

**American Politics Group Annual Conference  
University of Reading  
7-9 January, 2016  
Programme**

**Thursday, 7 January, 2016**

16.00-18.00: Registration - Henley Business School Foyer - Whiteknights Campus

**18.00: Keynote Address: Professor Steven Teles (Johns Hopkins University) -  
“Bipartisan Policymaking in Polarized Times” - Henley Business School,  
Lecture Theatre G15**

19.30 Conference Dinner - Meadow Suite, Park House



**Friday, 8 January, 2016**

9.15 - 11.00: Parallel Sessions

**Panel 1a “Race and Politics” - Henley Business School - room 102**

Mark McLay (Glasgow Caledonian University) - “Order or Justice? Republicans and the long hot summer of 1967”

Richard Johnson (University of Oxford) - “Race Neutral Politics and Obama Presidency”

Anne Mork (University of Southern Denmark) - “Community, Service and Volunteerism in the Obama Administration”

Andy Wroe (University of Kent) and Camille Marienbach (Independent Scholar) - “President Obama and Immigration Policy: a Triumph of Rhetoric over Reality?”

Chair:tbc

**Panel 1b ‘Obama and the Middle East’ - Henley Business School - room 201**

Paolo Wulzer (University L’Orientale of Naples) - “Back to the Cold War? Obama and subcontinental security in the Greater Middle East”

Darius Wainwright (University of Reading) - “Smart power? Britain and the United States’ differing diplomatic approaches towards Iran during the 1970s”

Ali Tajvidi - (University of Buckingham) - “Barack Obama and the Change in the US Iran policy”

Steven Hurst (Manchester Metropolitan University) - ‘Obama and Iran, a Tail of Two Terms”

Chair: Dina Rezk (University of Reading)



11.00- 11.30: coffee break

11.30- 13.15: Parallel Sessions

**Panel 2a: “The Twentieth Century origins of the Obama era: the roots of fractured America” - Henley Business School - room 102**

Tom Packer (Rothermere American Institute) - “The development of the Southern Conservative Movement”

Patrick Andelic (Queen Mary, University of London) - “Social Security Reform, the Democratic Party, and the Limits of the Reagan Revolution, 1981-83”

Daniel Rowe (Lincoln College, University of Oxford) - “The Politics of Economic Revival: The Industrial Policy Movement and Debates Over Reindustrialisation”

Louisa Hotson (Corpus Christi College, University of Oxford) - “Professional pessimism; the growth and fragmentation of American Political Science in the 1960s”

Chair:tbc

**Panel 2b - “Obama and Foreign Policy” - Henley Business School, room 201**

Andrew Moran (London Metropolitan University) - “Barack Obama and the return of ‘Declinism: Repositioning American Foreign Policy in a MultiPolar Era”

Tanguy Struye de Swielande (Universite Catholique de Louvain) - “Obama and the Adaptation of American Grand Strategy”

Ben Martill - (Canterbury Christ Church University) - ‘Reassessing the Obama Doctrine: the Pitfall of Realism in a liberal age”

Andy Rudalevige (Bowdoin College) - “Protecting the President from Presidential Unilateralism”

Chair:tbc



13.15 - 14.15: Lunch

14.15 - 15.30: Parallel Sessions 3

**Panel 3a - Presidential Rhetoric - Henley Business School, room 102**

John Herbert (Keele University) - “Pre-emption and Partisanship: Understanding Clinton and Obama’s Deployment of Ronald Reagan’s Name in Rhetoric”

Sarah Tiplady (Keele University) - “Changes in Campaign Rhetoric in Obama’s 2008 Election”

Alfred Cardone (King’s College London) - “Looking Back at Obama: 2012 Campaign Rhetoric ”

Chair: Clodagh Harrington (De Monfort University)

**Panel 3b - “Obama and the Economy”- Henley Business School, room 201**

Sotiris Rizas (Academy of Athens) - “The Greek debt crisis, the Obama Administration and the Evolution of the Transatlantic Relationship”

Eddie Ashbee (Copenhagen Business School) - “Fiscal and monetary policy during the Obama era”

Chair: tbc

15.30 - 16.00 coffee break

**All sessions to take place in Henley Business School, room 102**

**16.00 - 16.45: Professor Lane Crothers, 2015-16 Fulbright Bicentennial Distinguished Chair in American Studies, Department of World Cultures, University of Helsinki (Finland) 'From Hope and Change to the Tea Party: The Rise of Anti-Obama Politics in the US'**

**'with thanks to the Fulbright Commission for their support'**



16.00 -17.30: Roundtable: “Looking Back at Obama will consider the character of the shifts, whether dramatic or incremental, visible or more subterranean, taking place during Obama’s terms of office and the extent to which they have changed the US and its place in the world.”  
Chair: Eddie Ashbee (Copenhagen Business School), Speakers include: John Dumbrell (Durham University), Mara Oliva (University of Reading).

17.30 - 18.30 APG Annual General Meeting,

Free Evening



**Saturday, 9 January, 2016**

9.15-11.00: Parallel Sessions

**Panel 4a “Obama and Policy-Making” - Henley Business School -Room 102**

David Morgan (Independent Scholar) - “Obama and Congress”

Iaria di Gioia (Birmingham City University) - “Obamacare”

John Berg (University of Suffolk) - “Looking Back at Obama’s Environmental Policy”

Alex Waddan (University of Leicester) - “A New War on Poverty?”

Chair: Dafydd Townley (University of Reading)

**Panel 4b “Obama and Foreign Policies Challenges: ISIS & China” - Henley Business School -Room 201**

William Sheward (University of Winchester) - “Declare victory and get out? Consultations on Strategies for Defeating the Islamic state”

Marta Rzepecka - “Analysing Barack Obama’s anti ISIL rhetoric”

Niels Bjerre-Poulsen (University of Southern Denmark) - “Was there a pivot to Asia after all?”

Mara Oliva (University of Reading) - “Looking Back at Obama’s China policy”

Chair:tbc



11.00-11.30: Coffee break

11.30-13.15: Parallel Sessions

**Panel 5a - “Obama and Family” - Henley Business School - Room 102**

H. Howell Williams (The New School for Social Research)- “Evaluating the Father in Chief: President Obama and the Politics of Fatherhood”

Clodagh Harrington (De Montfort University) - 'Healthy Hunger-Free Kids? The US School Lunch Revolution'

Alf Tomas Tonnesse (University of Turku) - ‘The Obama Administration and the Quest for Universal pre-school’

Ursula Hackett (Rothermere American Institute) - “Looking Back at President Obama and the Education policy: Three Paradoxes”

Chair:

**Panel 5b - “The Presidency and National Security” - Henley Business School - Room 201**

Kasper Grotle Rasmussen (University of Southern Denmark) - “Groupfeel: Kennedy's National Security Council Staff as Emotional Community”

Dafydd Townley (University of Reading) - “Forgetting the Lessons of the Church Committee”

Maria Ryan (University of Nottingham) - “Globalisation and the Normalisation of Irregular Warfare in the Obama Years”

John Thompson (Clinton Institute for American Studies, University College Dublin) - “Don’t Do Stupid Shit: Barack Obama and the Presidential Leadership in US Foreign Policy”

Chair: Mara Oliva (University of Reading)



13.15 lunch – Postgraduate Paper Prize

14.00 – end of conference

