

## POLITICAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

### NEWSLETTER October 2009

[www.psai.ie](http://www.psai.ie)

The PSAI Executive Committee produces a monthly newsletter for members. If you have any material to contribute – publications, vacancies, appointments, research grants, conferences, etc. - please send it in the first instance to Theresa Reidy at [t.reidy@ucc.ie](mailto:t.reidy@ucc.ie) for inclusion.

#### PSAI COMMITTEE

The PSAI's Executive Committee is elected each year at the Association's AGM, held during our annual conference.

The 2008-2009 Executive Committee is:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <a href="#">Neil Collins</a> (President)           | <a href="mailto:n.collins@ucc.ie">n.collins@ucc.ie</a>                               |
| 2. <a href="#">John Garry</a> (Vice President)        | <a href="mailto:j.gary@qub.ac.uk">j.gary@qub.ac.uk</a>                               |
| 3. <a href="#">Theresa Reidy</a> (Secretary)          | <a href="mailto:t.reidy@ucc.ie">t.reidy@ucc.ie</a>                                   |
| 4. <a href="#">Eoin O'Malley</a> (Treasurer)          | <a href="mailto:eoin.omalley@dcu.ie">eoin.omalley@dcu.ie</a>                         |
| 5. <a href="#">Sandra Buchanan</a> (Postgraduate Rep) | <a href="mailto:s.buchanan1@email.ulster.ac.uk">s.buchanan1@email.ulster.ac.uk</a>   |
| 6. Matthew Cannon                                     | <a href="mailto:matthew.cannon@ul.ie">matthew.cannon@ul.ie</a>                       |
| 7. Diana Panke  | <a href="mailto:diana.panke@ucd.ie">diana.panke@ucd.ie</a>                           |
| 8. Niamh Puirseil                                     | <a href="mailto:niamh.puirseil@gmail.com">niamh.puirseil@gmail.com</a>               |
| 9. <a href="#">Conor McGrath</a>                      | <a href="mailto:conor.p.mcgrath@gmail.com">conor.p.mcgrath@gmail.com</a>             |
| 10. <a href="#">Niall Ó Dochartaigh</a>               | <a href="mailto:niall.odochartaigh@nuigalway.ie">niall.odochartaigh@nuigalway.ie</a> |
| 11. <a href="#">Jane Suiter</a>                       | <a href="mailto:suiterj@tcd.ie">suiterj@tcd.ie</a>                                   |
| 12. <a href="#">Liam Weeks</a>                        | <a href="mailto:l.weeks@ucc.ie">l.weeks@ucc.ie</a>                                   |

#### PSAI MEMBERSHIP/IRISH POLITICAL STUDIES

Dear Colleague,

PSAI Membership: €50/£35. Students: €30/£21 - includes a print subscription to *Irish Political Studies*. The online membership form can be accessed at <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/offer/fips-so.asp>

An online sample of the journal can be viewed [here](#).

If you are unsure about your current membership status, please feel free to contact Stacey Doran ([stacey.doran@tandf.co.uk](mailto:stacey.doran@tandf.co.uk))

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## News

### Politics, eGovernment and Web Conference, Science Gallery, Trinity, October 30th

Some of Europe's leading political experts working, researching and advising in the online political, community, media and governmental spaces will be in Dublin for a one day conference in Trinity's Science Gallery on October 30<sup>th</sup> and I thought you might be interested.

These are international experts who help groups, communities, organisations, parties, media and governments do a whole lot more online. The standard rate is €495 for the day, but **we've set aside a number of tickets for those working in academia for €175, on a first come basis.**

*Some of the Organisations who are already attending include:*

Ireland Funds

Trinity College Dublin, Computer Science Department

UNHCR

SIPTU

University of Limerick, Politics Department

University of Nice Sophia-Antipolis-CNRS

University of Bonn, Institute of Political Science and Sociology

Immigrant Council of Ireland

Louth County Council

IMPACT

Wexford County Council

NCYI

Trinity College Dublin, Department of Political Science

Please feel free to call me at any point on 01 672 9395 if you are interested in reserving a place or have any questions whatsoever.

### **Speakers Include:**

**Niels Thogersen** is the former Director of Communications for the European Commission.

He is the founding member of the European Communications Academy & Vice President of the Club of Venice, comprising all of the Directors of Communication in the governments of the 27 EU member states and the EU candidate countries. His specialist area is new media.

**Benoit Thieulin** was appointed head of New Media to the French Prime Minister in 2001. In 2005, he was appointed by the European Commission as head of the European Information Centre. In 2007, he led the web campaign of socialist Presidential candidate Ségolène Royal. In June 2007, Benoit Thieulin and 4 other associates created La Netscouade.

**Iain Dale** is Britain's leading political blogger. Iain also writes for The Spectator, the New Statesman, the House Magazine and Parliamentary Monitor, as well as contributing weekly to The Guardian's CommentIsFree. He is a newspaper reviewer for both Sky News and the BBC News Channel and appears regularly on the BBC's Today and **Newsnight** programmes.

**Bill Edwards** is, according to the World Bank, "a global leader in customer-facing government". He was the chief architect of Directgov ([www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)) and is currently leading the development of a new online One Stop Portal for the Hong Kong government. Bill is the Managing Partner of the Gov3 Foundation, and a former Managing Director of Directgov. He is also an expert advisor to the World Bank on eGovernment.

**Stephen Clark** is the Head of Web for the European Parliament. His main focus in 2009 has been on the design and delivery of the Parliament's online communications campaign for the

European elections in June 2009, both on and off the website. Stephen's team is also responsible for the daily publication of news headlines on the Parliament's website in 22 languages.

**Alberto Nardelli** is the Co-founder and Director of [tweetminster.co.uk](http://tweetminster.co.uk), a service that uses the power of Twitter to let people follow and connect with Members of Parliament and UK politics. His work has been awarded and covered across numerous media, and he has spoken around the world on the power of social media.

**Jimmy Leach** is the former head of the British Prime Minister's digital PR operation. He oversaw the launch of the Downing Street petitions website, was director of digital at public relations agency Freud and previously worked for the Guardian's website: [guardian.co.uk](http://guardian.co.uk). Jimmy is the current Online Editorial Director at the [Independent.co.uk](http://Independent.co.uk)

**Rishi Saha** is the Head of the Conservative Party's award-winning online operations. Saha is credited as the man behind David Cameron's online invention 'Web Cameron' and was also responsible for one of the UK's most successful web virals 'Pimp my Party'. Recently named one of London's 1000 Most Influential People by the Evening Standard, Rishi is also a frequent media performer for the BBC and Sky.

