



# News & Views

## Combating the effects of smoking during pregnancy

If women give up smoking before their fifth month of pregnancy, there is no negative impact on the size of their baby. However, babies from poorly educated mothers who smoke during pregnancy, do experience lasting harm, thus these mothers need more advice and support in the early stages of pregnancy.

This is the central finding of new research by Emma Tominey, an occasional research assistant at the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP) at LSE.

In Maternal Smoking During Pregnancy and Early Child Outcomes, Emma Tominey found that mothers who smoke during pregnancy will have smaller babies – typically 5.4 per cent (6.5oz) lighter than other babies. But around half of this damage is because of ‘unobservable traits’ of the mother – including other health risks she might take, such as drinking alcohol,



and her nutrition and knowledge of healthy behaviour. This suggests that mothers do need to quit smoking to improve the health of their child, but this decision must be taken simultaneously with general health improvements.

Additionally, the research found that the lasting harm to babies of smoking during pregnancy is greatest if the mothers have a lower level of education. Children born to mothers who left school at the age of 16 suffer double the harm for each cigarette smoked.

Yet it is not too late to help women who have

smoked in the early stages of pregnancy – surprisingly, the research shows that the harm to the baby is essentially reduced to zero if the mother changes behaviour during pregnancy, including quitting smoking by month five of the pregnancy, longer than previous research has suggested.

Possible causes for this finding could either be that the harm from smoking accumulates during the final months of pregnancy, or because the mothers who quit smoking simultaneously reduce their health risks in other ways. Either way, this tells us that there is more time than we thought to help the mothers change their behaviour during pregnancy.

Overall, the research suggests that while stopping mothers smoking during pregnancy is important, it is only half the battle. This study shows that in order to lower the incidence of underweight births, stopping a mother from smoking must be combined with helping her to be healthier in other areas of her life.

Emma Tominey said: ‘We find a really strong penalty from smoking for the entire nine months. It’s really important that mums keep trying to quit smoking, because they can still improve the health of their child.’

She suggests that policy should be targeted towards low educated mothers who are more likely to smoke. Further, as smoking during pregnancy is linked with other ‘unobservable’ traits of the mother, to improve child health mothers should receive advice not just on their smoking habits, but on other health related areas of their lives. The government must also target its anti-smoking policy directly at poorly educated families.

For more information visit [http://cep.lse.ac.uk/\\_new/publications/series.asp?prog=CEPCP](http://cep.lse.ac.uk/_new/publications/series.asp?prog=CEPCP)



## Academics abroad

Professor Danny Quah, head of Economics at the School gave a public lecture at Dublin City University Business School (DCUBS) this month, entitled Crunching Globalisation: some numbers on globalisation and global inequality. Professor Quah was invited by the Friends of LSE in Ireland to present their annual lecture.

In the lecture Professor Quah praised the economic achievements in Ireland, but warned that gross indicators of inequality showed a growing disparity between rich and poor. He also highlighted the

contribution to the global reduction of poverty that economies such as China and India are making. However, he emphasised the dangers from the absence of significant world leadership to mediate between the competing concerns of, on the one hand, those in the world now dramatically rising out of poverty and, on the other, those seeing imbalance and inequality in the midst of their already-rich economies.

Visit <http://www.dcu.ie/dcubs/news/lse.shtml> to listen to a podcast of the lecture.

## LSE locomotive nameplate unveiled in George IV

On Wednesday 13 February, the locomotive nameplate ‘London School of Economics’ was unveiled in the George IV pub by School Director, Howard Davies. The nameplate was originally on a British Rail electric locomotive, which was unveiled by Sir Huw Wheldon, chairman of Governors, at Euston station in October 1985.

The naming of the locomotive was the initiative of two former LSE students, Jonathan Bray and Christopher Zarebski of the Students’ Union Transport Society. They had proposed that LSE be commemorated in this way back in January 1985. Taking their idea to Professor Wise, then pro-director, he not only supported their proposal, but assisted with contacting the chief of operations of the British Rail



Board, Maurice Holmes. The locomotive was named in recognition of the large number of student passengers who used British Rail, following the launch of the Young Persons Railcard.

