
Welcome to the January 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 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 with any PGF news/updates!

Allison, Mark, Mike, Tung & Ursula
PGF Convenors

At-a-glance contents

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**

Join us at one of two exciting PG events on 18th February

'Auto/biographical Approaches to Sociological Research'

University of Plymouth

More information about the first BSA Regional Postgraduate Conference of 2011,
<http://www.plymouth.ac.uk/pages/view.asp?page=34565>

BSA Postgraduate Forum Journal Submission Masterclass

A Postgraduate Forum workshop in London on journal submissions with Sally Power, joint editor of *Sociology*. More information at <http://bit.ly/fGVRHY>

Online registration: <http://bsas.esithosting.co.uk/public/event/eventBooking.aspx?id=EVT10106>

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



BSA Annual Conference 2011

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.

*****Postgraduate Forum Day, Tuesday 5th 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 Email: bsaconference@britsoc.org.uk

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.

PG Forum Podcasts – 9th and 10th Editions available

Starting a writing group with Allison Hui

Allison Hui is a PhD student at Lancaster University and co-convenor of the BSA PG Forum.
<http://pgforum.libsyn.com/starting-a-writing-group-with-allison-hui>

Press Interviews masterclass with Tony Trueman

Tony has worked for a number of prominent media organisations and has taught and lectured in the area of media and communications.

<http://pgforum.libsyn.com/pg-focus-109-press-interviews-masterclass-with-tony-trueman>

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

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.

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

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.

1. Forthcoming events at a glance:

Events are listed in chronological order:

A	The 5th Postgraduate Bioethics Conference	The Wellcome Conference Centre, London	5-7 January 2011
B	China Development Forum 2011 – China's Global Integratio	Old Theatre, Old Building, LSE, London	22 January 2011
C	Social Research Association - Writing Effective Research Reports Course	London	24 January 2011
D	Launch of the BSA climate change study group	British Library Conference Centre, London	17 January 2011
E	Historical Sociology Workshop	University of Warwick	26 January 2011
F	Dr. Pamela Campanelli Courses with SRA in 2011	London	February to March
G	Living Beyond Theory: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Postcolonial	University of York	11 February 2011
H	Texas Asia Graduate Student Conference	University of Texas at Austin	11-12 February 2011
I	Discourses of Dissent: Social Theory and Political Resistance	Midland Institute, Birmingham	16 February 2011
J	Social Science and Cultural Politics: Annual Postgraduate Conference	University of Warwick	12 March 2011
K	“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	University of Missouri, Kansas City, US	31 March- 2 April, 2011
L	Making Sustainable Mobilities	TU München, Oskar-von-Miller-Forum, Munich,	7-8 April, 2011
M	BASAS 25 Conference	University of Southampton	11-13 April 2011
N	The 8th International Gender and Education Association Conference	Exeter University	27-30 April 2011
O	The University in Times of Crisis: Prospects for the Social Sciences	Birmingham or London (TBC)	May 2011 (TBC)

P	Workshop on Unintended Consequences – the 75 th Jubilee of a Sociological Idea	Gdańsk, Poland	9-10 May 2011
Q	AEGIS 4 th European Conference on African Studies	Uppsala, Sweden	15-18 June 2011
R	Rethinking the Modern: Colonialism, Empire, and Slavery	Birmingham Midland Institute	11-12 July, 2011
S	The Future of Testimony Conference	University of Salford	11-12 Aug 2011
T	Britain and China: Pasts, Presents, and Futures from the Nineteenth Century to the Twenty-first	University of Bristol	24-26 Aug 2011

2. Further Information about events listed in section 1.

A. 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

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. 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.

B. China Development Forum 2011 – China's Global Integration

LSE Students' Union China Development Society and LSE Asia Research Centre forum

Date: Saturday 22 January 2011

Time: 8am-6pm

Venue: Old Theatre, Old Building

Speakers: Over 30 speakers including Brett Clayton, James Kynge, Zhang Wei-guo

This year, the annual China Development Forum will address the issues arising from China's increasing international responsibilities and involvement, and examine the possible shift in the paradigm of China's integration with the world.

