POLITICAL SCIENCE ANOUNCEMENTS

UPDATE FROM AVIGAIL EISENBERG
On Thursday, May 27, Avigail presented to the BC Special Committee to Review the Provisions of the Election Act.

CONGRATS TO MATT JAMES!
Matt’s article, “The Structural Injustice Turn, the Historical Justice Dilemma, and Assigning Responsibility with the TRC Report.” has been published in the Canadian Journal of Political Science 2021. Read the article here https://www.doi.org/10.1017/S0008423921000299

CONGRATS TO LAURA PARISI!
Laura, cross-listed faculty member, was recently elected as the Vice-President and President Elect (2022-23) of the Canadian Association for the Study of International Development (CASID). https://casid-acedi.ca

CFGS: CONTESTING NATIONAL MEMORY IN CANADA: THE ROLE OF THE RIGHT
Wednesday, June 23, 10:30 am – 12 noon
Webinar: Register at https://uvic.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CZ1lcabgREKYMlUGXtaZkA
Moderator: Matt James, Political Science, UVic
Panelists: Adele Perry, U Manitoba, Omeassoo Wahpasiw, U PEI, Ry Moran, UVic, Sean Carleton, U Manitoba.

As recent controversies over the public honouring of historical figures such as John A. Macdonald, Egerton Ryerson, and Edward Cornwallis attest, the “memory wars” familiar in many European countries are now noticeably present in Canada as well. Familiar also in European contexts, but perhaps more novel to Canadians, is the keen interest being shown by far-right groups in the politics of community memory and historical interpretation in this country.

What is it about statues of long-dead prime ministers that now attracts such fervent right-wing interest? How do more mainstream conservatives, in their calls to “defend the legacy” of Macdonald and other Canadian historical figures associated with genocide and white supremacy, navigate their proximity to hate groups such as the Proud Boys and Soldiers of Odin in the new battles over national narratives and public memory? Why is this new round of memory activism so intensely polarizing and what are the stakes and likely outcomes of these battles? What do we learn about contemporary Canadian politics by studying them? This moderated panel will explore these and other issues raised by right-wing memory activism in Canada today. Presented by CFGS, EuMePo, Eucanet, Erasmus+, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

UVic ANNOUNCEMENTS
ASPIRATION 2030: UVIC'S RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS STRATEGY  
Wednesday, June 16, 11.30 am –1 pm on Zoom  
Open to all members of the university community  
Register online: https://events.eply.com/UVIC-Research-TownHall-June16  
Learn about UVic's new Research and Creative Works Strategy. We appreciate the input everyone has shared with us during the development of the strategy and we hope you will join us as we introduce the major elements of the draft. We’d like to hear from you again—your feedback will help us refine the strategy before launching it in the fall. Highlights of the strategy will be available to registrants ahead of the town hall. We will be using Slido during the event to engage participants, and there will be the opportunity to submit feedback after the event. The event will be recorded for those not able to attend.

CAPI: PANEL DISCUSSION – “PREVENTING PUSHBACKS OF REFUGEES FLEEING MYANMAR ALONG THE THAI/MYANMAR BORDER  
Thursday, June 17, 5 pm PST  
Register here https://events.uvic.ca/capi/view/event/event_id/57890  
The overall human rights situation in Myanmar has deteriorated since the military coup on February 1, 2021 including heightened restrictions on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Fighting between Myanmar’s military and several ethnic armed groups and civilian resistance groups is being reported, with government forces committing increased abuses against ethnic Kachin, Karen, Karenni, Rohingya, and Shan minority populations. This panel discussion will focus on the current situation of refugees along the Thai/Burma border and the plight of people fleeing the airstrikes and fighting in Karen State and other ethnic states. This is an emerging situation with reports of thousands of villagers fleeing their villages, hiding in the jungle, and being denied shelter by the Thai authorities and sent back to the war zone. Also emerging are civil resistance forces in different states (e.g. Kayah, Chin) fighting back against the junta.

CFGS: COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND POPULISM IN CENTRAL EUROPE  
Monday, June 21, 9 am PST  
Panelists: Beata Halicka, Adam Mickiewicz U, Marcin Napiorkowski, Warsaw U, Piotr Oleksy, Adam Mickiewicz U  
Nationalist-populist movements around the globe rely centrally on a particular form of collective memory in framing national identity and advancing their political agenda. This webinar with Polish experts provides an exceptional opportunity for addressing the rise of populism in Poland (and Central Europe) and how it is rooted in a resurgence of nationalist historic narratives. The panellists will focus on the argument whether the experience of imitating the West over last two and a half decades has led to a nativist reaction in Central Europe (based on the book “The Light that Failed: a Reckoning”; the Polish edition of this book has the subtitle: “How the West has failed its followers” by Ivan Krastev and Stephen Holmes). The book describes the reassertion of “authentic” national traditions and identity as a reaction to the post-national liberalism associated with EU enlargement. Krastev and Holmes claim that the resurgence of populist nationalism has been largely driven by such an anti-liberal revolt in the region. This webinar will be presented in Polish with simultaneous translation into English.

---

The Political Science Weekly Digest is a weekly e-mail newsletter and monthly in the summer. It's also available online http://www.uvic.ca/socialsciences/politicalscience/home/news/index.php
If you have an item for the newsletter or would like to be added to the mailing list, please contact poliao@uvic.ca.

Follow us on Twitter - @uvicpoli