus of many conversations amongst the public, the media and policymakers. But do academics have a responsibility to contribute to these debates? If so, what important insights can scholars provide?

At the CSDC, we aim to contribute to public debates with high-quality scholarly research, making use of the most up-to-date empirical methods and data available. With our results in hand, we seek to engage with practitioners and policymakers, to contribute to national and international conversations on pressing issues. This tradition will continue in the fall, with two major events focused on democratic renewal.

On October 20th, 2016, the CSDC is organizing a major public forum on the question of electoral reform in collaboration with the Research Chair in Electoral Studies at the Université de Montréal. The 2015 Liberal election platform vowed that 2015 will "be the last federal election conducted under the first-past-the-post voting system," and the government has since launched a public conversation on the topic of electoral reform. But how should we evaluate the alternatives to the existing electoral system?

The Electoral Systems Forum, organized by André Blais (UdeM) will put four leading Canadian political scientists in the spotlight to defend four alternatives to first-past-the-post. They include: Laura Stephenson (Western), Peter Loewen (Toronto), Marc André Bodet (Laval), and Sven-Oliver Proksch (McGill). Each of these speakers will make the case for their option, answer questions from the public, and debate the merits and drawbacks of each system. This public forum will bring together the public, the media, policymakers and academics to exchange views on this

timely topic, and contribute to the future of Canada's democratic renewal. Participants will have a chance to interact with the panel through a real-time online vote. Registration is open now at electrefo.eventbrite.com.

In early December, the CSDC will tackle the issue of Senate Reform. Under the guidance of McGill University professor Arash Abizadeh, the CSDC will co-sponsor a workshop on the question of how senators should be selected. Although representative democracy is today almost universally associated with competitive elections, for the ancient Greeks, elections were associated with aristocracy; democracy was associated with sortition. Some contemporary representative democracies choose juries by lot, but none choose their country's political representatives in this way. An increasing number of contemporary political scientists and philosophers, however, have argued that elements of sortition would remedy many of the recognized defects afflicting electoral representative governments. This novel workshop will bring together philosophers and social scientists, and culminate in a panel discussion that will be open to the public.

Democratic renewal, by definition, demands public consultation, discussion, and debate. The CSDC is proud to provide forums for major stakeholders to come together to discuss electoral and senate reform, as well as to contribute to national discussions on the future of democratic citizenship in Canada.

Keep abreast of updates on these two major events by visiting our website.
csdc-cecd.ca.

*Visiting
Scholars /
Chercheurs
Invités

*Speakers and dates
are subject to change.
Please visit our
website (csdc-cecd.ca)
for the most up-to-
date information.*

SPEAKER SERIES 2016/2017

KEVIN ARCENAUT

(Temple University)

October 7, 2016

DEBBIE SCHILDKRAUT

(Tufts University)

November 4, 2016

DAVID LAZAR

(Northeastern University)

Friday, November 11, 2016

ARTHUR LUPIA

(University of Michigan)

Thursday, December 8, 2016

DAVID FARRELL

(University College Dublin)

January 13, 2017

CHRISTIAN JOPPKE

(University of Berne)

February 3, 2017

EITAN HERSH

(Yale University)

February 17, 2017

DIANA MUTZ *

(University of Pennsylvania)

Date TBA

ELISABETH ZECHMEISTER

(Vanderbilt University)

March 10, 2017

DANIEL KREISS

(University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill)

March 24, 2017

SAMARA KLAR

(University of Arizona)

April 7, 2017

NEIL MALHOTRA

(Stanford University)

April 21, 2017

CLAIRE ADIDA

(University of California, San Diego)

Friday, May 5, 2016

ROGER WALDINGER *

(UCLA)

Friday, May 26, 2016

JEFFERY JENKINS

(University of Virginia)

May 12, 2017

MIKAEL PERSSON

(University of Gothenburg)

June 9, 2016

PRIX DES ÉTUDIANTS/ STUDENT AWARDS

Alexandre Blanchet a reçu une bourse postdoctorale du FRQSC. Il détiendra cette bourse à l'Université McGill.

Angelia Wagner was part of a five-person team that won the Canadian Political Science Association's 2016 Jill Vickers Prize for best paper on gender and politics presented at the previous year's conference. Wagner was the lead author on "Gender, Competitiveness and Candidate Prominence in Newspaper Coverage of Canadian Party Leadership Contests, 1975-2012."

Eric Guntermann was offered a six-month research position at the University of Gothenburg to pursue research on inequalities in representation with Mikael Persson.

Holly Ann Garnett was awarded a visiting fellowship to the Social Science Research Institute at the Åbo Akademi in Finland, for two to three months in the 2016-2017 academic year.

Olivier Jacques a reçu le prix de 2015 pour le meilleur mémoire de maîtrise de l'Institut de recherche en économie contemporaine pour son mémoire intitulé « Les trois mondes des régimes fiscaux : l'économie politique du financement de l'État-providence. » Il a aussi été nominé pour le meilleur mémoire de maîtrise par la Société québécoise de science politique et a reçu une bourse de doctorat Joseph-Armand Bombardier du CRSH.

FÉLICITATIONS! / CONGRATS!



CSDC Director Dietlind Stolle was awarded the 2016 CPSA Prize for Teaching Excellence

Allison Harell a reçu une Chaire en psychologie politique de la solidarité sociale à l'Université du Québec à Montréal.

Antoine Bilodeau was awarded the 2016-2017 Concordia University Research Award (Person and Society).

Dietlind Stolle won the 2016 Canadian Political Science Association Prize for Teaching Excellence. She was nominated by current and past CSDC student members. She was also awarded a Mercator Fellowship at the Freie University in Berlin.

Éric Bélanger was accorded the honour of having his article selected for inclusion in the special 50th Anniversary Collection of the journal *Acta Politica*.

François Gélineau a été nommé doyen de la Faculté des sciences sociales de l'Université Laval.

