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Welcome

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2013 Political Studies Association Awards Ceremony.

The Political Studies Association exists to promote the study of politics. It continues to flourish. The Association has been at the forefront for over sixty years in thinking about - and challenging - how we govern ourselves. It has almost 2,000 members, from the UK and beyond, from postgraduate students to founder members who joined in the 1950s. It runs a growing range of research groups, conferences and events, and publications - including the magazine Political Insight which brings quality politics research to a broader audience.

Among our priorities in the coming years is to ensure the study of politics remains strong in the UK. We are constantly developing our school teachers’ section to make sure politics remains a popular and lively A-Level choice, and we work hard with our colleagues across the UK to develop the skill and innovation with which politics is taught at university, ensuring it equips graduates with the skills that make them among the most sought after graduates by employers.

We also focus strongly on our research. Politics does better than most other social sciences in winning competitive research funding, and delivers more findings rated as ‘outstanding’ than most other social sciences. Politics departments have just finalised their submissions to the 2014 Excellence Framework which will assess not just the academic quality of our research, but also its impact on politics and society in the UK and beyond. We know those non-academic impacts are highly significant and underline the value of our work in challenging and shaping the policies our governments pursue, in contributing to public debates which hold those governments to account, and in these ways bringing real benefit to society in the UK.

This is the twelfth Awards Ceremony to be held by the Association. Each year the Ceremony provides an opportunity to recognise academics, journalists, campaigners and politicians who have made an exceptional contribution to the study and the practice of politics. And now we also offer prizes that showcase the exciting ways that students go about the study of politics. Thanks to all our award winners for their outstanding work in studying, analysing and practising politics.

Many thanks too to those who made this evening possible: our awards jury; our Master of Ceremonies Michael Crick; Louise Bates, Helena Djurkovic and Sandra McDonagh for organising the evening; and our sponsors Wiley-Blackwell, Routledge, SAGE and the Higher Education Academy.

A special thanks this year goes to Lord Parekh, Bhikhu Parekh, one of the UK’s finest political philosophers, and a delightful colleague. For many years Bhikhu gave support to this Awards Ceremony by serving on the jury, but also generously hosting jury meetings in the House of Lords. To mark that support it is a great pleasure to make a special award to Bhikhu this evening for his outstanding services to the Political Studies Association.

Excepting Bhikhu, none of the award decisions were easy ones; the competition in each category was strong, so many congratulations to all our winners. We hope they, and you, have a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Professor Charlie Jeffery
Chair, Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom
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Nigel Farage is Leader of the UK Independence Party, MEP for the South East of England and Co-Chair of the Europe of Freedom and Democracy Group in the European Parliament.

Born in April 1964, he was educated at Dulwich College in London before embarking on a career as a commodities broker, during which he worked for the London Metals Exchange. He initially joined the Conservative Party, but the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1992 prompted his defection and in 1993 he became one of the founding members of UKIP. He quickly became the party’s main spokesman and was elected as UKIP leader in 2006.

He resigned the leadership of the party in 2009 in order to contest the constituency of Buckingham in the 2010 General Election, where he stood against John Bercow. Although unsuccessful in his bid to unseat the newly elected Speaker, he received the highest ever number of votes for a UKIP candidate in a General Election and was re-elected as leader of the party in November 2010 following the resignation of Lord Pearson.

Farage has been an outspoken member of the European Parliament, with speeches on the Lisbon Treaty and the transfer of powers to the EU attracting huge media attention. He quickly became the party’s main spokesman and is for most people the only recognisable face of UKIP. He has made appearances on The Politics Show, Have I Got News for You and has been a panellist on BBC Question Time more often than any other politician. In 2010 he published his autobiography Fighting Bull.

Why he won:

Farage receives the Political Impact Award as he has ‘almost single-handedly led UKIP from being a fringe party to become a much more significant player with a big impact on the political agenda.’