This event is open to all but pre registration is required. Tickets are £30 for students, £40 for academics, researchers and MBA students, and £100 for corporate professionals. To book a ticket visit www.lsecds.org.

From time to time there are changes to event details so we strongly recommend that if you plan to attend this event you check back on this listing on the day of the event.

If you are planning to attend this event and would like details on how to get here and what time to arrive, please refer to [Coming to an event at LSE](#)

C. Social Research Association - Writing Effective Research Reports Course , London, 24 January 2011

Social Research Association - Writing Effective Research Reports Course

24.01.11 in London

This course is designed to equip participants with essential skills and knowledge to write high quality research reports. It will take participants through the process of report-writing starting with planning a report to meet the needs of different audiences then moving on to consider overall structure and format, organization of material into sections or chapters and how to present different kinds of material in different ways to maximize impact and ease of use.

The course will cover:

What makes a good research report?

Writing with your audience in mind

Planning a report: structure, content and format Features that encourage clarity and ease of use

By the end of the one day course participants will:

Understand what constitutes an effective research report

Have acquired knowledge about different approaches to report writing

Have developed skills in planning and designing an effective research report

Please note that the deadline for booking a place is the 21.12.10

For more information on price and course information please contact

MakiD@the-sra.org.uk / 020 7388 2416 or

http://www.the-sra.org.uk/training/effective_research_reports_26012011.h

tm

D. Launch of the BSA climate change study group, British Library, 17 January 2011

Invitation to the launch of the BSA climate change study group

Social science and climate change: a seminar, an extraordinary lecture and an exhibition of ideas.

17th January 2011, British Library Conference Centre, 96 Euston Road, London, UK

The seminar (10.30am - 4.00pm) includes presentations and reflections on topics of food, mobility and governance. The idea is to use these contributions to open debate about the past, present and future role of sociology in relation to contemporary issues of climate change. An invited panel will engage with these questions and others arising during the course of the day, all of which will inform the study group's future programme.

Speakers: Dale Southerton (Manchester University), Jessica Paddock (Cardiff University), Tom Birtchnell (Lancaster University), Rachel Aldred (University of East London), Graham Smith (Southampton University) and Adrian Smith (Sussex University).

Panelists: Owen Dowsett (ESRC), Tara Garnett (University of Surrey), Jim Skea (UKERC) and John Urry (Lancaster University).

The cost of the seminar is £20 for postgraduate students; £25 for members of the BSA and £35 for everyone else - sandwich lunch included. If you want to come to the seminar you need to book your place before 9th January 2011.

To book go to: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/climate.htm> and follow the links.

The income from this launch will be used to develop and run future events.

The seminar will be followed, at 4.30pm, by an extraordinary lecture on "Climate Change and Everyday Life: How the social sciences can help policy" introduced by Elizabeth Shove, Lancaster University, and performed and demonstrated by members of the Social-Change Climate-Change Working Party, funded by the ESRC.

For more details of the working party see <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/staff/shove/transitionsinpractice/tip.htm>

After the lecture there will be chance to view an accompanying exhibition of ideas. The lecture and exhibition are free, but you need to register at: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/384701/Extraordinary-Lecture-Social-Science-and-Climate-Change>

E. 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 Bhambra, 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 26th 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.

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

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.

F. Dr. Pamela Campanelli Courses with SRA in 2011

Whether you are new to survey research or wish to polish your skills or whether you need to review an existing survey or do one of your own, I would like to suggest that these 2 days will offer a great opportunity to increase your survey research skills and knowledge. And there are practical exercises throughout to reinforce the concepts.

Cognitive Interviewing for Testing Survey Questions. Since its first appearance in the UK in the mid-1990s, Cognitive Interviewing has become the industry standard for the development of reliable and valid survey questionnaires. Whether you are commissioning research or conducting your own, it is very useful to be in the know about this powerful and efficient method of testing survey questions.

This one-day course informs participants about what cognitive interviewing is, discusses current trends in cognitive interviewing and instructs you how to do cognitive interviewing with a series of hands on practical exercises.

