



# News & views

## UK has some of the smallest new homes in Europe

The new homes built in the United Kingdom are among the smallest in the European Union, despite market demands for more spacious accommodation finds new research by Professor Christine Whitehead, professor of housing economics in the Department of Economics at LSE.

In her research entitled *The Density Debate*, Professor Whitehead found that while local authorities are required to increase housing densities to respond to growing demand and provide sustainable development, households are demanding more space, creating tension within the housing market.

In central London, there is a case for creating significantly higher population densities – however, increased demand for both private and open space may mean that overall housing densities actually fall. Further, high rise, while acceptable to certain households, still has a negative image and requires very good management and services for people to be satisfied and it is unsuitable for the vast majority of social tenants, especially families.

For higher density developments to be successful they must be associated with higher quality of services both inside and outside the building in order to meet the aspirations not just of today but of the next decades.

The research also showed that international comparisons suggest that England currently has some of the highest urban population densities, which is beneficial in terms of transport and local services. However, nothing will work without better design and greater flexibility of internal space – as well as more space per person.

Professor Christine Whitehead said: ‘The case for increasing planning densities at the lower end of the density scale is strong. However, to be successful this policy must be combined with better designed homes which provide more space per household and greater flexibility – so that people actually want to live there now and in the future.’

Professor Whitehead presented her findings at a seminar in January which brought together experts including architects, planners, engineers and social scientists to discuss the current climate in the UK and propose what can be done to change it. To read the full report visit [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/newsAndEvents/archives/2008/UKSmallestHomesinEurope.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/newsAndEvents/archives/2008/UKSmallestHomesinEurope.htm)



## LSE to lead €400,000 research into regulating nanotechnologies

Researchers at LSE, Chatham House, Environmental Law Institute (ELI) and the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies (PEN), an initiative of Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and The Pew Charitable Trusts, have been awarded a €400,000 European Commission grant to conduct an international research project on regulating nanotechnologies in the European Union and United States.

Dr Robert Falkner, a deputy director of LSE’s Centre for Environmental Policy and Governance and international relations expert, will coordinate the project. He said: ‘High profile controversies such as those concerning genetically engineered crops have highlighted how important it is for

polymakers to identify potential risks associated with new technologies and to promote international cooperation in the early stages of the policy process. There are known gaps and inadequacies in existing regulatory approaches to nanotechnology that must be addressed if we are to effectively promote innovation while ensuring safety and enhancing public acceptability. This project aims to examine current practice and provide recommendations to policy makers on both sides of the Atlantic on how to promote best practices and avoid future trade conflicts.’

Visit [www.lse.ac.uk/nanoregulation](http://www.lse.ac.uk/nanoregulation) for more information.

## LSE IDEAS official launch

LSE IDEAS – a new centre for the study of international affairs, diplomacy and foreign policy strategy – was officially launched on Tuesday 5 February with the public lecture *Measuring American power in today's fractured world* by Professor Paul Kennedy, the first Philippe Roman Chair in History and International Affairs at the School.

The new centre, which grew out of the world-renowned Cold War Studies Centre, is headed by Professors Michael Cox and Arne Westad. It has already developed a set of regional and topical programmes, with a particular focus in its first year on US foreign policy and transatlantic relations, the future of China and history and public policy in the Balkans and in South Africa.

‘The centre is particularly preoccupied with investigating the many developments, trends and structures that link the present to the past in international affairs,’ said Professor Cox. ‘To this end we see IDEAS as functioning at many different levels and talking to many different audiences’

Currently IDEAS administers two Masters degrees in international affairs with LSE’s key partners, Columbia University and Peking University, and is assisting with building training programmes for foreign service officers from several European and East Asian countries.

Professor Westad said: ‘IDEAS’ mission is to use LSE’s intellectual resources to help train scholars and

practitioners of international affairs. It welcomes experts and researchers from around the world to work and research in a unique interdisciplinary environment at LSE, one of the world’s leading colleges for the social sciences.’

