



# News & views

## LSE students aiding earthquake victims

With their final examination completed in the morning, five MSc (ADMIS) students from China, Andy Cheung, Shenbian Li, Hengyu Chen, Naichang Lisa Dong and Xi Zhao, spent the afternoon collecting donations for the survivors of the Sichuan earthquake. Using flyers and collection boxes they'd prepared in advance, and with the support of the head of the Information Systems and Innovation Group (ISIG),



Collecting in Houghton Street

Professor Leslie Willcocks, and course tutor Dr Steve Smithson, they collected the remarkable sum of £2,866.

Most of the donations were from students and staff of ISIG and the event was facilitated by the Information Systems Society and its president,

Jacky Zhang. The objective was to show love, consideration and care for the sufferers in Sichuan.

The cheque was presented to the Chinese Embassy a few days later. Thank you very much to everyone who gave money and time to this worthy cause.



L-r: Andy Cheung, Shenbian Li, Steve Smithson at the Chinese Embassy. Members of the Embassy lit the candles especially for the picture.

## UWIRE 100

Hamilton College student Eric Kuhn, currently at LSE as a General Course student in the Government Department, has been named as one of the UWIRE 100. This is a select group of undergraduate and graduate students who have been judged the top collegiate journalists in America. Chosen from a pool of more than 500 nominations submitted by students and educators at 132 schools, the winners hail from 66 colleges and universities.

In her recommendation of Eric, Tammy Haddad, former MSNBC vice president and president of Haddad Media, said: 'Eric's got the brightest future of anyone I've ever met. He is the most creative young person that came through MSNBC. He gets new media; he gets old media.'

Eric has held internships at NBC, CBS and MSNBC and has written for *The Huffington Post*, *mediabistro.com*, *Hamilton's Spectator* and *Continental Magazine* as well as for CBS, NBC and MSNBC web sites.

*CBSNews.com* producer Tony Maciulis said: 'Eric has demonstrated exceptional creativity and initiative. We welcome his ideas, tech savvy, and energy and have continued to do so well beyond his internship. He is most likely to be a successful multimedia marketing specialist or 2.0 producer for the next generation of television news.'

Each of the seven UWIRE panel members spent days sorting hundreds of articles, photos and videos to find the best examples of college journalist and to evaluate the nominees.

Eric said: 'It is an honour to be included in this group of talented college journalists. I certainly didn't receive this award without help.'

'I believe that the writing skills I have honed at Hamilton College, along with the bank of knowledge I have gained while studying at LSE, and the great experiences offered to me at CBS and NBC News have contributed to this honour and will continue to be invaluable.'



## Comparative health costs

A grant of just over \$200,000 has been awarded to Elias Mossialos (right), director of LSE Health.

The grant is intended to fund a project aimed at informing US policy makers about how European health systems achieve universal coverage and high quality health care at relatively low cost (in comparison to the United States).

The project will be co-ordinated by Marin Gemmill research officer, and Sarah Thomson, research fellow, both at LSE Health. They will be working with European experts to provide a series of briefing papers for a high-level meeting of US and European policy makers to be held in Washington DC. The meeting is due to take place on 12-14 November, shortly after the US presidential elections.



## LSE people

**Janet Coleman**, professor of Ancient and Medieval Political Thought, has been appointed Hellenic Parliament Global Distinguished Professor in the History and Theory of Democracy at New York University.

This prestigious post is additional to her chair at LSE, and its duties are carried out outside LSE terms.

Professor Coleman succeeds, amongst others, eminent philosophers Derek Parfit and Jacques Derrida.

The Professorship was created to bring the world's leading scholars to NYU's Faculty of Arts and Science



**Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Professor Christine Chinkin** (left) of LSE's Law Department were the members of an independent United Nations Human Rights Council High Level Fact-Finding Mission that visited Gaza in the week beginning 26 May.

The mission was mandated by the Human Rights Council to visit Beit Hanoun in Northern Gaza, where 19 people were killed in an Israeli attack in November 2006 (18 were members of the same family and included 7 children) to report on the situation of victims and the



needs of survivors.