Marc-André Bodet a reçu le prix d'excellence en enseignement au rang de professor adjoint de la Faculté des Sciences Sociales à l'Université Laval.

Patrick Fournier, Henk Vanderkolk, R. Kenneth Carty, and **André Blais** were awarded the 2015 Seymour Martin Lipset Best Book Award from the American Political Science Association for their book *When Citizens Decide: Lessons From Citizen Assemblies on Electoral Reform*.

Roxane de la Sablonnière a gagné le concours québécois en entrepreneuriat 2015 – volet étudiant (échelon régional représentant l'Université de Montréal, catégorie collectif) pour le Volume 8 du *Journal sur l'identité, les relations interpersonnelles et les relations intergroupes/Journal of Interpersonal Relations, Intergroup Relations and Identity (JIRIRI)*.

Ruth Dassonneville a gagné le prix, 'Jaarprijs politicologie', par les associations de science politique du Pays-Bas (NKWP) et de la Flandres (VPW) pour la meilleure dissertation. Elle est aussi finaliste pour le prix Jean Blondel.

Sven-Oliver Proksch won two book prizes at the American Political Science Association for his book, *The Politics of Parliamentary Debate. Parties, Rebels and Representation*, which was co-authored with Jonathan B. Slapin. They were awarded the Richard F. Fenn Prize for best book in the legislative studies, and the Leon Epstein award for outstanding contribution to the study of political organizations and political parties. He was also nominated for the Canadian Political Science Association prize in comparative politics. McGill University also awarded him the five-year William Dawson Scholar Award.

NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES



ERAN SHOR

Eran Shor is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, McGill University and a William Dawson Chair. In his work he examines the causes and effects of political conflict and violence, focusing on terrorism, ethnic conflicts, states' repressive policies, and the global spread of human rights practices. His other research projects include work on inequality in the media coverage of ethnic minorities and women, the effects of social stressors and social relationships on health, and the dynamics of sexual attraction.



COLETTE BRIN

Colette Brin, ancienne journaliste à Radio-Canada Manitoba et politologue (Ph.D. Laval 2002), est professeure titulaire au Département d'information et de communication de l'Université Laval et directrice du Centre d'études sur les médias. Ses recherches et son enseignement s'articulent autour des transformations récentes et des pratiques journalistiques au Québec et au Canada, notamment par l'entremise des politiques publiques et des initiatives organisationnelles. Mme Brin est membre du Groupe de recherche sur la communication politique et siège aux comités directeurs de Projet/J-Source et de la Chaire de journalisme scientifique Bell Globemedia.



ROXANE DE LA SABLONNIÈRE

Roxane de la Sablonnière est professeure titulaire au Département de psychologie de l'Université de Montréal. Ses recherches portent sur les défis auxquels les gens sont confrontés lorsqu'ils se trouvent exposés à un changement social profond, comme la colonisation qui a affecté les peuples autochtones du Canada ou l'immigration. Elle travaille également auprès d'autres groupes soumis à des changements sociaux profonds, notamment en Mongolie, en Russie, au Kirghizstan et en Afrique du Sud. Ses théories portent sur une reconceptualisation de la privation relative et examinent les processus associés à l'intégration de nouvelles identités culturelles au sein du concept de soi. Récemment, elle s'intéresse aux impacts des politiques nationales de diversité culturelle (interculturalisme, multiculturalisme et laïcité) sur la prévalence des préjugés et le bien-être des populations.



NEW STUDENTS / NOUVEAUX ÉTUDIANTS

MASTER'S / MAITRISE :

Audrey Brennan (Laval)
Alexandre Boutet-Dorval (Laval)
Jean-Hugues Roy (Laval)
Adeline Desrochers (Laval)
Merve Erdilmen (McGill)
Erika De Torres (McGill)
Brett Manzer (McGill)
Caitrin Armstrong (McGill)
Grégoire Saint-Martin (UdeM)
Elidrissia Habboub (UdeM)
Mathieu Caron-Diotte (UdeM)

PHD / DOCTORATE:

Audrey Gagnon (Concordia)
Anthony Weber (Laval)
Isadora Benitez Janezic (Laval)
Mazime Boivin Laval)
Aengus Bridgman (McGill)
Christopher Erl (McGill)
Costin Ciobanu (Mcgill)
Karim Sakeef (McGill)
Diana Cardenas (UdeM)
Jorge Mario Velasquez (UdeM)
Laura French-Bourgeois (UdeM)
Luis Patricio Pena Ibarra (UdeM)
Mathie Pelletier-Dumas (UdeM)
Semra Sevi (UdeM)

POSTDOC:

Valérie-Anne Maheo-Le Luel (UdeM)
Filip Kostelka (UdeM)
Melissa Stawski (UdeM)

VISITING STUDENTS/ VISITEURS:

Alexandra Remond (University of Edinburgh)
Song Lyn (University of Electronic Science and
Technology of China)



PhD Student Olivier Jacques and Postdoc Mike Mederios

ENTREVUE AVEC DOMINIC DUVAL, LAURÉAT DE LA BOURSE D'ÉCHANGE

Pouvez-vous expliquer brièvement votre recherche?

Le positionnement idéologique des partis est essentiel à notre compréhension de leurs dynamiques de compétition. Cependant, les approches présentement privilégiées ont deux faiblesses : elles n'accordent pas d'importance aux périodes entre les élections et se basent presqu'exclusivement sur les plateformes électorales afin de comprendre le positionnement des partis.

Dans ma recherche j'explore comment le contenu des plateformes électorales se compare aux communications gouvernementales hors campagnes. Plus précisément, j'estime le positionnement idéologique des partis à l'aide de leurs communiqués de presse et des débats parlementaires en me servant de méthodes d'analyse automatisée de contenu. L'objectif est double : d'une part cela nous permet de voir si les plateformes sont des outils appropriés pour positionner le parti de

gouvernement à la suite d'une élection et, d'autre part, nous obtenons des données chronologiques qui permettent de tester de nombreuses hypothèses sur le positionnement des partis entre les élections.

