The PSA Annual International Conference took place at the Nottingham Conference Centre at Nottingham Trent University on 15 – 17 April 2019. Around 800 participants attended from across the world, including academics at all stages of the profession, politicians and practitioners. Participants presented the latest politics-related research across 500 papers and 300 panels whilst also exploring the conference theme of ‘(Un)Sustainable Politics in a Changing World’.

The highly attuned conference programme reflected the national and international political issues of the day though expert-led plenaries, two inspiring keynotes, lively panel discussions, and a variety of events. The academic programme was supplemented with publishing workshops, PSA Early Career Network and Specialist Group-related activities as well as mental health and wellbeing activities.

continued on page 3

Kamal Ahmed
ASSOCIATION NEWS

Stimulating discussions and inspiring lectures at the PSA Annual International Conference 2019 1
Note from the Chair 1
A big welcome to the PSA’s new CEO Michelle Doyle Wildman! 3
The next generation of political scientists shine at our Undergraduate Conference 5
Scholars and Specialist Groups honoured at this year’s Academic Prizes Award Ceremony 6
PSA welcomes new Administrator Robert Rogers 8
PSA Invites Theme Proposals for “What’s Happening...?” 2020 8
Join us this fall in celebrating UK Parliament Week 9
We need you! PSA call for school resources 9
New Trustees 9
Applications are now open for the PSA-Parliament PhD internship programme 2019/2020 10

ECN Member-Led Events Grant 15
Marketing Liberalism 15
Media and Politics Group Reception 16
Nominations Invited for The American Politics Group’s 2019 Richard E. Neustadt Book Prize 17
PSA Group Convenor Guest Lecture at Oxford University 17

JOURNALS

And the Politics ‘Best Article’ prize goes to 18

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary 19
PSA Departmental Leadership Conference 20
Call for Papers: Marketing liberalism in an age of populism 20
PSA Annual Awards 20

SCHOOLS

This year’s PSA Student Video Competition 2019 is NOW OPEN! 21
Exciting Opportunities for Politics Teachers 21
Politics Teachers explore the topic 'Parliament, Politics... Parties’ during our Specialist Seminar Day 22
Demystifying undergraduate politics programmes with our 'Applying to Study Politics’ workshops 23
Applications now open for PSA School Grant 23

MEET THE TRUSTEES

Meet the trustees: Fiona Mackay (Honorary Secretary) 24

DEPARTMENT AND MEMBER NEWS

MSc International Economic & Social Justice 12
Annual PSA Conservatism Studies Workshop, University of Hull 12
Call for Papers – ‘Ancient Rhetoric and Contemporary Society’ 13
City Lit launches new Politics programme! 14

PSA COMMUNITIES

2019 Rosamund Davies Memorial Research Travel Fellowship 14
PSA Teaching and Learning Network holds first events at PSA Annual Conference 15

OBITUARY

John Peterson – In Memoriam 11

Editorial Information

Editor
Nicole Johnson
Email: nicole.johnson@psa.ac.uk

Political Studies Association
Elizabeth Meenan Suite
Regent House - Unit 2
Pratt Mews
London NW1 0AD
Tel: 020 7321 2545
Email: info@psa.ac.uk
Membership: 01787 221026
Email: membership@psa.ac.uk

Chief Executive Officer:
Michelle Doyle Wildman
Registered Charity No. 1071825;
Registered Company with limited liability in England and Wales, No. 3628986
To advertise in this Newsletter, please contact
info@psa.ac.uk

Design
Doug MacKay
Deeson Publishing
deezon-publishing.co.uk
services for members, we aim to make your investment in us be returned to you with abundant resources, events and opportunities. With the introduction of new membership categories, this challenges us to meet the needs of established higher education academics, early career researchers, retired members, undergraduates, as well as HE, A-Level and GCSE teachers and schools. Many of our members may equate the PSA with the Annual Conference. As these pages attest, it is an impressive event attracting around 800 international academics. But there are mini-versions of the like-minded gathering throughout the year: the Annual Undergraduate Conference, Joint International Teaching & Learning Conference, Departmental Leadership Conference, joint teacher training with Parliamentary Education Service, and that list doesn’t include the activities of the 50+ Specialist Groups!

As a charity, we also provide services to the wider public in the form of schools outreach programmes, ‘Studying Politics’ events across the country for GCSE/A-Level students, the British Library Lecture Series and weekly blogs by experts on hot topics in politics. In addition, we aim to act as a conduit to connect our members’ research expertise with Parliament and Whitehall as well as with the media through media briefings and Total Exposure. Finally, we try to keep our finger on the pulse of good practice in Equality & Diversity, collaboration with other learned societies, and, of particular importance lately, developments in the publishing industry.

Occasionally, things don’t go exactly to plan. For example, the launch of our new website hasn’t been ideal – despite the heroic efforts of our staff. To those of you who found yourselves unable to access your membership benefits for a few days or those who have struggled to navigate the system, we thank you for your patience. The tidying up of “Phase 2” of the website will be completed shortly and hopefully glitches will be a thing of the past. Over the summer we will be heading into the final stages of the website design which includes a new experts directory function and a revamped ‘search’ function. Have faith! We will get this ------ done!

Occasionally, things DO go according to plan. The trustees have prioritised ensuring the financial security for the organisation through income diversification. When thinking about the ideal CEO, we took a leaf from the wider charity sector who are perhaps more accustomed than learned societies to aspects of financial flexibility and the necessity of entrepreneurship. We are very excited to have Michelle Doyle Wildman in the driver’s seat from 17 June. As an experienced CEO, with a background in communications and the legislative processes of Whitehall, we believe she will provide excellent leadership for the staff team and for the organisation as a whole. It may prove beyond my abilities to artistically capture all the PSA spinning plates in a computer generated PowerPoint. But if I do, underneath each plate will be a talented group of staff, trustees and volunteers. I’m looking forward to planning another exciting academic year ahead!

Want to help? Let me know at chair@psa.ac.uk.

A BIG WELCOME TO THE PSA’S NEW CEO MICHELLE DOYLE WILDMAN!

By Nicole Johnson

We’re pleased to welcome Michelle Doyle Wildman to the PSA as our new Chief Executive Officer. Michelle brings over 25 years’ experience of leading teams, public affairs and stakeholder engagement.

Upon Michelle’s appointment, the PSA’s Chair, Professor Angelia Wilson (University of Manchester), said:

“Michelle has the perfect blend of leadership skills, knowledge and entrepreneurial drive to lead the PSA in addressing the challenges and opportunities facing the sector.

“There was a significant, high-quality response to our CEO recruitment campaign. Michelle impressed us enormously with her leadership experience and ideas for taking the PSA forward. I am really looking forward to working in partnership with her to realise the PSA’s strategic goals.”

Prior to joining the PSA, Michelle worked at Parentkind in May 2015 as its Policy and Communications Director and has been the charity’s Acting CEO since May 2017. In this capacity, she has spoken and written widely on leadership and education and was recognised as an Inspiring Communicator at the 2018 CharityComms awards.