In the Essentials of Survey Research Design, we first look at an overview of survey research design. Then we focus on various issues such as choosing a mode of data collection, how to write survey questions and combine them into a meaningful questionnaire, some essentials of piloting, an overview of fieldwork quality, coding and data processing and finally some tips for improving response rates. The day provides lots of practical tips while also highlighting what's backed up by research into the survey process.

In the Introduction to Survey Sampling, we explore non-probability designs (convenience and quota) and various probability designs (simple random, systematic, stratified, multi-stage clustered, unequal

probabilities of selection). We also look at how to construct a "sampling frame", "sampling error", how to determine sample size and the effect of sample design on sampling error.

I'm a survey specialist and chartered statistician and I've been working in the field of survey research since 1982. During this time I've had the privilege of working in various survey settings: academic (the University of Michigan and the University of Essex), government (the US Bureau of the Census) and within a survey company (the National Centre for Social Research). This valuable experience has given me a wealth of information about which survey procedures work better than others, making these courses practical and informative. In addition, I believe in creating courses which are lively and engaging and foster an informal and interactive atmosphere.

To get more information about my courses please see the SRA web page: <http://www.the-sra.org.uk/training.htm#s>. Bookings will need to be sent to MakiD@the-sra.org.uk / 020 7388 2416 before the 28th January 2011.

G. 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 11th 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 by **22nd November 2010**.

H. 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

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

I. Discourses of Dissent: Social Theory and Political Resistance, 16 February 2011

Public Symposium, Warwick Social Theory Centre
16th February 2011, 2-6pm, Birmingham Midland Institute

£10 waged / £5 student, unwaged

Discourses of Dissent is a one day symposium, open to all, which explores the relationship between social theory and political resistance. In light of the coalition government's austerity agenda and the emerging movement against it, the event asks how academic research (with a particular focus on social theory) can help inform and sustain political resistance.

In doing so it will confront a variety of pressing questions standing at the interface between theory and politics. How do theoretical justifications of austerity work to constrain public debate? How does the current government's incongruous blend of neoliberal realism and superficial progressivism relate

to what went before it? What resources can we find in social theory to critique the coalition's agenda and its relationship to the wider crisis of late capitalism? How can academic research in general (and social theory in particular) aid the cultivation and propagation of positive discourses which would allow us to break out of the ever narrowing political and cultural horizons which have defined the public life of the UK over the last three decades?

Confirmed speakers are Steve Fuller, John Holmwood, Ruth Levitas, Sasha Roseneil and Dan Hind. More speakers are to be confirmed in the near future.

Round Table 1: Social Theory and the Politics of Austerity

Round Table 2: Envisaging Public Universities and Public Futures

The event is being organized through the Social Theory Centre at the University of Warwick. It takes place on the 16th February, 2-6pm, at the Birmingham & Midland Institute in central Birmingham. For map, see here: <http://www.bmi.org.uk/map.html>

For more details please contact Mark Carrigan (m.a.carrigan@warwick.ac.uk) and see the website below.

To register online please see the website: <http://discoursesofdissent.com/>

J. Social Science and Cultural Politics, University of Warwick, 12 March 2011

Cultural politics is a concept used to label a complex range of social phenomena, frequently as diverse as media cultures and ideologies, forms of political action and social movements, institutional and professional cultures. However, social sciences themselves are driven (explicitly or otherwise) by ideological commitments and assumptions about their own role in society (this being particularly questioned at the moment, especially in the UK).

We would emphasise, therefore, a double perspective of inquiry. On one hand, how different areas of social science conceive their own cultural politics, reflecting (or not reflecting) on their own 'culture'. On the other hand, how the notion of 'cultural politics', as well as the subsidiary concepts of culture and politics, are addressed by current research projects concerned with the realms of political and cultural activity. From this angle, we encourage a wide notion of cultural politics, which could encompass topics like media cultures and subcultures, cultures of institutions and organisations, political cultures and forms of political activism.

