Dear alumni

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a festive and restful break, wherever in the world you were. Thanks to all of those who got in touch regarding the 'Blast from the Past' mystery photo- it was the MPhil International Relations cohort from 1998-1999!

As always, we love to hear from you. If you would like to be featured in our 'Spotlight' section, please do get in touch. You can visit POLIS on our website, Twitter, Tumblr, LinkedIn or YouTube! Alternatively you can just email us.

Geoffrey Hawthorn 1941-2015
ELECTION! Season Two

The Cambridge politics podcast, led by Head of Department David Runciman, returned on 21st January for its second season. For this series it will be going international, looking at the US Presidential Election and other elections around the world. A new episode will be released every Thursday.

Read more

In Remembrance

It is with sadness that we announce the death of Professor Geoffrey Hawthorn, Emeritus Professor of International Politics and Social and Political Theory. Professor Hawthorn died in the early hours of New Year’s Eve, aged 74. He was instrumental in the founding of POLIS as we know it; having joined the newly founded Social and Political Sciences course in 1970, he went on to oversee the creation of the Department of Politics nearly thirty years later, which laid the foundations for the merging with the Centre of International Studies to become POLIS. We are sure that many of you will remember Geoff as a lecturer or supervisor, you can contribute your memories of him to the Department here.

Geoff Hawthorn obituary: POLIS
Geoff Hawthorn obituary: The Guardian
Dr Ayse Zarakol receives European Research Council funding

'Diplomatic Face-Work: Between Confidential Negotiations and Public Display', a five year research project involving POLIS lecturer Dr Ayse Zarakol, has received more than £1 million from the European Research Council. The project, which is based at the University of Copenhagen and led by Dr Rebecca Adler-Nissen, studies how traditional diplomatic processes and international cooperation are affected by social media, and what this means for diplomacy's ability to generate trust and peaceful solutions to international problems. The project will focus especially on economic cooperation in the wake of the Euro crisis, negotiations on free movement of people in Europe and negotiations with EU candidate countries and neighbouring states. Dr Zarakol will be overseeing the aspects of the project involving negotiations with neighbouring states, especially Turkey and Russia.

Upcoming publications from POLIS

POLIS lecturer Dr Stefano Recchia had his third book, Reassuring The Reluctant Warriors: US Civil-Military Relations and Multilateral Intervention, published by Cornell University Press in September. The book develops a new explanation of when and why the United States seeks multilateral approval through the UN or NATO for planned military interventions.

POLIS temporary lecturer Dr Philippe Bourbeau has edited Security: Dialogue Across Disciplines, released in November. The book provides a comparative analysis of the ways in which the concept of security is theorized and studies across different disciplines.

ClassNotes

Our ClassNotes page is going strong, allowing you to catch up with former classmates and update us and them on where you are now. Please take a moment to send us a quick email with your name, date of matriculation and current circumstances, and we'll include it on our website.

Submit your ClassNote
As we mentioned in our last newsletter, the Department of Politics and International Studies will be holding an event at the University on **Saturday 11 June**. The precise location is yet to be confirmed but it is planned that we will have one or two speakers present as well as a buffet and an afternoon garden party.

If you would like to attend this event please email Lydia Mizon on lmm66@cam.ac.uk

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**The Gamble and Hill Prize**

This year's joint Gamble and Hill Prize Winners were Livvy McComb and Guste Rekstyte. The Gamble and Hill Prize is open to all sixth form students studying International Relations and Politics.

[Read more](#)

[Watch the winning videos](#)

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**Professor Christopher Hill receives honorary doctorate**

In December former Head of Department and current Sheehy Professor Christopher Hill received an honorary doctorate from the University of Peleponnese at Corinth.

[Read more](#)

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**Tristram Hunt MP to give Antcliffe Lecture**

Shadow State Secretary for Education Tristram Hunt MP will be giving this year's Antcliffe Lecture on Thursday 28th April. The as yet untitled lecture on an aspect of British Politics will take place at Trinity College.

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**Africa's Voices**

Spinning out of the Centre of Governance and Human Rights, *Africa’s Voices* recently established an East Africa Office, continuing to work with UNICEF Somalia and Oxfam Kenya.
New History and Politics Tripos Announced
The Faculty of History and POLIS are delighted to announce that undergraduates at Cambridge will be able to read for a degree in History and Politics from 1st October 2017.

Read more

POLIS Christmas Collection
During Michaelmas and Lent Term, volunteers from POLIS (students and staff) are making weekend trips to Calais to take donated items from our Christmas Collection and provide practical assistance in the refugee camp.

Read more