

***THE CENTRE FOR LEGISLATIVE STUDIES
THE UNIVERSITY OF HULL***



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***TWELFTH WORKSHOP OF PARLIAMENTARY
SCHOLARS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS***

***WROXTON COLLEGE, OXFORDSHIRE, UK
25-26 JULY 2015***

I have pleasure in inviting you to participate in the Twelfth Workshop of Parliamentary Scholars and Parliamentarians being held on Saturday, 25th July and Sunday, 26th July 2015 at Wroxton College, Wroxton, Oxfordshire, in the United Kingdom. The Workshop is co-sponsored by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Centre for Legislative Studies at the University of Hull.

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 ten at Wroxton College, now the established venue for the event. Each has proved a stimulating occasion, facilitating interaction between practitioners and researchers.

The Eleventh Workshop, held last year, hosted a record number of papers. This year's Workshop has exceeded that record. As a result, the programme is a full one, with – as in previous Workshops – two or more panels being held in parallel in each session.

Programme

A provisional list of papers accompanies this invitation. The themes to be covered in the Workshop include

- Assisting in legislative development
- Parliament, public engagement and poverty reduction
- Legislative organisation, recruitment and rules
- Transparency and accountability
- Parliaments and publics
- Parliamentary scrutiny
- Westminster and beyond
- Legislatures and political recruitment
- Bicameralism

Following the practice of the previous two Workshops, there will be a concluding plenary session addressing problems faced by parliaments in the 21st Century.

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 25th July and conclude at 3.30 p.m. on Sunday 26th July.

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 (above), 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. Wi-fi is available throughout the College.

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.

Panel sessions

Principal panel sessions will be held in the Lecture Hall and the Regency Room. The picture shows one of the panel sessions in the Lecture Hall at a previous Workshop.



Registering

To register for the Workshop, please log on at:

http://shop.hull.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=2&deptid=31&catid=90&prodid=205

The registration form enables you to select from a number of options, ranging from the basic registration fee through to a comprehensive package encompassing accommodation and meals. Accommodation is in one of the pleasant study bedrooms in College, with *en suite* facilities. A number have excellent views of the grounds. Please note that they are study bedrooms, of the sort to be found in a traditional college.

The principal residential package runs from Friday evening through to Sunday lunch. There is also the option of arriving early (staying on Thursday evening) and leaving late (staying on Sunday evening). There are a small number of twin-bedded rooms available. These would suit anyone wishing to bring their spouse or partner. These rooms are charged per bed: i.e. the charge is double that of a single room. For anyone not residing in College, there is the option of booking meals in College. For anyone paying only the registration fee, this includes refreshments between panels but does not include any meals.

In completing the registration form, you need only to click *one* option. The registration fee is included in each package.

Please note that the number of rooms available in College is limited and early booking is therefore advisable.

For those preferring instead 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.cromwellodgehotel.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.

Please note that bookings for accommodation and meals in College must be made in advance of the Workshop. No changes are possible during the weekend of the Workshop.

Registration forms should be completed no later than Monday, 6 July 2015.

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**

April 2015