

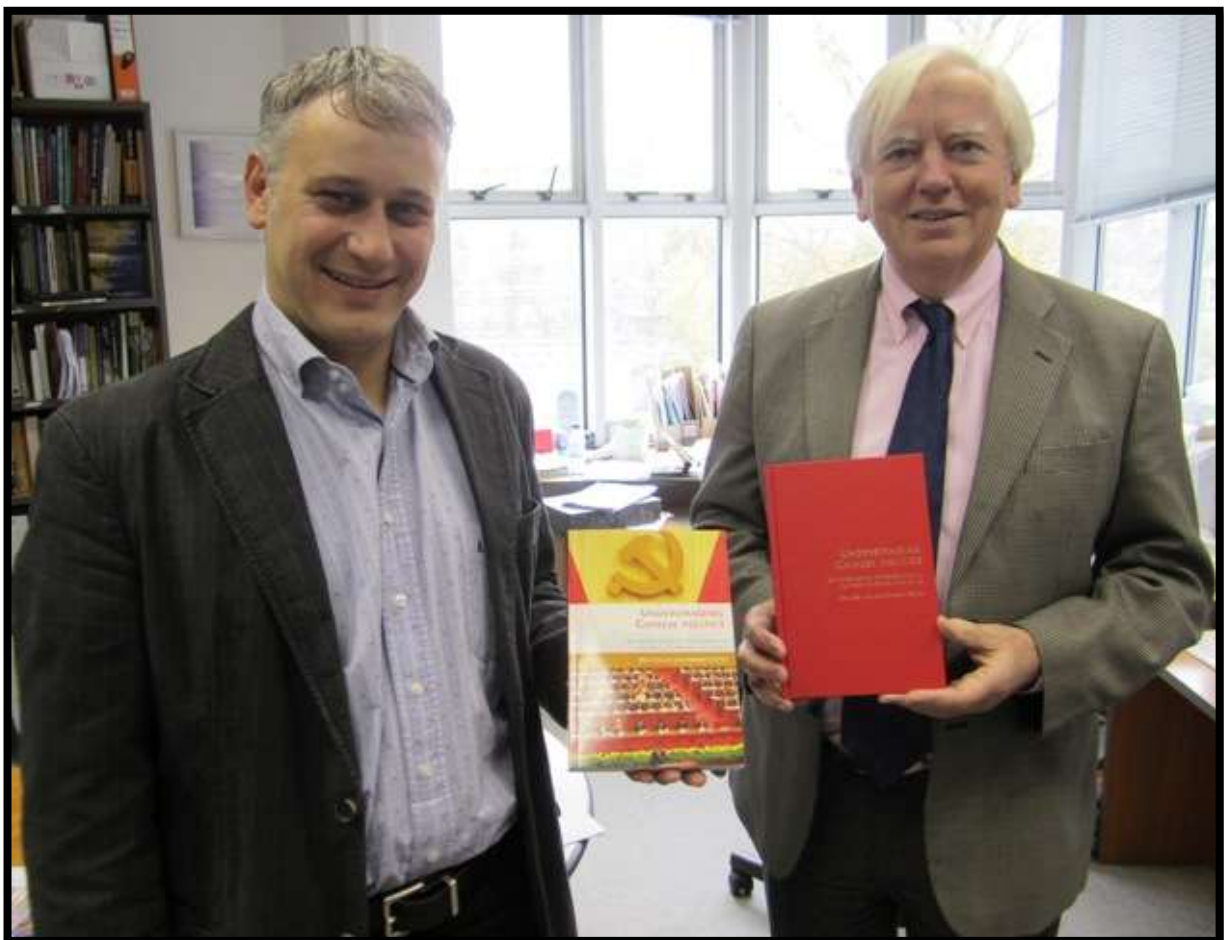


GOVERNMENT TIMES

A Newsletter for Department of Government Students and Staff

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Manchester University Press publish *Understanding Chinese Politics* by Neil Collins and Andrew Cottey



The Department of Government continues to be research-active and the most recent book publication to emerge from the department is *Understanding Chinese Politics*, written by Professor Neil Collins and Dr Andrew Cottey. The book is published by Manchester University Press. See more on page 4.

Editorial Page



OBAMA: A SAFER WORLD?



Welcome to another full issue of *Government Times*. In today's editorial we highlight an upcoming event organised by our Government and Politics Society and UCC's International Relations Society. On Tuesday 30 October a debate will take place at 6:30pm in Kane G18 on whether or not Barack Obama's foreign policy has made the world any more peaceful or secure. The panel speakers for the evening will be Dr David Fitzgerald from UCC's Department of History, and Dr Andrew Cottey from UCC's Department of Government. Dr Fitzgerald's research is primarily concerned with U.S. foreign policy and military history, while Dr Cottey offers his expertise in global governance and security studies.

