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Welcome to the November edition of the BSA PGF newsletter. It includes the at-a-glance contents list, details of forthcoming events and a call for notification for future events.

Don't forget to check out:

- **PG Focus**, the PGF Podcast series and blog – <http://pgforum.libsyn.com/>
- The **website** – [www.britisoc.co.uk/students](http://www.britisoc.co.uk/students) for regular updates on PG events
- The **facebook fan page** – 'BSA Postgraduate Forum' – for all the latest PGF discussions (even if you aren't on facebook, you can access our page by visiting <http://www.facebook.com/pages/BSA-Postgraduate-Forum/264420952459>)
- **Network** for PG relevant news and reviews



or **contact us** on [PGForum@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:PGForum@britsoc.org.uk) with any PGF news/updates!

Allison, Mark, Mike, Tung & Ursula  
PGF Convenors

### *At-a-glance contents*

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#### **PG Profiles and special announcements**

1. **Forthcoming events at a glance, including calls for papers**
2. **Full details of Events & Calls for Papers.**
3. **Funding Opportunities/Job opportunities/Prize awards**
4. **Publications: Introducing new journals and calls for journal submissions**
5. **Other News**

### *PG Profiles*

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Every month our PG Profiles section will feature profiles of different PG researchers. The idea of PG Profiles is to highlight the work and research interests of the members to the wider community in order to promote and help facilitate cooperation and networking.

#### **SEEKING NEW SUBMISSIONS FOR PG PROFILES:**

**If you would like to be featured as part of PG Profiles, please email us and we will send you details on what information is required.**

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this section, please send them to [PGForum@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:PGForum@britsoc.org.uk)

*This month, we welcome our newest convenors, Mark Carrigan and Ursula Edgington!*



**Mark Carrigan**

**Institution:** University of Warwick  
**Stage of Research:** PhD; year 3 (part time)  
**Areas of interest:** Identity, reflexivity, social theory and asexuality are my main interests. In some ways the first three are quite different from the fourth. Although one of the findings of my research on asexuality has been that the community exhibits an almost unparalleled degree of reflexivity in relation to their personal and social identities so maybe the interests aren't as separate as they sometimes feel.  
**Any other activities:** I edit the website [sociologicalimagination.org](http://sociologicalimagination.org) which contains news stories, articles and videos about society and politics from a sociological perspective. I'm also involved in some visibility and education work in relation to asexuality, however this seems to be falling by the wayside a little as I move further into my PhD.  
**Email address:** [m.a.carrigan@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:m.a.carrigan@warwick.ac.uk)

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**Ursula Edgington**

**Institution:** Canterbury Christ Church University  
**Stage of Research:** PhD: Year 1  
**Areas of interest:** Adult education and well-being, sociology of health & wellbeing, emotional intelligence/labour in education.  
&  
Food ethics and the sociology of food.  
**Any other activities:** Music, eating-out, creative writing and walking my dog on the beach during periods of 'writers block'!  
**Email address:** [ue4@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:ue4@canterbury.ac.uk)

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## ***Call for BSA Regional Postgraduate Call for BSA Regional Postgraduate Day School Events***

The BSA would like expressions of interest from postgraduate students interested in organising a regional postgraduate day event in 2010-11.

In 2009-10, five successful events were held throughout the UK. These one-day events express the diversity and dynamism of the postgraduate experience. The 2009-10 events were:

- The Politics of Sociology: Negotiating Politics as a Social Researcher, University of Warwick
- Whose knowledge is it anyway?. University of Edinburgh
- Bourdieu and Education: A Postgraduate Conference and Three Masterclasses on Post-Primary, Higher and Professional Education, Queens University Belfast
- 'Bridging the Gap': Translating Knowledge into Action in Health and Social Research, Newcastle University
- Subcultures Past and Present: Space, Technologies and Social Control, University of York

It is hoped that Regional Postgraduate Day Events will provide a variety of events throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and that they will become an annual series in the BSA calendar.

We are looking for postgraduate organisers willing to co-ordinate with speakers and the BSA to organise a day event at the student's institution. The BSA will provide up to £1,000 support for the event, which should be free for BSA members to attend. The grant can be used to pay for room hire, speakers, lunch and refreshments. The BSA Office will also promote and publicise the Postgraduate day schools through a number of outlets including flyers in membership packs, the BSA website and member e-newsletters.

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Please email all expressions of interest to BSA Membership Services Directors via the BSA Office at [events@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:events@britsoc.org.uk)

Address all correspondence: BSA REGIONAL POSTGRADUATE EVENTS

Expressions of interest should include name, institution, proposed theme for the event, month of the proposed event date, but may also include proposed programme, potential speakers, etc. Expressions of interest should be received before Friday 12th November 2010.

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## BSA Annual Conference 2011



**YEARS OF  
SOCIOLOGY**

**BSA Annual Conference 2011**

6-8 April 2011  
London School of Economics

### **Wednesday 6th - Friday 8th April 2011, London School of Economics**

While the deadline for abstracts has passed, you can still register and join us at the BSA Annual Conference 2011.

#### **\*\*Funding\*\***

Concessionary members of the BSA can apply for a limited number of free places at conference through the Support Fund: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/students/SupportFund.htm>.

#### **\*\*\*Postgraduate Forum Day, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011\*\*\***

The Postgraduate Forum Day at Conference offers an excellent opportunity to get to know fellow postgraduates while also picking up valuable hints and strategies from guest speakers. The 2011 event will run from 12:00 until 18:00 and will be followed by an informal meal (not included in the registration fee). Topics to be covered in presentations and discussion-based seminars include negotiating academic and non-academic career paths, visualizing data, writing, creativity and problem solving, and student rights.

#### **The Conference**

We all need inspiration. Be inspired at this year's annual BSA conference. It's our 60th birthday, so we're pulling out all the stops to make this a truly unmissable event. With keynote speakers delivering presentations on the latest ideas from around the world, you're sure to come away refreshed, recharged and ready to put pen to paper and start forming a few ideas of your own.

This year's theme is '60 years of sociology'. By studying our past, we believe we can get a better perspective about the present, as well as a clearer idea about where we're going. We've brought together some great voices to start the conference. We are delighted to have attracted visionary and engaging keynote speakers:

Ulrich Beck, Christine Delphy, Paul Gilroy, Helga Nowotny, George Steinmetz, Laurie Taylor

To find out more about the conference visit our website for more information. We look forward to meeting you, talking, listening, and sharing your ideas.