On her appointment, Michelle said:

“I am absolutely delighted to join the Political Studies Association as its Chief Executive. Whether it is through publications, events or online, I am so impressed with the richness of what the PSA provides its members and wider society to further the vital study and application of political thinking. I am looking forward to playing my part in seeing the PSA go from strength to strength.”

Michelle previously held senior roles at the Environment Agency and South East Water. She is also an accredited practitioner and member of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations as well as being a member of ACEVO.

Please join us in welcoming Michelle to the PSA!
ASSOCIATION NEWS

Stimulating discussions and inspiring lectures at the PSA Annual International Conference 2019 continued from page 1

BOY’S DON’T ALWAYS HAVE TO BOYS

Internationally renowned scholar Professor Cynthia Enloe wowed the conference with a keynote entitled ‘Boy’s Don’t Always Have to Boys: The Local and Global Politics of Exposing and Challenging Patriarchal Impunity’. In it she examined how patriarchal systems inform behaviours of those in combat. In particular she explained how institutional and cultural politics of ‘boys will be boys’ can be both challenged and transformed. A full recording of her address can be found on the PSA’s website and YouTube.

RT HON JOHN BERCOW MP ON ‘POLITICS IN AN ANTI-POLITICS AGE’

Keynote speaker Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, reflected on ‘Politics in an Anti-Politics Age’. He argued that the turbulent political landscape and debates over Brexit has actually encouraged and enhanced the public understanding of Parliament. A full recording of his keynote lecture can be found on the PSA’s website and YouTube.

KAMAL AHMED Q&A SESSION

At the Annual Conference Dinner, Kamal Ahmed, Editorial Director of BBC News, offered an inside look at the news in an informative Q&A session. In this lively after-dinner discussion, he provided wide-ranging insights on the challenges and responses facing the media in how to effectively communicate information from across the world.

EXPLAINING BREXIT

‘Explaining Brexit: Known Knowns and Unanticipated Consequences’ is clearly not an easy task! Opening the conference, this panel featured practitioners and policymakers alongside academic experts, including Jill Rutter (Institute for Government) and the Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP.

DIVERSE VOICES

Plenary session ‘PSA Diverse Voices Doctoral Scholarships and Strengthening Academia’ featured Professor Karen Salt of the University of Nottingham. The discussion outlined plans for the PSA’s Diverse Voices doctoral scholarship fund and addressed how aspirations for a more inclusive profession should also be complemented by organisational outreach to address structural barriers in education and the curriculum.
CAN ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTIONS STILL BE LEADERS IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY?

Tackling the conference theme of (Un)Sustainable Politics, Natalie Bennett (Green Party), Corli Pretorius (UN Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre) and Kirsty Schneeberger MBE (ClientEarth) were joined by Dr Marit Hammond (Keele University) and Dr Paul Tobin (University of Manchester) for this panel discussion on environmental institutions. Together, they discussed how the current uncertain political landscape is affecting institutions’ abilities to lead on urgent environmental challenges.

IS IT TIME TO LOWER THE VOTING AGE TO 16?

Lillian Greenwood MP joined representatives from national and local youth organisations for a pre-conference public event focused on lowering the voting age to 16. Sponsored by the PSA Young People’s Politics Specialist Group and the Leverhulme Trust-funded ‘Lowering the Voting Age in the UK’ project, the discussion attracted students, politically engaged citizens, community activists as well as PSA Conference attendees.

THANK YOU!

The PSA was delighted to work with the conference convenors, Dr Marianna Poberezhskaya and Dr Imad El-Anis of Nottingham Trent University. We wish to recognise them for their commitment and enthusiasm, which contributed enormously to making the conference such a success.

THE NEXT GENERATION OF POLITICAL SCIENTISTS SHINE AT OUR UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE

By Matt Wood

The PSA’s 2019 Undergraduate Conference had record attendance with over 70 students from over 20 universities. Hosted just before the main PSA Annual Conference, there was a buzz in the air for this pre-PSA warm-up event at Nottingham Trent University. The PSA would like to offer our whole-hearted thanks to organiser Dr Francesca Silvestri (Nottingham Trent).

We invited students to present their dissertation projects and had some incredibly high quality, polished talks with excellent, original data. Panels and papers covered a range of topics across the breadth of political studies, for example gender and feminism, security, global warming, terrorism, and electoral politics.

Students were treated to a charismatic plenary lecture on Euroscepticism from public opinion specialist Prof Cees van der Eijk. In addition, a popular panel on careers in politics featured current PhD and MA students as well as professionals working in parliament and polling firms.

This year’s conference showed just how keen undergraduates are to get involved with the PSA. There was a lot of interest in potentially writing for the PSA’s blog and signing up our new £10 undergraduate membership.

Next year we hope to invite departments to make the Undergraduate Conference a part of their dissertation modules, to give our best students the chance to see what it’s like presenting at an academic event.

Thanks to the PSA staff for organising another successful PSA Annual International Conference!
SCHOLARS AND SPECIALIST GROUPS HONOURED AT THIS YEAR’S ACADEMIC PRIZES AWARD CEREMONY

By Rosie Inman

The PSA Annual International Conference Dinner in Nottingham was a night of (academic) star-studded celebration, as we recognised the very best of the discipline during the PSA Annual Academic Prizes ceremony. We received many exceptional nominations, providing our esteemed judging panels with a difficult job indeed!

CAREER PRIZES
Joni Lovenduski Prize for outstanding professional achievement by a mid-career scholar.

Winner: Nic Cheeseman, University of Birmingham

Richard Rose Prize for an early-career scholar who has made a distinctive contribution to British Politics

Winner: Chris Hanretty, Royal Holloway

DISSERTATION PRIZES
Walter Bagehot Prize for best dissertation in the field of government and public administration

Winner: James Weinberg, University of Sheffield - “The Personal Side of Politics: A Study of Basic Human Values in the UK Parliament”

Lord Bryce Prize for best dissertation in the field of comparative politics

Winner: Fanni Toth, University of Nottingham - “The transformative power of Europe reconsidered: Euroscepticism, Europhilia and democratisation in Europe’s periphery”

Shirin M Rai Prize for best dissertation in the field of international relations


Arthur McDougall Prize for best dissertation in the field of elections, electoral systems and representation

Winner: Katerina Tertychnyayam, University of Oxford - "Shocks, the State, and Support Under Electoral Authoritarianism"
ASSOCIATION NEWS

GROUP PRIZES
Politics Society of the Year Award
Winner: Sussex Politics Society

Specialist Group of the Year Award
Winners: Greek Politics and German Politics Specialist Groups
Honourable mentions were awarded to the following Specialist Groups:
Women and Politics SG
Conservatism Studies SG
Participatory and Deliberative Democracy SG

ARTICLE PRIZES
Harrison Prize for best article published in Political Studies
Winner: “Populism and the Erosion of Horizontal Accountability in Latin America” by Saskia Ruth

BOOK PRIZE
Mackenzie Book Prize for best book published in political science
Winner: “Muslim Women and Power: Political and Civic Engagement in European Societies” by Danièle Joly and Khursheed Wadia

