



LSE

Connect

For alumni of the London School
of Economics and Political Science
Vol 24, number 2, winter 2012

A rising tide

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Virtually real

Vili Lehdonvirta on real
money in a virtual world

Director invites alumni to shape LSE's future



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Editor's message



Earlier this month Professor Craig Calhoun, the new Director of LSE, ran a question and answer session on Twitter. It was fun. Professor Calhoun tweets regularly anyway (you can follow him on @craigcalhoun) but the idea behind this one-hour intense session was to allow students, staff and alumni – and indeed the general public – to ask anything they wished and to get instantaneous answers back. In all, 137 questions were asked, with nearly two-thirds from students but a fair number from

alumni. Professor Calhoun was able to answer a cross section in the hour, and could not resist carrying on answering questions the next day. In all there were nearly 200 interactions as people commented on the answers, and new dialogues were created.

We are running another Twitter session in January and will publicise the date, and hashtag, in advance as before. These sessions are all part of a move by the School to allow greater interactions across all parts of the LSE community. This is particularly important as the Strategic Review, launched by Professor Calhoun earlier this term, gets underway. On page 6 he sets out some of the thinking behind the review, and invites alumni to contribute. "The starting point of this review is asking just what is most important and distinctive about LSE, and what should be our most basic purposes and goals. On this basis, we will set about evaluating how we work and identifying the best possible ways to pursue those goals", he writes.

As part of this we are asking alumni to contribute 300 words on what, in their view, makes LSE distinct. We will publish these on our website, along with contributions from current students and staff. We are also planning to interview those with the most interesting and thought-provoking contributions. If you would like to contribute, please email ideas to lsemagazine@lse.ac.uk or write to: Editor, *LSE Connect*, Communications, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE.

Elsewhere in this magazine you will find examples of the sort of research for which LSE is famous – research that is both cutting-edge and highly influential on global policy. So Dr Vili Lehdonvirta sets out why we now pay real money for virtual goods, while Professor Judith Rees charts the rise of research into water, and its implications for managing this most vital resource. And we welcome the Women's Library to LSE, with a special spread on this extraordinary collection, and the value it will bring to the extensive materials already at the School.

As ever, I end by reminding you that we can now offer *LSE Connect* online as an alternative to receiving the magazine in print – in an effort to reduce our environmental impact.

Claire Sanders

LSE Connect

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HEADLINE NEWS

LSE launches major **recruitment drive**

LSE has launched a major recruitment drive to appoint leading scholars to 20 new faculty positions. In all, the School plans to invest £15 million over the next five years in additional academic faculty.



The aim is to further strengthen the academic excellence of LSE under the new Director, Professor Craig Calhoun, and the School is welcoming applications to any department or interdisciplinary field.

Professor Calhoun said: "This is an enormously exciting time to be at LSE and this recruitment drive is an invitation to world-class academics to come and

shape the future of the School. Our only pre-condition is excellence, other than that we are open to scholars from any of the disciplinary and interdisciplinary fields currently studied at LSE. We are looking for people to help shape the future of the social sciences globally."

In a global recruitment campaign, LSE has made it clear that it expects applicants to be, or shortly to become, world leaders

in their fields – and that appointments will only be made to candidates whose research and publications are of the highest international standard. Intellectual achievement and potential must be demonstrated in significant publications and candidates must demonstrate a commitment and capacity to provide high quality and innovative teaching to LSE students.

Professor Stuart Corbridge, Pro-Director for Research and External Relations, said: "LSE has always put engagement with the wider world at the heart of its mission. Its academics shape and inform global policy debates across the world. We are keen to attract academics who understand and share this goal." For more information, see: lseglobaldebate.com ■

For the biggest stories from around the campus and beyond, see page 30



LSE launches flagship PhD studentship scheme

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LSE in the league tables

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LSE EVENTS

MANY EMINENT SPEAKERS HAVE VISITED THE SCHOOL RECENTLY

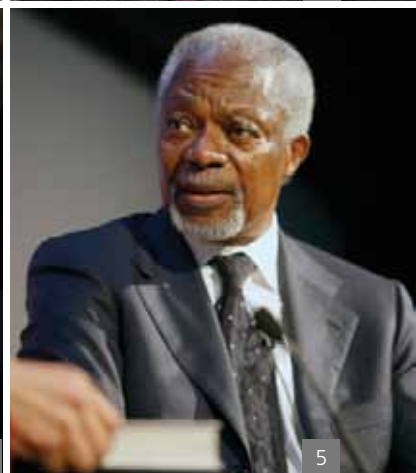


1 “Resisting intolerance: an ethical and global challenge” was the subject of a lecture by **His Holiness the Dalai Lama**.

2 **Aung San Suu Kyi**, chairman of the National League for Democracy, Member of Parliament of Kawhmu constituency in Burma and winner of

the Nobel Peace Prize, participated in a debate on the rule of law.

3 A conversation about the work of the Clinton Foundation was held between **President Bill Clinton** (pictured) and actress and humanitarian **Ashley Judd**.



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5



6

4 **Viviane Reding**, vice president of the European Commission, responsible for justice, fundamental rights and citizenship, gave a lecture entitled “The importance of strong data protection rules for growth and competitiveness”.

5 **Kofi Annan**, secretary-general of the United Nations from 1997-2006,

explored the themes in his new book *Interventions: a life in war and peace*.

6 **Professor Sir Mervyn King**, governor of the Bank of England and former Professor of Economics at LSE, spoke on “Twenty years of inflation targeting”.

Podcasts, vodcasts and transcripts are available for many public events. See lse.ac.uk/events

And I think each of us could go on. In fact, I'd like to ask you to go on. I want to invite you to take part in a major initiative currently underway at the School. As the new Director I am undertaking a Strategic Review. That sounds formal, and the exercise is certainly a serious one; it will determine the direction, shape and size of LSE in years to come. But the starting point of this review is asking just what is most important and distinctive about LSE, and what should be our most basic purposes and goals. On this basis, we will set about evaluating how we work and identifying the best possible ways to pursue those goals. This will require creativity as well as material resources. It will be a task for social science analysis based on evidence and also for imagination. But at the centre is this question: what makes LSE special and especially valuable. Why would it matter if LSE disappeared tomorrow?

In true LSE fashion this question has to be answered through discussion and debate, recognising and learning from many different views. I've launched the strategic review in meetings open to all staff and students, in focused discussions of the Council and the Court of Governors, in written letters and in the charge to a special Task Force. I want to ask alumni to join in, and I plan to visit as many alumni associations as possible to hear your views.

In fact, the strategic review grows partly out of discussions I was able to have even before I took office, when visiting alumni in several countries. Alumni were nostalgic and proud; they were supportive and they clearly wanted the School to thrive. But they also asked me repeatedly to help make sure that the School still had a sense of its mission, a clear sense of purpose.

I think we do have a sense of purpose, but we do need to clarify it and make sure that our ways of working are harnessed and co-ordinated to support it. I think LSE is extraordinary and well worth our time, energy and investments. But I also know we work in a turbulent environment and that both preserving what we hold dear and being creative in new ways will demand action that is strategic, not just reactive.

With alumni, as with staff and students, I have begun a learning process that will inform how LSE moves forward over the next several years. We face big questions, including how we respond to changes in financing in the UK, upheavals in Europe, and increased global competition. But the strategic review is not only about how we respond to external pressures (and opportunities); it is about what we want to achieve and how we pursue our goals proactively. It is also about assessing what we do well and what we can do better.

My primary long-term goals are to sustain and where possible enhance LSE's many existing strengths and to focus the School's identity and sense of purpose. These are the bases of the extraordinary global reputation that

LSE enjoys. Building on this basis, I want the School to be outstanding in research, dedicated to offering students an exceptional education, and engaged with public issues – in London, Britain, Europe and the world. Achieving this will require us to set priorities and focus our efforts. We need to make investments ranging from classroom space to research centres. Above all, we need to invest in our people – through new faculty positions and crucially in financial support for students.

I would like to invite alumni to join the debate. Please contribute small pieces, of just 300 to 400 words, on what makes LSE distinctive. We will run a selection in the next issue of *LSE Connect* and put the remainder on the web as part of our debate on this subject.

Beyond this, please stay in touch. I am eager to take questions and share views. Indeed, I'm willing to do this in new ways as well as face to face and through old-fashioned letters. I have already done one live Twitter session, and Dr Sivaramjani Thambisetty offers the views of an academic on that exercise in the column on this page.

I will be holding another session next term. I know that timing is difficult for alumni who live around the world, but I will again make sure that you have the hashtag in advance so that you can supply questions.

I very much look forward to hearing your views and sharing thoughts in the coming years. It's great to be new to LSE. ■

View of a Twitter debutante

Dr Siva Thambisetty on tweeting with the Director

Earlier this year the UK Prime Minister David Cameron and I shared something in common – we both started tweeting! While his motivation was his party conference, mine was to admire the spectacle of the new Director of LSE taking questions from his 4,500 followers and anyone else so inclined via Twitter. Asked why he tweets, and what he thought are the benefits of Twitter for academics, Professor Calhoun replied: "encourages brevity". Bearing this in mind, and for those of you who were doing more worthy things between 3 and 4pm on the first day of term, I thought I would briefly highlight aspects of the conversation that are significant and worth mentioning.

Professor Calhoun had already stated his misgivings on the UK policy that saw long queues of international students waiting out in the pouring rain to register with the police. He had done so effectively – with police registration quickly streamlined. But the Director is aware of the continuing need to push back on the squeeze on foreign students and tweeted in response that he is already raising the question with the Prime Minister, relevant ministers and the press. In response to a question by a non-EU student who is struggling to find a job owing to the visa policy, he said: "It is contrary to national interests to have a visa policy that deprives country of talent and energy".

In response to a question from me, Professor Calhoun said that he felt that the need to prioritise raising funds for more scholarships for students will probably be the most satisfying of the [many nagging] challenges to overcome. With respect to poorer students' access to LSE, he said that he would love to see LSE education available to all students on demonstrated [academic] merit. Significantly, Professor Calhoun agreed that universities have an obligation to engage with academic institutions in developing countries, and would like to see more engagement on the lines of LSE's links to Cape Town and the African Initiative.

My favourite tweet, however, was in response to a final-year PhD student who asked for advice on putting her thoughts on paper and finishing her thesis: "Writing is like running, keep up the momentum but bit by bit not in binges." It's hard enough to blog, but an academic who is not afraid to expose his views on Twitter is a breath of fresh air. The use of technology breaks down institutional barriers to communication and can generate real progress by giving greater visibility to compelling challenges.

Sivaramjani Thambisetty is Regional Champion for India at LSE. Follow her on @SivaThambisetty

What makes LSE distinct?

Please send 300 words to lsemagazine@lse.ac.uk or write to Editor, LSE Connect, Communications, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Contributions will appear on the LSE website.



**Water, water, every
nor any drop to
drink**

where,

For decades the study of water, let alone sewage, was neglected by academics. That has now transformed, but with thousands of children dying daily owing to unsafe water and poor sanitation, the challenges are huge. As the UN International Year of Water Co-operation approaches, **Judith Rees** looks at the vital importance of water as an academic discipline.

Today it is commonplace to read phrases such as “water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger” (announcing the mandating of 2013 as the UN International Year of Water Co-operation) or “water is essential for economic growth, human health and the environment” (OECD 2011). With such words ringing in your ears, it is hard to believe that barely 40 years ago a senior colleague advised me that my academic career would not prosper if I continued to focus my research on the water sector. He argued that the subject was regarded as too narrow, was not a politically salient policy area and, moreover, seemed unlikely to raise the sort of key intellectual issues which were appropriate for research within the social sciences.

Questions concerning energy demand, capacity planning, financing, pricing, regulation, industry structure and governance were viewed as academically challenging and respectable, but for some reason the same questions applied to water were not (and, of course, research on sewage or sanitation services was

completely beyond the pale). Given such views, it is not surprising that during the 1960s you could count on one hand the number of British social scientists doing work on water resources and water services, a fact which undoubtedly worked to my advantage in later years!

This academic neglect of the sector started to break down as it was realised that the characteristics of both water resources and services meant that they could provide a useful lens through which to study a range of important intellectual and policy-relevant issues. Economists, for example, became seriously engaged with the analysis of public expenditure and the application of economic analysis to the design and scale of services, with common property resources and market failures, with the role of the private sector and its regulation and with the treatment of risk and uncertainty. Many other social sciences also used the sector to consider a host of questions concerning such issues as sustainable development, environmental protection, property right allocations and social equity. However, while research on water has burgeoned over the last 40 years and is now considered to be

respectable, major challenges remain, not the least of which is to see the outcomes of this research translated into public policy and management practice.

It is well known that governments around the world are struggling to meet the considerable challenges involved in managing their water resources effectively and providing their populations with the basic water and sanitation services so vital for human health and well-being. Inevitably, with population growth, urbanisation and industrialisation, ever greater pressures are being placed on the accessible water resource base. According to the OECD's Environmental Outlook to 2050, over 40 per cent of the world's population is likely to be living in river basins under severe water stress and 20 per cent will be at risk from floods by 2050. Further, the quality of surface water will deteriorate still further in non-OECD countries and groundwater sources are under severe threat in several regions as the rate of depletion, which doubled between 1960 and 2000, shows no sign of slackening.

Despite major efforts being made in some countries to meet the Millennium Development Goals for water ►

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“The pace of urbanisation has outstripped connections to water infrastructure”

and sanitation, millions of people still lack access to even the most basic services. We know that some 800 million do not have any form of improved water supply but many more, possibly some 3 billion, are still forced to drink from unsafe sources. There are now more city dwellers without access to improved supplies than there were in 1990, as the pace of urbanisation has outstripped connections to water infrastructure. Over 2.5 billion lack access to even the most basic forms of sanitation, which has major implications for public health, for the environment and for the safety of ground and downstream water sources. Today, an estimated 1.4 million children under five die annually because of unsafe water and inadequate sanitation, and recent estimates by the World Health Organisation suggest total global economic losses of US\$260 billion per annum are associated with the failure to provide basic water services.

All this makes pretty depressing reading, and particularly so when some of the fundamental problems with conventional water resource and service management systems have been known for many years and the most recent recommendations for policy and practice change are incredibly familiar.

One such problem, the widespread failure to value water and adopt appropriate pricing policies, has long been highlighted as a key candidate for policy reform. Un-priced or under-priced water resources and services make it virtually inevitable that demands will outstrip supply, little investment will take place to improve water use efficiency or to develop non-conventional water sources, and available supplies will not be allocated to the most economically and socially beneficial purposes. It is, however, still commonplace for water resources and ecosystem services to be treated as free goods

and for water supplies to be “sold” for all purposes (agricultural, industrial and domestic) at prices which fail to recover the operating costs, let alone make any contribution to infrastructure replacement or extension. Ministers may declare their recognition of “the need for sustainable and efficient cost recovery ... and innovative financing mechanisms, such as appropriate payments for ecosystem services” (Ministerial Declaration 6th World Water Forum 2012) but recognition is one thing, implementation quite another.

Water pricing reforms are always controversial but without them the management system will not be sustainable either in environmental or in economic terms, and it is difficult to see how the investments needed to tackle the sector's problems can possibly be funded. It is estimated that some US\$18 billion will be required each year to meet the Millennium Development Goals of reducing by half the number of people without safe water and basic sanitation, and much more will be needed to achieve universal coverage. On top of this, some US\$54 billion of investment per annum is required to maintain the existing infrastructure, as well as undoubtedly very large, but largely unquantified, sums to tackle pollution and ecosystem degradation, reduce vulnerability to water-related hazards and address the potential effects of climate change.

Although overseas aid and other forms of development finance going to water service provision have risen markedly over the last ten years, at the very best this is likely to contribute less than five per cent of the total finance needed in developing countries, and private sector investment will only be attracted if reasonable rates of return can be made; the reality is that the bulk of the needed funding can only come from user charges or public budgets. It is sometimes argued

that the public good nature of some elements of water resources management and water service provision means that everything should be publically provided and financed, but this ignores the fact that people also derive private benefits. Given the pressures on public budgets, it seems essential that, where possible, revenue should be raised from user or beneficiary payments; the opportunity costs involved in continuing to use public funds to provide private goods to those who can afford to pay for them are high.

