

# Conference invitation and program

# Contemporary challenges in the US and the UK

---

**ASANOR and British Politics Society, Norway**

**Joint Conference**

**Drammen, October 28 – 30, 2011**

**RICA PARK HOTEL, DRAMMEN**

The American Studies Association of Norway (ASANOR) and the British Politics Society, Norway (BPS) cordially invite you to our joint conference at Rica Park Hotel, Drammen during the weekend of October 28 - 30, 2011.

This is the first time that the two associations join forces to host a conference. Primary target groups include teachers, students and academics, but the conference welcomes anyone who shares a passion for politics and culture in the Anglo-American context. We can promise sharp lectures and great opportunities for discussing topics of interest.

## **Conference program**

The conference theme is *Contemporary challenges in the US and the UK*. The program – running from Friday evening, throughout Saturday and finishing before lunch on Sunday – consists of lectures and workshops on social, political and cultural challenges at both sides of the Atlantic. Some of the talks will be from either an American or British vantage point, while others will throw a comparative glance at the two countries. The conference convenes at the **Rica Park Hotel**, close to the vibrant city center of Drammen. See the program below.

## **Friday October 28**

1730–1840: Registration

1840–1900: Opening remarks

1900–2000: Keynote address: Professor Bernt **Hagtvet**, UiO:

"Past and future of the liberal left in the U.K. and the U.S.:  
a critical analysis of the decay thesis"

2000: Dinner

## **Saturday October 29:**

### Session 1: Challenges in British domestic politics

0930–1000: Jan Erik **Mustad**, UiA:

"In Favour of AV? How Britain wasted an historic opportunity  
for electoral reform"

1000–1030: Jannike **Elmblom Berger**, UiO:

"'For people to think of themselves as active citizens': the  
creation and revision of the Citizenship subject in England."

1030–1100: Dr. Richard **Race**, Roehampton University:

"The influence of assimilationist, integrationist and  
multicultural ideas on contemporary education policy-making in  
England"

1100–1120: Coffee break

### Session 2: Foreign policy challenges for the U.K. and U.S.

1120–1150: Hilde E. **Restad**:

"From the war on terror to...? Bush, Obama, and international  
law"

1150–1220: Dr. Chris **White** (Bjørknes College):

"The Arab spring and its consequences for the conduct of  
foreign policy"

1220–1315: Lunch

### Session 3: Challenges in American education

1315–1345: Dr. Sarah K. **Anderson**, University of North Dakota:

"Teaching the emotionally disturbed: solutions in programming"

1345–1415: Dr. Isaac W. **Larison**, Northern Kentucky University:

"English learners achieve success with response to intervention  
(RTI): a collaborative approach to assessment and literacy  
practices"

1415–1445: Dr. Sean **Taylor**:

"Critical thinking in the classroom, a lost art in American  
schools"

1445-1515: Coffee break

1515-1600: ASANOR annual members' meeting. BPS meeting in room..

Session 4: Challenges when teaching about the U.K. and the U.S.

1600-1700: Panel debate:

Do teaching methods and curricula in English manage to catch up with changes in Anglo-American culture, politics and literature?

Chair: Robert **Mikkelsen** (Østfold University College), author of several textbooks on British and American Civilization

Panelists: Dr. Atle L. **Wold**, ILOS, UiO + two teachers

1930: Banquet dinner

## **Sunday October 30**

Session 4: Political reforms in the U.K.

0930-1000 Dr. Øivind **Bratberg**, UiO:

"A changing Parliament: what can British reformers learn from Europe, and from the U.S.?"

1000-1030: Dr. Sissel **Rosland**, UiB:

"'Keeping the past at bay' or 'healing through remembering'? Dealing with the past in post-agreement Northern Ireland"

1030-1100: Henry **Allen**, Ph.D. candidate, University of East Anglia:

"Consumer Groups and the British State: Do they Matter?"

1100-1115: Coffee break

Session 5: American cultural challenges

1115-1145: Professor Nathaniel **Wallace**, South Carolina University:

"Sleep-Deprived is the New Normal"

1145-1215: Dr. Alf Tomas **Tønnessen**, Volda University College:

"Third World America - or the Restoration of the American Dream?"

Lunch and departure

## Conference registration

Obligatory pre-registration for the conference is made by returning the slip below **by September 10 to [ovind.bratberg@stv.uio.no](mailto:ovind.bratberg@stv.uio.no)**; please mark the subject line ASANOR-BPS 2011. Upon arrival at the hotel, registration will take place on **Friday October 28** in the foyer of **Rica Park Hotel** from **17:30 to 18:40**. More information about the hotel can be accessed here: <http://www.rica-hotels.com/Hotels/Rica-Park-Hotel-Drammen/>

**Price for the full weekend will be 2190 NOK.** This includes a room for 2 nights and all meals: dinner on Friday evening; breakfast, lunch and banquet Saturday; breakfast and lunch Sunday. **A shorter stay from Saturday to Sunday only costs 1050 NOK**, which includes a room for 1 night; lunch and banquet Saturday; breakfast and lunch Sunday. For those who will *not* be staying at the hotel, the following fees must be tendered:

**Post Keynote dinner, Friday evening: 350**

**Conference participation, including coffee and lunch Saturday & Sunday: 770**

**Banquet Saturday night: 350**

## PRE-REGISTRATION

Please register by sending an e-mail message to: [ovind.bratberg@stv.uio.no](mailto:ovind.bratberg@stv.uio.no) by **September 10**

\*\*\*\*\*

You may use the form below as a template or not, as you wish, though all of this information is essential.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s), landline & mobile  
\_\_\_\_\_

I will be a guest of the hotel (2 x 1095)

I will not be a guest of the hotel, but wish to participate in the following:

<b>Post Keynote dinner, Friday evening: 345</b>
<b>Conference participation, including coffee and lunch Saturday &amp; Sunday: 770</b>
<b>Banquet Saturday night: 345</b>

**Please mention if you have any particular dietary needs**

---

## **APPLICATION FOR ASANOR/NORSAAS TRAVEL GRANT**

Conference participants may apply on this form for support for travel expenses from the ASANOR Endowment Fund. The prerequisite for such applications is membership in ASANOR/NORSAAS. In order to become a member, please contact member secretary Siri Natvig, [siri@natvig.no](mailto:siri@natvig.no) or board member Alf Tomas Tønnessen, [toenness@hivolda.no](mailto:toenness@hivolda.no). The price is only 100 pr year to become an ASANOR member.

Applications are to be sent to Robert Mikkelsen, Østfold University College, 1757 Halden or by e-mail to [robert.mikkelsen@hiof.no](mailto:robert.mikkelsen@hiof.no)

If you wish to apply, please send a short statement of needs and - in the spaces below - write the sum requested and provide your bankgiro number. So that we can provide notification, include your e-mail address.

The deadline for Endowment Fund grant applications is October 10, 2011. Notification will be given in Week 42.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sum Requested \_\_\_\_\_

Bankgiro number \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_