Pourquoi avez-vous choisi d'aller à Mannheim?

J'ai choisi d'aller à Mannheim afin de collaborer avec les chercheurs impliqués dans le projet Measuring a common Space and the Dynamics of Reform Positions du groupe de recherche Political Economy of Reforms. L'un des objectifs de ce projet est le même que celui de ma recherche, soit d'estimer les positions idéologiques des partis à l'aide d'analyse automatisée de contenu.

Comment avez-vous entendu de cette opportunité?

Will Lowe, qui était à Mannheim à l'époque, a été invité à deux reprises par le CÉCD l'année précédant mon échange.

C'est grâce à ces rencontres que l'opportunité s'est présentée.

Comment la visite à Mannheim vous a-t-elle aidé dans votre recherche?

L'expertise des membres du projet a été d'une grande valeur. L'analyse automatisée de contenu est un domaine relativement jeune en science politique et les ressources disponibles sont d'une qualité variable. La chance de recevoir l'avis d'experts a définitivement accéléré la progression de ma recherche.

Dominic Duval est candidat au doctorat à l'Université Laval et membre étudiant du CÉCD.

2016 - 2017 GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE / COMITÉ DES ÉTUDIANTS GRADUÉS

Monika Smaz (Université De Montréal)

Mickael Temporao (Université Laval)

Philippe Duguay (UQAM)

Audrey Gagnon (Concordia University)

Julia Maynard (McGill University)



PhD students Olivier Jacques and Colin Scott present at a student 'pizza lunch'

GAGNANTE DU PRIX DU COLLOQUE ÉTUDIANT:

LA CONSTRUCTION DES ATTITUDES ENVERS LES ROMS : LE CAS FRANÇAIS

Par Audrey Gagnon

Représentant entre 10 et 12 millions de personnes en Europe, les Roms sont confrontés à des discriminations et à l'exclusion sociale. 40 % des Européens refusent d'avoir des Roms comme voisins, même si 70 % n'entretiennent même pas de contact direct avec eux. Face au problème soulevé par ces statistiques, cette étude s'intéresse aux mécanismes de construction des attitudes envers la minorité rom. La question centrale qui guide cette recherche est la suivante : comment les attitudes des Français envers les Roms se construisent-elles?

Cette étude teste trois théories dominantes dans le domaine des relations intergroupes : la théorie du contact, l'effet halo et l'influence des médias. La première hypothèse avancée est que les Français ayant des contacts de qualité avec les Roms sont moins enclins à avoir des attitudes négatives envers

eux. La littérature a effectivement démontré que les contacts améliorent la compréhension des uns envers les autres, ce qui se traduit par l'amélioration des attitudes intergroupes. Aussi, comparativement à une absence de contact intergroupe, un contact superficiel provoque une rencontre imaginée, ce qui augmente les attitudes négatives face à une minorité. La seconde hypothèse est donc que les

Français qui vivent à proximité d'un campement rom et qui n'entretiennent pas de contacts directs avec les Roms sont plus enclins à avoir des attitudes négatives envers eux. La troisième hypothèse est que la mise en place de politiques municipales favorisant l'intégration des Roms conditionne la théorie du contact. En établissant des normes d'acceptation du contact et en encourageant la mixité, les politiques d'intégration municipales peuvent diminuer les discriminations

envers un groupe

minoritaire et améliorer les relations intergroupes.

Finalement, les médias possèdent un rôle crucial dans la transmission de préjugés et dans le renforcement du racisme envers les minorités ethniques puisqu'ils informent majoritairement sur des situations ou des événements négatifs. La quatrième hypothèse est donc que le contexte médiatique

alimente les représentations stéréotypées à l'égard des Roms.

L'analyse de soixante-neuf entrevues semi-dirigées, effectuées au sein de deux communes en région parisienne, démontre l'impact de ces explications sur la construction des attitudes envers les Roms. D'abord, le fait que des individus croisent des Roms, sans avoir de véritable contact avec eux, renforce les préjugés puisque des agissements socialement répréhensibles, souvent basés sur des extrapolations, leur sont automatiquement attribués. Cependant, bien que les contacts de qualité entre les Roms et les non-Roms se montrent rares (ce qui témoigne de leur exclusion), les individus ayant des contacts quotidiens avec des Roms ont des attitudes plus positives envers eux. Ces contacts sont plus fréquents lorsqu'ils sont encouragés par des politiques municipales favorisant l'intégration des Roms. Par ailleurs, ces politiques permettent d'améliorer les conditions de vie des Roms et d'ainsi déconstruire certains préjugés attribuables à leur situation précaire. Finalement, les médias consolident ou influencent la formation des attitudes envers les Roms en participant à la

construction d'un imaginaire collectif sur ceux-ci.

Cette étude soulève des questions importantes quant au rôle des municipalités dans l'intégration des minorités. Les

Résultats démontrent que la mise en place de politiques locales d'intégration des Roms permet d'améliorer les relations intergroupes et de déconstruire les préjugés des uns à l'égard des autres.

Audrey Gagnon était candidate à la maîtrise à l'Université de Montréal. Elle va commencer son doctorat à Concordia University en 2016. Elle est membre étudiante du CÉCD.

