

BEGINNINGS

The London School of Economics and Political Science was founded in 1895. The decision to create the School was made by four Fabians at a breakfast party at Borough Farm, near Milford, Surrey, on 4 August 1894. The four were Beatrice and Sidney Webb, Graham Wallas and George Bernard Shaw.

LSE

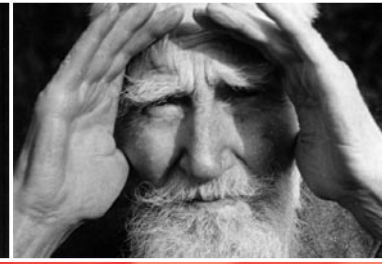
the founders



Beatrice and Sidney Webb



Graham Wallas



George Bernard Shaw

I remember going to the Open Robbery in 1895 to try to interest him in the School, & telling him very candidly the ideas that I had on the subject. I said that, as he knew, I was a person of decided views, Radical Socialist, and that I wanted the policy that I believed in to prevail. But that I was also a profound believer in knowledge and Science and Truth. I thought that he was suffering much from lack of research in social matters, & that I wanted to promote it. I believe that research and new discovery would prove my views of policy to be right, but that, if they proved the contrary I should count it all the more pain to have prevented error, and should cheerfully abandon my own views. I think that is a fair attitude.

Letter from Sidney Webb

LSE was founded after a bequest to the Fabian Society of some £20,000 by Henry Hunt Hutchinson. The Hutchinson bequest coincided not just with the Fabians' ideas but also with a wider movement in society.

The aim of the School was the betterment of society. By studying poverty issues and analysing inequalities, the Webbs sought to improve society in general. Sidney Webb in particular, noted Beatrice in her diaries, had a vision of 'a centre not only of lectures on special subjects but an association of students who would be directed and supported in doing original work.' Other donations were solicited to add to the Hutchinson legacy and the School developed rapidly through private philanthropy.

LSE held its first classes in October 1895 in rooms in John Street, moving a year later to 10 Adelphi Terrace. In 1900 LSE was recognised as a Faculty of Economics in the newly-constituted University of London and in 1901 the Faculty degrees were announced as the BSc (Econ) and DSc (Econ) – the first university degrees principally dedicated to the social sciences.

In 1902 the School moved formally to its present site, in Clare Market and Houghton Street, off the Aldwych. Charles Booth's 'poverty maps' of London at that time show a little of what the area was like. These historic maps – now in the School's archives – were the first major survey of London life and labour. Booth's survey describes the then residents of this area as a mix of charwomen, master bakers, builders, hawkers and market traders. There has been a pub (now the Three Tuns) on the site for many years. It wasn't until May 1920 that King George V laid the foundation stone of the Old Building.

The School's motto was adopted in February 1922. Suggested by Professor Edwin Cannan from Virgil's *Georgics*, the phrase *rerum cognoscere causas* means to know the causes of things. The industrious beaver emblem was chosen in the same year.



10 Adelphi Terrace



Houghton Street 1890s



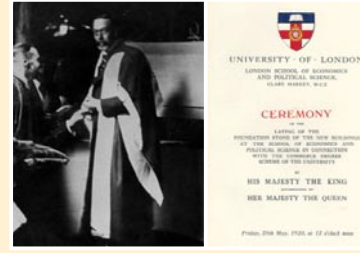
One of Charles Booth's poverty maps 1902



The Aldwych 1902



The Three Tuns Houghton Street shop



King George V at the foundation stone ceremony 1920



Sidney and Beatrice Webb in later life

LEADERS

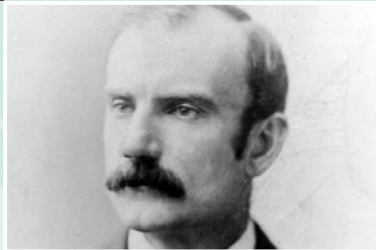
The School welcomes its 12th director, Howard Davies, in October 2003. He succeeds Anthony Giddens, who was appointed in 1997. During Professor Giddens' time, the School has strengthened its position further as a focus of global political and economic debate, and seen major campus developments.



