

POLIS alumni - May 2018

Dear POLIS alumnus/na,

Welcome to the latest edition of your POLIS alumni newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your feedback from the previous edition. We love to hear your news so, if you would like to get in touch, please [email us](#).

You can connect with POLIS via our [website](#), on [Twitter](#), [Tumblr](#) or [Instagram](#). For our video content, head over to [YouTube](#).

Yours,

Andy Cuthbert,
Alumni Relations Co-ordinator



Professor Diane Coyle appointed inaugural Bennett Professor of Public Policy



We are delighted to announce that Professor Diane Coyle is the inaugural Bennett Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge.

She took up her post in March 2018 in the Department of Politics and International Studies from the University of Manchester. Professor Coyle brings a wealth of experience as one of the UK's most respected policy practitioners and thinkers, and is one of the leading academic figures exploring the application and refashioning of economics in relation to some of the major public policy challenges of our times.

Professor Coyle is the latest appointment to the growing group of public policy experts housed at the University of Cambridge. She will take a leading role, along with Professor Michael Kenny, and a growing team of researchers and lecturers, in the brand-new Cambridge Institute for Public Policy which brings world-leading, multi-disciplinary research to bear on some of the world's most pressing challenges. She will be leading important strands of research in the fields of public policy economics, technology, industrial strategy and global inequality.

About Professor Coyle

Diane Coyle was previously Professor of Economics at the University of Manchester and Co-Director of Policy at Manchester. She is a member of the Natural Capital Committee, a Fellow of the Office for National Statistics, and a researcher at the Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence, leading the research programme on measuring the digital economy. She specialises in the economics of new technologies and competition policy, and founded the consultancy Enlightenment Economics. Her books include *GDP: A Brief but Affectionate History*, *The Economics of Enough: How to run the economy as if the future matters*, and *The Soulful Science*.

Diane was a BBC Trustee for over eight years, and was also formerly a member of the Migration Advisory Committee and the Competition Commission. She was previously Economics Editor of *The Independent* and has worked at the Treasury and in the private sector as an economist.

Briefing

How Democracy Ends – David Runciman featured in Cambridge Alumni Magazine

Professor David Runciman, Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies, has been featured in the latest edition of the Cambridge Alumni Magazine (issue 83), where he discussed his insight on the future of democracy in the wake of Brexit and the Trump Administration.

[Read the article >](#)

POLIS announces new prize for MPhil students

POLIS is delighted to announce that it is launching a new prize for students taking the MPhil in International Relations and Politics. Called the Joffé Award, the prize is named for Professor George Joffé who, for many years, was the backbone of teaching on North Africa and the Middle East in the Centre for International Studies, and later in POLIS. George retired at the end of the 2016/17 academical year and the Department has created this prize as a tribute to his intellectual legacy.

£200 will be presented to the student writing the best MPhil dissertation on the international relations and/or politics of the Middle East and North Africa. One of the current students taking the MPhil in International Relations and Politics will be the first to receive the Award.

Bennett Institute for Public Policy Launches

We are very pleased to announce that the Bennett Institute for Public Policy at the University of Cambridge launched on 16 April 2018. Based at the Department of Politics and International Studies, the Institute will bring together the world-class research of Cambridge in technology, engineering and the natural sciences with a deep understanding of the social and political forces that are remaking democracy and generating fundamental challenges for governments across the world. It

aims to become a world-leader in achieving successful and sustainable solutions to some of the most pressing problems of our time.

The initial research programmes include the following areas: Place and public policy, Technology and innovation, Science and the future of democracy and Well-being, progress and public policy.

For more information about this exciting new venture, please see [the Institute's website >](#)

New course

Applications for Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy Open

Applications have recently opened for our part-time Postgraduate Certificate in Public Policy course, run under the auspices of the Institute of Continuing Education.

The course will provide students with a range of opportunities to develop their understanding of public policy through modules that combine extensive independent study and intensive study-visits, seminars and lectures in Cambridge, as well as the completion of an independent research project based upon a work placement.

The Certificate comprises three modules, each of a weekend's duration and a fourth weekend will cover the skills and methods associated with the work placement which will focus on a research project (8,000 words). The proposed weekend model is designed to enable students to attend from across the UK and abroad.

We anticipate that students on this programme will come from a diverse range of professional backgrounds and will be taking this course either to enhance their own career paths or out of general interest. We expect the majority of applicants to be early career policy-makers. Its concrete ambition is to help participants make a greater impact in their professional role.



[Read more](#)

Spotlight interview

We are looking to restart 'Spotlight on...', a popular segment of our newsletter – could you contribute? Former POLIS students are welcome to submit guest articles of between 800 and 1200 words that include information about their time at Cambridge, their work now, and the link between the two (if any!).

If you would be interested in contributing an article or interview, please contact me on alumni@polis.cam.ac.uk. See previous examples on the website.



[Read more](#)

Image of the Week – In the Long Run

In the Long Run, the official blog of the Department of Politics and International Studies, is looking for images to be featured in its weekly slot. Images are intended to provoke insight into a particular political issue or event, and should be accompanied by a caption of up to 70 words.

Please send your submissions to longrun@hermes.cam.ac.uk. To appear clearly on screen, the resolution of your images should be at least 72ppi, with a minimum width of 1500 pixels.

[See past images](#)



Listen to the latest lively discussion and analysis with Talking Politics

93 | How Democracy Ends - The Book

An extra episode this week to talk about David's new book How Democracy Ends, out next week. With a clip from the lecture we put out at the start of the year and a chat with Helen and Chris Bickerton. The book is available with a special discount for Talking Politics listeners at www.profilebooks.com.

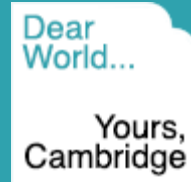
92 | What's wrong with GDP?



We talk with economist Diane Coyle about what's wrong with our main measure of economic performance and how it impacts on politics. She tells us what we're missing in our measures of economic activity and she explains how we could do it better. Plus we discuss whether the unemployment figures still tell a true picture of the world of work and we ask whether the dollar's days as the global reserve currency may be coming to an end. Numbers and why they matter. With Helen Thompson and Chris Bickerton.

[Listen now](#)

Our campaign for the University and Colleges of Cambridge is raising funds to attract the brightest minds, create the finest facilities and give the freedom to create more world-changing ideas. To do this, we need your help.



Department of Politics and International Studies

Call: +44 (0)1223 767261
Email: alumni@polis.cam.ac.uk

Alison Richard Building, 7 West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT, United Kingdom