



News & Views

Advising on economic planning

LSE Enterprise is to provide executive training and research support for the Abu Dhabi government and business community.

LSE Enterprise has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Abu Dhabi Department of Planning and Economy (DPE) to provide executive training and research support for the Abu Dhabi government and business community.

The agreement aims to bring the latest thinking in economics to economic planning and policy making in Abu Dhabi.

Under a strategic collaboration, the DPE and LSE Enterprise will provide a series of roundtables, workshops and executive sessions on a broad range of topics including economics, public policy, finance, money and banking.

Simon Flemington, chief executive officer of LSE Enterprise, said: 'We have a strong track record in providing assistance to national governments which are concentrating their efforts on accelerating economic development. We are delighted to collaborate with DPE in their endeavours to establish executive education programmes and research initiatives.

'Abu Dhabi is undergoing profound changes right now and the pace of economic development is accelerating. This agreement supports our leaders to make better informed decisions about complex and sensitive matters that affect everyone who lives here. LSE has a distinguished record in this field. We're pleased to enter this partnership with them,' commented DPE under secretary, HE Mohammed Omar Abdullah.

The memorandum was signed by DPE chairman, HE Nasser Al Suwaidi and the CEO of LSE Enterprise, Simon Flemington.



L-r: Simon Flemington, HE Nasser Al Suwaidi

Reducing class sizes

The School is to reduce class sizes, increase staff/student contact time and plough an extra £2 million a year into teaching, appointing 25 new lecturers and offering more explicit recognition and reward for staff who can demonstrate excellent teaching.

The move comes amid concerns that teaching has not always kept pace with the high standards of research at LSE and follows a similar review of teaching at Harvard.

A task force was set up last year in response to concerns from students about teaching quality, disappointing scores in teaching surveys and a perception among staff that only research was valued. Forty of its proposals have been accepted by the School's Academic Board. Janet Hartley (above right), pro-director for teaching and learning, who led the task force, said: 'It wasn't that there was a crisis in teaching, but we weren't happy with some of the reports we'd had. I think it is as much about reputation and brand as anything – if we are projecting ourselves as a first-rate research institution, then parity has to be there with teaching as well.'

The recommendations should take two years to implement.



Stemming the flow: data security



Dr Edgar Whitley (left), Information Systems, has joined a team of academics and industry experts who will try to stem the flood of personal information online which threatens identity security.

People currently have no control over how their personal information is used and stored or to request its deletion. Such information is often passed on to third parties, making control even more of an issue and consumers nervous about interacting online.

EnCoRe: ensuring consent and revocation is a £3.6 million project that aims to respond to this situation, making giving consent as reliable and easy as turning

on a tap, and revoking that consent as reliable and easy as turning it off again. Jointly funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, Economic and Social Research Council, and the Technology Strategy Board, it involves researchers from Warwick University, QinetiQ, HW Communications, Hewlett Packard, Oxford University and LSE.

Dr Whitley was awarded £493,155 to undertake research on ensuring consent and revocation in a digital economy. He said: 'Those who publish or use people's data need to see the business benefits of giving their customers the reassurance that their information is safe. This includes government departments who often have legitimate reasons for needing to share data but also have a lot to lose if things go wrong.'

For more information, see: www.encore-project.info

Welcome to the School

SCIENCES PO, PARIS, SECONDMENT TO LSE



developed in partnership with Paris University Pierre-and-Marie-Curie.

He has contributed to a major reform of Sciences Po's masters curriculum, and to the opening of its new School of Journalism in 2003 and the School of Communication in 2007.

Laurent Bigorgne (left) has been Dean of Studies at Sciences Po since 2003. He participated in designing Sciences Po's newest undergraduate programme, which combines the natural and social sciences and was

Laurent's role at LSE is to improve the close relationship between the School and Sciences Po. Laurent said: 'Sciences Po and LSE are very close in their history, goals and their programmes. Each institution is strong in the European and global landscape and together they are to able to promote those programmes in order to attract the best students from around the world.' He added that he is very happy and proud to work here to see first-hand how LSE functions.

LSE and Sciences Po offer four double MSc degree programmes in International Affairs; European Studies; Development Economics and Economic History; and Urban Policy, and a masters in Public Administration. Students study for a year here and a year in Paris.

Class of 2010

On 7 September, LSE welcomed the 65 members of the TRIUM Global Executive MBA (EMBA) Class of 2010 for the first of six modules.

Hailing from over 30 different countries from around the globe, members of this year's class represent an outstanding cohort of global executives from a wide range of industries and areas of specialisation.

This first module focuses on the broad international context that senior executives need to be sensitive to when making global business decisions.



Launched in 2001, the TRIUM Global EMBA is a groundbreaking alliance between LSE, NYU Stern, and HEC, Paris.