Barack Obama also features in the title of the Department of Government's 11th Annual Patrick O'Sullivan Essay Competition. This year's title is 'More Americans trust Big Bird than either Obama or Romney. Discuss in the context of the US Presidential election 2012'. Essays to a maximum limit of 500 words should be submitted to a.quinlivan@ucc.ie by Wednesday 14 November. The competition is open to all undergraduate students who study Government modules (e.g. BSc Government, BA Politics, BComm).

Aodh Quinlivan

**Director BSc Government
Co-editor of *Government Times***

Luke Field

**Auditor Government and Politics Society
Co-editor of *Government Times***



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Understanding Chinese Politics

By Collins and Cottey (2012)

The Chinese political system is the subject of much media and popular comment, in part because China supports and economy with an apparently inexorable dynamic and impressive record of achievement. *Understanding Chinese Politics* by Collins and Cottey provides a comprehensive introduction to China's political system, outlining the major features of the Chinese model and highlighting its claims and challenges.

It explores the central role of the Chinese Communist Party in the country's politics and the way in which the party controls most elements of the political system but also interacts with other actors. In addition, the book offers an analysis of the machinery of government examining both central government institutions and the centre's relations with the provinces and other elements of local government.

A number of themes run through the analysis. One is that an effective political system needs to generate an overall level of compliance or, at the very least, acquiescence to its authority. The book thus highlights the ways in which the Communist Party seeks to secure public support and its own legitimacy.

A second theme is that a comparative approach is productive and much is to be gained by considering the Chinese system through the lens of other systems with which it shares characteristics. The book also draws parallels with previous historical periods in China's history.

Finally, it addresses the question of what role the PRC will play in global politics as whole, the implications for the West and the rebalancing of relations between China and its neighbours.

- ❖ Hard and soft cover copies of the book have been produced. The cover picture on the soft copy shows Chinese President Hu Jintao delivering his speech at the opening of the 17th Communist Party Congress at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, 15 October 2007.

Department of Government welcomes new member of teaching staff – Dr Yu Wen (Julie) Chen



I hail from Taiwan, and before taking a position lecturing at University College Cork, I was a visiting scholar at universities in Australia, the United States and Japan. Most recently, I was an assistant professor with the Institute of Political Science at the Academia Sinica in Taipei. I will be teaching courses on global politics, research methods, politics and business in East Asia, Asia in comparative perspective and international relations in Asia, etc.

I spent seven years on postgraduate work in Europe, and obtained a PhD in Political Science from the University of Konstanz, Germany, in 2009. I am also the Executive Editor of *Asian Ethnicity*, a Taylor & Francis publication with a cross-disciplinary interest in ethnic issues - with a special focus on Asia, of course!

I have lived in a number of countries in continental Europe, and look forward to spending time in Ireland, getting to know its people, and observing the workings of the public institutions. As I write this brief biography, it is early September and the weather is wonderful. I have been told not to regard this as the norm, so I guess in terms of weather, it's all downhill from here!

Before I arrived, I was informed of Ireland's friendly and unpretentious reputation. I can now confirm this, and appreciate the genuineness and hospitality of everyone here at UCC.

I have two crazy food passions: sushi - which I would never try and make, and kimchi, which I do make.

*My personal website: www.yuwenjuliechen.com

Big Presence of Government Students at Societies Day 2012 in UCC



Above: Mark Curley, BSc Gov IV, at the Fianna Fáil stand; Luke Field, BA Politics, and Rory Murphy, BSc Government IV, at the Government and Politics Society stand.



Above: At the stand of the newly-formed UCC Europa Society were Gavin Long, Peter Kiernan McCarthy and John Kenny (all BSc Government IV).

See more on next page about the Europa Society and Gavin Long!

Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor John Buttimer, pays a courtesy visit to the Europa Society



NEW ROLE FOR GAVIN LONG AS EU CAREERS AMBASSADOR

Fourth Year BSc Government student **Gavin Long** has recently been selected to be a part of a programme to promote careers with the EU institutions along with student representatives from top academic Universities across Europe. This exciting initiative, organised in conjunction with the European Personnel Selection Office, will see Gavin as well fellow UCC Student Jennifer O'Sullivan acting as UCC's **EU Careers Ambassadors**. The role will see Gavin act as a point of contact for students, giving presentations on EU Careers to fellow students, coordinating events and targeting university networks to spread the message of EU Careers across UCC.