Website: [www.britsoc.co.uk/events/conference](http://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/conference) Email: [bsaconference@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:bsaconference@britsoc.org.uk)

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## ***PG Focus - The podcast of the BSA PG Forum***

This series will bring together a variety of audio and video content, including; interviews, news, and workshops relevant to the PG community. It will also serve to showcase PG innovation in research, teaching, and events.

**SEEKING CONTRIBUTORS FOR FUTURE PODCASTS:** Maybe you would like to speak about your research or interview a guest speaker at your university. Maybe you have some advice to offer about getting through a PhD or how to develop professional skills. If you have a great idea for a future podcast, get in touch with us and we'll try to help you make it a reality.

Go to – <http://pgforum.libsyn.com> - to access the podcast.

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## ***PG Forum Podcasting Advice and Guidance***

The BSA PG Forum is pleased to announce the release of our *Podcasting Advice* guide.

[http://traffic.libsyn.com/pgforum/PGF\\_Pod\\_Advice\\_Final.pdf](http://traffic.libsyn.com/pgforum/PGF_Pod_Advice_Final.pdf)

This document gives direction and guidance on how to turn your work - be it a presentation, interview, teaching initiative, or other item of audio or video presentation - into a format for publication on *PG Focus*. The guide assumes no prior knowledge and is intended for consumption by those completely new to this versatile and highly useful format.

As well as providing information on submissions for *PG Focus*, the guide will be of interest to anyone working with audio or video when communicating or teaching sociology.

The guide was written by Allison Hui and Mike Bracher for the BSA PG Forum.

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### **What is a 'podcast'?**

A podcast is an audio or video series, like a radio or TV show; except that you can carry it with you on your own media/mp3 player. You can use iTunes or other podcast management software to subscribe. This means that your computer will automatically look for new episodes, download them and then put them onto your portable player when you connect it to the computer automatically.

### **How can I get PG Focus?**

There are several ways to get PG Focus:

- 1) ***In the embedded player on the web page*** – simply go to the web page of the episode you want to listen to, and click 'play' on the player in the top right hand corner of the page.
- 2) ***Via direct download*** - you can go to the bottom of the page of the episode you want to download, and click the 'Direct download' link to save a copy to your hard drive.
- 3) ***Subscribe via iTunes*** - Click here if you have iTunes already:  
<http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=339855447> – or go here for further instructions - [http://pgforum.libsyn.com/index.php?post\\_id=548852](http://pgforum.libsyn.com/index.php?post_id=548852)

We hope that you enjoy the podcast, and welcome your feedback and/or suggestions for future episodes. You can leave comments on the podcast page, or email the PG Forum convenor team at [PGForum@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:PGForum@britsoc.org.uk).

## 1. *Forthcoming events at a glance:*

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Events are listed in chronological order:

<b>A</b>	<b>Foucault, the Family and Politics</b>	<b>University of Cambridge</b>	<b>12 November 2010</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>BRICS on the Move, Centre for Mobilities Research</b>	<b>Lancaster University</b>	<b>12 November 2010</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>VISION ON: DIGITAL VIDEO AND ORAL HISTORY</b>	<b>Museum of London</b>	<b>20 November 2010</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>Professor Walter Mignolo Events</b>	<b>University of Warwick</b>	<b>22-26 November 2010</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Blocked Arteries: Circulation and Congestion in History</b>	<b>University of London</b>	<b>25-26 November 2010</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Our Changing Expectations of Life: What do we really want?</b>	<b>Cumberland Lodge</b>	<b>26-28 November 2010</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>The 5th Postgraduate Bioethics Conference</b>	<b>The Wellcome Conference Centre, London</b>	<b>5-7 January 2011</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Historical Sociology Workshop</b>	<b>University of Warrick</b>	<b>26 January 2011</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Living Beyond Theory: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Postcolonial</b>	<b>University of York</b>	<b>11 February 2011</b>
<b>J</b>	<b>Texas Asia Graduate Student Conference</b>	<b>University of Texas at Austin</b>	<b>11-12 February 2011</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>“Men, Masculinities and the Common Good in an Era of Economic Uncertaint.” 19th Annual “Men and Masculinity Conference” of the American Men’s Studies Association</b>	<b>University of Missouri, Kansas City, US</b>	<b>31 March- 2 April, 2011</b>
<b>L</b>	<b>Making Sustainable Mobilities</b>	<b>TU München, Oskar-von-Miller-Forum, Munich,</b>	<b>7-8 April, 2011</b>
<b>M</b>	<b>Workshop on Unintended Consequences – the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of a Sociological Idea</b>	<b>Gdańsk, Poland</b>	<b>9-10 May 2011</b>
<b>N</b>	<b>AEGIS 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference on African Studies</b>	<b>Uppsala, Sweden</b>	<b>15-18 June 2011</b>

## **2. Further Information about events listed in section 1.**

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### **A. Foucault, the Family and Politics, University of Cambridge, 12 November 2010**

BSA Theory Study Group supported Conference  
Friday, 12 November 2010, Kings College, Keynes Hall, Cambridge

**Attendance free** – but please register, see below for details.

Organised by **Robbie Duschinsky**, Sociology, University of Cambridge

Foucault writes of how the internal power-dynamics of the family interact with the social politics of society as a whole. On the one hand, social politics impact family structure and dynamics in many ways, including legal judgements, medical interventions, and social work. On the other hand, members of families call on discourses and institutions from society at large in order to manage or change the operation of the family. The conference will begin by examining the theme of the family in Foucault's life and texts; it will then use his ideas to explore the politics of the family more generally in the contemporary world.

#### **Speakers include:**

Professor **Remi Lenoir** (Centre de Sociologie Européenne, Université Paris 1, France)

**David Macey** (Translator, biographer of Michel Foucault and Frantz Fanon, UK)

Professor **Valerie Walkerdine** (School of Social Sciences, University of Cardiff, UK/Visiting Professor, University of Oslo, Norway)

**Malcolm Thompson** (History, University of British Columbia, Canada)

**Dr Leon Rocha** (History of Science, Yale University, USA)

Professor **Vikki Bell** (Sociology, University of London, Goldsmiths, UK)

**Dr Gillian Harkins** (English, Washington State University, USA)

Professor **Veronique Mottier** (Sociology, University of Lausanne/Sociology, University of Cambridge, UK)

See attached poster and here for further details: <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/bsatheorysg>

Closing date for registration is Tuesday 9 November, 2010.

