

# *The* Political Economy of Bargaining



Dear Workshop Participant:

Thank you for your contributions to the Political Economy of Bargaining workshop. I am happy to report that we have a superb lineup, with 19 excellent presenters, including five plenary talks by prominent scholars:

- David P. Baron, Stanford
- John Duggan, Rochester
- Antonio Merlo, Pennsylvania
- John E. Roemer, Yale
- Norman Schofield, Washington in St. Louis

Besides the plenary speakers, there will be an impressive mixture of senior and junior scholars: Ken Benoit (Dublin), Steven Brams (NYU), Philippe De Donder (Toulouse), Arianna Degan (Québec à Montréal), Daniel Diermeier (Northwestern), Hülya K. K. Eraslan (Pennsylvania), Pohan Fong (Concordia), Tasos Kalandrakis (Rochester), Christopher Kam (British Columbia), Marc Kilgour (Laurier), Michael Laver (NYU), Woojin Lee (Massachusetts Amherst), Massimo Morelli (Columbia), Al Slivinski (Western Ontario) and Dan Usher (Queen's).

The workshop will take place April 24-26, 2008, with registration beginning at 8:30 am on Thursday April 24th. There are three full days of presentations, plus **panel** discussions at the end of each day. The last session will finish at 5 pm on Saturday April 26. The plenary speakers have one full hour for their presentations plus 15 minutes for discussion. Other speakers have 30 minutes plus 15 minutes for the discussant and questions from the floor.

As you are no doubt aware, it is almost 20 years since Dave Baron and John Ferejohn's seminal paper "Bargaining in Legislatures." One theme of this workshop is the examination of what has been accomplished since. In the plenaries, the presentations, and the discussion, we will reflect on the future of bargaining in political economy environments.

Social Choice and Welfare (SCW) will be doing a special issue on "The Political Economy of Bargaining." Norman Schofield, Marc Kilgour and myself will serve as guest editors, with Maurice Salles acting on behalf of SCW. I hope you will consider submitting your paper to the special issue.

Another of our sponsors is the Centre for International Governance Innovation, CIGI, a private research centre located in Waterloo (with major funding from one of the principals of Research in

Motion, makers of the BlackBerry). CIGI would like to see non-technical summaries (5 pages or less) of papers delivered at the workshop. We could post these “white papers” on the PEB2008 webpage. In addition, if enough summaries are provided, I will try to have a booklet printed.

Information and announcements about the workshop will be posted on the PEB2008 webpage: <http://www.wlu.ca/sbe/gallego/PEB2008/>.

I will also send email newsletters as appropriate. They will remind participants about deadlines (registration and paper submission), announce the program, assign discussants, and provide details about hotels and other pertinent information. I will also post the newsletters on the PEB2008 webpage. For example, you can find information about travel to Waterloo on the PEB2008 webpage, under Conference venue. The major airports serving this area are Toronto Pearson International (about one hour drive from Waterloo), Detroit (3 hours) and Buffalo airport (3 hours). Some airlines also fly to the Region of Waterloo International Airport (20 minutes) or to the Hamilton International Airport (1 hour).

All speakers are asked to arrive on the evening of Wednesday April 23 if at all possible. I anticipate that given the quality of our speakers, there will be good attendance from nearby universities and else. Graduate students can also attend. Though I have no funding for attendees other than some funding for speakers, you should feel free to invite students and colleagues. There is no registration fee, but for planning purposes, badges, etc., I will ask all presenters and all other attendees to register through our webpage. Lunch and coffee breaks will be provided. There will also be a gala dinner on Friday April 25 (details to be announced at a later date).

The sponsors require that I advertise the workshop. To fulfill this requirement, I have developed (in conjunction with the Laurier Public Affairs Office) a poster and will be sending each presenter two copies in the near future. Please post them in a prominent place, and let me know if you could use more.

I anticipate that I will be in touch with all participants on an individual basis, and as a group, several times over the next few months. But if you have a question or if I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me via email ([mgallego@wlu.ca](mailto:mgallego@wlu.ca)) or by phone (519-884-0170 x 2635#).

The other members of the scientific committee, Norman Schofield and Philippe De Donder, join me in thanking you for your participation and looking forward to seeing you in April.

Warm regards,

Maria Gallego