Though the second novel is always said to be harder to write than the first, I’m glad to report that enthusiasm for this second issue of TAVISTOCK TIMES rides high on the undoubted success of the first edition.

The new academic year got off to a tremendous start with a record intake of new students – some 211 Masters, with around 60% from the UK/EU and the rest from all other corners of the world. If one includes the current cohort of 25 doctoral students and the 50 odd affiliate students, it is clear that the School continues to grow apace.

Obviously, this growth poses a challenge to teaching and administrative staff alike but long term will hopefully allow the School to hire new staff and continue to develop its programmes.

Meanwhile, I am delighted that the continuing evolution of the Department has been marked by the promotion of two of the School’s pioneers, David Coen to a Professorship in Public Policy and Dr Meg Russell to a Readership in British and Comparative Politics. Gratifyingly, our high estimation of their worth has swiftly gained external endorsement with Professor Coen winning a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship to visit Harvard in the Spring, while Dr Russell has been awarded a three year ESRC fellowship to continue her research on the reform of the British Parliament.

We had a rather poignant return to memories of the pioneering days with the tragic death of Dr Tony Draper in October 2008. As everyone who had contact with him knew, he was a lovely man – intellectually engaging and unnervingly modest. I had corresponded with Tony before coming to UCL because one of his early essays was on Bentham’s relationship to the Italian philosopher Cesare Beccaria, whose main writings I had edited and part translated for CUP.

Professor Bellamy, Head of the Department of Political Science and Director of the School of Public Policy welcomes you to the second edition of TAVISTOCK TIMES.
However, I only really got to know him when I came to UCL as Professor of Political Science in 2005. By that time, he had already made his brave decision to leave higher education and embark on a new career as a school teacher so we only overlapped for a year as colleagues. Nevertheless, I owe him a great debt in welcoming me to SPP and helping me settle in. The electronic book of condolences, which can be accessed from the SPP home page, offers a moving testimony of his similar kindness to others – both staff and students. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue.

On a personal front, the new academic year promises to be as busy as ever – both within and outside UCL. In September 2008, I joined the ranks of the Academicians of Social Science (AcSS), bringing UCL’s membership to 7 (including, I discover, the Provost). At UCL, I have been involved in the setting up of a new Centre for Social Justice and Health, which we hope will be supported by the Welcome Foundation and incorporate a new interdisciplinary MA drawing on Philosophy, Political Science, Economics, Law and Biomedicine on the PPE of Health. Over the summer, I was also involved with a number of these colleagues in drafting a report commissioned by the Lancet on the health impacts of Global Warming, which was launched at a conference in November 2008. These initiatives belong to UCL’s strategy of capitalising on its coverage of most fields of human knowledge to offer global perspectives on Global problems through its research Grand Challenges. For me, they have certainly been both grandly challenging and greatly stimulating in taking me out of my usual academic ‘comfort zone’.

In a similar effort to mobilise research across UCL in given areas, I have also been working with colleagues in Law, Modern Languages and SSEES to set up a cross-UCL European Institute, while Dr Saladin Meckled-Garcia and George Lettas in Laws have been engaged in a parallel endeavour to create a Human Rights Institute. UCL has also been putting increasing emphasis on our engaging with those outside academia – not just policy makers, which has always been part of the School’s mission but also the local community, with UCL a designated ‘Beacon of Public Engagement’. As a result, the Department has joined UCL’s Partnership for Excellence with City and Islington Sixth Form College and a number of staff – including myself and Robert Hazell – will talk to A Level Politics students there over the coming year.

I have also enjoyed the opportunities to meet the public afforded by my writing a comparatively ‘popular’ book on Citizenship in OUP’s best selling A Very Short Introduction series. I had a fascinating weekend at the Hobbes Literary Festival in Malmesbury, where I debated citizenship from the seventeenth century to the present with John Morrill and Tony King and am looking forward to an event later in the Spring Term at Toynbee Hall in the East End of London. I also gave one of UCL’s lunch time public lectures on the inadvisability of a British Bill of Rights in November 2008.

More in my usual comfort zone, I had an interesting return to my doctoral research when asked to comment on recently published correspondence between the Italian Philosopher Benedetto Croce and the poet Maria Curtopassi. Dating from the last decade of his life, the main topic of their letters was the degree to which, as Croce put it in a famous article he wrote at the time, those who work in the western tradition ‘cannot not call ourselves Christian’. But whereas his correspondent saw this inheritance in somewhat orthodox religious terms, Croce viewed it entirely culturally. Indeed, he doubted the extent to which the Catholic or other Christian churches preserved what he liked to call the ‘living’ as opposed to what was ‘dead’ in Christian thought. It was a lively event, attended by the Italian ambassador and many of the Curtopassi family – one of whom – Count Nicolo Sella di Monteluca – entertained us royally (given his title, almost literally) afterwards.