The organisers welcome abstracts from postgraduates in any discipline, on issues within and beyond the questions and topics suggested above. Selected papers will be presented at informal seminars among peers, with each presentation lasting 20 minutes and 10 minutes for questions and answers.

Papers should be presented to provoke discussion!

Please send an abstract (under 300 words including your personal details -name, institution, phone number and e-mail-) to postgraduateconference2011@gmail.com. Deadline for submitting abstracts is 10th January 2011.

If you have any questions or/and comments, please e-mail the organisers at the above e-mail. Decisions will be made and informed by the 10th February 2011. The conference will take place on the 12th March 2011 at Warwick University premises.

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

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. BASAS 25 Conference, University of Southampton, 11-13 April 2011

BASAS 25 Conference

University of Southampton, 11-13 April 2011.

Apologies for any cross posting.

Please forward this to any of your academic/Ph.D student contacts who may be interested in participating. Thank you.

Bodies of Power, Forms of Power: South Asia through History and Across Disciplines: Who holds power in South Asia? Who holds power in relation to South Asia and the South Asian diaspora? How is power embodied, how is it wielded, and to what ends? Where is power located, how is it accessed, how is it articulated, and how is it signified? Who submits to power, who ignores power, and who resists power? How is power formed, how is it performed, and in what forms and through what bodies is it negotiated?

The 2011, 25th anniversary annual BASAS (British Association of South Asian Studies) conference aims to lay bare the diverse and complex ways in which power is and has been negotiated in the South Asia region. Through the key terms of 'bodies' and 'forms', we aim to encourage interdisciplinary conversations about the ways in which power is understood, endorsed and undermined in both everyday lives, and at fraught moments of South Asian history.

We invite proposals for panels and papers that address Bodies of Power, Forms of Power at personal, local, state and inter-state levels within South Asia and across its diaspora. Panels and papers might be keyed around issues of community, class, caste, ethnicity, gender; nation, governance, law; geography, development, culture, environment; language, linguistics and representation.

Conference Dates: April 11th-13th

Panel Submission Details

Panels (150-200 word abstract)

- * Submission of panel abstracts: November 15, 2010
- * Notification of acceptance of panels: December 1, 2010
- * Submission of paper abstracts for panels: January 31, 2010
- * Final confirmation of panels: February 28, 2010

Independent Papers (100-150 word abstract)

- * Submission of paper abstracts for panels: January 31, 2010
- * Final confirmation of panels: February 28, 2010

Registration Deadline: March 15, 2010

Conference Organizers: Dr. Kanchana N. Ruwanpura, Professor Ian Talbot and Dr. Stephanie Jones (contact e-mail)

basas25@soton.ac.uk<mailto:basas25@soton.ac.uk> and contact person: Mr. Justyn Willsmore)

N. The 8th International Gender and Education Association Conference, Exeter, 27-30 April 2011

The 8th International Gender and Education Association Conference
27th-30th April 2011
Graduate School of Education, Exeter University
CALL FOR PAPERS

The Gender and Education Association are pleased to announce that their next conference will be held in the Graduate School of Education, Exeter University. Inspired by a recent special edition of the journal 'Discourse: Studies in the Cultural politics of Education', the theme for this year's conference will be: 'Gender and Education: Past, Present and Future'.

The conference organising committee welcome a range of papers from a wide variety of academic disciplines, theoretical backgrounds and fields. The conference theme is intentionally broad in order to promote cross-disciplinary discussion.

Several keynote speakers have already been confirmed:

- Professor Carol Dyhouse
- Professor Becky Francis
- Professor Davina Cooper

An invited symposium session on 'Troubling Gender in Education' will also be given by Professor Martin Mills, Professor Julie McLeod and Dr Jo-Anne Dillabough.

Abstracts for individual papers, symposia and workshops will all be welcomed. The deadline for submission will be November 19th 2011.

In addition to the main conference, the GEA will also be hosting a 'teacher workshop' for teachers and PGCE students and a postgraduate research methodology workshop. These will also be hosted by a range of renowned researchers in the field, including: Professor Christine Skelton, Professor Jane Kenway and Dr Penny Tinkler.