TEACHING PRIZES
Innovations in Teaching Politics (Group) Award
Winners: The teaching team of the “Global Politics of Sex and Gender” course at the University of Edinburgh (Meryl Kenny, Fiona Mackay, Claire Duncanson)

Bernard Crick Prize for outstanding teaching (new entrant)
Winner: Ben Whitham, De Montford University

NOT PICTURED
Ernest Barker Prize for best dissertation in the field of political theory
Winner: Maxime Lepoutre, University of Oxford - “Democratic speech in divided times”

Elizabeth Wiskemann Prize for best dissertation in the field of inequality and social justice
Winner: Nina Yancy, University of Oxford - “Class along the Color Line: Racial Politics, Local Geography, and White Preferences in Modern America”

Jennie Lee Prize for outstanding teaching (main entrant)
Winner: Fella Allum, University of Bath

Politics Article Prize

BJPR Article Prize
Winner: “Sheltering the president from blame: Drone strikes, media assessments and heterogeneous responsibility 2002–2014” by Graeme A.M Davies, Marcus Schulzke and Thomas Almond

Many thanks to everyone who submitted a nomination – and congratulations to all our winners!
ASSOCIATION NEWS

PSA WELCOMES NEW ADMINISTRATOR ROBERT ROGERS

The PSA wishes to welcome Robert Rogers as our new Administrator. Prior to joining the PSA, Robert worked at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as a Support Officer within the Africa Directorate. Robert holds a BA in History from the University of Central Lancashire.

It is also with great sadness that our interim Administrator Rachel Prout leaves us at the beginning of this month as she relocates to Spain. We wish her all the best for the future.

Thank you to this year’s PSA Annual Conference and Undergraduate Conference student helpers!

PSA INVITES THEME PROPOSALS FOR “WHAT’S HAPPENING...?” 2020

By Rosie Inman

Got a big idea for an event on a political hot topic? The PSA is accepting proposals for its annual “What’s Happening...?” Specialist Groups event. Each year “What’s Happening...?” brings together academics, policy-makers, politicians, the media, and the interested general public to unravel a topic that’s had the nation talking.

Now entering its third year, previous iterations have focused on the rise of populist movements across Western Europe and the US, as well as whether Brexit spells the break-up of the United Kingdom.

The discussion is opened by a panel of academics (representing a selection of the PSA’s Specialist Groups) and chaired by a leading journalist (including Michael Crick and Stephen Bush) and then opened to audience discussion/Q&A.

We are now inviting members to submit proposals for the theme of the next “What’s Happening...?” event, due to be held in January 2020 at the British Academy, London.

The theme should be a hot topic with relevance across multiple PSA Specialist Groups.

If you are interested, please get in touch with Rosie.Inman@psa.ac.uk to discuss further.
ASSOCIATION NEWS

WE NEED YOU! PSA CALL FOR SCHOOL RESOURCES

By Jamie Roberts

Struggling to find creative ways to meet your department’s social responsibility, E&D and widening participation goals? The PSA can help! Departments and individual academics can now share their lectures with our PSA school community.

If you audio capture your lectures, consider sharing one or two with the PSA to serve as a resource for A-Level teachers and students. The lecture will be tagged with your university logo and promote your department.

We are specifically looking for content to supplement the study of politics around topics related to the A-level curriculum. These include feminism, conservatism, liberalism, global politics, politics of the UK and politics of the USA.

The most appropriate content will most likely be an introductory first-year, or perhaps second year, lecture of approximately 50 minutes.

But wait! There’s more!! You can receive free registration to the PSA’s upcoming Annual Conference, taking place in Edinburgh in April 2020 — simply provide us with a one-page study guide to accompany the audio capture.

For more information or to submit content please contact our Development Officer for Teaching and Learning via jamie.roberts@psa.ac.uk

NEW TRUSTEES

The PSA is pleased to announce that three new Trustees have been elected to our Executive Committee, which is responsible for setting the overall policy and direction of the Association.

The following members will be joining the PSA Executive Committee as new trustees for a three-year term from June 2019 to June 2022:

- Prof Fiona Mackay (Honorary Secretary)*
- Dr Stuart Wilks-Heeg
- Dr Andy Mycock

In May, five candidates stood for election to the PSA’s Executive Committee of Trustees: two for Honorary Secretary and three for the two open Trustee positions. Following three weeks of campaigning, 429 votes were cast, and the outcome of the election has been verified by the Returning Officer, Paul Tobin. We are grateful to everyone who ran for election. We would like to also thank every member who took the time to vote.

For the full results of the election please contact Paul Tobin at Paul.Tobin@manchester.ac.uk.

Elections to the Executive Committee take place on a rolling basis, and so we invite members to consider running in the 2020 election next spring.

JOIN US THIS FALL IN CELEBRATING UK PARLIAMENT WEEK

By Jamie Roberts

UK Parliament Week will take place 2-8 November 2019. For the first time ever, the PSA is proud to be a formal partner in this fantastic initiative!

UK Parliament Week (UKPW) is an annual festival that engages people from across the UK with their Parliament. For more information visit www.ukparliamentweek.org

As a partner of UKPW we’re looking to host and promote events happening during the festival as well as create partner stories to share with students and communities from across the country. You can read our introductory blog now on the UKPW website!

We want to get as many politics departments involved in UKPW so if you’re running an event or initiative, we want to hear about it - we can publicise your efforts via a blog or social media.

In addition to promoting events that are happening, we’re looking to co-brand events across the UK. The PSA is offering a small number of grants to politics departments who are planning on running events with widening participation schools in their area for UKPW. Hurry these grants are first come, first served!

For more information on how to get involved with UKPW please contact our Development Officer for Teaching and Learning via jamie.roberts@psa.ac.uk

Committee of Trustees: two for Honorary Secretary and three for the two open Trustee positions. Following three weeks of campaigning, 429 votes were cast, and the outcome of the election has been verified by the Returning Officer, Paul Tobin. We are grateful to everyone who ran for election. We would like to also thank every member who took the time to vote.

For the full results of the election please contact Paul Tobin at Paul.Tobin@manchester.ac.uk.

Elections to the Executive Committee take place on a rolling basis, and so we invite members to consider running in the 2020 election next spring.

JOIN US THIS FALL IN CELEBRATING UK PARLIAMENT WEEK

By Jamie Roberts

UK Parliament Week will take place 2-8 November 2019. For the first time ever, the PSA is proud to be a formal partner in this fantastic initiative!

UK Parliament Week (UKPW) is an annual festival that engages people from across the UK with their Parliament. For more information visit www.ukparliamentweek.org

As a partner of UKPW we’re looking to host and promote events happening during the festival as well as create partner stories to share with students and communities from across the country. You can read our introductory blog now on the UKPW website!

We want to get as many politics departments involved in UKPW so if you’re running an event or initiative, we want to hear about it - we can publicise your efforts via a blog or social media.

In addition to promoting events that are happening, we’re looking to co-brand events across the UK. The PSA is offering a small number of grants to politics departments who are planning on running events with widening participation schools in their area for UKPW. Hurry these grants are first come, first served!

