Democracy & its Futures

University of Victoria | March 21-22, 2019

What are the major problems facing democracies? What are the connections between these problems? What are the democratic ways to resolve these problems and reconcile all affected by them?

The workshop brings together scholars who have presented enlightening responses to these three questions from a wide variety of perspectives. They will engage in a comparative and critical dialogue oriented to reciprocal elucidation, mutual understanding and democratic ways forward. The United Nations suggests that the proliferation of

dialogues of this type is the democratic and effective way of resolution and reconciliation.

'Democracies' include state-based representative government, Indigenous democracy, communitybased democracy, democratic contestation, global democracy, and earth or Gaia democracy of all living beings.

The dialogue will take place over two days. Initially among the invited scholars, then with graduate students, and then with the wider public. We hope this will serve as an exemplar of how to address these problems democratically and non-violently.

Guest speakers:

David Held

Professor of Politics and International Relations, and Master of University College, at Durham University

Chantal Mouffe

Professor of Political Theory, University of Westminster

Boaventura de Sousa Santos

Emeritus Professor of Sociology, University of Coimbra (Portugal), and Distinguished Legal Scholar at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

David Owen

Professor of Social and Political Philosophy, University of Southampton

Antje Wiener

Professor of Political Science ℰ Global Governance, Universität Hamburg

Jeanne Morefield

Professor of Politics, Whitman College

Robin Celikates

Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Karuna Mantena

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Yale University

Fonna Forman

Associate Professor of Political Science/Director, UCSD Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego

Anoush F. Terjanan

Associate Professor,
Department of History,
East Carolina University

Lasse Thomassen

Reader, School of Politics and International Relations, Queen Mary, University of London

UVic Speakers:

John Borrows

Professor, Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Law

Jeremy Webber

Professor, Faculty of Law

Peymen Vahabzadeh

Professor, Department of Sociology

Val Napoleon

Associate professor, Law Foundation Professor of Aboriginal Justice and Governance

Heidi Stark

Associate Professor, Political Science

James Tully

Emeritus professor of Political Science and Law

Oliver Schmidtke

Professor of Political Science and Director Centre for Global Studies

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