For further information about the conference or any of the related events please see the Gender and Education Association website: www.genderandeducation.com

To submit an abstract for the conference or to ask further questions please contact Dr Alexandra Allan: GEA-2011@exeter.ac.uk

O. The University in Times of Crisis: Prospects for the Social Sciences

A one-day international conference is being organised by the Max Weber Study Group and the Theory Study Group of the British Sociological Association. Its purpose is to think about the current state and prospects of both the university and the social sciences and humanities. After years of having allowed themselves to be defined in terms of usefulness to the 'economy', social scientists and academics in general have to face up to the harsh reality and consider whether they have not simply surrendered their mission and responsibility. With the total withdrawal of state funding for teaching of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, debt-burdened students will be entering effectively privatised universities at a time when market recipes are demonstrably failing in all spheres of life.

In addition, research funds will be severely cut and their allocation further subjected to indicators alien to serious scholarship. These are only the most extreme forms so far of developments taking place elsewhere, such as the EU's 'Bologna process'. This conference seeks to explain how we have arrived here, to analyse the consequences of these developments and the possibilities for a free

social science praxis (both in teaching and scholarship), and to set out the choices that may lie ahead and the responsibilities attached to them. The conference will be organised around the following thematic sessions:

1. The politics of higher education and social science, and the questions of university and social science autonomy, self-government and academic freedom today.
2. Academic vocation: its significance today and the possibilities for cultivating and strengthening it.
3. Managerialism and its 'quality' indicators in social science and education: what kind of human beings lie behind such indicators and result from their use? What kind of learning environment are universities promoting and shaping today in place of the praxis of teacher and student?
4. Contribution of contemporary social science and higher education to society: for example, in terms of clarifying fundamental problems, educating judgement and fostering maturity and autonomy. Are we, to follow Weber, fostering a world of thinking human beings able to conduct their own lives, or rather, a world of indifferent subjects of consumption?

The conference organisers invite the submission of one page abstracts addressing one or more of the above topics and questions. The conference will take place May 2011 and the venue will be London or Birmingham; both to be confirmed.

For further information and submission of papers, please contact:

Carlos Frade (University of Salford) <C.Frade@salford.ac.uk>

Sam Whimster (Editor of Max Weber Studies) <s.whimster@londonmet.ac.uk>

Gurminder K. Bhambra (University of Warwick) <G.K.Bhambra@warwick.ac.uk>

Austin Harrington (University of Erfurt, Germany) <austin.harrington@uni-erfurt.de>

P. Workshop on Unintended Consequences – the 75th 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

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

Q. ECAS 2011 – 4th 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.

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

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

R. Rethinking the Modern: Colonialism, Empire, and Slavery, Birmingham Midland Institute, 11-12 July 2011

Rethinking the Modern: Colonialism, Empire, and Slavery

An international conference organised by the British Sociological Association's Theory Study Group and the ESRC-funded Network, Rethinking the Global: Connected Histories and Connected Sociologies

11-12 July, 2011, Birmingham Midland Institute

<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/rethinkingthemodern>

****The deadline for submission of abstracts is 25th February 2011****

****Please circulate this email and display the attached call for papers****

In recent times, a number of academics and commentators have sought to offer a revisionist history of colonialism. This history presents colonialism as either something that was not as bad as some others make out, something that actually made the modern world and so was essentially a good thing from which the current search for a new global order should have much to learn; or as something to be understood simply in terms of networks of circulation and distribution. The sense of colonialism as a wretched episode of human history that continues to distort the life chances of those unfortunate enough to live under its legacies is slowly being eroded. Similar attempted revisions seek to alter public understandings of modern transatlantic slavery and its continuing legacies. We believe that the historical processes of imperialism, colonialism and slavery shaped, and continue to shape, our common world in ways which have been and continue to be problematic. This conference seeks to confront head-on these new revisionist histories and provide the space for a more adequate understanding of these processes and their legacies as they continue into today.