**Ben Hammersley** is the Deputy Editor of *Wired* UK Magazine. Between 2004 and 2006, he designed, built, and maintained the weblogs of *The Guardian*, including [Comment is free](http://Comment.is.free). He has authored six technical books and programmers' guides, including books on blogging and social media. Ben coined the term *podcasting*.

**Mark Coyle** is the BBC's launch editor of Democracy Live, the broadcasters soon to be launched ground-breaking political web casting platform. Mark was one of the original launch editors of the BBC's news website. He also launched the news sections for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and the English regions' sections.

**Julian March** is the Executive Producer of the Sky News website. Previously he edited Sky's breakfast show "Sunrise", where he broke the news of the London Bombings, and then moved on to "Live at Five" with Jeremy Thompson. In 2005 he won a Royal Television Society (RTS) Award for Innovation for an on-screen ticker allowing survivors of the Tsunami to get a message home to loved ones.

**Prof. Ake Gronlund** is chair of the world's two largest eGovernment researcher communities; the Association of Information Systems and the International Federation of Information Systems, and an expert advisor to the World Bank on eGovernment. He has published numerous books on eGovernment, is the Program Chair of the International EGOV conference and considered one of the world's leading experts on eGovernment.

**Prof. Karin Furuli** is a Researcher at Norway's Agency for Public Management and eGovernment. She is a highly respected authority on eGovernment in Europe. She has spoken widely and has been published across numerous journals and media. She is involved in the administration of Norway's citizen portal Mypage, which consists of electronic services from municipalities and public offices.

**Ian Douglas** is head of digital production for the Telegraph Media Group. As well as helping to turn the Telegraph from a newspaper with a website into a modern news organisation he writes about technology, especially its role in culture and political uses. He spent two months in a windowless room earlier this year working on MPs' expenses.

**Nick Blunden** is MD at Profero UK. Profero is the world's leading independent digital communications group. It has 15 offices globally including offices in London, Moscow, New York, Shanghai, Sydney and Tokyo. Clients include COI, Diageo, IKEA, Johnson & Johnson, Lufthansa, MINI and Western Union.

**Maeve Kneafsey** is Managing Director of Elucidate, one of Ireland's leading online strategy development and implementation companies, with a particular emphasis on eGovernment. Maeve was responsible for establishing the Golden Spiders Internet Awards

and is co-founder of the Irish eGovernment Awards and Centre of Excellence. Maeve is the current President of the Irish Internet Association.

**Paul Hayes** is a tech PR industry veteran. Paul was marketing and PR director of Havok Inc, and saw the company grow from a start-up in 1998 through to its acquisition by Intel in 2007 for \$110 million. Havok is the premier provider of interactive software and services for digital media creators in the games and film industries. Paul was also marketing director of Demonware, prior to it's acquisition by Activision.

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### **One-Year Grants for Graduate Students for research or study in the Federal Republic of Germany**

The German Academic Exchanges Service, Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst(DAAD) have a limited number of scholarships available to Irish graduates who wish to research or study in Germany during the academic year 2010 -2011.

This scholarship programme (tenable from 1 October 2010 to 31 July 2011) provides funds for graduation or graduate students for postgraduate study and/or research at any German university, Fachhochschule, research institute, music academy or art college for one academic year. The stay at a German institution of higher education may serve the following purposes:-

- Study for a degree to be taken in Germany  
(e.g. Diploma or Magister/Master)
- Advanced study but not for a degree to be taken in Germany
- Research for a degree to be take in the home country
- Research, but not for a degree
- Participation in a postgraduate degree course

Applications are requested from students who have obtained at least an upper second class (2:1) degree. Students in the arts, humanities and social sciences should normally have a good command of German. DAAD expects applicants to have already contacted an academic supervisor at the German host institution for support. An acceptance letter from such a supervisor should be submitted along with the application papers. Please note that all study must be at postgraduate level.

The value of the scholarship is €750 per month plus an initial extra payment and a lump sum towards travel.

<http://london.daad.de>

Application Deadlines:-

1. Applications from students of **Architecture, Design, Film, Dance and Theatre** must be submitted no later than **6 November 2009**.
2. Applications from students of **Music and Art** must be submitted no later than **30 November 2009**.
3. Applications from students from **all other disciplines** must be submitted no later than **8 January 2010**

Candidates should complete their application online at the DAAD webservice <http://london.daad.de> - please select 'Funding'. The application form should then be printed out, signed, and sent to Lottie Bulman at the DAAD office in London:

DAAD London Office  
34 Belgrave Square  
London SW1X 8QB

## **"A World without Walls: An International Congress on Interdependence and Cultural Diplomacy"**

**The ICD House, Berlin, 06th – 09th November 2009**

We would like to draw your attention to a major international congress that we are hosting from November 6-9<sup>th</sup>. "A World without Walls, hosted in honor of the 20 year anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, will bring together an international group of young leaders, political and diplomatic representatives and individuals from the private sector and civil society for a four-day program of lectures and seminars in Germany's capital. During the program, participants will consider the development of international relations over the past two decades, explore the challenges and opportunities of interdependence, and look at the importance of cultural diplomacy in ensuring sustainable multilateral cooperation. The speakers at the event will be leading international figures from politics and academia, who will be able to add unique perspectives on these three issues under consideration. I would be grateful if you could forward this e-mail on to any individuals who you feel may be interested.

Further information can be found under: [www.world-without-walls.org](http://www.world-without-walls.org)

We are privileged to include many distinguished experts, ambassadors, professors and diplomats as speakers. A selection of our already confirmed speakers can be found below:

- **Mr. Janez Janša**, Former Prime Minister of Slovenia; President of the Slovenian Democratic Party
- **Mike Kenneth Moore**, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand, Former Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- **President Dr. Alfredo Palacio**, Former President of Ecuador, Former Vice President of Ecuador
- **President Emil Constantinescu**, Former President of Romania
- **President Sir James Richard Marie Mancham**, Founding President of the Republic of Seychelles

- **The Hon. Alan Baird Ferguson**, 22nd President of the Australian Senate
- **Minister Dr. Igor Lukšič**, Minister of Education and Sport of Slovenia
- **H.E. Yaşar Yağış**, Turkish MP, Former Foreign Minister of Turkey
- **Dr. Vasile Puşcaş**, Romanian Minister for European Affairs
- **Zlatko Lagumdžija**, Former Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister of Bosnia-Herzegovina
- **Ioannis Kasoulides**, MEP; Former Foreign Minister, 2008 Cypriot Presidential Candidate
- **Danuta Maria Hübner**, Polish MEP, Former Minister of European Affairs for Poland, Former EU Commissioner for Regional Policy
- **Dr. Erkki Tuomioja**, Member of Parliament and Former Foreign Minister of Finland

