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International
Inequalities Institute

International Inequalities Institute

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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MISSION STATEMENT

The International Inequalities Institute

Over the past few years the growth of inequalities has emerged as the biggest challenge of our times. The International Inequalities Institute at LSE aims to link the best research with innovative teaching and leadership programmes by:

- Supporting and promoting innovative thinking and research examining the mechanisms generating inequalities;
- Providing and supporting graduate teaching and study related to inequality across the LSE's disciplines and areas of expertise;
- Developing and securing funding for research related to inequality within and between the School's departments and research centres, as well as within the Institute, especially cross-disciplinary research;
- Providing a forum for cross-disciplinary exchange and collaboration across the School and its partners;
- Supporting a programme of public engagement and outreach to promote debates on inequality both within the UK and globally, including running and supporting programmes aimed at supporting emerging leaders to work in arenas where inequalities are a key concern.



CO-DIRECTORS INTRODUCTION

It is now two years since the International Inequalities Institute (III) started work in May 2015. Over those two years the Institute has developed rapidly and established itself as one of the world's leading hubs for cross-disciplinary research and teaching on inequality.

In Autumn 2017 the third cohort of PhD students funded by us with support from the Leverhulme Trust started their doctoral research, and a third – and enlarged – cohort of students started the interdisciplinary MSc in Inequalities and Social Science which we run. We are starting work on new research programmes supported by funding from the NORFACE consortium of research councils and on research supported by the Institute for Global Affairs and the Rockefeller Foundation, complementing research which we started last year supported by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. Our team of researchers within the Institute is expanding, and we support researchers elsewhere in the School, both as partners in our externally funded research and through our award of grants to pump-prime research related to inequality across the LSE's departments and research centres.

As this report sets out, our events programme continued successfully through the last year, with packed lecture theatres for our Annual Conference in June and other lectures through the year, and a new fortnightly lunchtime seminar series. Video and sound recordings of our events can be downloaded from our website, alongside with our working papers series and a web portal through to other LSE research related to inequality. Our redesigned and expanded website now offers material related to a huge range of aspects of inequality and perspectives on it from different disciplines and parts of the world.

One of the most exciting developments of the year marked the culmination of more than two years of discussion, recruitment and preparation to set up the new twenty-year Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity programme, generously funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies, training and supporting Atlantic Fellows, whose careers and work would benefit from intensive periods examining difference aspects of inequalities.

The team running and servicing the programme arrived during the year, including Rana Zincir-Celal as Deputy Director, with Katie Boulton, Neil Johnson, Clive Nwonka and Verity Treadwell, and we were delighted that Professor Beverley Skeggs arrived as Academic Director of the programme from September 2017.

Our first non-residential fellows – who take a series of short courses with us and our partners, including the University of Cape Town – arrived in July, and the first residential fellows – whose work is based around our MSc in Inequalities and Social Science – arrived in September 2017. They bring a wealth of experience from across the world in practical initiatives that challenge inequality and will enrich many aspects of what we do.

Our aim is to bring together research and teaching that crosses disciplinary – and in LSE's case, departmental – boundaries. We are proud to be working with colleagues from across LSE, including from Anthropology, Economics, Economic History, Gender Studies, Geography and Environment, Government, International Development, International Relations, Law, Management, Media and

Communications; Methodology, Psychological and Behavioural Science, Social Policy, Sociology, other Departments, and research centres such as LSE Cities and the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion.

This report presents key highlights from our research and activities for the academic year 16/17. It contains information on:

- Our partnership with the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, investigating the links between poverty and inequality, including the research of Aaron Reeves (pages 10-11)
- The projects that we are supporting through our Research Innovation Fund (pages 16-17)
- The Atlantic Fellows programme (pages 18-25)
- The fifteen Leverhulme Trust scholars, whose doctoral research we are supporting (page 28), and who form part of wider cross-disciplinary seminar groups with other doctoral students in the same 2015, 2016 and 2017 entry cohorts.
- The MSc in Inequalities and Social Science, the full-time members of the second cohort of which completed in September 2017 (page 29)
- Our events, including our own Annual Conference with the Atlantic Fellows programme in June 2017, and other joint events including marking the centenary of Charles Booth in November 2016, the 2017 Amartya Sen lecture, and our new seminar programme (pages 32-39)
- Our own publications and the portal to related LSE research (pages 38-39).

As well as the first staff of the Atlantic Fellows programme, we are delighted that Professor Sudhir Anand has been appointed as Centennial Professor within the Institute and that Dr Jonathan Mijs (page 15) and Dr Susanne Wessendorf joined us in the Autumn of 2017 to work on aspects of migration, ethnicity and social cohesion. We are pleased that Dr David Hope (page 14), who carried out post-doctoral research within the III during 2016-17 has secured a teaching post across the road at Kings College London, but continues as a Visiting Fellow at III to carry out research with our Research Director, Professor David Soskice and others. Dr Luna Glucksberg (page 14) also continues as a researcher in the III now working on the Resilience project (page 12) and a project with the Basque University (page 13).

We think it is fundamental that we build on the best quality academic research but that we also engage with policy makers and public debates. The III is an outward-looking Institute, seeking to influence thinking and debate and very keen to work with external organisations and academics at every opportunity. Reflecting this, we are hosting a series of teams of researchers and practitioners supported as "visiting Atlantic Fellows" and other visitors carrying out joint research (pages 22-24 and pages 12-13), including practitioners appointed as research fellows in the Institute as part of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation programme on poverty and inequality (page 10).

Our work is overseen by a Management Committee from different parts of LSE (page 47), and the members of our Advisory Board (page 48). We are very grateful to all of them for their support and advice, as well to those who are financially supporting us, including the Atlantic Philanthropies, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, NORFACE, the Leverhulme Trust, the Marshall Institute and Institute for Global Affairs at LSE, as well as the LSE itself through our first two years. To keep all of this running we depend on the indefatigable administrative support we receive from our Manager Liza Ryan and Institute Assistant Billie Elmqvist Thurén, and other LSE Divisions, without whom none of what we report here could have happened.

For more information about the III and our work, including the seminar series and our publications, please visit our website lse.ac.uk/InternationalInequalities

John Hills and Mike Savage

Co-Directors
International Inequalities Institute

"We think it is fundamental that we build on the best quality academic research but that we also engage with policy makers and public debates."



