

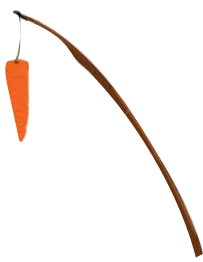


# News & views

## Financial carrots for better health?

Should people be paid to live healthier lives? This is a question that a new Centre for the Study of Incentives in Health will try to answer. The centre, which is based in LSE Health, has been funded with £800,000 for five years by the Wellcome Trust. It brings together economists, psychologists and philosophers to examine what motivates us to improve our health and how our behaviour can be affected by rewards and incentives. The Centre will also examine what incentives are fair and ethical – a crucial question at a time when governments are increasingly trying to influence our behaviour with money. The principal investigators will be economist Adam Oliver of LSE Health, Theresa Marteau, professor of Health Psychology at King's College, and Richard Ashcroft, professor of Bioethics at Queen Mary's, University of London. Dr Oliver said: 'Our central task will be to ask when it is right to use financial incentives to improve health. We will be looking at four reward schemes already running in the UK which are aimed at reducing obesity and drug dependence, encouraging better health

during pregnancy and getting people with psychotic disorders to take long-acting medication. 'Even when schemes like these are shown to work, they are often criticised – either for being an unwarranted intrusion into people's lives or for rewarding behaviour which should be a personal responsibility. 'We hope the Centre will be able to show not only what can be effective in influencing behaviour but also to what extent it is ethically justified.' Dr Oliver will recruit a post-doctoral fellow and a PhD student to join his team when the centre starts work in April. Professors Marteau and Ashcroft will also each recruit a post-doctoral and a PhD student. The centre will work closely with, among others, the Department for Health, the King's Fund and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence.



## Lifetime achievement

Peter Townsend, professor of international social policy at LSE, was given the Social Policy Association Lifetime Achievement Award this month. Professor Townsend was joined by former LSE academic Professor David Donnison, now professor emeritus at Glasgow University's Department of Urban Studies, who also received the award during the Association's annual conference, held in Edinburgh. The Award is presented annually to someone who the judges feel has:

made persistent contributions to raising the external profile of the subject; an acknowledged international reputation; made contributions to professional bodies and associations; had an impact on political process/discourse; achieved esteem in terms of journal editing/establishing; promotion of social policy within other social sciences; membership of research councils or similar bodies.

Professor Townsend was delighted to accept the award. He said: 'As a novice, I did my early teaching at LSE in social policy when in my late 20s and early 30s. David Donnison was a senior colleague then in the department who became one of the most creative research scientists and policy administrators of the last 40 years. We both did what we could for the subject. 'I have gone full circle in being given the chance to return to the School for the last ten years and teach as well as help set up the Centre for the Study of Human Rights – which has become formidable under its multi-disciplinary leadership.'

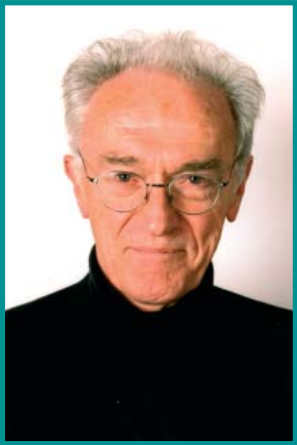
Professor Alistair McGuire, head of Social Policy at LSE said: 'This is a thoroughly deserved award for Peter who can honestly have been said not only to have devoted his academic life to 'making poverty history' long before this became a media focus, but also to have initiated a number of practical steps in this long march.

'His willingness to tackle large questions, pursuit of academic excellence, rigour in methodology and eye for policy relevance has been maintained throughout his career making the lifetime element of this award wholly appropriate. Congratulations.'

Professor Townsend recently gave a plenary address to the African Child Policy Forum, presenting arguments from his report on abolition of child poverty and the right to social security – launched in Parliament at the end of April and discussed at the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) conference held this month in Dublin. See: [www.basicincome.org/bien/index.html](http://www.basicincome.org/bien/index.html)

On 20 May, he also gave a lecture at Church House Conference Centre, Westminster, entitled: *1909-2009: Beatrice Webb and the future of the welfare state*. This lecture helped to launch a new research programme marking the centenary of the publication of the *Minority Report on the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, 1905-09*.

Professor Townsend has also been re-appointed honorary professor of the University of Swansea 2008-10.



