



17TH ANNUAL PSA AWARDS: A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION AND DRAMA

By Sydney Budgeon, Communications and Media Relations Officer

For an endlessly rousing year of politics, it was fitting that on 27 November 2018 the PSA hosted a rousing evening, compered as ever by Jon Snow of Channel 4 News, for all of Twitter to either celebrate or admonish. Additional entertainment was provided by MP4, the world's only parliamentary rock band.

As PSA Chair, Angelia Wilson, said in her opening address: 'Politics is indeed the greatest show! What a

spectacular year in politics... The marvels - or wonders - of liberty and democracy never cease!'

Eleven awards were presented on 27 November at Church House, recognising the accomplishments of students, academics, journalists, campaigners, photographers and politicians. The Rt Hon David Lammy MP walked away with one of the biggest

continued on page 3.

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

As I write we await the outcome of Brexit, the Augar Report and Plan S. This complexity makes it difficult to know the future for HE institutional finances, for our individual research projects and for our professional livelihoods. And that's before we mention the more familiar financial worries of REF and TEF outcomes.

European colleagues, of which the politics discipline has a significant proportion, are worried about their ability to remain in the UK long-term and the impact that may have on their income and families. I joked recently on Twitter that when political science experts

continued on page 4

OUR STATEMENT ON PLAN S

Read more: pages 26-27

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

MR SPEAKER AT PSA ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – p5

LAUNCH OF NEW PSA NETWORK – p17

INNOVATION REWARDED THROUGH
PUSHING THE BOUNDARIES SCHEME – p17

STUDENT VIDEO COMPETITION 2018 RESULTS – p29

ASSOCIATION NEWS

17th Annual PSA Awards: a night of celebration and drama	1	Joint specialist group conference held on 'Conservatives and Strategic Communication'	19
Chair's Message	1	Conservatism Studies accepting proposals for annual workshop	19
The Diverse Voices Doctoral Scholarship Fund	4	British Idealism hold annual conference	20
Speaker of House of Commons to speak at PSA Annual International Conference in Nottingham	5	New specialist group on Race, Migration and Intersectionality	20
PSA celebrates new office with housewarming party	5	News from Greek Politics	21
Need a meeting space in central london?	6	ECN host welcome event at Portcullis House	22
The year ahead	7	ECN Bridging the Gap: careers inside and outside higher education	23
Changes introduced to PSA memberships	7	Sport & Politics annual conference: 'Sport and the Politics of Identity'	23
Specialist Groups Convenors' Conference	8		
PSA holds joint Brexit media briefings with The UK in a Changing Europe	8		
Phase 1 completed for new www.psa.ac.uk, phases 2 and 3 still to come	9		
PSA nominations for trustee election opening in February	9		
Contemporary identity politics and the struggle for recognition	10		
PSA Annual Undergraduate Conference 2019	10		

DEPARTMENT AND MEMBER NEWS

Edge Hill University politics update	11
Congratulations to Andrew Crines who has been promoted to Senior Lecturer of British Politics at the University of Liverpool!	11
Workhouse to Westminster by Trevor Smith (Caper Press)	12
Glasgow Caledonian University launches Volpower project	13
University of Reading updates	13
Electoral research activities from International Islamic University Malaysia	14
Consilient science - unifying knowledge for problems and policy	16
New appointments at the LSE's Department of Government	16

PSA COMMUNITIES

Pushing the boundaries Specialist Group funding competition	17
Teaching and Learning Network launched	17
PSA Environment workshop on The future we want: shaping environmental politics	18
Commencing of a new specialist group on Turkish politics	18

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates for your diary	24
----------------------	----

RESEARCH AND IMPACT

PSA statement on Plan S	26
NORFACE call for proposals: democratic governance in a turbulent age	28

JOURNALS

Editorial team appointed for Political Studies Review	28
Call for special issues from BJPIR	28

SCHOOLS

PSA student video competition 2018	29
PSA School Membership	30
The UK's changing democracy: the 2018 democratic Audit	30
Applying to study politics	31
PSA school grant 2019	32

MEET THE TRUSTEES

Meet the Trustees	32
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ELECTORAL RESEARCH ACTIVITIES FROM INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA



By Syed Arabi Iddid & Khairul Syakirin Zulkifli

The Electoral Research Studies Unit (ESRU), based at the International Islamic University Malaysia, is collaborating with relevant academic departments, including: University Sains Malaysia (USM); Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM); Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and Universiti Malaya (UM) on electoral studies, public policy and media use.

The historic 14th Malaysian General Election also attracted academic institutions to critically discuss and examine the outcome. ESRU organised a seminar 'The 14th General Election (GE): An Analysis' on 28 June 2018. The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) also held a conference, 'Post-GE 14 Conference: Making Democracy Deliver' on 2 June 2018. On 11 December 2018, 'The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal Affairs' was organised by the Jeffrey Cheah Institute of South East Asia at Sunway University.

Several books have been published critically examining the outcome of the recent General Election. From UKM, the journal 'Jebat: Malaysian Journal of History, Politics and Strategy' came out with a special issue on the 14th General Election. Another book 'By-Election in Sungai Limau, Kajang, Balingian and Pengkalan Kubur', written in Malay, was published by IIUM. ESRU presented a study on Malaysian urban poverty to policy makers illustrating the social grievances of impoverished urban dwellers caused by the rise in cost of living.

