



# News & views

## Third year of China programme

A group of 45 senior Chinese government officials started work last week on a training programme in public policy run by four global universities, LSE, Columbia, New York, Sciences PO, Paris, and Peking University (PKU), Beijing. Four Singaporean officials are also joining the Executive Public Policy Training Programme which takes place in Beijing over the next two months.

The course is primarily designed to give Chinese civil servants the chance to develop their expertise, management and strategic outlook in a rapidly changing public policy environment and will include teaching by academics from all four universities.

This year's participants will receive intensive teaching over two months in eight courses. Subject areas include economics, quantitative analysis, law, public policy management, public policy analysis, governance and sustainability, technology innovation, and China's economic rise. There is also a guest lecture series planned from domestic and foreign government and business leaders, including LSE director Howard Davies.

Professor Wu Zhi Pan, vice-party secretary at Peking University,

presided over this year's opening ceremony at the School of Government, PKU, which also included senior representatives from the American, British and French embassies in Beijing, the Chinese government, and some of the sponsors of the programme – bhpbilliton, Deloitte, and the Leo KoGuan Foundation.

Participants receive a joint certificate from the four universities on completion of their studies.

For full details on this programme and other LSE programmes in China see: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/academicPartnerships/academicPartners/pekingUniversity.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/academicPartnerships/academicPartners/pekingUniversity.htm)



## LSE people

**Professor Chandran Kukathas**, Government, has been offered a visiting position as university professor at the National University of Singapore, a position he will hold for four to six weeks at his own convenience.

His obligations include giving a public lecture at the University, participating in an international conference organised around the themes of his lecture, and offering the University advice on the development of its political theory programme.



**Professor Eileen Munro**, Social Policy, will be giving oral evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Constitution for their inquiry into *The Impact of Surveillance and Data Collection upon the Privacy of Citizens and Their Relationship With the State*.

Her evidence will be on how various databases, eg Contact Point, the electronic Common Assessment Framework, youth justice systems, will impact on children and parents.

## Panel discussion

### Forum for European Philosophy Thinking in Public

JULIAN BAGGINI, PROFESSORS AC GRAYLING AND KATE SOPER

#### *The European Exception? The Public Intellectual in Britain*

Thursday 26 June, 6-8pm, Old Theatre

The idea that philosophy plays an important role in the public life of a culture goes without saying in continental Europe, but not in Britain. This event reflects on this European exception in our time.

Julian Baggini is a philosopher and writer. A C Grayling is professor of philosophy at Birkbeck College, University of London, and a supernumerary fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford. Kate Soper is professor of philosophy at the Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University.



## What makes for a happy community?

**Neighbourliness + Empowerment = Wellbeing: is there a formula for happy communities?, a joint initiative by the Young Foundation, the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA) and Professor Lord Richard Layard, Centre for Economic Performance, commissioned by the Wellbeing Project**

This report shows that, if people can control the circumstances that affect their lives, their wellbeing will be improved.

According to Professor Layard, wellbeing is created by the influence of family relationships, financial situation, work, community and friends, health, personal freedom and personal values. Thus, if people can take an active role in their local community and change it – their wellbeing is improved.



The report examined initiatives in three local authorities in Hertfordshire, Manchester and South Tyneside. Using case studies of projects such as Westfield Sure Start Children's Centre in Hertfordshire, Community Guardians in Manchester, and the We Asked, You said, We Did Campaign in South Tyneside, the findings show that neighbourhood and community empowerment has three effects which increase wellbeing:

- providing greater opportunities for residents to influence decisions affecting their neighbourhoods

- promoting regular contact between neighbours

- helping residents gain the confidence to exercise control
- Key findings of the report:

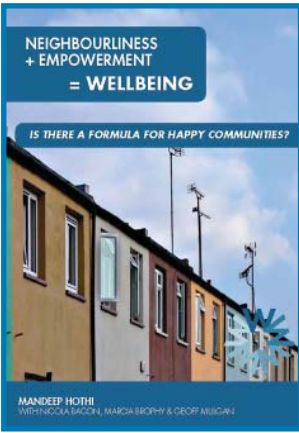
- initiatives which allow citizens to take action for themselves and make a tangible difference to their neighbourhoods are more rewarding than activities that involve attending public meetings or council meetings

- giving residents meaningful power requires significant barriers to be broken between them and 'distant' decision makers, who can seem inaccessible and 'out of touch' with what is happening within neighbourhoods

- some of the most important skills for staff in public institutions revolve around building relationships with citizens. All council staff should acquire these skills - and not just community workers.