Pricing reform is but one of the many challenges facing the water sector. Equally important is the need to develop governance and institutional arrangements which recognise not only the interdependencies that exist between the different users and uses of the same multi-purpose water resource but also those between the water sector and other sectors of the economy. Understanding the interactions between water policies and those, for example, concerned with energy and climate change, with food and fibre production or with international trade, and developing coherence between them, represents a challenge not only for policymakers but also for academic researchers.

These are just some of the challenges that the growing body of academics researching into water are embracing with some urgency, as the situation becomes ever more critical for millions across the planet. ■



Judith Rees is director of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at LSE and a member of the UN secretary-general's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation.



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Social scientists turn to india

Social scientists are increasingly asking how and why India has changed in recent years, and what that says about their disciplines' long-standing assumptions about development, writes **Huma Yusuf**.

Last summer, the Knight Frank and Citi Private Bank Wealth Report 2012 forecast that India would overtake China as the world's largest economy by 2050. The news came as welcome relief in the midst of an economic slowdown: in May, the Indian rupee fell to an all-time low of 55.82 against the US dollar; in June, India's factory output fell by 1.8 per cent and foreign direct investment fell by 78 per cent from a year earlier. Faced with these statistics, the wealth report's prediction offered a useful reminder that India's growth story continues to unfold and attract much interest from the international media, policymakers, economists and academics.

Social scientists, in particular, are increasingly drawn to the study of India, not least because their disciplines largely failed to predict the country's unprecedented economic growth of the past two decades. But as Stuart Corbridge, LSE Professor of Development Studies, explains, India offers social scientists much more than an opportunity to reconsider mainstream growth theories. "Academically, we're beginning to see more books on India of a different ilk," he points out. "Earlier, experts on India wrote books for other experts on India, but now we're seeing books that ask more generic social science questions about India and put the country in a comparative perspective."

Academic questions about India are inspired by the fact that the country's trajectory challenges

many assumptions that social science makes: that democratic rule cannot be sustained when per capita income is low; that sustained economic growth follows improvements in the rule of law and property rights; and that electoral participation depends on effective public service delivery. In a blog for *India at LSE*, a new initiative aimed at showcasing India-related research at the School, Professor Corbridge points out how none of these assumptions hold true for India – the country sustains democracy at low levels of average per capita income and that too in a fragmented, multi-ethnic society; it has witnessed phenomenal economic growth even though the institutional environment has failed to improve (and may even have worsened); and it fosters political participation among its most disenfranchised and poorly served citizens.

This exceptionalism has driven LSE academics, among others, to investigate how and why India has changed in recent years, and how it works in contravention of some established social science theories. Professor Corbridge himself has co-authored *India Today: economy, politics and society* with John Harriss and Craig Jeffrey; the structure of the book echoes academic debate about India, asking questions that social scientists raise when confronted by India's economic and political trajectory: why did India take off when it did? How did a "weak" state promote reform? Has India's democracy been a success? Does

caste still matter? And what of Indian women? To answer these questions, Professor Corbridge and his co-authors combine the insights of area studies with broader reasoning typical of arguments in economics or comparative politics. Each chapter in the book is therefore "T-shaped", first considering what answers theoretical or comparative work in the social sciences might offer to the above questions, and then delving into the particulars and peculiarities of the Indian case. "Working on India offers the wonderful opportunity to tack back and forth between general theory and deep knowledge of place," says Professor Corbridge.

One chapter of *India Today* highlights India's exceptionalism in a social science context through a discussion on Indian democracy. The authors reiterate the now common argument that India's formal democracy is a success despite low per capita income and a diverse polity. "The mobilisation of political identities around caste and religiosity have brought hitherto subaltern populations into the democratic game," explains Professor Corbridge. "In state assemblies, a transfer of power is underway from landed classes to groups that haven't historically had that level of affluence or political muscle." For him and his co-authors, the change in Indian federalism, whereby states are increasingly autonomous, bodes well for the future of the Indian democratic system because, as he puts it, "it's significant that the system can accommodate these changes".

This theme is explored in great depth by Sumantra Bose, LSE Professor of International and Comparative Politics, in his book *Transforming India: the world's largest democracy in the early 21st century*, which charts the evolution of Indian democracy over the past two decades and is scheduled for publication in spring 2013.



“India’s trajectory challenges many assumptions that social science makes”



Indian general election, 1998

© KAPOOR BALDEVSYGMACORRIS

Professor Bose argues that such changes in the nature of Indian federalism are a historical inevitability given the diversity of India’s social mosaic. He believes that the country’s varied electorate is better represented through regional parties grounded in states than by the single-party-dominant democracy that characterised Indian politics from independence in 1947 until November 1989, when the era of the Congress party’s hegemony ended in the ninth Lok Sabha election. In the book, Professor Bose points out that Congress never won an absolute majority of the popular vote – the 50 per cent threshold – in any national election (it came closest with 48 per cent in December 1984, when Rajiv Gandhi benefited from a sympathy wave following the assassination of Indira Gandhi), but benefited from India’s “first-past-the-post” plurality-majority electoral system, which disproportionately rewards the frontrunner party.

Further, Dr Mukulika Banerjee, LSE Reader in Social Anthropology, asks why Indians are not discouraged from voting by consistently poor service delivery and widespread perceptions of the political class as venal. In particular, she is interested in why the propensity to vote increases down the socio-economic ladder – with illiterate, poor, low-caste people more likely to vote than members of the urban middle class – and why electoral participation gets more intense the closer to the village it takes place even though real power at the *panchayat*

(village council) level is limited. Economists may dismiss this behaviour as irrational, but Dr Banerjee believes there is more to the paradox: she is currently exploring these questions as part of the Explaining Electoral Change in Urban and Rural India project, which will conduct ethnographies of state and local elections from 2012 to 2015. The project builds on research presented in her book, *Why India Votes*, forthcoming in 2013. The book, based on ethnographies of electoral participation in 12 sites across India in 2009, finds that Indians make a distinction between politicians, whom they distrust, and democracy, which they respect, and argues that Indians value the vote as an important expression of citizenship. Moreover, Dr Banerjee argues that Indian voting can be understood as an act of reciprocity to the Election Commission of India, an institution that enjoys great credibility among the electorate.

But as Professor Corbridge points out, simply highlighting India’s exceptionalism in a social science context is insufficient for understanding the country. Certain issues – for example, India’s caste system and the widespread Maoist movement – have not been properly researched and may be ill-served by a comparative approach that overlooks key complexities and regional variations (in *Transforming India*, Professor Bose, too, emphasises the fact that the contemporary Maoist movement is a federation of factions, which emerged separately in different regional settings).

Professor Corbridge also argues that the next phase of Indian development will throw up more challenging questions for academics. As India starts to tackle tricky and contested reforms – in agriculture and the power sector, for instance – many reigning hypotheses about how the country works are likely to be tested anew. These developments will no doubt offer further opportunities for social science scholarship on India, a field that is likely to grow as rapidly as the country’s economy. ■



Huma Yusuf is the editor of *India at LSE*, a new blog on India-related research at the School, see blogs.lse.ac.uk/indiaatlse.



India Today: economy, politics and society by

Stuart Corbridge, John Harriss and Craig Jeffrey is published by Polity Press (October 2012).

Transforming India: the world’s largest democracy in the early 21st century by

Sumantra Bose will be published by Harvard University Press in 2013.

Why India Votes by Mukulika Banerjee will be published by Routledge in 2013.

WHEN THE VIRTUAL BECOMES real

Time spent online playing computer games may seem like a frivolous activity, but research into online interactions via games, social media and on mobile phones is part of a growing academic discipline dubbed “virtual economics”. Here, **Danny O’Connor** interviews a leading figure in the field, Dr Vili Lehdonvirta, a visiting fellow in the LSE Asia Research Centre and associate director of the LSE Innovation Co-Creation Lab (ICCLab) in the Department of Management.

When did your interest for all things “virtual” start?

VL: When I was younger I was a computer enthusiast and would spend my spare time making my own computer programs and games.

This interest continued into my time at university, but by this point I had also developed an interest in social issues. This is partly why I pursued a multidisciplinary master’s at Helsinki University of Technology which combined computer science with business and sociology. It was the early 2000s and some friends and I became interested in a funny phenomenon of people selling virtual items from computer games, such as castles or gold coins, for real money on eBay.

This type of person-to-person trading became increasingly popular during the subsequent years and even gave birth to a professional class of gamers who would supply a secondary market with gold coins, or even players for hire – so-called “playbourers”.

The question which interested me, and which I would get asked again and again, was why do people do things like pay “real” money for virtual goods?

So, why do people buy virtual goods?

VL: People spend money on virtual goods for the same reasons they buy physical consumer goods – social status, identity, norm, emotional comfort and aesthetic pleasures.

As people spend increasing time in digital environments and they become part of everyday life, it’s quite natural that consumption should move online.

Why did you go for a career in academia rather than a career in computing?

VL: It was during my master’s that I realised that I wanted to have a career in academia rather than in the games industry, to critically engage with the societal aspect of digital technology.

This, in part led on to my PhD in economic sociology at the University of Turku in Finland, and then my subsequent job there as an adjunct professor. I have also held visiting positions at the Waseda University and at the University of Tokyo, looking at the use of technology and computer games.

I should add that I have not totally eschewed the business world. A few years ago a colleague and I set up a successful consultancy, Virtual Economists, which advises publishers on setting up economies within their games and phone apps.

But my main passion is still research.



Vili Lehdonvirta “avatar” – from an original photo by Tommi Lätti

“I became interested in a funny phenomenon of people selling virtual items from computer games, such as castles or gold coins, for real money on eBay”

You mentioned that you studied in Japan. This must be the ideal place for studying behaviour related to computer games?

VL: My reason for going to Japan was, in part, the computer game culture, but it was also exciting for me as a fan of Japanese movies and martial arts.

What makes Japan a particularly interesting place is the youth culture. Even though the economic bubble burst in the '90s, today's Japanese youth are relatively affluent compared with the period of post-war reconstruction. While they cannot afford property they do have disposable income to spend elsewhere.

There are also high expectations but few opportunities. This makes it a fertile ground for developing escapist game culture – there are lots of single-player games which link into an online community. It is social interaction but not in the traditional sense.

Is Japan the home of virtual economics?

VL: East Asian games cultures generally are a rich source for virtual economics – not only Japan but also China and especially South Korea. South Korea is the world's leading country for online games culture. So much so that they have a significant number of professional gamers, who play computer game competitions on live television – known as “eSports”.

There is also more policing of online activities and trading in South Korea. As the markets for virtual items have been around for a longer time, the police have more experience in the criminal activity which has sprung up: for example, stealing player accounts in computer games and selling them on. There is even a dedicated virtual crime unit and specialist judges (I have a friend who is a gamer district court judge!).

We have started to see similar cases in Europe, as courts in Finland and the Netherlands have had to give judgments in cases of virtual theft.

How did you come to LSE?

VL: I was attracted to LSE for a number of reasons – it has an amazing brand, a lot of inter-disciplinary work going on and a strong focus on the social impact of research.

I managed to get funding and affiliation with the Asia Research Centre. I now also work alongside Professor Harry Barkema as an associate director in the ICCLab [featured in the summer 2012 issue]. The ICCLab works

with social entrepreneurs and companies on ways to reduce poverty through business innovations.

Can virtual economics help reduce poverty?

VL: A couple of years ago a colleague and I were selected by the World Bank's infoDev programme to produce a report on the “playbourers” in developing countries like China, who were earning a real income from playing games and selling virtual goods to the West. We found that this type of activity was worth approximately \$3 billion and created 100,000 full-time-equivalent jobs.

This kind of work has diminished dramatically as game publishers have begun to sell virtual goods directly to their customers, but there are other areas of digital work which are genuinely value creating – so-called microwork.

This is digital blue-collar labour for business problems where the addition of a little bit of human intelligence into a computing system increases productivity and efficiency: for example, categorising goods in online stores like Amazon or transcribing handwritten forms into databases.

It is a very unusual job, as people can work for 100 different employers in as many minutes. There is no physical attachment to a workplace or country. Workers are managed by computer algorithms which keep track of the amount of work done.

At the moment a lot of people want to do this type of digital microwork, so the wages are low. Nonetheless, its role in job creation could be very important.

Who would you like to work with at LSE?

VL: The wonderful people of the ICCLab and Asia Research Centre, of course. Other great inspirations are Richard Layard's work on the nature of happiness, Don Slater on consumer culture and Nicholas Stern on the economics of climate change. If we cannot eliminate wasteful consumption, could we at least virtualise it? ■

Vili Lehdonvirta's book *Virtual Economies* will be published by MIT Press in 2013.



Danny O'Connor is a press officer at LSE.

ALUMNI VIEWPOINT

Paulina Bozek on the modern gamer



Games aren't what they used to be. Once upon a time video games were considered toys for boys played in dark bedrooms, but the modern “gamer” is just as likely to be your mum, girlfriend or teacher. The games

industry was built on top of dedicated games systems – the Atari, the PlayStation and Nintendo – but today the most popular games machine – the mobile phone – fits into a pocket and the possibilities for game-like experiences are everywhere.

Video games have become much more accessible for everyone to enjoy and the addressable market has grown immensely. This ubiquity of games has given rise to the popularity of virtual goods and the existence of virtual economies. Games engage players with goals, rewards and special events, and dedicated players spend real money to enhance their in-game experience or to customise the look of their online avatar.

What may seem unusual and surprising, namely “why would anyone pay real money for something that doesn't actually exist”, actually mirrors the rituals of our normal lives. One famous example is players spending millions of pounds to buy virtual Christmas trees to decorate their virtual homes in the Facebook game Pet Society. As we spend more and more time online we develop online identities complete with digital accessories. In our hyper-connected world, the word “social” is now used more often to describe online interactions than being together in a physical space. We share, form relationships and communicate online and virtual goods embody emotional gestures like sending a virtual bouquet or a special song for someone's birthday.

Game mechanics are increasingly being used beyond entertainment in industries like health and business operations to engage employees and customers. As our lifestyles become ever more digital, we do not yet know how far virtual economies may scale.

Paulina Bozek (MSc Media and Communications 2002) is a BAFTA-award-winning game executive and CEO of Inensu, a social and mobile design and development studio in London.



Dealing with the data deluge

2013 is International Year of Statistics. **Chris Skinner** explains why this multi-faceted subject merits global celebration.

Over the last decade or so the explosion in availability of digital data in field after field, sometimes called the data deluge, has greatly expanded the need for people who can make effective use of these new kinds of data. Indeed, the report on “big data” from the McKinsey Global Institute last year anticipated a major expansion in jobs worldwide for people with the expertise to use modern statistical methods to gain insights from large data sources. This can only be heartening news to today’s students of statistics. Google chief economist Hal Varian’s widely cited 2009 prediction that statistician will be the “sexy job in the next 10 years” doesn’t look hollow. Varian contrasted the huge explosion of availability of essentially free digital data with the scarcity of the ability to understand data and to extract value from it.

A key type of statistical technique which has found particular success with new large data sources is predictive modelling, often called predictive analytics in its applications to business. Here, the aim is to predict unknown outcomes given observable features: for example, translate a piece of text into English from another language. Models are fitted to “training data”, where a rich source of humanly translated pieces of text is available, and then applied to new pieces of text where translation is needed. A remarkable feature of tools like Google Translate is their reliance purely on statistical methods and rich data sources instead of knowledge of grammatical rules or linguistics. The same applies to Google’s matching of advertisements to content or to Amazon’s personal recommendations, which operate without reference to behavioural or social science knowledge about how people form preferences. To be sure, such developments cannot be attributed to the discipline of statistics alone. Computer science has played a key role and the skill set in demand

in this new data-centric world is often referred to as data science, drawing on skills from both statistics and computer science.