The mission unusually entered Gaza through the Rafah crossing in Egypt, visited the site of the attack and met with survivors and witnesses, representatives of UN agencies and NGOs in Gaza. It will submit a final report to the September meeting of the Council.

## Welcome



Belinda Orton has begun her role as art director (maternity cover) for the Design Unit. She joins the School from the in-house design department of Barnardo's, the leading UK children's charity, where she worked for three years as senior designer.

Belinda's role at Barnardo's included designing many of the charity's flagship publications, including the Annual Review and its supporter magazine. She has 15 years

experience in the design and advertising business, and has designed for such brands as Toshiba, RSPCA, NHS and PGA European Tour Courses.

## Public Lectures

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

### Institute of Social Psychology *Psychology as Social Science* public lecture and book launch

PROFESSOR STEVEN PINKER

#### *The Stuff of Thought: language as a window into human nature*

Monday 9 June, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

In this lecture Professor Steven Pinker will talk about his thought-provoking book *The Stuff of Thought: language as a window into human nature* (Penguin).

Language is the main channel through which human beings share their consciousness. It thereby offers a window into human nature, revealing the hidden workings of our thoughts, our emotions, and our social relationships.

Steven Pinker is the Johnstone Family Professor in the Department of Psychology at Harvard University. Until 2003, he taught in the Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences at MIT. He is the author of seven books, including *The Language Instinct*, *How the Mind Works*, *Words and Rules*, and *The Blank Slate*.

### Forum for European Philosophy, Secularity and Value annual lecture series

CÉCILE LABORDE

#### *A Critical Defense of Secularism*

Tuesday 10 June, 6.30-8pm, New Theatre

The global revival of religion has raised fundamental questions about its role in politics and its claim that it

serves as a principle of identity, indispensable to the continuing survival of communities.

Cécile Laborde is reader in political theory, School of Public Policy, University College London.

### School lecture with LSESU German Society

GABOR STEINGART

#### *The War for Wealth: the true story of globalisation and how western society can survive*

Tuesday 10 June, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

Globalisation is the defining force of our lifetime but most politicians have not understood the complexity of the process. This argument is put forward in Gabor Steingart's controversial and thought-provoking new book *The War for Wealth: the true story of globalisation* (McGraw-Hill) which he will present for the first time in the UK.

Not satisfied with the doomsday scenarios so popular today among opponents of globalisation, Steingart passionately advocates the foundation of the United States of the West, with a Harvard style first-class education for everybody and the first consumer revolution in world history.

Gabor Steingart is an international bestselling author and senior correspondent of *Der Spiegel* in Washington DC. He won the Economic Writer of the Year Award 2004 in Germany, and in 2007 he won the Helmut Schmidt Award for Advanced Journalism.

### Modern Law Review Chorley lecture

PROFESSOR GUNTHER TEUBNER

#### *Self-subversive Justice: contingency or transcendence formula of law?*

Wednesday 11 June, 6pm, Shaw Library

This is the 37th Annual Chorley Lecture for the Modern Law Review.

Gunther Teubner is centennial visiting professor at LSE and professor of private law and legal sociology at the University of Frankfurt.

### School public lecture

PATRICIA ESPINOSA CANTELLANO

#### *Mexico's Foreign Policy: its role as an emerging power*

Monday 16 June, 5-6pm, Shaw Library

Patricia Espinosa Cantellano is Mexican secretary of foreign affairs, a position she has held since December 2006. Prior to this she served as Mexican Ambassador to Austria and as Permanent Representative to International Organizations based in Vienna.

Free but ticketed. One ticket per person. Staff tickets available via the online ticket request form. Student tickets from LSESU reception.

### Ralph Miliband Programme: *Religion, Secularism and Modernity* lecture

PROFESSOR JOSE CASANOVA

#### *Western Secularisation and Globalisation*

Monday 16 June, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

The lecture will examine the links between the particular historical process of Christian secularisation in the West and its diverse globalised forms in other axial civilisations.

