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NEWS from the Academy

ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE COLLEGES

and talk by Professor Patrick Dunleavy on THE IMPACTS AGENDA

The College of Learned Societies and the College of Academicians will both hold their AGMs at 4 pm on Wednesday 19th May at 30 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4UE.

The meetings will be preceded at 3 pm by a talk from Professor Patrick Dunleavy AcSS on “The Impacts Agenda”.

Patrick Dunleavy AcSS is Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at the London School of Economics, and Chair of LSE Public Policy Group. He is currently leading the central team in a three-year project on ‘Understanding the Impacts of the Social Sciences’, funded by HEFCE and involving researchers from LSE, Imperial College and Leeds University. His most recent books are Theories of the Democratic State (2009, with John Dryzek) and Digital Era Governance (2008, rev edn, with others).

Please can you notify the Communications Officer, Madeleine Barrows, if you wish to attend: m.barrows@acss.org.uk. These meetings are open to all Academicians and representatives of members learned societies and there is no charge for attending.

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THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

30th June 2010
11.00am - 4.00pm

The Financial Crisis and the Challenge to Social Science Thinking

The global financial crisis which erupted in 2008 lays down a profound challenge to social science. How well equipped are the different social sciences to understand and explain this event? How far does it challenge dominant approaches and require a rethink? Does it add to pressures for inter/multidisciplinary approaches? And are social scientists doing enough to get their ideas heard and understood? Contd.
The conference will feature prominent speakers from different disciplinary backgrounds, including speakers who understand the role social science plays but are not working as academics. They will talk about the contribution their disciplinary perspective could make to understanding this crisis and the ways forward. Confirmed speakers include:

- **Professor Andrew Gamble, University of Cambridge** - *Should crises change the way we think?*

- **Professor Stephen Lea, University of Exeter** - *Money, Materialism and Myopia: The psychology of the recession.*

- **Professor Bob Jessop, University of Lancaster** - *Accidents waiting to happen? The social roots of financial crises.*

- **Professor David Vines, University of Oxford** - *Keynes, Finance and the Future of Macroeconomics after the Global Financial Crisis.*

- **Bridget Rosewell, Greater London Authority / Volterra Consulting** - *Why Forecasting Failed*

**Biographies**

**Stephen Lea**, Professor of Psychology at the University of Exeter, UK, was one of the founders of economic psychology in Europe, and a past editor of the *Journal of Economic Psychology* as well as a past President of the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology. His research in economic psychology has specialised in the study of debt and giving and the psychology of money, with an emphasis on using economic data to enrich our understanding of human psychology as well as using psychological insights to account for unexpected phenomena in economic behaviour. In addition to his work in economic psychology, he has an active research programme in animal cognition and behavioural ecology, and has served as Dean of the Science Faculty and Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the University of Exeter; he is currently Head of the university’s School of Psychology.

**Andrew Gamble** is Professor of Politics and a Fellow of Queens’ College in the University of Cambridge, and currently Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies and joint editor of *The Political Quarterly*. His research interests lie in political economy, political theory and British politics, and his books include *Between Europe and America: the future of British politics* and *The Spectre at the Feast: capitalist crisis and the politics of recession*. In 2005 he received the Isaiah Berlin Prize from the Political Studies Association for lifetime contribution to political studies.
Bridget Rosewell has a twenty year track record in advising public and private sector clients on forecasts as well as economic development, transport and agglomeration economics, development evaluation, and competition as well as policy. She has been responsible for macro-economics forecasts at the CBI and for Wharton Econometrics. More recently, she has developed a new approach to long term forecasts for the Greater London Authority, in her capacity as Chief Economic Adviser. She has advised the Treasury Select Committee on monetary policy and was one of the so-called ‘Seven Wise Men’ advising Chancellor Kenneth Clarke. Bridget is one of the founding directors and Chairman of Volterra Consulting, established in 1998 to apply leading-edge mathematical and statistical techniques to solve economic and business problems.

Bob Jessop is Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the Cultural Political Economy Research Centre at Lancaster University. He was also Founding Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies at Lancaster. He was previously in the Department of Government at the University of Essex and has also been a Visiting Professor in the Department of History at Chicago and the School of Geography in Manchester. He is best known for his contributions to state theory, critical political economy, the analysis of welfare state restructuring, and debates on Thatcherism and New Labour. His books include The Capitalist State (1982), Thatcherism (1988), State Theory (1990), The Future of the Capitalist State (2002), Beyond the Regulation Approach (2006), and State Power: a Strategic-Relational Approach (2007). He currently holds an ESRC Research Professorship for a 3-year analysis of the cultural political economy of crisis-management.

David Vines is Professor of Economics, and a Fellow of Balliol College, at Oxford University. He is also Adjunct Professor of Economics in the Centre for Applied Macroeconomic Analysis at the Australian National University, and a Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London. Since June 2008 he has been the Research Director of the European Union’s Framework Seven PEGGED Research Program, which is analysing the Politics and Economics of Global Governance: the European Dimension. David’s own research is on macroeconomics and international economics, in particular on the macroeconomics of the current financial crisis, and on the reform of the IMF and other international financial institutions in the light of the crisis.