## Students and MPs celebrate ten years of working together

LSE Careers Service, which provides more student interns for MPs than any other university, held a reception at the House of Commons on Tuesday 24 June to celebrate ten years of the LSE Student Internships Scheme. Hosted by Barry Sheerman MP, one of the founders of the original scheme and a keen supporter, with David Willetts MP as guest speaker, the event attracted MPs and peers from across the political world. Both MPs stressed the value of LSE interns, their professionalism and range of skills. The Scheme, which began its life in Westminster but has now been expanded to include think-tanks, NGOs, charities, research organisations and organisations in the corporate social responsibility field, is unusual in supplying only graduates but from any subject. Patrick Dunleavy, Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at LSE, and a founder of the scheme, said: 'Our idea was to give as many LSE students as possible a worthwhile opportunity to experience at first hand what it is like working for an MP in Westminster. At the same time we were keen to provide MPs with a small additional resource that would be helpful for them in carrying out their duties.' Many of the interns are from overseas and provide an interesting

perspective on their experiences. These are captured in a booklet entitled *From LSE to Westminster: 10 years of student internships*, produced to mark the occasion, in which interns past and present and MPs recount their experiences of the scheme. It can be found on the Careers Service website at: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEInternships/parliamentaryInternships/DefaultParl.htm](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEInternships/parliamentaryInternships/DefaultParl.htm) The links between LSE and Westminster are strong – the current Parliament includes 34 MPs and 35 Peers who are LSE alumni. The reception this week served to further strengthen these links.



## Tackling colorectal cancer

**Colorectal Cancer in Europe and Australia: challenges and opportunities for the future, Panos Kanavos, Willemien Schurer, Candida Owusu-Apenten, LSE Health, and Richard Sullivan. Funded by F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd** Colorectal cancer is the second most diagnosed form of cancer as well as the second cause of cancer mortality, making it a cancer that warrants interest and attention. Five-year survival of colorectal cancer in 2002 was far less than other high-incidence, high-mortality cancers at less than 55 per cent versus over 75 per cent for breast and prostate cancers. Although survival has increased from under 45 per cent in 1985, incidence is increasing and

large variations in these figures occur within and between countries. These figures are very sensitive to different factors, from societal interest to clinical treatments to health policies, and suggest that improvements in colorectal cancer outcomes are definitely within reach using many different means. The survey highlighted significant variations in policy and practice across different themes of the CRC treatment pathway. Both France and the UK have high aggregate positive scores, however they also have several negative points, indicating room for improvement. Also telling is that few countries scored 50 per cent as a total of all positive indicators and none over 75 per cent. These countries may have policies facilitating

colorectal cancer care, however their low overall score suggests they could do better. High negative scores appear to be concentrated in countries with problems in availability, affordability, access and quality of colorectal cancer services provided. Many of these countries appear to be Eastern European countries, although Portugal and Spain are also included. To read the full report, go to: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealth/pdf/colorectalcancer/ColorectalCancerReport%2025JUNE2008.pdf](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealth/pdf/colorectalcancer/ColorectalCancerReport%2025JUNE2008.pdf)



## Public discussion

**Asia Research Centre**  
DR DIBYESH ANAND, DR ANDREW FISCHER, TSERING TOPGYAL AND PROFESSOR ATHAR HUSSAIN  
**Unrest in Tibet: reality and causes**  
Wednesday 2 July, 6-8pm, Hong Kong Theatre  
Dr Dibyesh Anand is reader in international relations at the Centre for the Study of Democracy, University of Westminster. Dr Andrew Fischer is a fellow at the Development Studies Institute, LSE. Tsering Topgyal is a PhD Candidate in the Department of International Relations, LSE. Professor Athar Hussain is the director of the Asia Research Centre, LSE.



## Summer evening concert

On Tuesday 1 July, 7.30pm, in the Shaw Library, Trey Lee (cello) and Tanya Bannister (piano) will perform Robert Schumann, 5 Pieces in Folk Style, Op. 102; Gyorgy Ligeti, Sonata for Solo Cello; Cesar Franck, and Sonata in A Major for Cello and Piano. Trey Lee (Chui-yee Lee) is an outstanding cellist and a winner of many major prizes. He has played with several international orchestras and has appeared on various TV networks. He is highly acclaimed in the press and has recorded for EMI. This one-hour concert is free and open to all with no ticket required. Entry is on a first come first served basis. Doors open at 7pm.



