



**An Update on the Pilot Study:
Winning proposals to be announced on September
2 at the APSA Annual Meeting**

July 25, 2006 (revised August 15, 2006)

We write with an update on the planning of the 2006 ANES Pilot Study. This year, proposals for new questions were solicited through the ANES Online Commons, which was open from March 13 to June 15, 2006. 89 proposals were submitted. Due to a surge in proposals sent just before the June 15 deadline, we kept the Online Commons open for an additional week to allow scholars to comment on the submitted proposals.

Within 24 hours of the close of the Online Commons, we assigned each member of the Board of Overseers to one of five topic-focused committees to review the proposals.

The jurisdictions of the committees were determined by the content distribution of the proposals received and are as follows:

- Measures of choice, participation, communication, knowledge
- Evaluations of policy and candidates
- Effect of group membership, perceptions of groups
- Values, predispositions and trust
- Psychological underpinnings of election related phenomena

The committees were instructed as follows:

We are asking each committee to produce a report stating priorities that the PIs and Board as a whole should consider in its deliberations on the Pilot study's content and methods. The report should be thought of as a response not to individual proposals, but to the commons as a whole....For all of our endeavors, our main goal is to maximize value for new and potential ANES users. For the Pilot Study, we seek to do that through providing a test bed for new questions, measurements, and concepts.

As of July 25, all reports were received and distributed to the Board. On July 28 and 29, the Board will meet at Stanford University to make presentations on the proposals and to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the proposals, to inform decisions about which questions will make it onto the Pilot Study. After the meeting, the committees will revise their reports, which will then be posted on the ANES website (www.electionstudies.org) and emailed to everyone who submitted a proposal.

During August, we will use the proposals, the committee reports, and the Board deliberations to inform selection of a set of questions that will appear on the Pilot Study.

We will announce the set of winning proposals on Saturday, September 2 at noon. The announcement will be made during a panel called “Remaking the American National Election Studies” at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia (see www.apsanet.org).

The following week, we will post this information on the ANES website. Soon thereafter, we will also post a report explaining the rationale for the final decisions. In addition, we will correspond with the authors of each of the 89 proposals individually to express our gratitude and to offer constructive feedback.

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