William Hewins 1895-1903



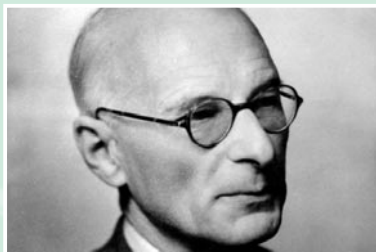
Halford Mackinder 1903-1908



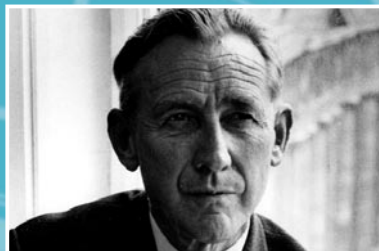
William Pember Reeves 1908-1919



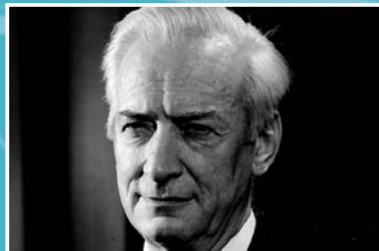
Lord Beveridge 1919-1937



Sir Alexander Carr-Saunders 1937-1957



Sir Sydney Caine 1957-1967



Sir Walter Adams 1967-1974

The first director of the School was historical economist William Hewins, who served from 1895 to 1903. He left to lead Joseph Chamberlain's tariff commission and was succeeded by Halford Mackinder, the most prominent British academic geographer of his time. Like Hewins, he went on to become a Conservative MP.

From 1908 to 1919 the director was the former agent-general of New Zealand, William Pember Reeves. He in turn was succeeded by social security system founder William Beveridge, who was director from 1919 to 1937.

Sir Alexander Carr-Saunders then took over, serving for 20 years until 1957, including the period when LSE temporarily moved its base to Cambridge during the Second World War. Both a natural and a social scientist, Carr-Saunders was a pioneer of population studies.

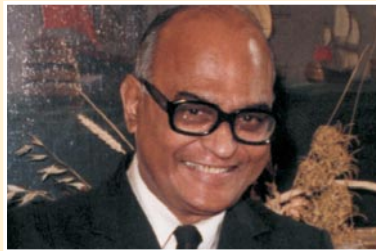
In 1957 alumnus Sir Sydney Caine, previously vice-chancellor of the University of Malaya, was appointed. He was succeeded controversially by Sir Walter Adams in 1967. This appointment, at a time of radicalism, sparked a student occupation because of his previous post as head of the University College of Rhodesia.

In 1974 the German academic Professor Sir Ralf, now Lord, Dahrendorf, was appointed. He stayed at the School until 1984 and oversaw the first redevelopment of the Library at its Portugal Street site. His successor was Dr Indraprasad Patel, who continued the long tradition of scholarly teaching and research links with India.

In 1990 Dr John Ashworth became director. During his six years he led the School through various changes, including speculation about an LSE move to County Hall. He was succeeded by sociologist Professor Anthony Giddens in 1997.



Lord Dahrendorf 1974-1984



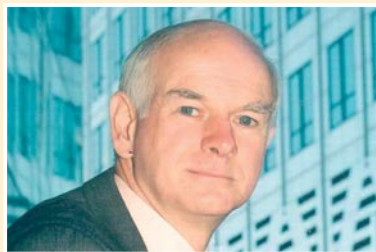
Dr I G Patel 1984-1990



Dr John Ashworth 1990-1996



Anthony Giddens 1997-2003



Howard Davies 2003



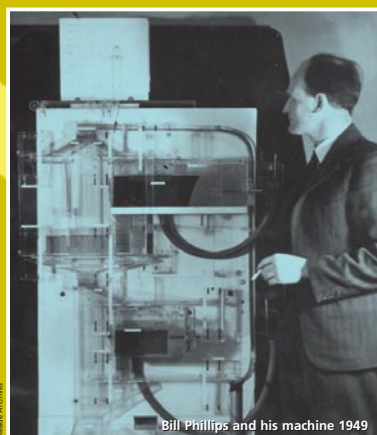
An LSE dinner in the 1930s in honour of George Bernard Shaw (seated back, far left).