*The ICD is an international, not-for-profit, non-governmental organization based in Berlin focused on the theoretical and practical promotion of cultural diplomacy. Further information about our activity can be found under [www.culturaldiplomacy.org](http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org). From July 27th-31st 2009, we hosted The International Symposium on Cultural Diplomacy and the program included former Heads of States, Government Ministers from around the world, high representatives from the United Nations, NATO, Demos, the EU, leading professors and over 150 participants from around the world. For more information about the Symposium please refer to the link below: <http://www.icd-internationalsymposium.org>*

To apply, please click on the link below:

[http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?en\\_www\\_application-form](http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?en_www_application-form)

For any additional information please contact us at [worldwithoutwalls@culturaldiplomacy.org](mailto:worldwithoutwalls@culturaldiplomacy.org)

### **NINTH INSTITUTE FOR QUALITATIVE AND MULTI-METHOD RESEARCH, MAXWELL SCHOOL OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, JUNE 13–25, 2010.**

The 2010 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research will be held at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. Participants at the 2010 institute will arrive on Sunday June 13, and classes will commence on June 14. The institute will run until the evening of Friday June 25, with a two day break on June 19 and 20.

The institute seeks to enable students to create and critique methodologically sophisticated qualitative research designs, including case studies, tests of necessity or sufficiency, and narrative or interpretive work. It explores the techniques, uses, strengths, and limitations of these methods, while emphasizing their relationships with alternative approaches. Topics include research design, concept formation, methods of structured and focused comparisons of cases, typological theory, case selection, process tracing, comparative historical analysis, congruence testing, path dependency, interpretivism, counterfactual analysis, interview and field research (including archival) techniques, necessary and sufficient conditions, fuzzy set methods, natural experiments, and philosophy of science issues relevant to qualitative research.

Attendees receive constructive feedback on their own research designs, and the course also includes discussions led by the authors of well known works which employ qualitative

methods. Examples are drawn from exemplary research in international relations, comparative politics, and American politics. Materials from the 2009 institute (including a schedule and reading list) are available for viewing at <http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/programs/cqrm/institute.html>. These include a 2 minute slide show of various photos from the institute at: <http://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/programs/cqrm/IQMRpublicflash/Slideshow.html>. Please note that the syllabus will be revised for the 2010 institute, and should be viewed with this in mind.

There are two ways to attend the institute – by nomination from a member department or research center, or by successfully competing in the open pool competition.

CQRM members will use their own meritocratic criteria to select students, fellows or junior faculty to attend the 2010 institute, and must notify CQRM of their choices by February 12, 2010. CQRM has approximately 60 members that make nominations each year. If you do not know if your institution is a member, you can email [celman@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:celman@maxwell.syr.edu) to request that information.

Students, fellows and junior faculty who are not sure if they will be selected, or who attend non-member organizations, should apply directly to CQRM using the form available at this link: <https://survey.maxwell.syr.edu/Survey.aspx?s=d83131f7f92443eaa3683e179eff9e23>

Open pool applications must be received by November 20, 2009. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by December 15, 2009. CQRM will cover the costs of tuition, lodging, and meals for successful applicants. Attendees will be responsible for their own transportation costs to and from Syracuse University.

## **Political Science and Genetics**

### **Application for the 2010 Behavior Genetics Methods Workshop**

What- Selected applicants will be funded for travel, lodging, and tuition by the National Science Foundation (0921008) to attend a 5 day workshop offered by the Behavior Genetics Association organized to explore individual differences in human behavior. This is a hands-on methods training course, not a lecture or seminar. Every student will have a laptop provided to share with one other student, take part in data analyses, develop structural models, and run various statistical packages among many other exercises. A detailed description of the course can be found at <http://ibgwww.colorado.edu/workshop2008/schedule2008.html> (page contains the schedule for the last introductory workshop in 2008). The final schedule for the 2010 workshop will be posted in the coming weeks. Attendees will leave the workshop ready to take part in behavior genetic analyses, have access to scripts, statistical packages, and training materials to take home (CD) for future use. Space is limited; 17 political scientists will be funded to attend. When and Where - March 2010; TBD (1st or 2nd week), University of Colorado, Boulder  
Overview - The recent introduction of genetic methods into political science necessitates training the larger political science community in these new methods. Every year the Behavior Genetics Association hosts a workshop at the University of Colorado Boulder aimed at training junior and advanced faculty across disciplines in introductory behavior genetics.

The goal of this project is to offer training to political scientists in applied statistical genetics. By “Training the Trainers”, faculty members will have new tools to: train graduate students, include familial modeling their coursework and research, write grants, supervise theses, and

review articles and grants related to this new area of research. We hope to attract up to 17 full, associate and assistant professors to the 2010 International Workshop on Methodology of Twin and Family Studies. Minorities, women, and all other underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply. The grant will cover travel, lodging, and tuition for attendees, lunch is provided by the course, but other meals are not covered.

The interaction and collaboration between social scientists and geneticists has proved fruitful in both fields (see two recent publications attached below) and the workshop environment will inspire more interdisciplinary collaboration. By expanding the training of individual political scientists, we hope to expand the overall field. The long term impact of sending faculty to the workshop will undoubtedly spawn new interest in these areas, and make better scholars.

Prerequisites- There are no prerequisites to apply, but this is a methods training course. It is a hands-on workshop intended to build analytical skills, with a particular focus on family and twin data (2010). The advanced workshop (2011) focuses on molecular data. To get the most out of the course, it is expected that applicants be comfortable with structural modeling or Bayesian techniques, and be trained in basic regression and statistical analyses.

Application Process (Application Process closes Oct 31 2009)

1. Complete the form on the next page and attach a One page vita
2. email form and vita to peter-hatemi@uiowa.edu
3. IMPORTANT- please place "NSF-Politics and Genetics" in the header
4. When you submit via email you will receive a confirmation email within 72 hours.
5. The selection committee will review all applications and make a final decision by early November and notify all applicants by email.

PI- Please contact Dr. Pete Hatemi , peter-hatemi@uiowa.edu, Department of Political Science, University of Iowa if you have any questions

### **Research Seminar - The Public-Private Sector Pay Gap in Ireland: What Lies Beneath?**

**Venue:** ESRI, Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2

**Date:**

08/10/2009

**Time:** 16:00

**Speakers:** Elish Kelly, Seamus McGuinness and Philip O'Connell (ESRI).

Over the last decade there has been a great deal of discussion about pay levels in the public sector in Ireland and, in particular, about how pay rates in this sector compare with the private sector. Kelly, McGuinness and O'Connell (2009) showed that, after controlling for differences in the composition of the workforces in the two sectors, the public sector pay premium increased from less than 10 per cent in March 2003 to over 20 per cent in March 2006. Kelly et al. (2009) also found that the premium varied across the earnings distribution, with the public sector advantage being greater for those at the lower end of the income distribution.