For more information on how to get involved with UKPW please contact our Development Officer for Teaching and Learning via jamie.roberts@psa.ac.uk
APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE PSA-PARLIAMENT PHD INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2019/2020

By Jamie Roberts and Adeola Eleyae

Looking for real-world experience working at Westminster? The PSA is now accepting applications for its joint initiative between the PSA and House of Commons Committee Office. Each year, we provide this fantastic opportunity to PSA members currently studying toward their PhD.

Successful candidates will be placed either within a team of staff supporting a specific Select Committee or in the Scrutiny Unit during the academic year 2019-20. For more information on the application process visit our website.

Why apply for this programme? One of our successful applicants, Adeola Eleyae (Kings College London), spoke to us about the internship:

"I am a PhD Student at Kings College London, researching the nature of the constitutional role of Parliament when it scrutinizes legislation. An internship in parliament presented the perfect opportunity to observe parliamentary scrutiny first hand and develop my research skills.

The experience was invaluable. Being embedded in the Home Affairs committee gave me a privileged vantage point into many aspects of my research. In addition to gaining extensive knowledge about committee work, I gained an understanding of many aspects of parliamentary procedures and processes. It also gave me insight into the nuances of political life in Westminster. The almost collegiate working culture of committees, which are unwhipped, was distinctly different from the adversarial approach an outside observer would normally associate with parliamentary proceedings. I also became aware that there is change afoot, with extensive efforts being made to make scrutiny more open and relevant. Another revelatory aspect was the overlap between different committees’ work and the pace and scope of the committee work.

I was fortunate to work in the thick of what has been described as the most significant political events in recent history. With the Speaker of the House of Commons having now indicated that “The idea that parliament is going to be evacuated for the centre stage of debate on Brexit is simply unimaginable,” the change in leadership in the Conservative party and the revised Brexit date there is no better time to do an internship in parliament. I would strongly encourage anyone who wants to gain a deep understanding of how our parliamentary democracy works to take the opportunity. Not least because during the internship you also develop the skills required by all researchers which are not so easily acquired in a strictly academic environment, including influence and leadership, impact, and public engagement.”
A cruel fate has taken John Peterson much too early and much too abruptly. He was a fine scholar at the height of his professional engagement and still overflowing with plans for further contributions as a teacher, as a scholar and by way of collegial service. John came to the UK from his native United States in 1986 and studied for a PhD in the Department of Government at LSE. As his career developed, he gained experience across the British university landscape, settling eventually in Scotland, first in Glasgow and then in Edinburgh, where he made his home with his family. He was immensely proud of his talented partner, Elizabeth Bomberg, both wife and colleague. He was also immensely proud of his two sons, Calum and Miles.

John always performed on all cylinders and was one of those people who behave as if there are 10 days in the week and 30 hours in the day. His commitment to teaching was unstinting whether introducing undergraduates to their programmes or supporting doctoral students through their PhD tunnels in search of light and a promising career. As a group of former students and teaching assistants from the College of Europe has written: ‘John was a wonderfully engaging and enthusiastic teacher and colleague, and a charismatic and generous personality who motivated and inspired us all’.

John’s research range was diverse but with a core focus on European integration, its internal and external consequences, and a second theme of transatlantic relations. He will be remembered inter alia for the magisterial volume on Decision-Making in the European Union (1999), co-authored with Elizabeth Bomberg — how frustrating for us that his most recent project was to update and revise that study. His publications ranged between the more theoretical — policy network analysis — and the scrupulously empirical — both institutional and policy case studies. Much of this research was conducted and published with colleagues and former students, collaboration being a constant feature of his career along with generous mentoring of junior colleagues.

John’s commitment to the wider research community was persistent. He served a term as joint editor of the Journal of Common Market Studies, the premier journal in the field of European studies. The many authors and would-be authors who experienced his editorial pen will recall his insistence on the highest achievable quality of analysis and his determination to demonstrate that the field of European studies had to be taken very seriously. His appetite for journal editing more recently extended to his role as Editor-in-Chief of the British Journal of Politics and International Relations. Colleagues at Edinburgh praise John’s role across the range of university activities and in ensuring their links to the wider international research communities.

My own direct experience of working with John was as joint co-editors of the OUP New European Union Series of textbooks. Between the two of us we developed a clutch of six texts in which we sought to demonstrate that core texts could be successfully produced on the back of state-of-the-art work by leading research scholars. We shared a commitment to the view that textbooks are a mainstream professional contribution. It was John who carried the main burden of making the series such a success, as the numerous co-authors will attest.

We all miss John and take comfort from his remarkable professional and personal legacies.

By Helen Wallace, Honorary Professor, University of Sussex

OBITUARY

JOHN PETERSON – IN MEMORIAM

2 October 2018 to 12 May 2019

psa.ac.uk
As global inequalities and the movement of capital and people become increasingly interconnected, inter and multi-disciplinary approaches to understanding social and economic problems are essential. The MSc International Economic & Social Justice aims to build analytical skills and theoretical underpinning to equip current and future policy makers and analysts, advocates and change makers engage in and transform approaches to economic and social justice.

All of the modules on the programme are designed to address real world issues around economic and social justice. By the end of the programme students will have a deep understanding of the public policy making process and have enhanced their quantitative and qualitative skills in analysing policy from a socio-economic justice perspective.

The programme will make extensive use of the personnel and research undertaken by the Women in Scotland’s Economy (WiSE) Research Centre based in Glasgow Caledonian University. Issues of poverty and income inequalities, environmental degradation, migration, globalised labour markets, gender discrimination, the gender pay gap, public service reform and changing economic structures are among the topical and pressing policy challenges that shape the programme.

The programme will provide graduates from a wide range of disciplines (primarily economics, business and social sciences) with a pluralistic view of economics allied to a critical understanding of public policy in relation to the objective of social justice. The concept of social justice is based upon the advancement of human rights and equality and this programme is designed to utilise economic and political analysis to evaluate and improve existing policies designed to promote social justice. The MSc International Economic & Social Justice aims to provide a comprehensive, rigorous and in-depth programme of study that develops capacity for critical analysis and outlook.

This approach prepares students for employment or further research in policy development, analysis and evaluation. Potential career destinations for graduates from this programme would include public administration, international development, policy analysis, research organisations and think tanks, consultancy, corporate social responsibility within multi-national corporations and national and international non-governmental organisations, as well as further academic research and study. The MSc in International Economics & Social Justice would also provide a good grounding for someone wishing to undertake a PhD.

The PSA Conservatism Studies specialist group held its annual workshop at the University of Hull, 13-14 June 2019.

The workshop provides a forum for discussion about current research in the field of conservatism studies. The workshop was hosted by group officer Dr Christopher Fear (Hull University) with support from group convenors Drs Anthony Ridge-Newman (Liverpool Hope University) and Alan Convery (Edinburgh University).

This year saw a diverse range of quality papers from academics at all career stages.

The workshop commenced with a keynote address by PSA Chair Professor Angelia Wilson (Manchester University), which included a presentation of her research that analyses the digital communications of Christian Right groups in America. Professor Lord Norton of Louth (Hull University) opened day two with his keynote address examining the Conservative Party’s ‘two dilemmas’ of Boris and Brexit.

