**STARTING IN 2019**  FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE FOR REFUGEE FAMILY
Some members of the political science department and friends of the department have committed to sponsor a refugee family to resettle in Victoria. We are in the fundraising stage of the process and I am writing to ask for your support by donating and/or sharing our fundraising appeal with your networks of friends and family, if you feel comfortable doing so. Stay tuned for more information in 2019.

POLITICAL SCIENCE HOLIDAY PARTY!!
Tuesday, December 11, 4:00 pm, Fireside Lounge
Enjoy some festive cheer with colleagues and friends. There will be appetizers and a cash bar. RSVP to Rosemary, poliao@uvic.ca by Wednesday, December 5.

DECEMBER EXAMS BEGIN – Saturday, December 8

UVic ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAPI TALK: “THE RISE OF PRINCELINGS IN CHINA: CAREER ADVANTAGES AND COLLECTIVE ELITE REPRODUCTION”
Tony Huiquan Zhang, U Saskatchewan
Monday, December 10, 10-11:30 am, SEDG C168
Recently, China’s princelings - political elites whose parents are also political elites - have formed an influential group in China’s top leadership. How have China’s princelings benefitted from their family backgrounds in their careers? This study seeks to answer the question and in so doing to add to the existing factionalist and meritocracy approaches to Chinese political elites.

CFGs & EUCAnet WEBINAR GLOBAL POLITICS IN CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE – TRANSATLANTIC DIALOGUE
“Austerity and Social Inequality: The rise of the populist right and the European budget crisis”
Tuesday, December 11, 9:30 - 11 am, SEDG C168 (on campus)
Register here to view online
The pledges of a universal basic income and massive tax cuts set the Italian government on a collision course with the EU. This webinar will address how rising levels of inequality and social exclusion fuel the populist resentment against the political and economic elite. Dr. Oliver Schmidtke (UVic, Centre for Global Studies) moderates the discussion and presentations on austerity and social inequality by two speakers: Dr. Valerie D’Erman (UVic Political Science) and Dr. Kurt Huebner (UBC, Jean Monnet for European Integration and Global Political Economy and Interim Director, Institute for European Studies)
The long term effects of the 2008 financial and economic crisis still shape society and politics in Western democracies. From the right, populist and nationalist forces have effectively articulated the unease with growing inequality and economic uncertainty. This scenario plays out forcefully across Europe and, most dramatically, in Italy where the nationalist-populist government has refused EU budget rules and given voice to those frustrated with years of austerity measures. The Lega and the Five Star Movement won the last election with promises of a universal basic income and sweeping tax cuts. Yet, these pledges set the Italian government on a collision course with the EU and its strict budgetary policies. This webinar will discuss the situation in Italy with a view to the broader volatility of Western democracies: rising levels of inequality have given rise to growing dissatisfaction with mainstream party politics. The sense of being left out of globalization’s promises has in particular fueled a populist resentment against the political and economic elite at the domestic as well as the European level. Do we need to re-consider how we manage the economy considering issues of social justice and the stability of liberal democracies? Have the rules of the Euro zone become too rigid to address this fundamental concern for social inclusion and a fair distribution of prosperity and life chances?

*Please note, the Centre for Global Studies, will have a public showing of this webinar at the University of Victoria, in the Sedgewick Building, Room C168. All are welcome to attend. **SPACE IS LIMITED**

**EU STUDY TOUR AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**
Application deadline: Friday, December 14
The Study Tour takes place in May every year, and is not only about the EU, but also takes place within the EU. Participants travel through Brussels, Luxembourg, Frankfurt and Strasbourg, to key sites of European institutions and civil society organisations. Students will engage with representatives of the EU’s administrative and political leadership, such as the European Commission, Parliament, Court of Justice and Central Bank, along with other European organizations such as NATO, the European Court of Human Rights, and the Canadian Mission to the EU. The Tour is not simply an accredited course, it is a full immersion into European history, culture, and political formation, a program for self-directed and independent study.

In addition to the Study Tour, a number of qualified participants are offered internship opportunities with EU institutions and other organizations following completion of the Tour. The 2019 internships are two or three months in duration, and are completed by the end of August at the latest. Many EUSTIP participants have gone on to find employment in Europe either with their original internship organisation, or one that is affiliated.

**EU RESEARCH GRANTS**
Application deadline: Thursday, December 20
The European Studies program (EUS) provides grants to graduate and undergraduate students via the Jean Monnet EU Centre of Excellence (EUCE). For the past several years, students have been conducting field research in Europe and/or participating in experiential learning programs such as the EU Study Tour (EUS 390) thanks to the grant funding available through the EUCE. The Jean Monnet EU Centre of Excellence funds students and post-doctoral student fieldwork and conference attendance in Europe on EU integration topics. Each year (2017, 2018, 2019) there are up to nine (9) graduate student grants and six (6) EU Study Tour grants available. Students receiving the graduate student grants must present their research upon returning to UVic. More info available at: https://www.uvic.ca/interdisciplinary/europe/travel-and-learn/grants/index.php. E-mail eusprog@uvic.ca with questions.
The Political Science Weekly Digest is a weekly e-mail newsletter and biweekly 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.

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