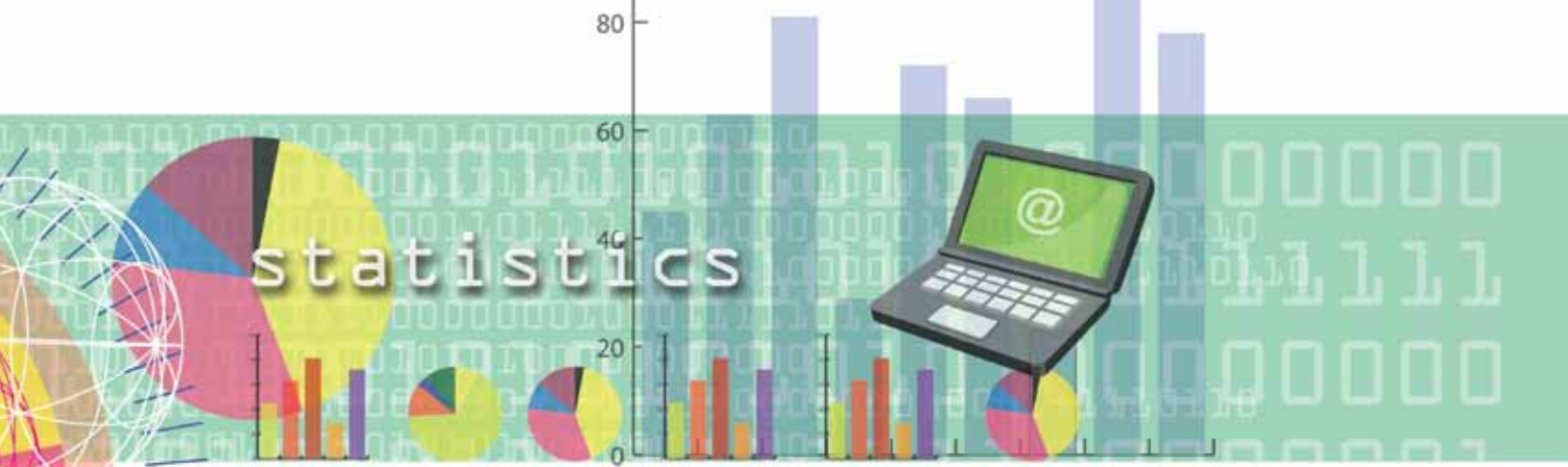
Successful new applications of sophisticated statistical techniques have certainly not been confined to the business world. Very many academic disciplines have seen similar massive expansion of digital data, for whose exploitation new statistical techniques have proved vital. Genetics and astronomy are just two. Nearer to home, on my return to the Department of Statistics at LSE after 30 years, I’ve been impressed by how developments in the field of finance have stimulated particular expansion of the department’s research.

The innovations in statistical science associated with such developments should not be taken to suggest that statistical methodology is, in any predominant way, a matter of fashion. The core principles and ideas of statistical science remain crucial and are well established. I was struck to hear how a statistician at Google found some of the principles of experimental design established in the first half of the 20th century to be crucial for the many experiments that Google runs with its search engine. My own special interests are in the statistical methodology of surveys, where many of the core methods were established decades ago. At the time of writing, I am about to participate in a technical advisory group for a new international survey of higher education, the feasibility of which OECD is exploring, with the aim of testing student and university performance globally. The relevant statistical skills I expect to bring are the core long-established ones of survey statistics.

Much of this core methodology of statistical science does not require high technical sophistication, and much of the richness of the modern subject comes from it not just being practised by professionally qualified

statisticians. Much more widely, it is used by those whose primary expertise is in substantive fields and who bring subject-matter enhancements to the application of statistics. This more widespread use of statistics does, however, raise questions about how the appropriate skills are acquired. The teaching of statistics at LSE goes right back to its origins, when Sir Arthur Bowley was appointed part-time lecturer. There is a long tradition at the School of statistics providing key underpinning for teaching and research in the social sciences. But, while some of the greatest enthusiasm for statistical data analysis can come from non-statisticians, it is clearly not the case that statistics is uniformly loved! In recent years there has been much comment on the shortfall in quantitative skills among researchers in the social sciences in the UK, and the ESRC, the Nuffield Foundation and the British Academy have all invested in initiatives designed to combat this shortfall. This is certainly not just a UK matter. I heard clear echoes of such concerns when I directed a four-year European Science Foundation programme on Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences, which sought to build capacity among young researchers in 19 European countries.

The democratisation of statistics across academic and professional fields is nothing new. Of more recent note has been its much wider promotion with the increased availability of statistically orientated software on laptops, tablets or even smart phones, combined with the increased availability of a vast range of data sources. The UK government recently issued an Open Data White Paper, subtitled “unleashing the potential”,



“Statistics can be used to help make well-informed choices, take sound decisions and understand the society and the world we live in”

which seeks to promote further ways of expanding the free availability of data, “the 21st Century’s new raw material”, as it is termed.

Statistics here can represent a valuable life skill, enabling each of us to convert data into useful information. Statistics is a tool for problem-solving and decision-making, usable in many areas of life. It can be used to help make well-informed choices, take sound decisions and understand the society and the world we live in. The Royal Statistical Society has initiated an ambitious ten-year “getstats” campaign (www.getstats.org.uk) aiming to reach

out to new and wider audiences, to raise awareness of the benefits of statistics, and to create paths to the know-how and skills needed. The wider use of data is also being promoted by a new generation of “data journalists”.

Statistics in the public arena are also, of course, at risk of misuse in support of different interests and political ends. Public distrust of official statistics has been a particular issue in the UK and common reasons cited in surveys of trust include concerns that figures are misrepresented or spun by politicians and the media. The getstats campaign is also seeking to address statistical literacy in the media, parliament and politics.

These are just some of the many facets of this discipline and its relevance to so many kinds of constituency. There are certainly reasons for celebration. Look out to learn more in the International Year of Statistics (statistics2013.org). ■



Chris Skinner is Professor of Statistics at LSE.



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Handing over the

FLAME



As Vice Minister for Sport in the Brazilian Government, LSE alumnus Dr Luis Fernandes (above) is responsible for planning the FIFA World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016. He spoke to **Hilary Weale** about the development opportunities for Brazil that these bring.

While the UK sinks back after the logistical triumph of London 2012, which surely exceeded even the most optimistic expectations of Lord Coe and his colleagues at the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games, the Vice Minister for Sport in Brazil has arguably a mightier task ahead. He has to prepare the country for both the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and the FIFA World Cup two years before that.

A daunting challenge it may be, but having visited London during the Games – a trip that included meetings with Ricky Burdett at LSE Cities, to learn from his involvement in the early stages of planning London 2012 – Luis Fernandes is determined to make the events count.

“Brazil is a developing country, so these events are an opportunity to intensify and implement very massive public investments in infrastructures, investments that would have to be set up independent of the Games but which would probably have taken much longer if we had not been hosting both sporting events,” he says.

It is why Brazil worked so hard to gain the right to host both the World Cup in 2014 and the Olympics in 2016. “It has given us the opportunity to invest in the transport infrastructure, an urban mobility initiative, modernisation of airports, ports, telecommunications and energy infrastructures, public security systems and so on,” Dr Fernandes says. “So we have been planning both events with all this in mind, and while they will of course serve the events, they will also represent a legacy for the Brazilian people and be a stimulus for national development.” National, because there are 12 host cities for the World Cup, reaching from the Amazon jungle to the southernmost point, and from east to west.

The plans have been built with environmental as well as social and economic sustainability at their heart. Dr Fernandes explains: “For the World Cup, we voluntarily introduced environmental certification as a criterion for stadium-building, so our 12 stadiums have international environmental certification and FIFA, based on this initiative, has now established these standards as the benchmark for all the World Cups in the future.

“As a result, there are a number of very creative and technological solutions, such as water re-use from rain, use of renewable sources to supply the stadiums’ energy requirements, recycled materials from the demolition of old stadiums, efficient use of new materials, and supply chains of organic food for the events. These practices will apply to the Olympic Games as well,” he insists.

Dr Fernandes undertook research for his PhD at LSE, and is a professor of international relations by

“The returns are fantastic, the possibilities are enormous”

profession. Does he think that global sports events are useful in building and sustaining international relations between participating nations? “The global impact of hosting such an event in the 21st century is incomparable to when England hosted the 1966 World Cup, or Brazil the 1950 World Cup, or London hosted the 1948 Olympic Games. New technology brings the world much closer together to see what is happening, and technological convergence in telecoms makes each spectator a transmitter of information: spectators can use cell phones or iPads and transmit what they are watching to friends and family back home. So each spectator is like an antenna, capturing images from the country and sharing them with people all around the world. That is international relations understood in a broader sense, not only relations among states but relations among people of different origins and areas of the world getting to know each other and understand each other.”

The other way in which international relations can be seen in the sporting context is borne out by Dr Fernandes’ own position. He has been in government for many years, thanks to the common practice of including technical and professional experts in cabinet, as well as elected politicians. “I learnt a lot when I was a student at LSE, and I’ve been in government positions for the past 14 years, which has permitted me to transform into public policy a lot of theoretical issues that I would discuss as an academic, and that were part of the discussions that I had at LSE as a research student. So I feel I’m very fortunate because few people are able to transform theoretical concerns directly into public policy.”

However, if most of his previous governmental posts have related directly to science, technology, innovation, economic development and sustainability, why was he asked to be Vice Minister for Sport in 2012? “I was called into it exactly because of my academic and government experience – science, technology, development issues – to incorporate this approach into the planning of the World Cup in 2014 and the Olympic Games in 2016.”

His new job has brought with it a significant increase in his public profile, as he is well aware: “Brazil is very passionate about sport, but especially

passionate about football. So although I was in very important government positions before – probably in a technical sense more important positions than I hold today – they’re not one per cent as visible as the position I now hold. Some decisions that I made before would pertain to a more reduced universe of people like universities and innovation companies, but everybody is interested in the World Cup and Olympic Games, and in football in particular everyone thinks they know more than anyone else: our population is 193 million, so we say that we have 193 million head coaches, each one thinking that they know more about football than whoever’s in charge of the national team!”

What motivates Dr Fernandes are the opportunities for national development: “The returns are fantastic, the possibilities are enormous. It’s an historic opportunity for Brazil: two games, two global events with two years between them in a developing country. It’s a huge window of opportunity for us.” ■



Hilary Weale is External Relations Executive within the External Relations Division at LSE.



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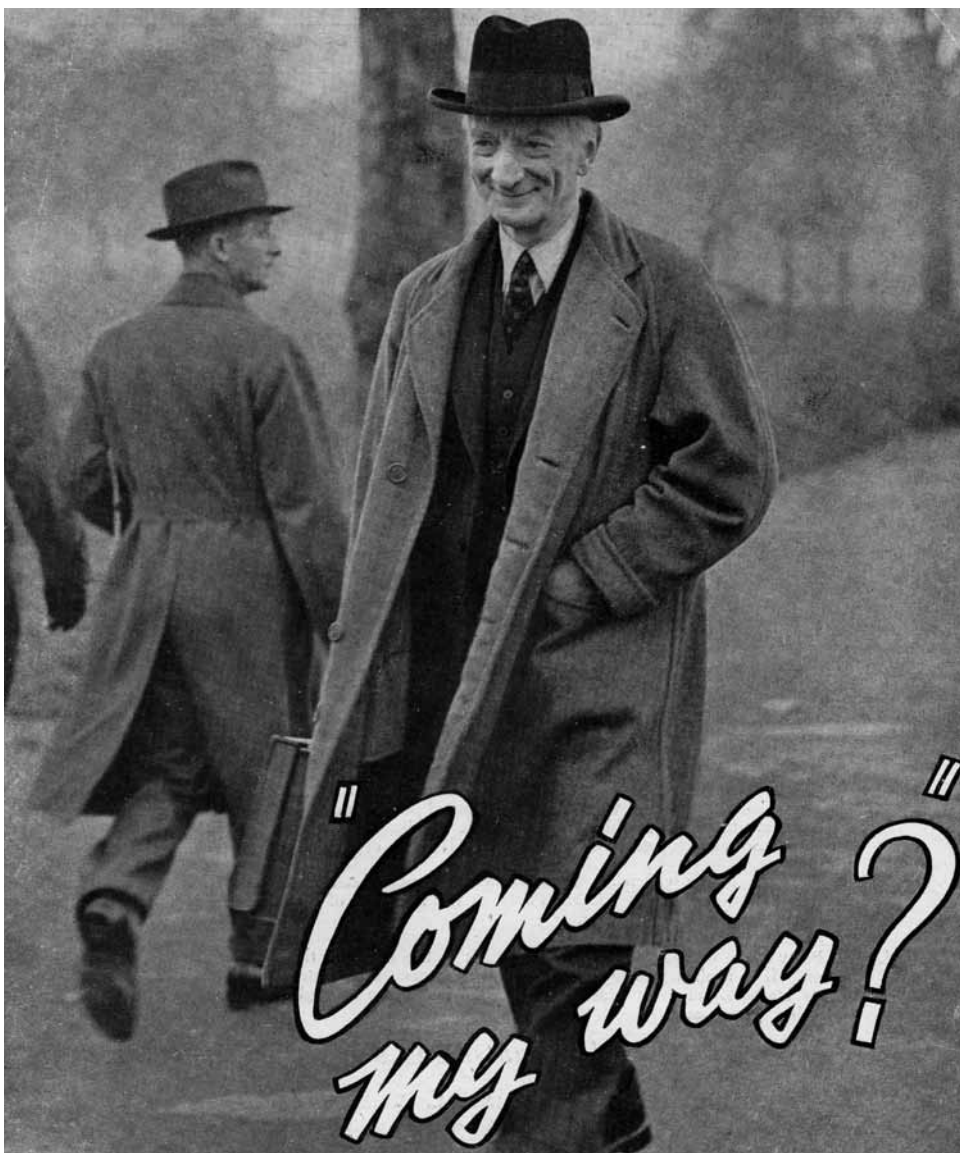


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FATHER OF THE WELFARE STATE

It is 70 years since the Beveridge Report was published. It paved the way for the welfare state and framed thinking on social policy for generations to come. Here, **Hilary Weale** explores the former LSE Director's papers in the School's archives and finds that a place in history was by no means certain.



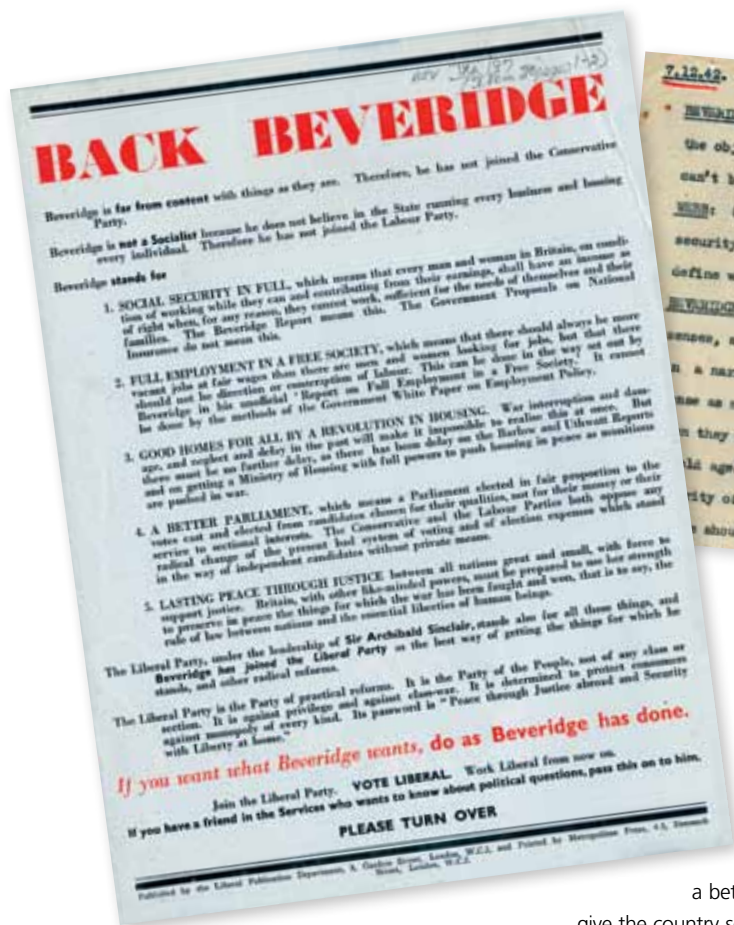
At 70 years' remove, William Beveridge's status as "Father of the Welfare State" is fixed. Yet the papers bequeathed to the LSE archives not only bring to life the circumstances in which the Beveridge Report was produced, but also indicate how uncertain it was at the time that the suggestions would be enacted through policy.