Amid the throes of a Tory leadership election and against the overarching backdrop of Brexit, the delegates engaged with questions across a broad range of areas including analyses of conservative ideologies and Tory leaders and their campaigns; and critiques of party organisation and new theoretical models.

A particularly notable paper by Penny Andrews (Sheffield University) used the concept of ‘Drag’ in the analysis of Margaret Thatcher’s political image.

In keeping with the group’s diversity agenda, for which Conservatism Studies won an honourable mention at the 2019 PSA Nottingham conference dinner, the convenors are delighted to announce that Nina Rogers (Liverpool Hope University) will lead in the newly created role of Diversity and Engagement Officer. Dr Christopher Fear is now the group’s Communications and Finance Officer.
The Network for the Interface of Classics and Politics is organising a conference for Friday 13 September 2019 at the University of Liverpool.

The organisers invite proposals for papers that examine the relevance of ancient rhetorical devices and strategies upon contemporary society, broadly defined. Proposals can focus on any element of the conference aims that speak at least one of the following themes:

**Theme 1:** Classical Rhetoric and Contemporary Society

**Theme 2:** Language of Leadership

**Theme 3:** Linguistics and Ideologies in Political Parties

**Theme 4:** Sub-National, National, and International Identities

**Theme 5:** Constitutional and Institutional Language

To submit your proposal you are requested to submit a 500 words max abstract that outlines how your paper makes use of ancient rhetorical concepts in its examination of contemporary society. Each presentation should aim to be approximately 20 minutes long and can be proposals at any stage of development including work in progress, research plans, interim, or concluding findings. You are requested to email your abstract to the conference organisers below:

Dr Andrew S. Crines (A.S.Crines@liverpool.ac.uk), Prof Bruce Gibson (Bjgibson@liverpool.ac.uk), and Dr David Jeffery (D.Jeffery@liverpool.ac.uk)

The deadline for submissions is Thursday 15 August 2019.

We are especially keen to welcome abstracts from women, BAME, LGBTQ+, and other underrepresented groups.
Based in the heart of London’s Covent Garden, City Lit is Europe’s largest provider of adult education. Offering short courses for adults, the institute has long been a major part of London’s cultural and educational scene. Often something of a hidden gem, City Lit has recently restructured its academic departments to broaden its appeal even further. It has also invested in new facilities, which were recently launched by London Mayor Sadiq Khan. As part of this shake-up, it has created a new Politics programme area, as well as greatly expanding its contemporary history and political economy programmes.

Dr Benjamin Chwistek has been appointed to oversee the new Politics area, and there will be a number of new appointments over the coming months. Taught by academics based at various institutions, the Politics programme area has already come to include a number of cutting-edge and topical subjects. From a standing start, courses on offer during 2019/20 include: The Politics of Austerity, Refugee Politics, Nationalism in a Global Context, Postcolonial Politics, Political Myth and Propaganda, A Guide to Migration, and many more.

Anyone wishing to find an audience for contemporary research, or subjects they are passionate about, can contact Dr Benjamin Chwistek (ben.chwistek@citylit.ac.uk) to discuss potential teaching opportunities.
At the PSA’s annual conference in April the PSA Teaching and Learning Network held its inaugural events. The Network is a community of practice for academics and higher education teachers, where best practice can be recognised, scholarship and research disseminated, and university teaching supported. All academic and ECN PSA members are automatically affiliated to the Network.

Taking a CPD/training focus, we held two workshops: ‘Getting ready for subject TEF in politics and IR’ and ‘How to run a simulation with your students: a practical introduction’. Both events were popular with conference attendees.

The TEF workshop was designed to support colleagues preparing for subject TEF; from 2020, all Politics and IR Departments are due to be assessed as part of the new subject level TEF process, with the results (Gold, Silver, Bronze) made available to the public. The workshop included details of the subject TEF pilots, and practical advice on the challenges of interpreting the TEF metrics and putting together a departmental submission. The key messages from this event were: get to know your data asap, the submission statement is as important as the metrics (you can write yourself up or down via what one speaker called ‘the art of the rhetoric’!), and work with other units when writing up (TEF should be a team approach).

Next up, Simon Usherwood (University of Surrey) delivered a workshop which explored how academics can use simulation games when teaching. Dealing with issues including how to design your own simulation and maximising the benefits of this pedagogy, the workshop equipped attendees with the necessary tools to bring something new to the classroom. Key learning points: getting students to do things is important, through simulations you can give knowledge, build skills and create different spaces for learning, simulations must always have a purpose (not just fun!), and students should be respected in and out of the game.

Contact us via twitter (@PSATeaching) or our website: https://www.psa.ac.uk/teaching-and-learning-network if you are interested in hearing more about the Network, if you have suggestions for what we could do, or if you have ideas for an event or something you’d like us to be involved in. We’d love to hear from you!

ECN members are encouraged to apply for the PSA’s Early Career Network Member-Led events Grant. There are two rounds of funding for each academic year and members can apply for up to £500 to support their event. The deadline for the next round of grants is 31 October 2019.

For more information please contact our Early Career Network Committee via ecn@psa.ac.uk

The Political Marketing Group (PMG) is holding a half day conference on 15 November 2019 at Bournemouth University focusing on political marketing, Liberalism and Liberal parties. The event follows one last year on Conservatives and Strategic Communication and one the previous year on Corbyn and Corbynism. Proposals for papers are invited by 5 July 2019 and registration details will be available in September.

The Call for Papers is on the PSA website but anyone interested should feel free to contact PMG group Chair, Paula Keaveney, for information. Paula can be contacted at keavenep@edgehill.ac.uk
MEDIA AND POLITICS GROUP RECEPTION

By Dominic Wring

The Media and Politics Group (PMG) held a reception at Nottingham’s Mogal E Azam restaurant during the recent Annual Conference, attended by around 30 delegates including postgraduate researchers participating in a PSA event for the first time. Since its inception the MPG has been committed to promoting the work of scholars in an exciting, rapidly changing field and we were delighted to be involved in organising various panels across the three days of the gathering. The Group were grateful to Ipsos MORI for sponsoring our reception. Publishers Ambra Finotello and Anne-Kathrin Birchley-Brun attended for the launch of two new Palgrave Macmillan books involving members James Dennis (University of Portsmouth) and Dominic Wring (Loughborough University)

Dominic together with fellow editors Roger Mortimore and Simon Atkinson were present to celebrate the publication of their Politica Communication in Britain collections, on both the 2017 and 2015 UK campaigns. The latter had just appeared when Prime Minister Theresa May took her fateful decision to call the former and so it seemed fitting to jointly launch the ninth and tenth instalments of a series that stretches back to Margaret Thatcher’s first election victory forty years ago. Dominic reflected on some of the significant changes between the two most recent campaigns, commenting on how strategists from all of the six parties that had (in an unprecedented feat) each received at least a million votes had made valuable additions to the 2015 book. Both volumes also feature contributions from leading polling organisations as well as reflections from academics and journalists on the changing nature of campaigning, news media reporting and other topics familiar to the series. In his comments launching the book Dominic noted how much had changed in the two years on from when Russell Brand had been regarded as a major social media presence in the 2015 election.