Continuing research on constitutionalism and governance has produced the usual invitations to talk at universities near (Birmingham) and far (Beijing) and many in between, with no less than two visits to Frankfurt to discuss different aspects of my book on Political Constitutionalism. All of which has me slightly worried about my climate footprint – had better plant a few trees in the coming year.
In this sixty second interview we quiz Dr Christine Reh, Lecturer in European Politics and MSc European Public Policy Programme Director.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>What is your name?</strong></th>
<th>Dr Christine Reh</th>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Reh</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>When did you join UCL?</strong></th>
<th>September 2007</th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What are your responsibilities in the Department?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>I am the director of the MSc in European Public Policy and teach courses on the European Union’s Institutions and Politics, EU External Relations and the Europeanisation of national political systems. My current research investigates the informal politics of EU decision-making and the preparation of complex international negotiations.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What do you particularly like and dislike about your job?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>I like to feel that an argument holds, theoretically and empirically. I also enjoy teaching very much. I dislike marking and writing funding applications for the European Commission!</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What do you consider your greatest achievement to date?</strong></th>
<th>That’s up to others to judge!</th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Most inspirational person that you have met whilst at UCL?</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In very different ways: Cecile Laborde and Markus Kornprobst.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Favourite location around UCL?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon Square. It was home to the Bloomsbury Group and is a beautiful place to see the seasons change and to enjoy coffee breaks!</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What would your ideal afternoon/evening in London include?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>A stroll across Borough Market and a walk along the Southbank in the afternoon. Depending on the weather, I would spend the evening in the Globe or in a good Indian restaurant</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What is your favourite book?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Virginia Woolf’s <em>To the Lighthouse</em>.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>What are your hobbies?</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading, theatre, running and walking in London.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>If you had not gone into academia what would you be doing now?</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I would probably have gone into cultural diplomacy or be working in Brussels – either for a think tank or one of the more political consultancies.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>If you could implement one policy in the world today, what would it be?</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A genuine European policy on renewable energy.</td>
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SPECIAL NOTICE

The Department is very sad to announce the tragic death of Tony Draper

Tony Draper was a former UCL undergraduate, PhD student and lecturer. Tony died just a few days before starting a new career as a teacher at Chelmsford Grammar School. Tony left school at 16 and became a session musician but then re-entered academic study and took a First in History at UCL, staying on to do a doctorate on Bentham with Fred Rosen. He was awarded a British Academy post-doctoral fellowship based in UCL’s Bentham Project.

When the School of Public Policy was established in 1996, it became the home of the MA in Legal and Political Theory and Tony was a key contributor to the MA and to the development of the School’s teaching programmes from the early days. He taught the popular course on Crime and Punishment and was always in demand as a dissertation supervisor.

His students found themselves in the hands of a wise, enthusiastic but firm teacher who was generous with his time and advice. Tony moved from the Bentham Project to become a full time member of the School’s staff and he was a key figure in the successful expansion of the School’s teaching programmes, taking responsibility for directing the MA in Legal and Political Theory.

Always on hand to help both his academic and administrative colleagues, he was a joy to work with and his presence never failed to cheer those around him. The School of Public Policy owes him a large debt and he is remembered by all as an inspired scholar, a generous and supportive colleague and above all a highly successful and much loved teacher who imparted his enthusiasm for his subject to generations of students and future scholars.

Since we heard the tragic news we have received countless heart-warming messages from former students who have movingly conveyed how much of an impact Tony had on all those who met him. Tony is survived by his wife, Katya, and three young children, Anna (12), Julia (8) and James (5). Partly for the sake of the children, who when they are older might want to have a record of the memories of Tony by former colleagues and students, we have started an electronic book of condolences which can be found at:

www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/tony-draper

All those who knew Tony are encouraged to sign it; in due course the book will be printed, bound and presented to Tony’s family.
The International Public Policy Review (IPPR) is a student-run academic journal based in the Department of Political Science, School of Public Policy at UCL. It is published electronically twice a year. The primary objective of IPPR is to provide students, academics and policymakers with in-depth analysis of the ideas, actors and mechanisms that shape our world. The journal is now moving into its fifth year.

An Editorial Odyssey

By Leila Reid, Valerie Kirwan and Tony Daly

Three Editors from the School of Public Policy’s student-led electronic academic journal, the International Public Policy Review, recount a balanced year in the electronic publishing house while conducting their masters degrees in UCL.

Working for the Review is to read, write, analyse and deliberate on topics that are at the forefront of international social and public policy. As editors, our primary objective was to isolate and prepare copy that is of vigorously high academic quality, interesting in content and are unique in contributing to the public policy community. As a process there is no question of the value that the marketing, PR and diplomacy skills brought out by the regimented deadlines and regular communications, albeit, with generous helpings of perseverance!

Upon reading a paper one rarely considers the bulwark of work required to arrive at the point of publication. The planning, management and administrative side is almost as intensive as the actual writing of the piece. While the editorial board’s roles are varied, focussing on different parts of the process from publicity and PR of the initial call through to copy and styles editing near the end, the board was very much a team from start to finish. Most work was shared across the group, each editor managing their section but never in isolation from the rest, always working in a regularly interdependent research environment.