There will be 12 key streams in the conference and abstracts should be submitted under these streams:

1. Imperial Enlightenment and Critical Thought
2. The Place of Minorities in Modernity and Coloniality
3. Decolonial Thought and Other Philosophies
4. Migration and Empire: Voluntary and Forced
5. Is Global History / Sociology Possible?
6. Reassessing Anti-Colonial and Liberation Movements
7. Coloniality / Modernity
8. Recovering Forgotten Histories
9. Slavery and its Legacies
10. Colonial Desires and Eastern Empires
11. From Empire to Neo-Imperialism
12. The Colonial Context of the European Integration Project, Past and Present

For more information on the conference, details on the streams, and contact details for stream co-ordinators see: <http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/rethinkingthemodern>

For general queries, email Gurminder K Bhambra (g.k.bhambra@warwick.ac.uk) or Lucy Mayblin (l.mayblin@warwick.ac.uk).

The deadline for submission of abstracts is 25th February 2011

See website for abstract submission details.

Please circulate this email and display the attached call for papers.

Conference Team: Gurminder K Bhambra, Ipek Demir, Peo Hansen, Gary Hazeldine, Stefan Jonsson, Vicky Margree, Lucy Mayblin, Søren Rud, Robbie Shilliam, Rolando Vazquez, Ozan Zeybek

S. The Future of Testimony Conference, University of Salford, 11-12 August 2010

The Future of Testimony Conference

August 11-12th 2011

Call for Papers

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Professor Shoshana Felman (Emory University)

Professor Cathy Caruth (Emory University)

Professor Carolyn Dean (Brown University)

Professor Michael Rothberg (University of Illinois)

Professor Lyndsey Stonebridge (University of East Anglia)

Professor Robert Eaglestone (Royal Holloway, University of London)

This international conference comprises the final event in the AHRC-funded research network 'The Future of Testimony' and invites speculation on the possible future constitution of, and critical responses to, the interdisciplinary nature of testimony. The study of testimony was pioneered by Holocaust scholars, but in what ways will critics respond to the testimony of more recent genocides? Do the insights generated in respect of the historical trauma of the Holocaust translate into contemporary contexts? And how should we understand the recent turn to perpetrator testimony: Who are these perpetrators? And how is s/he modulated in relation to the concepts of complicity and collaboration? The conference also invites reflection on the ways in which testimony is demanded by a range of institutions, including not only the law and clinic, but increasingly immigration and asylum centres. To what degree is the imperative to testify to one's suffering now a question of bureaucratic threat? Papers might address the following issues: What is the relationship between pleasure and testimony? Does testimony provoke prurient interest? How long will the current discourse about dialectics of in/articulacy be re-iterated? What accounts for the popularity of 'mis lit'? Why have victim statements accrued significance in a judicial context? In what ways will false testimony proliferate, and how will we account for it? Is the volume of testimony a symptom of neo-liberalism and a radical entrenchment of the logic of identity politics? Who will be able speak in the future and of what? What are the future crises?

Abstracts of 250 words to be sent to Debbie Hughes (d.hughes1@salford.a.c.uk) by 10th December 2010. *** Postgraduate bursaries available ***

For enquires contact the conference organisers: Jane Kilby (j.e.kilby@salford.ac.uk) and Antony Rowland (a.c.rowland@salford.ac.uk)

T. Britain and China, pasts, presents and futures, from the nineteenth century to the twenty-first, University of Bristol, 24-26 August 2011

British Inter-university China Centre

Britain and China, pasts, presents and futures, from the nineteenth century to the twenty-first

1st Call for papers

University of Bristol, 24th-26th August 2011

For nearly a century China's relationship with Britain and its empire was politically its most important, setting the agenda, for good and for ill, for its relations with other powers. Chinese and Britons encountered each other in the Chinese treaty ports like Shanghai or Tianjin, in the colony of Hong Kong, in port cities across the British empire, in rural Australia and urban Canada, and in London's Limehouse. They encountered each other on battlefields and in brothels, in chapels and in clinics, in factories and on steamships. Very large numbers of Britons visited or worked in China sometimes for very long periods, some for several generations. Major British trading firms and financial institutions which emerged in the nineteenth century still play key roles today in East Asia. And Chinese students came to British universities. Chinese Merchants lived and traded in British empire cities. British Chinese fortunes helped reshape the Scottish landscape as opium traders returned and bought estates. Chinese-Australian entrepreneurs and others reshaped Chinese cities. The legacies of this complex set of relationships, overshadowed as the twentieth century progressed by China's relations with Japan, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., have nonetheless been long lasting.