This paper builds on the work undertaken by Kelly et al. (2009). Firstly, the analysis provides an up-to-date estimate of the public-private sector pay gap as of October 2006. Secondly, the study identifies the specific public sector organisations - civil service, education, health, defence, commercial semi-state bodies, non-commercial semi-state bodies, and councils - within which pay premiums/discounts lie relative to the private sector. The paper also shows what the pay differentials are in various private sector organisations - manufacturing, construction, wholesale, hotels, transport, financial intermediation, business services, education (private), health (private) and other services - compared with the public sector. The sectoral analysis is carried out for both 2003 and 2006, which allows us to assess the extent to which wage differentials have changed over the three year period. Finally, the paper

illustrates the extent to which premiums/discounts vary across the various public and private sector organisations' earnings distributions.  
No booking necessary. All welcome.

## **Jobs**

### **European Institute for Gender Equality - Job Openings**

The European Institute for Gender Equality, which is an emerging Community regulatory agency, has recently published the 7 first vacancy notices on the following website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=749&langId=en>

The European Institute for Gender Equality is a European agency to become a centre of excellence and to support the Member States and the European institutions (in particular the Commission) in their efforts to promote gender equality, to fight discrimination based on sex and to raise awareness of gender issues. The Institute will be located in Vilnius, Lithuania.

Currently the Institute is organising a call for applications with a view to establishing reserve lists for 7 posts of temporary agents:

*Head of Administration Unit – deadline for applications: 18 September 2009*

*Head of Operations Unit – deadline for applications: 18 September 2009*

*Accounting Officer – deadline for applications: 18 September 2009*

*Information and Communications Officer – deadline for applications: 18 September 2009*

*Statistics Officer – deadline for applications: 18 September 2009*

*Local System Administrator – deadline for applications: 10 September 2009*

*Assistant to Director – deadline for applications: 10 September 2009*

### **DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE: MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND (Headship Search)**

#### **Position#: VPA-POSC-2009-002**

The department invites application for the position of Head of Department. The area of specialization within the discipline is open. The successful candidate is expected to have a record of academic leadership, excellence in teaching and research, experience with undergraduate and graduate programmes and an active research programme. The department is currently undergoing a process of growth and renewal associated with retirements and new hires, with increased support and resources to facilitate renewal. The new Head of Department will thus be able to play a key role in the growth and future direction of the department. Applicants can learn more about the department at [www.mun.ca/posc](http://www.mun.ca/posc). Letters of application should specifically address the qualifications and experience that make the applicant a suitable candidate for the position of Head and well qualified for a tenured senior position in the department. The term of office for head is three years, normally renewable once following review. Please submit application to **Dr. Pat Byrne, Chair, Headship Search Committee, c/o Department of Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, A1B 3X9; Phone: (709) 737-8179; Fax: (709) 737-4000; email: [polisci@mun.ca](mailto:polisci@mun.ca)**

#### **Application Deadline: November 10, 2009**

The Department of Political Science at Memorial University offers a dynamic work environment in the largest university in Atlantic Canada. The Department is undergoing a period of renewal and expansion. Information about us is available online at [www.mun.ca/posc/welcome/](http://www.mun.ca/posc/welcome/). Memorial provides a distinctive and stimulating environment for learning in St. John's, a very safe, friendly city with great historic charm, a vibrant cultural life, and easy access to a wide range of outdoor activities.

Memorial University is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from qualified women and men, visible minorities, aboriginal people and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian Citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

**TENURE-TRACK POSITION IN POLITICAL THEORY: MEMORIAL  
UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND  
VPA-POSC-2009-001**

The Department of Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, seeks to fill a tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level, to begin July 1st, 2010. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. (or be close to completion) and a well-developed program of research in political theory.

The candidate should have begun a career in scholarly publishing. Candidates will be assessed based on their ability to carry out an independent research program that yields significant peer-reviewed publications, to compete successfully for external funding to support this research program, and to engage in effective teaching and supervision of graduate students. In addition, the candidate will be expected to teach core undergraduate political theory courses.

Applications should include:

- 1) a letter of application;
- 2) a detailed curriculum vitae;
- 3) a statement of the candidate's ongoing or proposed research program;
- 4) a statement of teaching interests;
- 5) a sample of scholarly writing;
- 6) teaching evaluations or evidence of teaching effectiveness; and,
- 7) the names and addresses of three referees.

Letters of application should be forwarded to:

Dr. Roger Levy,  
Professor and Head  
Department of Political Science  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada  
A1B 3X9  
Fax: (709) 737 4000  
Email: [hknepman@mun.ca](mailto:hknepman@mun.ca)

The closing date for receipt of applications is November 10, 2009.

The Department of Political Science at Memorial University offers a dynamic work environment in the largest university in Atlantic Canada. The Department is undergoing a period of renewal and expansion. Information about us is available online at [www.mun.ca/posc](http://www.mun.ca/posc). Memorial provides a distinctive and stimulating environment for learning in St. John's, a very safe, friendly city with great historic charm, a vibrant cultural life, and easy access to a wide range of outdoor activities.

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### **Leverhulme Postdoctoral Fellow in Peace Studies**

The Department of Politics and History, in conjunction with the Desmond Tutu Centre for War and Peace Studies, at Liverpool Hope University (UK) is looking to recruit a postdoctoral research fellow for the coming academic year 2009-10. The department will consider applications from candidates holding a PhD in any area of peace studies (including international relations) and who is willing to engage with lectures, seminars and participate in the intellectual life of the University. In order to be eligible for consideration applicants:

- must be living overseas (i.e. outside the UK)
- must hold a doctorate in the area of peace studies (international relations)
- normally will not have more than 8 years of postdoctoral experience
- willing to visit the UK for the purpose of research and collaboration
- able to come early in 2010 or earlier
- able to spend between 9 - 12 months at Liverpool Hope University
- able to sustain themselves financially based on the stipend made available under the Leverhulme Fellowship (the University is not able to supplement the funding allocated by Leverhulme)

Further information on the department can be found at: [www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory](http://www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory) <<http://www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory>> . Individuals who wish to be considered for the position should submit an academic cv and covering letter by email to Professor Nicholas Rees at [reesn@hope.ac.uk](mailto:reesn@hope.ac.uk).

