



Welcome to our first alumni e-newsletter

The Department of Politics and International Studies was formed in 2009 by the merger of the Centre of International Studies and the Department of Politics. With this termly e-newsletter we aim to keep our alumni informed of developments within the Department including events, new appointments and publications.

[Read more](#)



UCCGS to join POLIS

The University of Cambridge Centre for Gender Studies (UCCGS) will be joining POLIS in October 2014. The Centre is a locus for international gender research and is host to the Diane Middlebrooke and Carl Djerassi Visiting Professorship. It also runs a series of high-profile academic events. The Centre offers PhD and MPhil courses in Multidisciplinary Gender Studies.

[Read more](#)



MPhil in Public Policy

Launched in October 2013, the MPP provides an interdisciplinary grounding in public policy theory and practice, aimed at those with two to five years experience who wish to develop their abilities to be policy entrepreneurs. Work placements with NGOs, companies or government departments are an integral part of the course.

[Read more](#)

The Alison Richard Building: the new home of POLIS

Opened in May 2012 by Professor Dame Alison Richard DBS, Vice-Chancellor Emerita, the Alison Richard Building is currently home to five Research Centres, four Area Centres, the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) and is the administrative centre for nine graduate courses.



There are frequent art installations in the public exhibition spaces; the Art in the Alison Richard Building blog has details and also photos of past and current exhibitions.

[Read more](#)

Professor Christopher Hill steps down as Head of Department

In 2004 Professor Hill joined the University as Director of the Centre of International Studies and Sir Patrick Sheehy Professor of International Relations, before becoming Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies in 2012.

As Head of Department, Professor Hill has overseen a growth in academic staff numbers, the establishment of the new MPhil in Public Policy and managed the accession of the University of Cambridge Centre for Gender Studies to POLIS which will take place in October 2014.



New African Studentships

Through a generous donation from the David and Elaine Potter Foundation, matched by the Cambridge Trust, funding is now available for three students from Africa who wish to pursue doctoral and masters-level study in the Department beginning in 2015.

The Foundation has been involved with POLIS since a £2 million benefaction led to the establishment of the David and Elaine Potter Lectureship in Governance and Human Rights.

[Read more about the Potter Foundation](#)



Green Impact Award 2014

The Alison Richard Building, POLIS's home, has achieved a Silver Award in the Green Impact environmental accreditation scheme.

Green Impact is the National Union of Students' accreditation award, coordinated at Cambridge by the Environment and Energy Section. Working together, teams of staff and students took action to help make the Department more sustainable. Led by our Facilities Manager, Jamie Brittain, the teams used an online workbook to record progress towards recognised targets.



[Read more](#)

Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships awarded

Two members of POLIS, Dr David Blunt and Dr Justin Pearce, have both been awarded Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships. Beginning in October 2014, the fellowships will last for three years.



Professor Andrew Gamble retires from POLIS

A former Head of Department, Professor Gamble joined POLIS in 2007. He was awarded the Sir Isaiah Berlin Prize for Lifetime Contribution to Political Studies from the UK Political Studies Association in 2005.



Gates Scholarships awarded at POLIS

Since 2001, 67 Gates Scholarships have been awarded to students of CIS, Politics and POLIS; the second highest number within the University. The Scholarships are awarded to outstanding overseas applicants.



Conference: The Future of British Politics

Hosted by Queens' College and POLIS on Wednesday 24 September 2014, this conference will mark the retirement of Professor Gamble from POLIS. Further details are available from Dr Helen Thompson.



[Request further details](#)

POLIS at the Festival of Ideas 2014

POLIS will be participating in this year's Festival, with input from the Africa's Voices project, PhD students and academics, and talks and seminars hosted at the Alison Richard Building.



[Read more](#)

Research Seminar with Professor Paul Ginsborg

Professor of History at the University of Florence, Professor Ginsborg will give a joint POLIS/UCCGS lecture on 26th November 2014 on his new book *Family Politics: Domestic Life, Devastation and Survival, 1900-1950*.



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