## Public Lecture

free and unticketed unless otherwise stated

**The India Observatory**  
NAVIN CHAWLA  
**Electoral Democracy in Plural Societies: the Indian experience**  
Friday 4 July, 11-12:30pm, D209  
Mr Navin Chawla is currently Election Commissioner of India.

He has held several senior positions in the Indian Administrative Service including secretary to Government of India, Department of Consumer Affairs; special secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests; secretary, Union Public Service Commission; principal secretary, Government of Pondicherry with responsibilities for Power, Ports, Tourism and Art and Culture Departments; first chairman of the Delhi Vidhut (Electricity) Board. Mr Chawla is an alumni of the School and has been a fellow at Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford University.



# noticeboard

## News&Views

This is the last issue of News&Views for this term. The next one will be published on Monday 6 October. Deadline for receipt of copy is Monday 29 September. However, space is always at a premium at this time of year so text sent earlier to the Press Office will be given priority (unless it is time sensitive). Text should be sent to Toni Sym, Press and Information Office, room W400, email: t.sym@lse.ac.uk

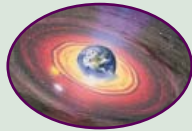
## Enter the dragon

The London Jewish Cultural Centre and *The Jewish Chronicle* are looking for the next Jewish entrepreneur. Come and watch as our successful entrants present their 'big idea' and business plan to our dragons. Their inspiring ideas will be analysed, questions will be asked and expert advice offered. The dragons are: Simon Bentley, former chairman and chief executive of Blacks Leisure Group plc; Patsy Bloom, founder of Pet Plan Ltd; Stephen Grabiner, partner at Apax Partners; Bernie Myers, former managing director of NM Rothschild Sons Ltd; David Rowan, editor of *The Jewish Chronicle*; Marc Worth, founder of Worth Global Style Network. The event is being held on Monday 7 July, 8pm, at Ivy House, 94-96 North End Road, London NW11 7SX. Tickets cost £15, or £10 with student discount. To book call 020 8457 5000 or go to: www.ljcc.org.uk



## Royal Society

Find out smart answers to BIG Questions at the Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition 2008 which takes place from Monday 30 June to Thursday 3 July at The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG. Opening times are: Monday 30 June, 6-9pm, Tuesday 1 July, 10am-9pm, Wednesday 2 July, 10am-4.30pm, and Thursday 3 July, 10am-4.30pm. The last entry is 30 minutes before closing. All are welcome and admission is free. Full details of all the 2008 exhibits can be seen at: www.summerscience.org.uk/ The menu on the left hand side of this page has links to the exhibits.



## 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

**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

# 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 30 June</b>		
<i>Excel 2003: essential formulas and functions</i>	10am	
<i>Review of the Individual Student Support Agreement (ISSA)</i>		
<i>Process 2007-08</i>	12pm	
<b>Wednesday 2 July</b>		
<i>Moodle Training (staff)</i>	2pm	
<b>Friday 4 July</b>		
<i>Access 2003: simple tables and queries</i>	2pm	

**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

**Business Information**, please email Barbara Humphries at: b.humphries@lse.ac.uk

**US Government publications**, please email Clive Wilson at: clive.wilson@lse.ac.uk

**UK Government publications**, please email Ken Gibbons at: k.gibbons@lse.ac.uk

# LSE-PKU set for school

Professors Michael Cox, International Relations, Francis Snyder, Law, and Danny Quah, Economics, and Dr Fei Qin, Employment Relations and Organisational Behaviour Group, will be teaching courses on LSE-PKU Summer School in Beijing. This year marks the fifth LSE-PKU Summer School and will be held 7-19 July. The programme provides a unique opportunity for students to attend a world class curriculum in the exciting capital city of Beijing, one of the world's great cities with an enormous variety of historical, architectural, artistic and culinary attractions. The programme also give students an opportunity to visit a number of major tourist attractions such as the Great Wall of China, Chinese traditional theatre and the Peking Opera. Professors Cox and Westad will teach The New World Order: America, Asia, Europe course which examines the rapidly changing character of international relations since the end of the Cold War. Professor Snyder will teach the Law and China course. This looks at how China's accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in 2001 is transforming global markets, international trade law and the resolution of international trade disputes. The Management, Entrepreneurship and Global Leadership course, which looks at new enterprise development in the context of globalisation, will be taught by Dr Qin.