Contact Robbie for any further information: [rd313@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rd313@cam.ac.uk)

### **B. BRICS on the Move, Centre for Mobilities Research, Lancaster University, 12 November 2010**

Workshop Organisers: Thomas Birtchnell, David Tyfield & John Urry, CeMoRe

The acronym BRICs (Brazil, Russia, India, China) was coined by the Goldman Sachs consultant Jim O'Neill in 2001. It has since become a common umbrella term in media, academic and government rhetoric about the future potential of these 'emerging giants', in particular the threat/opportunity that these economies present to the developed world. The regionalised perspective of BRICs encourages a commodified picture of these countries around major risks/opportunities: investment, global hegemony, social transformation and climate change. The BRICs is the West/North's dream of a new East/South with geo-political status and power to rival the developed world. Indeed, much BRICs discourse echoes Cold War rhetoric, which in turn resonates with the unspeakable commonality (for investors at least) that all four of the BRICs were (or remain, in title) socialist states.

Against such a limited understanding of the BRICs, this one-day conference will explore three inter-related issues regarding which they may be said to be 'on the move'; first, their (individual national and/or collective) geopolitical rise and its global impacts; secondly, the ongoing and parallel historical process of (concerted) construction of the BRICs as a social and political reality; and,

thirdly, the role of increased mobility (inter- and intra-nationally) in constituting these rapidly changing societies.

To represent these countries as a unified group belies each country's own set of economic, social and political relations, both intra-nationally and with their regional neighbours and the developed world. This denies, inter alia, the socio-historical cross-border exchanges that encouraged the emergence of these countries. The flows of remittances, migration, innovation, knowledge, technology and talent that constitute disorganised capitalism go under the radar of conventional commentaries on BRICs. Strange couplings and contradictions also emanate from this new geo-political ordering. There is thus great potential for social scientists to challenge the conventional usages of such blanket terms by offering concrete examples of how global complexity within which, and mobilities by which, these nation-states emerged disrupt and deconstruct convenient acronyms like BRICs. The mobile turn in sociology can thus temper reports in the media and finance of threat and opportunity that feed into government strategies and foreign policy, thereby challenging the stark and binary choices between dystopic futures posed by this conventional framing.

Papers and presentations are invited on topics on themes such as:

- \* Automobility and the emerging powers;
- \* Case studies on individual BRICs countries and mobilities issues;
- \* Global impact of BRICs-based innovation, including for socioeconomic development;
- \* Transnational elites, migration, tourism, remittances, capital flows, trade;
- \* Socio-political history of BRICs or related global quasi-institutions;
- \* Media representations of BRICs in terms of emerging powers/giants rhetoric;
- \* Low carbon innovation/technology/knowledge transfer and the impact of the BRICs on climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- \* Critiques or sociological analyses of the prevailing finance/economic focus on investment, economic growth, risk and carbon emissions in understandings of BRICS

The workshop will be held at Lancaster University on 12 November 2010 from 11am to 6pm.

#### Registration

The day costs £40 for staff/waged and £10.00 student/unwaged which includes refreshments throughout the day and a buffet supper after the workshop. Places are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Closing date for registration 10 October 2010.

#### Online Registration

<https://online-payments.lancaster-university.co.uk/catalogue/products.asp?compid=1&deptid=6&catID=121&hasClicked=0>

Please let us know if you would like to present a paper or just attend.

If required, a range of overnight accommodation is available at own cost on campus

<<http://www.lancs.ac.uk/sbs/accommodation/guestrooms.html>> and in Lancaster

<<http://www.virtual-lancaster.net/visitors/stay/index.htm>> .

Please contact Pennie Drinkall for any queries: [p.drinkall@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:p.drinkall@lancaster.ac.uk)

### ***C. VISION ON: DIGITAL VIDEO AND ORAL HISTORY, Oral History Society and Museum of London study day, the Museum of London, 20 November 2010***

This lively study day will explore and reflect upon the uses, benefits and challenges of digital video technologies for oral history. The day could not be more timely, with increasing numbers of people using digital video to collect and share oral history interviews, but reservations about the medium still holding sway for some. The study day will consider what digital video actually means for oral history.

People using oral history in a range of ways – including those working in museums, community-based groups, schools and higher education – are invited. There will be a mix of debates, presentations, plenty of screenings, and workshop sessions to enable discussion.

Questions to be addressed include:

- § What are the arguments for and against the use of digital video for oral history?
- § What is the impact of video on the makers, interviewees and audiences?
- § What makes good video oral history?

If you would like to share your thoughts on any of these questions and present your work as part of a workshop session, please contact Sarah Gudgin

([sgudgin@museumoflondon.org.uk](mailto:sgudgin@museumoflondon.org.uk)). Presentations will be 10 – 15 minutes. Please provide a summary of what you would discuss (no more than 200 words) and a clip or link to a clip of your video oral history work (no more than 5 minutes). The deadline for submissions is Friday 29 October 2010. For registration for the study day, contact Belinda Waterman: [belinda@essex.ac.uk](mailto:belinda@essex.ac.uk) Further information is available on the Oral History Society website: [www.ohs.org.uk](http://www.ohs.org.uk)

### ***D. Professor Walter Mignolo Events, University of Warwick, 22-26 November 2010***

Professor Walter Mignolo, William H Wannamaker Distinguished Professor in Literature and Romance Studies, Duke University, Director for the Centre for Global Studies and the Humanities and Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) at the University of Warwick will be taking part in a series of events this November.

<p><b>23 November</b> 12pm-2pm Wolfson Research Exchange</p>	<p>A reading group discussion of Walter Mignolo's recent work Please register for a place. Lunch will be provided.</p>
<p><b>23 November</b> 4pm-6pm Millburn House</p>	<p>Roundtable Discussion: <b><i>The Birth of Modernity?</i></b> Walter Mignolo, Phil Withington (Cambridge), Rebecca Earle (Warwick). Open to all.</p>
<p><b>24 November</b> 12pm-2.15pm Research Room, Law School</p>	<p>Research Seminar: <b><i>Cosmopolitanism and Law</i></b> Organised by Victor Tadros (Law). Open to all.</p>
<p><b>25 November</b> 4pm-6pm Millburn House</p>	<p>Research Training Seminar: <b><i>"Delinking" and "Connecting": Two Possibilities in Rethinking Historical Sociology</i></b> Walter Mignolo and Gurminder K Bhambra (Sociology) Please register for a place.</p>
<p><b>26 November</b> 1pm-6pm Millburn House,</p>	<p>Public Research Symposium: <b><i>Decoloniality, Postcolonialism and the Subaltern</i></b> Walter Mignolo, David Arnold (History, Warwick), Robbie Shilliam (IR, Victoria, Wellington), Mihnea Panu (Sociology, Wilfrid Laurier) and Gurminder K Bhambra (Sociology, Warwick). Open to all.</p>

