

GV994 Professional Development Seminar

Week 8

Conference and journal submission

Dominik Duell (University of Essex)

November 21, 2019

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed
- ▶ Find your place, aka see your work crushed, listen to all the people who claim to do similar work

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed
- ▶ Find your place, aka see your work crushed, listen to all the people who claim to do similar work (but mostly don't)

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed
- ▶ Find your place, aka see your work crushed, listen to all the people who claim to do similar work (but mostly don't)
- ▶ Networking

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed
- ▶ Find your place, aka see your work crushed, listen to all the people who claim to do similar work (but mostly don't)
- ▶ Networking aka not as important as publicizing your work but some schmoozing helps

Why go to conferences?

- ▶ Publicize your work, aka presenting, discussing, talking up your work
- ▶ Improve your work, aka see your work discussed and sometimes crushed
- ▶ Find your place, aka see your work crushed, listen to all the people who claim to do similar work (but mostly don't)
- ▶ Networking aka not as important as publicizing your work but some schmoozing helps
 - ▶ Do good work
 - ▶ Find an angle
 - ▶ Connect with people who share interests (work or otherwise!)

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ...

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look
- ▶ Related field conferences: AEA, ESA, APA, BPS, ECPR sessions ...

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not all
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look
- ▶ Related field conferences: AEA, ESA, APA, BPS, ECPR sessions ...
- ▶ Specialized small conferences and workshops

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look
- ▶ Related field conferences: AEA, ESA, APA, BPS, ECPR sessions ...
- ▶ Specialized small conferences and workshops
- ▶ Internal colloquia and workshops

Ask yourself:

- ▶ What is your goal?

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not all
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look
- ▶ Related field conferences: AEA, ESA, APA, BPS, ECPR sessions ...
- ▶ Specialized small conferences and workshops
- ▶ Internal colloquia and workshops

Ask yourself:

- ▶ What is your goal? Publicity, feedback, or networking?

Which conferences?

- ▶ General conferences: APSA, MPSA, ECPR general, EPSA, SPSA, ... not al
- ▶ Subfield conferences: ISA, ISPP, ... just have a look
- ▶ Related field conferences: AEA, ESA, APA, BPS, ECPR sessions ...
- ▶ Specialized small conferences and workshops
- ▶ Internal colloquia and workshops

Ask yourself:

- ▶ What is your goal? Publicity, feedback, or networking?
- ▶ What is the status of your work?

What are conferences in our profession?

Currently, a place to . . .

- ▶ present mostly finished work
- ▶ not receive to much feedback (general conferences)
- ▶ for small circle of buddies (more specialized conferences and workshops)

They are often not a place for work in progress and often not receptive to newcomers.

Not a place for conference proceedings.

How to conference?

- ▶ Preparation
- ▶ Presentation
- ▶ Expectation

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?
 - ▶ Limit yourself to the word count

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?
 - ▶ Limit yourself to the word count
 - ▶ Obey format requirements

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?
 - ▶ Limit yourself to the word count
 - ▶ Obey format requirements
 - ▶ Include all additional information (e.g., personal information, keywords, areas of study)
 - ▶ (Get it) proof read

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?
 - ▶ Limit yourself to the word count
 - ▶ Obey format requirements
 - ▶ Include all additional information (e.g., personal information, keywords, areas of study)
 - ▶ (Get it) proof read
 - ▶ Keep deadlines

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Know your audience and show your understanding:
 - ▶ Does your work fit the topic?
 - ▶ Limit yourself to the word count
 - ▶ Obey format requirements
 - ▶ Include all additional information (e.g., personal information, keywords, areas of study)
 - ▶ (Get it) proof read
 - ▶ Keep deadlines
 - ▶ Does your paper need to be finished?

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Be focussed and concise:
 - ▶ what is this about, relate to field

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Be focussed and concise:
 - ▶ what is this about, relate to field
 - ▶ what's the contribution of your work

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Be focussed and concise:
 - ▶ what is this about, relate to field
 - ▶ what's the contribution of your work – in particular:
 1. What is the problem you address?
 2. What methods do you use?
 3. What is your claim/argument/theoretical angle

How to submit and get accepted

Abstract submission

- ▶ Be focussed and concise:
 - ▶ what is this about, relate to field
 - ▶ what's the contribution of your work – in particular:
 1. What is the problem you address?
 2. What methods do you use?
 3. What is your claim/argument/theoretical angle
 4. What are your findings you discuss

Which journal?

Judge by ...

- ▶ What's out there List of political science journals
- ▶ Various rankings
 - ▶ Scimago Journal Ranking
 - ▶ Compilation of rankings in Giles/Garand 2007
- ▶ Feasibility
- ▶ Turnaround time

Which journal?

Judge by ...

- ▶ What's out there List of political science journals
- ▶ Various rankings
 - ▶ Scimago Journal Ranking
 - ▶ Compilation of rankings in Giles/Garand 2007
- ▶ Feasibility
- ▶ Turnaround time – desk rejection? editorial decisions? review process?

Which journal?

Judge by ...

- ▶ What's out there List of political science journals
- ▶ Various rankings
 - ▶ Scimago Journal Ranking
 - ▶ Compilation of rankings in Giles/Garand 2007
- ▶ Feasibility
- ▶ Turnaround time – desk rejection? editorial decisions? review process?
- ▶ Quality of review process

Here is a more detailed source: OUP: which journal and here are turnaround times.

How to submit . . .

. . . and improve chances of a positive outcome?

Let's start with the most general advice

- ▶ target the right journal
- ▶ say something new without being ridiculous
- ▶ revise, revise, revise
- ▶ reference strategically: go to original sources, widely cited articles, articles from that journal

How to submit . . .

. . . and improve chances of a positive outcome?

Let's start with the most general advice

- ▶ target the right journal
- ▶ say something new without being ridiculous
- ▶ revise, revise, revise
- ▶ reference strategically: go to original sources, widely cited articles, articles from that journal – avoid people who hate your type of work if possible
- ▶ Make a clear no hard: bulletproof your arguments, theory, empirics aaand formatting