Always a social, political and technical event, editorial meetings were never short of excitement, especially during the unpredictability of the submissions process. The workload never proved overwhelming – enthusiasm, pace and application can set the tone for efficiently and flexibly managed issues as they came up. The practical nature of the work should not be underplayed, as holiday seasons, essay deadlines and college coursework must be factored in at the earliest stages of the planning year. We therefore all had to plan our workload – both in- and outside of IPPR – to ensure we could fulfil all aspects of the packed master’s year, without a doubt benefiting both the journal and our own studies.

The comprehensive experience of organising, reading critically and publishing the work of a wide burst of authors prepares those involved with indispensable academic and practical management skills. Learning to communicate with another author’s work, placing it within the discipline and assessing its contribution is a task that can only be learned through experience. Really evaluating the research behind a paper – not something one need often do while exposed only to published works – teaches research design and methodologies on a practical level unavailable to most students. This insight, along with so much else learned throughout the submissions stage, is invaluable when it comes to dissertation planning and in future careers.

It has been a great experience – we have gained a huge range of skills to complement and broaden our year’s study in the department, as well as making great (and no doubt soon very influential) friends along the way.

To get involved, contribute or join this year’s Editorial team see www.ucl.ac.uk/ippr/
LAUNCH OF MSc SECURITY STUDIES PROGRAMME

In September 2009, the UCL Department of Political Science, School of Public Policy will launch a timely new master’s programme in Security Studies

The Programme Director, Dr Alex Braithwaite, writes:

Realising Security—Introducing the MSc in Security Studies

The meaning of security is evolving. Conventional threats to international security such as the development of nuclear facilities by Iran and North Korea and the ebb and flow of border tensions between Russia and a number of former Soviet states remain pertinent in the Twenty-First Century. They are, however, now coupled with and perhaps outpaced by a range of novel threats to international, regional, state and perhaps most crucially, human security. Transnational and domestic flows of displaced peoples are subject to the atrocities of civil violence in the Darfur region of the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo’s Kivu province, for instance. In both cases, questions abound as to the most appropriate means of reaching resolution to the problems of child soldier recruitment, rape as a tactic of war and the use of refugee camps as safe-havens for rebel and insurgent groups. Whereas these problems were once kept from boiling over by the two great powers of the Cold War, few arrangements are in place today to prevent their spread across national boundaries.

As America continues to experience diminished global respect for its hegemonic agenda, International Organisations fail to demonstrate coherent and cohesive plans for collective action and states struggle to ensure sovereign control of their national boundaries, poverty, infectious disease and ecological crises continue to feed into human-sanctioned uses of violence with no evident signs of abatement. In the context of the dramatic transnationalisation of violent political conflict, solutions are required that place human agency within national, regional and global structures of norms, rules and power politics. Whilst base motivations to rebel, repress and compete militarily may not have changed dramatically of late, the geographic scope of their impacts undoubtedly has.

Research and training in the area of security studies too often adhere to anachronistic assumptions about the causes and consequences of political violence. If we are to provide informative policy recommendations we need to embrace the novelties evident around us. In other words, our theories and empirical models of violent political conflict need to be updated if they are to enable us to accurately account for the transnationalisation of threats and solutions to security.

The new MSc Security Studies at the School of Public Policy is designed to prepare a new generation of scholars, policymakers and leaders to identify, explain and tackle the sources of these global insecurities. This preparation comes via exposure to empirical and normative accounts of terrorism, civil violence and international war, as well as via a rigorous training in the leading methodological tools required for successful political analysis.

Further information about the programme and application forms can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/teaching/masters-programme/MSc_Security_Studies
REDESIGN OF DEPARTMENTAL WEBSITE

Request for participation on shaping the new website:

The current Department of Political Science website, www.ucl.ac.uk/spp will be undergoing extensive redesign in 2009.

The new site will feature enhanced accessibility and usability features as well as focusing more on raising the Department’s profile, activities and programmes.

To assist in the site redesign, users can take part in an online questionnaire. This survey will only take a few minutes to complete and everyone’s participation is important in shaping the new website.

See the survey at http://opinio.ucl.ac.uk/s?s=3716

Please complete the survey before 09 February 2009.

FULBRIGHT DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP

Harvard University

We are pleased to announce that Professor David Coen has been awarded the Fulbright Distinguished Fellowship at Harvard University from March to June 2009. While at Harvard he will be the International Scholar in residence at the prestigious Centre for Business and Government at the Kennedy School of Government and a fellow of the Minda de Gunzburg Centre for European Studies. During his 4 months in the USA he is planning to work on a comparative book on EU and US Business and Government relations and will give a series of talks at leading US universities such as Harvard Business School, Brown University, New York University, Maxwell School of Public Affairs at Syracuse University and School of Diplomacy at the American University Washington.

CRITICAL REPUBLICANISM

Dr Cecile Laborde launches her new book

Dr Cecile Laborde’s new book, Critical Republicanism. The Hijab Controversy and Political Philosophy has just been published by Oxford University Press, in the prestigious Oxford Political Theory series. The first comprehensive philosophical analysis of the hijab controversy in France, this book also conducts a dialogue between Anglo-American and French political theory and defends a progressive republican solution to so-called multicultural conflicts in contemporary societies.
This year’s graduation ceremony for the 2006-07 cohort was held on 01 September 2008 at the Logan Hall, Institute of Education.