Grantham Institute launched

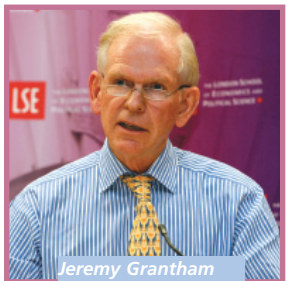
Jeremy Grantham, Professor Ian Diamond of the ESRC, Dr Nikolaus von Bomhardt and Lord Stern of Brentford all spoke at a public lecture held at the School on Wednesday 8 October which launched the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment. The School also announced a partnership with Munich Re, which is investing £3 million in research to learn more about the economic impact of climate change.

The Grantham Research Institute, under the leadership of Lord Stern, will produce research and analysis on how society, politicians and financiers can hope to respond effectively to a warming world.

Philanthropists Jeremy and Hannelore Grantham

founded the Grantham Institute at LSE with a donation of £12 million from their charitable foundation. The Economic and Social Research Council is contributing

more than £5 million to fund the Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy which was awarded jointly to LSE and the University of Leeds in open competition, and which is directed by Professor Judith Rees and Professor Andy Gouldson.



Public Lecture

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

Asia Research Centre and International Relations

PROFESSOR RICHARD J SAMUELS

Japan's Grand Strategy

Monday 13 October, 6.30-8pm, U8

Richard Samuels is at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Media and Communications Centennial

Professor's lecture

PROFESSOR MARK POSTER

From Digital to Analogue: copyright law as a threat to capitalism and democracy

Monday 13 October, 6.30-8pm, New Theatre

Mark Poster is an LSE centennial professor.

Ralph Miliband Sustainability, Social Justice, and the Global Order

PROFESSOR SIR DAVID KING

The Challenge of Climate Change

Monday 13 October, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre,

David King is director of the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford University.

LSE Space for Thought

PROFESSOR NASSIM NICHOLAS TALEB

Decisions, Probability and Beliefs: beware Mickey Mouse probability

Monday 13 October, 7-8.30pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Nassim Nicholas Taleb is author of *The Black Swan* and *Fooled by Randomness*.

LSE Arts Talking Pictures

VALENTINE SCHMIDT

Elevate

Tuesday 14 October, 1-2pm, Shaw Library

Valentine Schmidt is a leading photographer.

Asia Research Centre/Korea Foundation/LSE Academic Exchange Programme inaugural lecture

PROFESSOR HA-JOON CHANG

Economic Agendas in a Global Context: reflections on the role of Korea

Tuesday 14 October, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre

Ha-Joon Chang is at Cambridge University.

Ticketed. Email: Asia.Research.Centre@lse.ac.uk

School public lecture

HOWARD DAVIES

China and Financial Reform

Wednesday 15 October, 6.30-8pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

LSE Director Howard Davies sits on the international advisory councils of the China banking and securities regulatory commissions.

LSE Space for Thought

PROFESSOR JEREMY WALDRON

Inhuman and Degrading Treatment: the words themselves

Thursday 16 October, 6.30-8pm, Sheikh Zayed Theatre

Jeremy Waldron is university professor at New York University School of Law.

Confucius Institute for Business London

JAMES HUGHES-HALLETT

Reflections of a Working life in Asia on Conglomerates and the Transport and Logistics Sector

Thursday 16 Oct, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre
James Hughes-Hallett is chairman of John Swire & Sons Ltd and a director of Swire Pacific, Cathay Pacific Airways and HSBC Holdings.

FT Business – LSE European Institute The Future of Europe in association with the LSESU Scandinavian Society

KRISTIN HALVORSEN

Norway's perspective on the subject of Sovereign Wealth Funds

Friday 17 October, 5-6pm, Shaw Library

Kristin Halvorsen is Norwegian minister of finance.

FT Business – LSE European Institute The Future of Europe

ROBERT COOPER

A lecture by Robert Cooper

Friday 17 October, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

Robert Cooper is director-general for external and political-military affairs, Council of the European Union. He is the author of *The Breaking of Nations*.

noticeboard

Debate change of date

The *EU and Migration: whom to admit, whom to exclude?* debate will now take place on Tuesday 21 October, 6.30-8pm, U8. Speakers have also changed and will now include Jonathan Faull, director-general, Justice, Freedom and Security, European Commission.

LSE Arts exhibition

This retrospective exhibition of photographs, Kaveh Golestan – *Recording the Truth in Iran*, by the late Kaveh Golestan will take place in the Atrium Gallery, Old Building on Monday 10 November to Friday 19 December. Kaveh Golestan was the photojournalist with the longest continuous presence in Iran from before the Revolution until his death on an assignment in 2003. The event is curated by Hengameh Golestan and organised by the Iran Heritage Foundation in association with LSE Arts.