Organised by Gurminder K Bhambra, Sociology and supported by the Social Theory Centre and the Global History and Culture Centre. For further information, and to register a place at the closed events, please email Mark Carrigan at: [m.a.carrigan@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:m.a.carrigan@warwick.ac.uk)

For further details, please see: <http://go.warwick.ac.uk/socialtheory/>

### ***E. Blocked Arteries: Circulation and Congestion in History, University of London, 25-26 November 2010***

**Blocked Arteries: Circulation and Congestion in History**  
Institute of Historical Research, University of London  
25 and 26 November 2010

Call for papers  
**Deadline for submission of abstracts extended to 15 June 2010**

For centuries congestion has constituted a significant part of the travelling experience of peoples within and between cities, regions and nations. Meanwhile, for governments and planners, congestion has emerged as both a technical and cultural construct, influencing the interaction and circulation of populations and the ways in which transport and related infrastructures have developed. Societies have devised new methods and ways of dealing with mobility and congestion, ranging from discouraging the use of motorcars in central areas (such as the congestion charge in London) to the construction of state-of-the-art infrastructures and sophisticated mapping and forecast models.

The aim of the conference is to examine the ways in which congestion has been, and continues to be, a problem as well as an inherent characteristic of the historical development of cities and regions worldwide, particularly in their relationship with commercial, financial, industrial, tourist and other networks. Our purpose is also to promote an exchange across disciplines and engage with current policy debates.

We welcome proposals relating to any historical period and geographical area examining congestion in its broadest sense and/or focusing on one of its multiple dimensions. Themes that might be explored include: the importance of structure and agency in the conception, planning and execution of transport infrastructures such as roads, waterways, canals, railways and airways; the use of mechanical, medical and anthropomorphic metaphors describing the circulation of information, capital, goods, waste and people and its relationship with cities and regions; the cultural, political and social reception of new transport technologies and policies; the responses to and interpretations of environmental issues; the ways in which traffic and congestion have been depicted in films and literary and other works. Papers adopting a comparative perspective are especially encouraged. Abstracts of 300 words and a brief statement outlining the institutional affiliation of the participants should be sent by **15 June 2010** to the conference organisers:

Carlos López Galviz: [psv7@ymail.com](mailto:psv7@ymail.com)

Dhan Zunino Singh: [dhan.zuninosingh@sas.ac.uk](mailto:dhan.zuninosingh@sas.ac.uk)

***F. Our Changing Expectations of Life: What do we really want?, Cumberland Lodge, 26-28 November 2010***

Forthcoming Cumberland Lodge conference on AGEING AND SOCIETY in partnership with the Royal Society of Medicine entitled:

Our Changing Expectations of Life: What do we really want?  
26-28 November 2010

Registrations are now open. Please forward this information on to interested colleagues, if it is appropriate to do so.

In 2031, 23% of the population will be of pensionable age, and 17% will be under sixteen. Even now there are more pensioners than youngsters under 16. 20% of the UK's population is over 65, and as research on ways to increase survival continues this percentage is very likely to increase. On the one hand this prediction must surely be a good thing: we can look forward to a longer, higher quality life. On the other hand, bare statistics do not reflect the paradoxical culture of ageing in this and most other countries: we appear to want not better old age, but longer youth. Is this a fair expectation? And underlying this is a more profound question: for what purpose do we strive to extend life?

Speakers include:

Lynne Berry, Chief Executive, WRVS, Professor Carol Brayne, Director, Institute of Public Health, Cambridge University, Professor Dame Sally Davies, Director General of Research and Development, Professor Tom Kirkwood, Director, Institute for Ageing and Health, Newcastle University, Professor Sarah Harper, Director, Oxford Institute of Ageing, Katharine Whitehorn, writer and columnist

This conference is kindly supported by the Institute for Ageing and Health, Newcastle University and the King's College London Centre for Humanities and Health.

The registration fee for academics is £230, and £85 for students - inclusive of food from award winning chefs, wine and accommodation in a 17th Century building

Please visit

[http://www.cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/our\\_conferences/forthcoming\\_conference\\_pages/ourchangingexpectationsoflife](http://www.cumberlandlodge.ac.uk/our_conferences/forthcoming_conference_pages/ourchangingexpectationsoflife) for more information

Or contact Janis Reeves on [Janis@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk](mailto:Janis@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk) <<mailto:Janis@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk>> or 01784 497 794

### ***G. The 5th Postgraduate Bioethics Conference, The Wellcome Conference Centre, London, 5-7 January 2011***

Conference Announcement:

The 5th Postgraduate Bioethics Conference

The 5th to the 7th of January 2011.

The Wellcome Conference Centre, Euston Road, London.

Social Scientific Approaches to Bioethics: Methods and Methodologies.

<http://www.postgradbioethics.org.uk/>

Email: [postgrad.bioethics@gmail.com](mailto:postgrad.bioethics@gmail.com)

**Guest speakers:** Prof Søren Holm (Manchester); Prof Alan Cribb (CBAS, KCL); Leigh Turner (University of Minnesota); Dr Alexandra Plows (Bangor) and Dr Duncan Wilson (CHSTM, Manchester).

Post the empirical turn scholars at work in bioethics have been making continually greater use of social scientific approaches. On the one hand this can be seen as a fulfilment of the promise of bioethics as a truly interdisciplinary area of research, on the other we risk becoming as a recent paper has it "Jack of all trades, master of none" (Clinical Ethics 3(4) 2008). This conference seeks to go some way to engaging with this issue through offering four masterclasses on bioethics and an area of social scientific research. These will be focussed on contemporary history; researching publics; sociology; and empirical ethics. Each of these masterclasses will be prefaced by an established academic giving a presentation on the methodological contours of their approach. We seek postgraduate participants for the proposed masterclasses as well as paper presentations which address the conference theme. There are also some limited audience member places. Preference may be given to those who address the conference theme and fall within the four areas identified.

There will also be a plenary lecture and some 'added value' sessions on academic life. These will include talks by funders, a session by early career researchers and a dedicated networking event, will also form part of the programme.

Proposals for papers not more than 400 words are invited which should be submitted on the conference application form available from our website. The deadline for applications is the **31st of October 2010**. Submission is by email to [postgrad.bioethics@gmail.com](mailto:postgrad.bioethics@gmail.com). We are exploring options for the publication of papers given at the conference. In previous years papers have been published in Clinical Ethics, Bioethics, JME etc.