The launch ceremonies continued with a panel debate between Sir Peter Ricketts, permanent under secretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and HE Mr Wolfgang F Ischinger, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany on *The role of academics in the foreign policy process* on Wednesday 6 February. IDEAS will also be hosting a number of important book launches in the coming months, as well as a series of major public lectures featuring US ambassador to NATO Victoria Nuland, Professor Michael Mann, UCLA, and former US under secretary of state, Joseph Nye.



Over the next five years, IDEAS is planning to work with other departments, institutes and research centres at LSE on issues such as the past and future of India and Latin America, nuclear non-proliferation, religion and international affairs, energy and international economic affairs.

Visit [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/IDEAS/Default.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/IDEAS/Default.htm) for more information.

## Students from LSE and abroad create website devoted to Spanish issues

5spaniards.com, an English language website devoted to the analysis of Spanish issues – including politics, foreign policy, education, economics and business – has been created

by students at LSE, the University of Chicago, TC - Columbia University and graduates of the Universidad Politecnica de Madrid and Universidad de Salamanca.



Devised by Jose Javier Olivas, a PhD student in LSE’s Government Department, among others, this independent, non profit project, is the first website entirely written in English and devoted to an in depth analysis of Spain’s news and developments.

Jose Javier Olivas said: ‘Our aim is to deliver the most sophisticated commentaries about Spain on the internet. Our pool of experts comes entirely from academia and has significant international exposure and a deep understanding of the issues covered.’

5spaniards.com also produces an online magazine, with a free copy of this publication sent to all registered members monthly.

To register for free, see <http://register.5spaniards.com> or visit <http://www.5spaniards.com/en/>

## Public Lectures and Debates

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

### LSEAIDS/LSE Health/DFID

PROFESSOR MICHEL KAZATCHKINE

#### Access to Prevention and Treatment of AIDS in the Developing World: evidence for hope

Tuesday 12 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

Professor Kazatchkine’s lecture will illustrate the challenges faced by those working to fight HIV/AIDS in developing countries.

Michel Kazatchkine is executive director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

### Schapiro public debate

STEPHEN DALZIEL AND PROFESSOR RICHARD SAKWA

#### The Russian Elections

Tuesday 12 February, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre

While most commentators accept that Putin will give up the presidency, will he relinquish his hold on power?

Stephen Dalziel is executive director of the Russo-British Chamber of Commerce. Richard Sakwa is professor of Russian and European politics at the University of Kent.

### Clifford Barclay memorial lecture

PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER GREENWOOD CMG, QC

#### Can International Law change the World?

Wednesday 13 February, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong

### Theatre

International law concerns the entire world, yet it has almost none of the methods of enforcement available to national legal systems. So, can it change the world?

Christopher Greenwood is professor of international law at LSE.

### Department of Sociology

PROFESSOR ULRICH BECK

#### A God of One’s Own: individualisation and cosmopolitanisation of religion

Wednesday 13 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

Ulrich Beck, centennial professor in the Sociology Department, LSE, will look at religious modernity.

### Lunchtime lecture

PROFESSOR ARNE WESTAD

#### Thinking Like a Social Scientist

Thursday 14 February, 1-2pm, Hong Kong Theatre

How social scientists work to address the critical problems of the day.

Arne Westad is professor of international history and co-director of the Cold War Studies Centre, LSE.

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

### VALDAS ADAMKUS

#### Completing Europe: integration with neighbours and engagement with Russia

Thursday 14 February, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre

Valdas Adamkus is president of Lithuania.

Free but ticketed. Visit [www.lse.ac.uk/events](http://www.lse.ac.uk/events) and click on the event to book.

### LSE Forum on Religion Inaugural debate

SPEAKERS: NILÜFER GÖLE, ALAIN TOURAINE

#### Islam and Secularism in France and Turkey

Thursday 14 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

This event launches the LSE Forum on Religion.

Nilüfer Göle is director of studies at the Center for Sociological Analysis and Intervention, École des Hautes Études, Paris. Alain Touraine is director of studies, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris.

### Centre for the Study of Global Governance

PROFESSOR MUHAMMAD YUNUS

#### Creating a World Without Poverty: how social business can transform our lives

Friday 15 February, 6-7.30pm, Old Theatre

Professor Yunus will outline his vision for a new business model.

