THE CENTER FOR ELECTION**SCIENCE**

2014 Annual Report

"We make democracy smart."

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Year four from The Center for Election Science had us ground our educational goals and move forward in exciting ways. Because of your support, we were able to present at conferences in New York City; Eugene, Oregon; and Glendale, Colorado. Our presence on the panel hosted by Free and Equal was even televised on Free Speech TV!

Among our articles this year included an article on the Baseball Hall of Fame voting, which appeared in the high-traffic sports blog Deadspin. As a way of popularizing better voting methods, we plan to target awards companies. As this report has been prepared, it recently went public that we were the voting method consultants for the 2015 Webby Awards. You can look forward to this continued strategy in the upcoming year.

Thank you for your support in helping us all use smarter elections. Enjoy the highlights that you helped make possible in 2014!

With Great Devotion,

The Center for Election Science

Aaron Hamlin, Esq.

Executive Director

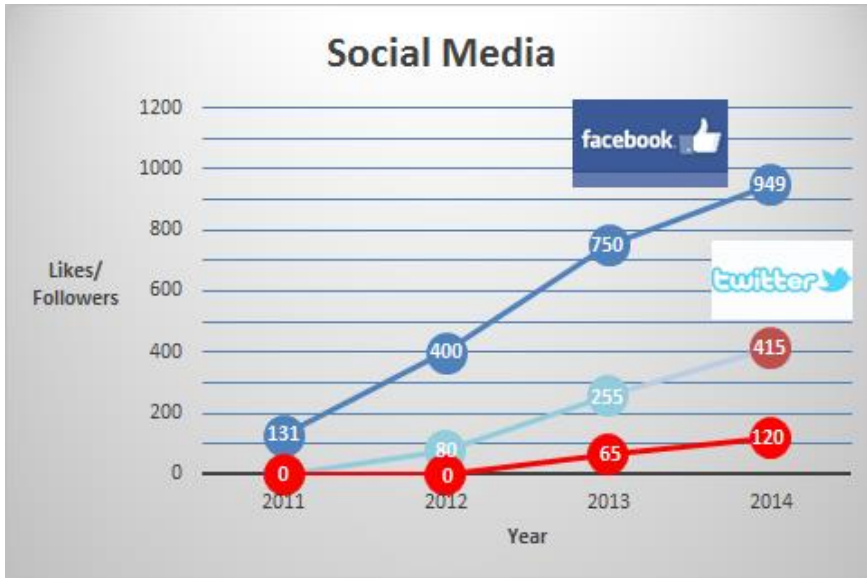> ### Board of Directors
> Dr. Andrew Jennings, Chair
> Lauren Payne, Vice-Chair
> Steve Cobb, Treasurer
> Jameson Quinn, Secretary
> Janice Dru, Parliamentarian

Organizational Growth

40% Total Growth in Social Media

>80,000 Unique Visitors

>$18,000 in new revenue

Donors

Donations < $100
Dylan Bickers, Kelly Cameron, Joseph Caucci, **Jeremiah Delgado**, **Doug Dysart**, Fun Unlimited, Lucas Hartsough, James Holland, Evie Jefferies, Michael Jefferies, **Matt Lane**, James Ofsink, Guy Ottewell, Trevor Poulsen, **Justin Rising**, Tom Rosenbaum, **Andy Schuler**, Michael Ruvinsky, Silke Theemann

$100 ≤ Donations < $500
William Adler, Steven Brams, **Barry Donnelly, Jordon Kalilich, Jan Kok, Leon Smith,** Helen & Dan Quinn, **Ben Woosley**

$500 ≤ Donations < $1,000
Eric Sanders

$1,000 ≤ Donations < $5,000
Frank Atwood, Harvie Branscomb

Donations ≥ $5,000
Mark Frohnmayer

Board of Directors' Donations	In-Kind Services
$4,379	Savvy Search Marketing (Adwords Management): $3,600 Google Grants Adwords: $64,179.69