### ***H. Historical Sociology Workshop, University of Warrick, 26 January 2011***

The BSA Theory Study Group is organising a workshop, aimed at early career researchers which will discuss the specific issues associated with doing research within the field of historical sociology and also address key methodological problems that are raised in the process. It is open to PhD students and postdoctoral researchers across disciplines and will be organised around three key sessions, as detailed below. For further details, please see the attachment.

- (1) Doing Historical Sociology  
Facilitated by Kristy Warren and Lucy Mayblin

- (2) History, Sociology, and Historical Sociology: Problems of Constitution  
Facilitated by Gurminder K Bhabra, University of Warwick
- (3) International Historical Sociology  
Facilitated by George Lawson, London School of Economics

The workshop is all day and will take place at the University of Warwick on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2011. If you are interested in attending this workshop, please email your name, institution, level of study (early career / PhD student) and a short paragraph (up to 300 words) detailing your research interests and how your work fits with the theme for the day to Lucy Mayblin: [l.mayblin@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:l.mayblin@warwick.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications is December 1<sup>st</sup> 2010. Successful applicants will be notified by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

The registration fee for attending this workshop is £35. This includes lunch and other refreshments during the day. Details regarding payment will be given once the participants have been confirmed. A small number of bursaries are available for unfunded students. If you are interested in applying for a bursary then please include a brief case for support with your application.

Participants have the option of joining us for a meal at a restaurant close to the workshop venue at the end of the day, though we regret that this is not included in the conference fee. Details to follow nearer the time.

### ***1. Living Beyond Theory: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Postcolonial, University of York, 11 February 2011***

As the field of postcolonial studies has gradually enacted its own colonisation of academic departments across the humanities an escalating self-reflexive urge has become apparent. Increasingly, totalising theories of postcolonial experiences have been seen - for all their complexity – as all too simplistic accounts of the irreducible variety to be found in the experiences and actions of nominally 'postcolonial' peoples. As such, the future of postcolonial studies lies in an ever more concerted effort at troubling the postcolonial paradigm, rooting out points of tension, and in establishing new ways of approaching the heterogeneity of the discipline. This future is being written now and it thus falls to young academics to establish for themselves where postcolonial studies should be moving.

*Living Beyond Theory* is an interdisciplinary postgraduate symposium hosted by the *Postcolonial Perspectives* reading group at the **University of York** on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011**. The symposium is directed towards the problematising of the postcolonial paradigm through an attempt to pay heed to the lived experience of those people who live and have lived within geographic areas affected by colonisation as well as people who, despite not being the direct descendants of colonial situations, enact identities and political positions that take much from the postcolonial project.

The symposium provides a platform for postgraduate students to share their research with a diverse range of other postgraduates in the field(s) of postcolonial studies. The symposium will involve a series of panels framed by two plenary speakers (Simon Obendorf, Lincoln and Ruth Craggs, St. Mary's University College Twickenham) and culminating in a workshop on the future of postcolonial studies led by 3 early career academics.

While *Living Beyond Theory* is a conference aimed at building connections between the many disciplines that traditionally make up postcolonial studies, it also seeks to encourage engagement with disciplines that have not always fallen comfortably within those traditions. It is highly likely that the future of postcolonial studies will lie in the expansion of the discipline's insights beyond its previously narrow boundaries.

Papers are encouraged from any current postgraduate working in the many areas of postcolonial studies and engaging with either side of the traditional coloniser/colonised dichotomy. We especially welcome papers that offer new and dynamic approaches to the space between the theoretical and the experiential.

Please send submissions of up to **300 words** for papers of **20 mins** as well as a brief academic bio of 50 to 100 words to the organisers (Anna Bocking-Welch, James Alexander Fraser, Isabelle Hesse, and Sarah Pett) at [livingbeyondtheory@events.york.ac.uk](mailto:livingbeyondtheory@events.york.ac.uk) by **22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010**.

### ***J. Texas Asia Graduate Student Conference, University of Texas at Austin, 11-12 February 2011***

The *Texas Asia Conference* at the University of Texas at Austin invites students working on original research projects across disciplines and across traditional academic divisions of Asia to present their work. The conference will provide graduate students with a dynamic forum in which to present their research and benefit from a scholarly exchange of ideas. We welcome applications from graduate students in all academic disciplines engaged in research on South, Southeast, Central, and East Asia, and their communities in the diaspora. All areas of study are invited: anthropology, art history, communication, ethnomusicology, history, literature, philology, political science, religion, sociology, women's studies, and other related fields. Work which crosses disciplinary, spatial, and temporal boundaries is encouraged. In addition to an exciting range of panel presentations and a lecture from two keynote speakers, a more casual program of receptions will provide ample time for less structured discussion and exchange, something essential to bringing together the wider community of students and professors. In the past, selected papers delivered at the conference were published in the *South Asia Graduate Research Journal* (SAGAR). We aim to publish selected papers again this year.

Submission Deadlines for Abstracts: Friday, October 15th, 2010.

Submissions must be made to the Planning Committee via email or post-marked no later than October 15th. Electronic submissions must include the text in the body of the message. Abstracts should be limited to 300 words. Please submit the abstract with personal information, paper title, the author's name, affiliation, panel title (if applicable), address, telephone number, and email address, on a separate page. Presenters are encouraged to form 3- or 4-person panels. Groups submitting panels should send individual abstracts, plus a brief panel abstract, via the same email or envelope and include the panel title. Panels should be linked by theme. Final papers must not exceed 3000 words, as the maximum reading time is 20 minutes. The Planning Committee reserves the right to accept, reject, or restructure any paper and panel submissions.

Please send abstracts and panel suggestions, as well as any inquiries to:  
Email: [texasasiaconference@gmail.com](mailto:texasasiaconference@gmail.com)

OR

Planning Committee • Asian Studies Graduate Conference  
The University of Texas at Austin Asian Studies • WCH 4.134 (G9300) • Austin, TX 78712  
• Fax: (512) 471-4469

### ***K. "Men, Masculinities and the Common Good in an Era of Economic Uncertainty." 19th Annual "Men and Masculinity Conference" of the American Men's Studies Association, University of Missouri, 31 March- 2 April, 2011***

The Nineteenth Annual "Men and Masculinity Conference" of the American Men's Studies Association will take place March 31-April 3, 2011 at the University of Missouri – Kansas City. The conference, returning to the venue in which it held its 2007 meeting, is co-sponsored by the Women's Center and Women's and Gender Studies Program of the University of Missouri – Kansas City. This year's theme is "Men, Masculinities and the Common Good in an Era of Economic Uncertainty."

Pre-conference workshops will take place Thursday, March 31, 5-8 pm. Conference Sessions will take place Friday and Saturday, April 1 and 2 from 8 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, April 2, from 8 am to 1 pm. The conference banquet will be Friday evening at the Conference Hotel.