Photo: Billie Elmqvist Thurén


THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

30



NEW POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS ON THE MSC INEQUALITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAMME

10



35

TAUGHT PHD STUDENTS FROM ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

10



NON-RESIDENTIAL

11



RESIDENTIAL


Atlantic Fellows

4



VISITING ATLANTIC FELLOWS RESEARCH PROJECTS AWARDED FUNDING

6



LEVERHULME TRUST DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED FOR STUDENTS UNDERTAKING INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ON THE 'CHALLENGE OF ESCALATING INEQUALITIES'

3

SUPPORTED AFP NETWORK INNOVATION FUND RESEARCH PROJECTS



5



NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS RECEIVED FUNDING

7

RESEARCH PROJECTS AWARDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT ACROSS LSE DEPARTMENTS VIA THE III



22

PUBLIC LECTURES

19

PUBLIC SEMINARS



8

WORKING PAPERS PUBLISHED



5

WORKSHOPS/ CONFERENCES

12

FULL-TIME MEMBERS OF STAFF






5

RESEARCHERS

2

VISITING FELLOWS



				
1,070	1,342	6,702	26,447	446,439
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS	FACEBOOK DOLLOWERS	TWITTER FOLLOWERS	YOUTUBE VIEWS	VIDEO AND PODCAST DOWNLOADS

III RESEARCH

“People’s lived experiences of inequality – whether socio-economic, gender, ethnicity or other forms of inequality – have implications for their incentives, motivations and sense of self. And these implications have far-reaching effects upon social, political and economic life.”



III RESEARCH AGENDA

The question of inequality has moved decisively to the top of the intellectual agenda in recent years. Prompted in significant part by the work of leading economists such as Tony Atkinson, Amartya Sen and Joseph Stiglitz, and underlined most spectacularly by the reception of Thomas Piketty's important *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, increasing inequalities of various kinds, and their impact on social, political and economic life now present themselves as one of the most urgent issues facing contemporary social scientists.

The III was set up to build on LSE's longstanding tradition of leadership in the study of social and economy inequality, bringing together scholars from across the School to coordinate our efforts to further understanding of the genesis and nature of inequalities; of the structural, institutional and cultural factors which shape them; of their socio-economic and political significance, including through the lived experience of inequality; and of how inequalities may best be countered in different contexts.

The research agenda of the III is rooted in the LSE's commitment to an international perspective, and seeks to analyse different forms, sources and dimensions of inequality. We bring methodological expertise from across the social sciences, including cutting edge quantitative and qualitative methods; and we are committed to asking fundamental questions about the causes, nature, and political challenges of inequality.

Our research agenda focuses on three themes:

What causes inequality?

Towards a social and political economy of inequality: understanding the mechanisms underlying the production and reproduction of inequalities

We see a fundamental issue as lying in the nature of changing economic inequalities: how and why is the share of value added going to labour falling in many countries across the world? Why should the relationship between productivity and earnings have changed? How are these economic inequalities shaped by both social and political systems? Our aspiration, therefore, is to build up an integrated social and political economy of inequality through the pursuit of interlinked research projects.

The mechanisms involved in producing inequality have fundamental implications for social and political systems. There has been a profound reconfiguration of the 'advanced' societies over the last quarter century, radically changing the nature of and interrelations between economic, social and political systems. While this has taken different forms in different countries (in say Sweden or Denmark compared with the UK or the US), there have been similar basic changes. Rising economic and social inequality is affecting the configuration of classes; fragmenting the "old" pattern of political involvement via stable parties with high trust in politicians, and participation through voting and party membership, as well as civic culture; and leading to low participation, low party membership, as well as populist ("radical right" and "radical left") parties, and low trust in political systems. These developments have been prompted in large part by technological change which has caused the collapse of stable employment in key sectors and which has brought with it a generation of winners and losers, shaped by differential access to higher education and other avenues towards skill-acquisition as well as by broader vectors of power and social norms. The polarisation between winners and losers has in turn prompted a reconfiguration of class affiliations and a realignment of political preferences, leading to a reconfiguration in many countries of party politics and new forms of democratic organisation and participation.

Our work will advance the existing scholarship on advanced countries, while also asking what the advanced democracies can learn from scholarship on developing countries of the global South. Here, analogous changes have been felt in economies such as Brazil, South Africa and Chile, while global geo-political and technological forces underlying the growth in inequalities in the advanced democracies have been shaped by distinctive institutional and political dynamics, with consequences for inequalities both within and between countries. Our work will also examine the role that new inequalities in the resources, skills and connections related to fast-changing media and information infrastructures play in reproducing or potentially challenging deep-seated inequalities.

In what ways does inequality matter?

The social impact of inequality: understanding how we live with inequalities

Economic inequalities and their production also have to be understood in terms of the experience of both winners and losers; how do material inequalities affect status inequalities, and vice versa? People's lived experiences of inequality – whether socio-economic, gender, ethnicity or other forms of inequality – have implications for their experiences, incentives, motivations and sense of self. And these implications have far-reaching effects upon social, political and economic life. Our research agenda will encompass ethnographic and other studies which seek to understand the changing impact of inequalities on lived experience in different parts of the world. Current projects by people associated with the Institute include the impact of caste inequalities in India and the impact of economic, ethnic and spatial inequalities on levels of violence and social disorganisation/fragmentation in both the US and South America.

What can be done about inequalities?

Our final question is whether inequality is inevitable, and what might mitigate or curtail it? We pose this question mindful of the significance of the kind of wealth and inheritance effects which Thomas Piketty has emphasised will generate increasing levels of inequality as those with most wealth will tend to disproportionately accumulate more in the future. We are also mindful of the way that cultural and social capital can re-inforce the inheritance of economic inequalities, possibly reinforced by new forms of social and economic differentiation based on automated data collection and data processing. Information technologies with zero marginal costs and huge returns to scale, along with robotisation, is likely to drive trends into the future, with possible implications in rewards to different kinds of skills, and the generation of huge geographical differences between economies in different parts of the globe. We see geographical reinforcement processes also tending towards the reproduction of inequality.

Our research in this area will have a strong comparative and international focus, examining why it is that some systems appear to produce higher levels of inequality; asking why high levels of inequality appear to be so readily tolerated in many areas; and analysing the implications of this understanding for the possibilities for countering inequality in particular contexts, through coalition-building of various kinds and the development of policy instruments such as taxation, wage regulation and the instantiation of rights.