The main stumbling block was not simple political antagonism: broadly speaking, all parties were receptive to the plans, and to the need for a social and actual reconstruction of which they could be a part. Indeed, that is why the Committee on Social Insurance and Allied Services which produced the report had been set up: to rationalise the various types of state welfare provision that had arisen over the previous 50 years. But so ambitious was Beveridge's interpretation of the terms of reference, which had been to make a survey of "existing national schemes of social insurance and allied services, including workmen's compensation, and to make recommendations", that he became the sole signatory to the report, so as to avoid compromising the impartiality of the civil servants who made up the rest of the Committee.

Famously, Beveridge identified five "giants on the road to reconstruction": Idleness (by which he meant unemployment), Want, Disease, Squalor and Ignorance. While the Beveridge Report mostly dealt with Want, it was based on his belief that full employment was possible. Moreover, it was perhaps unemployment that exercised him the most, as his subsequent papers on the matter underline. The other radical pillars of his plan were a free national health service, a family allowance for the second and further children, and the abolition of poverty by comprehensive social insurance – one to which everyone contributed and could have access, not just those who fell below a certain line.

Countering worries that such a level of state provision might create a class of "idlers", Beveridge emphasised throughout his report that the corollary to support in time of need was more extensive citizenship, and a sense of duty and responsibility to do more than the minimum, and to seek work. The transcript of an interview with the BBC on 7 December 1942 leaves no doubt of his tight interpretation of the term "social security": "In my

FEATURES FATHER OF THE WELFARE STATE



Previous page and this page, far left: Liberal party election leaflets

Left: BBC transcript, 1942

Report I have used it in a rather narrow sense as meaning the security of an income to take the place of earnings when they are interrupted by unemployment, sickness or an accident or ended by old age." He definitely thought that people should be financially better off in work, if able, than out. Furthermore, he supported a certain amount of coercion and retraining for those reluctant to work, or whose jobs had become obsolete through progress or changing working practices.

William Henry Beveridge

(1879-1963) was a student at the School in 1903-05 and LSE Director from 1919 to 1937. December 2012 marks the 70th anniversary of his famous 1942 Beveridge Report (officially, the Social Insurance and Allied Services Report), the basis of the 1945-51 Labour Government's legislation programme for social reform.

The Beveridge collection held in the Library contains over 500 boxes of his personal papers and can be viewed in the Archives reading room (lse.ac.uk/library/archive/Home.aspx). Some of these documents are available online, including a selection of photographs: see lse.ac.uk/library/archive/online_resources/online_resources.aspx

At the time of publication on 1 December 1942, with Britain deeply involved in the second world war, Beveridge's view was that to act upon his suggestions now to provide

a better standard of living for all would give the country something to fight for (and not just against). The war had also exposed the differences in provision between classes, in their ability to cope with the bombing and its aftermath. And, having lived through the 1914-18 war, he believed that wholesale reforms were needed to avoid the scale of economic depression and mass unemployment that had succeeded it in the 1920s and '30s.

That the Beveridge Report's economic details were worked out in collaboration with John Maynard Keynes and Lionel Robbins ensured its economic credibility, and helped it to gain support across the political spectrum. A note from Winston Churchill to his Cabinet, dated 14 February 1943, suggested that a group could be established to shape and polish the proposals, but says: "we cannot however initiate the legislation now or commit ourselves to the expenditure involved". This was not an out-and-out dismissal, but the lukewarm response was frustrating, and made for an awkward voyage when the two men sailed on the same ship to the United States in 1943, Beveridge to undertake a publicity

tour. Some social reforms did make headway under the Coalition government, such as R A Butler's Education Act and the Family Allowances Act. But then Churchill was

ousted in the General Election of 1945 – not least because of the Labour Party's emphasis on social reform – and the new government under Clement Attlee began to put in train parts of the Beveridge Plan, notably via the National Insurance Act, the Industrial Injuries Act, the National Health Service Act and the National Assistance Act.

As the "Back Beveridge" campaign leaflets illustrate, it was the Liberal Party that had, in fact, put the Report at the heart of its manifesto: Beveridge had been charged with leading their campaign, and himself stood for the Berwick seat. Alas, the Liberals returned only 12 members to the House of Commons, Beveridge not among them, and, although raised to the peerage shortly after, he did not play any practical part in implementing his ideas.

All the same, Beveridge's vigorous efforts to promote the report at home and abroad, the backing of influential figures in the parliamentary machine, and the post-war government's adoption of the principles enshrined in the report led in time to the creation of what we now call the welfare state, and ensured his place in political and social history. ■



Hilary Weale is External Relations Executive within the External Relations Division at LSE.

“That the Beveridge Report's economic details were worked out in collaboration with John Maynard Keynes and Lionel Robbins ensured its economic credibility”

THE BEVERIDGE LEGACY

It is difficult to know whether Beveridge would recognise the child he is said to have fathered if he were to return 70 years on, writes **Howard Glennerster**.

The founding principle for the social security scheme Beveridge advocated was that basic state contributory benefits should be adequate to live on without means-tested additions. This has never happened. It was abandoned as even a distant goal by the Churchill government in the early 1950s and has never been successfully reinstated. Means testing, Beveridge claimed, was not what the British people wanted. In the years since 1948, and especially more recently, what they have been given is more and more means testing. This has led to all the things Beveridge foresaw – disincentives to work and save, and barriers to accessing the benefits.

The coalition government has said that it wants to move nearer to Beveridge's model of a single flat-rate minimum pension set above the means-test limit. The ensuing and continuing row between the Department of Work and Pensions and the Treasury about how to deliver this goal, if at all, is one that Beveridge would have found entirely familiar.

Beveridge's Plan rested on three basic assumptions which he spelt out:

- full employment
- a comprehensive health and rehabilitation service
- family allowances for all second and subsequent children

He would find all three either absent, disappearing or insecure.

Yet what he has bequeathed is the need to think big, to see the interconnectedness of social policy. Above all, he saw that the welfare state was not about handouts to the poor but a collective insurance against the risks to which everyone is subject. In the current economic climate this has more relevance than ever. A new French translation (Plon 2012) has been published with an introduction by Beveridge's biographer and former LSE colleague, Jose Harris. The foreword is by a certain François Hollande. ■



Howard Glennerster
is Professor Emeritus of Social
Administration at LSE.

“What Beveridge has bequeathed is the need to think big, to see the interconnectedness of social policy”

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Suffragette march near the offices of
the Women's Social and Political Union
in an area now part of the LSE campus



The Women's Library @ LSE

When the news came through that London Metropolitan University could no longer support the world-famous Women's Library, **Elizabeth Chapman** leapt into action. Here she explains why she was so keen to bring this remarkable collection to LSE and what its acquisition will mean for the future.

For a librarian, the news that any collection is in danger is a rallying cry to action – and what a collection this is. It developed from the suffrage movement and now includes over 60,000 books and pamphlets and more than 3,500 periodicals, as well as press cuttings. In addition it includes 500 personal and organisational archives, as well as over 5,000 objects such as posters, photographs, badges and banners.

To have lost such a valuable collection of women's struggle would have been unthinkable.

For much of the last year I have worked tirelessly with colleagues at LSE to put in a strong bid to save the

collection and was delighted when it was announced in late September that LSE had been successful. In many ways, bringing the Women's Library collection to LSE is bringing it home. The archives in both libraries are largely from the late 19th century onwards. Campaigning archives at the Women's Library, like those from the Greenham Common Women and Women in Black, complement those already at LSE from CND. The joint collection of campaign badges will be superb. LSE also has the remaining records of the founding at LSE of the Gay Liberation Front (see 'LSE icons', page 27). And it has the Feminist Review Collective from the 1970s, as

well as the largest UK archive of lesbian and gay activism. So the synergy is clear: this really will make a collection greater than the sum of its parts. Finally, we can reunite the papers of Baroness Seear, former chair of the Fawcett Society, currently split between our two collections.

As work progressed on the bid, I was overwhelmed by the support from academics to act. For the Department of Economics, the new material will support work on gender, employment and pay; for Law it will mean even better resources for their legal biography project (the Women's Library has the shoe buckles belonging to the first woman KC). For Sociology, there will be support for



Architect's drawing of proposed entrance to the Women's Library @ LSE

their new graduate course on contemporary families; for the Government Department, resources for their work on London and, of course, elections. For Management it will assist their work on Equal Opportunities and the struggle for women to gain greater rights at work. For the Gender Institute it will illuminate all their projects.

Sadly, we were unable to save the building in which the collection was housed and I understood the frustration at this. However, we can now ensure that the collection is accessible to scholars and the public. As former students of LSE you will know that the LSE Library is open to the public, seven days a week during term time and five days a week in the holidays. However, this often comes as a surprise to those outside the School, and we have been keen to stress just how accessible we are. This was always the vision behind the LSE Library: to preserve one of the greatest collections of social science material in the world – for everyone.

As a result of our successful bid, the Women's Library now has a central London site, and we are in the process of creating a newly made dedicated reading room with adjacent exhibition space. We will provide another room suitable for using primary documents with students from universities and schools. We also plan exhibitions in our School atrium and I can see this forming part of the now well-established LSE Literary Festival.

“To have lost such a valuable collection of women's struggle would have been unthinkable”

We will also work to digitise the collection. This is hugely important for colleagues across the world keen to understand the extraordinary women's movement as pioneered and nurtured in the UK.

I look forward to welcoming visitors to the collection and to sharing the excitement with alumni in future years. ■



Elizabeth Chapman
is director of LSE Library Services.



Covent Garden Flower Women, photograph by John Thomson from *Street Life in London*, 1877, from LSE's rare book collection

After HILLSBOROUGH

In 1989, **Gareth O'Leary** found himself at the scene of a football tragedy. Here he explains why the event and aftermath were so formative.



15 April 1989: the FA Cup semi-final, Hillsborough Football Stadium, Sheffield. I attended this game as a 19-year-old Liverpoolian; I was also an LSE undergraduate. In 1989, such roles existed in very different worlds.

I had entered the stadium via an exit gate, bidden through with my sister by a police officer. We had shuffled down a sloping tunnel leading to two “pens” with a safe capacity of 1,500 people. 3,000 had, however, entered unwittingly into a death trap. We were separated in the crush, our bodies lifted from the ground in what was less a crowd, more a viscous fluid. Young and old fell under our feet as our pleas for pen gates to be opened went unheeded. A crush barrier within Pen 3 burst apart and the release of a vice-like pressure allowed me to breathe and, ultimately, to fashion my exit. For others, it proved ultimately fatal. One ambulance made it to the foot of the terrace. Some police officers joined the rescue effort; others formed cordons.

I searched for my sister among the injured, shocked and weeping on the pitch; among the motionless, crushed and living behind the terrace’s iron fence and among the dead and dying of a temporary mortuary. With other escapees, I carried the dying to their places of avoidable death. One hour passed and the destruction, the futility and the collapse of authority broke me. I provided a description of my sister to the police manning the mortuary. Only then, as I returned to the pitch, did I see her, alive and walking towards me. She had been pulled to safety, as had many others, by supporters in the tier above.

That evening you may, unwittingly, have believed a very different account, and formed part of the target audience for “the biggest cover-up in British history”. Senior South Yorkshire police officers constructed a lie, as supporters – now witnesses – made their way home. They informed the media that drunk and ticketless supporters had forced the exit gate open. Some days later they added dimensions of depravity

to their lie that even now I find difficult to conceive. They stated that “we” had stolen from the dead, urinated on police officers and attacked and hindered the emergency response. I say “we” because, as with many gross deceptions, it was as unattributable to the accused as, at that time, to the accusers.

Lest we forget, 96 supporters died that day. Another remains minimally conscious. Many others have subsequently taken their own lives.

October 2012, Liverpool: oft scorned, a community of people – no more so than the Hillsborough victims’ families – were now revered, for their “humbling tenacity” throughout the intervening 23 years. The biggest investigation into police conduct in British history was announced by the IPCC, following the September publication of the Hillsborough Independent Panel’s report. CPS action and renewed inquests must follow. “A generation of anger and distress” that “Hillsborough” created will then have had its remedy instituted.

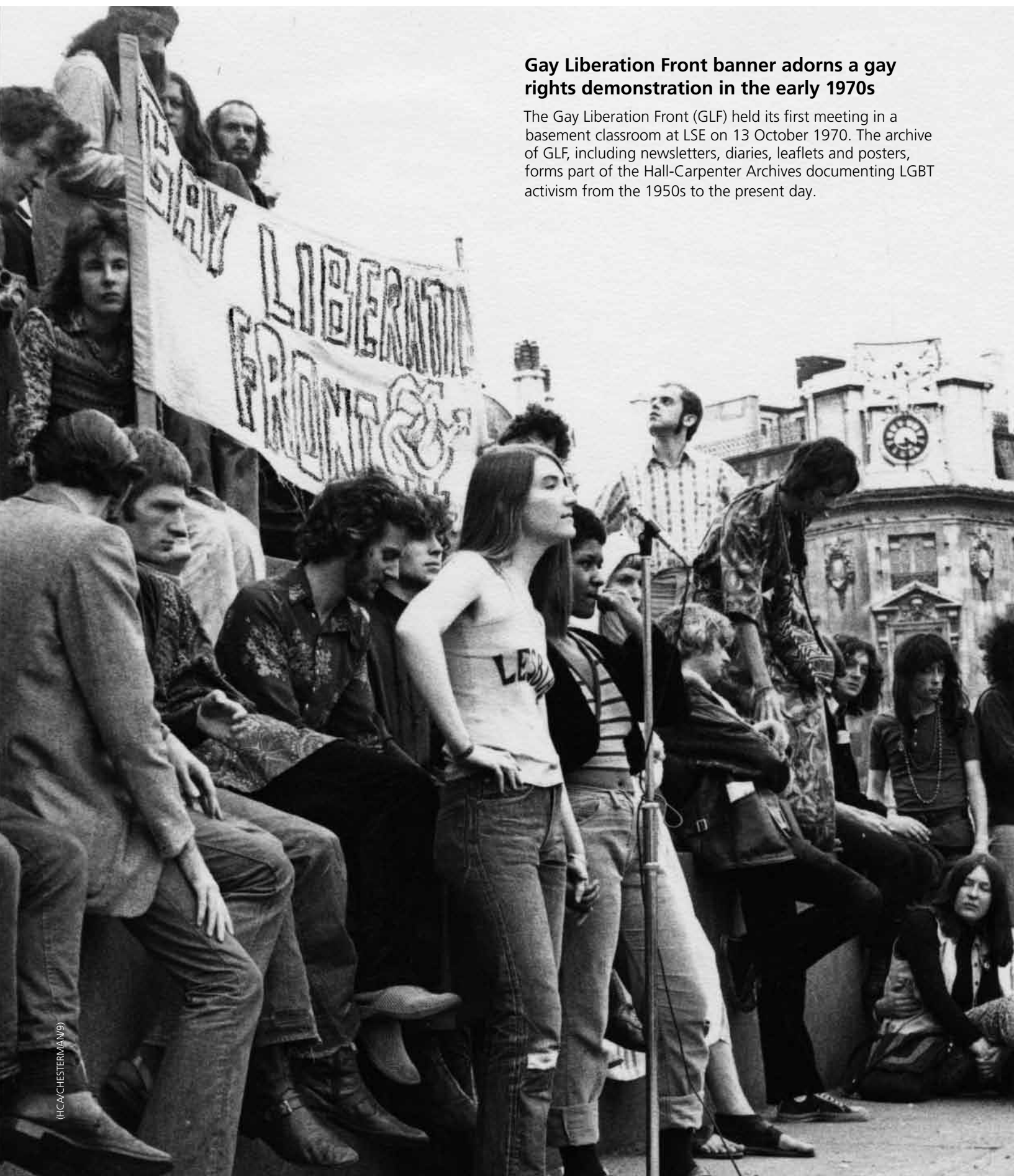
Albeit in adversity, that generation achieved so much. It’s one whose community re-discovered the value of solidarity. For those once deemed “ordinary folk”, or worse, notions of hope, truth and justice populated plain conversation. The role of intelligent non-conformity and irreverence for authority was always well understood on Merseyside, but now it is lore. In time, with justice, there may also come forgiveness.