Think tank online

LSE students Pierre Chaigneau (PhD Economics), Jean-Baptiste Michau (PhD Economics), Balthazar Van Rosendaal, Sophie Loup (both BSc Economics), Nathalie Laine (BSc Management) and alumnus Brune Poirson, recently created a non-profit economics think tank called Eclairages Economiques. The website offers free downloads of factsheets and files proposing simple explanations to the important economic themes of the day, with a particular focus on the French economy (files and factsheets are bilingual). The site strives to offer a new and neutral outlook on contemporary economic issues for the general public. Visit: www.eclaireco.org

Lunchtime concert

In this week's concert on Thursday 16 October, 1.05, Shaw Library, Bartholomew Lafalette (cello) and Alisdair Beatson (piano) will play Barber Cello Sonata Op.6, Salvatore Sciarrino *Ai limiti della notte*, and Beethoven Sonata in A Op.69. Winner of several distinguished prizes, Bartholomew has appeared as a recitalist and chamber musician in the UK and as concerto soloist throughout Europe and the USA.



Subscription offer

The *Times Higher Education* are offering LSE staff an exclusive subscription offer in which you can claim six issues of the magazine for free. The subscription would cost £35 a year, which is a 65 per cent saving on the cover price and includes free delivery every week. To subscribe and claim your free issues, see: www.subscription.co.uk/the/lse

An evening with Guo Yue

International House London is hosting an evening with Guo Yue, the Beijing born musician, composer, author and cook, on Thursday 23 October, 7-9.30pm. The event will take place at International House London, 16 Stukeley Street, Covent Garden. Rock musician Peter Gabriel said: 'I have heard Guo Yue play his music, I have eaten his food, and guarantee he delivers in a magical way.' Free but registration is required. Email: claire.bowden@ihlondon.co.uk

Small ads

Rapid transcriptions: an accurate and confidential academic transcription service for over 10 years. Acronyms no problem. Any format: digital recordings, minidisc, tapes, video. Transcripts to suit different budgets. Secure file transfer. Contact Alanna Ivin, tel: 07801 569045, email: Rapid.Transcriptions@pobox.com See: www.rapidtranscriptions.co.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:

Monday 13 October <i>Excel 2003: advanced functions</i>	10am	<i>PGCHE: managing teaching reading group</i>	3pm
Tuesday 14 October <i>Staff IT Training Workshop</i>	10am		
Wednesday 15 October <i>PGCHE Briefing</i>	9.30am	For further details and a full listing of what is available, including booking information, see: www.lse.ac.uk/training	
<i>One to One Voice Training</i> (staff only)	9.30am	For training in:	
Thursday 16 October <i>Access 2003: designing related tables and forms</i>	10am	European information , please email Maria Bell at: m.bell@lse.ac.uk	
<i>PGCHE Briefing</i>	2.30pm	Business Information , please email Barbara Humphries at: b.humphries@lse.ac.uk	
Friday 17 October <i>Word 2003: essential table techniques</i>	10am	US Government publications , please email Clive Wilson at: clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk	
Monday 20 October <i>Word 2003: format your PhD thesis</i>	2pm	UK Government publications , please email Ken Gibbons at: k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk	

Student winners

Thanks to her inspirational story of student life in the UK, Malvika Saraogi, management student, was a finalist in this year's International Student Awards. She was presented with £1,000 and a trophy by shoe designer Jimmy Choo at an awards ceremony held in London. Malvika was one of a team that organised a conference for 200 students from across Europe and a fund-raiser, which raised £6,000 in a single night. She was awarded the Individual Contribution to Societies Award by the Students' Union and is president of the Development Society. She has also worked as a volunteer for the UK arm of the Indian NGO, Child Rights and You, and fundraised for both Oxfam and Wateraid. In addition, Malvika regularly writes for the university newspaper and has acted as a business consultant for a student run website.



LSE undergraduate students received the following awards, all of which attract a £500 prize: **RAYNES PRIZE:** for best performance in final year exams: Jia Lim, BSc in Actuarial Science **HUW WHELDON PRIZE:** for outstanding performance in final year exams:

Hemish Shah, BSc in Economics **CS MACTAGGART PRIZE:** for best overall performance across all three years: Siew Goh, BSc in Actuarial Science Ren Ho, BSc in Sociology Insa Koch, BA in Anthropology and Law Zhengfei Soon, BSc in Economics **CS MACTAGGART PRIZE:** for best overall performance in second year exams with reference to first year results: Khay Hong, BSc in Actuarial Science Jia Chong, BSc in Economics Christina Legge, BA in Geography **CS MACTAGGART PRIZE:** for best overall performance in first year exams: Gabriel Choy, BSc in Philosophy and Economics Kelvin Lee, BSc in Actuarial Science Philip Proudfoot, BA in Social Anthropology

The Iain and Louise Crawford memorial Prize, established in 2006, is awarded to the undergraduate student with the best examination performance in the Introduction to Political Science course which is taken during the first year. The prize winner receives the award for each of their undergraduate years. There were many eligible students for this year's Prize and the award was equally split between: Nilam Patel; Jeremy Fredman Stein; Jasmine Khiri; Molly Griffard; Luke Moore; Matthias George Lomas; Nicolas Carl Oudin and Ruth Naomi Leighton.