Gagnante du prix du colloque étudiant Audrey Gagnon





STUDENT GRANTS / BOURSES ÉTUDIANTES 2015-2016

METHODS TRAINING GRANTS / BOURSES DE FORMATION MÉTHODOLOGIQUE :

David Dumouchel (UdeM), Dominic Duval (ULaval),
Fernando Ribeiro Feitosa (UdeM),
Geneviève Chacon (ULaval), Isadora Borges Monroy (McGill),
Julia Maynard (McGill), Justin Savoie (ULaval),
Olivier Jacques (McGill), Virginie Hébert (ULaval),
Yannick Dufresne (ULaval)

QICSS TUITION GRANTS / FORMATIONS D'ÉTÉ DU CIQSS :

Florence Vallée-Dubois (UdeM), Holly Garnett (McGill),
Jean-François Daoust (UdeM), Valérie-Anne Mahéo Le Luel (McGill),
Xavier Brabant (UdeM)

STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS / BOURSES DE DÉPLACEMENT:

Alexandre Blanchet (UdeM), Audrey Gagnon (UdeM),
Catherine Lemarier-Saulnier (ULaval),
Charles Tessier (ULaval), Denver McNeney (McGill),
Dominic Duval (ULaval), Emmanuelle Gagné (ULaval),
Eric Gunterman (UdeM), Evelyne Brie (ULaval),
Florence Vallée-Dubois (UdeM), Holly Garnett (McGill),
Jean-François Daoust (UdeM), Jocelyn McGrandle (Concordia),
Marianne Côté (Concordia), Maxime Boivin (ULaval),
Mickael Temporaro (ULaval), Mike Medeiros (McGill),
Philippe Duguay (UQAM), Valériane Champagne (ULaval),
Valérie-Anne Mahéo (McGill), Yannick Dufresne (ULaval)

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE GRANT / BOURSES D'ÉCHANGE INTERNATIONAL:

The CSDC awarded Eric Guntermann (UdeM) an international exchange grant to conduct research on nationalist attitudes in Spain at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Spain, where he will collaborate with Professors Ignacio Lago and Veronica Benet-Martinez.

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS / BOURSES DE RECHERCHE:

*"Does my favourite political TV series make me cynical?
Introducing a new case of political cynicism."*
Alexandra Manoliu (UdeM)

*"La représentation des femmes et des minorités en politique québécoise.
Une comparaison entre les élections provinciales et municipales."*
Charles Tessier (UdeM) et Alexandre Blanchet (UdeM)

"Good Frames Can't Save Bad Pictures: Argument Quality and Framing Effects in High- and Low-Awareness Partisans."
Denver McNeney (McGill)

"Textual analysis of policy activism in piracy communities."
Isadora Borges Monroy (McGill)

MEMBER GRANTS / BOURSES DES MEMBRES 2015-2016

SEED GRANT / BOURSE DE DÉMARRAGE:

"En quête de validité : Les mesures de saillance personnelle sous la loupe des instruments physiologiques."

Penelope Daignault (U Laval)
et Yannick Dufresne (U Laval)

FLEX GRANTS / BOURSES FLEXIBLES :

"Augmenter le taux de participation aux élections américaines de novembre 2016"

Roxane de la Sablonniere (UdeM)
et Laura French Bourgeois (UdeM)

"Civic Literacy for Electoral Reform"

Holly Ann Garnett (McGill) and André Blais (UdeM)

"The Face of Diversity."

Benjamin Forest (McGill) and
Mike Medeiros (McGill)

"Analyzing the Development of Political Parties in Westminster-Style Parliamentary Systems."

Jean-François Godbout (UdeM)

"Candidate Perceptions of a Career in Politics."

Angelia Wagner (McGill)

WORKSHOP SUPPORT GRANTS / FINANCEMENT POUR ATELIERS :

Metropolis workshop: "Immigrant Inclusion in the Polity: Public Perceptions versus Immigrant Experiences."

Allison Harell (UQAM)

Student workshop: "Internet and Politics"

Philippe Duguay (UQAM)

Canadian Political Science Association Conference workshop: "Mediation of Gendered Identities in Canadian politics"

Angelia Wagner (McGill)

Conference: "Youth Political Participation: The Diverse Roads to Democracy"

Valérie-Anne Mahéo (McGill)



Roundtable at the "Youth Political Participation" Conference

DEMOCRATIC LEGITIMACY AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATION: UPPER CHAMBER REFORM IN SCOTLAND AND QUEBEC

By: Mike Medeiros, Damien Bol and Richard Nadeau

In his seminar book, *Democracies*, Arend Lijphart argues that upper chambers can be used to give equal representation to all national groups, in order to avoid intergroup conflict in multinational countries. But how are upper chambers perceived? Are they seen to be helping to increase the political voice of the constituents of a country?

There are two key critiques of upper chambers. One is the lack of elections, which may undermine their democratic legitimacy in the eyes of the public. The other is the challenge of ensuring the political representation of minorities.

This project sought to compare the influence of democratic legitimacy and regional representation on institutional satisfaction in two nationalist-leaning regions: Scotland and Quebec.

Drawing on the current salient debates on Upper Chamber reform in the UK and Canada, we conducted an original survey experiment that compared the level of institutional support for an Upper chamber. 752 adults in Scotland and 770 in Quebec were recruited for the online survey and were randomly divided into three groups: control, a treatment text that addressed democratic legitimacy or the direct election of members of the Upper Chamber, and another treatment text that suggested ensuring regional representation. The participants were then asked how much they like the institution or reform they had just read.

The main findings of the project demonstrate that arguments related to the democratic legitimacy of an upper chamber increases public support for

reform to a greater extent than arguments related to regional representation. Considering the important nationalist movements in Scotland and Quebec, which regularly emphasize notions of appropriate regional political power, the results represent a strong test for the prevalence of democratic legitimacy arguments in the population.

We believe that these findings can be used by policymakers in current debates on Upper House reform in both Scotland and Quebec. Since it can be difficult to acquiesce to both concerns of democratic legitimacy and regional representation, our results demonstrate that policymakers designing institutional frameworks would be better to focus on the former; even in multinational countries with strong nationalist movements.

