Research Methods in Constitutional Law Conference

16 November 2017 (3pm) to Saturday 18 November 2017 (1pm)
Faculty of Law, University of Oslo

THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER
Location: Juridiskeksamenssal (Karl Johans gate 47)

15:00 ANNUAL SEMINAR ON COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONALISM
Chair: Benedikte Høgberg, University of Oslo
Illiberal Democracy and Comparative Constitutionalism
Eirik Holmøyvik, University of Bergen
Electoral gerrymandering: Quantitative analysis of electoral systems
Simon Jackman, University of Sydney
Commentator: Anine Kierulf, National Institution for Human Rights

16:15 SESSION 1 – FUNDAMENTALS OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Chair: David Law, Washington University in St Louis/University of Hong Kong
Methodological Pluralism
Malcolm Langford, University of Oslo
Conceptualisation and measurement
Jonathan Katz, California Institute of Technology
Sampling and case selection
Melissa Carlson, University of California, Berkeley
Causal inference
Chris Whytock, University of California, Irvine

18:15 Drinks Café Amsterdam (Kristian Augusts gate 12)
19:30 Dinner at Café Christiania (Nedre Vollgate 19)
FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER,
Location: Domus Nova, Room 770 (St. Olav's plass 5, on the 7th floor)

9:00  SESSION 2 - QUANTITATIVE METHODS
Chair: Daniel Naurin, Professor, University of Oslo
Databases for studying constitutional law
Lee Epstein, Washington University in St Louis
(writing with Andrew Martin & James Gibson)
Quantitative analysis of constitutional drafting
Adam Chilton, University of Chicago (writing with Mila Versteeg)
Quantitative analysis of judicial voting
Benjamin Alarie and Andrew Green, University of Toronto

11:00  SESSION 3 – COMPUTATIONAL METHODS
Chair: Benjamin Alarie, University of Toronto
Automated content analysis
Brandon Stewart, Princeton University
Machine learning
Albert Yoon, University of Toronto (writing with Antony Niblett)
Network science & artificial intelligence
Dan Katz, Michigan State

12:45  LUNCH

13:30  Evolutionary dynamics
Daria Roithmayr, USC & Andrew Papachristos, Yale
The computational turn in legal research
David Law, Washington University in St Louis and University of Hong Kong

15:00  VISIT TO NORWEGIAN SUPREME COURT
Introduction: Justice Arnfinn Bårdsen, Supreme Court of Norway
16:30  SESSION 4 – GENERATING DATA/QUALITATIVE METHODS

Chair: Benedikte Høgberg, University of Oslo

Empirical study of normative claims
Paul Gowder, University of Iowa

Experimental research
David Fontana, George Washington University

Interview fieldwork and observational methods
Siri Gloppen, University of Bergen

Doctrinal methods
Alex Schwartz, University of Hong Kong

19:30  DINNER at Brasserie 45 (Stortingsgata 20)

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER

Location: Professorboligen (Karl Johans gate 47)

9:00  SESSION 5 – RESEARCH AGENDAS

Chair: Lee Epstein, Washington University in St Louis

Historical approaches to the study of constitutional law
Jack Rakove, Stanford University

Institutionalist approaches
Mark Graber, University of Maryland-College Park

Game theory and formal modeling
John Ferejohn, New York University

Critical approaches
Tshepo Madlingozi, University of Pretoria

11:30  WAY FORWARD

12:30  CLOSE
OPTIONAL ORGANISED TOURISM

10:30, Thu 16 Nov: Visit to the Norwegian Folk Museum

14:00, Sat 18 Nov: Visit to the Vigeland Sculpture Park