“Bringing together methodological expertise from across the social sciences, the III is committed to asking fundamental questions about the causes, nature, and political challenges of inequality.”



Photo: Samantha Sophia/Unsplash

III RESEARCH PROJECTS



Photo: Ian Beesley, Courtesy of JRF

Improving the Evidence Base for Understanding the Links between Inequalities and Poverty

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JOSEPH ROWNTREE FOUNDATION

This three-year programme, which commenced in January 2016, aims to review the relationships between inequalities and poverty. It seeks to investigate areas such as the consequences of living in an unequal society for the lives of those in poverty; how people's prospects of social mobility are affected if parental resources are unequally distributed between families; the links between poverty, inequality and geographical and neighbourhood segregation; how inequality affects risks of poverty for different groups, such as by ethnicity, gender, disability and migration status; and the political and attitudinal effects of inequality for support (or otherwise) for effective collective action against poverty. There are four main parts to the programme:

- 1 Exploring conceptual issues
- 2 Extending the evidence base
- 3 Understanding the mechanisms
- 4 Analysing policy responses

The programme is interdisciplinary and based in the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) and the III at LSE. Within the III, the programme supports the three-year appointment of Dr Aaron Reeves as Associate Professorial Research Fellow in Poverty and Inequality. His research has looked at four main topics: the social composition of elites over time; the economic returns to symbolic resources; the political determinants of health inequalities; and the economic determinants of negative media rhetoric regarding people living in poverty. The box on page 11 describes the result of the last of these projects.

Practitioner Fellowships

Growing out of our partnership with JRF, the III has funding to build a network of academics and practitioners dedicated to changing policy, practice, and public dialogues around inequalities. To support this goal, we recently advertised for a series of "Practitioner Fellowships" in 2017/18, attracting a strong field.

This fellowship will provide successful applicants with reflective time away from line responsibilities to engage with recent research and interact with members of the III, as well as world-leading academics and other practitioners from around the world. It is designed to strengthen policy professionals' ties to the academic world, providing the Institute an insight into how different organisations are conceptualising the relationship between inequality and poverty.

Fellows will determine their own projects and may focus on different aspects of the intersection between poverty and inequality, such as housing, finance, taxation, social security and labour markets. They will also become an important part of the III, participating in weekly seminars and presenting their work to the research group.

The Fellows are now being appointed, with the first to start early 2018.

JRF-supported events at the III

Revitalising Housing Studies: a collaborative workshop on emerging methods/approaches to inequalities research

11-13 September 2017

Participants: Aaron Reeves (LSE), Rebecca Bentley (University of Melbourne), Emma Baker (University of Adelaide), and others

Do recessions prompt negative rhetoric regarding people living in poverty?

by Aaron Reeves and Dan McArthur

Following the Great Recession in 2008, there has been a notable shift in how the media have represented people living in poverty and receiving social security. TV shows such as "Benefits Street" intended to provide a realistic portrayal of life on welfare but, according to critics, merely deployed and perpetuated stigmatising discourses regarding those with few economic resources. Certain segments of the print media, too, have reinforced some of these stereotypes with talk of "benefit broods" and "scroungers". In some ways, the media's response is surprising. The processes of predatory lending and inadequate banking sector regulation that precipitated the crisis were largely outside the control of those who lost their jobs and their homes.

Yet, these media analyses often leave unanswered the question of why some media outlets deployed this type of rhetoric during periods of economic uncertainty, when the structural (rather than the individual) explanations of poverty should have been particularly salient. Moreover, it is also unclear whether the media's response to the financial crisis was unique, the product of a singular configuration of events, or an instance of a more general response to structural economic conditions.

To address these questions, we move beyond the specific historical context of the Great Recession and turn their attention to the twentieth century as a whole. Within this much broader setting, we are able to explore the economic circumstances under which the British print media are more likely to propagate stigmatising discourses about the poor. The analysis draws on a unique dataset measuring how often five British newspapers

and periodicals (Daily Mail, Telegraph, Times, Financial Times and the Economist) use stigmatising language about people in poverty between 1896 and 2000. The research then explores the structural economic conditions associated with stigmatising language in these media outlets.

We find that this stigmatizing rhetoric becomes more common when there is rising unemployment, a highly visible albeit lagged indicator of recessions that increases the risk of poverty. However, this relationship is moderated by what appears to be happening to the broader economy. For example, negative rhetoric is especially common when unemployment rises during periods of economic growth, creating a disconnect between the number of people at risk-of-poverty and the amount of economic wealth produced by the UK. British media elites, then, appear to respond to rising poverty through a Malthusian lens; activating fears that the perverse effects of welfare benefits combined with the immoral behaviour of the poor threatens societal sustainability.

Crucially, this relationship has not become stronger or weaker over time and so, in our sample of newspapers, we observe a consistent association even when the "post-war welfare imaginary" was at its height (1945-1965). Only when we adopt this longer historical perspective does it become clear that the media response to the Great Recession was not an anomaly, it was instead symptomatic of a fairly common response to specific economic conditions. Indeed future economic crises may only reignite interest in this stigmatising rhetoric of recessions.

The Decline and Persistence of the Old Boy: private schools and elite recruitment 1897-2016

10 October 2017

Speakers: Dr Aaron Reeves (LSE III) and Dr Sam Friedman (LSE Sociology)

The Great Leveler: violence and economic inequality from the Stone Age to the future

27 November 2017

Speaker: Professor Walter Scheidel (Stanford University)
Chair: Dr Aaron Reeves (LSE III)

Challenging urban decline narratives: enhancing community resilience

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE LSE INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS (IGA) AND THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

The III has been awarded funding for the project "Challenging urban decline narratives: enhancing community resilience" through the IGA's "Research and Impact Seed Fund", supported by the Rockefeller Foundation. This project started in July 2017 and will run for two years.

Project summary

The overall goal of the project is to develop an innovative synthesis of both political economy and narrative approaches to resilience, and to use this to understand different urban areas in England. The research team will use a multi-method approach to explore how four different towns have responded and adapted to their respective economic challenges and whether their relations to larger urban centres have enhanced or undermined their resilience.

The core questions will be:

- How and why have these towns responded differently to broader economic and social changes?
- What are the political barriers and opportunities to fostering resilience in the four case studies?
- How have local communities demonstrated resilience and what challenges do they face?
- How have political and economic relations between these towns and proximate urban centres enhanced or undermined their resilience to these changes?