Delegate rates:

Open category - £90
Academicians - £65
For a booking form, click here.
To book and pay online click here and visit the Events page.

The conference will be followed by afternoon tea and the Academy’s Annual General Meeting at 4.45pm

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WORK AND WELLBEING CONFERENCE RESCHEDULED

Owing to problems arising from the General Election, this major conference has been rescheduled and will now take place - with the same programme and at the same venue – on 20th October 2010. As before Professor Cary Cooper CBE AcSS, the Chair of Council, and Dame Carol Black CBE will be the keynote speakers and Professor Philip Dewe of Birkbeck, University of London will chair the day which will cover a very wide range of topics on this central subject. Further details can be found at http://www.acss.org.uk/news.htm and online booking is available.

AGM 2010: FORMAL DETAILS

AGENDA

NOTICE WAS GIVEN on 29th March 2010 that the Annual General Meeting of the ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (the “Academy”) for 2010 will be held on Wednesday, 30th June 2010 at 4.45 pm at the offices of Amnesty International UK 17-25 New Inn Yard London EC2A 3EA for the purpose of considering the following Resolutions as Ordinary Business of the Academy and of undertaking other related business:

a. To welcome members to the AGM – President
b. To welcome and present certificates to new Academicians – President and Chair of Council

AGM

1 To receive the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 1st July 2009.
2 To receive the Report of the Chair of Council of the Academy.
3 To receive the Report of the Honorary Treasurer of the Academy.
4 To receive the Report of the Executive Director of the Academy
5 To receive the Directors’ Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2009.
6 To appoint Knox Cropper as Independent Examiners for 2010 and to authorize the Council to fix their remuneration.

c. Result of elections of members to Council – the Honorary Secretary
d. AOB

The call for candidates for Council was included in the previous bulletin and the closing date has now passed.
ACADEMY LEADS THE WAY IN DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR RESEARCH

A meeting, jointly sponsored by the Association of Research Ethics Committees (AREC), the Social Research Association (SRA) and the Academy of Social Sciences, was held on March 22nd to explore the possibility of creating a set of principles about research ethics that could be shared by the social science community. Twenty-two people attended, including representatives from 12 Learned Societies. A further 11, including representatives from 4 other learned societies, expressed interest but were unable to attend. The meeting was chaired by David Anderson-Ford, the current chair of AREC.

The event had emerged out of a joint Academy and British Psychological Society (BPS) meeting in early 2009 when revisions to the ESRC’s ethics framework were discussed. A number of Learned Societies were about to revise their own ethics guidelines so it was seen to be a propitious time to explore the possibility of a universal set of principles.

Three people gave brief introductions. Ron Iphofen AcSS of the SRA identified some key issues for consideration which included the importance of social scientists demonstrating integrity in the current climate which would be assisted by consistency of core principles; the benefit of sharing in relation to research ethics; and the importance of distinguishing between research ethics and research governance. He recognised there were problems to be addressed, particularly in relation to different learned societies having different views on some aspects of ethics. John Oates AcSS of the BPS drew on the work that the BPS has done over a number of years, to develop a new code of Research Ethics, to discuss the kinds of principles that could form the basis of some universal guidelines. The BPS has identified two core sets of principles - Principles for ethical conduct of research and Principles for review of research ethics. Each begins with a Value Statement followed by the Ethics Standards to be applied. The main thrust was to find ways of empowering researchers, given concerns about over-regulation of research. John also identified a number of issues that could be problematic in agreeing principles. Michelle Dodson of the ESRC rounded off the presentations with a discussion of the ESRC’s recently revised ethics framework – the Framework for Research Ethics (FRE). The FRE has made the principles on which it is based more explicit than the earlier REF but whereas the BPS has value-based principles the ESRC’s are principles for action. In discussing common principles it was important to identify what kind they are. Michelle identified some of the revisions in the new version – about expedited review for example – and reported that the ESRC was planning to develop a website on ethics as part of a general update of their website.

The discussion ranged over a number of issues including: the pros and cons of having ethics principles for social science research; the distinctions between ethical conduct and research governance; and possible ways forward. The key points that emerged were:

- A value-based set of principles could be valuable in conceptually bringing together a range of different things and allowing people to interpret what is important to them.
- An approach to the way conflicting principles should be handled would be needed.
- A set of overarching principles would be an umbrella for, rather than a replacement of, existing guidelines.
- Different disciplines could develop their own commentaries and guidelines underneath the overarching principles.
A set of principles would benefit researchers, especially those in multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary contexts, and small organisations and individuals who don’t know where to go for ethical review.

There are a lot of common issues about good and bad ethical practice across the disciplines already.

Current definitions of misconduct came from pronouncements from funding bodies but Learned Societies should have their own standards on misconduct.

A consultative exercise on a common set of principles could empower the social sciences.

There would be more support for general principles about the conduct of research than principles for research governance.

Modular statements about research conduct, from which LSs could choose which to use, might be easier to achieve than a common set of principles.

