

THE CENTRE FOR LEGISLATIVE STUDIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL

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March 2012

***TENTH WORKSHOP OF PARLIAMENTARY
SCHOLARS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS***

***WROXTON COLLEGE, OXFORDSHIRE, UK
28-29 JULY 2012***

I have pleasure in inviting you to participate in the Tenth Workshop of Parliamentary Scholars and Parliamentarians being held on Saturday, 28th July and Sunday, 29th July 2012 at Wroxton College, Wroxton, Oxfordshire, in the United Kingdom.

The purpose of the Workshop is to bring together scholars and parliamentarians in order that research findings likely to be of practical use to parliamentarians can be presented and discussed. The Workshop builds on the success of the previous Workshops, the first held in Berlin in 1994 and the other eight at Wroxton College, now the established venue for the event.

Among themes to be covered at this Workshop are parliaments and citizens – with a plenary session on the IPU report on the changing nature of parliamentary representation – executive-legislative relations, legislative oversight, parliamentary roles and representation, and national parliaments in the European Union.

Programme

A provisional list of papers accompanies this invitation. The final programme, giving the timing and composition of panels, will be included in the package of material sent to all participants. The Workshop will commence at 9.15 a.m. on Saturday 28th July and conclude mid afternoon on Sunday 29th July.

There will be a concluding panel comprising some of the parliamentarians who are attending the Workshop. The panel will provide an opportunity for parliamentarians to raise issues and answer questions of concern to them as working legislators. A concluding panel was introduced at the Fourth Workshop and proved stimulating and popular; given its success, it was utilised again at the succeeding Workshops.

Any participant interested in chairing a panel should indicate this on the registration form. Parliamentarians are also invited to indicate if they would wish to be included in the concluding panel.

Papers

Papers will be circulated electronically in advance of the Workshop. In the panel sessions, paper givers will briefly summarise their findings, providing time for comments and questions from the floor.

Language

The proceedings will be conducted in English.

Finance

Those attending are responsible for their own funding. The organisers are not able to assist with financial support.

Venue

The venue for the Workshop is Wroxton College, Wroxton, Near Banbury, Oxfordshire, in the United Kingdom. Wroxton College is the overseas campus of Fairleigh Dickinson University.

The College is housed in a magnificent 17th Century Jacobean mansion, the ancestral home of Lord North (Prime Minister under King George III), and nestling in 50 acres of its own landscaped grounds. When not attending sessions, participants will have an opportunity to explore the mansion and the grounds. The mansion has its own library, chapel, and spacious reading room. There is also a gymnasium in the basement. A guided tour of the house will be available during the weekend of the Workshop.

The village of Wroxton is also of interest, with thatched cottages and a parish church housing the remains of various members of the North family, several of them significant figures in the history of England. The village lies three miles outside Banbury. It is within easy reach of Oxford and Shakespeare's birthplace of Stratford upon Avon. It is also within easy reach of London both by road and rail. The town lies just off the M40 motorway. There is a regular coach service between London Heathrow airport and Banbury. There is also a regular coach service between London Gatwick and Banbury. Birmingham airport is to the north of Banbury and there are regular rail services between Birmingham and Banbury. There are taxis available for the short journey from Banbury to Wroxton.

Accommodation

Rooms are available in Wroxton College itself. Each is a very pleasant study bedroom, with *en suite* facilities. A number have excellent views of the grounds. For the weekend of the Workshop, an inclusive residential rate has been arranged, though participants may also book for specific meals and accommodation. Those wishing to book accommodation and meals in College should use the enclosed registration form. *Please note that the number of rooms available in College is limited and early booking is therefore advisable.*

For those wishing to stay in a hotel, there are hotels in Banbury, close to Wroxton, and one in Wroxton itself, within walking distance of the College. The hotel in Wroxton is the Wroxton House Hotel (<http://www.bw-wroxtonhousehotel.co.uk/>, tel: +44 (0)1295-730777). Hotels in Banbury include Banbury House Hotel (<http://www.banburyhouse.co.uk/>, tel: +44 (0)1295-259361), the Mercure Whately Hall (<http://www.mercure.com/gb/hotel-6633-mercure-banbury-whately-hall-hotel/index.shtml>, tel: +44 (0)1295-253261), and Cromwell Lodge Hotel (<http://www.cromwelllodgehotel.com/>, tel: +44 (0)1295-259781). Some of these offer special weekend rates. Details of these and other hotels can be found at <http://www.information-britain.co.uk/hoteltowns.cfm?town=Banbury&county=11>.

Participants wishing to stay in a hotel should make a booking direct with the hotel. Banbury is a popular venue and early booking is advisable.

Meals

Meals will be available in College during the Workshop. Reservations for dinner and other meals may be made on the registration form. The special residential rate for the Workshop includes meals from Friday dinner through to Sunday lunch/afternoon tea inclusive. Anyone with particular dietary, or other, requirements should indicate this on the booking form.

Registration fee

The registration fee, as well as payment for accommodation and meals, should be paid in sterling. Payment should accompany the registration form. Cheques should be made payable to 'The University of Hull'. Payment may be made by credit card. (If paying by credit card please contact Gemma Brunsdon at g.l.brunsdon@hull.ac.uk.) ***Please note that bookings for accommodation and meals must be made in advance of the Workshop. No changes are possible during the weekend of the Workshop.*** Refunds are not available for places cancelled less than four days before the Workshop.

Booking forms should be returned no later than Monday, 9 July 2012.

Certificates of attendance

All those attending will receive a formal Certificate of Attendance to attest to the fact that they participated in the Workshop.

Further information

Queries or requests for further information may be directed to

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I very much hope that you will be able to join us for what should be a very stimulating and enjoyable occasion.

Yours faithfully,

Philip Norton

PROFESSOR THE LORD NORTON OF LOUTH
Director, Centre for Legislative Studies