Professor Yunus, founder and managing director of

the Grameen Bank, won the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize.

Free but ticketed. Visit [www.lse.ac.uk/events](http://www.lse.ac.uk/events) and click on the event to book.

### Hellenic Observatory in association with the FT Business-LSE European Institute Future of Europe

NICHOLAS GARGANAS

#### The Single Monetary Policy and the Analytics of OCAs: what has the euro area experience taught us?

Monday 18 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

This lecture will look at how the introduction of the euro challenges monetary policy.

Nicholas C Garganas is governor of the Bank of Greece.

### Centre for the Study of Global Governance

PROFESSOR JAN AART SCHOLTE

#### Civil Society and Accountable Global

#### Governance: enlarging democracy or confirming hegemony?

Monday 18 February, 6.30-8pm, New Theatre

Professor Scholte examines whether civil society activism is an answer to shortfalls of democratic accountability in global governance.

Jan Aart Scholte is centennial professor at the Centre.

# LSE academics win excellence awards in global economic affairs

Silvana Tenreyro, lecturer in economics in the Department of Economics, LSE, and Dr Stephen Redding, programme director of the globalisation programme at the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), have been selected as two of the winners of the 2008 Excellence Award in Global Economic Affairs by the Kiel Institute for the World Economy.



The aim of the award is to build a community of the brightest young researchers in the area of global economic affairs. The researchers are given intellectual, financial, and administrative support to pursue focused programmes of research in designated areas.

Danny Quah, head of the Economics Department and professor of economics said: ‘Both these awards point to the tremendous contributions already made and yet to come still in these economists’ exciting research on global economic affairs.’

The award will be presented at the Kiel Institute in June 2008. For further information on the award, visit: [www.ifw-kiel.de/prizes/eagea/eagea\\_e.htm](http://www.ifw-kiel.de/prizes/eagea/eagea_e.htm)

## noticeboard

### LSE marks 50th anniversary of system dynamics modelling

Over 70 academics and practitioners in system dynamics modelling attended a meeting at LSE on 18 December to mark the 50th anniversary of Jay Forrester's creation of the system dynamics approach. Jay Forrester's applied ideas on servo-mechanism theory and digital computing to advise practicing managers in 1957 was a catalysing experience that led to the creation of a system dynamics approach. To mark this anniversary the Operational Research (OR) Society's SD+50, a special interest group of the OR Society, hosted a day of lectures examining the history of system dynamics, the ways in which system dynamics relates to other disciplines and the contribution it has made to them. A special message from Jay Forrester was read out at the start of the event, which was chaired by Elke Husemann of LSE. The day featured presentations by David Lane and Larry Phillips, LSE, David Exelby, Decision Analysis Services Ltd, Mike Jackson, Hull University Business School, and John Haywood, University of Glamorgan. The event was sponsored by LSE's Operational Research and Managerial Economics and Strategy Groups and the OR Society.

### Discount phones from Telecoms

Telecoms have 40 BT Diverse 6110 cordless DECT phones available for £35 including tax. These phones can be bought from the School for work or for your personal use at home. Please email [telecoms@lse.ac.uk](mailto:telecoms@lse.ac.uk) if you would like a phone.

### Theft at LSE

The School is currently experiencing an increased incidence of theft. Please take care not to leave valuables unattended, even for a short time, and be alert to the possibility of distraction thefts. Also, do ensure that any valuable data is backed up and that the back up is kept separately from your laptop, so that if you become a victim, you do not lose irreplaceable work. If you experience an incident or notice anything suspicious, please alert security on extension 666. Paul Thornbury, LSE Head of Security.