In May 1989, I returned to my studies broken in spirit. The School, and the guidance of my second year tutor, helped restore it and so too my endeavour. LSE has brought many a teacher to the grandest of stages and, on one much smaller but no less significant, I followed that tradition. I teach with a passion for the young, and in particular, those whom the world too often and too readily deems broken. I established an online arena that helps Hillsborough “survivors” to recount their horrific memories so that they too can heal. The LSE motto, *rerum cognoscere causas*, is no idle concept. The LSE environment helped me to develop my ability to reason with mind and heart in a manner that has lent itself well to a quarter-century of the pursuit of truth. I stand as an LSE Liverpoolian, as one of that generation that pursued and re-established a truth, owed perpetually to the dead, that was almost lost. ■

Gareth O'Leary is head of mathematics at a state school in Liverpool and director of FuzzyLogicInc.co.uk. He can be contacted at gaol_377@hotmail.com. More information about the Hillsborough disaster can be found at contrast.org/hillsborough

Gay Liberation Front banner adorns a gay rights demonstration in the early 1970s

The Gay Liberation Front (GLF) held its first meeting in a basement classroom at LSE on 13 October 1970. The archive of GLF, including newsletters, diaries, leaflets and posters, forms part of the Hall-Carpenter Archives documenting LGBT activism from the 1950s to the present day.



LSE THANKYOU

SAW SWEE HOCK Student Centre

An LSE alumnus has marked his long association with the School by making a landmark gift towards LSE's new student centre, currently under construction on the School's campus. Professor Saw Swee Hock, from Singapore, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his graduation from LSE in 2013, the year when the centre will open.



LSE Director Professor Craig Calhoun said: "We are deeply grateful for Professor Saw's generous donation to the School's new student centre and are delighted to name the building in honour of his philanthropy. The Saw Swee Hock Student Centre will transform the extra-curricula lives of our students on the campus, greatly enhancing the student experience that we offer to our diverse and active student body."

Professor Saw Swee Hock, who came to LSE to study for a PhD in Statistics, which he completed in 1963, is recognised as a respected expert on population and investment management and has enjoyed a long and prolific career at the University of Malaya, the University of Hong Kong and the

National University of Singapore (NUS). Today he is Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and President's Honorary Professor of Statistics at NUS. He was made an honorary fellow of LSE in 2007.

Professor Saw said: "The high level of academic rigour and challenge I encountered during my time at LSE, and the PhD that I eventually received, played a huge role in my subsequent career development. In those days, I was made to feel part of a lively, diverse and inclusive student body, with the tradition of opposing political and social injustice. There were exciting anti-apartheid, anti-Vietnam war, CND and anti-colonial movements, marked by rousing speeches

by academic and political luminaries. Students are LSE's most valuable asset, and I am most privileged and proud to support an iconic building that can bring the student community closer together in ways not currently possible."

The centre is the first new building at LSE for more than 40 years and will transform the facilities currently available for LSE's vibrant student community. School services to be located there include LSE Careers, a multi-faith prayer centre, and residences and accommodation services. It will also become the new home of the LSE Students' Union (LSESU). LSESU General Secretary Alex Peters-Day wholeheartedly welcomed the support received from Professor Saw towards the centre. She said: "LSESU would like to thank Professor Saw for his generous gift towards the student centre, a facility which is hugely anticipated by LSE's student community. We welcome the naming of the centre in honour of Professor Saw and feel it is a fitting reflection of LSE's internationally diverse student body."

CHAIRMAN and his donors celebrated

In recognition of the leadership support that they provide to the Annual Fund, Peter Sutherland KCMG, chair of LSE Court of Governors (pictured), hosted an annual dinner for Chairman's Circle members at the Waldorf in London on 20 September 2012, welcoming donors who travelled from as far afield as Italy, Luxembourg, Hong Kong and the US. The evening included a talk from Professor Conor Gearty on Human Rights Law, which led to lively and interesting debate.

The dinner, Peter Sutherland's last Annual Fund event before he stands down as chairman of LSE in 2013, was also attended by Annual Fund chair Peter Jones CBE (BSc Statistics 1964).

Peter Jones said: "I would like to thank Peter Sutherland for his dedicated patronage of the Chairman's Circle gift club. His endorsement of the School's leadership Annual Fund donors demonstrates the esteem in which LSE holds their support."

Alumnus and Chairman's Circle member Stephen McKeever (BSc International Relations 1990), originally from Northern Ireland, and who travelled from Hong Kong to attend the event said: "Peter Sutherland and Professor Gearty were most gracious and engaging hosts. I felt very proud and not at all self conscious to be the least illustrious Irishman in the room!"

Members of the Chairman's Circle gift club are those Annual Fund donors who give £5,000 or more to the fund during a particular financial year.
lse.ac.uk/annualfund





Gift commemorates **SHARED ORIGINS**

A trio of Malaysian alumni have joined forces to provide significant support towards the redevelopment of 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields, the former Land Registry Building purchased by the School in May 2011.

The School has recognised generous support received from alumni Dato' Lee Hau Hian (BSc Economics 1975), Leong Wah Kheong (BSc Economics 1982) and Leong Chao Seong (BSc Management Science 1983) by

naming one of the building's large break-out spaces in their honour.

The three benefactors are linked by their place of birth, Ipoh, located in western Malaysia's Kinta Valley. Due

to the break-out space's long proportions, the trio have asked the School to name the space "Kinta Alley". The break-out space, which will be equipped with power points and wireless internet access, will be used by students for independent study and group work and discussion.

The Edwardian Grade II listed building, located on the south west corner of Lincoln's Inn Fields, will provide three new teaching floors for the School's students, continuing the transformation of learning and teaching space that the New Academic Building began and providing a valuable opportunity to develop an increasingly overcrowded campus. The additional five floors of the building will provide a new home for the Department of Economics and its associated Research Centres, bringing them together into the same physical space for the first time.

ANNUAL FUND extends impact of support

Over 2,650 alumni, parents, governors, staff and friends generously supported the LSE Annual Fund during the 2011-12 financial year, enabling the fund to support more projects and initiatives than ever before. Funding was awarded to a total of 93 projects, ensuring that its impact was felt across the School and at all levels of the LSE community.

The School reached out to potential donors by telephone, post and email and donations were subsequently received from alumni in 66 countries, with 44 per cent of gifts made by individuals outside of the UK. Increasing and maintaining participation at all levels of the donor community was a key aim for the fund in 2011-12. The Penguin Club continued to welcome recent alumni donating £30 or more, while donors committing to direct debit plans reached almost ten per cent.

In the 2011-12 Annual Report to Donors, chair of the Annual Fund

Peter Jones CBE (BSc Statistics 1964) said: "In 2011-12 we have extended our support to more projects than ever before, helping to bring about positive change across the School... The Annual Fund's flexibility is its strength; your unrestricted support enables it to respond to projects which otherwise might not receive financial backing but through funding can achieve great things."

Providing support to LSE's diverse and vibrant student community continued to be a central aim for the fund. From the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, to the New Futures

Fund, to groups such as the LSESU Music Society, many of the grants awarded directly contributed to providing LSE's students with an enhanced experience.

Read more about the impact of the Annual Fund in the 2011-12 Donor Report at: lse.ac.uk/annualfund





New PhD studentships support brightest and best research students

LSE has launched a new flagship studentship scheme that will support outstanding research students by fully funding their postgraduate research at the School.

LSE's PhD students make a vital contribution to their departments and to the life of the School. The investment in these studentships doubles the number of full awards for postgraduate research students, with 59 LSE awards available for 2013 entrance. From next year, most of LSE's PhD students will be fully funded, either by the School or through external sources such as the Research Councils, notably the ESRC and other Trusts and Foundations.

The prestigious studentships will be awarded on the basis of outstanding academic achievement and research potential and are open to all nationalities and subject areas in the social sciences. The scheme includes fees and a maintenance award of £18,000 a year for four years. As a part of the doctoral training programme studentship holders gain experience of class teaching or other departmental work.

LSE Director Professor Craig Calhoun said: "LSE is known as a world class centre of research and our postgraduates play a valued role through the research they conduct. Students come from all areas of life, often bringing a great deal of experience with them. Our PhD programme can only be further strengthened with these generous scholarships which will enable us to support the most academically promising candidates in their four years of study at the School."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/10/PhDScholarships.aspx

LSE maintains its First in People & Planet Green League

LSE has been awarded a First for its environmental and ethical performance in the *People & Planet Green League* 2012.

This is the fourth year LSE has achieved a First in the Green League. The School is ranked 42nd out of 145 participating universities (a drop from 22nd place in the 2011 tables). LSE ranks as joint second of the Russell Group universities and joint third of all universities in London.

The Green League, published in *The Guardian*, is *People & Planet's* award winning environmental ranking of the UK's universities. Universities are ranked against 13 environmental policy and performance-related criteria, including environmental policy, carbon

management, ethical procurement and staff and student engagement.

Judith Rees, former LSE Director and director of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, said: "It is encouraging that LSE has maintained its First for the fourth year in a row, so my thanks go to the committed staff and students whose actions have made this possible. We still face significant challenges and if we are to meet both our own, and government, targets, the whole School community must play its part. I hope that everyone will continue to bear in mind the importance of working as sustainably as possible for the future."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/aroundLSE/archives/2012/GreenLeague.aspx



LSE in the league tables

LSE has been ranked as UK's third best university in the latest *Guardian University Guide*, a rise from fourth position in last year's rankings and from eighth the year before that.

The *Guardian University Guide* shows a rise in six of the School's subject rankings, including Anthropology, which rose from fifth to first, History, from tenth to second, and Law, from fifth to second. It also shows a big rise in the School's average teaching score, which rose to an impressive 93.9 from 84.7. The University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford are in first and second place, with the University of St Andrews and the University of Warwick listed as fourth and fifth.

The School also rose from 47th in 2011-12 to 29th in the world in this year's *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* and maintained its position in the Shanghai Jiaotong University (International) rankings, which had LSE in the world-ranking bracket of 101-150. The School was placed sixth in the UK in the *Sunday Times University League Table 2013*.

For more on LSE's league table rankings, see lse.ac.uk/aboutLSE/LeagueTables/LeagueTablesChart.pdf

LSE blogs win UK award for powerful social science impact

A series of academic blogs from LSE has found new ways of stimulating interest in the social sciences, scooping LSE Public Policy Group (PPG) the *Times Higher Education* award for the best knowledge exchange initiative in higher education during 2011.

Judges at the *THE's* Leadership and Management Awards praised the four LSE blogs for the "subtle and powerful" way they influence society and policy in stimulating comment and debate. Judges said that by encouraging hundreds of academics from the School and other universities to share their research and thinking with a wider audience, the blogs showed real impact.

The first of the blogs to be established, *British Politics and Policy at LSE*, is the highest-ranked university blog in the UK and the second-most read economics blog in the country. The *Impact of Social Sciences* blog – created to disseminate research from a project funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England – has grown to become a leading international forum for debate on digital scholarship, government policy and publishing models, with around 5,000 visitors a week.

The PPG team, headed by Patrick Dunleavy of LSE's Government Department, also runs two newly created blogs: the European Politics and Policy blog (whose brand name is *EUROPP*) and the *LSE Review of Books*. All four blogs bring together expertise from academics, policymakers and analysts in order to promote social science debate, expressed through high-quality writing and editing. lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/06/THE_Award.aspx

Police use LSE crowd control app

A new smartphone app designed to share real time information with the police and people in the City of London was made free for download in the Apple App Store before the Olympic Games in London this year, with an Android version due to follow.

The City of London Police app has been researched by LSE and developed jointly with the force. It was successfully trialled, while in development, to monitor crowd source data during the 2011 Lord Mayor's Show. It is multi-functional and offers a host of general day-to-day useful features about the City of London Police. It includes an additional key feature that will help the City of London Police to assess and monitor crowd density, but it only works when people who have installed the app agree to share their location data.

Professor Eve Mitleton-Kelly, director of the Complexity Research Group at LSE, has been involved with the app since its inception. She said: "This is a tremendous breakthrough in the use of technology that can be of real and practical benefit to society. It was initially designed to be used for safe evacuation following a major incident, but has proved its worth in peaceful but crowded events by making them more enjoyable. The app provides information about the event, as well as about sites of interest. Its main feature, however, is providing advice to users within a specific location."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/07/crowd-control-app.aspx



LSE top for Chevening scholars

LSE is once again the top destination for 2012/13 Chevening Scholars, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office has reported.

Chevening Scholarships are the prestigious global scholarship programme of the UK government. The Scholarships are awarded to exceptional individuals with leadership potential who come from 116 countries worldwide. Recipients study one-year master's courses in a range of subjects at LSE and other UK universities, as well as short courses such as LSE's Chevening Gurukul Leadership Programme.

Dr Jonathan Liebenau, a research director of the Chevening Gurukul Leadership Programme, said: "These Scholarships give high calibre graduates the opportunity to study at top institutions in the UK and it is pleasing to know that we are continuing to attract individuals who may well go on to become tomorrow's leaders and decision makers."

Since the Chevening Scholarships scheme was established in 1983, LSE has received over 3,000 Chevening Scholars. LSE contributes significantly to the Chevening master's scholarships, paying 20 per cent of the total tuition fee of those coming to study at the School with a Chevening's award. The 2012 scholars come from 35 different countries, and are studying in 14 different academic departments, so they contribute considerably to the diversity of the School.

Kelly-Jo Bluen, a 2011/12 Chevening Scholar from Johannesburg who did an MSc in International Affairs at LSE, said: "LSE has a pulse. I wanted to have the experience of studying international relations amid diversity and complexity in the centre of London. The quality of its academics and its students, its excellent research facilities and the vibrant intellectual environment it creates through talks, seminars and debates were the main features which attracted me to the School."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/10/Chevening.aspx



STUDENT LIFE

by third-year Law and Anthropology student **Vardhan Kapoor**

"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

I have always loved this quote from *The Great Gatsby*, the sense of battling against the current – although not necessarily into the past!

It came back to me when I joined the Rowing Club as a fresher in 2010. Now that I am entering my final year I find myself keener on the sport than ever before. I initially joined the club for two simple reasons: rowing would be new and it would be challenging; and while both these rationales did indeed turn out to be true they are only a fraction of the reason behind my continued interest in the sport.

For me the Rowing Club is about far more than merely the activity of rowing. It's about what rowing represents: camaraderie, passion and a never-ending dedication towards self-betterment. It is when one takes these values and puts them into the context of student life at LSE that the club makes the most sense. You can find passion and a desire for personal growth in practically every student at LSE, but what the Rowing Club brings to these values is the added spirit of camaraderie.

This is particularly important in tough economic times. As a final-year student I am conscious that I will have to compete with classmates for jobs and that there is a keen sense of competition in the School.

The team spirit of the Rowing Club helps balance this and the growth in membership indicates that I am not alone in feeling this way. It is at times like these when athletics, especially teamwork-focused sports, fall into favour. Even though it is a rather daunting task balancing a solid academic performance at a world-class university with training and competing in a highly demanding sport, I feel the bonds I've made with my peers are ironclad, and the times I've spent with my crew will undoubtedly be some of the most memorable of my university experience.

This surge in our membership has provided the club with new opportunities to reinvent itself, with numerous international events and hopefully an appearance in Henley planned for the upcoming year. However, this growth has had its impact on the society's finances and, as things stand, pecuniary issues are looking to block our reinvention, in spite of our strong participation in events such as the alumni-organised Community Festival and RAG Week.

Nevertheless, this is LSE, and the members of its Rowing Club intend to push themselves to their limits! I hope alumni readers will recognise the spirit in the student rowers of today and visit us at www.lserc.com

Vardhan Kapoor is PR and Communications Officer for the LSE Rowing Club.



In the clouds – LSE on SoundCloud

More than 1,000 recordings from the School's prestigious public lectures programme and other LSE podcasts are now available to download from SoundCloud, the world's leading social sound platform.

The podcasts of LSE public lectures include speakers from across the globe with talks by academics such as Professor Paul Krugman and Professor Amartya Sen, as well as politicians such as Prime Minister David Cameron and former US President Bill Clinton. His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Bill Gates, Aung San Suu Kyi and Sheryl Sandberg of Facebook also feature.

This content, which is also available on the LSE video and audio pages and iTunes U, can be enjoyed by anyone via the SoundCloud website or the SoundCloud apps for iPhone, iPad and Android. LSE on SoundCloud, which has already gained over 20,000 followers while the service was in beta, will bring this content to an even wider audience and will give users the opportunity to share, embed and comment on the podcasts.

soundcloud.com/lsepodcasts



New students' centre wins New London Award

The new students' centre was one of three winners of the 2012 New London Award (NLA) in the Education category.