A Venn diagram – the ‘core’ principles would represent the overlapping space where all the codes and guidelines of the different professional associations come together - could be the way to view ethics principles.

Talking about ethics concepts might be better than principles.

There could be benefits of having a forum where people could share experiences and discuss issues around ethics, and in having a website of examples.

There was some discussion about the level of generality of the principles and that a level of abstraction could make principles difficult to apply. But it was pointed out that symbolic statements can have an impact and a common voice for the social sciences would be a strength.

David Anderson-Ford brought the meeting to a close with a short summary of the views that had emerged:

There was some degree of commonality between different stakeholders.

There were positive feelings about taking work forward, particularly in relation to the conduct of research rather than research governance.

A Venn diagram or modular approach had found favour.

Taking a consultative approach was very important.

It would be important for one organisation to take responsibility for progressing this work. It was suggested that the most appropriate body to do this would be the Academy of Social Science, but it would acquire its authority from the number of Learned Societies that signed up to it. It was agreed that the Academy should be approached to explore possibilities.

Janet Lewis

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REF MAIN PANEL CHAIRS

The Academy has been pleased to endorse the applications of four of its members for this important post. We await the outcome.

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*** Deadline for submission of material for June Bulletin***
*** 5 pm Monday 17th May 2010. Target publication date 29 May 2010 ***
***Send all items to m.barrows@acss.org.uk***
Section II: Other News

1. **Manchester Metropolitan University Summer Institute in Qualitative Research: Putting Theory to Work.** 19th –23rd July 2010 Education and Social Research Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK [Click Here]

2. **New Royal Town Planning Institute [RTPI]: Conference. “How can European Spatial Planners assess Territorial Cohesion?”** Edinburgh, 21 May 2010 [Click Here]

3. **New British Society of Criminology [BSC] 2010 conference: “Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Dilemmas and Diversity in Criminology”,** Leicester, 11th-14th July 2010 [Click Here]

4. **University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES): Expert on Europe database [Click Here]**

5. **New British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE): Annual Conference, “Education and Social Justice in Challenging Times”.** Norwich, 10-12 September 2010. [Click Here]

6. **Social Research Association (SRA) Training Courses Summer 2010 [Click Here]**

7. **New University of Edinburgh, Lecturship in the Sociology of Sustainability [Click Here]**

8. **New Holberg International Memorial Prize 2011: Call for nominations [Click Here]**

9. **New ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme: Placement at National Audit Office.** Deadline 13 May 2010 [Click Here]

10. **New ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme: Placement at Intellectual Property Office.** Deadline 18 May 2010 [Click Here]

11. **New ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme: Placement at Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority.** Deadline 26 May 2010 [Click Here]
II Other News: further details

Manchester Metropolitan University
Summer Institute in Qualitative Research: Putting Theory to Work

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd July 2010
Education and Social Research Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

The first international Summer Institute in Qualitative Research will provide the opportunity to learn about current trends in theory and methodology, in dialogue with leading theorists.

- What are the current trends and the future directions? psychoanalysis - art theory - feminisms
- How does theory engage with policy and practice? - sociocultural theory - action research
- How can I put theory to work in my own research? - poststructuralism - critical race theory
- How does theory influence methods, ethics, identity? literary criticism - policy analysis

Summer Institute Director: Maggie MacLure

Plenary Keynote Speakers

Patti Lather Ohio State University The State of Qualitative Inquiry: Methodology 2.1
Stephen Ball Institute of Education, London Challenges of Policy Analysis in Hard Times
Neil Mercer University of Cambridge Sociocultural Theory
Nick Lee Warwick University, Researching Childhood, Growth and Change: Biopolitics, Affect and Attractors
Maggie MacLure MMU Provocation: The Productive Offence of Theory
Bridget Somekh MMU Action Research
Erica Burman MMU Feminisms and Childhoods
Lorna Roberts MMU Critical Race Theory
Ian Parker MMU Psychoanalytic Theory
Rachel Holmes, Liz Jones, Maggie MacLure, Christina MacRae MMU Encounters with Art Theory

Putting Theorists to Work

Mini-sessions on: Butler • Derrida • Irigaray • Lacan • Foucault • Bourdieu • Deleuze • and others

Sessions will be a mix of keynotes from leading researchers, small-group workshops and mini-sessions on leading theorists.

The Summer Institute will be of interest to qualitative researchers who are looking for serious and stimulating engagements with theory. It will be of particular interest to doctoral students and beginning researchers in education, social sciences, and the health and caring professions.

The Education and Social Research Institute at MMU is a leading centre for applied social and educational research, with a world-class reputation for the development of theory and methodology. It is one of the top ten UK education research establishments, according to the latest Research Assessment Exercise. Find out more about ESRI at www.esri.mmu.ac.uk

Standard delegate fee: £195 (including all lunches, tea & coffee, plus wine reception)
Initial enquiries: Summer Institute in Qualitative Research, The Education and Social Research Institute, Manchester Metropolitan University, 799 Wilmslow Road, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2RR, UK
Tel (0161) 247 2318 fax (0161) 247 6353
Email SIQR@mmu.ac.uk

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Conference: How can European spatial planners assess Territorial Cohesion?