Key outputs will include a seminar series, five academic papers, and an edited collection.

PROJECT TEAM

Professor David Soskice School Professor of Political Science and Economics, Department of Government at LSE; Research Director and Co-Director of the Leverhulme Doctoral Programme, III

Professor Mike Savage Martin White Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology at LSE; Co-Director of the III

Dr Aaron Reeves Associate Professorial Research Fellow in Poverty and Inequality, III

Dr Luna Glucksberg Researcher, III

Dr Neil Lee Associate Professor in Economic Geography and Director of the MSc in Local Economic Development and the BSc in Geography with Economics, Department of Geography and Environment at LSE

Dr Tom Kemeny Visiting Fellow, III and Lecturer in Human Geography within Geography and Environment, University of Southampton

Dr Insa Koch Assistant Professor in Law and Anthropology, Department of Law at LSE

Professor Sarah Cant Principal Lecturer and Programme Director for Sociology, Canterbury Christ Church University

Dr Jill Ebrey Honorary Research Fellow, CRESC ESRC Centre for Socio Cultural Change, University of Manchester

Billie Elmqvist Thurén Research Assistant, III



Photo: Alan Glicksman



Photo: Vicki Grace, *Prikriti* (2012)

Art, inequality and social change

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE LSE MARSHALL INSTITUTE

This three-month project will consider the challenges to the art world, including public and private galleries, and museums, posed by intensifying social and economic inequalities. Contemporary art practices have sought to democratise artistic display over the past two decades, to limit the association with "highbrow" culture to encourage diversity in artistic form, and to encourage a wider range of audiences to engage with art.

However, although democratising moves have been effective in several respects, there has been less attention to the way that the rise of the super-rich and the accumulation of wealth and capital might be an issue for artistic exploration and curation. Indeed, there is evidence that the contemporary art market is in fact dominated by the investment potential of art works for the super-rich, and hence becomes hooked into the arena of super-rich cultures which may affect the capacity of art to act as a critical public good. This is a matter of great public concern, especially as it could be associated with the renewal of cultural elitism to go alongside growing economic inequality.

To address this issue, the project will explore how the practices of curators and artists in a series of leading London galleries are aware of these challenges, and to bring to light their repertoires for relating to the challenge of accumulating inequality. A series of interviews will be conducted with curators of public and private art galleries, as well as with a number of artists exploring current social issues. This pilot project will take an important initial step which will prepare the way for a larger project, whilst also performing a much needed function in its own right.

RESEARCH TEAM

Professor Nicola Lacey School Professor of Law, Gender and Social Policy, Department of Law at LSE

Georgia Nichols Researcher and PhD student, Department of Sociology at LSE

Professor Mike Savage Martin White Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology at LSE; Co-Director, III

Ethnographic exploration of the socio-economic transformation of the Basque country

A COLLABORATION WITH THE AGIRRE LEHENDAKARIA CENTER (ALC) AT THE BASQUE UNIVERSITY

The Institute is collaborating with the Agirre Lehendakaria Center (ALC) at the Basque University to carry out ethnographic interviews and contribute to the drafting of a report on the Basque case of socio-economic transformation.

Since the 1970s, the region has followed a very different development pattern compared to the rest of Europe, transforming from an impoverished area into a vibrant, successful region by embarking upon policies that privileged cooperative decision-making, community development, and crucially, large scale cooperatives and social enterprises. The motivation of this project is to understand the values, narratives and strategic decisions that have been taken in the Basque area by public and private institutions to build a socio-economic model that presents positive equality indicators combined with a competitive economy.

RESEARCH TEAM

Dr Luna Glucksberg Researcher, III

Professor Mike Savage Martin White Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology at LSE; Co-Director, III



Photo: Nicolas Vigier

Upcoming III Research Projects

Populism, Inequality and Institutions (PII)

SUPPORTED BY NORFACE'S DYNAMICS OF INEQUALITY ACROSS THE LIFE-COURSE (DIAL) PROGRAMME

By contrast to the politically-dominant view that populism is primarily a consequence of immigration, this research will investigate the argument that the underlying driver is lifetime shifts in economic inequality, caused by on-going economic transformation through technological change and import competition. The project will be led by Professor David Soskice. Other institutional partners include the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration, UCL, the Swedish Institute for Social Research, Stockholm University and the Institute for Social Research, Oslo.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH



It's slippery at the top: anxieties amongst the very wealthy

Luna Glucksberg

For most people, being rich enough to be part of the one percent is imagined as a good, desirable position: a guarantee of security, of not having to work – or at least not for others – the ability to live in one – or a few – nice homes and take lots of holidays to exotic places.

In reality, my research shows that those who do belong to the very top of the wealth and income distribution curve do not seem to feel that way. The degree of inequality within the one percent is higher than that of the rest of the curve combined. The very wealthy are aware of this and experience a great deal of anxiety around their position, especially a fear of 'slipping down' that very steep curve. If they are not worried about themselves personally, they are certainly concerned for their children, the next generation – or NextGen, as portrayed in the wealth industry literature.

In the context of a world where we know that inequality is rising and that wealthy elites are pulling away from the rest of society at an alarming rate, discovering that those in this tiny segment are scared of losing their wealth was certainly surprising. Did they not know that Piketty has shown that wealth tends to accumulate upwards, that when r (rate of return on capital) is larger than g (rate of economic growth) those with capital are bound to get rich faster than those who have to labour for an income?

The answer was that the general trends did not mean anything to the wealthy families I interviewed. What they cared about was the future of their own family. Indeed, they saw their family in generational terms, and saw their primary duty as ensuring that their own children, their 'nextgen', would inherit the same amount as they themselves had done, or ideally more. A simple arithmetic calculation suffices to show how this is in reality rather difficult: if a father inherits a hundred million, he'll have to make another two hundred in order to ensure his three hypothetical children inherit the same as him: and that is without considering inflation and taxation, and without using the capital to live on.

In order to preserve and grow their capital for their children, these families use what are known as "family offices", which are teams of highly skilled professionals who seek out the best investment opportunities and most convenient locations, usually offshore, to keep the family capital 'safe'. Whilst family heads speak of preserving the family line, maintaining the values that allowed the founder to accumulate the capital in the first place, and keeping the family together, their family offices do all they can to ensure they thrive financially. In doing so, of course, they ensure that the very mechanisms Piketty has described come into being, allowing wealthy families to reproduce and for wealth to concentrate upwards.

