

Call For Proposals: Political Economy of Climate Change and the Environment (PECE) APSA 2024 Mini-Conference

We are seeking applications for the second annual APSA mini-conference on the Political Economy of Climate Change and the Environment (PECE). The event will be hosted at the University of Pennsylvania on Wednesday, September 4th (i.e., day before the 2024 APSA Annual Conference). The conference will include paper panels, short lightning talk presentations, a poster session, time for networking and exchanging ideas, and a reception to conclude the day.

Purpose

The purpose of the event is to enrich the work of scholars who focus on the political economy of climate change and the environment by sharing ongoing research, sparking new collaborations, and catalyzing new research projects. Political scientists are increasingly turning their attention to the ways that electoral incentives, interest groups, public participation, government institutions, and international organizations affect responses to pressing environmental issues. They are also considering the ways that economic conditions and institutions structure policymaking and the development of interest groups and coalitions around environmental issues. In the Global South, scholars of political economy have also spotlighted the ways in which the goals of economic development are at odds with pursuing sustainable development. Climate change also creates concerns for equity, as environmental degradation disproportionately affects certain groups or nations more than others and the costs of climate change are not shared equally. As climate and environmental change accelerate, research in this area is poised to become a central part of the discipline.

This mini-conference aims to build connections between scholars working on the political economy of environment and climate. Historically, panels and papers on this topic are distributed between the STEP, Public Policy, Political Economy, International Relations, Comparative Politics, American Politics, and other sections. Building on last year's inaugural mini-conference, we hope to provide a setting for a more cohesive conversation on these issues, highlight the work of innovative junior scholars, and bring this work from junior scholars into conversation with cutting-edge research from more established scholars. We hope to organize a set of panels which is balanced across sub-fields (Comparative, American, IR), topic areas (including climate change, conservation, and pollution) and career stages. We hope that the mini-conference can serve as a locus for the important conversations going on in the discipline around environmental political economy.

How to Apply

The mini-conference will accept proposals for theoretically informed and empirically rigorous papers on any aspect of the political economy of the environment. We are particularly interested in papers that a) examine when and why states, government agencies, and officials act to address climate change, environmental issues and environmental justice; and b) papers that address how the interactions between governments, the public, and interest groups affect environmental outcomes.

If you would like to participate in the mini-conference, please fill out the Google form here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1skl46N1VzNlqXEBC2Fqw-JBaXjyizXtScnWvNGukGSw/viewform?edit_requested=true.

Please do so before the **deadline of March 1st, 2024**. We welcome applications from both faculty and graduate students, and especially encourage individuals from traditionally underrepresented groups to apply. Conditional on fundraising, we hope to offer travel support for a small number of graduate students and junior scholars. Successful applicants will be notified no later than April 15.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at pece2024.apsa@gmail.com.

Organizing Committee

Parrish Bergquist (University of Pennsylvania)
Alice Xu (University of Pennsylvania)
Sarah Bush (University of Pennsylvania)
Guy Grossman (University of Pennsylvania)