

# POSTGRADUATE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Newsletter – June/July 2018

Welcome to the June/July newsletter about recent developments related to our MA degrees in International Relations and International Security.

Dr. Stephen Hurt (Course Director, MA in IR and MA in International Security).

## Annual Postgraduate Day

On 8<sup>th</sup> June, we held our Annual Postgraduate Day. We were delighted that Prof Robbie Shilliam was able to give the guest lecture: 'Race and the Undeserving Poor: From Abolition to Brexit'.



After lunch, two of our PhD students (Jasmin Dall'Agnola Kian Pourkermani) gave presentations on their research projects. The afternoon concluded with four panels of MA students who outlined their summer dissertation topics.

## Graduation Ceremony

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, our most recent MA graduates attended their ceremony. It was a pleasure to see them celebrate their success and hear the progress they have made since completing their dissertations. The event was led by the Chancellor of Oxford Brookes and former

Olympic rower, Dame Dr Katherine Grainger.

## Staff news and optional modules for 2018-19

Dr Rico Isaacs has secured a prestigious Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship to work on a research project entitled 'Sustaining Authoritarianism: Parliaments and Personalism in Central Asia'. The project investigates the importance of formal institutions for authoritarian durability through a study of parliaments in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Due to Rico's successful funding application, we will be unable to run his optional module ('International Energy Security') during the forthcoming academic year. We can confirm that all our other optional modules will be running.



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