Dear alumni,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2015. Thanks to those who gave feedback after our first issue last year. You can let us know what you think of this issue by emailing alumni@polis.cam.ac.uk. If you would like to be featured in a future edition of the newsletter, please contact us.

The Department of Politics and International Studies was formed in 2009 by the merging of the Centre of International Studies and the Department of Politics. Since 2012 we’ve been based in the Alison Richard Building on the Sidgwick Site.

You are receiving this e-letter as an alumnus/a of either CIS, Politics or POLIS. With this e-letter we aim to keep our alumni informed of developments within the Department, including events, new appointments and publications.

New Head of Department, October 2014
Professor David Runciman

Taking over as head of department at PO department at POLIS in October 2014, David Runciman, MA, PhD is a Professor of Politics at POLIS and a Fellow of Trinity Hall. Professor Runciman’s research interests include twentieth century political and intellectual history and the theory of democratic politics. He is a Director of the Conspiracy and Democracy five-year Leverhulme funded research program based in the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) and his recent publications include The Confidence Trap: A History of Democracy in Crisis from the First World War to the Present (Princeton, 2013) and Politics: Ideas in Profile (Profile Books, 2014). Professor Runciman also writes for the London Review of Books and The Guardian.

Read more
Conference to mark the retirement of Professor Andrew Gamble

To mark the retirement of Professor Andrew Gamble as Professor of Politics the department held a conference on The Future of British Politics. Around 80 people attended and topics covered included the politics of decline, Thatcherism, and ideas in British politics.

YouGov Forum 2014

YouGov Cambridge Programme is a collaboration between POLIS and YouGov founded in 2010, which supports research on a variety of domestic and international issues. On Thursday 23rd October the YouGov Forum 2014 was held at POLIS with the title Six Months To Go: Public Opinion & The General Election. Four forums were held throughout the day.

Or Rosenboim wins two prizes

Congratulations to Or Rosenboim, whose POLIS doctoral dissertation "The Emergence of Globalism: Competing visions of world order in Britain and the United States 1939-1950" has won both the Lisa Smirl Prize for best PhD 2013-2014 as well as the 2014 Raymond Aron Prize. Or remains involved with our department as a Junior Research Fellow at Queens' College and POLIS.

Welcome to our new academics for 2014-15...

Dr Christopher Brooke

Dr Christopher Brooke joined the Department from the University of Bristol as a University Lecturer. Dr Brooke’s research concentrates on themes in the history of modern political thought.

Dr Philippe Bourbeau

Dr Philippe Bourbeau joined the Department from the University of Namur as a Temporary Lecturer. He has expertise in the field of international security, securitization research, international political sociology and migration studies.

Dr Iza Hussin

Dr Iza Hussin joined the Department from the University of Chicago as a University Lecturer in Asian Politics. Dr Hussin's research and teaching focuses upon the construction of Islamic law and transformations in the Muslim state through colonialism and post-coloniality.
Dr Graham Denyer Willis

Dr Graham Denyer Willis joined the Department from the University of Toronto as a University Lecturer in the Centres of Development Studies and Latin American Studies. Dr Denyer Willis' work brings together debates about public security, state-society relations and urbanisation.

And farewell to Dr Elizabetta Brighi, who has joined the University of Westminster as a Lecturer in International Relations.

John Antcliffe Lecture

We are pleased to announce that the Rt Hon Michael Howard will deliver the inaugural John Antcliffe Lecture on Wednesday 11th March 2015.

CAMPO

A visitor scheme has been set up for PhD students at POLIS with SciencesPo in Paris. Visiting CAMPO PhD students will be provided with a desk space, library card, full access to Science Po's online resources and are encouraged to participate in all aspects of academic life there.

Alcuin Lecture 2015

This year's Alcuin Lecture, the annual lecture hosted by POLIS on the UK and Europe, will take place in Easter term 2015.

Von Hugel Institute Lecture Series 2014-2015

The Von Hugel series continues with an upcoming lecture by Baroness Williams of Crosby on 16th January.

David Runciman's Inaugural Lecture

New Head of POLIS Professor David Runciman will be giving his inaugural lecture, 'Political Theory and Real Politics', on 24th February, chaired by Professor Martin Daunton.
Yehuda Ben Hur Levy has started at the Centre for European Reform as the first Clara Marina O'Donnell fellow. The Clara Marina fellowship was established in memory of Clara, who died of cancer at the age of 30 in January 2014.