The nameplate was acquired by the School in an auction last year and now hangs above the bar in the George IV pub.

## What are your views on Human Resources?

Next week Human Resources will begin a consultation exercise seeking your views on a range of HR issues as part of a review of LSE’s current HR practices and to inform revision of the School’s HR strategy.

The exercise will follow guidance set out in the Higher Education Funding Council for England’s Self Assessment Tool (SAT). The School will submit the results of its findings to the Funding Council by the end of May 2008.

The SAT is designed to help universities assess their practice and performance in people management. It allows universities to draw on past experiences, to reassess their strategic HR priorities in the light of current organisational priorities and to develop action plans for future improvements. It encourages those closely involved in the assessment to include others – so that staff understand why changes and improvements need to be made.

The SAT divides people management practices into seven broad areas of work including staff remuneration and fair employment; staff recruitment and retention; size and composition of the workforce; staff development and skills needs; leadership, involvement and change management; occupational health, staff welfare and health and safety; and performance management: linking people management to organisational performance.

To ensure that the whole School community has a chance to contribute to this exercise, HR will set up a website to coordinate responses, which will be linked to the main HR website at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/humanResources/>

The findings of the SAT exercise will be summarised in a News&Views special next term. Staff are encouraged to check the website and to submit comments.

## Photography Masterclass

Tuesday 26 February, 1-2pm, Shaw Library, Old Building. Free and open to all, no ticket required.

To coincide with the LSE Photo Prize this masterclass talk by Steve Macleod, Creative Director of Metro Imaging, will explore the effects populist digital advances have had on photography as craft and the emergence of photography as art. For more information email [arts@lse.ac.uk](mailto:arts@lse.ac.uk)



Light #12 by Steve Macleod

## Public Lectures

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

### IDEAS-CWSC

PROFESSOR PAUL KENNEDY

#### **The Nuts and Bolts of Empire**

Tuesday 26 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

This lecture will examine the hard, infrastructural underpinnings of the Roman, Spanish and British Empires, and reflect on how the USA compares.

Paul Kennedy is J Richardson Dilworth professor of history at Yale University and Philippe Roman chair in History and International Affairs at LSE.

### Media@LSE inaugural public lecture

PROFESSOR LILIE CHOUILIARAKI

#### **Distant Suffering in the Media**

Wednesday 27 February, 6.30-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre

Professor Lilie Chouliaraki will talk about suffering in the media, addressing the question of how far images and stories of suffering make a difference in our ways of engaging with distant sufferers.

Lilie Chouliaraki is chair in media and communications at the Department of Media and Communications and research director of POLIS at LSE.

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

HANS-GERT PÖTTERING

#### **Dialogue of Cultures or Clash of Civilizations?**

Wednesday 27 February, 5-6.15pm, New Theatre

Hans-Gert Pöttering is president of the European Parliament.

### **Ralph Miliband Programme Oil, Energy Security and Global Order**

PROFESSOR LORD NICHOLAS STERN

#### **Climate Change, Energy and the Way Ahead**

Wednesday 27 February, 6.30-8pm, Old Theatre

The world must reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent by 2050 with rich country cuts of at least 80 per cent. How can the world rise to these challenges?

Nicholas Stern is IG Patel chair in Government and Economics and director of the Asia Research Centre.

Free but ticketed. One ticket per person from: [www.lse.ac.uk/events](http://www.lse.ac.uk/events) or ext 6100.

### Lunchtime lecture

PROFESSOR JULIAN LE GRAND

### **Thinking Like a Social Scientist**

Thursday 28 February, 1-2pm, Hong Kong Theatre

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

Julian Le Grand is Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy at LSE.

### **Institute of Social Psychology Psychology as Social Science**

PROFESSOR STEVE REICHER

#### **Beyond the Banality of Evil**

Thursday 28 February, 6.30-8pm, New Theatre

This lecture critically addresses Hannah Arendt’s hypothesis on the banality of evil arguing that those who commit extreme acts are not aware of the consequences of their actions: rather, they celebrate these consequences as moral.

