

aegcpp

Inaugural European Graduate Conference on Political Parties
Monday 16th February 2009
University of Birmingham, England
<http://www.aegcpp.org.uk>

CALL FOR PAPERS – Deadline Monday 5th Jan 2009

The inaugural annual postgraduate conference on the topic of political parties at a national, sub-national and European level will be held on Monday 16th February 2009 at the University of Birmingham. The AEGCPP conference seeks to provide a platform for postgraduate research in the area of political parties. Given the dynamic nature of the subject area, the conference seeks to provide postgraduate students with an arena in which to discuss, challenge and interpret the changes occurring in the field.

Keynote speakers for the inaugural conference:

Prof. Paul Webb, (Morning Session)

*University of Sussex, Editor of *Party Politics* journal*

Dr Karin Bottom, (Midday Session)

University of Birmingham, Specialist in Local / Small & Extremist Parties

Dr Colin Copus, (Afternoon Session)

*University of Birmingham, Editor of *Local Government Studies* journal*

Prof. Kaare Strom, (Afternoon Session)

*University of California at San Diego, Editorial Board *European Union Politics**

with a short departmental welcome address from:

University of Birmingham AEGCPP 2009 Convenor

For many years political parties have been frequently been declared dead by a wide range of observers. Despite this recurrent death warrant, political parties still dominate the landscape of modern democracies and provide researchers with often difficult questions as to their persistence, their organisation and their behaviour. New challenges arrive for political parties almost every day in the twenty-first century and despite incessant assault from external forces; often seem to survive the challenges. Of course this description does not fit every case but on the whole, political parties have been a permanent feature in almost all modern democracies across the world; at national, sub-national and now supra-national level. These powerful organisations have differed across states, across governance levels and throughout time and researchers have tried to unpick their locks to explain their existence, organisation and behaviour.

The Annual European Graduate Conference on Political Parties (AEGCPP) seeks to bring together postgraduate researchers from across Europe working with political parties and share current research about the life of the party, from the structure of the organisation itself to the behaviour in Parliaments and legislatures; from its inter- or intra- party communication to its method of campaigning. Along with much more types of research concerning political parties worldwide, the conference seeks to work across formal approaches to discover the state of research currently undertaken by graduates. Organised by and for postgraduate students, the AEGCPP conference seeks to provide a supportive atmosphere in which to present research and a significant opportunity to discuss your work with peers across Europe.

For more information about submission of an abstract or how to propose a panel
– please visit <http://www.aegcpp.org.uk>