University Challenge: first round to LSE

The LSE's University Challenge team won its first round against Bath with a resounding victory, 220 to 85. Congratulations. The next round will be televised on Monday 27 October at 8pm on BBC 1. We're keeping our fingers crossed for another victory so the contestants will go forward to the quarter finals. On Wednesday 8 October, the SU held a fun University Challenge quiz, hosted by LSE Director Howard Davies.



Diary

Tuesday 14 October
12.45-2pm. R405. CEP Labour Market workshop. Dave Donaldson: *Railroads and the Raj: the economic impact of transportation infrastructure.*
1pm. M101. CsGG research seminar. Anthony Elliott: *The Globalization of Cosmetic Surgical Culture.*
5-6.30pm. R405. CEP/LSE Money-Macro workshop. Anisha Ghosh: *Asset Pricing with Regime Shifts in Consumption and Dividend Growth.*
6-7.30pm. A607. Anthropology of Africa seminar. Sarah Randall: *The Dangers of Disciplinary Culture: unpacking demography's use of the 'household'.*
Wednesday 15 October
12.30-2pm. R405. CEP/LSE International Economics seminar. Maurizio Zanardi: *Democratic Peace and Electoral Accountability.*
5.30-7pm. T206. Choice Group seminar. Marc Fleurbaey: *Universal Social Orderings.*
Thursday 16 October
12.30-1.45pm. NAB 1.14 CCS seminar. Ben Page: *What Steers the Character of Associational Life? Examples from the history of hometown associations in Cameroon and Tanzania 1916-2000.*
Friday 17 October
10.30am-12.30pm. Anthropological Theory research seminar. Matei Candea: *Corsican Hospitality and the Problem of Scale or, Metaphors can be Hard Work.*
1-2.30pm. R405. Urban and Regional Economics seminar. Steve Gibbons: *Access, Choice and Participation in Higher Education.*

Library news

AUDIO TOUR
Not to be outdone by London's art galleries or stately homes, the Library offers an audio tour too. The tour is an ideal way for new users to get to know the Library's layout and facilities. Even if you have used the Library before, you can refresh your Library knowledge too. Audio tour handsets are available from the Service Counter – just bring your LSE card or download the podcast from the Library website or at: www.acoustiguide.com/tours/LSE.htm



Making a difference



Dr Alec Morton, Operational Research, took part in the ESRC's Placement Fellowship scheme earlier this year. This encourages researchers to spend time in partner organisations undertaking policy-relevant studies of mutual benefit. Dr Morton spent six months with the National Audit Office's (NAO) Value for Money development team. He examined the NAO's approach to gathering and analysing evidence, identifying methods which could enhance the quality of this activity and the robustness by which it is carried out. His involvement included sitting on review panels for studies on local authority planning, sustainable procurement, performance of regional development authorities, and in connection with the Private Finance Initiative. He also contributed to various pieces of modelling work to assist particular NAO studies on immigration and healthcare. Following his fellowship, the NAO has taken on five MSc students from LSE to follow up on various work-strands in which he became involved and he has organised various seminars and workshops. For more details about the ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme see: www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk

Media conference

The Media and Communications Department hosted the 5th *Media, Communication and Humanity* conference at the School on 21-23 September. Over 70 papers were presented on topics ranging from Albania to Zimbabwe. They addressed a spread of communication issues from diversity to democracy, governance to ethics, new media literacy to comparative and policy studies.



The opening event profiled the BBC World Service Trust's humanitarian projects, showing how, through partnerships with audiences and NGOs, people are empowered through media and communication. Journalist David Eades, introducing the Trust's work on HIV and AIDS, emphasised that access to media and information helps people to make informed decisions about their lives, helping to reduce poverty and promoting human rights. Professor Robin Mansell (above), head of Media and Communications, highlighted the role played by the late Professor Roger Silverstone, with the contributions of Professor Sonia Livingstone and others, in establishing the Department. She dedicated the Conference to the memory of Professor Silverstone: 'A wonderful and dedicated academic'. For more on the conference and to read the papers, see: www.lse.ac.uk/collections/media@lse/Conference