Convened by the British Inter-university China Centre This conference will assess that relationship and its legacy today. It will explore the diplomatic and political relationship between the British and Chinese states, but is concerned equally centrally with the encounters over two centuries between Britons and Chinese, and between British and Chinese culture. It will also explore the current and potential future course of Sino-British relations, and the place of this history within that. And more than ever before, many thousands of Chinese and British nationals live in each others' countries, fashioning a new set of relationships between the two cultures and societies. Academic interest in the wide history of such Sino-British encounters has been growing over the last decade. This conference will bring together this new and developing scholarship, and map out new agendas for understanding the often brittle relationship between Britons and Chinese.

We welcome proposals from across disciplines for both panels (to include 3 speakers, and discussant) and for individual papers. Potential topics and disciplinary approaches include, but are by no means limited to: diplomatic and political relations; commercial interaction; conflicts; British empire and Chinese migration; the Britain-British India-China nexus; cultural relations; literatures; travel writing; prominent or marginal individuals or groups; Chinese studies in Britain, and British studies in China; the histories of the treaty ports, and of Chinatowns; Weihaiwei; Hong Kong; Taiwan; Tibet.

Individual paper abstracts (max: 500 words), or Panel proposals (3 paper abstracts plus panel rationale, 500 words), should be sent in to BICC Administrator, Daniel Holloway daniel.holloway@area.ox.ac.uk, no later than 31st January 2011. Please list the title of the paper at the top of the abstract, and at the end list name, institutional affiliation and contact information. The organisers expect to be able to contribute to some, though not necessarily all, travel and accommodation expenses.

3. Funding Opportunities/Job opportunities/Prize awards

1. 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

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>

2. PhD bursaries at The University of Aston

Older people, information and choice: assessing the reconfiguration of social care and health care for older people

Choice is at the heart of current policy proposals to transform the delivery of health and social care. Failure to incorporate older people's understandings of their role in relation to service delivery has been consistently highlighted as leading to policy weaknesses. To remedy this position, key objectives for the studentship are:

To examine how older people perceive choice in social care and health services: whether these perceptions differ across sectors, and whether they are static over time or amenable to change depending on personal experience.

To examine how older people exercise choice in social care and health services. In particular, to identify the barriers to, and facilitators of, older peoples' use of information, and the role of sectoral context and formal and informal networks in this process.

The PhD studentship adopts an interdisciplinary approach, spanning public policy, sociology and psychology to develop a rich and contextualised understanding of the decision-making processes involved in the extension of service user choice for older people across health and social care in the West Midlands. It will be the first study to have used such an interdisciplinary approach to tackle this topic of growing policy importance.

Application Requirements

Applications, comprising a full CV, a supporting letter stating your interest in the project and in ageing research more generally, and a completed application form downloadable from:

<http://www1.aston.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/apply/> - (when asked to select degree programme please choose MPhil/PhD in Sociology Full Time (Full Time October 2011) from the drag down menu). Please forward your documents by e-mail directly to Anneliese Dodds at a.dodds@aston.ac.uk.

Eligible applicants must have, or expect to obtain, a good honours degree (first class or upper second) or hold an MSc in a relevant discipline.

Eligible applicants must have the necessary English Language requirements: a minimum score of 620 (260 minimum in computer test) in TOEFL OR IELTS with minimum marks of 6.5 in each section and an overall band of 7.0.

Interviews for shortlisted candidates will take place week commencing 28th February 2011. (If you have not heard from us within six weeks of the closing date, please assume that on this occasion, your application has been unsuccessful.)

Closing date for receipt of applications: Friday, 28th January 2011.