The report represents one of several strands of work developed through the Local Wellbeing Project. Others include work on parenting, environmental sustainability, emotional resilience for 11 to 13 year olds, the wellbeing of older people, and guaranteed apprenticeships.

To download a copy of the report, see: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/PDF/NeighbourlinessEmpowermentWellbeing.pdf](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/PDF/NeighbourlinessEmpowermentWellbeing.pdf)



## Public Lectures

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

### Ralph Miliband Programme: Religion, Secularism and Modernity series

PROFESSOR JOSE CASANOVA

#### *Western Secularisation and Globalisation*

Monday 16 June, 6:30-8pm, Old Theatre

This 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.

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

PROFESSOR CRISTINA LAFONT

#### *Religion and Secularism in the Public Sphere*

Tuesday 17 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. This series brings together leading thinkers and scholars to encourage discussion and debate on this crucial contemporary theme.

Cristina Lafont is professor of philosophy, Northwestern University.

### Economic History Department plenary lecture of the SR Epstein Memorial conference

PROFESSOR KENNETH POMERANZ

#### *Skills, Rights and Resources in the East Asian Path to Development*

Wednesday 18 June, 6-7.30pm, Old Theatre

This lecture traces evolving relationships among skills, bargaining power, and East Asian economic development.

Kenneth Pomeranz is UCI Chancellor's Professor of History at the University of California-Irvine.

# noticeboard

## Missed a public lecture?

Podcasts for some of the recent lectures held at the School can be found online at: [www.lse.ac.uk/resources/podcasts/publicLecturesAndEvents.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/podcasts/publicLecturesAndEvents.htm)

Lists of transcripts can be found at: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEPublicLecturesAndEvents/eventsTranscripts.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEPublicLecturesAndEvents/eventsTranscripts.htm)

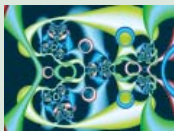
## STICERD seminar

An Economic Theory seminar, organised by STICERD on *Robust Virtual Implementation* by Stephen Morris will be held on Tuesday 17 June, 4.30-6pm, in Room B03 of the Ricardo Lecture Theatre Basement, Drayton House, UCL, 30 Gordon Street.

## SU events

### BAND REPUBLIC

YOU pick the band, YOU pick the single and YOU pick where and when we release it – Band Republic showcases at LSESU in The Quad every fortnight. For more information see: [www.lsesu.com/pages/Entertainments/band\\_republic.html](http://www.lsesu.com/pages/Entertainments/band_republic.html)



### GRADUATION CRUSH



Every year one last massive party is held to celebrate graduation and years of student life! Look out for pre-sale tickets during graduation week!

### STREET PARTY

Saturday 19 July on Houghton Street. More details will be put online, but why not put the event in your diary as LSESU invites all your friends and family along for a great day out too.



## Chaplaincy

The Chaplaincy is open to all members of the School, students and staff alike, regardless of religion or belief. It confirms the idea that a person's well-being is much more important than academic success and ability and seeks to assert the dignity of all human beings.



The mix of activities and services at the Chaplaincy include guest lecturers, discussing social and political issues from a religious and ethical point of view, Christian religious services (including an Anglican Eucharist, a Roman Catholic Mass, the space to pray and morning prayer), visits to London's historic places, discussion groups, social groups, and parties at the Chaplain's house.

Entering the Chaplaincy does not put you under any obligation – you would not be asked to read the bible or sign up to a particular form of religious belief – you would simply be welcomed and listened to.

The Chaplaincy room is G9, 20 Kingsway, opposite the Peacock Theatre on Portugal Street. Tel: 020 7955 7965.