This study could also be extended to other cases beyond upper chambers to other political institutions. For instance, Scotland and Quebec have regional assemblies that permit regional political concerns to be voiced. Therefore, conducting this experiment on a case with a strong nationalist movement but with no efficient regional parliament would provide greater insight

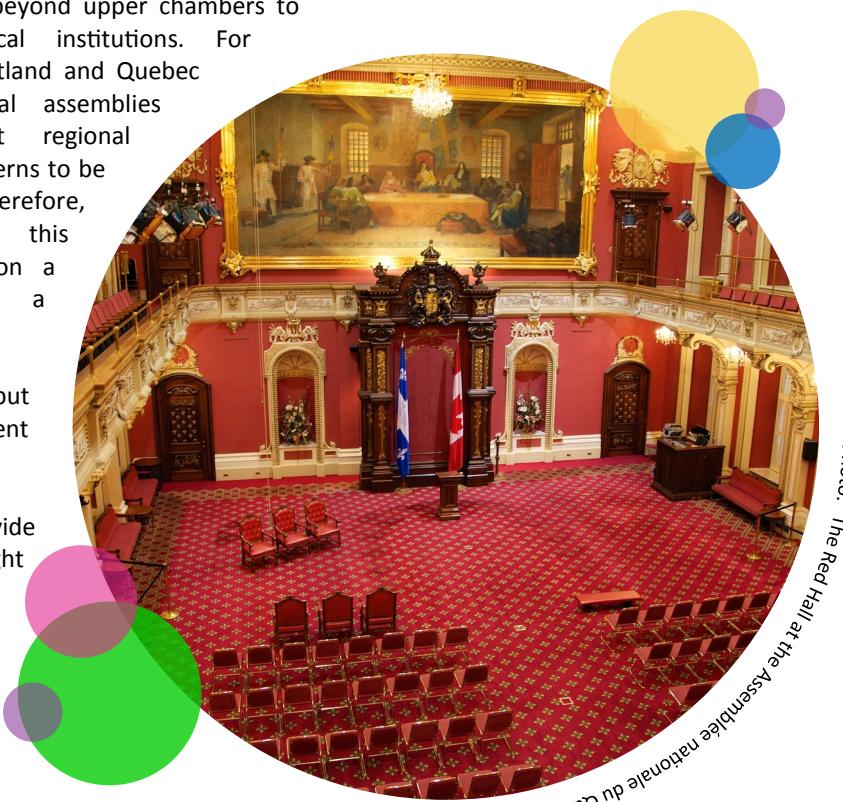
into the debate between regional representation and democratic legitimacy.

Mike Medeiros is a post-doctoral fellow at McGill University, whose main fields of research concentrates on political behaviour and Canadian/Quebec politics. He is also a student-member of the CSDC. This research brief was written by Mike Medeiros.

Damien Bol is a lecturer (tenure-track) on political behavior at the Department of Political Economy of King's College London. Prior to this appointment he was a post-doctoral fellow at the Université de Montréal and a student member of the CSDC.

Richard Nadeau is a professor at the Université de Montréal, specializing in electoral behaviour, public opinion and political communication. He is also a member of the CSDC.

This project was funded by a CSDC Seed Grant in 2015.



CATASTROPHES NATURELLES ET POLITIQUE ÉLECTORALE

Par Marc André Bodet, Melanee Thomas et Charles Tessier

Les catastrophes naturelles font malheureusement trop souvent partie de la vie des citoyens. Nous fêtons par exemple cette année le 20^e anniversaire des inondations du Saguenay alors que l'Alberta tente de retrouver un semblant de normalité après les terribles incendies qui ont frappé le nord de la province cette année. Certains affirment que ces événements finissent par affecter la popularité des élus en place. Mais est-ce vraiment le cas ? Depuis les années 1960, les politologues se sont intéressés périodiquement à ce sujet, particulièrement dans le contexte américain. Un article étrangement un peu oublié d'Abney et Hill (1966) dans *l'American Political Science Review* s'était d'abord intéressé à une inondation majeure ayant frappé la Nouvelle-Orléans quelques années plus tôt. Les chercheurs avaient conclu que la performance jugée positive du maire en place lui avait permis de ne pas trop souffrir du choc subi par les électeurs. Près de 40 ans plus tard, un manuscrit jamais publié d'Achen et Bartels (2004) allait marquer les esprits et être cité des centaines de fois. Les auteurs montraient que, contrairement à ce qu'Abney et Hill avaient observé, les événements

hors du contrôle des élus – notamment des attaques de requins – pouvaient entraîner des conséquences négatives aux urnes pour les candidats sortants. Il y a depuis eu de nombreuses études, surtout américaines, allant dans le même sens et concluant que les électeurs punissaient généralement les élus en place pour des événements catastrophiques hors du contrôle de ceux-ci.

Était-ce par désir d'identifier un coupable?

Ou encore par manque de sophistication politique? Les théories abondent et les médias en raffolent.

Les inondations historiques ayant frappé la ville de Calgary en 2013 allaient nous permettre d'ajouter une contribution canadienne à ce débat demeuré jusqu'ici centré sur nos voisins américains. Au mois de juin 2013, de fortes inondations ont atteint différents quartiers de Calgary et forcé l'évacuation de près de 75 000 personnes. Au-delà des images spectaculaires et des drames humains vécus par la population, on retiendra la performance héroïque du maire Naheed Nenshi dans les jours suivant la montée des crues. Mais cela allait-il être suffisant pour lui permettre d'éviter la sanction populaire à l'élection municipale de l'automne suivant ? À l'aide de techniques de géolocalisation et de données officielles (sociodémographiques et électorales), nous avons croisé les zones inondées avec les sections de vote pour toute la ville de Calgary. 15 sections de vote sur 142 avaient subi des inondations significatives. Nous nous sommes intéressés aux changements dans l'appui au maire sortant ainsi que dans la participation électorale entre

l'élection pré-inondation de 2010 et celle post-inondation de 2013. En nous fiant sur la littérature empirique de la dernière décennie, nous avions comme hypothèses de travail que ces deux indicateurs allaient

"Il s'avère que, dans le contexte de Calgary... les électeurs des zones inondées n'ont ni puni davantage le maire sortant ni déserté les urnes plus que les électeurs des zones épargnées."

subir un choc négatif dans les zones inondées comparées aux zones épargnées. En effet, à la lumière de la littérature en science politique plus récente, on devait s'attendre à observer un impact négatif sur le candidat sortant Nenshi

dans les zones inondées. Il devait être puni, comme d'autres avant lui dans des contextes similaires. De plus, on devait s'attendre à une diminution de la participation, essentiellement due aux coûts subis par les inondés.