He has transformed the fortunes of UKIP, striving to professionalise his party and attracting a broad spectrum of voters through his down to earth image and repudiation of political correctness. UKIP candidates took second place in recent by-elections in Middlesbrough, Rotherham, Eastleigh and South Shields and secured a record set of local election results in England in 2013 where it won 147 council seats and 23 per cent of the national vote.
Award Winners 2013

Parliamentarian of the Year

NATASCHA ENGEL

Natascha Engel is the Labour MP for North East Derbyshire. Elected in May 2005, her interests include youth policy, welfare rights, constitutional and parliamentary reform, energy and climate change.

Before her election to Parliament, Engel worked for the Trade Union Liaison Office, The Smith Institute, The Labour Party and Amnesty International. Engel is a Trustee of the UK Youth Parliament, working to encourage young people to participate in the democratic process. She has been a strong advocate of lowering the voting age to 16. In 2007 she was named ePolitix Children and Youth Champion and has served as Honorary President of the British Youth Council.

Engel was elected Chair of the Backbench Business Committee on its inception in June 2010 and has been re-elected in each parliamentary session thereafter. Proposed as part of the Wright Committee’s recommendations in 2010, it is the first business committee of its kind in the UK Parliament and is part of a series of wide ranging reforms designed to empower the House of Commons and rebalance its relationship with the Executive. The Committee has enhanced the ability of MPs to hold the Government to account, giving backbenchers the opportunity to bring forward debates of their choice.

Born in 1967 in Berlin, she later came to Britain and was educated at King’s College London and the University of Westminster. She has three sons.

Why she won:

As Chair of the Backbench Business Committee, Engel has helped create an important vehicle for reigning in the Executive’s control of the Parliamentary agenda. The judges felt ‘her work on behalf of backbench MPs has been extremely effective and demonstrates a real commitment to improving the quality of parliamentary debate’ and championing the rights of backbenchers.
Award Winners 2013

Lifetime Achievement in Politics

JACK STRAW

Jack Straw is Labour MP for Blackburn. Born in 1946, he grew up in Epping Forest and was educated at the University of Leeds, going on to become President of the NUS in 1969. He was called to the Criminal Bar in 1972 but entered national politics in 1974, first as political adviser to Barbara Castle and then to Peter Shaw. He was elected as MP for Blackburn in 1979, a constituency he has served ever since.


Straw retired from front bench politics in 2010, saying Labour needed a fresh start under new leadership. In November 2012 he published his autobiography, Last Man Standing, detailing his rise to high office and offering a commentary on the Blair-Brown era. Private Eye said the book was ‘just like the man himself: cautious, measured and dependable’. He has recently announced his intention to stand down as an MP at the next General Election.

Why he won:

The judges have awarded Straw the Lifetime Achievement in Politics award saying: ‘it is a recognition of his immense contribution to British politics in a range of leading roles, including taking through pioneering legislation such as the Human Rights Act 1998, and the Race Relations Act 2000.’

He has long been a popular figure in the House, commanding respect from Members of all parties.
Award Winners 2013

Policy Innovation

ANDREW SULLIVAN


In 2000 he began writing a political blog, The Daily Dish, which he launched as a subscription blog in 2013. In 2008 he was awarded the Weblog Award for best blog.

Sullivan has written extensively on a diverse range of political issues including American politics, Catholicism, civil rights, American foreign policy and gay rights. His article in New Republic magazine in 1989 saw him become the first proponent of gay marriage in the USA. Sullivan’s published work includes Virtually Normal: An Argument about Homosexuality (1995), The Conservative Soul: How We Lost It, How to Get it Back (2006) and Imitations Pursued: The Voice of Practice in the Conversation of Michael Oakenshott (2007). He has since been described as ‘the most influential political writer of his generation’.

Born in 1963, Sullivan studied at Magdalen College, Oxford before taking an MA in Public Administration from the John F Kennedy School of Government and a PhD at Harvard. He married his partner Aaron Tone in 2007.