### Small ads

Room to rent: LSE Lecturer looking for non-smoking lodger to rent spacious room in attractive attic flat near Arsenal/Finsbury Park tube, £112 per week, all bills (gas, water, electricity) included; lots of tranquillity as flat is not occupied all week. Available now – contact [j.p.rubies@lse.ac.uk](mailto:j.p.rubies@lse.ac.uk)

## 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>Tuesday 12 February</b>		
<i>FrontPage 2003: creating a personal website</i>	2-4pm	
<b>Wednesday 13 February</b>		
<i>Excel 2003: charts</i>	2-4pm	
<b>Thursday 14 February</b>		
<i>Authoring a PhD The Endgame: exploring career options</i>	10am-1pm	
<i>PowerPoint 2003: creating a presentation</i>	2-4pm	
<b>For further details</b> and a full listing of what is available, including booking information, please see: <a href="http://www.lse.ac.uk/training">www.lse.ac.uk/training</a>		
<b>For training in:</b>		
<b>European information</b> , please email Maria Bell at: <a href="mailto:m.bell@lse.ac.uk">m.bell@lse.ac.uk</a>		
<b>Business Information</b> , please email Barbara Humphries at: <a href="mailto:b.humphries@lse.ac.uk">b.humphries@lse.ac.uk</a>		
<b>US Government publications</b> , please email Clive Wilson at: <a href="mailto:clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk">clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk</a>		
<b>UK Government publications</b> , please email Ken Gibbons at: <a href="mailto:k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk">k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk</a>		

## Frederick Bonnard-Braunthal Scholarship 2008-09

The Bonnard-Braunthal Scholarship programme is a new PhD scholarship developed by the Trustees of the Frederick Bonnard Braunthal Trust to support research aimed at combating intolerance. Current and prospective MPhil/PhD students working in any academic discipline in areas relevant to religious, racial and cultural intolerance are invited to apply. In order to be considered for the Scholarship, you will need to be nominated by your prospective supervisor(s). The nomination should include:

- A personal statement of 1500 words explaining how your research interests meet the criteria for the scholarship;
- Your curriculum vitae which includes details of your academic background; and
- A supporting statement from your prospective or current supervisor(s)

Nominations must be submitted to the LSE Financial Support Office. The deadline for nominations is Friday 23 May.

For more information visit [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/studentServicesCentre/financialSupportOffice/PgAppDeptAwards/FrederickBonnardBraunthalScholarship.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/studentServicesCentre/financialSupportOffice/PgAppDeptAwards/FrederickBonnardBraunthalScholarship.htm)

## Lakatos Award 2008

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 Lakatos Award. This award is given for an outstanding contribution to the philosophy of science, widely interpreted, in the form of a book published in English during the previous six years.

The award is in memory of the former LSE professor, Imre Lakatos, and is administered by an international Management Committee organised from LSE, on the advice of an international, independent and anonymous panel of selectors.

The 2008 award will be for a book published in English with an imprint from 2002-07 inclusive.



Imre Lakatos

With the permission of the author a book may be nominated by any person of recognised standing within the profession. The deadline for nominations is Monday 21 April. The value of the award is £10,000 and it is a condition of accepting it, that a successful candidate visits LSE and delivers a public lecture.

There is no Lakatos Award for 2007, as there was no book that the selectors deemed sufficiently outstanding.

For further details on the nomination procedure or more information on the Lakatos Award, contact Amy Brownhill at [a.brownhill@lse.ac.uk](mailto:a.brownhill@lse.ac.uk), call ext 7901 or, visit [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/philosophyLogicAndScientificMethod/lakatos/Default.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/philosophyLogicAndScientificMethod/lakatos/Default.htm)

## Staff Consultative Council news

The Staff Consultative Council (SCC) was setup in 2007 to provide a collective voice for all LSE staff. It is made up of staff from across the school and is the first of its kind in UK higher education.

So far the SCC has worked with IT Services to make computer access, including email, more readily available for all staff with LSE ID cards. Staff wanting a network and email account should contact the IT support team for their department (see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/itservices/help/Clusters/ContactsNew.htm>). Staff without access to PC equipment through their own department's facilities can use the public room computers.

At its last meeting in October the SCC discussed topics arising from the staff survey including staff harassment and the working environment as well as issues specific to part-time and hourly paid staff raised by council members. These topics will be followed up in forthcoming meetings, and the Council welcome you to contact them with your views on these or any other topics you would like them to look at. The next meeting is Wednesday 13 February with a focus on work-life balance.