Steve Reicher is professor of social psychology at the University of St Andrew’s.

### **LSE European Institute, Sciences Po Paris, French Embassy 2008 Franco-British Europe dialogue**

PIERRE HASSNER

#### **The West in a New World: what future for**

### **transatlantic relations?**

Monday 3 March, 6.30-8pm, U8

The world has changed dramatically since the end of the Cold War, but the transatlantic relationship has yet to be reviewed. The time has come to rethink it, along with the concept of the West.

Pierre Hassner is emeritus senior research fellow at CERI-Sciences Po.

### **Department of Economic History inaugural Epstein lecture**

PROFESSOR REGINA GRAFE

#### **Stuck in the past or looking towards the future?**

#### **The deep roots of Spanish economic regionalism**

Monday 3 March, 6.30pm, Old Theatre followed by a reception, 7.45pm, Atrium, Old Building

The lecture series has been established in memory of Professor Larry Epstein, who died suddenly at the age of 46 in February last year.

Professor Regina Grafe is assistant professor of European history at Northwestern University, and Economic History Department alumna.

mail to: [l.sampson@lse.ac.uk](mailto:l.sampson@lse.ac.uk)



# noticeboard

## Technology and its impact on the young – new ESRC seminar series

What are the benefits of new technologies for children and young people? How can society ensure ICTs contribute to positive educational outcomes? What can a multidisciplinary research framework offer practitioners? These and other questions will be addressed by a new seminar series, The educational and social impact of new technologies on young people in Britain, funded by the ESRC and organised by LSE Professor Sonia Livingstone, professor of social psychology in the Department of Media and Communications and Dr John Coleman, director of the Oxford University Phonetics Laboratory.

The first two seminars are on 12 March, Oxford University, on Theoretical frameworks for the social shaping and social consequences of new technologies for children and young people and 19 June at LSE on The changing nature of space, including global and local space, as well as off-line and on-line space, with further seminars in October on The development of new skills as a result of involvement in new technologies, including both learning skills and communication skills, and December on Understanding young people's perspectives on the appeal of new technologies. The final conference will be held in June 2009 at Oxford University.

For an invitation or more information contact Professor Sonia Livingstone by emailing [s.livingstone@lse.ac.uk](mailto:s.livingstone@lse.ac.uk)

## IT Services user satisfaction survey

Please help IT Services to develop and improve services in line with your needs by filling out the annual user satisfaction survey. It should take no more than fifteen minutes to complete and you could win a Nintendo Wii console if you enter the prize draw. Feedback from last year's survey has led to improvements in the services and facilities provided including: email and H;space quota allocations were more than doubled, a new service was introduced to simplify and improve remote access to email via Outlook (RPC over HTTPS) and a new software tool was selected to enable support teams to provide real-time 'virtual IT assistance' to users on campus or offsite. We will use the results from this year's survey in our departmental 'Operational Plan' for the 2008-09 academic year, so please take this opportunity to help shape the way your IT services are provided at LSE.

Click the following link to take part: [www.survey.lse.ac.uk/itstaffsurvey2008](http://www.survey.lse.ac.uk/itstaffsurvey2008)

The survey is open until Sunday 2 March to allow you to find a convenient time to fill it in.

## Small ads

Confused or unsure about which career path to take? Life coaching can help you clarify your options, focus your life and career objectives and help you better understand your motivations. Through clear and practical steps, you can work towards your goals, within a safe and confidential environment, call 07729 163347.

Need help with your essay writing or with your English? Finding it hard to structure your essays and convey your points? Professional, experienced and qualified one-to-one tutoring offered, individually tailored to meet your specific requirements, call 07729 163347.

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 – [r.fitzgerald@alumni.lse.ac.uk](mailto:r.fitzgerald@alumni.lse.ac.uk)

Room wanted – single, female, academic looking to rent a room or possibly share a flat/house in a safe area in London. I am smoker but will adjust to non-smoking room if necessary. Please email [puchupun@yahoo.com](mailto:puchupun@yahoo.com) as I am looking to move soon but if something comes up later, I will also be interested.