The theme of online political activity is something taken up by James Dennis in his new study, Beyond Slacktivism. Set in the ongoing debates around slacktivism, a pejorative term that refers to supposedly inauthentic, low-threshold forms of political engagement online, such as signing an e-petition, “liking” a Facebook page, or changing one’s avatar on Twitter in support of a cause, this book examines the effect of routine social media use on political participation in Britain. James challenges the slacktivist critique as a judgement on contemporary political engagement, providing an account of how the seemingly mundane everyday use of social media can be beneficial to democracy. Firstly, by drawing on an ethnographic study of the campaigning organisation 38 Degrees, James shows that such acts are not ineffective by design. The leadership use social media to enable their members to guide the strategic direction of the group. Furthermore, 38 Degrees draws on petitions, awareness-building on Facebook, and lobbying efforts on Twitter at strategically significant moments to maximise their political impact. Secondly, by using media diaries completed over three months, James shows that slacktivism is not necessarily easy as many politically-interested, social media savvy citizens refrain from public forms of political expression online due to social and reputational risks. Instead, they take to private messaging applications like WhatsApp for debate, only overcoming this fear when mobilised by political issues that resonate with their deeply held beliefs.

The MPG will be celebrating our 20th anniversary annual conference at Leeds University from December 2019. The theme of the conference this year is ‘Politics and Performance’ but the group welcomes presentation abstracts on all aspects of media and politics. The call for papers will be out in May. Details of this and our past newsletters are available at: https://www.psa.ac.uk/psa-communities/specialist-groups/media-and-politics
According to the judgement, the ‘crisis’ in British politics is not attributable to Brexit but rather the political leadership in Britain. The media framing of Brexit as a ‘catastrophe’ lacks credibility, according to the lecture. The lecture was followed by an hour of questions, debate and engagement with some of Oxford’s leading academics. The event was convened by a key PSA Conservatism Studies Group member Professor Agnès Alexandre-Collier of Maison Française d’Oxford and Université de Bourgogne Franche-Comté; and chaired by discussant Dr Alexandra Borchardt, Director of Leadership Programmes at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, Oxford University.

Later this year, Anthony will give guest lectures related to his research in Brexit and conservatism studies at Melbourne University and Australian National University.

Anthony is a senior lecturer at Liverpool Hope University and founding Chair of the Tory Research Impact Network. He has published three books on British politics and the media.
The Politics Best Article prize is awarded every year, to the best article published in the most recent volume. Members of our editorial team selected four outstanding articles, which showcase the breadth and depth of scholarship published in Politics. The shortlist for the 2019 Prize was:

- Emanuelle Degli Esposti The aesthetics of ritual – contested identities and conflicting performances in the Iraqi Shi’a diaspora: Ritual, performance and identity change
- Gilles Ivaldi Contesting the EU in times of crisis: The Front National and politics of Euroscepticism in France
- Giovanni Esposito, Ewan Ferlie, Giuseppe Lucio Gaeta The European public sectors in the age of managerialism

The winner, announced at the PSA Annual International Conference (Nottingham Trent University, 15 – 17 April 2019), was Karen Celis and Liza M Mügge’s work on Measuring group representation. This ground-breaking article discusses the implications of intersectionality and constructivism for the study of political representation, focusing in particular on the ways that both paradigms – in different ways – challenge the validity of traditional measurements of group representation and political equality.

Celis and Mügge propose a research design to measure group representation that takes context and time-specific intersecting identities and interests as starting point. They argue that we should no longer take for granted that we know who we should count, or that we know what counts as proper representation. ‘Representation’ is taken to be a constructivist process of politicians who strategically create groups as well as their needs and interests. Therefore, claims made by politicians on behalf of some groups cannot be assumed to reflect these groups’ ideas.

In their article, they propose two basic questions to increase the chance that we are counting the right bodies and ideas when measuring equality in political representation: Who belongs to which group? What are the political issues and interests of this group? These questions not only force us to rethink existing categories and labels, they also reveal groups and interests that are ‘hidden’ because their non-prototypical identities are not mobilized and their interests are not voiced by political actors.

Their innovative and thought-provoking research design suggests a sequence of research steps - as well as some concrete methods - that move between induction (identity frames by politicians), deduction (testing to what extent citizens identify with these identity frames), and back to induction (mapping the non-prototypical groups and their interests). Through comparison, researchers can systematically measure, quantitatively and qualitatively, the match between ascribed identities (from above by politicians) and self-identification (from below by citizens). Once groups and their interests are mapped as perceived from below and above, scholars can return to the common practice of counting bodies and ideas.

On awarding Celis and Mügge the Best Article prize 2019, the Editorial team for Politics declared that their article offered a lively, innovative disruption of the politics of group representation, drawing on both intersectional and constructivist paradigms. It is a sophisticated, persuasive, engaging and enjoyable piece, worthy of recognition with this award.

Emanuelle Degli Esposti’s article was pronounced First Runner Up.
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**ECN Annual Conference: Making sense of Contemporary politics**
24 June 2019, University of Exeter
The conference aims to give early career academics a chance to air new or developing research ideas, gain experience of academic presentations, and receive constructive criticism.

**Shifting constellations: Germany and global (dis)order**
25 – 26 June 2019, Birmingham
This conference explores Germany’s roles and responses during a period of rapidly shifting constellations in global politics.

**AFSP’s 15th Congress**
2 – 4 July 2019, Pessac, Bordeaux
The Annual Conference for the French Political Studies Association (Association Française de Science Politique, AFSP) will be held this upcoming July in Pessac.

**Continuity and Change in the Trump Presidency**
4 July 2019, London
After the success of its inaugural event last year, the American Politics Group (APC) is pleased to announce its second Postgraduate and Early Career Network Conference.

**Media, new technologies and development in Latin America: political, social and economic perspectives**
4 – 5 July 2019 - London
In an age of increasing media concentration and commercialisation, how can we envision a role for the media in development and for democracy?

**Standing Group on Organised Crime General Conference**
5 – 6 July 2019, Sofia
This year’s theme for the SGOC General Conference is ‘Dismembering Organised Crime: Identifying, Analysing and Countering’.

**ESID: From Politics to Power? Rethinking the politics of development**
9 – 11 September 2019, Manchester
An international conference convened by Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre, Global Development Institute, The University of Manchester.

**PSA Departmental Leadership Conference**
12 September 2019, London
An opportunity for senior managers and leaders in Politics Departments to convene and discuss issues impacting the discipline as well the broader social sciences.

**EPOP Conference 2019**
13 – 15 September 2019, Glasgow
The annual conference of the Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP) specialist group.