## Small ads

**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: [jbourlet@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jbourlet@hotmail.co.uk)

**To rent:** attractive Chalk Farm flat, close to tube and direct buses to LSE. Living/bedroom, sunny kitchen/diner, shower/separate WC. Fully furnished, well decorated, c/h. Rental: £240 p/w includes all bills except phone. Suit couple or single. N/S only. Contact: 020 7482 0158, email: [r.fitzgerald@alumni.lse.ac.uk](mailto:r.fitzgerald@alumni.lse.ac.uk)

# Dictionary of Economics

For over 110 years, Palgrave's *Dictionary of Economics* has enjoyed an outstanding reputation as the world's most extensive and authoritative economics reference resource. The *New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*, edited by Steven N Durlauf and Lawrence E Blume, was published in print and online on 30 May.

Featuring 1,850 articles by over 1,500 of the world's leading economists – including 16 from LSE – and providing a current overview of economics, this new edition presents an unrivalled snapshot of economic thought today.

Past and present contributors from the School include: Timothy Besley, Francesco Caselli, Gregory

Connor, Frank Cowell, Meghnad Desai, Gilles Duranton, Charles Goodhart, Vassilis Hajivassiliou, Nobuhiro Kiyotaki, Oliver Linton, Alan Manning, Mary Morgan, Henry Overman, Stephen Redding, Peter Robinson, and John Sutton.

See: [www.dictionaryofeconomics.com](http://www.dictionaryofeconomics.com) to browse abstracts, view a sample article and take a tour of the online Dictionary.



## 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 16 June

*Collaborative Work Tools for Teachers and Researchers* 12.15pm  
*Staff IT Training Workshop* 2pm

### Tuesday 17 June

*LSE Researcher Development Programme 6: getting your book published* 10am  
*Excel 2003: data analysis* 2pm

### Thursday 19 June

*Access 2003: simple forms and reports* 2pm

### Friday 20 June

*Word 2003: essential formatting skills* 2pm

### Monday 23 June

*Access 2003: working with relationships* 10am

**For further details** and a full listing of what is available, including booking information, see:

**[www.lse.ac.uk/training](http://www.lse.ac.uk/training)**

**For training in:**

**European information**, please email Maria Bell at: [m.bell@lse.ac.uk](mailto:m.bell@lse.ac.uk)

**Business Information**, please email Barbara Humphries at: [b.humphries@lse.ac.uk](mailto:b.humphries@lse.ac.uk)

**US Government publications**, please email Clive Wilson at: [clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk](mailto:clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk)

**UK Government publications**, please email Ken Gibbons at: [k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk](mailto:k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk)

## Research opportunities

An international company, which has a strong presence in the area of philanthropic awards, has commissioned research into developing concepts for an award scheme to support outstanding individuals aged 20-30 years. To this end, two focus groups are being arranged to assist with the development of concepts for the award scheme.

The awards are intended to inspire young people and will be targeted at a growing international community of potential pioneers and innovators in a number of different areas.

The company is interested in input from young people around the proposed awards scheme, and specifically how they should be communicated to appeal to a young audience.

The Focus groups will last up to one and a half hours and will be held at a prestigious venue in Central London, on the evening of Thursday 26 June. In appreciation of people's input, the sum of £80 will be payable to all who take part in the focus groups, or to a charity of their choice.

The research is being conducted in accordance with the Market Research Society Code of Conduct which stipulates that the identity of individuals and their responses must remain confidential, unless they agree otherwise, and that this research will not be used for any direct sales or marketing.

If you are interested in taking part in one of the focus groups, please contact Sally Lording, email: [sallyl@wanfordfieldworkpartnership.com](mailto:sallyl@wanfordfieldworkpartnership.com)

## Social Psychology workshop

The Institute of Social Psychology is hosting a multidisciplinary workshop on Chronic disease and African Communities: research, practice and policy, 23 and 24 June, in rooms S75 and S78.