Que trouve-t-on ? Il s'avère que dans le contexte de Calgary, où le maire a bien réagi aux événements, les électeurs des zones inondées n'ont ni puni le maire sortant ni déserté davantage les urnes que les électeurs des zones épargnées. Abney et Hill (1966) ont donc gagné cette fois-ci contre Achen et Bartels (2004). Est-ce le contexte canadien ? Ou est-ce plutôt que d'autres avant nous – mais après Achen et Bartels – ont aussi trouvé des résultats nuls qu'ils n'ont jamais publiés ? D'autres analyses comparatives sont maintenant nécessaires. Nos résultats sont à paraître dans la revue *Electoral Studies*.

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SEX(UAL EQUALITY) IN THE CITY: LGBTQ POLICIES IN AMERICAN MUNICIPALITIES

By Benjamin Forest and Allison Harell

After more than a decade of legal and political conflict, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* (2015) that same-sex couples have the right to marry. This decision overturned bans in a dozen states and capped off a string of recent court rulings and legislation expanding the rights of sexual minorities. In part, these actions reflected a rapid shift in U.S. public opinion on this issue during the late 2000's, but as subsequent resistance by some states and counties show, acceptance is far from universal.

While equal marriage receives the lion's share of media attention, it is only one of several issues of concern to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual, and Queer (LGBTQ) community. The U.S. provides a fascinating context to study questions about the treatment of sexual minorities, because, unlike in Canada (which legalized equal marriage nationally in 2005), local and municipal governments typically have considerable legal autonomy. Indeed, after the *Obergefell* decision, states such as North Carolina and Indiana have specifically sought to limit the ability of their cities to provide additional legal protections and rights to LGBTQ individuals. Such limits on local autonomy are a departure from historical practices.

Our study examines the factors that lead cities to provide (or not) protections and rights to sexual minorities. Urban economist Richard Florida famously claims that city governments try to attract an educated, "creative" workforce by advertising themselves as tolerant communities. One of the most effective ways to do so, according to this thesis, is through progressive LGBTQ policies. However, we suspect that there is much more to the story. Every city would like to have a growing, dynamic economy with a highly paid labour force, yet we see a wide range of policies

across urban governments. Urban policies arise – at least in part – out of the political preferences of their residents. These preferences may be relatively hostile or relatively open to sexual minorities regardless of the (purported) economic benefits of tolerance.

To test this relationship, we use data collected by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), one of the largest LGBTQ advocacy organizations in the U.S. We analyze their 2014 survey that includes nearly 350 cities. The unique index scores cities based on their about policies and services of concern to the LGBTQ community, such as employment equality, presence of openly LGBTQ elected officials, police-community relations, and the like. We match these scores with Census data for the cities, including information such as the total population, age and education, economic characteristics, and racial/ethnic composition. In doing so, our research paints a portrait of the types of residents most likely to live in LGBTQ-friendly cities.

Our study has three key findings:

- Larger, denser cities tend to have policies and services friendlier to sexual minorities.
- Cities with relatively "high tech" and educated workforces score well on the HRC Equality Index.
- There is a strong regional influence. All other things being equal, cities in the southern U.S. have less tolerant policies and practices, and cities in the northeast have more tolerant ones.

"In sum, bigger, urban metropolitan areas outside the former Confederacy with educated workforces have residents who elect local and municipal officials that implement more progressive LGBTQ policies."

In sum, bigger, urban metropolitan areas outside the former Confederacy with educated workforces have citizens who elect local and municipal officials that implement more progressive LGBTQ policies. This is not surprising, as we already know that such citizens are more likely to vote for Democrats. Nonetheless, it may also be true that such cities, as Richard Florida claims, also attract people who are more tolerant of sexual minorities. Coalitions can push governments for more open policies in jurisdictions where political backlash is less likely. This study suggests that civil society actors should focus their efforts in these types of local jurisdictions.

These results also suggest that success at higher levels of government – to create top-down policies from the federal

level – may be necessary to ensure sexual minority rights in less tolerant cities where electoral dynamics are unlikely to push elected officials toward more open-policies. It also helps explain why cities in places such as North Carolina and Indiana favour LGBTQ policies that are more similar to federal rather than state ones. Our future work will look at establishing the public-policy link in more detail.

Benjamin Forest is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography at McGill University and a member of the CSDC.

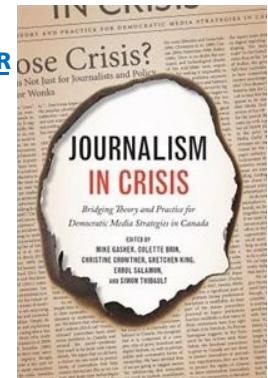
Allison Harell is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science at UQAM and holds a research chair in the political psychology of diversity. She is also a member of the CSDC.