The ceremony was attended by over 30 former students representing all of the MA and MSc programmes. The Department was represented by Dr Jennifer van Heerde and Dr David Hudson who said:

“...It’s inspiring and quite stunning to see how successful all of our former students are. It’s amazing that each year we seem to have such a great cohort of students—smart, driven and successful. It’s also a pleasure to hear that they are actually using the knowledge and skills from their masters in their new careers! It’s always great to see people again, to catch-up and be introduced to parents. I hope most of them will stay in touch for years to come.”

Jonathan Vince, MSc International Public Policy (2005-07) attended the graduation ceremony and said:

“...Having worked in the private sector (IT consultancy) and public sector (UK government employment strategy) for six years since achieving my first degree in Business and Economics, I joined the UCL MSc International Public Policy programme primarily to change and further my career. Although it was difficult to combine a full-time job and part-time Masters, the staff were very supportive and my two years at the School of Public Policy were extremely rewarding at a personal and professional level.

I focused my dissertation on the role of ideas in international peace and security and within a month of completing it I had secured a career move to work in counter-terrorism. Shortly after that I was promoted to head up a strategy team accountable for UK government counter-terrorism communications."

Congratulations to all our graduates; we wish you continued success!
New UCL Institute for human rights and equality

Dr Saladin Meckled-Garcia introduces a new cross-departmental initiative in the form of a human rights centre:

Members of staff at UCL’s Department of Political Science and Department of Laws are working together on an initiative to set up a new UCL Institute for Human Rights and Equality. The institute will be a cross-departmental centre facilitating research collaboration, stakeholder engagement and teaching development across the university.

Since 2003 human rights studies have become a key feature of the work of the Department of Political Science (School of Public Policy) with a masters degree going from strength to strength, funded research projects and an ever increasing international profile. Students from the Department have gone on to work for important international human rights organisations, for governments and in the non-governmental sector.

At the same time other departments, including Laws, Geography, Anthropology and Biomedicine have been engaged in human rights-relevant teaching and research. The time is right, then, to join up areas of emerging common interest and potential collaborative work, in the form of a human rights centre.

It is also foreseen that the institute will promote visiting lectureships, research fellowships, PhD studentships, scholarships and internships in its future work.

Meetings to finalise arrangements for the institute are currently taking place and a launch event on ‘Corporate Social Responsibility and Human Rights’ will be taking place in the second term, followed by a series of symposia. The initiative is being coordinated by Dr Saladin Meckled-Garcia (Political Science) and Dr George Letsas (Laws).

The coordinators for the project are also closely collaborating with the new UCL Student Human Rights Programme, which is a student forum for human rights research, events and discussion and was launched in October 2008.

UCL and the Department of Political Science are once again showing their commitment to cutting edge initiatives in the field of human rights theory and practice.

Successful bid to European commission’s Jean Monnet fund

Dr Christine Reh, Programme Director of the MSc European Public Policy Programme, is pleased to announce:

As of the 2008/2009 academic year a new course on “External Relations of the European Union” will be offered as part of the School’s MSc in European Public Policy. The course will be taught in the spring term and looks at core issues of EU foreign policy such as the transatlantic relationship, trade and development, crisis management and conflict resolution, as well as global environmental policy and the external dimension of internal security.

The European Commission has recognised the course as a Jean Monnet Module, awarding it €20,000 over a three-year period. This award will be used to fund extracurricular teaching activities, including a study visit to Brussels, guest lectures and a policy simulation. The Department also plans to host a high-level panel discussion in spring, looking at the EU’s policy strategy for the 2009 Copenhagen climate conference.

FUTURE EDITIONS OF TAVISTOCK TIMES

TAVISTOCK TIMES will be published three times a year with the next edition due to be published in April 2009.

Ideas for future articles should be sent to Helen Holt, h.holt@ucl.ac.uk before the end of February 2008.

Contributions from past students are especially welcome keeping the Department up to date on their progress since leaving UCL.
PhD PROGRAMME NEWS

Dr Jennifer van Heerde, MPhil/PhD Programme Director reports that:

With over 30 active MPhil/PhD students, the programme continues to grow and is going from strength-to-strength as evidenced by the large number of students publishing their work in quality outlets, engaging with policymakers, presenting at conferences and gaining valuable teaching experience. We are proud to acknowledge the following work.

Recent Publications


Engaging with Policymakers


Conference Presentations


Departmental Teaching Fellows

The following PhD students are teaching on the Department’s undergraduate programme during 2008-09:

Harald Heubaum, Global Environmental Politics
Sara Kutchesfahani, International Security
Nicole Salisbury, International Development
Raluca Soreanu, IR Theories: Continental Perspectives

Finally, on behalf of the Department, I am pleased to welcome back our returning students and would like to take this opportunity to introduce and welcome the 2008 cohort:

Sabina Appelt, Human Rights
David Blunt, Political Theory
Niheer Dasandi, International Development
Catherine Elliot, International Development
Melanie Garson-Sweidan, International Relations
Francisco Marques, Comparative Politics
Barbara Sennholz, International Political Economy
David Wearing, International Relations
NEW STAFF

We are pleased to welcome some new faces to the department this term including:

**Dr Chris Boyle**  
*Teaching Fellow in International Political Economy*

Chris Boyle received his DPhil in International Relations from Sussex University in 2006. His doctoral thesis, which was supervised by Dr Justin Rosenberg, employed Marx's social theory of value as the starting point for a sociological analysis of the emergence of classical political economy and modern nationalism. A chapter of this work has been published recently in the European Journal of International Relations. At the moment, Chris is writing a critique of critical IPE. He lives in North London with his wife Liz and their two young boys.