Jose Casanova is a professor of sociology at Georgetown University.

### FT Business-LSE European Institute The Future of Europe series

DR IVO SANADER

Wednesday 18 June, 6-7.30pm, Shaw Library

Dr Sanader has been prime minister of Croatia since 2003. Prior to this he was MP and deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives of the Croatian Parliament, deputy minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, chief of staff to the president of the Republic of Croatia and secretary general of the Defence and National Security Council.

Free but ticketed. One ticket per person. Staff tickets available via the online ticket request form. Student tickets from LSESU reception.



noticeboard

IDEAS book launch lecture

LSE IDEAS is hosting this event on Wednesday 18 June, 6.30pm, in B212 when Mark Leonard, executive director of the European Council on Foreign Relations, will discuss his book, *What Does China Think?* His book introduces the thinkers shaping China's future and opens up a hidden world of intellectual debate that could change our world and reveals a Chinese model of Globalisation that could re-shape the face of Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Furthermore, his lecture will look at China as a powerhouse of ideas about politics, economics and world order.



French challenges

The LSE European Institute and the French Embassy/Institut Français, in association with the Franco-British Council, the Centre for European Reform, the Federal Trust for Education and Culture, and FT Business, are organising a one day conference to mark the launch of France's EU presidency on 1 July. The event will take place in the Shaw Library on Tuesday 24 June. Early registration is advised as spaces are limited. See: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/europeanInstitute/Events](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/europeanInstitute/Events)

Commonwealth Foundation briefing

A briefing to explore inter-related issues around climate change, water and health in Commonwealth countries is being organised by the Commonwealth Foundation. Featuring speakers from WaterAid, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the International Institute for Environment and Development and the Department of Health, the briefing is to be held on Wednesday 11 June, 4pm, at the Commonwealth Foundation, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, SW1Y 5HY. There will be a drinks reception at 6pm. The event is free but please email your intention to attend to: [o.mohsin@commonwealth.int](mailto:o.mohsin@commonwealth.int) For more information, see: [www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/diary](http://www.commonwealthfoundation.com/news/diary)



LSE in the media

On Saturday 7 June, Lion TV filmed the Library's collection of Land Utilisation Survey maps for the *Britain from Above* programme which they are making for the BBC.

Small ads

**To let:** three-bed garden flat near Arsenal, North London. Large living space and conservatory study. Perfect for academic with children. £1,600 per month. 12 months minimum. Available from mid-August. Contact: [m.glasius@lse.ac.uk](mailto:m.glasius@lse.ac.uk)

**To rent:** delightful s/c, fully equipped one bedroom flat in Georgian Square, adjacent to the Imperial War Museum. Just over one mile from LSE. Suitable for couple or single person. £260 p/w plus utilities. Tel: 020 7735 3116, email: [jboulet@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jboulet@hotmail.co.uk)

**Wanted:** postgraduate applications for work experience in central London. Offices situated near Victoria. Expenses-paid work experience trial in construction and energy project finance. Foreign language(s) useful but not a prerequisite. Some expenses-paid overseas travel is required to facilitate conclusion of capital-intensive infrastructure projects. Contact: Anglo Finance Corporation, 35-37 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0BS. Email: [anglofinance@aol.co.uk](mailto:anglofinance@aol.co.uk) Tel: 020 7503 2335