My research highlights the contradiction between the cultural discourses that elite families employ to rationalise their actions, which are based on a very real fear of losing their advantaged position, and the structural actions that their offices take to maintain their advantage, which are clearly causal factors in the elites pulling away from the rest of society, greatly increasing overall inequality levels.



The political economy of inequality in the knowledge economy

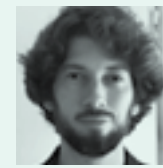
David Hope

The economic upheaval of the late 1970s marked an important juncture in the trajectories of the advanced democracies of Western Europe, North America and the Asia-Pacific region. Up to that point, the predominant form of economic organisation was Fordism, which was built around the mass production and mass consumption of standardised consumer goods. In the post-industrial era that began in the 1980s, advanced democracies have been fundamentally reshaped by secular trends, such as globalisation, deindustrialisation, financialisation and the ICT revolution, and Fordism has given way to the knowledge economy. Service sectors dominate economic activity in the knowledge economy and human capital is central to economic prosperity.

The same forces that drove the transition to the knowledge economy have also put upward pressure on income inequality in advanced democracies, by, for instance, increasing the returns to university education and redirecting economic resources away from manufacturing workers and towards the financial sector and households further up the income distribution. Inequality has not risen at the same pace everywhere, however, and there remain substantial differences in the levels of inequality across countries. On most measures, income inequality today is markedly higher in the United States and the United Kingdom than in continental Europe and Scandinavia.

To shed light on the puzzle of why the inequality effects of the transition to the knowledge economy have been so different across countries, we need to look more closely at differences in labour market institutions. To do so, I construct and analyse a database covering 18 OECD countries between 1970 and 2007. Using Prais-Winsten regression models with country fixed effects, I find that labour market institutions, such as coordinated wage bargaining and employment protection legislation, help mitigate the effects on income inequality of the transition to the knowledge economy. My results provide a compelling explanation for why countries that have seen less liberalisation in their industrial relations systems in recent decades have been better able to control income inequality. My work also challenges the dominant narrative in comparative political economy that industrial relations systems have been superseded by redistribution and education policy as the main safeguard of equality across the workforce in the knowledge economy.

In the post-financial crisis world, inequality has been linked to seismic political events such as Brexit, the election of Donald Trump, and the rise of far-right populist parties across Europe. Cleavages have opened up between the young and the old, university graduates and non-university graduates, and those that live in big successful cities and those that live elsewhere. These cleavages clearly intersect and have largely been the product of economic prosperity being unevenly distributed across geographical regions within countries. A research project that I will be working on in the III in the coming year looks more closely at the links between spatial inequality and politics. My hypothesis is that long-term structural changes in the economy in recent decades, such as deindustrialisation and globalisation, have driven the rise in spatial inequality, and this in turn, has shaped local political attitudes and voting behaviour. My upcoming project will test this hypothesis through a rigorous econometric analysis of local-level economic and political data.



Beliefs about inequality in an unequal world

Jonathan Mijs

Inequality is on the rise across the Western world. What's striking, however, is how little people seem to notice. Evidence suggests that people increasingly think their society is a meritocracy – that success in school and business simply reflects hard work and talent. In fact, the data show a surprising pattern: The more unequal a society, the less likely its citizens are to notice. Paradoxically, citizens in some of the most unequal countries think theirs is the paragon of meritocracy. How can we explain this phenomenon?

My research suggests that people in more socioeconomically and racially diverse environments are more likely to appreciate how life outcomes are shaped by structural factors such as race and wealth. However, increasing levels of income inequality and segregation in countries like the US mean that citizens are growing up in less economically diverse environments than in the 1970s. Consequently, people on either side of the income divide cannot see the breadth of the gap that separates their lives from those of others.

I asked 300 Americans in an online survey to explain why a person graduates from college or drops out; what makes for success at work; what keeps a person out of trouble; and what may land a person in jail. People typically explained these outcomes in terms of meritocratic factors: Being smart gets you into college, working hard earns you a promotion and being polite to the police may save you from a speeding ticket. But respondents were not blind to how structural factors can shape life outcomes. They recognised that some schools better prepare their students for college; that family contacts can help you get that good job or promotion; and that living in a poor neighborhood means you're on the police radar.

When I looked at respondents' explanations in light of their own background, I discovered a telling relationship: People who grew up in more socioeconomically or racially diverse environments were more likely, by about 20 percent, to explain life outcomes in terms of structural factors. Conversely, people who grew up in homogeneously rich or white neighborhoods saw success in meritocratic terms.

To look more closely at how people learn about inequality, I studied a nationally representative sample of 14,000 students across 99 US colleges. I asked students about racial inequality and meritocracy as freshmen, and then again in senior year. Would students grow more convinced about meritocracy over their college years, or did they come to understand inequality in structural terms?

About half of students held on to their original beliefs about inequality. Some 30 per cent developed a structural understanding of inequality, while 20 per cent came to see things more meritocratic. Their beliefs were shaped by three key factors: college setting, interactions with peers from different backgrounds, and their roommate in the dorms.

In racially homogeneous and exclusive college settings, students developed a more meritocratic view of inequality in the US. Conversely, those who frequently interacted with students from another racial group became more concerned about racial and income inequality, and more critical of meritocracy. Students paired with a roommate of a different race also developed a better understanding of the structural sources of inequality.

How we see and explain inequality drives our empathy with others. We feel for people who we understand are facing hardship by no fault of their own. We have less sympathy for those whose situation, we think, is caused by poor choices or a lack of effort. If we want our young citizens to develop a better understanding of the world they live in, we need to create conditions for more interaction across socioeconomic and racial lines, at school, in college and in the neighborhoods where they grow up. We can do this by ensuring access to preschool for all income groups; stepping up the effort to desegregate public schools; and considering roommate assignment and other cost-free measures to increase diversity in college life.

It would take a major intervention to bring actual opportunities in line with the American Dream of social mobility. The next generation's choices will shape tomorrow's world. It is up to us, however, to decide what world this generation grows up in, and through what prism they come to see their society.

“Inequality is on the rise across the Western world. What's striking, however, is how little people seem to notice”

RESEARCH INNOVATION FUND

Since 2015, we have been delighted to run competitions for LSE-based projects which would benefit from pump-priming support, and lead to larger externally funded projects in the future or other increased research activity in the School.