Dr Chris Boyle will be joining us in January to teach on 'International Political Economy' while Dr David Hudson is on sabbatical leave.

**Kristi Winters**  
*Teaching Fellow in Gender and Politics*

Kristi Winters is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Government at the University of Essex. She was the Senior Research Officer for the British Election Study from 2004-2006. From 1996 until 2002, she worked in American politics as a political organiser and legislative aide. Her research interests include political behaviour, gender and politics and research methods. Her most recent publication, Understanding Men’s and Women’s Political Interests: Evidence from a Study of Gendered Political Attitudes, was co-authored with Dr. Rosie Campbell (Birkbeck) and appeared in the Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties. Kristi will be joining the Department of Political Science to teach the affiliate course in Gender and Politics.

**Raya Kardasheva**  
*Teaching Fellow in EU Politics*

Raya Kardasheva joins the department in January 2009 as a Teaching Fellow in EU Policy-Making. Raya is completing a PhD in EU Decision - Making at the London School of Economics under the supervision of Professor Damian Chalmers and Professor Simon Hix. Raya holds an MSc in European Politics and Governance (LSE) and a BA in International Relations and Political Science (Richmond). Her research interests include lobbying in the European Parliament, legislative politics, EU decision-making and applied quantitative methods. Raya’s paper on The Power to Delay: The European Parliament’s Influence in the Consultation Procedure is being published in the February 2009 edition of the Journal of Common Market Studies.

**Amaya Ubeda de Torres**  
*Teaching Fellow in Human Rights*

Dr Amaya Ubeda de Torres is a Researcher for the Free University of Brussels and she teaches International Human Rights Law at the UCL's School of Public Policy as well as at the Law Department of the London School of Economics. She completed her PhD at both the University of Strasbourg and the University Complutense of Madrid on the protection of democracy through Human Rights Courts in Europe and America. Her dissertation was awarded the Human Rights Prize René Cassin and has been published in Spanish (Democracia y Derechos Humanos en Europa y en América, Reus, Madrid, 2007) and is to be published also in French (Bruylant, Brussels, 2009). Dr Ubeda has conducted research on International Law and International Human Rights Law, focusing on the role of the European and the Inter-American Courts of Human Rights, refugees’ rights, asylum seekers and foreigners’ rights, freedom of expression and the legitimacy of the International Criminal Law in the quest for peace. She has also published a systematic study on the Inter-American Court on Human Rights’ case-law with professor Laurence Burgorgue-Larsen and several articles on the dialogue of judges and on the role of International legal actors shaping rule of law and democracy at the domestic level.

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PAST STUDENTS
WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Since the launch of the first Tavistock Times in the summer of 2008, we have been kindly contacted by many past students informing us of their progress since leaving the Department. A selection of progress reports follows:

Eleonora Cervellera
*MSc European Public Policy, 2003–05 (Part-time)*

I am currently working for Buro Happold, a large engineering firm specializing in sustainable design, master planning and urban regeneration, environmental management and policy advice. The company has approximately 2,000 employees, 24 offices around the world with a range of business activities that covers all 5 continents.

My role within Buro Happold is two-fold. As Chairman’s executive assistant, I work alongside the company’s Chairman. My job consists of identifying, delivering and developing business projects linked to his role of Buro Happold’s ambassador within our market, industry bodies, policy makers, civil society and other stakeholders. One of the most amazing experiences this job has given me so far is travelling to Rwanda and Malawi to meet local authorities’ representatives and central government leaders.

The main scope of this trip was to identify ways in which our skills and expertise could assist them in reducing the national level of poverty while ensuring the implementation of their policy and strategy.

As Corporate Responsibility (CR) Champion, my role consists of designing the corporate responsibility policy and implementing the programme. This involves linking our values and aspirations to our business strategy. I am currently developing a global CR framework to allow our company to set objectives and achieve tangible and measurable outcomes that deliver engagement and value both inside and outside our business.

Laurence Hopkins
*MSc Public Policy, 2005–06*

I moved to London from New Zealand in 2002 and graduated from SPP in 2006 with a Masters in Public Policy.

While undertaking the Masters I completed an internship at The Change Institute, a consultancy and think tank specialising in issues relating to race, faith and identity. I now work at the Change Institute as a Senior Analyst and have worked in a wide range of policy areas including cultural policy, education, cohesion and integration and violent extremism.

Specific projects I have worked on include research on the beliefs, ideologies and narratives of violent extremism, an evaluation of how education policy in Europe promotes equal opportunities, running a network of experts on violent radicalisation sponsored by the European Commission, working on the Council of Europe’s Intercultural Cities programme and an evaluation of Arts Council England’s decibel programme.

