

Minutes of the RCLS business meeting on October 14th 2011 at the joint international workshop of RCLS and RECON WP3 „Changing Modes of Parliamentary Representation“ in Prague

Since several non RCLS members were present, the co-chair, Werner J. Patzelt, introduced RCLS to them.

The program chair, Zdenka Mansfeldová, introduced all RCLS panels at Madrid and reminded everybody on the deadlines.

Firstly, the meeting discussed some reported technical problems of possible paper givers regarding the appliance procedure for IPSA WC Madrid 2012: The main problem seemed to be the IPSA IT platform which no longer allows submitting papers without an IPSA website account.

- It was decided to e-mail to all members and friends of RCLS as soon as possible in order to give assistance to the procedure to create an account and to submit a paper proposal. The webmaster, Erik Fritzsche, did so October 15th, 2011, 11:49h.
- Further, it was decided that each paper proposer should e-mail his proposal to the program chair – just to make sure that the proposals will not get lost by possible bugs of the IPSA IT system.

Secondly, RCLS discussed problems with its system to organize RCLS meetings.

- In 2012 RCLS meetings will take place at the SPSA meeting in New Orleans at January 12-14 and at the IPSA World Congress in Madrid.
- After discussing several options for future RCLS conference formats, the following was decided unanimously:
 - The present members agreed that each year there should be two meetings.
 - One of these meetings should take place in the US and one in Europe in order to make it more affordable for everybody to take part and to present a paper in at least one meeting each year.
 - Events organized by RCLS should be attached to:
 - in the US to a middle-size political science association (not APSA);
 - in Europe preferably to the annual meeting of a national political science association so as to ease and increase participation. Additionally it may be considered to hold RCLS meetings at ECPR events. Suzanne Schüttemeyer will discuss this issue at the next meeting of the European Association of Political Sciences Associations.

Thirdly, it was decided that papers of RCLS panels or workshop can, and eventually should be, published on the RCLS web site. For this reason each member of the ongoing conference is invited to his/her final paper to Erik by end of October.

Finally, the co-chair thanked the webmaster for having built up the website and managing it together with the mailing list.