Friday 21 May 2010, 10.00 to 16.30
Business Centre, The City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1YJ

A joint conference organised by ECTP-CEU, the Royal Town Planning Institute and the ESPON UK Contact Point

European territorial cohesion policy requires planners to maximise the competitiveness of regions (at all scales) and minimise social and economic disparities between them, while achieving environmental sustainability. “Concentration, connection and co-operation” are the three principal policy fronts put forward by the EU Territorial Cohesion Green Paper. What do these mean in practice and what are the tools and mechanisms that planners are using and developing in this context? What new insights to these processes can research bring?

Visit [http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/3553](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/item/3553) for more information and booking details.

Places are limited, so booking is essential.

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3
BSC
2010 conference, “Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Dilemmas and Diversity in Criminology”

11 - 14 July 2010
University of Leicester

There will be special Panels covering a variety of criminological streams from policing, punishment and rehabilitation, youth, comparative and international criminology and research methods, to theoretical and critical criminology and crime and technologies.

The guest speaker will be internationally renowned human rights lawyer and founder and Director of Reprieve, Clive Stafford Smith, OBE. Academic keynote speakers include Australian criminologist Professor Reece Walters, who writes on the crimes of the powerful, including environmental crime; Professor Ben Bowling, who has published widely in the area of policing and community safety, and is currently working on two books Policing the Caribbean and Global Policing; Professor Lilie Chouliaraki, Research Director of POLIS, the forum for debate and research into journalism and society; and award-winning critical criminologist Jeff Ferrell.

Booking for the conference is now open. There are residential, non-residential and day delegate spaces available. For further information about the conference visit the website at [www.le.ac.uk/bscconference](http://www.le.ac.uk/bscconference)

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UACES
Expert on Europe Database

Looking for an Expert on Europe?

An online directory of experts which is FREE to search: [www.ExpertOnEurope.eu](http://www.ExpertOnEurope.eu)

Access the profiles of over 400 members of UACES who are engaged in Exchanging Ideas on Europe

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BAICE 2010 Conference
Education and Social Justice in Challenging Times

10-12 September, 2010
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK

For information on registration, visit the conference website at: http://www.uea.ac.uk/ssf/baice2010

Background and scope
Discussion on the role of education in processes of inclusion or exclusion, of community cohesion and empowerment and of social mobility or reproduction is resurfacing during the current global economic crisis. In such challenging circumstances, the capacity of states to guarantee the provision and regulation of public services is being brought into question. The 2010 BAICE conference will provide an opportunity for investigating educational processes and their impact on exclusion and inequalities from multidimensional and multidisciplinary perspectives. We aim to broaden the debate beyond schooling, to include higher education, adult education, and informal learning (through the media, community institutions, development projects, etc). Offers of papers and other presentations are invited within the following thematic areas:

Education for social change?

This theme explores the concept and processes associated with ‘transformative education’ today. Some of the issues that may be addressed include:

- Can and/or how can education be transformative in challenging contexts (e.g of economic crisis, political upheaval, environmental change, the HIV and AIDs pandemic, conflict and insecurity, linguistic and cultural change)?
- What is the nature and challenges for education in responding to calls for greater learner and other stakeholder participation, decision-making and voice?
- How can education institutions, programmes and processes work to disrupt patterns of inequality, disadvantage and marginalisation?
- What does transformative education mean and for whom? How is social, cultural, economic and religious diversity recognised and respected in institutions and policies challenging times?

Globalisation and the State-Education Relationship:

This theme focuses on how global pressures influence national educational policies and ultimately impact on the role of education in processes of social change, addressing questions such as:

- Can global policies and initiatives be said to contribute to denationalising educational processes? What impact do such trends have on local forms of knowledge appropriation and on the cultural content of pedagogies?
- Are the above pressures challenging the capacity of states to ensure the public good dimension of educational policies? Is the policy paradigm of human capital and economic growth aggravating social inequalities in contexts of crisis?
- What types of pressure do international mobility processes and the globalisation of information and communication systems put on educational systems and issues of equity and social justice in home and host countries?

Papers or symposia addressing methodological issues around conducting international and comparative research within the above context are also encouraged.

Keynote speakers
Prof. Anne Hickling-Hudson (Queensland University of Technology, Australia and BAICE President) , Prof. Krishna Kumar (University of Delhi, India), Prof. Mala Singh, The Open University (United Kingdom)

Organising committee
Yann Lebeau (coordinator), Sheila Aikman, Anna Robinson-Pant, Oscar Holguin-Rodriguez, Kathleen Lane, Barbara Ridley, Alan Rogers, Alison Schwier.
Organisers’ email: baice2010@uea.ac.uk

A Special Issue of Compare will be published in 2011 based on the conference and all participants will be invited to submit their papers for consideration.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words, should be submitted by 30 March 2010.