In 2008, I was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, Manufacturing and Commerce in recognition of my work on cultural diversity in the arts.

In April 2009, I will be marrying fellow SPP 2006 graduate, Leigh Kelly!
Last September I completed a masters in European Public Policy at UCL. Since then I have been lucky enough to obtain a job in Westminster working as a correspondence and research assistant for an MP. From research positions to working with the media, Parliament can offer some wonderful opportunities for enthusiastic graduates, especially ones which have obtained a masters from a university as prestigious as UCL. My time in UCL equipped me with the confidence, knowledge and skills necessary to apply for a number of positions in London, the EU and further afield, in areas such as communications, finance, journalism and public affairs. If I could offer some advice to current students it would be to use your summer months wisely, start your job hunt early and take advantage of every opportunity to complement your studies with practical experience through internships or student journals such as the IPPR.

My chosen postgraduate course provided the flexibility to pursue in detail particular subjects and policy areas which were of interest to me, whilst still providing an excellent general grounding in contemporary politics and economics. Beyond this, the course material and lecturers encouraged me to critically assess the world, a tool which is invaluable in whatever career path you choose to pursue. This is what gives SPP students a considerable edge in a competitive labour market and what made my year in the School of Public Policy, Department of Political Science, challenging, satisfying and the perfect grounding from which to carve out a career in public policy.

Valerie Kirwan
MSc European Public Policy, 2007–08

Maxine Monks
MSc European Public Policy, 2007–08

Tammy Sandhu
MSc International Public Policy, 2004–05

I joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in 2005 after completing my MSc in International Public Policy. My first job in the FCO was as Select Committee Liaison Officer, managing the relationship between the FCO and the House of Commons and House of Lords Select Committees.

My next job was in our Counter Terrorism Department as Crisis Management Desk Officer, dealing mainly with the kidnaps of British nationals overseas. I have been involved in several high profile incidents such as the Alan Johnston case, the BBC journalist kidnapped in Gaza last year and the current five men kidnapped in Iraq. As part of this job I was deployed overseas several times to places such as Baghdad and Nairobi.

I am now preparing for my first overseas job - I will be posted to our Embassy in Rabat, Morocco, in June 2009 to work as Second Secretary for Political and Economic Affairs. I’ll be covering a wide range of issues such as the Western Sahara dispute, the drivers of radicalisation and Moroccan relations with the EU so I’m spending the next six months doing lots of training and learning French.

I’m working life currently takes place in the Legal Directorate of the Ministry of Justice in Victoria Street, London. The Ministry of Justice is a new department of state and its Legal Directorate is encompassed by the Democracy, Constitution and Law Division. It is responsible for advising Ministers, policy consultation, legislative drafting and casework in areas of criminal, civil and family justice and high profile constitutional and legal policy. As well as housing experts in their fields, the Ministry provides advice to other government departments on a variety of cross cutting issues such as Data Protection, Freedom of Information as well as Human Rights and devolution. Working to three of eight Legal Assistant Directors, who are heads of the Information & Human Rights, Constitution, Civil & Family teams respectively, I am gaining exposure to an array of legal issues. I feel really lucky to be in a department where I can see the practical aspects of the law that interest me most and have studied throughout both my LLB and MSc.

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Maxine Monks
MSc European Public Policy, 2007–08

Tammy Sandhu
MSc International Public Policy, 2004–05
The 2008 American presidential election was a pivotal moment in American politics. It brought out feelings of hope and excitement for people all over the world, not only because the United States had elected its first African-American president but also because it had turned its back on a president whose approval ratings continued to sink to new depths.

With the election behind us, the question now is how will Barack Obama govern and shape policy? Broadly speaking, the challenges facing Mr Obama are enormous, as he inherits from the Bush Administration two wars and a financial crisis whose disastrous consequences are still rippling across the world. In order to blunt the effects of the recession and bring some relief to Americans, Mr Obama will likely try to pass a stimulus spending package, while initiating his health care reforms. However, his ability to move on health care may be constrained by his attention to other more urgent issues, as well as soaring deficits.
In talking to members of the Department of Political Science, one gets a nuanced sense of how policy making will change under the Obama Administration.

In foreign relations, one of Obama’s first major tasks will be to repair the broken American image around the world. Dr Alex Braithwaite, Director of the MSc Security Studies programme, suggests that this will not happen necessarily through specific policy changes but rather through a change in overall tone, as Obama will most likely make important international decisions in a more multi-lateral fashion than did President Bush.

Dr Christine Reh, Director of the MSc European Public Policy programme, similarly states that big changes in the policy details of the transatlantic relationship are unlikely but rather there will be a change in the atmosphere of the relationship that will be eagerly embraced by European Union countries. This broad shift in the nature of the transatlantic relationship may then yield clearer abandonment of particular Bush-era policies, especially as the U.S. and E.U. prepare for the 2009 U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. However, Dr Reh also warns that the Europeans may be thinking too much about what they will gain from an Obama presidency and not enough about what they might be asked to do.