Professor Nicholas Rees  
Head, Dept. of Politics and History  
Liverpool Hope University  
Liverpool, L16 9JD  
Tel. 0151 2913476 (w)  
email: [reesn@hope.ac.uk](mailto:reesn@hope.ac.uk)  
web: [www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory](http://www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory) <<http://www.hope.ac.uk/politicsandhistory>>

**Postdoctoral Fellowships at the European University Institute, Florence (Italy)**  
**The deadline for applications for the academic year 2010-2011 is 25 October 2009**

### **Max Weber Fellowships**

The Max Weber Programme (<http://www.eui.eu/ProgrammesandFellowships/MaxWeberProgramme/Index.aspx>) is the largest postdoctoral programme for young researchers in the social sciences, funded by the European Commission (DG Education). Max Weber Fellowships are for 1 or 2 years and are open to candidates who have received a doctorate in the social sciences (economics, law, political science, sociology, history and related fields) within the last 5 years.

The Max Weber fellowships are designed for junior post-docs who would like to pursue an academic career, concentrate on their own research and enhance their academic practice in a

multidisciplinary environment. Fellows are selected on the basis of their research accomplishments and potential, their academic career interests, and the availability of the EUI faculty to provide mentorship. Each year circa 45 postdoctoral fellows are part of the programme.

For more information on how to apply please see:

<http://www.eui.eu/ServicesAndAdmin/AcademicService/PostdoctoralFellowships/MaxWeberFellowships/Index.aspx>

## **The University of Sydney, Australia**

### **Professors**

#### **The School of Social and Political Sciences Faculty of Arts**

If you're an ambitious academic looking for an outstanding opportunity to advance your career, the University of Sydney's recently formed School of Social and Political Sciences is the only place to be.

Formed in 2008 as part of the world-renowned Faculty of Arts, the School consists of five departments which together create a dynamic research and teaching environment.

The School is on the cusp of significant growth not only in terms of academic staff, but in terms of building upon existing research interests and creating new and innovative collaborations.

We have opportunities for visionary Professors to provide academic leadership within the departments of Government & International Relations and Sociology & Social Policy.

To learn more about joining one of Australia's premier universities, located in one of the world's most liveable cities, visit [www.theonlyplacetobe.com.au](http://www.theonlyplacetobe.com.au)

The University is an Equal Opportunity employer committed to equity, diversity and social inclusion.

Applications from equity target groups are encouraged. Appointment is on merit; as women are under-represented at this employment level, suitably qualified women are encouraged to apply.

**Search Committee, c/o Department of Political Science, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, A1B 3X9; Phone: (709) 737-8179; Fax: (709) 737-4000; email: [polisci@mun.ca](mailto:polisci@mun.ca)  
Application Deadline: November 10, 2009**

## **University of Sydney – Various Lecturers**

Lecturers required in the following areas:

- Politics
- Sociology
- Political Economy
- Anthropology
- Australian politics
- International Relations or Comparative Politics
- American Politics and Foreign Policy

**For more information and to apply, please visit [www.theonlyplacetobe.com.au](http://www.theonlyplacetobe.com.au)**

## CFP

PSA 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE, EDINBURGH, 29 MARCH – 1 APRIL 2010

### Deadline for paper proposals: 15 September 2009

**Title:** Party leadership in Western Europe: Strictly Personal?

**Convenors:** Duncan McDonnell (Turin) and James Newell (Salford)

The Italian Politics Specialist Group and the French Politics and Policy Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association envisage sponsoring a workshop on the above topic at the Association's annual conference to be held in Edinburgh in March/April 2010.

For several years there has in most western European democracies been a growing 'personalization' of political leadership as a result of well-known processes of change having to do with

- the role of the mass media in rendering the lives of the individuals who walk on the public stage 'much more visible than they ever were in the past' (Thompson, 2000: 6) and allowing politicians to present themselves not just as leaders, but as 'one of us';
- the switch from 'party-' to 'candidate-centred' campaigning – declining ideological conflict having shifted attention from position to valence issues and thus to candidates' competence; television and other electronic media, by allowing candidates to appeal directly to voters, having diminished the requirement for good party organisation and thus the attention to party itself in campaigns;
- the role of declining ideological conflict in shifting the political battleground to the terrain of morality – with parties increasingly attempting to compete by fomenting scandal – and thus a growing focus on matters of personal integrity.
- the rise of 'personal parties' (Calise, 2000), founded (or re-launched) and led by individuals, with political communication strategies being almost entirely focussed on these leaders.

But while the causes and concomitants of personal *leadership* have been much explored, much less attention has been paid to its possible effects in terms of the significance of individual *leaders*. Consequently, fundamental questions remain unanswered – not least the question of whether the heightened *focus* – in political competition – on leaders and their personal qualities has been accompanied by any growth in their actual *power*. This raises a range of closely related questions, such as: If their power *has* increased, to what extent, in seeking to understand political processes and processes of political change, must we now pay greater attention than we once did to matters of political agency as compared to matters of structure? What are the factors that account for the emergence and growth of unusually powerful party leaders? That is, what are the factors that obstruct and enhance their efforts to act as significant agents of change?

We invite papers exploring, from a single-country or a cross-national perspective, any of these themes. We are especially interested in studies of personal party leadership which could shed light on the Italian experience and the extent to which the role of an unusually powerful leader like Silvio Berlusconi represents a uniquely Italian phenomenon as opposed to being merely a rather extreme example of a more widespread, cross-national phenomenon.

However, papers that explore the foregoing themes by drawing on alternative comparisons in Western Europe are equally welcome.

Paper abstracts (circa 250 words) should be e-mailed by 15 September to: Duncan McDonnell ([duncan.mcdonnell@unito.it](mailto:duncan.mcdonnell@unito.it)) and Jim Newell ([j.l.newell@salford.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.newell@salford.ac.uk))

For more information, please visit the conference website at: <http://www.psa.ac.uk/2010/>

### **Irish Politics Group, PSA Conference 2010: Call for Papers.**

The Irish Politics Group intends to organise a number of panels at the 2010 PSA Conference, to be held in Edinburgh, 29 March-1 April. If you would like to give a paper at the conference on a subject related to Irish politics please email a proposal to Alan Greer and/or Eamonn O’Kane by **Friday 9 October**. We welcome proposed complete panels (3-4 papers) or offers of individual papers. Please include email addresses for all authors, paper titles and a brief abstract.

The Irish Politics Group is also proposing to hold a joint panel with the PSA Britishness group on issues around national identities and political allegiances in the British Isles. If you would like to submit a proposal for this panel please also copy your email to Andrew Maycock ([a.j.mycock@hud.ac.uk](mailto:a.j.mycock@hud.ac.uk)) and Jim McAuley ([j.w.mcauley@hud.ac.uk](mailto:j.w.mcauley@hud.ac.uk)).

Details about the conference can be obtained from <http://www.psa.ac.uk/2010>

### **Shifting Agendas**

#### **PSA (UK) Women & Politics Conference, February 19, 2010**

The University of Manchester, UK

Venue: Chancellors Conference Centre

Call for papers

Due November 1, 2009

The PSA (UK) Women & Politics Group, and conference organizers in Politics at The University of Manchester, invite paper abstracts for the forthcoming conference Shifting Agendas. This conference will showcase gender research from across the discipline of Politics.