# Finland's health system

**Pharmaceutical Policies in Finland: challenges and opportunities**, Elias Mossialos and Divya Srivastava. This review found that over prescribing, high user charges and lack of transparency in pricing have made Finland one of the world's leading countries for high drug expenditure and suggests that improvements to the Finnish regulation system of pharmaceuticals are vital to offset rising costs whilst maintaining quality of care. A number of problems were found including:

- high levels of prescribing many medicines to the elderly which increases the risk of adverse reactions to drugs
- high level of user charges places a disproportionate burden on patients, which could affect access and quality of care

The report's recommendations include:

- greater co-ordination between regulatory authorities
- capacity building, particularly in health economics and clinical pharmacology
- stronger incentives for doctors and pharmacists in prescribing and dispensing appropriate and good quality medicines
- increased information sharing for implementation of policies



Professor Mossialos, lead author, said: 'The report offers a range of views from an international perspective and looks in detail at issues concerning the regulatory environment, considering the broader implications of health policy planning rather than pharmaceutical policy in isolation. The findings consider the context of this environment with respect to policy implications of both supply and demand side policies, including the regulatory environment; actors in the provision of services; expenditure patterns; implications for patients; prescribing trends; consumption patterns; price trends; and information technology systems. Divya Srivastava, co-author, added: 'It is intended that this study might stimulate further debate on the continuing development of pharmaceutical policies.' Mr Kari Välimäki, permanent secretary, Finnish Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, wrote: 'We are very grateful to Professor Mossialos and Ms Divya Srivastava for a review that is both comprehensive and in-depth, much beyond our initial expectations.' To download a copy, go to: [www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/PDF/PharmaceuticalPoliciesFinland.pdf](http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/pressAndInformationOffice/PDF/PharmaceuticalPoliciesFinland.pdf)

## Library news

**LIBRARY OPENING DURING SUMMER VACATION**  
The Library is open seven days a week during Summer vacation, including the August bank holiday.

**Opening hours:**  
Monday to Friday 9am-8pm  
Saturday and Sunday 10am-8pm

**Staffed services opening hours:**  
Monday to Friday 9am-8pm (excluding August bank holiday).

**Unstaffed opening hours**  
Access is for existing Library cardholders only and the Library is staffed by Security.



# Media bites



'China and Africa have a history of both being developing parts of the world and a commitment to re-ordering the world such that developing countries have a bigger voice. Resources, first and foremost. This is the key driver of Chinese engagement in Africa. But I think that we are beginning to see them invest beyond the resource sector alone, and increasingly Africa will be seen as a market for Chinese goods as well. 'Down at the second level there are smaller economies which have been effectively ignored by the typical foreign investor... and the Chinese have started to explore them, and are beginning to see opportunities for investment.'

**Chris Alden**, *Engineering News*, 6/6/08

'The Japanese banks went overseas in the 1970s and 1980s and over-lent at low margins and suffered losses in profitability. They had to retreat home with their tails between their legs. That's what the Chinese banks must avoid.'

**Howard Davies**, *Bloomberg News*, 16/6/08

'The EU needs to be more transparent in its day-to-day business, for example with a more open election of the next Commission president, allowing citizens to see how the Council amends EU laws, and allowing national parliaments to scrutinise all EU acts.'

**Simon Hix**, *Financial Times* (letter), 18/6/08

'Those who introduce internment never call it by its true name, but the bill passed by the Commons last week amounts to nothing less. Not for the first time it is left to community groups, to faith leaders, to lawyers, to people involved in civil society to keep alive the idea that long-term detention without charge is a monstrous invasion of freedom. 'And the House of Lords, of course, and David Davis. The British constitution is always full of surprises.'

**Conor Gearty**, *New Camden Journal* (letter), 19/6/08

# LSE summer street party

The LSE Alumni Association and the LSE Students' Union are proud to present the Summer Street Party 2008, which will take place in Houghton Street on Saturday 19 July, 2-5pm. The event will celebrate the graduation of the Class of 2008, and give recent alumni the chance to get together back at the School – with live music, tasty food, entertainment and prize draw. Tickets are £10 in advance, £15 on the door, and everyone is welcome. For more information and tickets, please see the event's Facebook page or Houghton Street Online at: [www.alumni.lse.ac.uk](http://www.alumni.lse.ac.uk)