Further information
Further Information on any conference issue can be obtained by email at baice2010@uea.ac.uk or via our website: http://www.uea.ac.uk/ssf/baice2010

Venue and organisation
On the outskirts of the historic city of Norwich, just two hours from London or the Midlands, and directly connected by bus to the London airports, the University of East Anglia’s campus is set in over 300 acres of rolling parkland two miles from the centre of Norwich.

The conference is being organised by the Centre for Applied Research in Education (CARE) and hosted by the School of Education and Lifelong Learning. Home of CARE and of the Literacy and Development Group (in association with the School of International Development), the School develops a research portfolio combining theory and practice, to engage actively with key policy institutions in the UK and internationally and to encourage cross-cultural interaction between researchers and practitioners in countries in the North and South.

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SRA

Training Courses Summer 2010

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<td>Writing Effective Research Reports</td>
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<td>Making an Impact; Getting Research into Policy and Practice</td>
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<td>Researching People With Disabilities</td>
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Prices:
1-Day courses: £250 non-members; £175 members
2-Day courses: £450 non-members; £315 members
To book and for information about additional discounts, visit: www.the-sra.org.ac.uk/training.htm

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University of Edinburgh

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

LECTURESHP IN THE SOCIOLOGY OF SUSTAINABILITY
Salary Scale: £36,715 - £43,840

The position is available from 1 August 2010.

We are seeking an outstanding candidate(s) to join the Sociology subject area of the School of Social and Political Science in the College of Humanities and Social Science as a Lecturer.

Sustainability is defined as a way of life that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (Brundtland). Relevant work may include: critical analysis of 'modernity', globalisation, social reproduction and change; global and international development issues; sustainable consumption and production; sustainable social practices; health and well-being and orientations to the natural world; stewardship of planetary life support systems, at all levels of scale from micro to macro. An interest is the sociology of sustainability in the context of South Asia would be an advantage.

This post arises partly from the secondment of a senior colleague in Sociology to lead the development of the new cross-college interdisciplinary degree programme - the MA Honours in Sustainable Development - which is being led from within the School of Social and Political Science, and which will welcome its first intake of students in 2011/12. This will be a uniquely interdisciplinary and highly flexible programme rooted in the School of Social and Political Science but involving collaboration with many other parts of the University. It derives from a variety of efforts throughout the University to strengthen synergies and links among common areas of teaching and research relating to development, well-being, and environmental care. It also forms part of the University's Internationalisation Strategy.

The degree structure will include a core curriculum in Sustainable Development throughout all four years, plus specialisation in at least one home subject over four years, and in one further subject over the first two pre-Honours years. In the Honours years, students will prepare a dissertation based on research (probably placement-based applied research in most cases) on a real-world sustainable development issue.

The School is also offering new postgraduate degrees in International Development, and 2010/11 sees the first offer of the new MSc in Global and International Sociology.

Look for further details on http://www.jobs.ed.ac.uk/

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HOLBERG INTERNATIONAL MEMORIAL PRIZE 2011
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Board of the Ludvig Holberg Memorial Prize is now calling for nominations for the Holberg International Memorial Prize 2011 for outstanding scholarly work in the fields of the arts and humanities, social science, law and theology. The prize has a value of NOK 4.5 million (approx. €550,000/$760,000 at current exchange rates). The Holberg Prize aims to increase society's awareness of the value of research in the above mentioned fields. For more information visit: www.holbergprisen.no/en.

The nomination deadline is 15 September 2010.

Scholars holding a senior position at universities and other research institutions within above mentioned academic fields are entitled to nominate candidates for the Holberg International Memorial Prize.

The winner of the Holberg International Memorial Prize 2011 will be announced in March 2011. The official award ceremony will take place in Bergen, Norway in June 2011.

For further information, contact the Project Manager Trine Kleven: trine.kleven@holbergprisen.no or tel: +47 55586996.

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ESRC Placement Fellowships Scheme
OPPORTUNITY FOR PLACEMENT FELLOWSHIP IN THE
NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

As part of its Placement Fellowship Scheme the ESRC welcomes applications from academics interested in working in a research capacity in the National Audit Office (NAO). The Scheme encourages social science researchers to spend time within a partner organisation to undertake policy relevant research and to develop the research skills of partner employees. The Fellowship will be jointly funded by the ESRC and the NAO while the Fellow remains employed by his/her institution.

Project Title: Data Analytical Modelling working with VFM auditors
Length of Fellowship: 12 months
Proposed start date: 1st June 2010 – or mutually agreed date
Location of Fellowship: National Audit Office, 157-159 Buckingham Palace Road Victoria, London SW1W9SP

Expected tasks
This is a call for an Operational Researcher with applied Data Analytical Modelling expertise to work alongside Value for Money auditors and help develop the use made by the National Audit Office of these methods. The Operational Research Fellow will work with in-house methods specialists to:

- Build on existing use and knowledge of DAM methods
- Identify value for money audits where modelling methods can be applied
- Support auditors through the application of modelling methods including scoping, data collection, analysis and reporting
- Provide practical expertise and coaching for NAO auditors on DAM methods to evaluate modelling work carried out by our client departments
- Support the use of other Operational Research techniques such as Data Envelopment Analysis.

