Some professional resources available for Politics PhD students

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Professional Associations

Disciplinary Associations

Political Studies Association - www.psa.ac.uk/
British International Studies Association - www.bisa.ac.uk/
European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) - http://www.essex.ac.uk/ecpr/
American Political Science Association - www.apsanet.org/
International Studies Association - www.isanet.org/

There are also associations dedicated to the study of particular themes. For example:
Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN) - http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/ASEN/
The Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) - http://www.aswadiaspora.org/
Development Studies Association - http://www.devstud.org.uk/

The British Academy portal - http://www.britac.ac.uk/portal/index.html lists the resources available to researchers in a number of disciplinary and geographic areas.

Area Studies Associations

The British Society for Middle East Studies - www.dur.ac.uk/brismes/
Middle East Studies Association - www.mesa.arizona.edu/
African Studies Association - www.africanstudies.org/
The African Studies Association of the UK - www.asauk.net/
The Association for Asian Studies - www.aasianst.org/
British Association of South Asian Studies - www.staff.brad.ac.uk/akundu/basas/

Lists

Contentious politics – send a request to amsoc@columbia.edu
H-net (just about any topic you can imagine) – www.h-net.org
There are also lists operating about all sorts of topics on Yahoo Groups and sometimes around particular themes (nationalism for example). You will end up finding out about these lists from joining those above, as people “cross-post”…

Conferences

Once you join these associations or lists, you will receive notices for conferences large and small. As you know, all these associations usually hold annual conferences, but then there are smaller conferences, or non-association type workshops which also are great areas for participation. One example of the latter is the Mediterranean meeting of the European University Institute held in Tuscany every spring:
Joining several lists (particularly on h-net) is an excellent way to hear about conferences, workshops, fellowships, grants, and even engage in a few debates.

**Journals**

**Disciplinary Journals**

*Comparative Political Studies*
*Comparative Politics*
*Comparative Studies in Society and History*
*International Affairs*
*International Organizations*
*Perspectives on politics*
*Political Studies*
*Theory and Society*

and dozens of others…

**Thematic Journals**

*Journal of Refugee Studies*
*Nations and Nationalism*
*Public Culture*
*Race and Class*
*Third World Quarterly*

and hundreds of others…

and of course there are hundreds of “area” studies journal, some covering a specific country (e.g. *Iranian Studies*), some covering whole continents…

With journals, you can search for titles based on keywords. Take a look inside. See what types of articles they publish and whether your research would be a good fit. Talk to your supervisor about whether a particular journal is appropriate or not.

**Interaction with your supervisors/how to write/how to survive**

There is a large body of very good “how-to” books located in the library under the classmark A378 (esp. A378.194). Check them out. Some are things like *The Research Student’s Guide to Success* or *The Postgraduate Research Handbook*; others are more specific guides to survival, writing etc.

See the following bibliography (provided by John Wakeford who is an expert on the whole doctoral process):
BIBLIOGRAPHY
for research students and their supervisors
(prepared by John Wakeford 2006 ©)

Updated versions can be downloaded from links on www.missendencentre.co.uk

Australian Association for research in Education. (no date) Supervision of Postgraduate research in Education. Review of Australian Research in Education No 5.


Gateway for Research Supervision: URL www.iah.bbsrc.ac.uk/supervisor_training


Hockey, J. (1995) “Change and the Social Science PhD: Supervisors’ responses.” Oxford Review of Education, Volume 21, No 2, pp 195-206 This article analyses the effects of the introduction by the ESRC of a “more restrictive” time limit for PhD submissions. Its main proposition is that impact of these changes is significant and “may well result in the delay of the development of research creativity among doctoral students”.

Hockey, J. (1996) “A Contractual solution to problems in the supervision of PhD supervisor’s role” Cambridge Journal of Education, Volume 21, No 3, pp 359-371 This article outlines some of the problems supervisors encounter, and goes on to suggest as a strategy the negotiation of a written contract between supervisor and student. It also gives a proposed outline for a contract of this kind.


Kember, D. “Integrating Part-time Study with Family, Work and Social Obligations” Studies in Higher Education Vol 24 Number 1, 1999

Lewis, Vicky and Habershaw, Sue (1997) *Interesting Ways to Supervise Student Projects, Dissertations and Theses*. Bristol: Technical and Educational Services


Medical Research Council (MRC) *Series on Research Ethics and Research Practice in Medicine*


Murray, Rowena (1999) *The Viva* (video), Centre for Academic Practice, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

Murray, Rowena (1999) *Thesis Writing* (video), Centre for Academic Practice, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

Murray, Rowena (1999) *Research Supervision* (video), Centre for Academic Practice, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow


Plomin, Joe (2001) ‘Bio logical: if dons are to take PhD supervision seriously, they will need training – and incentives’ *The Guardian 23 October 2001* (Copies also available from John Wakeford, below)


Warner D and Palfreyman D, "Managing International Students: Recruitment to Graduation".


See also
www.premia.ac.uk an innovative website for disabled postgraduate students and their supervisors
www.theses.com for details of all recent PhD theses
www.iah.bbsrc.ac.uk/supervisor_training
www.npc.org.uk
www.freewebs.com/a_handbook_for_doctoral_supervisors

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