Colleagues researching women & politics will be all too aware of the need to work across identity boundaries and to incorporate conceptions of intersectionality in their research whether it be in policy, institutions and party politics, international relations, Europe or feminist theory. In addition, this conference offers space to think about the placement and assessment of such research within the discipline. We welcome paper proposals within the following broad four strands:

- \* Theorizing and Operationalizing Intersectionality

- This strand highlights papers considering ‘intersectionality’ in theory, policy or practice.

- \* Conserving Feminism

- Papers could consider party positioning, ‘the women’s vote’, women in politics/political parties, institutions. In addition, papers would be welcome on the theme of generational shifts within feminism and/or feminist theory.

- \* Gender & the profession

- This strand focuses on the assessment of ‘gender research’ within the discipline.

- \* Sexuality & Politics

This strand features papers in this growing area of research from all perspectives in the discipline, including theory, policy, representation and governance.

Please send abstracts via email to the conference organizer by November 1, 2009:

Angelia Wilson, Politics, University of Manchester:

[a.r.wilson@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:a.r.wilson@manchester.ac.uk)

Keynote speakers

Paisley Currah (CUNY) and Wendy Smooth (OSU)

Registration and accommodation

Booking form

Registration deadline is January 10, 2010. Limited places – register early

If you are looking for accommodation, you can maybe stay at the

Conference Centre (Chancellors)

First come first serve basis. Booking directly through Chancellors.

<http://www.socialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/disciplines/politics/events/shiftingagendas/>

### **PSA 2010, Edinburgh: Metaphors of Reform in Europe**

PSA Comparative European Politics Specialist Group invites papers for a panel on metaphors of reform in Europe.

This panel investigates the recent foundations of the concept of reform in European polities.

The panel identifies five metaphors in the political uses of reform as a concept of change:

- Reform as a metaphor to finalise regime change and hence consolidate market economy
- Reform as a metaphor to meet the requirements of European integration (both economic and social)
- Reform as a metaphor to sustain the welfare economies of Western European states to cope up with the new economic challenges
- Reform as a metaphor to present globalisation, and hence increasing demand for economic efficiency, as a threat to the survival of European nations
- Reform as a metaphor to save future generations of European nations through improving quality of governance under the challenges of new threats to human security such as climate change, pollution, population decrease, terrorism and immigration.

In order to map out these metaphors and their impact on policy making in European polities, the panel concentrates on five variables. These are respectively actors, dilemmas, ideologies, institutions, and methods. Hence, the proposed panel offers a novel methodology to present the conceptual boundaries of the 'reform crisis' in Europe as well as determining what is meant by reform currently in Europe.

The panel raises three research questions in the context of current European politics. These are namely:

1. what makes a reform radical in contrast to moderate?
2. how can reformers guarantee trust and credibility in their reform proposals?
3. what are the budgetary and legal frameworks of reforms?

For paper proposals and ideas, please contact Dr Umut Korkut, [umut.korkut@ucd.ie](mailto:umut.korkut@ucd.ie), by 7 October 2009.

### **[POLITICS OF PROPERTY SPECIALIST GROUP](#), PSA EDINBURGH 2010**

The Political Studies Association's specialist group on the 'Politics of Property' invites proposals for panels at the forthcoming PSA conference, held in Edinburgh from 29th March-1st April 2010. The group held a successful inaugural conference at the University of Exeter

in April 2009, the papers from which will be published as a special issue of the *British Journal of Politics and International Relations* in early 2010. At PSA, we aim to run multiple panels. Proposals can address any aspect of property and papers from legal, moral, critical and historical perspectives are warmly and equally welcomed. Some of the possible themes include: property and utopia, moral issues in property transfer, 'anti-property', property before Locke, inheritance and bequest, property and the Scottish Enlightenment, the concept of ownership in libertarian and left-libertarian political theory. Proposed paper titles should be sent to the convenor of the group, Professor [Chris Pierson](#)

### **PSA 60th Annual Conference, 29 March - 1 April 2010**

#### **State Theory Specialist Group - call for papers**

##### **New Labour, the Third Way and the State**

As the Labour government appears to be moving inevitably towards ignominious defeat in the coming general election it is a good moment to re-examine the Third Way as a political ideology or philosophy and to assess New Labour's record in government.

As one of the defining features of the Third Way was its ambition to 'reconstruct' the state, papers are invited that address the general theme of 'New Labour, the Third Way and the State'

We already have three offers of papers on this theme with the following provisional titles and so hope to run at least one panel:

- Simon Blanchard - Authoritarian Statism in Britain Since the 1970s - Patterns and Contexts
- David Coates - The Third Way and the Retreat of the Radical State
- Paul Wetherly - Reconstructing the State - Is there a Third Way?

However further papers are invited with the aim of putting on a series of panels or a 'workshop' at the conference. Papers might address questions such as:

How can we make sense of New Labour in relation to the Labourist or social democratic aspiration to use state power to pursue a reformist agenda?

- To what extent has New Labour established a distinctive and durable third way model of the state?
- How far has New Labour carried forward a new Right or Thatcherite agenda in relation to the state?
- How can we understand the balance between structural or contextual factors and the third way as a political strategy in explaining the transformation of the state?

However these questions are merely indicative and not meant to preclude other papers that fit within the general theme

Please submit a title and abstract to [p.wetherly@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:p.wetherly@leedsmet.ac.uk), ideally by Oct 2 or Oct 9 at the latest

State Theory Specialist Group convenors:

Paul Wetherly

Peter Burnham

### **68th MPSA National Conference, April 22 - 25, 2010, Chicago**

Proposal Submission Deadline: October 9, 2009. [www.mpsanet.org/submitproposal](http://www.mpsanet.org/submitproposal)

Please remember to submit a proposal to present at the 2010 MPSA National Conference.

- \* More research papers are presented here than any other political science conference.
- \* Over 1,100 sessions in all subfields, many interdisciplinary.
- \* Huge exhibit hall & free job placement service for registered attendees.
- \* Everything happens in the newly restored Palmer House Hilton Chicago.

Please forward this Call for Proposals to colleagues you think may be interested.