Skills required
The Operational Research Fellow will work with in-house staff to formulate and apply mathematical modelling methods to interpret quantitative data and assist study teams with their value for money audits of Government Departments and Non Department Public Bodies (NDPBs). We are looking for a high level of expertise and experience in applying operational research methods, communicating related findings to professional and lay audiences. It is essential that the Operational Research Fellow has:

- An MSc / PhD in quantitative methods such as operations research, economics, or applied mathematics
- A minimum of 3-5 years of applied experience in operational research methods
- A very good command of basic spreadsheet software (such as Microsoft Excel)
- A very good command of at least one modelling software and statistical software packages (such as Arena, Simul8, Stata, SPSS)
- Experience with communicating modelling outputs with non-experts
- Teaching experience on quantitative methods
- Experience in developing modelling solutions not necessarily using ready made software.
- Other skills which are desirable but not essential include:
  - Knowledge of other Operational Research and quantitative analytical techniques (such as Data Envelopment Analysis and Stochastic Frontier Analysis)
  - Experience of working with Government Departments or other areas of the public sector
  - Experience of explaining techniques to non-experts and presenting findings which are understandable to a lay audience
  - The ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team to produce reports which are based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative techniques.

Background
The NAO have worked to great effect with the ESRC over a number of years and see our technical expertise as closely aligned with their new 2009-14 Strategic Plan. Of the ESRC’s seven areas of strategic challenge, for example, this call for a Research Fellow directly contributes to the their Global Economic Performance, Policy and Management goal through our work helping Government to refine the cost and efficiency of public programme interventions. We, like the ESRC, wish to access world class economic and social research skills to drive improved service delivery and realise social benefits.

The NAO is undergoing major changes and value for money audit is evolving due to internal demands from the NAO senior management team, external demands from Parliament and Government as well as wider data collection and analysis advancements. As part of this exciting change we are looking to increase the use we make of DAM techniques in assessing value for money and designing recommendations. Recent examples of reports which have utilised DAM techniques include:

- Reducing Healthcare Associated Infections in Hospitals in England (June 2009);
- Supporting people with autism through adulthood (June 2009);
- HM Revenue and Customs: Handling telephone enquiries (January 2010)
- Department of Health: Progress in improving stroke care (February 2010)

These reports and supporting methodology papers can be found on our website www.nao.org.uk

The Operational Research Fellow will be a key part of these developments, helping to apply rigorous quantitative analysis in our reports. In this way, the Operational Research Fellow will help ensure that NAO products improve value for money for the taxpayer by directly contributing to improvements in the evidence base underpinning our reports to better command the respect of Parliament and Government Departments.

APPLICATION FOR THIS CALL IS ONLY THROUGH THE JOINT ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION SYSTEM AND SHOULD BE MADE ACCORDINGLY. THE CALL OPENS ON 30 MARCH 2010 AND CLOSES ON 13 MAY 2010.

Any enquiries – and to request scheme specific guidance - please email: lesley.lilley@esrc.ac.uk or Andrew.O’Reilly@nao.gsi.gov.uk

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10

ESRC Placement Fellowships Scheme

OPPORTUNITY FOR PLACEMENT FELLOWSHIP IN THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

As part of its Placement Fellowship Scheme the ESRC welcomes applications from academics interested in working in a research capacity in the Intellectual Property Office (IPO). The Scheme encourages social science researchers to spend time within a partner organisation to undertake policy relevant research and to develop the research skills of partner employees. The Fellowship will be jointly funded by the ESRC and IPO while the Fellow remains employed by his/her institution.

Project Title: Comparative Study of Copyright Levies to Reward Creative Assets in the EU
Length of Fellowship: 9 – 12 months
Proposed start date: June 2010 or as soon as possible after this date
Location of Fellowship: Intellectual Property Office, 21 Bloomsbury St, London WC1B 3HF

Expected tasks

- Review of types of levy systems on copying devices and media across countries, and how revenue is raised to reward authors / performers / creators
- Policy rationale by country, comparing across different systems which generate rewards through levies
- Assessment of economic flows insofar as data is available; where income comes from, and where it is distributed
Assessment of impact of the systems for creators and consumers of content, and for intermediaries.
Comparison with incentives provided by levy systems with those under ‘UK system’ of rewards generated by payment for use (UK base data for this will be assembled by IPO).

Skills required

**Essential**
- Good policy analysis skills, including ability to understand differences in national systems for policy development in IP
- Experience in applied economic analysis
- Economic understanding of capital and income flows in competitive markets
- Understanding of complex business models
- Ability to undertake data gathering and value chain analysis in markets for ‘intangible’ products
- Ability to relate economic effects of policy to structural differences in markets
- Strong presentational skills

**Desirable**
- Knowledge of or interest in creative industries
- Project management experience
- Awareness of IPO / ESRC research goals
- Knowledge of official data sources, and the implications of changing business models for economic measurement

**Background**

In December 2009 the IPO published ‘Copyright, the way ahead; a strategy for copyright in the digital age’ ([http://www.ipo.gov.uk/c-strategy-digitalage.pdf](http://www.ipo.gov.uk/c-strategy-digitalage.pdf)). It is based on the principle that copyright reward systems in the UK, for authors, creators and performers will continue to be based around a market in which payment is based, where possible, on usage. However, in many EU countries governments have created systems in which levies (effectively taxes) are made on copying devices or copying media. The proceeds are distributed to creators / performers whose works may be copied and used through them. The levy is, notionally, fair compensation for consumers’ rights to copy and use material in a domestic setting and complements revenue from content purchases.