NLA is an Architectural competition that recognises the very best in architecture, planning and development in the capital. The jury were looking for a project of the highest design quality that demonstrates a positive impact on its surroundings and makes a wider contribution to life in the city. LSE's new students' centre was one of three winners in the education category, alongside the New University of the Arts and Stanley Park High.

Read more about the new students' centre, to be named the Saw Swee Hock Student Centre, in 'LSE Thankyou', page 28.



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Riots study shortlisted

An innovative LSE research project, which attempted to understand the roots of and responses to the 2011 riots, has been shortlisted for the *Times Higher Education (THE)* Research Project of the Year award.

Reading the Riots, a joint project between LSE and *The Guardian*, sought to show how large-scale, rigorous social research could be launched, undertaken and reported in a timescale that would parallel the fast-moving political and public debates about the disturbances.

The project was announced in September 2011, one month after the outbreak of trouble in Tottenham, north London, and aimed to better understand why riots then spread to other parts of the capital and cities across England.

Professor Tim Newburn, head of the Department of Social Policy at LSE, said: "Reading the Riots sought both to understand the nature of the riots and to use its findings to participate in public and political conversations about the appropriate policy response to the worst disorder in a generation. If it was in any way successful, we hope it may also offer some insight into new ways of conducting social research in the public interest."

The award winners are due to be announced after we go to press. lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/09/THEResearchProjectOfTheYearAward.aspx

LSE PEOPLE

Dr Giles Atkinson

Department of Geography and Environment, has been appointed a member of the Natural Capital Committee by Defra. The committee, which reports to the Economic Affairs Committee and the Chancellor, has the opportunity to influence economic policy of the UK for the good of the environment.

Dr Robert Falkner

Department of International Relations, has been named by MIT Press as author of one of the 50 most influential articles published by their journals division. His article 'Private environmental governance and international relations: exploring the links' is one of the *Global Environmental Politics* journal's most cited articles.

Dr Tim Forsyth

Department of International Development, has been awarded the Lee Kong Chian National University of Singapore-Stanford University Distinguished Fellowship on Contemporary Southeast Asia for the 2012-13 academic year. Dr Forsyth's work during the fellowship will concern how global environmental norms and expertise are interpreted and implemented in policy in Indonesia and Thailand.

Professor Luis Garicano



Department of Management, has been appointed to a high level commission to reform the Spanish university system. He is one of 11 independent experts appointed by the Spanish government to evaluate and provide recommendations on improving the university system.

Professor Sara Hobolt

European Institute, was awarded the 2012 Nils Klim Prize, given annually to a young Nordic researcher who has made an outstanding contribution to their field, by the Ludvig Holberg Memorial Fund.

Professor Julian Le Grand

Department of Social Policy, has been elected to the British Academy Fellowship. Fellowships are awarded to highly distinguished academics who are recognised for outstanding research in their field.

Professor Eve Mitleton-Kelly

Complexity Research Group, has been appointed a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Complex Systems.

Professor Mary Morgan



Department of Economic History, has been nominated to the British Academy governing council. Professor Morgan was nominated by the economics section of the Academy.

Professor Henry Overman

Department of Geography and Environment, has been appointed as one of the commissioners of the newly-formed West End Commission which has been set up to establish a blueprint for the future success of London's busiest area.

Professor Danny Quah

Department of Economics, has been awarded the 2011 best article prize by the *Global Policy* journal and the Global Public Policy Network. Since its publication in January 2011, the article, 'The global economy's shifting centre of gravity', was downloaded close to 9,500 times in 2011 alone.

Professor Judith Rees



Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, has been elected president of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBC). She is the first woman in the Society's history to take on this role. Professor Rees was also awarded an honorary degree by the University of Hull.

Professor Lord Nicholas Stern

Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, has been elected president of the British Academy. He was awarded Mexico's Order of the Aztec Eagle by president Felipe Calderón. The award is the highest honour given to foreigners and recognises services rendered to the Mexican nation or to humanity.

Professor Michael Storper

Department of Geography and Environment, has been appointed as a British Academy Corresponding Fellow. Corresponding Fellows are scholars outside the UK who have attained high international standing. Professor Storper is based at LSE for one term a year.

Professor Emeritus Howell Tong

Department of Statistics, has been selected as a recipient of the International Chinese Statistical Association Distinguished Achievement Award. The award honours his achievements and leadership in statistical research, education and statistical applications.

Dr Martina Viarengo

Centre for Economic Performance, has been appointed a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Women's Empowerment, which seeks to serve as a central source of scientific evidence for closing gender gaps.

Research update Join the global debate at LSE

For more research highlights see lse.ac.uk/researchAndExpertise/researchHome.aspx. You can also browse a collection of videos of current research projects at lse.ac.uk/videoandAudio on the research channel.

Shocking discrimination against mental illness within the NHS

The horrific scale of mental illness in Britain, and how little the NHS does about it, has been revealed in a report published by LSE. Mental illness now accounts for nearly half of all ill health suffered by people under 65, and is more disabling than most chronic physical disease. Yet only a quarter of those involved are in any form of treatment. The report by the Mental Health Policy Group, a distinguished team of economists, psychologists, doctors and NHS managers, was convened by LSE Professor Lord Layard.

Lord Layard, Centre for Economic Performance, said: "If local NHS Commissioners want to improve their budgets, they should all be expanding their provision of psychological therapy. It will save them so much on their physical healthcare budgets that the net cost will be little or nothing." He added: "Mental health is so central to the health of individuals and of society that it needs its own cabinet minister."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/06/Mental_illness.aspx



Predicting prospects for pregnancy

A new mathematical method can help to predict a couple's chances of becoming pregnant, according to how long they have been trying. The model may also shed light on how long they should wait before seeking medical help. For example, the researchers found that if a woman is aged 35, after just six months of trying her chance of getting pregnant in the next cycle is then less than 10 per cent.

The analysis, developed by Dr Peter Sozou of LSE and Professor Geraldine Hartshorne, University of Warwick, uses the number of menstrual cycles over which the couple has been trying for a baby to determine a probability of conception within the next month. The method makes use of an important mathematical result first described by Thomas Bayes, an 18th century Presbyterian minister, which allows probabilities to be calculated by combining prior information with new evidence.

Dr Sozou, of LSE's Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, said: "After several cycles without pregnancy, it becomes relatively more likely that a couple have low fertility. This is the main reason why it becomes less likely that conception will occur in the next cycle".

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/10/conception.aspx



UK holds key to fate of Europe

If the UK left the crisis-hit European Union it would be a huge strategic error, concludes a new report on Europe. The study, from LSE's IDEAS centre for the study of international affairs, assesses Europe's changing economic and political position in the world, particularly its relationships with China and the United States. It argues that the Eurozone crisis represents a strategic opportunity for Europe to rethink itself and become a more powerful united force.

Europe in an Asian Century explores how China looms large in Europe's recovery from the crisis and is increasingly interested in Europe's future for economic and wider strategic reasons. As the US increasingly focuses on Asia, Europe is impelled to carve a role for itself beyond the old certainties of the transatlantic relationship. Europe therefore has a pivotal strategic opportunity to capitalise on these shifts in global power to lay claim to the same key status as China and the US. However, the UK's obstructionism will prevent this.

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/10/UK-holds-the-key-to-the-fate-of-Europe.aspx

Cuts threaten Big Society

A report by Anne Power, Professor of Social Policy at LSE, on the "Big Society" explains how government is undermining its own political buzzwords, in spite of the dazzling success of Olympic volunteers in summer 2012.

The report, *The "Big Society" and Concentrated Neighbourhood Problems*, released by the British Academy Policy Centre, traces the origins of the Big Society to long-run social movements of volunteers and co-operatives. It sets out three key messages: that the idea of the Big Society has its roots in the early models of mutual aid and co-operation born of the harsh necessities of the industrial revolution; that community level organisations advocated by Big Society need support from the state as well as citizen involvement; and that cuts put at risk the ability of charities and community organisations to carry the burden of implementing the Big Society in the poorest area.

Professor Power said: "The Big Society idea cannot survive in a vacuum. It needs both citizen involvement, voluntary stakeholders and also a clear public framework of support endorsed by local and national governments. Current cuts in public spending are undermining the long-run community infrastructure."

lse.ac.uk/newsAndMedia/news/archives/2012/09/Cuts-threaten-big-society,-says-new-report.aspx

LSE LETTERS

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Please send correspondence to: Editor, *LSE Connect*, Communications, LSE, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Email: lsemagazine@lse.ac.uk. The editor reserves the right to cut and edit letters.

One of the few

The article in *LSE Connect* (summer 2012) about the LSE Alumni Association of Nigeria states: "there were few organised alumni activities in the past three decades". In 1959 I inaugurated an LSE graduate reunion in Lagos. The previous year I had married George Carlyle of the Colonial Administrative Service, the last financial secretary before Nigerian independence in 1960, and while working in the Lagos Secretariat I came across half a dozen LSE graduates, Nigerian or British. This was unusual, as most were Oxbridge, as was my husband.

One graduate was not Colonial Service but the deputy director of the British Council in Lagos. When I suggested an LSE reunion he was enthusiastic, as it would promote Britain. Conveniently, the British Council had the resources – money and office staff – to arrange one in the form of a reception in Lagos. Some 100 attended, mostly African and virtually all male, including many from a considerable distance by air. We had a great party.

Beryl Carlyle (née Turnell, BA Modern and Mediaeval History 1949),
Gillingham, Dorset, UK



Ah, yes, I remember it well

I write as another relic of LSE's Cambridge days.

Some especial memories are: attending R H Tawney's history groups in his cramped accommodation at Peterhouse; hearing Laski fill the largest lecture hall in Mill Lane, with undergraduates of both universities, plus GIs and Polish soldiers; nearly killing Bertrand Russell who ignored my bicycle on King's Parade; founding a Conservative society to inflame the left-wing majority at

Grove Lodge; and participation in a Cambridge Union debate with my old school friends from Jesus on the merits of "a liberal education in a modern society".

May I propose the adoption of a tie incorporating the arms of Cambridge University and the colours of LSE.

David G C Allan (né Saul, BSc Economic History 1946, MSc 1950), Twickenham, London, UK



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Courses offered include: Economics, International Relations, Economic History, Management, International Development, Finance, Media, Anthropology, Social Policy, Government, Law.



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MESSAGE FROM THE

Alumni Association chair

LSE's Director, Professor Craig Calhoun, has started a strategic review that will look at issues such as: the size and shape of the School, what LSE students will study, how teaching them may change, and priorities for the investment in faculty, campus facilities and infrastructure required to keep LSE as the world's foremost social sciences university (see article page 6).

Nearly eight years after the establishment of the LSE Alumni Association in 2005, its Executive Committee has been thinking about the future direction and structure of the Association as well. As its purpose is to serve as a gateway – facilitating alumni engagement with their alma mater and representing the voice of alumni to the School, while at the same time helping LSE to stay connected to its alumni – it is appropriate that we also review the Association's fitness for that purpose.

The Association has had some notable successes: more than 80 alumni groups and networks compared with 30 in 2005; 200 applications for committee volunteer roles for the 2011-13 term of office compared with one application per role for 2007-09; and more than 70 pre-departure events for overseas offer holders in 45 countries in 2012 compared with a handful of events in a few countries in 2005.

As we start organising the September 2013 Association Leadership

Forum, I hope that you will continue to be involved in the School by volunteering your time and your talents – become a mentor, support LSE's student recruitment as an alumni ambassador, join an alumni group or international network, register on Houghton Street Online, the online alumni community, and share your news by posting a Class Note.

We all know that LSE's alumni are a very special, and very international, group. Your participation, from whichever country – of the more than 190 in which LSE alumni are resident – is your current home, ensures that we continue the tradition of being a London School that is world class.

Best regards

Jeffrey Golden
(General Course 1970-71, PhD
International Relations 1972-75),
LSE Alumni Association chair



Jeffrey Golden

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENTS

ALUMNI LECTURE SERIES

Craig Calhoun, Director of LSE, will deliver the next alumni lecture on Wednesday 30 January 2013. Book your place at www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events



HOUSE OF LORDS SUMMER RECEPTION

Our annual summer alumni reception, hosted by Baroness Blackstone, takes place at the House of Lords in Westminster on Thursday 20 June 2013. For further details, visit www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events



SPRING CONCERT AND RECEPTION

Join us for a special alumni reception prior to the annual LSE Choir and Orchestra Spring Concert on Tuesday 12 March 2013.

For further details, visit www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events



LSE REUNIONS 2013
Reunion events will take place in 2013 for:
Alumni who are celebrating over 50 years since graduation
on Tuesday 21 May 2013
Graduating classes of 1970-79
on Friday 12 and Saturday 13 July 2013
Graduating classes of 1960-69
on Friday 26 and Saturday 27 July 2013
Book your place at
www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events

EVENTS AND REUNIONS

The Alumni Relations team organises an extensive programme of events and reunions at the School, supports events organised by special interest groups and works closely with international groups on events that take place around the world. Here are some highlights from the past few months.

Do you have an idea for an alumni-led event? We are always interested in hearing about new ways in which we can create and deliver engaging alumni events. Email: alumnievents@lse.ac.uk or visit www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events for more details.



Reunion: classes of 1980-84, July 2012

Alumni reunions

In 2012 we celebrated reunions for the graduating classes of 1980-89 across two reunion weekends, in total welcoming nearly 400 alumni and guests back to the School. Highlights included engaging shared memory sessions, a glimpse into the LSE archives at original copies of *The Beaver*, academic lectures and gala dinners at the House of Commons hosted by Stephen Pound MP (BSc Government 1984) and Richard Bacon MP (BSc Government 1986).

On Wednesday 26 September 2012, nearly 40 alumni and friends from the classes of 1953 and 1954 held their annual reunion lunch organised by Robert Williams (BSc Government 1954). Guests arrived at the memorable and much-loved Shaw Library where they were able to catch up with old friends, and share memories and stories of times at LSE.

Full event reports for all recent reunions are available online at www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events

In 2013, in addition to alumni-initiated events, three major reunions for specific alumni cohorts will take place before we move forward, in 2014, with an exciting Alumni Reunion Weekend for all alumni (see left for dates for 2013).

The reunion weekends are a great opportunity to rejoin with former classmates, old friends and professors from your time at LSE, and reminisce about what LSE meant to you.

In addition, reunion events provide you with the chance to engage in debate and discussion with your fellow alumni and LSE academics on topical issues challenging our world today.

Further information on all reunion events can be found at www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events

History of the LSE Students' Union exhibition

On Thursday 18 October 2012 the LSE Students' Union (LSESU) held a special private view of *The History of the LSE Students' Union* for over 100 alumni and their guests. The exhibition, in the Atrium Gallery at the School, charted the history of LSESU from the early 1900s to the present day.

During the evening, Alex Peters-Day (BSc Social Anthropology 2011), the current General Secretary of LSESU, welcomed alumni, and remarked how much she had enjoyed delving into the varied history of the Students' Union – from the numerous sit-ins involving thousands of students to changing the title of "President" to "General Secretary" in the 1980s to show solidarity with striking miners. Alex also commented on how pleased she was to meet so many alumni who had been active in the Students' Union at the event and her hopes that further exhibitions will follow in the future.

Highlights of the exhibition included a selection of prints of original issues of *The Beaver*, which was first published by the Students' Union on 5 May 1949. Excerpts from *Clare Market Review* were also featured as well as original photographs, letters and posters marking significant events in the Students' Union's past.

More information on LSE archive collections can be found online at www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive

LSE Christmas concert

In December 2012, for the fourth consecutive year, we celebrated the festive season with alumni at a special Christmas reception prior to the LSE Choir and Orchestra Christmas Concert at St Clement Danes Church. The concert included choruses from Handel's *Messiah* and a selection of carols performed by the LSE choir. The orchestra, conducted by Matthew Taylor, also performed Sibelius' *Suite No. 2* from *The Tempest* and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 3 Eroica*.

We are delighted that we will also continue the tradition of hosting an alumni reception prior to the School's Spring Concert in 2013. The reception will take place in the Shaw Library on Tuesday 12 March 2013. For further details, visit www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/events





Indonesia

The LSE Alumni Association of Indonesia has had a busy summer that included a keynote event with the country's foreign minister, hosting a roundtable discussion with LSE governor John Hughes and launching a new website.