Midwest Political Science Association

320 W 8th Street, #218

Bloomington, IN 47404

[www.mpsanet.org/submitproposal](http://www.mpsanet.org/submitproposal)

If you received this email in error, go to the URL below to unsubscribe:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fNNAgQERW32WMDzo0ILocA\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2fNNAgQERW32WMDzo0ILocA_3d_3d)

## **The Asian Conference on the Social Sciences**

**18 to 21 June 2010**

**Osaka, Japan**

ACSS 2010 Theme: East Meets West in Pursuit of a Sustainable World

For more than a decade, sustainability has emerged as a global issue for business and industry, government, and academia. Historically, sustainability has been associated with environmental concerns such as the energy crisis and global warming. Today, however, it is recognized that social/economic justice is equally important to achieving a sustainable future. Thus, issues such as poverty, hunger, education, health care, and access to markets should be a part of the evolution of any comprehensive sustainability paradigm. This conference will address these various dimensions of human sustainability. The organizers encourage submissions that approach this topic from a variety of perspectives.

The submission of other topics for consideration is also welcome within and across a variety of academic disciplines:

- \* Sociology and Geography
- \* Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural Studies and Humanities
- \* Psychology, Cognitive Science and the Behavioural Sciences
- \* Economics and Management
- \* Media and Communications
- \* Politics, Public Policy and Law
- \* Education and Social Welfare
- \* Natural, Environmental and Health Sciences
- \* Technology and Applied Sciences
- \* Research Methodologies, Quantitative and Qualitative Methods
- \* Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Gender
- \* Other

Abstracts should be 250-500 words in length and will be reviewed by a voluntary team of peer reviewers. Authors are limited to one abstract submission, whether as lead or secondary author.

Conference Chair: Professor June Henton, Dean of the College of Human Sciences, Auburn University, USA.

The deadline for abstracts/proposals is 15 January 2010.

Enquiries: [acss@iafor.org](mailto:acss@iafor.org)

Web address: <http://acss.iafor.org/>

Sponsored by: The International Academic Forum, Auburn University, California Lutheran University, University of Glasgow, Cordoba University

## **PISTA Conference**

Call for Papers/Abstracts and Invited Sessions Proposals for The 8th International Conference on Politics and Information Systems, Technologies and Applications: PISTA 2010 (June 29th - July 2nd, 2010 – Orlando, Florida, USA).

<http://www.2010iisconferences.org/PISTA>

Deadlines:

October 7th, 2009: Submission of draft papers (2000-5000), extended abstracts (400-2000) and abstracts for inter-disciplinary communication (200-600 words)

November 23th, 2009: Notifications of acceptance.

February 3rd, 2010: Submission of camera-ready or final versions of the accepted papers.

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We are emphasizing the area of Political Information which, we think, is related to your specific academic or professional area.

All Submitted papers/abstracts will go through three reviewing processes: (1) double-blind (at least three reviewers), (2) non-blind, and (3) participative peer reviews. These three kinds of review will support the selection process of those papers/abstracts that will be accepted for their presentation at the conference, as well as those to be selected for their publication in JSCI Journal.

Pre-Conference and Post-conference Virtual sessions (via electronic forums) will be held for each session included in the conference program, so that sessions papers can be read before the conference, and authors presenting at the same session can interact during one week before and after the conference. Authors can also participate in peer-to-peer reviewing in virtual sessions.

Submissions for Face-to-Face or for Virtual Participation are both accepted. Both kinds of submissions will have the same reviewing process and the accepted papers will be included in the same proceedings.

Authors of accepted papers who registered in the conference can have access to the evaluations and possible feedback provided by the reviewers who recommended the acceptance of their papers/abstracts, so they can accordingly improve the final version of their papers. Non-registered authors will not have access to the reviews of their respective submissions.

Registration fees of an effective invited session organizer will be waived according to the policy described in the web page (click on 'Invited Session', then on 'Benefits for the Organizers of Invited Sessions'), where you can get information about the ten benefits for an invited session organizer. For Invited Sessions Proposals, please visit the conference web site, or directly to <http://www.2010iisconferences.org/pista/organizer.asp>

Authors of the best 10%-20% of the papers presented at the conference (included those virtually presented) will be invited to adapt their papers for their publication in the Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics.

#### **4th Global Conference, Evil, Law and the State: Issues in State Power and Violence**

Friday 12th March - Sunday 14th March 2010 Salzburg, Austria

##### **Call for Papers**

This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference will explore issues surrounding evil and law, with a focus on state power and violence. Perspectives are sought from those engaged in any field relevant to the study of law and legal culture: anthropology, criminology, cultural studies, government/politics, history, legal studies, literature, philosophy, psychology, religion/theology, and sociology, as well as those working in civil rights, human rights, prison services, politics and government (including NGOs), psychiatry, healthcare, and other areas.

Papers, reports, work-in-progress and workshops are invited on issues related to the following themes:

- \* when and why is law evil or a source of evil?
- \* state violence and coercion
- \* enforcement of criminal law and other legal prohibitions
- \* law, citizenship, and political identity
- \* justifications for punishment, including capital punishment
- \* whether and under what circumstances the adversary or inquisitorial models of legal process generate, tolerate, or allow evil outcomes
- \* issues of equality and distributive justice in law
- \* the consequences of legal error
- \* the intersection of law with issues of choice, responsibility, and diminished responsibility
- \* state responsibility for terrorism, war, intervention, ethnic cleansing, and other problems of international law and international relations

The Steering Group particularly welcomes the submission of pre-formed panel proposals. 300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 25th September 2009. If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 5th February 2010. Abstracts should be submitted simultaneously to the Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats with the following information and in this order:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract.

Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using footnotes and any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline). We acknowledge receipt and answer to all paper proposals submitted. If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; it might be lost in cyberspace! We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

#### Organising Chairs

John Parry  
Lewis and Clark Law School  
Portland, Oregon,  
USA  
E-mail: [parry@lclark.edu](mailto:parry@lclark.edu)

Bob Brecher  
Centre for Applied Philosophy, Politics and Ethics  
Faculty of Arts, Brighton University,  
United Kingdom  
E-mail: [R.Brecher@bton.ac.uk](mailto:R.Brecher@bton.ac.uk)

Rob Fisher  
Network Founder and Leader  
Inter-Disciplinary.Net  
Freeland, Oxfordshire,  
United Kingdom  
E-mail: [els4@inter-disciplinary.net](mailto:els4@inter-disciplinary.net)

## **Teaching Sensitive Topics in the Social Sciences**

Whilst to some extent sensitive issues have always been touched on within social science subjects, teaching in these areas have developed radically over the past three decades. This has raised important questions about what it is that we teach, how we teach, about the relationship between teaching and research and about how students respond to the nature of the reality that is being examined.

This call is for papers for a special issue of EliSS (<http://www.eliss.org.uk>) to address the range of issues that shape choices and directions in teaching sensitive topics. Papers might address specific sensitive areas of teaching, define the boundaries of what we teach, the shifting conceptual and empirical agendas that influence both research and teaching on sensitive topics and some of the challenges that are coming to the fore at the present time and how we can try to respond to them.

We would welcome academic articles, practice papers, reports and material in alternative formats.