*Recurring donors in bold

<u>Welcome New Directors!</u>

Board of Directors

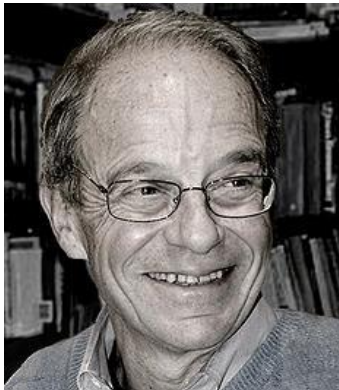At the turn of the year, we welcomed our newest board member, Janice Dru!

Janice Dru is a graduate of Princeton University where she studied politics and visual arts. She is the marketing director at a New York college and is board president of the marketing and business solutions company Inkwhy.

Before joining the board, Janice started as a volunteer. She was inspired from a Lean for Social Change online course after which she prepared our new public relations strategy. Now Janice coordinates our volunteers with PR, communications, and marketing backgrounds.

Advisory Board

We also added some academic clout and created an advisory board. Don't be surprised if these names look familiar!

Dr. Steven Brams [Wikipedia] is one of the modern independent developers of approval voting. He literally wrote the book on approval voting. He is a Professor of Politics at New York University and the author, co-author, or co-editor of 18 books and almost 300 articles. His books include *Theory of Moves* and, co-authored with Alan D. Taylor, *Fair Division: From Cake-Cutting to Dispute Resolution* and *The Win-Win Solution: Guaranteeing Fair Shares to Everybody*. His newest books are *Mathematics and Democracy: Designing Better Voting and Fair-Division Procedures* and *Game Theory and the Humanities: Bridging Two Worlds*. He holds two patents for fair-division algorithms and is chairman of the advisory board of Fair Outcomes, Inc.

Steven has applied game theory and social-choice theory to voting and elections, bargaining and fairness, international relations, the Bible, theology, and literature. He is a former president of the Peace Science Society (1990-91) and of the Public Choice Society (2004-2006). He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1986), a Guggenheim Fellow (1986-87), and was a Visiting Scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation (1998-99). Steven earned his Ph.D. in political science at Northwestern University and is an alum of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Jean-François Laslier teaches at the Paris School of Economics and publishes in two fields: economics and political science. He is the chief-editor of the journal *Mathematical Social Sciences* and also edited the *Handbook on Approval Voting*.

Jean-François' background is in Mathematics. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics (cnam Paris) in 1991. His research interests include mathematical economics, games and social choice theory, and political science. His does research on democracy and in particular on voting rules and voting behaviors, from the formal and the experimental points of view.

Dr. Marc Kilgour teaches mathematics at Wilfrid Laurier University. His interdisciplinary research covers mathematics, engineering, and social science. Within social choice theory, he has published in*Notices of the American Mathematical Society*, *Management Sciences*, *Decision Analysis*,*Journal of Theoretical Politics*, and *Decision Support Systems*.

Additionally, Marc edited the *Handbook of Group Decision and Negotiation* and contributed a section on a multi-winner version of approval voting to the *Handbook on Approval Voting*. Marc received his Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Toronto.

William Poundstone [Wikipedia] is the author of thirteen books, including *Gaming the Vote: Why Elections Aren't Fair (and What We Can Do About It)*. In his writing Poundstone often explores how scientific ideas have had broad social consequences. He has written for the *New York Times*,*Harper's*, *Harvard Business Review*, and *Village Voice*, and is a frequent guest on TV and radio.

His book *Fortune's Formula: The Untold Story of the Scientific Betting System that Beat the Casinos and Wall Street* was Amazon Editors' pick for the best nonfiction book of 2005. William is also an alum of Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Articles

Fixing the Baseball Hall of Fame Elections

By *Aaron Hamlin & Dr. Andy Jennings*

Deadspin Regressing

> "Plurality voting tends to sprint towards failure the moment more than two candidates enter the race."
>
> -Aaron Hamlin

The Primary: What Is It Good For?