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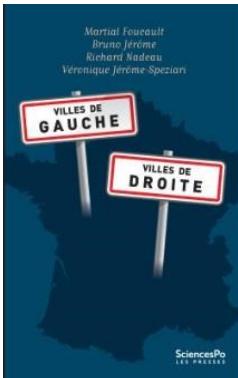
NEW PUBLICATIONS

NEW BOOKS / NOUVEAUX LIVRES

GASHER, MIKE, COLETTE BRIN, CHRISTINE CROWTHER, GRETCHEN KING, ERROL SALAMON ET SIMON THIBAULT (EDS.) (2016). **JOURNALISM IN CRISIS: BRIDGING THEORY AND PRACTICE FOR DEMOCRATIC MEDIA STRATEGIES IN CANADA.** UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS



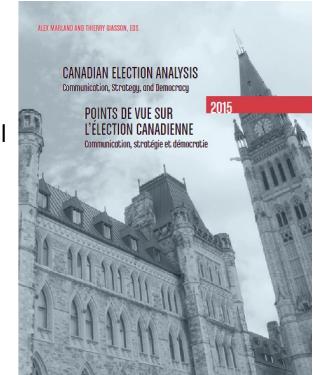
Journalism in Crisis addresses the concerns of scholars, activists and journalists committed to Canadian journalism as a democratic institution and as a set of democratic practices. The authors look within Canada and abroad for solutions for balancing the Canadian media ecology. Public policies have been central to the creation and shaping of Canada's media system and, rather than wait for new technologies or economic models, the contributors offer concrete recommendations for how public policies can foster journalism that can support democratic life in twenty-first century Canada.



RICHARD NADEAU, MARTIAL FOUCault, BRUNO JÉRÔME ET VÉRONIQUE JÉRÔME-SPEZIAIRI. (2016). **VILLES DE DROITE, VILLES DE GAUCHE.** PRESSES DE SCIENCES PO.

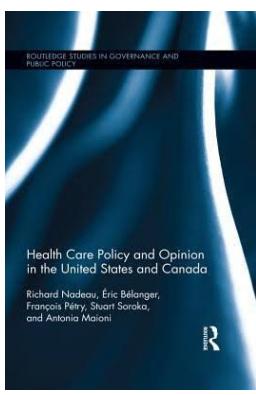
Les élections municipales françaises sont devenues l'événement le plus susceptible d'infléchir l'action gouvernementale. Elles interviennent tantôt comme des référendums locaux, tantôt comme des élections nationales de mi-mandat présidentiel. L'ouvrage porte sur les élections municipales de 1983 à 2014 dans les 236 villes françaises les plus peuplées. Il propose l'analyse la plus systématique menée à ce jour sur les élections municipales en France. La richesse des données collectées met en lumière, de manière inédite, les facteurs locaux (sociologie de l'électorat, qualité de gestion municipale, niveau de chômage, logement, concurrence politique et triangulaires, etc) et nationaux (popularité de l'exécutif) susceptibles d'expliquer les succès et les défaites des candidats.

ALEX MARLAND AND THIERRY GIASSON (EDS.) (2015). **CANADIAN ELECTION ANALYSIS: COMMUNICATION, STRATEGY, AND DEMOCRACY / POINTS DE VUE SUR L'ÉLECTION CANADIENNE. COMMUNICATION, STRATÉGIE ET DÉMOCRATIE.** UBC PRESS.



Canadian Election Analysis 2015: Communication, Strategy, and Democracy offers timely and insightful reflections on the 2015 Canadian Federal Election from Canada's leading academics and political commentators. Published just days after the election, these short pieces cover a wide-variety of interconnected themes, including strategic communication, mediatization, opinion research, electioneering, political management, public policy, polling, and e-politics, and explain how Canadian democracy has been affected. The authors provide authoritative analyses of the campaigns and election outcome to bring readers original ways of understanding the election.

RICHARD NADEAU, ÉRIC BÉLANGER, FRANÇOIS PÉTRY, STUART SOROKA, AND ANTONIA MAIONI. (2015). **HEALTH CARE POLICY AND OPINION IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.** ROUTLEDGE.



Heated debate surrounds the topic of health care in both the US and in Canada. In each country, these debates are based in some measure on perceptions about health care in their neighboring country. The perceptions held by Canadians about the US health care system, or those held by Americans about Canada, end up having significant impact on health policy makers in both countries. *Health Care Policy and Opinion in the United States and Canada* examines these perceptions and their effects using an extensive cross-national survey made up of two public opinion polls of over 3,500 respondents from the US and Canada. The book first develops a rigorous and detailed explanation of the factors that contribute to levels of satisfaction among Americans and Canadians with respect to their health care systems. It then attempts to study the perceptions of Canadians vis-à-vis the US health care system as well as the perception of Americans toward Canada's health care system. The authors examine how these perceptions impact health policy makers, and show how the survey results indicate remarkable similarities in the opinions expressed by Americans and Canadians toward the problems in the health care system, heralding perhaps a measure of convergence in the future.

RECENT MEMBER COLLABORATIONS / COLLABORATIONS RÉCENTES DES MEMBRES

The following is a selective list of recent publications resulting from CSDC Member collaborations. Members' names are bolded.

Liste de publications collaboratives récentes des membres du Centre. Les noms des membres du Centre ont été mis en gras.

Bélanger, Éric, and Richard Nadeau. (2015). "Issue Ownership of the Economy: Cross-Time Effects on Vote Choice." *West European Politics* 38 (4), 909-932.

Blais, André and Filip Kostelka. (2015). "The Decision to Vote or Abstain in the 2014 European Election." *Revue Européenne des sciences sociales* 53, 79-94.

Blais, André, Eric Guntermann and Marc André Bodet. (Forthcoming). "Does the Composition of Government Reflect Citizens' Party Preferences?" *Political Science Research and Methods*.

Bodet, Marc-André, Melanee Thomas and Charles Tessier. (2016). "Come Hell or High Water : An Investigation of the Effects of a Natural Disaster on a Local Election." *Electoral Studies* 43(3), 85-94.

Chacon, Geneviève, Thierry Giasson et Colette Brin. (2015). "Le journalisme politique en 140 caractères. Le cas du Québec." *Sur le journalisme, About journalism, Sobre journalismo* 4(1), 34-49.

Daignault, Penelope, Audrey Dupuis, Maxime Boivin et Mikaël Guillemette. (À paraître). "De la musique à l'argument : Une analyse de la publicité électorale télévisée au Québec." *Revue Communication*, 34(1).