Potential contributors are encouraged to contact the editors, Dr Helen Jones ([h.jones@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:h.jones@mmu.ac.uk)) Dr Pam Lowe ([p.k.lowe@aston.ac.uk](mailto:p.k.lowe@aston.ac.uk)) to discuss ideas for submission. Papers could consider, but are not limited to, the following issues:

- The ethics of teaching sensitive subjects
  - Student/teacher relationships
  - Personal identity and experiences in the classroom
  - The impact of globalisation, internationalisation on the multi-ethnic classroom
  - Consideration of sensitive topics for example rape, terrorism, racism, sexism, religion etc
- Respondents to this call will also be invited to a 'Teaching Sensitive Topics' workshop.

**The deadline for submission of papers is: 31st January 2010**

## **Alerts**

### **2nd Global Conference Culture, Politics, Ethics**

Friday 12th March - Sunday 14th March 2010 Salzburg, Austria

#### **Call for Papers**

After a successful first conference, this inter-disciplinary project seeks papers for its second global conference. The project seeks to explore the complex and diverse interfaces of culture, politics and ethics in contemporary political life. The claims of those who insist we live in post-modernity and therefore in transformed times for political debate have significantly challenged the way we look at culture, ethics and politics. The 'cultural turn' has alternately impoverished or enriched (or both) debate around and strategies and repertoires for political intervention and ethical articulations in the public realm, and therefore led to a renewed and critical interest in the relationship between cultural life, aesthetics and political thought and action. Ethics has been retrieved from philosophical formalism and academic marginalia to the forefront of political debate with alternate claims that it is the 'last grand narrative' and the basis for thinking future particular formulations of political organisation and public life. Politics itself has shifted from a traditional focus on institutions and processed in organised systems to take concern at more disparate movement alignments in political representation and articulation within the public realm and the changed conditions and circumstances under which they have prominence.

Whilst questions of power, resistance, oppression and inclusion are still important, questions of aesthetics, performance, the affective and governance have provided a critical framework for rethinking politics.

The purpose of this project is to provide an international network and space to explore these issues and debates, and to explore them across disciplinary and domain boundaries. Hence, we are open to papers, panels or workshops on any areas of thinking where the connections between culture, politics and ethics are developed. We are particularly interested in papers, panels and workshops that transcend disciplinary and doctrinaire boundaries, seek synergies between different domains and levels of abstraction and analysis, and that seek to move forward the agenda for how we promote the understanding of and effective intervention in politics in the C21st.

The Project underpinning this conference seeks to develop a critical understanding of the intersection of culture, politics and ethics, both in the past and present, and use that insight to speculate on present and future politics. In doing so, it recognises that the interdisciplinary basis of such an analysis will take in the fields of art, cultural studies, history, literature, philosophy, politics, sociology, social theory and open avenues to wider and more diverse disciplinary connections.

Some broad indicative themes are suggested below to indicate the sorts of issues that might be addressed in conference papers and workshops.

- A. The Impact of the Cultural Turn
- B. The Ethical Turn in Contemporary Political Ideas and Action
- C. The New Politics
- D. Aesthetics and Performance
- E. The Information Age and Politics
- F. Culture/Politics/Ethics: Historical Perspectives
- G. Theories, Ideas and Culture/Politics/Ethics

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 2nd October 2009. All submissions are minimally double blind peer reviewed where appropriate.

If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a

full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 5th February 2010. Abstracts should be submitted simultaneously to the Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats with the following information and in this order:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract

Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using footnotes and any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline). We acknowledge receipt and answer to all paper proposals submitted. If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; it might be lost in cyberspace! We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

Organising Chairs

Paul Reynolds

Reader in Sociology and Social Philosophy

Centre Director, CREED,

Edge Hill University

United Kingdom

E-mail: prr@inter-disciplinary.net

Rob Fisher

Network Founder & Network Leader

Inter-Disciplinary.Net

Freeland, Oxfordshire OX29 8HR

United Kingdom

E-mail: cpe2@inter-disciplinary.net

The conference is part of the Critical Issues programme of research projects. It aims to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. All papers accepted for and presented at this conference will be eligible for publication in an ISBN eBook. Submission of selected papers may be encouraged for the new Inter-Disciplinary.Net Journal The Global Journal of Ethics in Public Life to be launched in 2010, or in a themed hard copy volume for the accompanying book series.

This project is run by Inter-disciplinary.Net in association with the Centre for Research Ethics and Ethical Deliberation (CREED) at Edge Hill University.

For further details about the project, please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/transformations/culture-politics-aesthetics/>

For further details about the conference please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/transformations/culture-politics-aesthetics/call-for-papers/>

Sponsored by: Inter-Disciplinary.Net

### **International Conference on Budget Decisions and Economic and Social Rights, Queen's University Belfast, 14-15 November 2009**

This conference on 'Economic and Social Rights and Budget Decisions' links with ongoing international efforts to develop and deepen the relationship between economic analysis and the assessment of human rights compliance. The aim of the conference is to bring together people who are doing work on monitoring state compliance with ESR obligations – with a particular focus on budget work. The conference will be international in focus, with presenters including UN experts, internationally renowned scholars and civil society practitioners. Drawing on the expertise of participants with backgrounds in law, human rights, economics and development, this multidisciplinary event will enable practitioners and

academics to share insights and experiences in order to expand and strengthen the research on budget decisions and ESR. Provisional panel topics include ‘Conceptual Issues – Linking ESR Obligations with Budget Analysis’, ‘Tracking Allocations and Expenditure’, ‘Budget Analysis and Macro Economics’, ‘Indicators’, ‘Budget Work and Litigation’ and ‘Group-specific Budget Work’.

Miloon Kothari (Former UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing)

Ann Blyberg (Executive Director, International Human Rights Internship Program, Washington DC)

Prof. Diane Elson (Human Rights Centre, University of Essex)

Martin Sigal (Director, Civil Association for Equality and Justice, Argentina)

Prof. Sigrun Skogly (University of Lancaster)

Michael Windefuhr (Brot für die Welt/Bread for the World, Germany).

For more information on the conference, including details of sessions and logistical arrangements, see

More conference information, including logistical details, is available at: <http://www.law.qub.ac.uk/schools/SchoolofLaw/Research/HumanRightsCentre/ResearchProjects/BudgetAnalysis/BudgetDecisionsandEconomicandSocialRights/>

This conference forms part of a two-year research project on ‘Budget Analysis and the Advancement of Economic and Social Rights in Northern Ireland’, which is being undertaken by a number of members of the Human Rights Centre, School of Law at Queen’s University Belfast.

Dr. Rory O’Connell

Human Rights Centre

QUB School of Law

27-29 University Square

Belfast BT7 1NN

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