# Training opportunities at LSE

Academic, personal and professional development courses are available for all LSE staff and students. Courses on offer this month include:

**Tuesday 26 February**  
*Excel 2003: data analysis* 2-4pm

**Thursday 28 February**  
*Authoring a PhD Getting Started: project management for your PhD* 10am-1pm  
*HTML: lists and tables* 2-4pm

**Friday 29 February**  
*Outlook 2003: calendar, contacts and tasks* 2-4pm

**For further details** and a full listing of what is available, including booking information, please see: [www.lse.ac.uk/training](http://www.lse.ac.uk/training)

**For training in:**

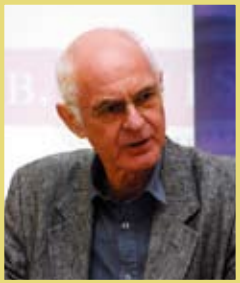
**European information**, please email Maria Bell at: [m.bell@lse.ac.uk](mailto:m.bell@lse.ac.uk)

**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)

## Jonathan Steele lectures at LSE



Jonathan Steel

Guardian foreign correspondent Jonathan Steele gave a talk at LSE in January hosted by the Crisis States Research Centre, entitled Iraq: the way out.

Jonathan Steele explained that he had visited Iraq eight times since the 2003 invasion and on each occasion had found the security situation worse, and increasing hostility towards the presence of the US and UK. Dozens of books have already been written about how this situation came about; but most follow the same 'conventional wisdom', which suggests it was the lack of a coherent plan before the invasion and a number of blunders after the invasion that caused this disaster.

Jonathan Steele argued against this viewpoint, stating that it was not the lack of planning but the continuing presence of the coalition powers itself that is perpetuating the crisis. No amount of planning could alter the fact that 'from the very first day more Iraqis saw it as an occupation than a liberation'.

Consequently, he concluded the only viable path for the future has to begin with the withdrawal of British and American troops. This lecture corresponded with the release of his new book *Defeat: why they lost Iraq*.

## Department of Media and Communications on a winning streak

Three members of Media and Communications at LSE have been awarded prizes this month.

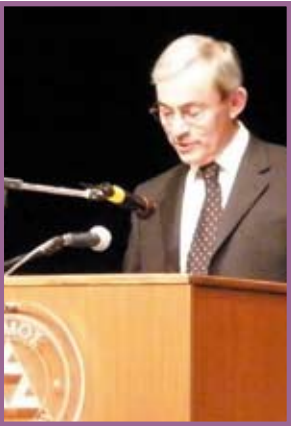
Professor Sonia Livingstone, professor of social psychology, has been awarded an honorary doctorate by Erasmus University Rotterdam as 'one of the most talented scholars of her generation' in the field of media and communication and 'as the leading international expert in the media use of children and young people and the domestic, familial and

## Professor of Economics awarded the Republic of Cyprus Aristeion

Professor Christopher Pissarides, professor of economics, was awarded the Republic of Cyprus Aristeion, the highest award that can be given to a Cypriot for achievements in literature, the arts and science.

The award was made by the President of the Republic at a special ceremony in Nicosia on Monday 4 February.

Professor Pissarides said: 'Cyprus is a small country but as the place where I was born and grew up it has a special place in my heart, so this award means a lot to me. The award ceremony was touching, in a beautiful small auditorium with live chamber music and full of family and friends that I had not seen for many years.'



Professor Christopher Pissarides receiving his award.

educational contexts of new media access and use'. Her degree will be awarded in November 2008.

Lecturer Dr Shani Orgad, was awarded an LSE Teaching Prize for outstanding teaching performance above and beyond that required for a successful Major Review candidate. Evangelia Berdou, PhD student, is winner of one of four Robert MacKenzie prizes, which are awarded on the basis of outstanding academic performance. Congratulations!

## Library news

**Library awarded National Research Library status**

Although the School Library is widely recognised as a major research library, HEFCE have taken the step of awarding 'National Research Library' status. This designation is a result of a report to the HEFCE board in November and in response to the Library meeting certain criteria including: a unique collection or critical mass of rare material; a significant and essential contribution to the national research base; and a track record of high quality services and facilities for external users. Other institutions also awarded this status are Cambridge, Manchester, Oxford and SOAS.

