**Professor Sir Tony Atkinson (1944-2017)**

It is with great sadness that the Department notes the death of Tony Atkinson on New Year’s Day. A great man has left us all too soon.

Tony had long-standing connections with the Department, and had just been reappointed as a Centennial Professor (jointly with the Department of Economics). He was the School’s Tooke Professor of Economic Science and Statistics, 1980–1992, and Director of the Suntory-Toyota Centre for Economics and Related Disciplines, within which our department’s Centre for the Analysis of Social Policy is housed. Tony was one of CASE’s greatest supporters throughout its history, and he also made many contributions to the new International Inequalities Institute.

Tony made fundamental and original theoretical contributions to economics in general, and to public economics and the analysis of economic inequality in particular. He also undertook original and innovative empirical analysis of economic inequalities, and of their relationship to economic institutions such as the welfare state. He made major contributions to applied statistics and the development of social indicators. His work brought the analysis of distributional issues back to a central position in economics. It is no overstatement to say that the modern analysis of economic inequality started with Tony’s 1970 paper in the Journal of Economic Theory.

Aside from his academic contributions (which made him a leading contender for a Nobel prize), Tony made major contributions to social and public policy in the UK and internationally throughout his career, from his first book (Poverty in Britain and the Reform of Social Security, 1969), to his major report in October 2016 on Monitoring Global Poverty completed as chairman of the World Bank Commission on Global Poverty. In between, he made many other major contributions including to the measurement of government outputs and productivity, and to development of indicators on social inclusion and poverty for the EU. Tony was a pioneer (with Thomas Piketty and Emmanuel Saez) of the study of ‘top incomes’ and inequality. He was a member of the Royal Commission on the Distribution of Income and Wealth, the Retail Prices Index Advisory Committee, a Specialist Adviser to the House of Commons committees, a member of the Conseil d’Analyse Economique advising the French Prime Minister, the (Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi) Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, and the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board. He was President of the Luxembourg Income Study.

Tony will also always be remembered for his outstanding personal qualities. He was sagacious in so many fields and yet so modest and kind, and the epitome of decency, humanity, and collegiality. Despite being very busy, Tony provided many of us friendly but incisive comments on our work, and was a continuing source of encouragement, support, and inspiration. He will be sorely missed.