Call For Papers

Paper and presentation proposals are to be submitted online only and are due October 31, 2010. For more information, see <http://mensstudies.org/>

#### Registration

Online registration for the 2011 Conference and for Pre-Conference Workshops is now open. Save with Early Registration now through February 28, 2011.

### ***L. Making Sustainable Mobilities, TU München, Oskar-von-Miller-Forum, Munich, 7-8 April, 2011***

Making Sustainable Mobilities  
Interdisciplinary Perspectives  
mobil.TUM 2011 conference, in cooperation with Oskar-von-Miller-Forum and  
Cosmobilities Network

Dates: 7th and 8th, April 2011  
Location: TU München, Oskar-von-Miller-Forum, Munich  
Website: <http://www.mobil-tum.de/de/mobil-tum-2011>

#### Call for Papers

In the age of globalization, transportation and communication networks form the backbone of an interconnected world. Despite this integral role, these networks are also the source of a number of unintended negative environmental, economic, social and political effects. Advances in transportation technologies have sustained networked patterns of social and economic life in time and space. The increase in mobility and travel comes along with disintegrative social processes. Far-flung social networks and the mobility burdens of commuting and business travel undermine traditional social forms such as families, neighborhoods and communities. New inequalities, social exclusions and risks arise in connection with unequal availabilities and accessibilities of transportation means. The dependence on fossil fuels and information makes transportation systems increasingly vulnerable to shocks in energy markets and to systemic failure.

This conference builds on the assumption that the aims of sustainable mobility and transport are suitable for meeting today's challenges, namely: demographics, climate change, energy scarcities, social inequalities, and the shortage of public households. There is no other existing concept available to cope with these problems in a comparatively comprehensive and commonly accepted manner.

The conference fee will be 190 Euro (reduced fee for students and PhD-students: 90 Euro) with meals included. There will be some grants available for participants from lower and middle-income countries.

Deadline for abstracts: 31.10.2010  
Length: max.1000 words (including references)  
Notification of acceptance: 13.12.2010  
Please send your abstract to: [mobil.TUM2011@mobil-tum.de](mailto:mobil.TUM2011@mobil-tum.de)

A publication based on the conference is planned for 2012. Best papers will be selected and the authors will be invited to submit a full paper by the end of May 2011.

### ***M. Workshop on Unintended Consequences – the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of a Sociological Idea, Gdańsk Poland, 9-10 May 2011***

University of Gdańsk in cooperation with Division of Sociology of Law and Gdańsk Branch of Polish Sociological Association invite scholars to join in a discussion about 'unintended consequences'. Many comments and theoretical developments that followed Robert K. Merton's work on unanticipated consequences of purposive social actions have focused on ramifying the initial conceptual apparatus. This involved debating semantical nuances of such terms as: unexpected, unrecognized, unaware, unforeseen, perverse, in addition to, or instead of, the ones of unintended and unanticipated. The workshop aims to summarize and revitalize this debate.

On the other hand, the purpose of the conference is to bridge the gap between the discussions on unintended consequences and many discourses that emerged in theoretical circumstances different from, or even opposed to, mertonian functionalism. Similar themes were undertaken by scholars active in fields as different as systems' theory, post-foucauldian governance studies or neoinstitutionalism. Since terms used in such studies range from risk through contingency to regulatory failures, it is worthwhile to see whether linguistic differences signify speaking of different phenomena.

Thus, the organizers of the workshop welcome all contributions relevant for 'sociology as an analysis of the unintended' – 75 years after the original term was coined. The event will take place at Institute of Philosophy, Sociology and Journalism, University of Gdańsk on 9-10 May, 2011. Papers will be invited for publication in a themed volume. For further details about the conference please visit: [www.wuc.ifsid.ug.edu.pl](http://www.wuc.ifsid.ug.edu.pl)

Workshop Committee:

Klaus Bachmann – University of Wrocław  
Piotr Gliński – Polish Academy of Sciences, University of Białystok, Polish Sociological Association  
Jacek Kurczewski – University of Warsaw  
Jan Poleszczuk – University of Białystok  
Brunon Synak – University of Gdańsk  
Piotr Sztompka – Jagiellonian University in Krakow  
Marek Ziółkowski – Adam Mickiewicz University

Organizing Committee:

Cezary Obracht-Prondzyński  
Michał Kaczmarczyk  
Adriana Mica  
Arkadiusz Peisert  
Jan Winczorek  
Maciej Brosz

***N. ECAS 2011 – 4<sup>th</sup> European Conference on African Studies, Uppsala Sweden, 15-18 June 2011***

AEGIS, the African Studies in Europe Network, convenes a biennial European Conference on African Studies (ECAS). Previous conferences have been held in London (2005), Leiden (2007), and Leipzig (2009). The fourth ECAS will be hosted by the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden on 15-18 June 2011. The overall theme of ECAS 4 is **“African Engagements: On whose terms?”**. The ECAS 4 Organising Committee warmly invites scholars and students in the field of African Studies to Uppsala to make ECAS 4 a significant and memorable event.

AEGIS was founded in 1991 as a network of African Studies in Europe. AEGIS is a network of university and non-university centres of African Studies based in Europe. It aims to create synergies between experts and institutions. With its primary emphasis on Social Sciences and Humanities, the main goal of AEGIS is to improve the understanding of contemporary African societies. AEGIS members include Barcelona, Basel, Bayreuth, Birmingham, Bologna, Bordeaux, Copenhagen, Edinburgh, Göteborg, Hamburg, Leiden, Leipzig, Leuven, Lisbon, London, Madrid, Mainz, Naples, Oxford, Paris, Porto, Trondheim and Uppsala. For further details see <http://www.aegis-eu.org>.

The conference is open to all disciplines and methodological approaches in the Social Sciences and Humanities. The Organising Committee strongly encourages panel proposals that look into how the world can study and engage a resurgent Africa on the basis of mutual respect. Critical questions relate to how Africans can define their own priorities and partnerships, and with which voice(s)? Who are, and can be Africa's real partners in the quest for mutually beneficial (re)engagements and on whose terms? This perspective highlights topics such as the cultural representation and misrepresentation of Africa; media, information and communication in Africa in the age of globalization; visual arts: re-creating Africa in the image(s) of the times; Africa in global sports; trade and regional integration; the changing nature of Africa's international relations; Euro-African relations; Africa and the emerging powers; Africa in the global financial crisis; the agrarian question;

social policy and development in Africa; globalization and manufacturing; managing fast growing African cities; human rights and human security; democracy, peace and conflict resolution; economic growth and poverty reduction; gender relations in Africa; migration, diaspora and development, to name a few. Presentations should explore the means of expanding opportunities and spaces which can allow for multi-disciplinary knowledge production. ECAS 4 thus seeks to promote a dynamic and more diverse and understanding of contemporary Africa which does not necessarily entail talking with one voice.