By *Aaron Hamlin*

The Center for Election Science

Worrying About the Right Things

By *William Poundstone*

The Center for Election Science

> "Replacing the plurality vote won't happen until an educated electorate demands it. That's why the educational mission of The Center for Election Science is so important. The stakes could not be higher."
>
> -William Poundstone

"It's clear who the beneficiaries are here: Republicans and Democrats. If you like those parties, then congratulations, because you're on an especially long win streak. But if you're like the 35% that identify as independents, then it's not looking so good."

-Aaron Hamlin

Election Day 2014: Independent Voters Locked Out Again

By Aaron Hamlin

Independent Voter Network

Our Voting Method Is a Train Wreck: The Main Gubernatorial Election Shows Us Why

By Aaron Hamlin

The Center for Election Science

Online Polls: The Internet Is Doing Them Wrong

By Aaron Hamlin

Democracy Chronicles

"When you force people to choose only one, support artificially divides between options, particularly similar ones. The product is a polling result that can be practically meaningless."

-Aaron Hamlin

Presentations

Debate: Approval Voting Versus Instant Runoff Voting

By Aaron Hamlin

Equal Vote Conference | Eugene, OR

Evaluation of Voting Methods: Simulation and Criteria

By Clay Shentrup

Equal Vote Conference | Eugene, OR

"Ten percent more democracy may sound like a soulless statistic, but it translates to real difference in the lives of human beings across the world down through the generations to come. If we want to do as much good as possible, we've got to get nerdy. We've got to practice election science!" – Clay Shentrup

Voting Methods Panel: Fundamental Change to Create a Responsive Government

By Eric Sanders, Dr. Jack Nagel, Dr. Steven Brams, and Aaron Hamlin

Left Forum | New York, NY

Voting Methods Panel

Host & Panelists (Left to right and above): Christina Tobin (Free & Equal), Richard Winger (Ballot Access News), Aaron Hamlin (The Center for Election Science), Bill Redpath (Fairvote), Rob Richie (Fairvote)

Voting Methods & Election Integrity Symposium | Glendale, CO

"If there's this disconnect between how people feel and what their ballot is getting them, then we need to look at the ballot, because something's going wrong there. When you look at the way that we vote, we use a choose-one method called plurality voting. If you think about it for a moment, you probably have opinions about all the candidates on your ballot. But the amount of information you're actually offering is extremely little. In fact, if you put your mind to it, I think you'd have a hard time finding a way to offer any less information!" – Aaron Hamlin

CES 2014 Financial Report

The Center for Election Science
For the 12 months ended 31 December 2014

	Dec-14	Dec-13	Dec-12
Revenue			
Donations	3,914	20,467	2,568
Donations, Recurring	5,453	-	-
Grants	8,821	-	-
Interest Income	1	22	-
Other Revenue	-	-	-
Total Revenue	**18,188**	**20,489**	**2,568**
Gross Profit	**18,188**	**20,489**	**2,568**
Operating Income / (Loss)	**18,188**	**20,489**	**2,568**
Other Income and Expense			
Advertising	-	(545)	-
Bank Service Charges	(302)	(1,208)	(30)
Conferences	(400)	-	-
Consulting & Accounting	-	(58)	-
Dues & Subscriptions	-	(13)	-
General Expenses	(1,031)	(12,661)	(24)
Human Resources	(1,444)	-	-
Information Technology	(1,305)	-	-
Payroll Tax Expense	(2,255)	(825)	-
Telephone & Internet	-	(409)	(74)
Travel	(1,998)	-	-
Wages and Salaries	(7,074)	(2,507)	-
Total Other Income and Expense	**(15,809)**	**(18,226)**	**(128)**
Net Income / (Loss) before Tax	**2,380**	**2,263**	**2,440**
Net Income	**2,380**	**2,263**	**2,440**
Total Comprehensive Income	**2,380**	**2,263**	**2,440**