POLITICAL SCIENCE WEEKLY DIGEST
FRIDAY, March 8, 2019

POLITICAL SCIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

POLI SPEAKERS SERIES: “Sex Worker Rights are Human Rights: A Justification and Illustration of Solidaristic Normative Theory”
Dr. Genevieve Fuji Johnson, Political Science, Simon Fraser University
Tuesday, March 19, 2:30-4:30 pm, DTB A357
We argue that a solidaristic approach to theory building is needed to address practices and policies that are normatively entrenched despite their being known to cause, exacerbate, or contribute to the risk of wide-spread harms. The motivation is not just to ensure that scholarly research is kept relevant. Rather it is to ensure that research serves the ends of justice as identified and articulated by people and groups who are victims of harms and who are perpetually marginalized or excluded from the decision-making processes that result in these harms. Solidaristic normative theory calls not only for research that is participant-centered or community-focused; it also requires that researchers take a side in struggles for justice in solidarity with the oppressed. With reference to the struggles of major sex worker rights organizations in Canada and the United States to address the harms associated with criminalization, we develop a justification for this approach, highlight important methodological steps, and provide an illustration of what it looks like in practice. Co-sponsored by Gender Studies.

CAPI: “CHINA IN AFRICA: DEVELOPMENT PARTNER OR THE NEW IMPERIALIST”
Thursday, March 14, 3-4:30 pm, SEDG C168
Moderated by Marlea Clarke
Jesse Ovadia, University of Windsor “The Belt and Road Initiative and Narratives of China-Africa Engagement”
Analyses of China in Africa are dominated by dichotomous narratives of China as either a threat or a development partner. As the massive Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) gathers momentum, the potential of BRI projects and their impact on African economies are debated in similar terms to the larger question of how to understand China in Africa. This talk will review the BRI and assess whether it is an opening for economic cooperation and investment and/or a mechanism of indebting African states and projecting Chinese power over a “community of common destiny.”
Yoon Jung Park, Johns Hopkins University
Yoon Jung Park, Johns Hopkins University “Made in China or made in Africa? China-Africa engagement around clothes and shoes”
My talk will focus on recent shifts in and continuing challenges of China-Africa engagement around clothing and shoes. When African nations first opened their doors to imported goods from China, inexpensive consumer items, including clothing, flooded in and led to accusations that China was “dumping” inferior quality goods on Africa and causing de-industrialization and job losses. Complaints also emerged about low wages and abysmal labor conditions in Chinese owned garment factories. As my talk will show, these issues have again surfaced as Chinese investors work with African governments to set up special economic zones. Are Africa’s futures stitched up with China’s in this sector?
NEW DATE! POLI ALUMNI NETWORK PUB NIGHT
“Populism and the Migration Crisis: A Panel Discussion”
Wednesday, March 20, 5:30 pm, Maple Room Sticky Wicket Pub, 919 Douglas St.
Ticket Cost: $12 in advance | Includes one drink ticket and entry to prize draws
Registration: https://extrweb.uvic.ca/poli-panel-migration-and-rising-populism
The panel discussion will feature Michelle Bonner, Oliver Schmidtke and Feng Xu.
Populist movements around the globe are gaining ground, often in response to migration movements. In numerous countries, these movements are stoking anti-immigrant sentiment, calling for harsher border control policies and reducing international obligations toward migrants and refugees. This event explores the rise of populist movements in Europe, Asia, and Latin America and its implications for host and sending countries. Join fellow UVic alumni and friends for light refreshments, networking and thought-provoking dialogue.

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UVic ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROVOST’S ENGAGED SCHOLAR AWARD CELEBRATION
Tuesday, March 5, 4-6 pm, Salal Room, University Club
Please join us to celebrate community-engaged scholarship at UVic. This event, hosted by Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President Academic and Provost, will honour the 2019 Provost’s Engaged Scholars, Dr. Denise Cloutier (Geography) and Dr. Brent Mainprize (Peter B. Gustavson School of Business).
Following the awards presentation, Dr. Cloutier and Dr. Mainprize will each speak about their experiences in engaged scholarship. Come and be inspired. There will be a light reception at the event.

"CANADIANS GOING GLOBAL"
March 13, 5:30 - 8PM, DTB A110
The Canadians Going Global event features four panelists with very different life experiences who will discuss their educational backgrounds, career choices along the way, including all the twists and turns and the lessons learned. It’s especially an opportunity for students to gain some important insights as they contemplate future career choices with an international focus.
Over the entire event, students will hear about the various career paths, plus the challenges the panelists have faced along the way, and ideally depart with fresh career ideas about how they can become part of the global effort to drive positive change. Following the panel, there will be a social meet & greet session (with free food) where panellists can engage with students and senior community practitioners. The event will be moderated by Chris Kilford (President of CIC-Victoria and a former Military Attaché to Turkey and Afghanistan).
Panellists:
Patricia Liedl - an award-winning journalist, media strategist, and researcher with over 20 years of international experience and author of the book: The Hilary Doctrine: Sex and American Foreign Policy.
Phil Calvert - former Ambassador to Thailand, Cambodia and Laos and a senior research fellow at the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives.
Nicole Bates-Eamer - PhD student in Political Science, Program Manager for the SSHRC Borders in Globalization partnership grant at the Centre for Global Studies.
Bernard Duhaime - Professor of International Law at the Université du Québec à Montréal and President Rapporteur of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances reporting to the United Nations Human Rights Council, and a visiting scholar at the Centre for Global Studies.
This event is hosted by the Centre for Global Studies, the Undergraduates of Political Science course union, and the Canadian International Council - Victoria Branch.
EUS RESEARCH GRANTS
Deadline: Friday, March 15
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 information at https://www.uvic.ca/interdisciplinary/europe/travel-and-learn/grants/index.php. Questions? eusprog@uvic.ca.

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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