This workshop will bring together social and medical scientists from Africa, the UK and Europe. Topics include: the burden of chronic physical and mental illnesses; representations and experiences of asthma, cancers, diabetes, hypertension, mental illness and

sickle-cell disease; caregiver experiences; the transition of HIV/AIDS from a terminal to chronic disease.

The geographical focus is broad with research based in Africa and on African communities in the UK and Netherlands.

For further information see: [www.psych.lse.ac.uk/socialpsychology](http://www.psych.lse.ac.uk/socialpsychology)



## Diary

Open to all unless otherwise stated

### Tuesday 17 June

**12.45-2pm.** R405. CEP Labour Market workshop. David Marsden and Simone Moriconi: *The Value of Rude Health: the effect of employee well-being and absence policies on business performance*

**3-5pm.** Studio Ciburra. ICTs in the Contemporary World: information, management and seminar. Judy Wajcman: *Families Without Borders: mobile phones, connectedness and work-home divisions.*

### Wednesday 18 June

**12.30pm.** U101. DESTIN Research Seminar. Borge Wietzke: *Do Poorer Municipalities Have Lower Access*

*to Public Services? A New Multidimensional Approach to Rural-Urban Poverty Comparisons (with a case study from Madagascar).*

**12.30-2pm.** R405. International Economics seminar. Thierry Mayer: *Quality Sorting and Trade: firm-level evidence for French wine.*

**5.30-7pm.** T206. Choice Group seminar. Greg Davies: *Reconciling Normative and Behavioural Preferences: determining a basis for action.*

### Thursday 19 June

**12.30-2pm.** R405. CEP Productivity, Innovation and Intellectual Property seminar. Rachel Griffith.

## Library news

### 24 HOUR OPENING ENDS 20 JUNE

Please note that extended opening ends on Friday 20 June, when the Library will close at midnight. For the remainder of the summer term, the Library will open every day, 8am-midnight, with staffed services open Monday-Friday, 9am-8pm, and Saturday and Sunday, 11am-6pm.

### SUMMER VACATION OPENING

In response to user feedback, the Library will open additionally on Sundays during summer vacation. For full details of Library opening times visit the Library website at: [www.library.lse.ac.uk](http://www.library.lse.ac.uk)



## Media bites



'Neglect is far more commonly associated with long-term, slow, insidious harm that produces an adult with a great many problems functioning in life. It is not like physical or sexual abuse, which have dramatic incidents triggering a response. It is more of a slow deterioration.'

**Eileen Munro**, *The Times*, 23/5/08

'It's pretty bleak for Labour unless the economy picks up. Global pressures are at work here, but people feel Brown is not governing with consistency and authority.'

**George Jones**, *The Boston Times*, 24/5/08

'I believe Malaysians will still be able to cope if the fuel subsidy is gradually slashed by about 15 per cent to 20 per cent within the next six months. Instead, the fuel subsidy can be channelled to better usage, such as in reducing poverty, improvements in education and better public transportation.'

**Danny Quah**, *New Straits Times*, 27/5/08

'Firing in a way that cannot distinguish between civilians and combatants is clearly a violation of international humanitarian law. I don't think that the idea of a technical mistake takes away from the initial responsibility of the action of firing where civilian casualties are clearly foreseeable... it has to be foreseeable when you give yourself such a small margin that any error has the potential to lead to civilian casualties.'

**Christine Chinkin**, *The Guardian*, 30/5/08

'To the best of my knowledge, criminologists have yet to prove that the onus for the delinquencies of 10-17 year olds rests on their parents. If it does then parenting orders, 'naming and shaming' and the like may have some conceivable justification, and the age of criminal responsibility should be raised accordingly. If it does not, then parenting classes should remain voluntary and 'naming and shaming' should be consigned to oblivion.'

**David Downes**, *The Guardian*, 2/6/08

### Friday 20 June

**10.30am-12.30pm.** A607. Anthropological Theory research seminar. Carolyn Heitmeyer: *Life Has Returned to Normal: managing peace in a town in central Gujarat, India.*

### Monday 23 June

**12.45-2pm.** R405. CEP/DOM Management Research seminar. Peter Neary: *Market Size and Market Structure.*