Indonesian alumni

LSE Alumni Association of Indonesia hosts foreign minister

In July 2012, Indonesia's foreign minister and LSE alumnus His Excellency Dr R M Marty M Natalegawa (BSc International Relations 1984) joined around 60 alumni, friends and guests of the LSE Alumni Association of Indonesia to speak on "The Challenges in Indonesian Political and Economic

Diplomacy and the role of LSE alumni in Indonesia". As well as participating in the lively Q&A discussion following his remarks, Dr Natalegawa formally launched the alumni group's new website, encouraging the audience to participate in the group and to be guided by the School's motto "to know the causes of things".

Keynote address: Indonesian foreign minister Dr R M Marty M Natalegawa



Role of multinational extractive companies provokes lively debate

Following Dr Natalegawa's remarks, LSE governor John Hughes then led a roundtable discussion on "The role of multinational extractive companies as actors in the economic development of Indonesia". John drew on his experience as group political adviser to BP International to highlight the role of foreign direct investment in Indonesia's economic development. Alumnus Fauzi Icshan (BSc Economics 1991), managing director, senior economist and head of Standard Chartered Bank Indonesia, responded to John, provoking a lively discussion, spirited exchanges and many questions from the participating audience.

Chaired by group chair Sri Rahayu (LLM Banking and Finance Law 1999), the events were kindly supported by Rahayu & Partners law firm and Standard Chartered Bank Indonesia.

Alumni group brings **entrepreneurship** closer to LSE

Starting a business is a learning process. Regardless of the sector, entrepreneurs encounter a common set of challenges, such as understanding legal structures, securing funding and creating successful marketing strategies. To help overcome these obstacles, and equip entrepreneurs with the tools they need to succeed in a competitive environment, the LSE Alumni Association has recently launched a new special interest group for entrepreneurs.

Founded early in 2012, the LSE Alumni Entrepreneurs Group provides a cross-disciplinary platform for entrepreneurs to connect and discuss solutions to common challenges. Advised by Dr Linda Hickman of the Department of Management, the group organised three "speed-mentoring" events earlier in the year, where start-ups received tailored advice on their business plans from a select community of professionals with expertise in different sectors.

In September, the group announced partnerships to provide free or discounted access to events run by London-based start-up incubators. From October onwards, LSE Alumni Entrepreneurs will be partnering with virtual business accelerator Dreamstake to provide a programme of free lectures and workshops on campus. Marta Costas (MSc European Social Policy 2007), founder of the LSE Alumni Entrepreneurs Group, comments on the reasons that led her to set up the group: "LSE creates world-class business leaders across every sector and discipline. This diversity and the strength of the LSE

brand is a true asset for entrepreneurs, providing access to a network of first-class business contacts. We are eager to leverage these opportunities to help coach, nurture and support successful ventures led by LSE alumni."

The LSE Alumni Entrepreneurs Group is spearheaded by a group of volunteers with entrepreneurial experience. Josh Mora (MSc Decision Sciences 2008), head of venture capital relations, is the founder of a London-based technology start-up; Todd Wade (MBA TRIUM programme 2009), who leads the group's global strategy, is also a successful founder of an e-cigarette company due to launch its first product later in the year. Members can join the group through the membership page on its website: www.lsealumnientrepreneurs.org. Subscription fees are £100 for the 2012-13 academic year, with a 25 per cent discount for referrals. For more information, contact Marta Costas at: alumni@lse.ac.uk.

Mauritius LSE Society Trust Fund celebrates 20th anniversary

“As an alumnus of the London School of Economics, it is with pleasure that I associate myself with the publication of the Mauritius LSE Society Trust Fund Souvenir Magazine, marking the 20th anniversary of the Fund.”

Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam (LLM 1990) GCSK, FRCP
Prime Minister, Republic of Mauritius

During September, LSE's alumni community in Mauritius celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Mauritius LSE Society Trust Fund with the publication of a commemorative magazine and a series of events with Dr Christopher Alden, head of the Africa International Affairs Programme at IDEAS, LSE's research centre for diplomacy, strategy and international relations.

The Trust came into being through an Act of Parliament in 1992 and was set up to strengthen the links and longstanding relationship between Mauritius and LSE. Through an ongoing programme of annual lecture trips by LSE academics from a wide

range of disciplines, LSE's alumni community in Mauritius has provided a forum for engagement by academics, civil society and policymakers on the key issues regarding the country's economic and social development.

The research of many of LSE's leading academics has been the subject of these policy discussions, including former LSE Director Howard Davies on the economy of Mauritius; Professor Eileen Barker on the plurality of Mauritian religious traditions; Professor Nicholas Barr on the development of human capital; and Professors Conor Gearty and Carol Harlow on the legal system.

The visit by Professor Julian Le Grand, holder of the Richard Titmuss Chair of Social Policy, in 2011 was particularly noteworthy. Professor Titmuss had been part of a group of LSE academics invited by the government to visit Mauritius in the late 1950s to advise on the future of the country's society and economy. That visit gained a certain notoriety for the pessimism of its predictions so Professor Le Grand's opinion that Mauritius has a welfare state that, although it had plenty

of room for improvement (as do all welfare states) nonetheless was doing an effective job of providing health care, education and security to the majority of Mauritian citizens, was very much welcomed.

With messages of congratulations from the founding and current chairs of the LSE Alumni Association, David Kingsley and Professor Jeffrey Golden, we wish our alumni in Mauritius a happy 20th anniversary.



Pierre Dinan (left), group co-chair, presents the 20th anniversary commemorative publication to Dr Christopher Alden

SHARE YOUR EXPERTISE

and help other alumni advance in their careers

LSE's Alumni Professional Mentoring Network was originally created by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations (ODAR) in 1999. It operates as an online community where experienced alumni of the School help more recent alumni and students to better equip themselves in the marketplace and progress in their careers.

Who are LSE's alumni mentors?

Alumni mentors generally possess at least two years' professional and business expertise, although most have at least five years' experience. Alumni mentors come from a wide variety of backgrounds and professions, and are based in a wide array of geographical locations. Motivated by giving back to LSE and helping other members of the LSE community develop in their careers, mentors offer their experience and expertise to mentees seeking guidance. Mentee queries are varied. Often, they are about how to get a foot in the door of their chosen industry, how to move up a rung of the career ladder or how to go about making a career change. Mentors all have in common a desire to help others in the LSE community by giving up their time to share skills, knowledge and experience.

What's in it for participants?

Ultimately, both mentors and mentees involved in the programme gain new connections to build into their contact networks. Because an extensive contact network is also important to career progression, this benefits all who are involved in the LSE Alumni Professional Mentoring Network.

Enhancing the programme

Currently, the Mentoring Subcommittee of the LSE Alumni Association's Executive Committee is looking after the Alumni Professional Mentoring Network. A survey has been carried out, which has highlighted the commitment and interest of those who have signed up as mentors. The subcommittee advises ODAR on improvements to the online system, and is also working with ODAR to devise ways in which to offer mentors and mentees offline tools to enhance their exchanges and make the mentoring relationship as productive and beneficial as possible for both parties.

Get involved

We are constantly looking to enhance the reach of the network, so it reflects the breadth of career paths LSE alumni pursue, as well as the variety of industries and professional fields covered and the geographical expanse of LSE alumni. If you have five or more years' professional experience and would like to share your expertise to help others grow professionally, please sign up as a mentor!

If you are interested in participating in the network, either as a mentor or a mentee, you can find further information about the programme, register as a mentor, or search for a mentor through Houghton Street Online, your alumni web portal. To access this section of the website, please go to www.alumni.lse.ac.uk/mentoring



FEATURED ALUMNUS

MICHAEL POTTER, technical entrepreneur and founder of the non-profit organisation **Geeks without Frontiers.**

...and from the stranger than fiction file



At the September 2012 LSE Reunion for the classes of 1985-89, while alumni updated each other on

recent life events such as career progression and family changes, Michael Potter (MSc International Relations 1985) had a rather different experience to share with his former classmates.

When asked by Charlotte Armah, head of Alumni Relations: "What have you been up to lately?", he paused briefly before

replying: "I recently screened my documentary about a small group of entrepreneurs that bought the Russian Mir space station. They attempted to turn it into a hotel and a commercial space platform, but the space station was crashed into the ocean and the head promoter was later imprisoned by the US government."

Michael's film *Orphans of Apollo* chronicles the true life attempt by a group of space advocates and entrepreneurs to set up their company, MirCorp, and partner with a Russian space company to launch a commercial venture in space by buying the Russian Mir space station in 2000. As the film's title implies, the key movers in MirCorp had lived through the early US space programme and felt betrayed by their government's abandonment of the Apollo missions. The venture was ultimately unsuccessful as MirCorp faced criticism from NASA and the US government for private interference with international space policies. In

turn, MirCorp's founder, space entrepreneur Walt Anderson, was critical of NASA, the International Space Station in which the US was a participant, and the US government's foreign policies. The war of words ended when Mir was deorbited and crashed into the ocean in 2001 and Walt Anderson was imprisoned on charges of federal tax evasion.

The documentary has been screened at a number of film festivals around the world including the World Technology Awards in the US, the Arthur C Clarke Awards in the UK and the Chungmuro International Korean Film Festival.

Michael commented: "While LSE did not necessarily prepare

me for the technical production aspects of filmmaking, the School did prepare me for the analytical and global thinking necessary for a compelling international film like this. As a documentary filmmaker, trying to find a powerful and compelling story that might be of interest to audiences is always a challenge. For me, history had placed me in a position where I was one degree of separation from the key characters in the story. And I felt compelled to tell a story that I thought needed to be told."

And it could be argued that the space entrepreneurs have had the last word, at least for now, with the establishment of commercial space ventures by business leaders such as Richard Branson.



“The School prepared me for the analytical and global thinking necessary for a compelling international film like this”

Class notes

This section allows alumni to share their latest news and achievements. If you would like to be included in a future issue, email alumni@lse.ac.uk.

Entries are listed by year of first LSE degree received, with any additional degrees included in the entry. House style is to list simply BSc/MSc without the additional Econ.

1961



Professor Shlomo Avineri (Visiting Research Student) was recently elected as a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities.

1968

Nicholas Bowen (BSc Econ) was elected president of the Chartered Institute of Linguists in spring 2012. Nicholas has recently retired from the post of programme director of the BA in International Business at Regent's College.

1971



David Evennett (BSc Analytical and Descriptive Economics; MSc Government 1973), MP for Bexleyheath and Crayford, was

appointed Lord Commissioner of Her Majesty's Treasury by the Prime Minister in the 2012 Cabinet reshuffle.



© JOHN HAYNES

Hilary Mantel (LLB) has been awarded the Man Booker Prize 2012 for her novel *Bring up the Bodies*. Hilary is the first woman and the first British author to win the prestigious literary prize twice. The Man Booker Prize is Britain's most important literary award and promotes the finest in fiction by rewarding the best book of the year.

1976



David Beers (MSc Economic History) has been appointed special adviser to the governor at the Bank of Canada in Ottawa, Ontario for an 18-month term from February 2013. Previously, David worked for 21

years at Standard & Poor's (S&P), first based in New York and then, since 1997, in London. His most recent position at S&P was as global head of sovereign and international public finance ratings.

1985

Stephen Hays (MSc Accounting and Finance) is the founder and managing member of 120dB Films, a New York-based finance company specialising in senior secured loans to the independent film industry. Prior to this Stephen spent 18 years in the hedge fund sector including eight years as co-founder and general partner of Seneca Capital, an event-driven fund with a focus on risk arbitrage, distressed and event-driven investing.

1988

Meredith Fuchs (BSc Econometrics and Economic History), was recently appointed as the general counsel of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). Meredith joined the Bureau in 2011 as principal deputy general counsel before serving as chief of staff to the CFPB director.

1989

George Shevlin (LLM) was appointed as the political affairs officer at the Investment Company Institute in summer 2012. George's role will see him work to reinforce the Institute's relationship with key constituents on Capitol Hill, in the administration and with other organisations. George has over 20 years' experience in Capitol Hill, most recently serving as executive director and staff director to the House Democratic Caucus.

1991



Burkhard Varnholt (General Course) was recently awarded an honorary doctorate for International Relations from the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations at a ceremony which took place at the beginning of July 2012.

1992

Eugene Zapata Garesché (MSc European Studies) is the international adviser to the mayor of Mexico City and was recently appointed regional director for Latin America, for the World Cities Fund (Fonds Mondial pour le Développement des Villes: www.fmdv.net).

1993



After leaving LSE, **Sarah Ebner** (BSc Government and History) worked for the *Daily Express* and *Daily Mail* and also as a researcher and producer on BBC's *Newsnight*. She now works for *The Times*, writing and editing their education blog, *School Gate*, and looking after their very successful *Good University Guide*.

1994



Shuba Chandran (BSc International Relations) CEO and director of the Woodbriar Group, India's largest privately-owned tea plantation business, has recently been honoured as a young global leader by the World Economic Forum for her economic and social work in South India.

1995



Sheetal Mehta-Walsh (MSc International Relations) was recently nominated for the Microsoft Alumni Foundation 2012 Integral Fellows Award, which recognises impactful contributions in the global philanthropic community. Sheetal is founder of Shanti Microfinance, a social enterprise and UK charity that provides access to technology and capital for entrepreneurs in slums and villages in India. Previously, Sheetal was director of VC Relations at Microsoft where she worked with the venture capital communities in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and in Silicon Valley.

1996

Christine Allen (MSc Voluntary Sector Administration) became director of policy and public affairs at Christian Aid in summer 2012. Previously, Christine was executive director at Progressio for over 10 years.

Dean Fealk (MSc Comparative Politics), a partner at global law firm DLA Piper, was recently named in the Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal's list of 75 "Top labour and employment lawyers in California". Dean was also selected to join a delegation of young American leaders who will promote the relationship between the US and Spain.

2004

Dr Anthony Amatrudo (PhD Government) has recently taken up the post of reader in criminology at Middlesex University. He will also take up the position of senior visiting fellow at the Nathanson Centre for Human Rights at Osgoode Hall Law School in Toronto in 2013.

2007



Simon Austin and Pamela Morris (both MSc Comparative Politics) are happy to announce their engagement. They met outside the Garrick after their first introduction to comparative politics. Five years on, they currently live in Vancouver where Simon works in transaction services and Pamela just completed her Juris Doctor. They were engaged on the Big Island of Hawaii and hope to marry in the summer of 2013.

2009



Dr Cristian Huse (PhD Economics) was recently awarded the Public Utility Research Prize for the best paper in regulatory economics at the International Industrial Organization Conference, held in Arlington, Virginia. The paper, titled 'Fast and furious (and dirty): the effects of environmental policy on the Swedish car market', shows the challenge facing policymakers in the design of environmental policy.

Valentin Przyluski (MSc Environment and Development) was recently appointed adviser to the French Minister of Environment and Energy where he will be responsible for ecological transition of economics. Previously Valentin was a researcher and PhD candidate at Centre International de Recherche sur l'Environnement et le Développement in Paris.

2011

Diane Kohl (MSc Social Psychology) currently works part-time as a research associate at the University of Luxembourg, investigating work climate and burnout, and part-time as a psychologist working with people who suffer from psychosis. She recently presented her MSc thesis at the XVII Workshop Aggression.



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IN THE NEWS

LSE ALUMNI flying high in the Italian media and telecommunications sector

Three LSE alumni are now shaping and leading Italian media policy, having recently secured senior roles in the country's public media and telecommunications sector.



Angelo Cardani

Angelo Cardani (MSc Economics 1976) is the new president of the Italian Telecommunications Agency (AGCOM), the national regulator for electronic communications. He was appointed personally by Prime Minister Mario Monti and has been described as "a qualified expert" expected to deal with complex questions such as the auction of new TV frequencies, debates on copyright, ultra-bandwidth, and competition amongst TV operators.

Mr Cardani has a BSc in Economics from Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi, and an MSc in Economics from LSE. His long academic career includes roles as Associate Professor of Economics at Bocconi and Visiting Professor at New York

University. He has authored numerous academic papers on management and economics topics.

He reflects fondly on his time at LSE and speaks of how it helped him rise to his current position: "To study at LSE in the 1970s: how lucky we were! The atmosphere had a formative mix of awe-inspiring lectures and thought debates. At the time, the university that would shortly become the world-leading research environment for social science was not mainstream at all in student-professor relations. Definitely, the period I spent at LSE was really a breath of fresh air, and a long standing investment, too."