**Parliaments**
7 – 8 November 2019, Cardiff
The theme of this year’s PSA Parliaments 2019 Annual Conference is ‘Parliaments: Coming of Age?’ – a timely and pertinent question for the National Assembly which marks its twentieth anniversary this year.
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY


PSA ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, our Annual Awards Dinner is an opportunity to recognise academics, politicians, journalists, campaigners and others who have shaped another intense year in politics. Last year’s winners included David Lammy MP, Tracey Crouch MP, Michel Barnier and Amelia Gentleman. The 2019 PSA Awards Dinner will take place at Church House, Westminster, on Tuesday 12 November. The contribution of PSA members during the selection process is welcome. Members will be invited to put forward nominations in a number of categories on Friday 5 July. Please keep an eye on the PSA website for further details.

CALL FOR PAPERS: MARKETING LIBERALISM IN AN AGE OF POPULISM

15 November, Bournemouth University

It is common in recent years for those who study the marketplace of political ideas to focus on the rise of populism, and see current times as an age of anger and post-factual democracy. Yet in the recent European parliamentary elections centrist, liberal ideas saw something of a resurgence. However there were no uniform patterns, leading us to enquire how liberalism can be branded and sold when it appears the electoral tide is flowing against moderate, centrist, internationalist and inclusive notions.

The Political Marketing Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association is inviting proposals for papers for our annual Political Marketing workshop. After a focus on Corbynism, and then on Conservatism in previous years, 2019 sees us look at Liberal parties, their brands and policies and Liberalism as a theory of governance.

We invite interested scholars to submit proposals for 15 minute presentations on any aspect of Liberalism and Political Marketing. This could be a focus on the UK Liberal Democrats but could also be an exploration of Liberalism or Liberal parties elsewhere. Topics might include, but not be restricted to: the Liberal brands, the marketing of Liberal leaders and leadership contenders in Liberal parties, the marketing challenges facing Liberal parties as well as their political marketing communication during and outside of elections, from core messaging, targeting to the use of digital technologies and social media.

The event will be a half-day workshop held at Bournemouth University and will include an audience of undergraduate and postgraduate students. We will also have a keynote from a current marketing practitioner working with the UK Liberal Democrats.

Please send abstracts of 250-300 words to Paula Keaveney (Keavenep@edgehill.ac.uk), Chair, Political Marketing Specialist Group by 5 July 2019. Further details about the event, and how to register to attend, will be available in September.

PSA DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Arlington Conference Centre, Camden, London
Thursday 12 September (10:00 - 16:00)

This key PSA event is an opportunity for senior managers and leaders in Politics Departments to convene and discuss issues which impact upon the discipline as well as across the social sciences.

Issues for discussion will include Plan S and open access, research grants and funding, mental health and wellbeing in academia and the PSA's new website and membership offers. The soon to be appointed new chair of the Politics and international Studies REF sub-panel will also be invited to participate.

We welcome suggestions for any other topics for consideration as this would be beneficial in shaping the agenda and inviting speakers. Departmental Heads are encouraged to nominate a colleague if they cannot participate and up to two departmental representatives from each institution are welcome to attend.

How to Register: PSA Members benefit from free attendance and please email Avnish Patel at avnish.patel@psa.ac.uk to confirm your place.

PSA ANNUAL AWARDS

Each year, our Annual Awards Dinner is an opportunity to recognise academics, politicians, journalists, campaigners and others who have shaped another intense year in politics. Last year’s winners included David Lammy MP, Tracey Crouch MP, Michel Barnier and Amelia Gentleman. The 2019 PSA Awards Dinner will take place at Church House, Westminster, on Tuesday 12 November. The contribution of PSA members during the selection process is welcome. Members will be invited to put forward nominations in a number of categories on Friday 5 July. Please keep an eye on the PSA website for further details.

CALL FOR PAPERS: MARKETING LIBERALISM IN AN AGE OF POPULISM

15 November, Bournemouth University

It is common in recent years for those who study the marketplace of political ideas to focus on the rise of populism, and see current times as an age of anger and post-factual democracy. Yet in the recent European parliamentary elections centrist, liberal ideas saw something of a resurgence. However there were no uniform patterns, leading us to enquire how liberalism can be branded and sold when it appears the electoral tide is flowing against moderate, centrist, internationalist and inclusive notions.

The Political Marketing Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association is inviting proposals for papers for our annual Political Marketing workshop. After a focus on Corbynism, and then on Conservatism in previous years, 2019 sees us look at Liberal parties, their brands and policies and Liberalism as a theory of governance.

We invite interested scholars to submit proposals for 15 minute presentations on any aspect of Liberalism and Political Marketing. This could be a focus on the UK Liberal Democrats but could also be an exploration of Liberalism or Liberal parties elsewhere. Topics might include, but not be restricted to: the Liberal brands, the marketing of Liberal leaders and leadership contenders in Liberal parties, the marketing challenges facing Liberal parties as well as their political marketing communication during and outside of elections, from core messaging, targeting to the use of digital technologies and social media.

The event will be a half-day workshop held at Bournemouth University and will include an audience of undergraduate and postgraduate students. We will also have a keynote from a current marketing practitioner working with the UK Liberal Democrats.

Please send abstracts of 250-300 words to Paula Keaveney (Keavenep@edgehill.ac.uk), Chair, Political Marketing Specialist Group by 5 July 2019. Further details about the event, and how to register to attend, will be available in September.

PSA DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Arlington Conference Centre, Camden, London
Thursday 12 September (10:00 - 16:00)

This key PSA event is an opportunity for senior managers and leaders in Politics Departments to convene and discuss issues which impact upon the discipline as well as across the social sciences.

Issues for discussion will include Plan S and open access, research grants and funding, mental health and wellbeing in academia and the PSA's new website and membership offers. The soon to be appointed new chair of the Politics and international Studies REF sub-panel will also be invited to participate.

We welcome suggestions for any other topics for consideration as this would be beneficial in shaping the agenda and inviting speakers. Departmental Heads are encouraged to nominate a colleague if they cannot participate and up to two departmental representatives from each institution are welcome to attend.

How to Register: PSA Members benefit from free attendance and please email Avnish Patel at avnish.patel@psa.ac.uk to confirm your place.
**Our Climate Emergency: The Voice of the Next Generation**

**PSA Student Video Competition 2019**

**This Year’s PSA Student Video Competition 2019 Is Now Open!**

By Jamie Roberts (Development Officer for Teaching and Learning)

The PSA is pleased to launch, in partnership with our kind sponsors YouGov, this year’s Student Video Competition on the theme ‘Our Climate Emergency: The Voice of the Next Generation’.

On 1 May 2019 the UK Parliament declared a climate change emergency. This action was prompted by the 11 days of protests prior from the direct action group Extinction Rebellion and record levels of public concern, predominantly from young people.

The government and international organisations have failed to deal with, as Sir David Attenborough says, our greatest threat in thousands of years. Our environment is a privilege, yet the world continues to bury its head in the sand when it comes to the irreversible damage we inflict every day on our world.

This year for our Student Video Competition, we’d like students to produce a video of up to four minutes long considering the theme of ‘Our Climate Emergency’. There’s no specific question this year but students could address the following: Why are we not taking climate change seriously? Are young people going to have to take the lead on tackling climate change? And, what does declaring a climate emergency actually mean?

The winning team will be invited to receive their award at the PSA Awards Dinner in November and receive an all expenses paid work experience placement at YouGov.

