

ELECTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010-2012 OF THE EUI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION- ELECTORAL PROGRAMME

The EUI is now going through a very important structural change. On the one hand, the EUI has a new President whose aim is to make a stronger link between academics and European policy-makers, for example with short training courses. On the other hand, the increase in the number of post-doc fellows is strengthening the EUI profile as a research-oriented institution. There is also a window of opportunity for the Alumni to contribute, and benefit, from this new configuration. The main objective of the new executive council should be to fully introduce the Alumni in the governance of the EUI as an important part of the EUI Community. One way of doing this is by associating them directly with the key-debates and questions which are discussed between the three authorities of the EUI (President, High Council, and Academic Council). For example, the High Council approved the creation of an EUI Foundation where the Alumni may be associated in their development. It is clear that the Alumni Association has so far not developed the full potential of the Alumni network in terms of circulation of knowledge, exchange of information, and mutual help. The future EC must be able to work collectively in order to develop some of the ideas and projects which were not carried out by past Committees for different, sometimes technical, reasons. For example, the creation of social networks or a Who's who (on-line and on paper) is a fundamental instrument for mutual knowledge. For exchanging of information, the regular issuing of a newsletter should be a means to maintain links between Alumni about their intellectual or professional interests. We also need to maintain and even reinforce the intellectual and professional contribution of Alumni Association to filling this gap between academia and "the real world". Indeed we are the most qualified to do so by our various backgrounds and professional experiences. For this purpose we should develop more international conferences and publications, like the recently approved Working Papers of the AA, to facilitate the circulation of ideas. A central point in this development is to keep developing local branches of the Alumni Association like the one already existing in Brussels, and giving them their correct place in the association with a permanent position in the Executive Committee, as well as providing further contacts between alumni all over the world.

The candidates which are supporting this common programme have a clear commitment to qualitatively upgrading the role of the Alumni Association in the EUI. For this reason, and building on the past experience of some of its members, we encourage you to vote for all the candidates who have endorsed this common programme.

Alana Lentin, University of Sussex

I would like to propose my candidacy to the EUI Alumni executive board as part of the above proposed common programme. I was a researcher at the EUI in the SPS Department between 1998 and 2002 where I completed my thesis under Peter Wagner. I was nominated for the 2004 best comparative and interdisciplinary thesis for my doctoral work on antiracism.

I am currently a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Sociology of the University of Sussex in the UK. I carry out research into race, acism and multiculturalism with a focus on Europe and India. My first book published in 2004 is entitled *Racism and Anti-Racism in Europe* (Pluto Press, 2004). I have also co-edited *Race and State* with Ronit Lentin (Cambridge Scholars' Press, 2006, 2008). My latest book, *Racism* is published by OneWorld in 2008. *The Politics of Diversity in Europe*, co-edited with Gavan Titley of the National University of Ireland, is published by the Council of Europe in 2008. I am currently in the stages of completing my third monograph, *The Crises of Multiculturalism: Racism in a neoliberal age* (with Gavan Titley, Zed Books).

In addition, I publish regularly in *European Journal Social Theory*, *the European Journal of Cultural Studies*, and *Patterns of Prejudice* among other journals.

I am also an editorial board member of the *European Journal of Social Theory* and hold several administrative positions within the University of Sussex, mainly in the context of the promotion of virtual learning environments.

More information can be found at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sociology/profile26801.html> and at <http://www.alanalentin.net>.