Strong leadership needed for change

The Crisis States Research Centre hosted a public lecture on 22 May by Ashraf Ghani (right) and Clare Lockhart. The lecture marked the launch of their new book *Fixing Failed States*. Ashraf Ghani, former Afghan finance minister and chief advisor to president Karzai, is chairman of the Institute for State Effectiveness, which he co-founded with its director, Clare Lockhart. Dr Ghani spoke of the importance of what he called those 'open moments' in history, 'those rare moments where either a people or the world at large needs a rupture with the past; where continuity becomes a burden rather than an asset.' He said that, as in 1945, we are now in such an open global moment, but this time security can no longer be divided into two halves. Europe and the United States cannot become fortresses. The nature of globalisation has produced democratisation of violence.' Consequently, he called for strong and imaginative global leadership so that this historic open moment for change is not missed. The lecturers also strongly criticised the international



aid system. Referring again to the post-1945 period, Clare Lockhart, pointed out that the Marshall Plan designers considered six different options. The three they rejected outright look very similar to the aid system today: lots of small projects micromanaged by Washington which can be more of a hindrance than a help. Claire Lockhart is a lawyer and barrister, an historian and a specialist in institution-building. She has worked at the World Bank, and the UN.

Media bites

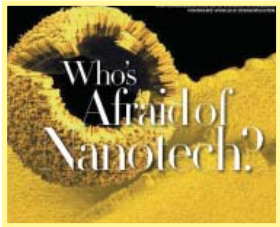
'The United States is out of step with most of the developed world when it comes to collective bargaining coverage. There is growing evidence that the weakness of American law, which gives free rein to anti-union employers, is emboldening union avoidance consultants, employer groups and multinational corporations to export US-originated, anti-union strategies to other parts of the world.' John Logan, *Detroit News*, 16/5/08



'It would be absolutely idiotic, stupid and counterproductive '[to focus on core inflation in the UK]. Core inflation is only good for people who don't eat, drink, use cars or heat or air condition their houses. Even if they tried to rethink the Bank's mandate, they couldn't avoid the fact that the UK economy needs to adjust painfully after a period of excess.' Willem Buiter, *Daily Telegraph*, 16/5/08

Is nanotechnology safe?

In his article for The World Today, Dr Robert Falkner, International Relations, looks at the evidence and latest thinking about the possible risks of nanoparticles and suggests that as the scientific debate intensifies, governments worldwide will soon have to take tough decisions about whether or not to regulate the emerging technology. Dr Falkner writes: 'Public understanding of nanotechnologies and their associated risks is still paltry, despite a growing safety debate among scientists and regulatory experts. As so often in modern industrial history, regulators are struggling to keep up with technological innovation.' Nanotech products are made by scientists creating or altering particles at the molecular level – 100,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair. In the process, they can change the chemical properties of the material itself. Uncertainty about how nanomaterial might behave is already causing alarm. One study, for example, claims that inhaling nano-tubes may cause lung damage. The Soil Association has refused to describe as 'organic' any food or cosmetics containing



nanotechnology. Now insurers, including giants Swiss Re and Munich Re, have joined calls for more study to help them assess the possible risks. So far, the response from governments has been 'wait and see' - but that approach is unlikely to last. As Dr Falkner says: 'None of the leading nanotech countries wants to undercut the huge growth and innovation potential that nanotechnology presents. But as pressures grow for regulators to act on safety concerns, the search for the right balance between regulatory precaution and technology promotion is bound to become more complicated.' In particular, he argues, there is the potential for tension between the European Union and the United States over the right approach to regulation unless they can agree on a coherent and effective system for managing nanotechnology. The full article can be downloaded at: [http://personal.lse.ac.uk/FALKNER/\\_private/FalknerNanotechWorldTodayJune2008.pdf](http://personal.lse.ac.uk/FALKNER/_private/FalknerNanotechWorldTodayJune2008.pdf)

