

BSA Scottish Studies Group Annual Report (2016)

Name: Scottish Studies Group

Convenors: Liz Dinnie and Dominic Duckett

Number of members: There is no registration for the study group as such; we currently have 77 subscribers to the JISCmail list BSA Scottish Studies Group (SCOTTISH-STUDY-GROUP@JISCMAIL.AC.UK).

We also have 333 followers on Twitter (@BSAScotStudies).

We have a website (<https://scottishstudygroup.wordpress.com/>) where we have posted a number of blogs.

Expenses incurred: Nil

Income: Nil

Aims: The Scottish Studies Group is intended to fulfil the following mandate:

- The study group will continue to be a forum through which researchers investigating issues relating to Scotland, its people and communities, culture and society, economy and politics can come together.
- The group aims to provide a space to consider current sociological debates in a specifically Scottish context (e.g. health, religion, immigration and so on) and to help foster research agendas, methodologies and 'knowledge transfer' amongst Scottish social researchers.
- We hope to engage with practitioners, policy makers and activists, building a forum to bring together a broad range of interests.
- We are keen to welcome academics at all stages in their careers in a supportive and collegial environment fostering dissemination of their work.
- We will strive to establish links with other universities that have research centres which share common interests; create an interactive, informal and supportive environment for the discussion of our ideas.
- We envisage the group will address multiple social, political and cultural and economic topics including
 - Class identities and positions
 - Inequalities and social divisions
 - Urban and rural identities and politics
 - Contemporary migranhood and new communities
 - Crime
 - Forms of nationalism, Scottishness and identities
 - Sexualities, masculinities and femininities
 - Politics and activism
 - New media and technology

Review of 2016

There has been little activity in the Scottish Study Group in 2016. The Convenors are currently considering how to take the group forward and a request for new convenors was posted to the BSA website and in the e-newsletter in February 2017. One person has responded to this and Liz will follow this up to see if this will put a new team in place to encourage more activity for this group.

One of the difficulties is that there is no 'Scottish sociology' as such. Thus a Scottish Study Group could take as its focus the range of sociological research and teaching being conducted in Scotland. This would make it more akin to a regional study group which could mirror the themes which occur at BSA level.

The JISCmail list continues to be used to post items of interest such as events, PhD opportunities and current vacancies but there is little discussion on wider topics or issues. It is therefore more like a notice board with information going in one direction – from the convenors to the list. The twitter account is still live but nothing has been tweeted for a while. However this could easily be revived if was thought useful to promote events or news items.

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