Mending foreign relations may also come in the form of increased foreign aid. According to Dr David Hudson, Director of the MSc International Public Policy programme, the Obama campaign made specific promises to increase the level of foreign aid from $25 billion to $50 billion by 2012. However, Dr Hudson cautions that the more attention a looming domestic recession receives, the less likely that this promise will be kept entirely intact.

A major test of the extent to which the Obama Administration will repudiate Bush Administration policies may be seen in the area of human rights. Dr Saladin Meckled-Garcia, Director of the MA Human Rights programme, says that if Obama is serious about improving the state of human rights, the proposed closure of the Guantanamo Bay prison is an ideal first step but much more will need to be done, such as passing legislation to prevent the creation of future Guantanamo-like institutions, investigating and prosecuting those that have been involved in rendition and torture and legally ensuring that U.S. military personnel adhere to responsibilities to protect human rights on foreign soil. Dr Meckled-Garcia maintains a decidedly wait-and-see perspective on whether the Obama Administration can or will do these things, in part, he says, because Democratic presidents often take hawkish stances on foreign policy matters in order to appease Republican critics.

Finally, in addition to possible changes in tone and substance, the 2008 presidential campaign may permanently alter the way campaigns are run in the United States. Dr Jennifer van Heerde, Director of the MPhil/PhD programme, says that the combined $1 billion spent between the McCain and Obama campaigns is far more than previous campaigns and is going to reinvigorate debate over the dynamics and effects of campaign finance. Dr van Heerde suggests that while the overall rise in campaign funding may be a cause for concern, the enormous rise in smaller donors is seen as a positive step for political participation.

In summary, these opinions suggest that Mr Obama will strive to differentiate himself from President Bush in many important ways but the constraints he faces, in the form of wars, a shrinking economy and almost immeasurably high expectations, will prove challenging to overcome.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Prospective students may be interested in the various full or partial funding opportunities available for students wishing to pursue postgraduate studies in the School of Public Policy in 2009/10. These include opportunities for those wishing to take a Masters course or those looking to pursue a 3 year or 1+3 year PhD programme in political science.

Candidates submitting a UCL application prior to Friday 30th January 2009 will be considered for all of the schemes identified below with the exception of the Teaching Assistantships. The Department will invite applications to Teaching Assistant positions later in the 2008/09 academic year. Further details of funding available from the School or UCL are given below:

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<th><strong>ESRC 3/1+3 PhD Studentship (Home)</strong></th>
<th><strong>AHRC Funding for MPil/PhD and Masters Degrees</strong></th>
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<td>The School has one ESRC funded studentship for offer in 2009/10 available to students eligible for home fee status. The funding is for a three-year PhD studentship or a four-year programme of training including one of the School's Masters programmes. The award includes full payment of Home fees and a stipend (£14,940 p.a. in 2008/09). Details of ESRC studentships can be found here: <a href="http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/postgraduate/fundingopportunities/">www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/postgraduate/fundingopportunities/</a></td>
<td>The School has been successful in previous years in obtaining AHRC funding for Doctoral and Masters degrees in their schemes for Doctoral funding, Research Preparation and Professional Preparation Masters Awards. The AHRC is currently making changes to its funding mechanism for entry in 2009. Details of the funding made available to students wishing to study in the School of Public Policy will be made available on our website: <a href="http://www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/teaching/mpil-phd/funding">www.ucl.ac.uk/spp/teaching/mpil-phd/funding</a> as soon as it is available. However, it is anticipated that the 30 January 2009 deadline for submission of a UCL application for those wishing to apply for AHRC funding will still apply.</td>
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<td>All PhD candidates who apply before 30 January 2009 will be considered. Masters students wishing to be considered for a four-year programme of study (1 year Master + 3 years PhD) should submit a UCL application and send a letter of interest by email to Lisbeth Aagaard (<a href="mailto:l.aagaard@ucl.ac.uk">l.aagaard@ucl.ac.uk</a>) before 30 January 2009. The letter should outline why you are interested in applying for the studentship, your research interests and should provide contact details of two referees.</td>
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Scholarships Available from UCL

There are various postgraduate funding opportunities available from UCL centrally including:

- Graduate School Research Scholarship (GSRS)
- Dorothy Hodgkin Postgraduate Award (DHPA)

These schemes have a common application deadline of 30 January 2009 but the financial support provided and the terms for eligibility vary. Applicants are advised to visit the Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/scholarships/graduate/ for more details.

Departmental MPhil/PhD Bursary (Home/EU & Overseas)

The School of Public Policy has one partial bursary (£1,695) available for an MPhil/PhD student registering on the School’s MPhil/PhD programme in the 2009/10 academic year. The bursary will be awarded through open competition on the basis of academic merit. Candidates are expected to demonstrate that they have made applications or are intending to make an application for additional funding from alternative sources such as the UCL Scholarships, AHRC or ESRC etc to supplement the departmental bursary. Applications received by 30 January 2009 will be automatically considered for this award.
NEWS FROM THE CONSTITUTION UNIT

The Constitution Unit is an independent research institute situated within the School of Public Policy. The Constitution Unit is the UK’s leading centre for the study of constitutional change and has a long track record of conducting high-quality research and influencing policy debates through publications and events.