Training opportunities at LSE

Academic, personal and professional development courses are available for all LSE staff and students. Courses on offer this month include:			
<b>Monday 9 June</b>			
<i>Project 2003: managing resources</i>	10am	<i>FrontPage 2003: forms and questionnaires</i>	10am
<b>Tuesday 10 June</b>		<b>Monday 16 June</b>	
<i>Access 2003: simple tables and queries</i>	10am	<i>Staff Training Workshop</i>	2pm
<i>Showcase: using Moodle to enhance teaching and learning</i>	12.15pm		
<b>Thursday 12 June</b>		<b>For further details</b> and a full listing of what is available, including booking information, see: <a href="http://www.lse.ac.uk/training">www.lse.ac.uk/training</a>	
<i>Excel 2003: shortcuts and basic formulas</i>	10am	<b>For training in:</b>	
<i>Moodle Training (staff)</i>	2pm	<b>European information</b> , please email Maria Bell at: <a href="mailto:m.bell@lse.ac.uk">m.bell@lse.ac.uk</a>	
<i>From Thesis to Book: writing an effective first book proposal</i>	4pm	<b>Business Information</b> , please email Barbara Humphries at: <a href="mailto:b.humphries@lse.ac.uk">b.humphries@lse.ac.uk</a>	
<b>Friday 13 June</b>		<b>US Government publications</b> , please email Clive Wilson at: <a href="mailto:clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk">clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk</a>	
<i>Excel 2003: forms and questionnaires</i>	10am	<b>UK Government publications</b> , please email Ken Gibbons at: <a href="mailto:k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk">k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk</a>	

Library news

**ADVANCE NOTICE OF SUMMER BUILDING WORK**

*Inside the Library: 30 June-end September*  
The archives storage area (lower ground floor) is being expanded. All work will take place in an area not normally accessible to Library users and all Library and Archives services will be maintained.

There may be some noise disruption in the surrounding area and occasionally the contractors will temporarily block off small areas to bring materials through.

This work is in addition to the usual maintenance work on campus and in the Library.

*Outside the Library: 30 June-end October*  
LSE Estates will be re-laying the Plaza directly outside the Library.

Access to the Library will be maintained at all times. However, please note that the Plaza Café will be closed throughout the works.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The Library has been asked to temporarily move material which is stored directly underneath the Plaza (including closed access material).

From 9 June to mid-November, these items will be stored off campus and a reduced fetch service will be in operation.

During the book moves, there will be some disruption in the surrounding area.

For more information visit the Library website.



Diary

*Open to all unless otherwise stated*

**Monday 9 June**

**4-6pm.** A607. Culture and Cognition seminar. Geoffrey Gowland: *Emotion, Cognition and Authority in a Chinese Craft Community*.

**Tuesday 10 June**

**5-6.30pm.** R405. CEP/LSE Money-Macro workshop. Fernando Alvarez: *Financial Innovation and the Transactions Demand for Cash*.

**Wednesday 11 June**

**12.30pm.** U101. DESTIN Research Seminar. Edward Balke: *International and Local Approaches to Post-War State-Building: a case study of Kosovo 1999-2008*.

**12.30-2pm.** R405. International Economics seminar. Fabrice Defever: *Productivity and the Sourcing Modes of Multinational Firms: evidence from French firm level data*.

**3-5pm.** V108. Economic History seminar. Professor Martina Merz: *Facts Revealed and Packaged: image travels in nanoscience*.

**Thursday 12 June**

**5-6.45pm.** G1. Comparative Economic History seminar. Angus Maddison: *Shares of the Rich and the Rest in the World Economy: income divergence between nations, 1820-2030*.

**5-7pm.** H216. BIOS seminar. Filippa Lentzos: *Risky Bioscience? National Security versus Scientific Autonomy in Anglo-American Policies on the Life Sciences*.

**6-8pm.** A607. Anthropology of East and Inner Asia seminar. Guillaume Dutoournier: *'Sishu' Teaching in the People's Republic of China: pedagogical, political and cultural implications of a traditionalist education*.

**6.30-8pm.** J116. Forum for European Philosophy seminar. Neil Gascoigne: *Re-Visions on Richard Rorty*.

**Friday 13 June**

**10.30am-12.30pm.** A607. Anthropological Theory research seminar. Hakan Seckinelgin: *Global Activism, Sexualities, and Local Intimacies in the Time of HIV/AIDS*.

**Monday 16 June**

**5-6.30pm.** R407. NERA-STICERD Economics of Industry seminar. Marco Ottaviani and Tracy R. Lewis: *The Organisation of Search for Innovations*.