The Association for Political Theory (APT) invites nominations, including self-nominations, for officer positions in its annual association-wide election.

BACKGROUND

The APT Constitution, which was ratified at the 2004 conference business meeting in Colorado Springs, calls upon the APT Governance Committee, over a three-year cycle, to nominate up to twelve candidates for six officer positions: three executive officers (two Executive Co-Directors and a Secretary-Treasurer) and three Governance Committee members. The Constitution directs the Governance Committee to ask the membership for nominations. From that pool of nominees, the Committee then will propose a slate of candidates to the membership at large. Candidates not included in that proposed slate may petition to be added to the slate, either by written petition up to one month before the business meeting or by nomination from the floor at the meeting itself.

The election will be held at that next business meeting, and all members of APT attending will be eligible to vote. The exact date of the business meeting has not been set, but it will likely occur at the end of the 2007 conference at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, 11-14 October 2007.

The section of the Constitution outlining election procedures appears at the end of this message. To view the whole constitution, visit the APT website and click on “About APT.” The APT website may be found at:

http://organizations.oneonta.edu/apt/.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Governance Committee seeks nominations and/or volunteers for the following officer positions:

Governance Committee:
1 officer for a three-year term

Executive Co-Director:
1 officer for a three-year term

Brief descriptions of each position appear at the end of this letter.

The deadline for submitting nominations to the Governance Committee is 1 July 2007. Specifying which position your nomination is for will help the current officers arrive at a slate of candidates by 11 July 2007, the target date for proposing a slate to the general membership.
NOMINATING PROCEDURE

If nominating someone else, the Governance Committee strongly advises that you discuss the matter with that other person, to be sure that he or she is willing to be nominated and to serve if elected. If nominating (or, really, volunteering) yourself, please be certain that you are willing to serve if elected and willing to stand in a competitive election that you might lose. Note: at least two competing candidates for each opening will be nominated.

Please submit the names and complete contact information for all nominees to the Association for Political Theory at apt@coloradocollege.edu. If possible, please include a CV or brief resume for each candidate.

***

Note: An additional member of the Governance Committee will be elected by this year's Program Committee from among its membership to serve a one-year term on the Governance Committee. This election will be handled separately.

***

The Governance Committee and Executive Co-Directors look forward to hearing from you, and hope that you will join us in helping to strengthen the Association for Political Theory and advance the study of political thought in North America.

Please see below for excerpts from the Constitution describing election procedures and officer positions.

Sincerely yours,

Simona Goi, Chair of the Governance Committee
Calvin College

Governance Committee Members:
Simona Goi (chair), Political Science, Calvin College
Johnny Goldfinger, Political Science, Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis
Gregory Streich, Political Science, University of Central Missouri (Program Committee representative)
Ed Wingenbach, Government, University of Redlands*
Darren R. Walhof, Political Science, Grand Valley State University
Emily Hauptmann, Political Science, Executive Co-Director, Western Michigan University*

Dennis McEnnerney, Philosophy, Executive Co-Director, The Colorado College

*Denotes officers whose positions will be subject to election this year.

CONSTITUTION EXCERPT: ELECTION PROCEDURES

Association officers and at-large members of the Governance Committee (with the exception of the Program Committee representative) shall be elected by the membership at the business meeting. The Governance Committee shall have the responsibility of nominating at least two candidates for each officer and each at-large position that must be filled in a given election. The process shall be as follows:

1. By five months prior to the next scheduled business meeting, the Governance Committee shall inform all Association members of which positions need to be filled and invite members to nominate themselves or others.

2. From those nominations the Governance Committee shall propose a slate of candidates to the Association membership by four months prior to the business meeting; in finalizing such a slate, the committee shall attempt to ensure that nominations represent the diversity of the Association and the academy more generally.

3. In addition, candidates may be nominated, either by a petition signed by 25 members at least one month prior to the business meeting, or by nomination and seconding from the floor at the business meeting itself. At all stages of the nomination process, members may nominate themselves.

CONSTITUTION EXCERPTS: OFFICERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Association shall have the following officers: a Governance Committee Chair, two Executive Co-Directors, and a Secretary-Treasurer.

1. The Governance Committee Chair shall be responsible for convening and directing meetings of the Governance Committee, for communicating decisions of the Governance Committee to the membership, and for presiding over the business meeting. [NOTE: The chair of the Governance Committee shall be elected by the Governance Committee from among its at-large membership.]
2. The **Executive Directors** shall be responsible for implementing the decisions of the Governance Committee; and for corresponding with scholarly societies, associations, and related groups on behalf of the Association. The terms of the Executive Directors shall normally be staggered.

3. The **Secretary-Treasurer** shall be responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings, for recording decisions of the membership and Governance Committee regarding association policies, and for the collection and disbursement of all monies, at the direction of the governance committee.

Each officer shall be limited to no more than two (2) consecutive terms.

The **Governance Committee** shall have the authority and responsibility to oversee the administration of all aspects of the Association, including:

1. administering policies concerning the Association's publications and other association business
2. fostering affiliations with other learned societies
3. collecting and disbursing funds acquired from dues, publications, etc.
4. nominating candidates for the Governance Committee
5. creating other ad hoc or standing committees as necessary
6. communicating with members through newsletters, etc.
7. developing guidelines and requirements for membership in the Association
8. drafting nominating and election procedures for approval by the general membership
9. creating bylaws for issues regarding governance of the APT as they arise, subject to approval by the general membership