Representing the IR Society were four BSc Government II students – (from left to right) Leona Cantillon, Louis O’Keeffe, Claire Crowley and Eileen O’Donovan

BSc Government graduate appointed to the Irish Planning Institute



<http://www.irishplanninginstitute.ie/>

Congratulations to BSc Government graduate Sean O’Leary – seen above with Dr Aodh Quinlivan – who has been appointed Planning Manager at the Irish Planning Institute.

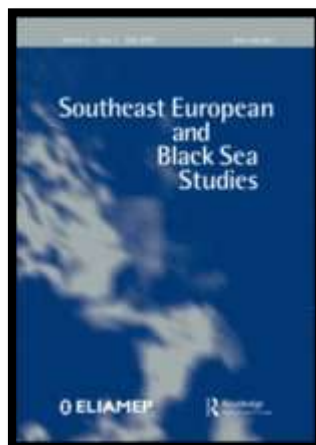
RESEARCH PROFILE: DR ANDREW COTTEY



As highlighted in our cover story, Dr Andrew Cottey of the Department of Government has co-written the recently published *Understanding Chinese Politics* with Professor Neil Collins.

Andrew has also been busy with a range of other research projects including the following which have been published: -

- ‘Regionalism and the EU’s Neighbourhood Policy: The Limits of the Possible’, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, Vol. 12, No. 3, September 2012, pp. 375-91.
- ‘The Other Europe: Regional Security Governance in Europe’s East’, chapter 3 in Shaun Breslin and Stuart Croft, eds., *Comparative Regional Security Governance*, (Abingdon: Routledge, 2012), pp. 44-71.



Katie Hamilton, MBS Government graduate 2010, is appointed Public Affairs Officer at the Consulate General of Ireland in Chicago



Last week, the Department of Government had a welcome visitor in the form of **Katie Hamilton**. Katie graduated with an MBS Government degree in 2010 and she has recently been appointed by the Department of Foreign Affairs as the Public Affairs Officer at the Consulate General of Ireland in Chicago. Katie's MBS thesis was entitled 'Irish Americans Today: The role of the Irish American Media and Contemporary Irish American Diaspora'. She used original research to determine the role of alternative media, utilising the Irish American media in Chicago as a case study. In the next issue of *Government Times* we hope to include an article from Katie.

BSc Government III student to contest local elections in 2014



Well done to **Shane O'Shea**, BSc Government IV, who has been selected by Sinn Féin to contest the 2014 local elections in the South-West local electoral ward of Cork city. Good luck, Shane!

Government & Politics Review - Call for Papers

The Department of Government's undergraduate online journal *Government and Politics Review* is now seeking article submissions for its fourth edition which will be published in March 2013.

The journal consists of articles written by undergraduate students of Government and Politics in University College Cork. Any student studying a Government and/or Politics module on the BA, BSc Government and BComm degrees is encouraged to contribute.

The theme of the 2013 journal is, '**State Relations in the Twenty First Century.**' The following is an indicative list of topics. This list provides a general overview but is not considered to be a final list. Material drawn from outside the list is certainly not exhaustive and the vast number of other potential titles will also be considered:-

- * The US/China Relationship
- * Israel and Palestine
- * The 'Arab Spring'
- * Global economic crisis
- * Third World Debt
- * The role of Global institutions
- * Turkey and the relationship with Europe
- * The European Union as a global 'Superpower'
- * Humanitarian Intervention
- * Oil crisis
- * Ireland's influence in global politics

Articles will be normally 3,000-4,000 words in length and should consist of a clear research question, review of the existing literature, evidence of original research and conclusions tied into the theme of 'State Relations in the Twenty First Century.'

Paper proposals should be submitted to the editors by **23 November**, and feedback and guidance will be given to each author.

Full drafts of papers must be submitted to the editors by the end of January 2013.

Single author or multi-authored pieces are welcome. The editorial board is especially interested in papers which draw from assignment work from previous years or in the current session.

Article submissions or general enquiries may be sent to the Editor of the Government & Politics Review, **Rory Murphy** at governmentpolitics.review@gmail.com where Rory will be more than happy to answer any queries from interested parties.

LOT OF INTEREST IN BSc GOVERNMENT (CK210) AT UCC OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER 2012



Representing the Department of Government at the UCC Open Day were Dr Mary Murphy, Professor Neil Collins, Dr Julie Chen, Ann McCann, Lucie Quinlivan and Adam Quinlivan!



@BScGovUCC is the new Twitter account for the BSc Government programme
@PolSocUCC is the new Twitter account for the Government and Politics Society
@ucceuropa is the new Twitter account for the UCC Europa Society