

**Climate Change Study Group
Annual Report 2016/17**

1. Established: July 2010

2. Current Membership Figure: 238

3. Financial Information

Opening balance	1792.35
Income	430.00
Expenditure	170.90
Balance	2051.45

4. Aims of SG:

Sociology has an increasingly important role to play in shaping and contributing to public and policy debate about climate change. The study group provides a forum in which to explore how to effectively bring sociology's unique perspective to bear on this most pressing of challenges. The study group is open to all sociologists, from whatever specialism and at whatever stage they may be at in their career.

5. Review of Year (2016-17):

Now in its sixth full year, the Climate Change Study group again put on a varied range of events and activities, which sought to engage new audiences with the sociology of climate change, expand the group's membership, and forge new links with other BSA study groups.

The first event in our 2016 calendar was a prize-giving ceremony to celebrate the fifth year of our annual article prize competition. Held in March at the University of Nottingham the day featured presentations from the winners of this year's article prize. This year the prizes went to:

First Prize: Rebecca Whittle (2015) Guilt and elation in the workplace: emotion and the governance of the environment at work, *Environmental Values* 24: 581-601. doi: 10.3197/096327114X13947900182111

Second Prize: Elizabeth Hall and Todd Sanders (2015) Accountability and the academy: Producing knowledge about the human dimensions of climate change. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*. 21(2): 438-461. Doi: 10.1111/1467-9655.12162

Third Prize: Murray Goulden and Alexa Spence (2015) Caught in the middle: the role of the facilities manager in organisational energy use. *Energy policy*, 85: 280-287. Doi: 10.1016/j.enpol.2015.06.014

Building on the success of the Article Prize competition over the last three years, in November 2016, the Study Group launched the fourth competition. A call for nominations was sent around all group members asking them to nominate the best sociological article they had read – or written! - on climate change, and that had been published in a peer-reviewed academic journal in the last year. A judging panel consisting of the previous year’s winners then reviewed all nominated articles and in January 2017 the panel of judges announced the following prize-winners:

First Prize: Anneleen Kenis (2016) Ecological citizenship and democracy: Communitarian versus agonistic perspectives. *Environmental politics* 35(6): 949-970
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09644016.2016.1203524>

Second Prize: Gordon Walker, Neil Simcock and Rosie Day (2016) Necessary energy uses and a minimum standard of living in the United Kingdom: Energy justice or escalating expectations. *Energy Research and Social Science* 18: 129-138
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2016.02.007>

Third Prize: Prativa Spkota, Rodney J. Jeenan, Jana-Axinja Paschen, Hemant R. Ojha (2016) Social production of vulnerability to climate change in the rural middle hills of Nepal. *Journal of rural studies*, 48: 53-64
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2016.09.007>

The Study Group again hosted five sessions at the BSA Annual Conference and a special plenary session with Alan Warde giving the group a consistently strong presence at the conference. Sessions covered themes including governance, low carbon lifestyles, and environmental practice.

The study group hosted an event to support the development of a book proposal for the BSA book series. The event was co-sponsored by the WholeSEM project in May 2016 and brought together the book’s contributing authors with delegates from the wider academic community to discuss, develop, and consolidate proposals for the book. The wider theme of ‘Post-Carbonsim’ has been developed and the working title is currently *Re-Configuring Everyday Practices for a Post-carbon World*. The full book proposal has been submitted in Feb 2017.

6. Plans for 2017/18

Several events and activities are already planned for 2017/18. These are:

- An article prize giving ceremony, hosted at Surrey University is planned for April 2017.
- The study group will run 5 paper sessions at the BSA Annual Conference 2017. The sessions will cover a range of topics, including: Energy and Everyday Life; Governance and Sustainability; Sustainable Consumption; Theory and

- Environment; and Social Movements and Environment. Building on the success of last year's special session, we have also organised another stream plenary for 2017, with Noortje Marres delivering this year's plenary talk on the interplay between the personal and the political in relation to environmental issues.
- The study group will run its article prize competition again in 2017/18 with the call being issued in the late Autumn.
 - The study group has further developed and maintained its social media and online presence allocating a study group convening committee member to overseeing this aspect of the group's work. We plan to develop the groups webpages over 2017 and have one member attend the web training that was proposed for study groups.
 - The group has continued its collaboration with the Medical Sociology Environment and Health Group. A second one-day conference is planned for October 2017 at Cardiff University to further consolidate connections between the two BSA groups.
 - Finally, the study group's convenors have taken forward their plans to develop an edited volume for the BSA book series. Tom Roberts, Catherine Butler, Candice Howarth and Tom Hargreaves have developed a proposal for an edited collection. Following the event in May 2016 they have now finalised and submitted their proposal to the BSA. The book will be developed over 2017 aiming for a 2018 publication.

7. Concluding Remarks:

2016 was another active year for the study group. Events were well attended and have sparked several ideas for future initiatives. The BSA annual conference saw a consistent number of high standard sessions and papers with strong attendance from delegates, as well as a very successful and popular plenary session. The group is faring well financially and is steadily developing a network of supporters and event co-organisers across different regions in the UK.

8. Convenor/s Name/s:

Catherine Butler, (convenor), University of Exeter
Tom Roberts, (treasurer), University of Surrey
Elizabeth Shove Lancaster University
Tom Hargreaves, University of East Anglia
Jessica Paddock, University of Manchester
Candice Howarth, Anglia Ruskin University
Melanie Rohse, University of Birmingham

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10. SG weblink: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/climate.htm>