Funding Notes

The studentship includes a tax free stipend and covers tuition fees up to home/EU rates. The studentship is available for 3 years subject to a satisfactory progress review at the end of the first year. The project is available to students meeting the University and School academic entry requirements with an anticipated registration date of October 2011 and will be awarded competitively on merit.

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

1. The Sociological Imagination:

The Sociological Imagination is an 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. It is currently seeking submissions on two themes:

Social Research in an Age of Austerity

A new coalition government pledges an unparalleled age of fiscal austerity and a new universities minister promises radical 'reform' of higher education: what does the future hold for the British university in an age of fiscal austerity? What is this political and economic climate likely to mean for social research? How can social researchers adapt to this climate? How can social research assist in understanding and resisting the imposition of austerity?

Public Scholarship and Private Commitment

Why do you care about your research? What is it that makes you want to spend your time exploring this area of the social world? What does it mean for you to gain understanding of these aspects of social life? Our answers to these questions often encompass the biographical, ethical and political. However these aspects of our involvements are often relegated to the background, as the factors seen as relevant to scholarship are too frequently construed in narrowly intellectualising ways.

Contributions are also welcome on any topic which relates social science to public and/or political engagement. See www.sociologicalimagination.org for more information.

2. CRAFTIVISM: A SPECIAL ISSUE OF UTOPIAN STUDIES

CRAFTIVISM: A SPECIAL ISSUE OF UTOPIAN STUDIES

Guest editors, Maria Elena Buszek (University of Colorado Denver) and Kirsty Robertson (University of Western Ontario)

Coined by artists and collectives in the wake of the September 11th, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center, the term "craftivism" relates to creative, traditional handcraft (often, assisted by high-tech means of community-building, skill-sharing, and action) directed toward political and social causes. For this special issue of Utopian Studies, we invite practitioners, scholars, and curators to submit work related to the history, criticism, and myriad practices of craftivism. Subjects and strategies might include: historical or present examples of activist practice that uses craft; issues of production, manufacture or use that might intersect with craftivism; discussions of the successes or limits of craftivist practice; considerations of feminist craft practice that traverse (or are collapsed into) wider social issues and movements. Papers might also take a wider frame, looking at craft and economic globalization, NGO work or the use of craft in cultural brokering. Please note that this issue's editors are interested in praxis as well as scholarship, and encourage makers to submit statements, manifestos, and/or imagery for consideration.

Utopian Studies is a biannual, peer-reviewed journal publishing scholarly articles on a wide range of subjects related to utopias, utopianism, utopian literature, utopian theory, and intentional communities. All submissions must be sent by JANUARY 17TH 2011 via the journal's online editorial manager at:

<http://www.editorialmanager.com/uts/> Utopian Studies' submission guidelines are also available online:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/utopia/journal/guidelines.html>

Queries concerning the issue's theme and guidelines may be directed to the guest editors via e-mail: Maria Elena Buszek:

maria.buszek@ucdenver.edu and Kirsty Robertson: kirsty.robertson@uwo.ca

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 24th)

Why progressives in Europe should learn to love high tuition fees - Timo Idema (Sep 27th)

Are They Right? Further Thoughts on Wilkinson and Pickett - Rob De Vries (Sep 29th)

The Recession's Youngest Victims - Brendan Saloner (Oct 1st)

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.

5. Other News

1. Launch of the Campaign for the Public University

The UK Campaign for the Public University is open to all. It is a broad-based campaign with

no party or other political affiliation. It has been initiated by a group of university teachers and graduate students seeking to defend and promote the idea of the university as a public good. We believe that the public university is essential both for cultivating democratic public life and creating the means for individuals to find fulfillment in creative and intellectual pursuits regardless of whether or not they pursue a degree programme.

Follow the campaign at www.publicuniversity.org.uk and www.twitter.com/public_uni

- ***Got a Postgrad event you want to advertise? Let us know about it!***
Email us at: PGForum@britsoc.org.uk and we will include it in the next edition of the PGF Newsletter: The newsletter is distributed on the 1st of every month, therefore submission deadlines are the 25th 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/>***
-