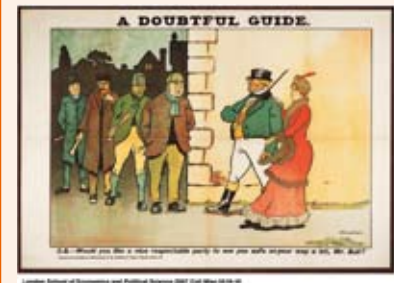
To find out more about the work of the SCC and its members please visit <http://www.lse.ac.uk/scc/> or email [scc@lse.ac.uk](mailto:scc@lse.ac.uk)



## Library news

**A Doubtful Guide: propaganda and posters from the LSE Archives**

Throughout February, an exhibition in the Library foyer will accompany the digitisation and online publication of over 100 posters from the Archive collections. The display includes British political posters from 1906-1911 and Soviet posters of the 1920s and 1930s and they form a lively and amusing guide to political life in the early twentieth century. Users can browse the entire collection of posters on the online catalogue via our online resources page [http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/gutoho/online\\_resources.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/archive/gutoho/online_resources.htm)



**Annual book sale**

The Library is holding its annual book sale on 12 and 13 February, 9am-5pm, R09. Books are sold at £1 each and any left at the end of the sale will be given to various charities. Most of the books in the sale will be from previous years reading lists, and will be sold in no particular order. Please bring your own bags for your purchases if possible. The price of the books may be reduced further during the day. The sale is open to all Library users.

## Lunchtime concert

On Thursday 14 February, 1.05-2pm, in the Shaw Library, Ji Yeoun You (piano) will play Beethoven *Phantasie* Op77, Piano Sonata Op27, No 2 *Moonlight*, Piano Sonata Op57 *Appassionata*.

The winner of five major competition prizes, Ji Yeoun has the privilege of studying accompaniment with one of the 20th century's great singers, Dietrich Fischer Dieskau.



## Evening concert

On Thursday 14 February, 6pm, in the Shaw Library, Old Building, Joyce Lorinstein and Deirdre L Tincker, accompanied at the piano by Clive Pollard, will perform the *Two Americans in London* song recital. The recital will include songs by Gershwin, Sondheim, Kern.

Tickets cost £8 (£6 over 60s) and the proceeds will go to The Food Chain. To order a ticket contact Jane Pugh on ext 6866 or by email at: [j.pugh@lse.ac.uk](mailto:j.pugh@lse.ac.uk)



L-r: Joyce, Clive, Deirdre

## Diary

Open to all unless otherwise stated

<b>Tuesday 12 February</b> <b>5-6.30pm.</b> D209. Geography and Environment Department research seminar. Peter Newell: <i>Climate Capitalism</i> . <b>6-7.30pm.</b> J116. Hellenic Observatory panel discussion. Fragkiskos Filippaios, Kostas Tzioumis: <i>Greek FDI and FDI in Greece</i> .	<b>Thursday 14 February</b> <b>12.30-1.45pm.</b> A318. CCS Seminar. Dr Enrique Peruzzotti: <i>Participation, Representation and Democratic Theory</i> <b>5.15-6.45pm.</b> D702. Population Research seminar. Elizabeth Cooksey: <i>Religiosity, Spirituality and Sex: beliefs and behaviours of religiously active African-American youth</i> .
<b>Wednesday 13 February</b> <b>4-5.30pm.</b> U108. CSRC seminar. Ben Moxham: <i>La Violencia Continua: state rebuilding and crisis in Dili</i> . <b>4-6pm.</b> A607. Culture and Cognition seminar. Mary Morgan: <i>How Well Do 'Facts' Travel?</i> <b>6.15pm.</b> H216. LLM Corporate/Commercial seminar. Roger McCormick: <i>Legal Risk in Financial Markets</i> .	<b>Friday 15 February</b> <b>10.30am-12.30pm.</b> A607. Anthropological Theory research seminar. Richard Wilk: <i>Binge Economics: an historical study of alternatives to thinking about the future</i> .