Last year’s winners were from Wallace High in Belfast and are just about to start their work experience placement. Keep an eye out on our website for their blog talking about what they learnt from the placement!

The deadline for the competition is 12:00 (noon) on Monday 30 September 2019.

For more information visit psa.ac.uk/student-video-competition

---

**Exciting Opportunities for Politics Teachers**

Pearson have exciting opportunities for Politics teachers to become Examiners for our GCE A Level Qualification.

If you are passionate about Politics and wish to develop your teaching career further then we want you to join our Pearson Associate team, and become an Examiner for Pearson.

An Examiner marks candidates’ responses in accordance with the pre-defined mark scheme, whilst adhering to Code of Practice and examination procedures. Most subjects will be marked onscreen using ePEN, which can be done from home. A few subjects are still marked in the traditional method, using paper scripts sent through the post. A high level of subject knowledge is necessary in order to apply the mark scheme. Each examiner will receive an agreed allocation of scripts.

Becoming an Examiner is a great opportunity to:

- Develop your career in education
- Earn some extra money in a part-time role, alongside any full time commitments you may have
- Gain invaluable insight into assessment
- Network with likeminded professionals in your field

Competencies Required

- You will have the ability to work well under pressure
- You will have the ability to meet deadlines
- You will have a high level of subject knowledge in order to apply the mark scheme.

For more information on the requirements, and to make an application, please go to https://bit.ly/2CWhF54

Please note that while we welcome applications for all papers we are particularly interested in receiving applications for the following:

- 9PL0 01
- 9PL0 02
- 9PL0 3A
- 9PL0 3B

If you need any further information regarding any of this role, please don’t hesitate to contact the Recruitment and Resourcing by visiting associate.pearson.com.
On 11 June the PSA co-hosted a specialist seminar day for A-level Politics in partnership with the Parliament Education Service. This year’s theme was ‘Parliament, Politics...Parties’. It considered questions such as: Do we still have a two-party system? How powerful is the political party? And what is the significance of the ‘new’ and emerging parties in the UK?

The day saw 60 teachers in attendance. They started their day with a tour of Westminster Palace and an introduction into the fantastic services and workshops provided by the UK Parliament Education team.

Thank you to all our speakers for the day: Rt Hon Anna Soubry MP and leader of Change UK, Stephen Kinnock MP, Dr Muireann O’Dwyer from the University of Warwick, and Professor Patrick Dunleavy from the London School of Economics. Teachers in attendance found the day well balanced and informative. Speakers were incredibly engaging, and all participated in lively Q&A’s answering tough questions on Brexit, the Tory Leadership race and votes for 16-year olds.

We’re already looking forward to next year’s event! For more information on teacher trainings at Parliament or to arrange a visit for your school, please visit www.parliament.uk/education or email engage@parliament.uk
DEMYSTIFYING UNDERGRADUATE POLITICS PROGRAMMES WITH OUR ‘APPLYING TO STUDY POLITICS’ WORKSHOPS

By Jamie Roberts (Development Officer for Teaching and Learning)

We’ve kicked off this year’s programme of politics workshops for students in years 11-13 interested in studying politics at an undergraduate level. These workshops are a fantastic opportunity for students across the country to sample interactive politics lectures, ask current undergraduate students about university life and ‘demystify’ the application process.

On 6 June for our West Midlands event, we co-hosted a workshop with the University of Warwick. The students took part in an interactive politics lecture given by Professor Matt Watson on ‘Democracy and Inter-Generational Justice’, where they were able to take part in real-time voting. They were taken on the departments’ ‘Colonial Hangover’ tour of campus, where student ambassadors pointed out areas on campus where key political protests occurred. The final session of the day focused on exploring the ‘Green New Deal’ and challenging students to think about how to tackle climate change — with most of them concluding that incentive-based programmes were the way forward.

Feedback from the day was incredibly positive. Many students indicated that politics was the subject for them! I just want to take the time to say a huge thank you to Professor Matt Watson and Shahnaz Akhter for taking a lead in the workshop’s organisation. The widening participation team at Warwick are doing an incredible job, and we look forward to working with them in the future!

The next round of workshops will take place in September. We’re in the process of finalising the September programme, so keep an eye out on your school e-Newsletter for more information.

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR PSA SCHOOL GRANT

By Jamie Roberts (Development Officer for Teaching and Learning)

The Political Studies Association is proud to support its school members. As such we want to encourage creative and innovative ways of engaging with students and teachers. We are now looking for applications to our PSA School Grant for the second half of the year. Applications can be submitted by school members for up to £500.

In this round of funding, we will prioritise applications from schools running events or initiatives during UK Parliament Week.

Please note that, unfortunately, this grant cannot go towards everyday school items such as textbooks or other teaching materials.

All applications will be reviewed following the passing of the relevant deadline by the PSA team. All applicants will hear no later than 3 weeks following the deadline with regards to the outcome of their application.

Recipients of the grant will be expected to write up a short summary or blog article for the PSA following the completion of your proposed event or initiative. This will feature in our membership magazine PSA News and as part of our PSA School E-Newsletter.

The deadline for this round of applications is 31 August 2019 for events being held between Sept 2019-March 2020.

For more information and to apply visit psa.ac.uk/psa-schools/grant
By Professor Fiona Mackay

This is my first time as a PSA Trustee, although I am a long-standing member of the PSA and the PSA Women and Politics Specialist Group, and recently served on the PSA-BISA working group on REF 2021. I am a feminist political scientist at the University of Edinburgh, and my work examines the ways in which inequality is reinforced through political, legal and social institutions, and the possibilities of progressive change.

I stood for election as Hon. Secretary because I am keen to take forward — and embed — the important reforms put in motion by the outgoing Hon. Secretary, Paul Tobin, and his team. Already much has been achieved in overhauling systems and promoting a new and expansive membership offering, including reaching out to schools and to interested publics. But there’s still a distance to travel to achieve PSA’s ambition to become the dynamic, effective and inclusive membership organization it seeks to be. My main focus will be to increase the profile of PSA membership with academic colleagues and to win the case that the PSA is the ‘must belong’ learned society for all political scientists in the UK. To win that case, we need to demonstrate our resonance and relevance to the diversity of academics in our discipline.

I have a strong record of academic leadership and management, most recently serving a four-year term as dean of a large school of social science and, before that, as director of its graduate school. I’m currently inaugural Director of gendered, a new interdisciplinary hub at Edinburgh. And I’ve run the Feminism and Institutional International Network (FIIN) since its creation in 2006. I am keen to bring my skills and experience to this exciting next stage of the development of the PSA. And I look forward to working with professional associations across the social sciences.

I’m originally from the North East of England and am an adult returner to higher education. I spent the first decade of my working life as a print and media journalist.

THE PSA HAS MEETING ROOMS AVAILABLE TO HIRE WITH DISCOUNT RATES FOR MEMBERS.

Further details on what is available, room rates and how to book are available in our Terms & Conditions document. Checking room availability, making bookings and upfront online payment will shortly be available via Skeeda. In the meantime, please contact the PSA office directly to make a booking and arrange payment by emailing info@psa.ac.uk.