Those who have received support have presented their findings in III seminars and/or in our working paper series.

2017 awards

Seven projects were awarded funding/support in round three in 2017. (In alphabetical order):

Explaining the Legitimacy of Inequality: Two Experimental Tests of the Consecration Hypothesis

Researcher: Dr Fabien Accominotti, Department of Sociology

While the increased prominence of income inequality has received a lot of attention in recent social science, we still know little about the social mechanisms that contribute to the legitimacy of such inequality – and in particular to the perception that individuals at the top of the income distribution are deserving of the rewards that they receive. In an effort to address that question, Dr Accominotti has started building an analytical framework for understanding the legitimacy of inequality, by investigating the construction of the economic value of artists. One of the key mechanisms the researcher has uncovered is consecration – or the production, through the structural association and dissociation of individuals in a population, of the belief in the existence of quality differences between them. The project will undertake two simple experiments to test the role of consecration in legitimating inequality in organisational settings. They will test whether relational cues suggesting the existence of clear-cut quality differences in a population (of employees for example) make the public willing to accept higher levels of inequality between tiers.

Enhancing the agency of marginalised women: the domestic violence response in London

Researcher: Professor Catherine Campbell, Department of Psychology and Behavioural Science

Since the heady days of the women’s movement in the 60s and 70s, the domestic violence (DV) response in the UK has become relatively de-politicised. DV agencies generally have few links to organisations explicitly seeking to reduce the broader economic and political gender inequalities that often frame the problem, with DV responses ameliorating rather than preventing. This project will take the form of a multi-method 12-month ethnography, in service of a systematic and critical exploration of how women’s agency in violent intimate relationships is understood and, where relevant, responded to by practitioners and activists across a wide range of pro-women services and organisations in London. Its aim is to advance debates about how best to establish an actionable notion of ‘distributed agency’ that has the potential to rebalance DV responses in two ways. Firstly through systematically highlighting how women’s behavior in coercive situations is enabled and limited by social networks, time and space. Secondly to expand understandings of women’s agency to include behaviors on a wider continuum than is currently often the case – ranging from surviving and coping at the one end, to covert then explicit then collective forms of resistance at the other.

The Distribution of Wealth in England and Wales, 1892-1992

Researcher: Dr Neil Cummins, Department of Economic History

The III RIF will fund the finalisation of Dr Cummins’ project on the history of English wealth inequality that he has been conducting over the past three years. In that time, he has digitised the entire probate registry (1892 to 1992) and the vital records for every single birth, death and marriage in England and Wales (1838 to 1973). The greatest contribution of the dataset will be the analysis of the individual level information. The dataset will allow for the tracking of family wealth via surnames over time and thus examining the wealth integration of migrant groups, as well as following internal English migration and tracking the selective migration of the talented out of the North of England following the post WWII economic collapse. The individual information also allows the calculation of annual ‘generational’ correlations (surname wealth in year t, with the same surname wealth at year t-30). This allows the tracking of any changes in social mobility in high fidelity. By combining the probate wealth data with the vital data Dr Cummins will also be able to analyse fertility trends by wealth, the influence of status on lifespan and also the degree of assortative mating in the marriage market.



Photo: Herry Lawford via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

The Reproduction of Inequalities in Time and Space in Russia

Researcher: Dr Tomila Lankina, Department of International Relations

Forming part of a wider book project exploring the historical causes of the reproduction of inequalities in space and time in Russia and other contexts, this research will gather district-level data on the cross-regional and within-region socio-economic inequalities in Russia, and commission small-scale surveys and in-depth interviews to be carried out in select rural and urban territories. Dr Lankina’s research challenges the conventional wisdom that the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 completely obliterated the social stratification system that it inherited from the old regime. Instead, the Bolsheviks’ policies facilitated the conversion of skills and occupational advantages of the better-educated of Tsarist society. These strata were declared the new Soviet intelligentsia in the Soviet system, successfully converting their status, social and human capital to become the new bourgeoisie of Russia’s post-communist capitalist system. The “outlier” case of Russia helps illuminate the endogenous, social drivers of inequalities that appear to be resilient to radical state-led attempts to change the structures of wealth, social status and power in society. As such, it has important implications for the ongoing policy debates about the effectiveness of specific policy interventions over others.



Karambaros via Flickr (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Beyond the prison walls: State policies, criminal justice involvement, and economic wellbeing among women in the United States

Researcher: Dr Amanda Sheely, Department of Social Policy

The criminal justice system in the United States reproduces and reinforces social, economic, and political inequality. However, the stratifying role of the criminal justice system has been underestimated for at least three reasons. First, studies have almost exclusively examined the deleterious effects of incarceration alone. Second, research has largely ignored the growing number of women involved in the criminal justice system. Third, given the decentralised system of governance in the United States, there are substantial differences in state criminal justice and welfare systems. However, there is limited research about how state-level policies influence the outcomes of people with criminal justice involvement. The overall aim of this project is to understand how the far-reaching effects of the criminal justice system relate to poverty and employment among women. It will address two research questions: 1) How does involvement in the criminal justice system (ie, conviction and incarceration) shape employment and poverty among women? 2) How do state-level restrictions on social assistance affect poverty and employment among women with criminal convictions? To address these, Dr Sheely will match individual-level data from the 1997 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth with newly compiled data on state social assistance policies.



Photo: brunoat/iStock

Class Struggle: Economic Inequality and the Politics of Education in Developing Countries

Researcher: Dr Lloyd Gruber, Department of International Development

The politics of education is one reason many developing countries continue to be wracked by inequality. Although today’s developing nations may be deregulating their economies, their education systems remain highly regulated – and highly skewed as well, with university students from better-off families receiving generous state-funded stipends and tuition subsidies while poorly-educated children from less advantaged families get left behind. The III RIF will provide support towards data-gathering trips undertaken for Dr Gruber’s book *Education for Development: The Political Path to Better Schools, Brighter Kids, and a More Prosperous Future for the Developing World*, which seeks to explain not just which education sector gets the most money but how that money is actually spent.