<b>20 October 2010</b>	Publication of panels and call for papers
<b>31 December 2010</b>	Deadline for submission of paper abstracts
<b>28 February 2011</b>	Publication of accepted paper abstracts
<b>15 October 2010 to 15 March 2011</b>	Early participant registration (at reduced rate)
<b>16 March to 11 June 2011</b>	Participant registration
<b>31 May 2011</b>	Deadline for submission of full papers
<b>15 – 18 June 2011</b>	Conference in Uppsala, Sweden

For more information on ECAS 4: <http://www.nai.uu.se/ecas-4/>

### **3. *Funding Opportunities/Job opportunities/Prize awards***

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#### **1. *BANFF RESEARCH in CULTURE (BRiC) / Research Residency Program Banff Centre for the Arts / University of Alberta***

BANFF RESEARCH in CULTURE (BRiC) / Research Residency Program  
Banff Centre for the Arts / University of Alberta

THEME: On the Commons; or, Believing-Feeling-Acting Together

Guest Faculty: Lauren Berlant, Michael Hardt, Pedro Reyes  
Organizers: Imre Szeman, Heather Zwicker, Kitty Scott

Program dates: May 9, 2011 - May 27, 2011  
Application deadline: December 1, 2010

APPLICATION AND PROGRAM INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE AT:  
<http://www.banffcentre.ca/programs/program.aspx?id=1068>

Email Contact: [bric@ualberta.ca](mailto:bric@ualberta.ca)

#### **2. *PhD bursaries at The University of Northampton***

The University of Northampton is currently inviting applications for 24 fully-funded PhD bursaries, due to commence in January 2012. One of the bursaries, on 'young people and community tensions in new housing developments', will be based within the University's Field of Human Geography and Centre for Children and Youth. Please direct any possible candidates to the link below.  
<http://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/ABV330/phd-studentship/>

Any queries about this bursary can be sent to [john.horton@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:john.horton@northampton.ac.uk)

Some of the other bursaries may also be of interest to list members (e.g. there are bursaries providing opportunities for research on: postcolonial cinema; pupils with special education needs; sustainable waste management; naturalism and modernism). Information and contact details for these bursaries can be accessed here: <http://www.northampton.ac.uk/research-studentships>

## **4. Publications: Introducing new journals and calls for Journal submissions**

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### **1. The Sociological Imagination: A New Online Magazine**

The Sociological Imagination is a new online magazine which aims to provide an intellectual and social space for the emergence of a publically engaged social science. At a time when the university is in crisis our hope is that the Sociological Imagination will provide a forum for the development of networks and the articulation of ideas between those inside academia who hope for social change both within and without the university system.

The magazine hosts a diverse range of content including articles, shorter polemics, interviews, reviews, conference reports, announcements, calls for contributors and research profiles. It will also include a forum facility and a collection of relevant links.

Submissions will not be edited or peer reviewed beyond basic copy editing. Our intention is to develop a rapid response magazine able to engage quickly with changing social realities and to provide an open forum for the development of critical social thought.

Contributions are welcome on any topic which relates social science to public and/or political engagement. [www.sociologicalimagination.org](http://www.sociologicalimagination.org)

### **2. Cocoon Communities: Togetherness in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Call for book chapters**

“Cocoon Communities” - Togetherness in the 21st century  
Call for chapters (deadline for abstracts: 6th December 2010, [cocooncommunities@gmail.com](mailto:cocooncommunities@gmail.com))

Editors:

Dr Mari Korpela  
Senior Lecturer  
Social anthropology  
Department of Social Research  
University of Tampere, Finland

Dr Fred Dervin  
Adjunct Professor  
Sociology, Intercultural Education & Communication  
University of Eastern Finland & University of Turku, Finland

Communities have a long history and their theoretical conception has changed over the years. In spite of scholars' worries about them being under threat from modernization, globalization or postmodernity, communities have persisted. Alongside community, the concept of group has also been used by scholars to describe the act of coming together - sometimes interchangeably. More recently, both terms have been put into question. Many thinkers feel that they tend to refer to static elements and too clearly defined objects (Cohen 1995, Putnam 2000, Bauman 2001, Maffesoli, 1988, Anderson, 2001, Brubaker, 2006, Augé, 2010...). For instance, in his criticism of what he calls groupism, Rogers Brubaker (2007: 7) explains that “‘Group’ functions as a seemingly unproblematic, taken-for-granted concept, apparently in no need of particular scrutiny or explication. As a result, we tend to take for granted not only the concept “group,” but also “groups””. Some scholars have offered substitutes to decipher “togetherness” in a more unstable and “free-floating” fashion: tribes and *être-ensemble* (Maffesoli), cloakroom communities (Bauman), etc.

In everyday life, some communities appear to be more visible than others (Nation-States, religious groups, ethnic minorities, social classes...). In this volume, we wish to look at a special case of togetherness, which we propose to call cocoon communities. Cocoon communities neither represent nor correspond to the ideal-type of community. At first sight, they do not seem to have much in common with communal characteristics. Such communities may actually be invisible for outsiders,

yet a closer look might reveal some substantial similarities with 'canonical' forms of community. In order to delineate them, we could take for example Z. Bauman's definition of his cloakroom communities (2004: 31): "Cloakroom communities are patched together for the duration of the spectacle and promptly dismantled again once the spectators collect their coats from the hooks in the cloakroom". In other words, cocoon communities gather around a specific purpose or for contextual reasons (studying, doing business, holidaying, hobbies...), predominantly on a short-term basis, be it within national boundaries or abroad. It is, however, important to note that, unlike cloakroom communities, members of cocoon communities may experience long-term togetherness. Furthermore they may view communal belonging as emotionally rewarding. At the same time, they may leave the community if they so wish. International students, humanitarian tourists, "Medieval campers", seasonal workers, expatriates, artists on the move, summer campers, amongst others, represent archetypes of the kinds of communities that we are interested in.

Potential authors will be expected, amongst other things, to discuss how people create, negotiate but also combine these cocoon communities (with other forms of community) in terms of practices and discourses. The following topics may be considered:

- Are cocoon communities typical of our era?
- What sort of sociality is created in cocoon communities?
- How are cocoon communities developed, constructed and/or manifested?
- How do they impact on people's identity? How do people identify with them? Do they accept them entirely? Are their perceptions of cocoon communities conflicting?
- What roles do the local, the global and the glocal play in these cocoon communities?
- Do 'cocoon-communitarians' share "Narratives"?
- What happens after cocoon communities are dismantled?