Why he won:

The award is in recognition of his writing, work and campaigning in the area of same-sex marriage which has helped create a social revolution around much of the world.

The jury noted that the award reflects Sullivan’s ‘seminal role in the debate about same-sex marriage which has had such an impact in the UK and beyond.’
Democratic Innovation

DAVID CAMERON AND ALEX SALMOND

David Cameron was elected Prime Minister in 2010 as leader of the first coalition Government for seventy years. First elected as the Member of Parliament for Witney in June 2001, he had a meteoric rise through the Conservative Party, joining the Shadow frontbench team in 2003 and the Shadow Cabinet in 2005 as Shadow Secretary of State for Education and Skills. In December 2005 Cameron was elected Leader of the Conservative Party. He was named Politician of the Year by the PSA in 2006 and again in 2010 (jointly with Nick Clegg).

Alex Salmond is First Minister of Scotland, Leader of the Scottish National Party and represents Aberdeenshire East in the Scottish Parliament. In 2011 he made political history by returning as First Minister of Scotland with an SNP majority in what was at the time considered electorally improbable. Salmond was elected to the UK Parliament in 1987 as the MP for Banff and Buchan. He was elected leader of the SNP in 1990 and to the Scottish Parliament in 1999. In September 2000 he stood down as leader of his party, only to stand again for the leadership in 2004, winning the support of 75% of SNP members. He has been First Minister of Scotland since 2007. He received the PSA’s Politician of the Year Award in 2007 and 2011.

In 2012 Cameron and Salmond met to finalise the legalities of a referendum on Scottish independence. The resulting “Edinburgh Agreement” was signed by the two leaders on 15 October 2012 and established the legal framework for the referendum. The Scottish Referendum Bill was put forward in March of this year and is currently making its way through the Scottish Parliament. The Bill proposes that the referendum be held on 18 September 2014.

Why they won:

Their joint decision to enable a referendum on Scottish independence to be held without legal challenge in Autumn 2014 was an act of democratic confidence and maturity with few parallels in global politics. The referendum is likely to settle a question that has dominated Scottish politics for generations.

The jury agreed that ‘giving the Scottish people their say on such a fundamental question should be acknowledged and celebrated.’
Award Winners 2013

Campaigner of the Year

STELLA CREASY

Stella Creasy is the Labour Co-operative MP for Walthamstow. Born in 1977, she was educated at Magdalene College, Cambridge, where she read Social and Political Science and secured a PhD in Social Psychology from the LSE.

Before entering the House of Commons Creasy was Deputy Director of Involve, a not-for-profit organisation encouraging public involvement in public services, and more recently Head of Campaigns at The Scout Association. Between 2002 and 2006 she was a councillor for Waltham Forest, holding positions as Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Whip.

Creasy was elected to Parliament in 2010 as the MP for Walthamstow. Since her election she has been a brave and outspoken critic of the payday loan industry, highlighting the misery of those vulnerable people who are drawn into a spiral of debt from which they are unable to escape, and has led the campaign in Parliament for tighter regulation of the industry.

Why she won:

The judges awarded Campaigner of the Year to Creasy due to the vital part she has played in highlighting the iniquitous role of payday loans companies.

Her role is noteworthy partly due to the fact that she is so new to Parliament, but also ‘due to the importance of the issue to hard-pressed people and how she has helped make policy-makers sensitive to the matter.’
Award Winners 2013

Politician - Best Use of Evidence

ANDREW TYRIE

Andrew Tyrie is MP for Chichester. Born in 1957 he studied at Trinity College, Oxford, the College of Europe, Bruges and Wolfson College, Cambridge. He is a former Woodrow Wilson scholar and Fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford. Tyrie began his career with British Petroleum, went on to become Senior Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and was adviser to Nigel Lawson and John Major successively when Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Elected to Parliament at the 1997 General Election, Tyrie has served as a member of the Constitutional Affairs and Justice Select Committees. He served as Shadow Financial Secretary and Shadow Paymaster General (2003-05). Widely respected within Parliament for his economic expertise and thoughtful analysis of the structural problems within the UK economy, he was elected as Chairman of the Treasury Select Committee in May 2010. He is also Chair of the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards. His thoughtful and rigorous stewardship of the Treasury Select Committee, under which witnesses have been subjected to piercing challenge and questioning, has significantly raised its profile and made it one of the most important committees within Parliament. He is Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Extraordinary Rendition and Vice Chair of the APPG on Parliamentary Reform, further underscoring his reformist credentials.