The economic consequences of these levy systems are not well understood, but they may represent distortions of the market for both products and content. They may also change the behaviour of consumers in markets in which they operate, by effectively legitimising copying of content by users, who believe they have paid for the right to do so in the prices of electronic devices or media. This patchwork of charging regimes also makes it very difficult to establish any form of ‘single market for content’ across the EU, and may complicate distribution to consumers.

The purpose of this research project is to assemble the data available on the range of levy systems in the EU, most established at national level, with different charging systems for copying devices and for media, and different systems for distributing proceeds. Across the countries we would like to be able to compare:
- The policy arguments used to justify the principle and design of the levy system for each country
- How the systems actually work in each country, including quantitative estimates of the revenue they raise by source, how distribution decisions are made and an estimate of the pattern of rewards to content creators
- Where systems have been in place for more than one or two years, estimates of the impact of levy systems on behaviour of, and rewards to, different groups of creators, and to others in the value chain.

Case studies for countries in which changes have occurred will help to communicate the results. We would also like to see some consideration given to comparison of outcomes under levy systems, compared to those under copyright regimes, like the UK, where rewards are based on payment for use of material.

The candidate will bring economic research skills and expertise to bear on these questions, working with UK experts on the copyright system and helping to develop research capability in IPO. The wider context for the study is a programme of IP research involving leading researchers, and the successful candidate will have the opportunity to interact with this. The candidate will present a separate research report, but will be able to draw on work (already under way led by an IPO economist) to quantify creative investment and income streams from UK copyright / performance rights.
The candidate will bring a fresh viewpoint to conceptual frameworks – including thinking on value chains and networks in creative industries. Results will shape analytical frameworks used by IPO and the Strategic Advisory Board on Intellectual Property (SABIP) to assess copyright policy. The candidate will not be expected to provide policy recommendations for the UK, but will, if possible, estimate effects of alternative policies in other countries.

From the candidate’s perspective, this will be an opportunity to contribute directly to the development of a key activity at the interface of research and policy and potentially shape the direction of research on business models and copyright for the next few years. The candidate will also get a unique insight into the operations of an Executive Agency, will work with senior staff at the Intellectual Property Office, including its Chief Economist and Economic Adviser, as well as the research activity of SABIP. We would encourage the candidate to develop a sustained research interest in areas associated with the research project.

Given the time scale, we would expect the person to be able to get to grips with the project in a very short period. The successful candidate must therefore have some familiarity with the research methodologies, the creative industries and similar studies.

IPO will facilitate contacts with bodies which should be able to assist with international data and comparisons, and a certain amount of travel will be required. The researcher is expected to draw on academic contacts and knowledge to help interpret it. The post will have access to IPO staff in London and Newport, and a working base in IPO’s London office alongside the Economics Unit. The work will be supervised by the Chief Economist of the IPO, with input from SABIP researchers, and the IPO’s Copyright Directorate.

APPLICATIONS FOR THIS CALL MUST BE THROUGH THE JOINT ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION SYSTEM AND SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ACCORDINGLY. THE CALL OPENS ON 6 APRIL 2010 AND CLOSES ON 18 MAY 2010.

Any enquiries please email: lesley.lilley@esrc.ac.uk
Or: Tony.Clayton@ipo.gov.uk

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II

ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme

OPPORTUNITY FOR PLACEMENT FELLOWSHIP IN THE HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY AUTHORITY

As part of its Placement Fellowship Scheme the ESRC welcomes applications from academics interested in working in a research capacity in the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA). The Scheme encourages social science researchers to spend time within a partner organisation to undertake policy relevant research and to develop the research skills of partner employees. The Fellowship will be jointly funded by the ESRC and the HFEA while the Fellow remains employed by his/her institution.

Project Title: Sperm, egg and embryo donation: Exploring the attitudes of donors, recipients and donor conceived people.

Length of Fellowship: 6-12 months
Proposed start date: July 1 2010 – earlier, if possible.

Location of Fellowship: Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, 21 Bloomsbury Street, London WC1B 3HF

The fellow will also be expected to spend some time within fertility centres across the UK, which have active donation programmes.

Expected tasks
This is a call for a researcher who can complete an in-depth analysis of the attitudes of donors, recipients and donor conceived people, on sperm, eggs (gametes) and embryo donation within the UK. We would like to explore attitudes around compensation for donation, the number of offspring/families conceived from any one donor, and restrictions imposed by donors on the use of their gametes or embryos. In addition, we would like the researcher to contribute to the overall development of the policy review process, both in an advisory capacity and through contributing to the consultation and analysis process.