Elite Perceptions of Inequality in the Global South

Researcher: Dr Chana Teeger, Department of Methodology

The III RIF will support the progress of a project carried out by Dr Teeger and colleagues that are based in Brazil, Switzerland, and Chile, examining elite perceptions of inequality in the Global South. They define elites institutionally focusing on three categories of elites: politicians, civil servants, and businesspeople. To date, they have conducted a closed-ended survey with 480 elites in Brazil, South Africa and Uruguay. Going forward, they aim to complement their survey analyses with a more qualitative, in-depth understanding of how elites think about the problems of, and potential remedies for, inequality. Such data would allow them to probe deeper into the reasons and justifications that underpin these perceptions and preferences, enabling them to interrogate patterns that appear contradictory. At this stage, the researchers will be focusing on Brazil and South Africa. The III RIF will support the funding of a meeting to be held at the LSE in which the researchers working on this project will meet and plan for the qualitative data collection.

Atlantic Fellows

FOR SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC EQUITY

The ILL is thrilled to house the Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity programme (AFSEE) which is empowering a new generation to advance fairer, healthier, more inclusive societies. The 20-year AFSEE programme at the ILL is created with a grant of £64.4m (\$91m) from **The Atlantic Philanthropies**. This is the largest philanthropic donation in LSE's history, and we admitted our first cohorts of Fellows in 2017.

This ambitious programme designed to build a global community of leaders dedicated to changing policy, practice and public dialogue around inequalities has been developed by the International Inequalities Institute. The 20-year fellowship initiative will train the next generation of leaders seeking to influence and facilitate changes in global policy and practice to enable greater equality, opportunity and outcomes for all. It is expected that well over 600 Atlantic Fellows will be developed across geographic and disciplinary boundaries over the duration of the programme.

Our first Academic Node partner, the **University of Cape Town in South Africa**, is working alongside the ILL in all aspects of governance, including hosting a session for the Non-Residential Fellows each year. We are also looking to bring the **Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES)** in Chile on board as our second official Academic Node partner in 2018. Furthermore, we've been working closely with both **Oxfam** and the **Young Foundation** in designing curriculum and developing research projects, ensuring the practitioner voice is embedded in the programme governance structure. We will be bringing more and more such organisations on board as the programme continues to develop.

Atlantic Fellows will be dynamic emerging leaders – activists, artists, journalists, health professionals, entrepreneurs, researchers, teachers, lawyers and others – with innovative ideas and the courage, conviction and capacity to bring lasting improvements to their communities and the world. Fellows work together across disciplines and borders to tackle some of the today's most pressing issues.

Fellows are typically early- to mid-career professionals from a range of backgrounds, disciplines and life experiences who share a passion, determination and vision to realise a more just world. They aim to understand the complex causes, nature and consequences of inequalities and develop solutions for some of the most pressing issues of our time.

The programme has been designed with the flexibility to offer different levels of engagement in order to create and continue to support an international community of diverse multidisciplinary and action-oriented leaders. There are three tracks within the programme:

- **Residential Atlantic Fellows**

Supported to take the LSE International Inequalities Institute's innovative MSc Inequalities and Social Science (MISS) course, developing theoretical awareness of different conceptions of the meaning of inequality and its various dimensions in a fully international context.

- **Non-Residential Atlantic Fellows**

Studying via a series of bespoke, comprehensive short courses, with both academic and in-the-field work, for around seven weeks in total throughout the year. The course has been designed in partnership with our academic Node Partner, University of Cape Town, who will also deliver one of the seven weeks. Alongside these courses, the Non-Residential Fellows will undertake practical project work.

- **Visiting Atlantic Fellows**

Teams of three or four senior academics and practitioners working together at ILL to undertake an intensive period of research that will create high profile advances in academic understanding of inequalities and, based upon these, develop practical responses.

RESIDENTIAL ATLANTIC FELLOWS 2017



Appu Suresh
Indian

Appu is a journalist who started reporting as a student and has recently joined India's second largest English daily, the Hindustan Times, in 2016 as its Editor (Special Assignments) to spearhead the newspaper's investigative efforts.



Hillary Vipond
Canadian

Hillary has worked as a campaigner on a range of issues, all challenging inequalities. Most recently she has been working for Oxfam GB, in the Inequality campaign team involved in a pan-European tax justice campaign.



Jack Nissan
British

Jack is the founder and director of the "Tinderbox Collective", a Scottish charity based in Edinburgh. The organisation works with hundreds of children and young people each year through a range of creative workshops, music hubs, alternative orchestras and apprenticeship schemes.



Joey Hasson
South African
and Italian

Joey has spent more than ten years working with grassroots social movements using evidence-led activism and the law. In 2015, Joey helped establish the Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education in Cape Town, where he is now a Senior Fellow.



Louis Olanya Oyar
Ugandan

Louis is a lawyer by profession, with particular interest in disability rights and inclusion. In 2014 he compiled the first statistical disability study on Uganda.



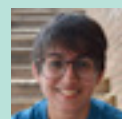
Louise Russell-Prywata
British

Louise is Head of Development at Transparency International UK, developing and securing funds for campaigns and projects that challenge a variety of anticorruption issues.



Patricio Espinoza
Chilean

Patricio is the Legislative Chief of the Ministry of Education. He participated in the design of the Educational Reform bills which aims to make a structural change to the educational system in order to fight inequalities and eliminate discrimination.



Priyanka Kotamraju
Indian

Priyanka Kotamraju is an independent bilingual journalist from India with over five years of experience in journalism. She has previously worked at Khabar Lahariya, India's only all-woman rural media organisation, Hindu Business Line and the Indian Express.



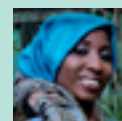
Rania Muin (Qubei Tarazi)
Jordanian

Rania is a development practitioner with 12 years of experience in developing and managing projects that tackle gender inequality, poverty and unemployment.



Rose Longhurst
British

Rose works for Bond, the UK network for international development and humanitarianism, to ensure that the institutions funding civil society are responsive to the needs of the communities they intend to serve.



Saida Ali Mohamed
Kenyan

Saida is a consultant with expertise in the design, implementation and evaluation of socio-economic and gender justice programmes; working at national, regional and global levels.



Elimane Kane
Senegalese

Since April 2013, Elimane has worked for Oxfam International in Senegal as a governance expert. He has also founded and led LEGS-Africa, a pan-African think tank based in Dakar.



Fredrick Ouko Alucheli
Kenyan

Fredrick is the founder of Action Network for the Disabled and Riziki Source. He also serves on the board of Little Rock Inclusive ECD Center and has previously served on the advisory board of Disability Rights Fund (Boston) and Global Disability Rights Library (Washington).