Earlier this year The Independent labelled him ‘the most powerful backbencher in the House of Commons’. He has won The Spectator Award for Backbencher of the Year twice (2000 and 2009) and in 2011 was awarded the Select Committee Chairman of the Year Award.

Why he won:

The judges said ‘Tyrie’s effective and penetrating scrutiny of Government and other bodies on a variety of subjects, including appointments to the Financial Policy Committee, quantitative easing, fixing LIBOR, HMRC and tax compliance, PFI and the Budget proposals made him the clear choice as the winner of this award.’

As Chair of the Treasury Select Committee Tyrie has tirelessly questioned the UK’s banks, holding them to account during the financial crisis. As Chair of the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards he has worked to reform the culture and standards of the banking sector, challenging orthodoxy in the financial sector.
Award Winners 2013

Journalist of the Year

ANDREW NEIL

Andrew Neil is a journalist and broadcaster, currently with the BBC. He presents The Daily Politics, The Sunday Politics, This Week and Straight Talk With Andrew Neil. Neil was educated at Paisley Grammar School and the University of Glasgow, taking an MA in Political Economy and Political Science. Neil was Rector of the University of St Andrews from 1999 until 2002.

His career as a journalist started at the Glasgow University Guardian before he joined the Paisley Daily Express, The Economist and then The Sunday Times, which he edited from 1983 to 1994. He has also been Executive Chairman of Sky Television (bringing The Simpsons to Britain) and publisher of The Scotsman Group of newspapers. He is well known for his incisive questioning, particularly on The Daily Politics.

Neil is also Chairman of Spectator Magazines, ITP Magazines (Dubai) and World Media Rights (New York), although he once conceded to The Independent “I am a better journalist than I am a businessman”. In 1996 he published his memoirs, Full Disclosure.

Why he won:

The PSA has awarded Neil Journalist of the Year for his fresh approach to covering politics, his deep knowledge, and the way in which he consistently asks tough questions of politicians, which both illuminates and entertains.

The judges said: ‘He is, by far, the sharpest political interviewer working on TV at the moment. He is especially good at taking on conventional wisdom.’ Neil gets to the point and asks the questions the public want to hear, not accepting waffle.
Caitlin Moran is a columnist at *The Times*, a TV critic and broadcaster. At the age of 13 she won an essay competition on ‘Why I Love Books’. Two years later she won *The Observer* Young Reporter of the Year competition. She began her career as a journalist writing for *Melody Maker*. In 1992 she started broadcasting for Channel 4, co-presenting Naked City. At *The Times* Moran writes for The Saturday Magazine, the Celebrity Watch column and a television review.

In 2011 she published *How To Be A Woman*, selling over 400,000 copies and winning two Galaxy National Book Awards: Book of the Year and Popular Non-Fiction Book of the Year. Her original and witty writing style has won her numerous plaudits. She has won the British Press Awards’ Interviewer of the Year (2011), Critic of the Year (2011) and Columnist of the Year (2010). *The Observer* described her work as providing women with a ‘short, sharp, feminist manifesto’.

**Why she won:**

The judges awarded Moran the Enlightening the Public Award saying her ‘humorous, persuasive and engaging take on feminism has politicised many women (and men), challenged stereotypes and generally been a good thing for British public and political life.’