INNOVATION

LSE has an international reputation for the quality of its teaching and research. Students have always come from the UK and beyond. Now, well over half of LSE's students are international, from 150 countries worldwide. The teaching staff reflects the student diversity, with 40 per cent of staff coming from countries other than the UK.



quality



The famous Phillips machine was invented at LSE. Developed by New Zealand academic Bill Phillips in 1949, this was a working model of how money (water) flowed around the economy. The original machine is now in the Science Museum.

LSE has around 7,500 undergraduate and graduate students. There are 18 departments and more than 30 research centres and institutes. The School's reputation stands on the quality of its research, its teaching staff and its students.

The School is a leader among UK universities in the quality of its research, as recognised by the most recent national rankings.

In 2002 LSE's Centre for Economic Performance (CEP) was awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize – the first time one of these prizes has been given for work in economics.

Today's teaching staff continue a long tradition of excellence. Harold Laski was hugely significant in political science, as was R H Tawney in economic history, Malinowski in anthropology and Richard Titmuss in social policy, to name but a few. Ground-breaking statistician Sir Arthur Bowley joined LSE in 1895 and stayed until 1936.

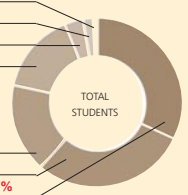
Other distinguished former staff included Sir Raymond Firth, Morris Ginsberg, T H Marshall, Michael Oakeshott, Sir Karl Popper and Eileen Younghusband.

Today's students also continue a tradition. LSE has a reputation for students willing to engage in debate, and challenge the status quo. Few other institutions are as diverse and cosmopolitan as LSE. With so many different nationalities represented in the student body, views are exchanged in a remarkably vibrant and stimulating environment, as they have been since the School's foundation.



Total students by domicile
Australasia 0.8%
Africa 1.9%
South America 3.5%
North America 15.3%

Asia 16.8%
UK 29.9%
Europe (apart from UK) 31.8%



STIMULATING

From the first it was intended that the School's work should be of service to the community. As early as 1903 staff offered expert advice to the Royal Commission on Taxation. Since then a constant stream of people have engaged in public service, advising and participating in commissions and enquiries, nationally and internationally.



influence

From the early days, the School's staff and students have aimed to influence wider society. LSE research has consistently been rooted in real world issues and engaged in suggesting practical solutions to society's problems.

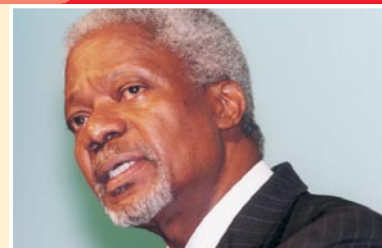
Much of the development of the social sciences has its origins in work carried out at the School. LSE may be said to have founded sociology, social anthropology, social policy, social psychology, criminology and international relations as subjects of university study in the UK. A total of 13 LSE alumni or staff have been awarded Nobel Prizes.

Today, LSE economists are members of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee and the World Bank. Mervyn King, governor of the Bank of England, was a professor of economics at LSE from 1984 to 1995. Former law department academic Rosalyn Higgins is now a judge of the International Court of Justice.

Other academics sit on the UK's Urban Task Force and the Social Exclusion Unit's policy action teams. Staff also advise government departments and parliamentary select committees, as well as regularly appearing in the media, nationally and internationally.

In London alone, LSE's influence encompasses research about the city itself, membership of civic organisations, and activities with London neighbours, including schools, councils and arts bodies.

The School also regularly welcomes leading public figures on campus. World leaders and thinkers speak at lectures and conferences throughout the academic year. Recent distinguished guests have included Kofi Annan, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Bill Clinton, Nelson Mandela, Mary Robinson and Javier Solana.



Kofi Annan



Gro Harlem Brundtland



Bill Clinton



Nelson Mandela



Mary Robinson



Javier Solana



St Clement's 2002

CONNECTING

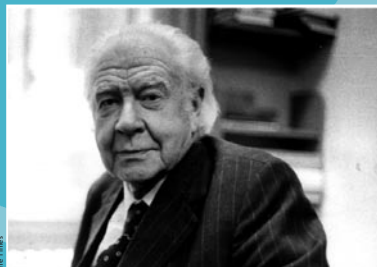
LSE graduates have excelled in many professions.

