



INNOVATIONS:

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Editorial Foreword
Sherri A. Brown

The Role of Organized Labour in Latin American
Democratization Processes
Tina Hilgers

The Divided Will: Metaxy and the Unrest of
Existence in Saint Augustine's Confessions
David Azerrad

Cinema and Television as a Gauge for Race Politics
James Alan Kendrick

LIBERAL / DEMOCRACY
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Holly Reid and Adam Chapnick

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FOREWORD

On behalf of the Editorial Board of *Innovations: A Journal of Politics*, it gives me great pleasure to welcome readers to our 2002-2003 edition. *Innovations* is an interdisciplinary, refereed journal committed to publishing the finest student work in politics. The articles contained within this edition reflect this commitment and offer five examples of exemplary scholarship.

The first article, by Tina Hilgers, *The Role of Organized Labour in Latin American Democratization Processes*, investigates the role of civil society, and particularly organized labour, in promoting democracy in Latin America. She concludes that an organized labour potentially contributes to the process of government responsiveness to marginalized sectors, thus developing opportunities for political inclusiveness and socio-economic equality in Latin America. The significance of this paper extends beyond the Latin American context but also globally as democratization efforts continue.

Following this, *The Divided Will: Metaxy and the Unrest of Existence in Saint Augustine's Confessions*, contributed by David Azerrad, analyses the *Confessions* with the conceptual language offered by Eric Voegelin. He argues that Augustine's *Confessions* exemplify Voegelin's thought to the core, that they confess Voegelin's metaxic structure of reality – life as tension between the pull of divine reason and the pull of mortal passion. What is shown to be constant across history in the metaxic structure of reality is the notion of *unrest*. The importance of Azerrad's work lay in confronting those who would reduce politics to rational choice, obligation and contract, and neglect longing for order in the face of one's passions. The human condition is one of searching for order in a state of unrest, attempting to move towards the illumination of reason.

In an article by James Alan Kendrick, *Cinema and Television as a Gauge for Race Politics* examines the role of cinema and television in promoting racial consciousness. His article reveals that specific media forms, including black media forms have the potential to act as unifying forces within African American



communities by promoting feelings of racial awareness. His conclusions reveal and confirm the significance and influence of media in shaping belief systems. The increasing pre-eminence of television as a source of information and entertainment for North Americans makes Kendrick's article all too relevant for political scientists. This article shows why the role and content of media in the politics of a civil society requires further study.

David McFaul's article, *Liberal/Democracy* illuminates the schism between liberalism and democracy- a topic of perennial importance for scholars of Western political thought. He distinguishes liberalism from democracy through a discussion of negative versus positive liberty. McFaul concludes that it appears liberalism/capitalism has gained primacy over democracy in the politics of the Western world. Intimating towards the future, he suggests that present trends indicate a greater questioning of the status quo, questioning which could inevitably lead to widespread movements for increased citizen participation in democratic societies.

In their article, *Are the Risks Real? Contemporary Opposition to the ICC* Holly Reid and Adam Chapnick critically assess the implications of ratification of the International Criminal Court. Their article considers several arguments for and against and discusses the different roles of the ICC. Ultimately, they conclude that the risks articulated by opponents to the ICC (primarily by the USA) are more perceived than real and suggest that the ICC may in fact benefit its opponents through participation.

The production of this journal would not be possible if not for the generosity of our sponsors, advertisers, and the Department of Political Science at the University of Calgary. The Editorial Board and I greatly appreciate their support. This forward would not be complete if we did not thank the anonymous reviewers who gave so generously of their time and effort in reviewing the many articles that were considered for publication. Their efforts, along with those of our many dedicated volunteers raised this edition of *Innovations* off the ground.

Sincerely,

Sherri A. Brown, Editor-in-Chief

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Tina Hilgers is a Ph.D. candidate at York University. Her research interests include Latin American democratization, organized labour and social movements.

David Azerrad recently received an MA in political science at Carleton University, Ottawa, where he focused on political theory. He completed his undergraduate studies in journalism and political science at Concordia University, Montreal.

James Alan Kendrick is a Ph.D. student in the Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics at the University of Virginia and is currently a Visiting Instructor in the Department of Political Science at Duke University in the United States. His research interests include comparative race politics and the politics of underrepresented groups.

David McFaul received his BA in Philosophy and an MA in political science from the University of Calgary. He is pursuing a PhD in Philosophy from the University of Ottawa commencing Fall 2003.

Holly Reid is a graduate of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University and has an LL.B. from the University of Ottawa. Ms. Reid currently practices labour and employment law at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP in Toronto.

Adam Chapnick completed his M.A. at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs and is now a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Toronto. He has published articles in *International Journal*, *International Insights*, and *Canadian Foreign Policy*. A previous version of this paper was presented at the Osgoode Hall 3rd Annual Graduate Students' Conference, York University (11-12 May 2000).