Moran has made a significant contribution to popular feminism and debate in British politics.
Award Winners 2013

Political Transparency

FULL FACT

Full Fact was established in 2008 with a three-year grant from a charitable foundation matched by a private donor. It has only had a significant web presence and staff since 2010 and has trustees from all three main parties. The core work of Full Fact is providing swift and authoritative verification of factual claims made by politicians, journalists and campaigners so that public debate can be better informed. They recognise that in medicine and science other bodies may do this, but in wide areas of social policy and social statistics (e.g. education, crime and immigration) they aim to provide quick corrections and focus as much on ensuring that happens in other institutions (newspaper correction columns for instance) as well as on their own website.

The organisation and its Director, Will Moy, have had notable successes in their short time. They have been invited to give evidence to the Leveson Inquiry, the Public Administration Select Committee’s inquiry into official statistics and run regular training for the Government Statistical Service (GSS). They have attracted attention from the broadcast and print media, including ‘live fact-checking’ one edition of the BBC’s Question Time.

Why they won:

The judges awarded Full Fact the Political Transparency Award, highlighting the way in which they have ‘systematically followed a number of policy debates and used existing machinery to try to hold politicians, civil servants and journalists to account if they move beyond legitimate interpretation to downright failure to tell the truth.’

They have reported miscreants to the Statistics Authority, resulting in a number of official reprimands, and engaged with papers such as the Daily Mail, which has helped lead to the Mail’s first corrections column. In general they have tried to ensure that they do not just run a fact-checking blog, but use whatever levers they can find to hold people to account. They have made important strides in ensuring public debate is based on fact rather than fiction.
Award Winners 2013

Special Recognition Award

PROFESSOR PATRICK DUNLEAVY

Patrick Dunleavy is Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at the London School of Economics. Born in 1952, he read Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Corpus Christi College, Oxford before completing a DPhil at Nuffield College, Oxford. He began his academic career at Nuffield, as a Junior Research Fellow, and joined the LSE as Lecturer in 1979 following a brief period as Lecturer for the Open University. He was promoted to Reader in 1986 and Professor in 1989. His research interests lie in the areas of public choice theory, electoral systems, voting behaviour and party competition as well as government and institutional analysis, new public management and urban politics.


An advocate of greater academic engagement in public life and proponent of the power of new media, he was the leading force behind the creation of the LSE British Politics and Policy and the European Politics and Policy (EUROPP) blogs. His contribution and dedication to the LSE’s blogs has put them among the most widely read blogs in political science.

He has contributed to a series of reports on E-government for the National Audit Office and on communicating with customers for the Department of Work and Pensions. Recognized internationally as an expert on electoral systems, he has been consulted on new electoral systems in both the UK and overseas.

Why he won:

The judges chose Patrick Dunleavy for the Special Recognition Award because of his ‘unrelenting commitment to stressing the relevance of political science to real world politics.’

Dunleavy has an outstanding publications record across a diverse range of political science and his commitment to dissemination of his findings has ensured that they have a genuine impact on public life.
Awards Winners 2013

Sir Isaiah Berlin Prize for Lifetime Contribution to Political Studies

JONI LOVENDUSKI

One of the foremost academics of her generation, Joni Lovenduski is Anniversary Professor of Politics at Birkbeck College, University of London. She was Professor of Politics at Southampton University (1995-2000), Vice Chair of the European Consortium for Political Research (2000-03) and a member of the Research Council of the European University Institute (2003-08). Her research focuses on gender and political representation.

Lovenduski is a Fellow of the British Academy, Chair of the Editorial Board of Political Quarterly and a member of the editorial boards of British Politics, The British Journal of Political Science, The European Political Science Review and French Politics. She is European convener of the European Science Foundation-funded Research Network on Gender and the State. She has acted as consultant on Gender and Politics for UNECE, the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

Her publications include Feminizing Politics (2005), State Feminism and Political Representation (2005), Women at the Top (2005), Gender and Political Participation (2004) and Contemporary Feminist Politics (1993). In 2007 and 2009 she won respectively the PSA Special Recognition Award for her contribution to political studies and the Gender and Politics Award of the ECPR Standing Group on Gender and Politics.