- Exploration of existing literature, including evidence from other jurisdictions
- Working with the HFEA to source donors, recipients and donor conceived people (preferably those born since 1992)
- Qualitative engagement (interviews, observation) with donors, recipients and donor-conceived people, in order to explore their attitudes and potential impact of HFEA policies
- Analysis of the material collected during desk-based research and qualitative engagement.
- Drafting of report (to feed into policy development process)
- Reporting and presentation of findings to Executive and Authority Committees, and external groups, as appropriate.
- Participation on the policy review advisory group
- Run workshops at consultation events
- Contribute to the consultation design and analysis process
- Provide practical expertise and coaching for policy team members on qualitative engagement and analysis.

**Skills and experience required**

- **Research skills** – The Fellow needs to get quickly up to speed with donation policies and practices in the UK. These are governed by a technical piece of legislation (Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990 – which was updated in 2008) which also incorporates requirements from the EU Tissues and Cells Directives. The Fellow needs to understand quickly how donation in the UK is shaped by legislation, by HFEA policy and by clinical practices (see the 8th edition of HFEA Code of Practice and policy papers on HFEA website, links provided below)
- **Interview skills, wider fieldwork skills** - this is a sensitive area of practice, experience of dealing directly with the public, possibly also with teenagers, and working around other ‘taboo’ subjects are an advantage
- **Confidentiality** requirements need to be at the forefront of the Fellow's thinking, together with wider ethical considerations around the sensitivity of the subject, the very personal nature of the information and the possible vulnerability of some of the research subjects. **Ethics approval** will need to be sought for the engagement aspects of this work
- **Making contact with a ‘hard to reach’ group of people**, establishing enough trust to enable interviews to take place and, time permitting, sourcing participants from hard to reach groups (eg, donor conceived people)
- **Experience of performing literature reviews**
- **Experience with analysing a small qualitative data set**, making careful, yet confident arguments on the basis of a limited evidence base
- **Writing skills** – this material and any insights need to be written up for lay readers and need to be brought as evidence to the decisions the Authority need to make (early in 2011), these papers will be publicly available
- **Presentation skills** – the Fellow needs to be prepared and able to present and explain their findings to the Executive and Authority, and other organisations as appropriate.
- **Understanding of the regulatory and political context** – the Fellow will contribute to a substantial, controversial, outward facing, heavily scrutinised policy review of donation policies the HFEA is committed to undertake during the business year 2010/11. The Fellow needs to appreciate the opportunities and limitations entailed in a regulatory policy review. Everything the fellow will write will be subject to various statutory disclosure regimes, including the FOI Act.

**Background**

The HFEA is committed to reviewing its policies governing donation of sperm, egg and embryos in the UK fertility sector. The review will cover a wide range of concerns; important issues covered are:

- compensation for donation and re-imbursement of donor expenses (currently limited to expenses, loss of earnings and discounted treatment services),
- the limit on the number of families which can be created from one donor (currently limited to 10),
- donation within the family
- limitations the donor might want to impose on the use of their gametes, and
facilitating sibling contact between donor conceived people, under the age of 18.

The policy review will consist of:

- a research phase during the Spring/Summer of 2010 (this will include work with stakeholders)
- the working up of options for consultation which will be discussed by the Authority in July and September 2010
- the drafting of a consultation document which will be adopted in September
- a consultation phase which will run from October to December 2010

The Authority is expected to make policy decisions early in 2011, based on the evidence and consultation feedback provided by the Executive.

The Fellow will contribute to this evidence through producing a report which explores the attitudes and motivations of donors, recipients and the donor conceived, regarding the policy areas outlined above. To this end, ideally s/he will need to spend time at fertility centres with active donor programmes. In addition, the researcher will be expected to contribute more generally to the policy development process in an advisory capacity, through running consultation workshops and assisting with the consultation analysis.

In turn, HFEA employees, particularly those from the Policy Team, hope to benefit from the research and design and analysis skills the Fellow will bring to policy work at the HFEA. It is hoped that the Fellow would be willing to talk through their thinking and decision-making and to share some of their expertise with team members, thus upskilling the team in the process.

For further information, please see:

- Policy review web page, with supporting documents:
- SEED Evaluation report
  - http://www.hfea.gov.uk/docs/2009-12-09_Authority_papers_-_528_SEED_Evaluation.pdf
- HFEA Code of Practice (HFEA guidance to clinics):

Applications for this call are by the joint electronic submission system and should be made accordingly.

THE CALL OPENS ON 28 APRIL 2010 AND CLOSES ON 26 MAY 2010.

Any enquiries and to request the important scheme specific guidance please email:
lesley.lilley@esrc.ac.uk OR Danielle.Hamm@hfea.gov.uk

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END OF BULLETIN
Annual General Meeting of the Academy of Social Sciences

Wednesday 30 June 2010

4:45 – 6 pm

Attendance Form

I should like to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Academy of Social Sciences on 30 June 2010 at Amnesty International UK, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA from 4:45 until 6 pm.

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