Papers presenting empirical data from various contexts (not merely 'Western'), original community formations (i.e. 'countercultures') as well as theoretical discussions on the themes are welcome. Authors will be from anthropology, sociology, psychology and cultural studies.

Potential authors are invited to submit a 300-word proposal (including a few lines about the author(s)) in English to the editors by December 6<sup>th</sup> 2010 (e-mail: [cocooncommunities@gmail.com](mailto:cocooncommunities@gmail.com); .rtf or .doc files only). The proposals should clearly explain the theoretical framework and concerns of the proposed chapter, and include a short description of empirical data (where applicable). A basic bibliography may also be added. Authors of accepted proposals will be notified by December 20<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Full chapters are expected to be submitted by June 1st 2011.

The book is scheduled to be published in 2012. All submitted chapters will be reviewed on a blind review basis.

### ***3. Inequalities: a new blog, and a call for contributors***

We are pleased to introduce INEQUALITIES, a new online forum dedicated to cross-national research and debate around different kinds of inequality [<https://inequalitiesblog.wordpress.com/>]. The blog will be updated three times a week (Mon/Wed/Fri) with a mixture of articles, shorter posts and interviews focused on the labour market, social security, health, politics, education, crime, and other areas of inequality.

We are hoping to attract both readers and contributors – with contributions ranging from comments on existing posts, through to writing articles for the site. If you're interested in writing something for Inequalities, then see our guidelines for contributors [<https://inequalitiesblog.wordpress.com/guide-for-articlesposts/>] and then just get in touch through the site.

We look forward to an exciting and engaging conversation!  
Best wishes, Brendan Saloner & Ben Baumberg

*A glimpse at the articles being posted in the first couple of weeks...*  
*'Statistical Catfights' on the Effects of Inequality - Ben Baumberg (already posted)*

*Why Can't the United States be a European Health Care State? - Brendan Saloner (Sep 24<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Why progressives in Europe should learn to love high tuition fees - Timo Idema (Sep 27<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Are They Right? Further Thoughts on Wilkinson and Pickett - Rob De Vries (Sep 29<sup>th</sup>)*  
*The Recession's Youngest Victims - Brendan Saloner (Oct 1<sup>st</sup>)*

#### **4. Innovation; The European Journal of Social Science Research - Call for Papers for Thematic Issue on 'Biodiversity and Society'**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: January 30, 2011

Innovation; The European Journal of Social Science Research invites contributions in the form of original research articles and research notes for a thematic issue on 'Biodiversity and Society'. Topics to be discussed in this issue of the journal include (but are not limited to) the following:

Biodiversity and the Social Sciences  
Valuation concepts of Biodiversity  
Biodiversity Governance and Climate Change  
Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Traditional Knowledge  
Natural resources and Intellectual Property Rights  
Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

Article length can range between 6,000 to 10,000 words for original research and debate articles and 2,000 to 4,000 for research notes.

The special thematic issue on "Biodiversity and Society" relates to the increasing relevance of biodiversity related issues in the social sciences. The year 2010 has been the United Nation Year of Biodiversity. According to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment biodiversity loss is one of the major challenges for environmental policies and the governance of natural resources. One substantial problem is the concept of biodiversity itself that tends to be either inhomogeneous and highly competitive or completely unknown. Social science knowledge is needed to primary understand the impact of biodiversity loss on human well-being and social order, secondly to analyze the effect of dominant biodiversity concepts and narratives on policies, economics and public discourses.

All submissions will be peer-reviewed. Inquires and submissions should be sent to [a.vadrot@iccr-international.org](mailto:a.vadrot@iccr-international.org).

## **5. Other News**

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### **1. Social Science Early Career Event, University of Birmingham – 2-3 December 2010**

Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd December 2010  
Evesham Room, Hornton Grange, Edgbaston Park Road, Birmingham

A two-day residential event for recently-appointed teaching staff, postdocs and post-graduates with teaching responsibilities to explore issues, share ideas, consider future needs and build support networks. The emphasis is on addressing practical issues and the realities of balancing academic roles when people might be located either in specialist subject or multi-disciplinary departments.

For more information, visit  
<http://www.c-sap.bham.ac.uk/events/details/97-social-science-early-career-event>.

The event will be led by Professor Ranald Macdonald, Senior Associate: Professional Development, C-SAP, with support from representatives of the subject associations in sociology, anthropology, politics and international studies, and criminology.

It will be sponsored by relevant subject associations, participants should contact Frances Worrall (0121 414 2995) [f.i.worrall@bham.ac.uk](mailto:f.i.worrall@bham.ac.uk) to find out whether a bursary to cover the £100 cost is available.

## **2. UK Department for International Development (DFID) consultation**

There is an opportunity to contribute to two UK Department for International Development (DFID) consultation exercises, which have been launched with the aim of informing future UK policy in the following areas:

Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health (closes 20 October 2010):

<http://consultation.dfid.gov.uk/maternalhealth2010>

Malaria (closes 25 October 2010):

<http://consultation.dfid.gov.uk/malaria2010>

Please feel free to contribute even if you do not work directly in the health sector. There are four ways in which you can contribute to these consultations:

- \* Complete a short online survey - this is the quickest and simplest way to contribute
- \* Coordinate a group response - this may be of interest to those working in health or health-related organisations
- \* Send a direct email response to DFID
- \* Facilitate a group discussion

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☛ ***Got a Postgrad event you want to advertise? Let us know about it!***

Email us at: [PGForum@britsoc.org.uk](mailto:PGForum@britsoc.org.uk) and we will include it in the next edition of the PGF Newsletter: The newsletter is distributed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month, therefore submission deadlines are the 25<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month.

☛ ***Don't want to wait for the newsletter to find out about PG events?***

All these events are also advertised on the BSA website at:

<http://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/ForthcomingEvents.htm>

Even if you aren't on facebook, you can read about the latest news by visiting

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/BSA-Postgraduate-Forum/264420952459>

☛ ***For comments, queries and posts about current PG life and post-PhD experiences, visit the PG Forum online at: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/phpbb/>***

☛ ***Join the BSA and PG Forum Facebook Fan Pages***

☛ ***Look out for Postgrad related news and reviews in "Network"***

☛ ***Check out PG Focus, which features interviews, masterclasses and a blog addressing other interesting issues facing PGs today: <http://pgforum.libsyn.com/>***

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