The Unit is led by its Director, Professor Robert Hazell, and comprises a further four full-time researchers and two administrators. The Unit also frequently recruits interns to assist in its research projects, including many SPP graduates. Some Unit staff also teach courses within SPP and act as supervisors for students’ dissertations in relevant areas.

SPP students are also welcome to attend many of the Constitution Unit’s public events and to draw upon the Unit’s extensive back catalogue of publications about constitutional reform.

Full details of the Constitution Unit’s activities can be found at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit

A few recent highlights are discussed below:

New publication

The new book ‘Constitutional Futures Revisited: Britain’s Constitution to 2020’ was published in October and launched at a conference at Lancaster House in November 2008.

The constitution is in a period of flux. Past changes have unfinished business and there are more changes still to come – whatever the political hue of future governments. With this in mind, the Constitution Unit has been working with other experts to forecast the outcomes of these changes and their impact on the UK’s key institutions and the constitution as a whole.

The project, funded by the Nuffield Foundation, is novel in that it uses ‘futures studies’ techniques to create clear scenarios and it describes how the constitution is likely to change, rather than how it should change.

Key questions addressed include: will devolution lead to Scottish independence and the break up of the UK? Will a British bill of rights lead to yet more power for the judges? Will there be electoral reform at Westminster? and will this mean more power for Parliament, or less?

The book is aimed at policy makers, lawyers and judges, the media, academics, students and anyone interested in the future of the UK’s political landscape.

More details at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit/research/constitutional-futures-revisited
A Tale of Two Interns

Tony Daly and Chris McCarthy, both recent masters graduates in International Public Policy from SPP, Department of Political Science, give an account of their experience as interns at the Constitution Unit.

“Working at the Constitution Unit under the guidance of Dr Ben Worthy and Mark Glover has been both a pleasure and a challenge. Studies into Freedom of Information, government transparency and data protection have never been more relevant. We have been contributing to the Unit’s work on these areas through our coding of data, transcribing of interviews and statistical analysis. These roles have vastly developed our knowledge of the public-policy process, affording us a more intimate understanding of the machinery of government. Always a lively and creative environment to work in, interns are quickly integrated and provided with valued responsibilities. This is an opportunity not to be missed by any budding policy researcher.”

Public Seminar Series

The second half of the Constitution Unit’s 2008 seminar series has seen a monthly series of public seminars to which all UCL staff and students were warmly invited. Recent seminars have addressed a range of topical constitutional issues:

On 19 May 2008
Ben Bradshaw MP (Minister of State for Health & Government Minister for the South West Region) discussed his diverse responsibilities in ‘The Role of Regional Ministers in England’, a seminar coinciding with the role’s first birthday.

On 17 June 2008
Ann Abraham (Parliamentary Ombudsman) discussed her quest to improve public administration and administrative justice in ‘Good Administration: Why we need it more than ever’.

On 22 July 2008
Francesca Klug (LSE) and Roger Smith (Director, JUSTICE), asked and answered tough questions about the government’s plans for a British Bill of Rights.

On 25 November 2008
Sam Younger (Chairman, Electoral Commission) gave a lecture titled ‘Poll Position – reflections on eight years of the Electoral Commission.’

On 11 December 2008
Oonagh Gay (House of Commons Library) & Barry Winetrobe (Constitution Unit) gave a lecture titled ‘Parliaments and Constitutional Watchdogs: Continuing the Debate.’

UCL staff and students are warmly invited.

More details and booking for future events can be found at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/constitution-unit/events

Research update

Dr Ben Worthy and Mark Glover continue to make progress in ‘Evaluating the impact of Freedom of Information’, the first academic study of its kind. Ben and Mark have interviewed most of the civil servants in their case study departments and have presented provisional findings from this aspect of their research, as well as the survey of requesters and media content analysis, at the ‘FOI Live’ information rights conference in June 2008, to their steering committee in October 2008, and to the Unit’s Government Information Policy Seminar Series in November 2008.
It must once again be Christmas…staff and students joined together to celebrate the successful completion of the autumn term on a chilly December afternoon. Teaching (bar a couple of subjects) was complete, coursework handed in and plans for the Christmas break ready to be actioned.

As is becoming tradition at the Department, Christmas drinks were held in the North Cloisters of UCL. The North Cloisters form part of the main thoroughfare of the university and showcases exhibitions of various aspects of the university’s life and history. Currently on show is the China-China exhibition and staff and students were able to enjoy drinks and mince pies whilst mingling amongst artefacts from UCL’s museums and collections, selected to stimulate questions and debate about China and fostering a greater understanding between China and the UK.

Turn-out was high as was the mood – however, a sad note was felt in the mix. Dr Markus Kornprobst, the department’s popular Global Governance expert, was toasting the department for a final time as a member of the SPP team. Armed with only his suitcase Markus had come to wish his students well before heading for the airport to take up his Chair in International Relations at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

The department is sad to say goodbye to Markus and his dedication to his subject and students (the suitcase says it all!) – however, we wish him all the best in his new role in Vienna.

Cheers Markus and a Happy New Year to all!