Why she won:

Lovenduski was selected for this award in recognition of ‘her lifelong commitment to improving women’s representation at Westminster and for her pioneering collaborative work on exploring state feminism, bridging the gap between the study of British politics and gender.’

She has been inspirational, especially to female scholars and has mentored many younger scholars.
Political Studies Communicator

PROFESSOR DANNY DORLING

Born in 1968, Danny Dorling was educated at the University of Newcastle, taking a bachelor’s degree in Geography, Mathematics and Statistics and a doctorate in the Visualization of Spatial Social Structure. He worked as a fellow of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the British Academy between 1991 and 1996, before joining the University of Bristol. He was appointed Professor of Human Geography at the University of Leeds in 2000 and moved to the University of Sheffield in 2003.

In 2013 Dorling became Halford Mackinder Professor of Geography at the University of Oxford. Much in demand internationally, he is, in addition, Visiting Professor at the Department of Sociology, Goldsmiths, University of London, Visiting Professor at the School of Social and Community Medicine, University of Bristol and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Canterbury, New Zealand.

Best known for the innovative mapping techniques he uses to bring issues of social, economic and political inequality into stark visual relief, most notably through worldmapper.org, he has successfully communicated his research beyond traditional academic circles into broader public consciousness. He is also author of 28 books and many more edited volumes, Unequal Health: The Scandal of our Times (2013) and The No Nonsense Guide to Equality (2011).

Why he won:

Through a variety of media, including newspapers and television, Dorling has drawn the public’s attention to the extent of social injustice and inequality in Britain and the wider world. The judges highlighted his ‘creative use of a variety of presentational methods to help explain complex political phenomena in an accessible way.’
Award Winners 2013

Innovation in Teaching Politics

PROFESSOR PHILIP COWLEY AND MARK STUART

Philip Cowley is Professor of Parliamentary Government at the University of Nottingham. He is best known for his extensive work on backbench dissent in the House of Commons and running the Revolts website with colleague Mark Stuart, which challenges conventional wisdom of a Golden Age of independence among MPs. He is passionate about public engagement and has been described by The Guardian as a rare scholar with the ability to penetrate ‘beyond the academy and into public consciousness’. Cowley’s publications include Revolts and Rebellions (2002), The Rebels: How Blair Mislaid His Majority (2005) and The British General Election of 2010 (2010). His forthcoming work on rebellions in the last Labour government, In The Brown Stuff? Labour Backbench Dissent Under Gordon Brown, is due to be published in 2014.

Mark Stuart is Lecturer in Political Science at the University of Nottingham. His research interests lie primarily in two areas of political science: the voting behaviour of MPs in the House of Commons and political biography. He founded the Revolts website with Professor Philip Cowley in 2004. Stuart has published extensively on divisions in the House of Commons and has written two political biographies: Douglas Hurd: The Public Servant (1998) and John Smith: A Life (2005). He contributes to the Dictionary of National Biography and writes a monthly column in the Yorkshire Post.

Why they won:

Cowley and Stuart have devised and teach a practice-based third year undergraduate module on Parliament which brings in parliamentary practitioners to work directly with students. As part of the module, they use a role play exercise to explain the role of the whips in achieving cohesion, using a real life (former) Chief Whip in the exercise. Jacqui Smith acts as Chief Whip, and controls a small group of students pretending to be junior whips. The rest of the students are given roles to play, and have to negotiate with the whips as best they can to achieve their goals. The module also includes visiting speakers such as the Speaker, John Bercow, and an annual field trip to Westminster. It is an extremely popular course and attracts a large number of students.

The judges commented that the module ‘has shown how innovation in teaching can lead to more in-depth learning.’
The British Election Study continues to be a key feature of the landscape of British political studies. Instigated by David Butler and Donald Stokes from Nuffield College, Oxford, in 1963, the British Election Study has been repeated and extended at every successive General Election since 1964, in the process accumulating over 45 years’ of data and enabling analysts to identify and chart long-term trends among voters. Funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, its purpose is to study long term trends in voting behaviour and to explain election outcomes, turnout and party choice through the detailed analysis of survey data. It has led to major advances in the understanding of electoral behaviour in the UK and has been replicated in many countries across the world.

