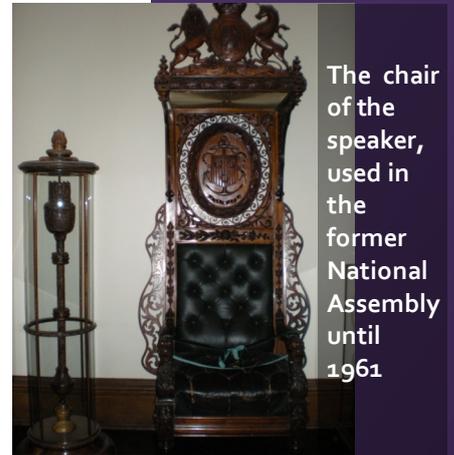


Second impressions...

Victoria Hasson
PhD student

My second fieldwork trip was in some ways even richer than my first, spending more time in interviews, and specifically in interviews with members of parliament. In many ways this had the effect of politicizing all the material that I collected on the first trip. I felt like I had suddenly been brought into a complex overlay of political positions, each of which could be distinguished in a number of other ways including gender, culture, age and personal political history. I was extremely lucky to have gained access to the number of members that I did, which included a chief whip, a minister and two former leaders of the opposition. I was even more grateful to those members of the smaller parties who gave me some of their time, despite the greater time pressures that these members face. Whilst some of my impressions of the institution remained consistent with those from my first visit, others changed. The informal nature of committee meetings and committee dress code seemed to have formalised to the extent that everyone was now wearing suits and jackets. The pleasantries of food and drink had also disappeared. However the sense of ease and openness around the institution remained, even if the tone seemed to have shifted.



The chair of the speaker, used in the former National Assembly until 1961

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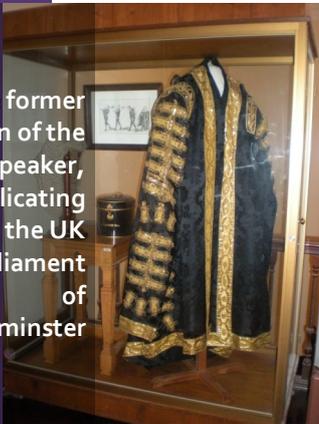
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GCRP Advisory Board member Professor Robert Hazell has received the Communication Award from the Political Studies Association.

'As Director of the Constitution Unit at University College London, since 1995, he has consistently worked to develop the constitutional reform agenda, to communicate these ideas to government and more generally to inject academic rigour and principle into public debate.'

Congratulations Robert!

The former gown of the speaker, replicating the UK Parliament of Westminster



Former hats of the Speaker dating back to the colonial parliament of 1910



The Leverhulme Trust