The School's alumni relations team is in contact with more than 65,000 alumni in around 60 countries worldwide.



Global alumni leaders forum

global alumni



Lord Robbins (BSc 1923) gave his name to the Lionel Robbins Building.

In the 1950s only one in 20 people went to university and higher education was the preserve of an academic and social elite. In 1963 the Robbins Report on higher education was published. It rejected the notion of a 'so called fixed pool of ability in the population' and marked the beginning of an expansion in higher education that continues to this day.

LSE graduates influence and lead the world – from US president John F Kennedy in the 1960s to today's political leaders such as the prime minister of Greece, Dr Constantine Simitis, Professor Romano Prodi, president of the European Commission, and the president of Kenya, Mwai Kibaki.



John F Kennedy

Around 30 alumni have been prime ministers or presidents of their countries – from Barbados, Dominica and Jamaica to Kenya and Ghana, from Mauritius, Nepal and Thailand to Colombia, Panama and Peru. Many others, past and present, have served in governments across the world.



George Soros

Alumni have held important positions in industry and commerce, in the professions, and in public service. Others have made an impact in finance, the law and the arts.



Rachel Lomax

Many are authors, both of fiction and non-fiction. LSE alumni novelists include Mary Wesley (Anthropology and International Politics 1930) and Pat Barker (BSc International History 1965).



Cherie Booth

Judge Jules

Alumni pictured here are: former US president John F Kennedy (General Course 1935); the financier and philanthropist George Soros (BSc 1951, PhD Philosophy 1954); Rachel Lomax (MSc Economics 1968), deputy governor of the Bank of England; lawyer Cherie Booth QC (LLB 1975); international DJ and record producer 'Judge' Jules O'Riordan (LLB 1987); and Dr Maleeha Lodhi (BSc Government 1975, PhD Government 1980), high commissioner of Pakistan to the UK.



Maleeha Lodhi

Whatever their career choice, LSE alumni aim to make a positive difference.



Alumni groups worldwide

SUPPORTING

The School continues its tradition of teaching and research excellence and innovation. The Campaign for LSE has the goal of raising £100 million by 31 July 2005 to ensure the School remains the leading social science institution in the world.



the future

LSE aims to preserve and enhance its academic reputation and its academic diversity. The School plans to continue its role as a guardian of the social sciences, leading debate in new intellectual areas.

LSE is committed to recruiting the best possible students with the highest academic and intellectual potential, regardless of their economic or social background.

Scholarships and student support are a vital element. The School provides around £4 million in financial assistance to students each year. This enables talented students to study at LSE whatever their or their family's financial position. The School is also committed to encouraging applications from a wide range of schools and colleges. Each year at least 170 LSE students work in more than 30 London schools as part of the student tutoring scheme. Other widening participation initiatives include Saturday, Summer and Winter Schools.

New research centres are developing. Most recent are the Centre for the Study of Human Rights and BIOS, a centre for the study of bioscience, biomedicine, biotechnology and society.

Better facilities are also crucial. The School has transformed the Lionel Robbins Building, housing the Library and the Research Lab. A new ground floor Student Services Centre has been created in the Old Building. The John Watkins Plaza means more seating and meeting areas and pedestrianisation is giving LSE much more of a campus feel.

Endowments will enable LSE to continue to attract the best academic faculty and ensure the longer term security and prosperity of the School.

In the future the School – with the generous support of individual, corporate and foundation donors – hopes to nurture even more intellectual champions, and even more graduates who will make a difference in the world.



LSE's Library – redesigned by Foster and Partners



Saturday School teaching



Campus development



Intellectual debate

Fundraising focuses on specific aims. Research excellence is the main aim, pioneering expertise in globalisation, human rights, risk and business management, new communications technologies, urban and regional policies, new forms of governance, and the impact of life sciences, biomedicine and biotechnology on society.

The Campaign for LSE

Facilities	£20 million
Student support	£10 million
Academic staff support	£10 million
Endowment	£19 million
Research excellence	£40 million
Annual Fund	£1 million
Total	£100 million



Student Services Centre – completed 2002