Some of the foremost political scientists in the UK have participated in the British Election Study over the course of the last five decades. Ivor Crewe, Bo Saarlvik and Jim Alt at Essex University ran the study from 1974-83 and Anthony Heath, John Curtice and Geoff Evans at Nuffield College, Oxford from 1983-97. The 2001, 2005-06 and 2009-10 British Election Studies were once again undertaken by a team at the University of Essex (Professor David Sanders and Professor Paul Whiteley) and the University of Texas at Dallas (under Professor Harold Clarke and Professor Marianne Stewart). The team made use of face to face interviews and panel surveys to focus on the key issues of party choice, political participation, campaign dynamics and inter-election dynamics of public opinion and party support.

The British Election Study for 2015 is based at Manchester University and includes Professor Ed Fieldhouse, Professor Jane Green and Professor Hermann Schmitt as well as Professor Geoff Evans (Oxford) and Professor Cees van der Eijk (Nottingham).

The study has collected a vast set of data and contributed to an extensive list of publications with a book length report being published after each election. These include Political Change in Britain: Forces Shaping Electoral Choice (Butler & Stokes 1969), The British Electorate 1963 - 1992 (Crewe et al 1995) and more recently Affluence, Austerity and Electoral Change in Britain (Sanders et al 2013). David Butler wrote or co-authored every Nuffield election history from 1945 to 2005. The Guardian described the data produced over the years as being ‘the most trustworthy and comprehensive guide to British life available between hard covers’.

Why they won:

The British Election Study was selected by the judges due to its ‘contribution to our understanding of British politics over decades and the development of outstanding data that will benefit generations of researchers to come.’

The BES teams have undertaken fine, accurate and innovative work which now includes the use of large scale internet surveys in addition to traditional face-to-face interviews.
Award Winners 2013

W.J.M. Mackenzie Book Prize

‘Decentralization and Popular Democracy: governance from below in Bolivia’

BY DR JEAN-PAUL FAGUET

Jean-Paul Faguet is Reader in the Political Economy of Development at the London School of Economics. Educated at Princeton University, he studied for an MA in Public Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government and completed his PhD at the LSE (2002). Faguet was appointed Lecturer in Political Economy of Development at the LSE in 2002 and was promoted to Reader in 2010, where he is Programme Director of the MSc in Development Management.

His research interests are in decentralisation and local governance including the relationship between civil society and public sector effectiveness and how civic cooperation can degenerate into social conflict. Faguet has published extensively in this area and his book Decentralization and Popular Democracy: Governance from Below in Bolivia was published in 2012. Prior to his academic career he worked for the World Bank (1991-1994), for whom he has authored numerous policy reports.

Faguet is Chair of the Decentralization Task Force, part of the Joseph Stiglitz Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, and sits on the Editorial Board of the Journal of South Asian Studies.

Why he won:

The judges said: ‘The book is an outstanding and exemplary piece of research that teaches us how properly devolving power and money leads local government to be more responsive to local interests. The book makes both a major theoretical contribution regarding the impacts of federalism and decentralisation and conducts a thorough evaluation of a major programme of decentralisation in Bolivia.

The theory is driven by a clear and sensible intuition that decentralisation should lead to diversity between local authorities because of different local political pressures. This is fully developed in a formal rational choice model. The empirical analysis is a rare combination of both excellent quantitative and qualitative analysis, involving a mixture of econometric analysis of local government spending over time and comprehensive ethnographic fieldwork on the workings of local government in various districts. The fieldwork is particularly striking for the effort involved in studying difficult to reach places and in revisiting locations ten years apart, before and after the decentralisation. The research is all the more effective for such a breadth of method and thorough analysis.’
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