**Book availability exercise**

On Tuesday 26 February, for one day only, the annual course book availability checking exercise will take place. Just answer a few questions on the day as you use the Course Collection and your name will be entered into a prize draw.

## Jane M Klausman Women in Business scholarship

Tasneem Imani, a second year student studying for a BSc in Actuarial Science has been awarded the Jane M Klausman Women in Business scholarship.

The scholarship programme was established by Zonta International to encourage undergraduate women to enter careers and to seek leadership positions in business related fields.

Tasneem said: 'I feel great about winning the scholarship. Although it feels nice to be noticed, I think what makes the award so special is the hope and encouragement that it gives me and I will always treasure that feeling.'

The €1,000 scholarship will be used by Tasneem to support her studies at LSE.

## Lunchtime concert

On Thursday 28 February, 1.05-2pm, in the Shaw Library, Marina Nadiradze (piano) will perform Scarlatti 3 Sonatas, Haydn Sonata, and Ravel Gaspard de la Nuit

A prizewinner in several international competitions, Marina Nadiradze has been compared by *The Independent* to the great Mitsuko Uchida.



# Diary

Open to all unless otherwise stated

**Tuesday 26 February**  
**1-2.30pm.** H615. CARR seminar. Andrew Barry: *Transparency and Discretion*.

**5-6.30pm.** D209. Geography and Environment Department research seminar. Richard Phillips: *Transnational Sexuality Politics: colonial legacies and postcolonial projects*.

**6-7.30pm.** J116. Hellenic Observatory research seminar. Vladimir Iglorov: *Foreign aid in the Balkans*.

**Wednesday 27 February**  
**4-5.30pm.** V414. CSRC seminar. Sean Fox: *Rural Bias and Urban Crisis: urbanisation, state consolidation and economic development in Tanzania and South Africa*.

**4-6pm.** A607. Culture and Cognition seminar. Paulo Sousa: *The Folk Concept of Moral Responsibility: a cognitive exploration*.

**6-7.30pm.** Z332. Europe@LSE seminar. Christa van Wijnbergen: *Policy-Learning Across Borders: what does the EU's open method of co-ordination teach us?*

**6.15pm.** H216. LLM Corporate/Commercial seminar.

Charles Ross-Stewart: *The Role of the Compliance Department in an Investment Bank*.

**Thursday 28 February**  
**12.30-1.45pm.** H216. CCS seminar. Dr Giovanni Scotto: *Transformations in conflict resolution – the changing role of non-governmental public actors in post war construction and peace building processes*.

**1pm.** D109. LLM International Law seminar. Fiona McKay. *The Participation of Victims in ICC Proceedings*.

**4-6pm.** A607. East and Inner Asia seminar. Anna Fraser: *Medical Use of Thermo-Mineral Springs: cross-cultural comparison between Japan and the Czech Republic*.

**6.30-8pm.** J116. Forum for European Philosophy Revisions seminar. Michael Mack: *New Nature (Spinoza)*.

**Friday 29 February**  
**10.30am-12.30pm.** A607. Anthropological Theory

research seminar. John Bowen: *Shaping Islam to France*.

**2-4pm.** D502. LLM Comparative Legal Studies seminar. Guido Alpa: *Codified and Non-Codified Systems and Economic Development : some remarks on the reports on Doing Business of the World Bank Group*.

**4pm.** Hong Kong Theatre. DESTIN Friday speaker series. James Manor

**Monday 3 March**  
**12.45-2pm.** R405. CEP/DOM Management seminar. Sander Onderstal: *Fighting Collusion in Auctions: an experimental investigation*.

**4.30pm.** R505. British History Unit/Department of Management seminar. Philip Scranton: *Mastering Failure: cold war jet engine development, 1942-65*.

**6-8pm.** J116. Contemporary Turkish Studies seminar. Ann Dismorr: *Turkey's Bumpy Road Towards the European Union*.