His academic experiences were followed by positions in the UN Development Programme for Eastern Europe during the early 1990s, before roles in Monti's cabinet, including as European Commissioner for Internal Market and Services and deputy head of the cabinet. Mr Cardani was also a special adviser to the Chief Competition Economist, DG Competition in the European Commission between 2004 and 2005.

Mr Cardani's new appointment covers 2012-19 – the last stretch of the EU Digital Agenda. "The Agency's targets are challenging: the web 2.0 eco-system requires a 2.0 regulator," he comments. "We have a special

responsibility to set the right incentives for innovation within a competitive framework. Although 'future-proof' regulation is an impossible ambition, we have a strong commitment to our duty as regulators."

Anna Maria Tarantola

Anna Maria Tarantola (BSc Economics 1971) is the new president of RAI, the Italian state-owned public service broadcaster. She is the third woman to undertake this role in the history of the institution.

Ms Tarantola has a BSc in Economics and Commerce from the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano (where she also later taught) and also studied Economics at LSE.

In 1971, she joined the Italian Central Bank (Banca d'Italia) where she rose up the ranks, becoming a member of the directorate as deputy general director in 2009, the first woman to hold this position. Throughout her career at the bank, she held a number of roles, both in Italy and abroad, which saw her represent the bank at the Banking Supervision Committee and the Financial Security Committee.

Ms Tarantola has indicated that she will focus on delivering financial and economic equilibrium during her tenure and declared that she will build "a new RAI" with a good governance

base. She has spoken of "an editorial line respectful of pluralism, ethics, and responsibility, always mindful of the public nature of the RAI." Ms Tarantola also stresses the need through this editorial line to "strengthen and meaningfully represent the dignity and presence of women [in media]".

Luigi Gubitosi

Luigi Gubitosi (General Course 1982) is the new managing director of RAI. He has had a long career in management, and has worked for some of the largest Italian companies including Fiat and, more recently, Wind. In 2011, he was appointed country manager of Bank of America in Italy. He has also been a member of the board of Cometa, a pensions fund, and was also part of the organising committee of the Torino 2006 Olympic winter games.

Mr Gubitosi also holds a BSc in Law from the Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, and an MBA from INSEAD.

He will be working closely with Ms Tarantola and aims to manage RAI with clarity to resolve the enduring economic and financial problems that have plagued the organisation, by addressing costs and resources to give RAI a promising future.

LSE OBITUARIES

The School is sad to report the deaths of the following alumni and staff. Full obituaries, where available, can be accessed via the news pages of Houghton Street Online, www.alumni.lse.ac.uk

Archer, Peter Kingsley, Lord Archer of Sandwell QC, LLM 1950

Atta Mills, Professor John Evans LLM 1968

Banerjee, Sushobhan MSc Sea-Use Group 1987

Beale, Neville BSc International Relations 1951

Beckerleg, Dr Susan Elizabeth BSc Anthropology 1976

Bhattacharya, Professor Sudipto Professor of Finance

Bircher, Christopher, Paul PhD Accounting and Finance 1989

Bolton, Christopher Thomas LLB 1952

Boyson, Rt Hon Sir Rhodes PhD Economic History 1967

Bradley, Robert George BSc Economics 1952

Braithwaite, Rose Mary Certificate Social Science 1936

Chandavarkar, Anand
Gopalkrishna BSc Economics 1950

Crutch, David Voce BSc Accounting and Finance 1965

Dasgupta, Dr Biplab PhD 1966

Davies, Professor Ronald John MSc Geography 1961

Davis, Shelton Harold General Course 1964

Doherty, Adedunni BA Anthropology and Law 2006

Dosik, Richard Stephen General Course 1954

Dowdy, Frank Ambrose Anthony BSc Geography 1951

Elias, John Hefin BSc Government 1957

Fernando, Felix Reginald Diploma Social Administration 1966, Diploma Applied Social Studies 1970

Finegold, Joni Alicia BSc International Relations 1991

Fletcher, David Alan BSc Geography 1954

Foster, Alan Joseph MSc Econ 1968, MPhil Economics 1974

Friedman, Professor Isaiah PhD International History 1964

Gerassi, Professor John PhD Government 1977

Gidado, Aliyu Mohamed Diploma 1963

Graham, Clover Maxine LLM 1985

Gullick, John Michael Diploma Social Anthropology 1956

Harris, George Charles BSc Econ 1952

Harris, Jacob Jack Herman BSc Anthropology 1978

Heeler, Professor Roger Mark BSc Economics 1963

Horowitz, Professor Irving Louis BSc Econ 1962

Kan, Sir Yuet-Keung LLB 1937

Kiereini, Mburu Timothy BSc Economics 1995

Kogan, David Charles Ezra Diploma Social Administration 1970

Kumar, Santosh MSc International Relations 1966, PhD 1967

Lacey, Ruth Mary BSc Sociology 1945

Le Pla, Robert Stuart LLB 1966

Lee, Frederick Michael John BSc Industry and Trade 1953

Lewis, Rhys Thomas BSc Economic History 1938, MSc Econ 1946

Majumdar, Dr Nilay BSc Econ 1957

McSloy, Peter James BSc Economics 1968

Moor, Crispin Thomas MSc Politics and Government of the UK 1985

Morgan, Sir John Albert Leigh LLB 1950

Nelson, Kevin George MBA 2006

O'Malley, Peter Lawrence BSc Econ 1957, MA 1960

Propper, Karl Heinz BSc Econ 1951, MSc Econ 1955

Radford, Patricia Certificate Social Science 1951, Certificate Mental Health 1956

Redhouse, Peter John BSc International Relations 1952

Reid, Peggy Eileen Certificate Social Science 1940, Diploma Mental Health 1942

Riherd, Matthew Dustin MSc Econ 1998

Ruhm, Wendy Sturges MSc History of International Relations 1999

Sanders, Ian Michael BSc Economics 1980

Sarma, Dr Nityananda Diploma Personnel Management 1958

Scott, Derek John MSc Industrial Relations and Personnel Management 1972

Sheehy, Patrick MSc Social Work Studies 1985

Singer, Peter Robin Stewart BSc Economic History 1967

Stewart, James William Horne General Course 1956

Summers, Professor Robert Visiting scholar 1967

Watson, Peter BSc Geography 1961



Malcolm Wicks, 1947-2012

Malcolm Wicks (BSc Sociology 1968), who died in September, was a politician and academic who dedicated his life to tackling poverty and social insecurity.

Wicks viewed education and family support as central in addressing daily issues impacting on people's lives: childcare, single parenthood, benefits and caring for the elderly. He did so while being acutely aware of an education system in which social background often took precedence over individual merit.

His own education was a tale of discovery. He recovered from poor O-level results to take A-levels at the then North West London Polytechnic (London Metropolitan University).

Wicks graduated from LSE with a BSc in Sociology and went on to teach at York University, the Centre for Environmental Studies and Brunel University, before joining the Urban Deprivation Unit at the Home Office. He was

also research director of the Study Commission on the Family (1978-83) and director of the Family Policy Studies Centre from then until his election to Westminster. His published works include pieces on hypothermia, urban policy, the welfare state and family change.

Having joined the Labour party at 19, Wicks served in the governments of Tony Blair and Gordon Brown (1999-2008), including as a minister in the Education and Employment, Work and Pensions, and Trade and Industry departments.

Among Wicks' significant parliamentary achievements as an MP were promoting a private member's bill to assist carers of family members, which was adopted by the Conservative government and passed into law as the Carers Act 1995, and securing the passage of the Learning and Skills Act 2000, establishing the Connexions strategy to help school leavers into work.

LSE BOOKS



A selection of recent books by LSE academics and alumni. For more information on books by LSE authors see lse.ac.uk. For books by alumni, and to let us know about books you have coming out, see the news section at Houghton Street Online.

FEATURED BOOK



Ed: Ken Keable

Merlin Press Ltd, 296pp £15.95 p/b

By the mid 1960s, it appeared as if the fight against apartheid in South Africa was dead. The leaders of the liberation movement, including Nelson Mandela, were either in prison or in exile.

In those darkest days, a spark of light emerged in the form of banned leaflets circulated through the postal system and showered from rooftops. Banners were unfurled from buildings with the slogan "ANC fights", while firework-type "bucket-bombs" discharged leaflets at busy public venues and tape-recorded speeches simultaneously blared out the call to resistance in major cities.

For a long time, the perpetrators of these acts were unknown. A new book, *London Recruits: the secret war against apartheid*, is a collection of first-person accounts that reveal who carried out those secret missions, their recruitment, training, motivations and the significance of their actions.

The recruitment for these activities primarily took place in England, which, with its high concentration of South African exiles,

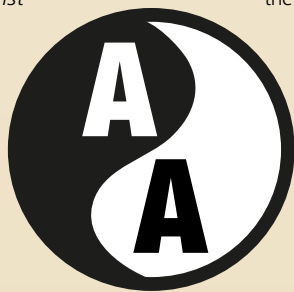
became the centre of anti-apartheid activities. Ronnie Kasrils, who later served in the Mandela and Mbeki governments, arrived in London with his family towards the end of 1965. He, along with three others, made up the command group of the special ANC-SACP London unit tasked with reviving clandestine propaganda and underground resistance within South Africa.

The 1960s were a tumultuous time, with "student and worker occupations and protests around the world; the anti-Vietnam war, the 1968 student protests in France and the mobilising work of the Anti-Apartheid movement". Revolution was very much in the air at LSE, where Kasrils enrolled and where students held protests against the Vietnam War and the School authorities alike. It is no surprise, therefore, that LSE proved to be a fruitful recruiting ground for Kasrils for his missions to South Africa. At least three students – Ted Parker, Sarah Griffith and Danny Schechter – were involved in the first mission in the summer of 1967. Of the 32 accounts in the book, seven are by former LSE students (the other three alumni whose accounts are included are John Rose, Mike Milotte and George Paizis). Apart from the LSE Socialist Society, the Young Communists League also proved to be a rich source of willing recruits for anti-apartheid activity.

Overall, *London Recruits* reveals the role that solidarity around the world played in getting rid of apartheid. It paints a vivid picture of the era, with tales of student radicalism, the Six-Day War between Israel and Egypt, the Regime of Colonels in Greece, and Ian Smith's white-minority rule in Zimbabwe, as well as the Fascist regimes in Cape Verde, Portugal and Spain. The accounts, although very engaging, can at times seem repetitive, as multiple people went on similar missions, but idealism and the reckless bravery of youth shine through.

Syerramia Willoughby,
editor, Africa at LSE blog

blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse



LSE AUTHORS

Global Matters for Non-Governmental Public Action

Ed: Jude Howell

Palgrave Macmillan, 248pp £57.50 h/b

This unique collection of comparative studies on the politics of non-governmental public action at the global level explores themes such as child rights, access to medicine, global security and environmentalism.



New and Old Wars: organized violence in a global era

Mary Kaldor

Wiley, 224pp £55 h/b

New and Old Wars has fundamentally changed the way both scholars and policymakers understand contemporary war and conflict. This fully revised and updated third edition will be essential reading for all those interested in the changing nature and prospect of warfare.



The Foreign Policy of Counter Secession: preventing the recognition of contested states

James Ker-Lindsay

Oxford University Press,
240pp £50 h/b

How do states prevent the recognition of territories that have unilaterally declared independence? Drawing on history, politics and international law, this book is the first and only comprehensive account of this increasingly important field of foreign policy.



Children, Risk and Safety on the Internet: research and policy challenges in comparative perspective

Eds: Sonia Livingstone, Leslie Haddon with Anke Görzig
Policy Press, 408pp £23.99 p/b

Based on an in-depth survey of children's internet use by the EU Kids Online network, this book examines the

prospect of enhanced opportunities for learning, creativity and communication set against the fear of cyberbullying, pornography and invaded privacy.



Imagining the Internet: communication, innovation, and governance

Robin Mansell

Oxford University Press, 320pp
£19.99 p/b £55 h/b

This book surveys our collective and cumulative understanding of the evolution of digital communication systems and the internet. The author presents the ideas of celebrants and sceptics, and reminds us of the continuing need for careful, critical, and informed analysis.



European Union Budget Reform: institutions, policy and economic crisis

Eds: **Simona Milio** with
Giacomo Benedetto
Palgrave Macmillan,
240pp £57.50 h/b

A tension between (richer) contributing Member States and (poorer) recipient Member States has always characterised the history of the budget of the European Union. With the EU due to announce a new budget in 2013, this volume evaluates the prospects for major change.

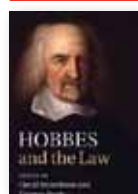


The World in the Model: how economists work and think

Mary S Morgan

Cambridge University Press,
448pp £24.99 p/b £75 h/b

During the last two centuries, economic science has become a social science based on mathematical models in place of words. Using case studies, this book analyses that change, both historically and philosophically.



Hobbes and the Law

Eds: **Thomas Poole** with **David Dyzenhaus**
Cambridge University Press,
251pp £55 h/b

In recent years, there has been a turn in legal scholarship towards political theory in a way that engages recognisably Hobbesian themes, for example the relationship between security and liberty. This volume provides the first collection of specially commissioned essays devoted to Hobbes and the law.

ALUMNI BOOKS



Poverty, Community and Health: co-operation and the good society

Vicky Cattell (BSc Sociology
1975) Palgrave MacMillan,
208pp £55 h/b

In a context of growing inequalities between rich and poor in Great Britain, this book draws on community studies conducted on East London housing estates to consider the importance of co-operative community life for health, wellbeing and happiness. It emphasises the significance of different social network patterns for mediating disadvantage and well-being, and discusses its conclusions alongside current policy agendas.



Hunger in the Balance

Jennifer Clapp (General
Course 1986, MSc Politics of
the World Economy 1988, PhD
International Relations 1991)
Cornell University Press,
216pp £18.50 h/b

In *Hunger in the Balance*, Jennifer Clapp provides a timely and comprehensive account of the contemporary politics of food aid, explaining the origins and outcomes of recent clashes between donor nations, and between donors and recipients.

Complicity in the Holocaust: churches and universities in Nazi Germany

Robert Ericksen (PhD International History
1980) Cambridge University Press, 280pp
£18.99 p/b

This book describes how Germany's intellectual and spiritual leaders enthusiastically partnered with Hitler's regime, thus becoming active participants in the persecution of Jews, and ultimately, in the Holocaust. Ericksen also examines Germany's deeply flawed yet successful postwar policy of denazification in these institutions.



Rising Stars: developing millennial women as leaders

Dr Elisabeth Kelan (MSc
Gender 2002, PhD Gender
Studies 2006) Palgrave
Macmillan, 208pp £26 h/b

Generation Y and women leaders are two hotly debated issues in organisations. This book explores how junior professional women can be developed into leaders.

Representing Religion in the European Union

Ed: **Lucian N Leustean** (PhD Government 2007)
Routledge, 246pp £80 h/b

This book explores the mechanism and impact of religious representation by examining relations between religious practitioners and politicians in the European Union from the Second World War until today.

Securing the Virtual Environment: how to defend the enterprise against attack

Davi Ottenheimer (MSc International
History 1994) and others, John Wiley & Sons,
456pp £33.99 p/b

As more and more data is moved into virtual environments, the need to secure them becomes increasingly important. This book is a step-by-step guide to identifying and defending against attacks on the virtual environment.

Women and the Law: stories

Elizabeth M Schneider (MSc Government 1969)
and **Stephanie M Wildman**, Foundation Press,
483pp £29 p/b

This book examines landmark cases establishing women's legal rights, offering accounts of the litigants, history, parties, strategies, and theoretical implications.



What Zoos Can Do: the leading zoological gardens of Europe 2010-2020

Anthony Sheridan (BSc
Economics 1961) Schöling
Verlag, 384pp £24.95 p/b

In a world of increasing damage to and destruction of biodiversity, never before have good zoological gardens been so important, both as visitor attractions and as education and conservation centres. This book contains unique information and analyses 80 leading zoological gardens in 21 European countries.

Responding to Self-Harm in Children and Adolescents

Steven Walker (MSc Social Policy and
Social Work 1985) Jessica Kingsley Publishers,
144pp £15.99 p/b

Self-harm is a growing problem in children and young people but it can be hard to understand and difficult to recognise. This book covers what the risk factors are, including social exclusion, and who is most likely to self-harm in order to assist professionals to understand self-harm and respond appropriately.

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