Dassonneville, Ruth and André Blais. (2015). "Staying with the Party, Switching, or Exiting? A Comparative Analysis of Determinants of Party Switching and Abstaining." *Journal of Election, Public Opinion, and Parties* 25 (3), 387-405.

Delia Dumitrescu, Elisabeth Gidengil and Dietlind Stolle. (2015). "Candidate Confidence and Electoral Appeal: An Experimental Study of the Effect of Nonverbal Confidence on Voter Evaluations." *Political Science Research and Methods* 3(1), 43-52.

Fournier, Patrick, François Gélineau & Allison Harell. (2015). "Les Systèmes d'Aide au Vote peuvent-ils être utiles pour l'étude des élections?" *Revue internationale de la politique comparée*.

Godbout, Jean-François, et Monika Smaz (Forthcoming). "Party Development in the Early Decades of the Australian Parliament: A New Perspective. (1791-1840)." *Australian Journal of Political Science*.

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Krastev, Sekoul, Joseph T. McGuire, Denver McNeney, Joseph W Kable, Dietlind Stolle, Elisabeth Gidengil, and Lesley K Fellows. (2016). "Do Political and Economic Choices Rely on Common Neural Substrates? A Systematic Review of the Emerging Neuropolitics Literature." *Frontiers in Psychology (Decision Neuroscience)*.

Labbé St-Vincent, Simon, André Blais, and Jean-Benoît Pilet. (Advance Online 2015). 'The Electoral Sweet Spot in the Lab.' *Journal of Experimental Political Science*.

Labbé-St-Vincent, Simon and André Blais. (2016). "Le vote à l'Élection d'à côté." *Politique et Sociétés*. 35 (1), 49-72.

Medeiros, Mike, Patrick Fournier & Verònica Benet-Martínez. (Forthcoming). "The Language of Threat: Linguistic Perceptions and Intergroup Relations." *Acta Politica*.

Nadeau, Richard, María Celeste Ratto, Michael S. Lewis-Beck, Éric Bélanger, François Gélineau, and Mathieu Turgeon. (2015). "Economía y elecciones en Argentina: Las dimensiones clásica, posicional y patrimonial de la teoría del voto económico." *Revista SAAP* 9 (2), 235-266.

Pétry, François, and Dominic Duval. (2015). "To What Extent Do Political Parties Follow Their Campaign Promises?" *Journal of Parliamentary and Political Law*. Special Issue, 341-64.

Reny-Delisle, Marion, Emmanuelle Gagné et Penelope Daignault. (2015). Évaluation du trait de personnalité et de la réponse empathiques en contexte de publicité sociale. *Revue Communication*, 33(2).

Soroka, Stuart, Elisabeth Gidengil, Patrick Fournier and Lilach Nir. (Forthcoming). "Do Women and Men Respond Differently to Negative News?" *Politics and Gender*.

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Turgeon, Mathieu, Éric Bélanger, and Richard Nadeau. (2015). "French Popularity Functions: Different Measures, Different Determinants?" *French Politics* 13 (3), 266-286.

Wass, Hanna, André Blais, Alexandre Morin-Chassé, and Marjukka Weide. (2015). "Engaging Immigrants? Examining the Correlates of Political Participation among Voters with Migration Background." *Journal of Election, Public Opinion, and Parties* 25 (4), 407-424.





CENTRE POUR L'ÉTUDE
DE LA CITOYENNETÉ DÉMOCRATIQUE
CENTRE FOR THE STUDY
OF DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP

Le Centre pour l'étude de la citoyenneté démocratique rassemble des chercheurs et des professeurs provenant de cinq universités au Québec qui font des recherches liées à l'étude de la citoyenneté démocratique. Le but du Centre est de développer des perspectives interdisciplinaires en utilisant plusieurs méthodes afin d'étudier les enjeux auxquels les démocraties font face dans un monde en constante évolution.

Le Centre a été créé en 2008 sous le leadership d'Elisabeth Gidengil. En juin 2013, Dietlind Stolle est devenue la nouvelle directrice du Centre. Frédéric Bastien occupe présentement le poste de directeur associé du CECD. Le Centre comprend 30 professeurs, près de 70 étudiants aux cycles supérieurs et chercheurs postdoctoraux ainsi que 15 membres associés venant du Canada et d'ailleurs.

Les objectifs principaux du Centre sont de promouvoir la recherche scientifique sur des questions fondamentales reliées à la citoyenneté démocratique, de contribuer aux débats sur les politiques publiques pour le renforcement de la démocratie au Canada et à l'étranger, de prendre un rôle de leader dans le développement de grands projets de recherche qui traversent les frontières et de fournir un environnement qui s'enrichit au fil des formations et des ateliers pour les étudiants des 2e et 3e cycles et les chercheurs postdoctoraux.

Les recherches du Centre offrent des analyses en profondeur d'un large éventail de questions importantes se concentrant sur trois axes: les citoyens et la représentation politique démocratique, l'engagement civique ainsi que la diversité ethnique.

The Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship (CSDC) brings together a group of scholars from five Québec universities, who work on research related to democratic citizenship. The purpose of the Centre is to develop inter-disciplinary and multiple methodological perspectives in the study of challenges that democracies face in a rapidly changing world.

The Centre was established in 2008 under the leadership of Elisabeth Gidengil. In June of 2013, Dietlind Stolle became the new Director of the Centre. Frédéric Bastien is the Associate Director of the CSDC. The Centre is currently comprised of 30 faculty members, nearly 70 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, and 15 Canadian and international Associate members.

The Centre's main goals are to promote scientific research on fundamental questions relating to democratic citizenship, to contribute to policy debates on strengthening democracy both in Canada and abroad, to take a leadership role in the development of large-scale cross-national research projects, and to provide an enriched training environment for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

The center's research provides in-depth analysis of a wide range of relevant questions focusing on three axes: citizens and democratic representation, civic engagement, and diversity and democratic citizenship.

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