

## **Money, Livelihood & the Classic Conceptual Repertoire in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: a conversation across the disciplines**

**A one-day workshop at LSE, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Seligman Library**

Initiated by Jane Guyer (Johns Hopkins/ LSE Alumna), Keith Hart (LSE, Pretoria) and Howard Stein (Michigan), this workshop seeks to foster, across disciplinary boundaries, a dialogue between anthropologists, economists/development economists, and others.

### **9.30-12.30    Livelihood: The Temporalities of Life and Money in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

This panel addresses life course, household, wages, and what are “needs”? Events of the last decade suggest that, far from being anachronistic, the household is a more powerful economic concept than ever. We aim to examine and critique the current uses of the term, and deepen the vision of what kind of analyses can only be done if we preserve the concept: but then, by whom? with what assumptions about, for example, the longevity of the mutual contract entailed? to what ends is the concept currently used, or could be adapted to? If we revisit “house-holding”, this could bring in the new financial embeddedness of “the house”, as housing has become the single most important component of national capital in the 21st century (as per Piketty's graphs). What we fail to grasp might be the limits of householding as a practice of wealth accumulation amongst financial elite, as well as the new middle class who increasingly create family trust funds in order to limit taxation of their annual household income or assets. I'd hazard to say that the concept of the household is vital to our ability to analyse some processes unfolding today that would otherwise remain invisible.

Jane Guyer, Johns Hopkins

***“Houses, households, CPI, particularly ‘consumption’ “***

David Graeber, LSE

***“Jobs, Labor and Value”.***

Karen Sykes, Manchester

***“Social network analysis of transnational kin and livelihoods”***

Deborah James, LSE

***“Households, debt, and obligation”***

Sohini Kar, LSE

***“Creditworthy Households”***

Discussant: Max Bolt, Birmingham

### **1.30-5.00    Money, Accumulation and Speculation: What “System”?**

This panel asks what kind of systemic dynamics can be isolated and where they are located; whether they involve circulation and/or accumulation; whether they have only national and/or global reach; and asks whether any alternatives are envisaged. Is there a 21<sup>st</sup> century mercantilist hoarding: where, and in what forms? How does “system” figure, (as in the “more heat than light” judgment of Mirowski?)

Laura Bear, LSE

***“Speculation”***

Chris Gregory, Manchester/ANU

***“Money, Debt and Morality”***

John Weeks, SOAS

**“Accumulation and the Economics of Inclusion and Exclusion”**

Costas Lapavistas, SOAS

**“Profiting without Producing: Financialization, Instability and Accumulation”**

Philip Arestis, Cambridge

**“Systemic Dysfunctionality: Policy, Employment and the Euro Crisis”**

Kate Meagher, LSE

**“Inclusive Markets and the Risks of Paradigm Maintenance”**

Discussant: Deborah James, LSE

## **Overview/synthesis and Q and A**

Keith Hart (LSE), Jane Guyer (Johns Hopkins), Howard Stein (U of Michigan)

Research papers will be available beforehand. Contributions will be short (15-minute-long) provocation pieces rather than fully-fledged talks.