Gabriella Razzano
South African

Gabriella is a law graduate working at the Open Democracy Advice Centre as the Acting Director and Head of Legal Research. She has a particular focus on access to information and freedom of expression issues.



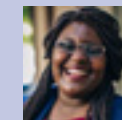
Jane Sloane
Australian

Jane Sloane is Director of the Women's Empowerment Program with The Asia Foundation, working with the Foundation's 18 country offices on a combination of top down and bottom up approaches.



Johnny Miller
USA

Johnny Miller is a photographer and filmmaker specialising in documentary projects. He has received worldwide acclaim for his project "Unequal Scenes", an aerial exploration of inequality in South Africa using drones.



Masana Ndinga-Kanga
South African

Masana is Research Manager at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation in Johannesburg where she oversees a 12-country project exploring transitional justice in the continent. She is also a frequent blogger for Mail and Guardian's Thought Leader.



Melanie Brown
USA

Melanie serves as advocacy lead for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's work in Colorado and manages a national portfolio focused on elevating teacher voice in federal education policy.



Fola Adeleke
Nigerian

Fola is the Head of Research at the South African Human Rights Commission. He is a South African trained lawyer whose work focuses on international economic law and human rights, corporate transparency, open government and accountability within the extractive industry.



Sebastian Bock
German

Sebastian is a Senior Strategist at Greenpeace International where he helps shape the organisation's global campaigning on trade and financial markets.



Tracy Jooste
South African

Tracy is currently Director for Policy and Research at the Western Cape Department of Human Settlements, where she leads a dedicated team of professionals to develop policies that address the significant need for housing amongst lower income households.

VISITING ATLANTIC FELLOWS PROJECTS 2017–18



Photo: Johnny Miller/Millefoto, unequalscenes.com

Development, Testing and Publication of an Inequality Framework and Toolkit

Dr Abigail McKnight, Associate Professorial Research Fellow, CASE, LSE, UK

Ana Maria Claver, Researcher and Advocacy officer, Oxfam Intermón, Spain

Alex Prats, Inequality lead, Oxfam Intermón, Spain

Chiara Mariotti, Inequality Policy Manager, Oxfam GB, UK

Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva, Executive Director, Oxfam Mexico, Mexico

Claire Kumar, Independent Consultant, Rwanda

Residency period at III: May – October 2017

The first Visiting Atlantic Fellow project – a collaboration between Dr Abigail McKnight (LSE Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion) and Oxfam – will develop a robust and pragmatic Inequality Framework and Toolkit that will help activists and practitioners improve their understanding of inequalities. It aims to allow a better understanding of inequalities properly in any given context, including their links to poverty dynamics, their main drivers, and the consequences for citizens, for effective programming and policy-making. The aim is that the Framework and Toolkit builds on the latest academic research and integrates practitioner, activist and policy expertise held within Oxfam to produce a theoretically grounded yet practical product that will allow policy makers, activists and practitioners to grasp inequalities with the width and depth required.

The team will also include input from Dr Polly Vizard (Associate Professorial Research Fellow LSE, UK) and Prof Ben Fine (Research Tutor, SOAS, UK) and research support from Pedro Mendes Loureiro.



Photo: Tuhin Paul via Flickr (CC BY 2.0)

Addressing Gender Inequalities through Self-Help Groups in Gond Adivasi

Professor Naila Kabeer, Professor, Gender and Development, LSE, UK

Dr Nivedita Narain, Research Fellow, PRADAN and Centre for Development Practice Ambedkar University, India

Varnica Arora, Executive, PRADAN, India

Vinitika Lal, Consultant, PRADAN, India

Residency period at III: October – November 2017 and May – June 2018

For nearly three decades Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN) has been working in the central Indian tribal heartland, to address chronic and abject poverty. The project, in collaboration with Dr Naila Kabeer from LSE, seeks to explore how Adivasi Gond women in India understand and experience gender inequality and the extent to which current interventions around self-help groups of women address the same. It also aims to identify emergent pathways to engender processes of change. This project would not only help in rethinking practise but also aims to contribute to the growing concern amidst academia to bring subaltern voices (such as the adivasi) to the forefront. Additionally, it is envisaged that findings from the research could inform policy within ongoing government programmes for impact both on poverty and gender inequality.



Photo: Jasperdo via Flickr (CC-BY-NC-ND 2.0)

The Revolt of the Rust Belt: The Communal Roots of Anti-Systemic Politics in the US and the UK

Dr Michael McQuarrie, Associate Professor of Sociology, LSE, UK

Dr Lisa McKenzie, Postdoctoral Researcher, LSE, UK

Dr Harel Shapira, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Texas, USA

Cassim Shepard, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Columbia University, USA

Residency period at III: November – December 2017 and September 2018

This project aims to break apart simplistic explanations of anti-systemic politics – in other words, the politics of those who have grown disillusioned and vote against the current system. The demise of the welfare state and the globalisation of capitalist production chains produce widely varying economic realities based largely on geographic region, so communities in different regions have a different "trajectory of place". The project intends to explore the communal roots of anti-systemic politics, arguing that it is these trajectories of place, more than individual circumstances, that is fuelling the politics of Trump and Brexit. The team is interested in explaining the different ways people make sense of their experience of economic and cultural decline. If one thinks of black and white declining communities in the United States, for example, the experience of decline is similar, however the ways in which each community makes sense of their, very similar, situation can be very different.



Photo: Lauras Eye via Flickr (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Goodbye Tito: The Role of Diverging Welfare State Trajectories on Income Inequality in Four Former Yugoslav Republics

Dr William Bartlett, Senior Visiting Fellow, European Institute, LSE, UK

Dr Jelena Zarkovic Rakic, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Dr Gorana Krstić, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Dr Nermin Oruc, Director, Center for Development Evaluation and Social Science Research, Bosnia

Residency period at III: January – February and June 2018

A collaboration between Dr Will Bartlett, LSE European Institute, Dr Gorana Krstić and Jelena Zarkovic Rakic from the University of Belgrade and Dr Nermin Oruc, the Center for Development Evaluation and Social Science Research in Bosnia, this project will investigate the relationship between income inequality and different welfare state trajectories in four countries of the former Yugoslavia over the three decades since the breakup of the country. They will look at Slovenia, with one of the lowest income inequalities by Gini coefficient among European countries, Croatia, with an average EU level of inequality, and Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia that have the highest income inequality by Gini coefficient in Europe. In the Yugoslav period, these countries shared a generous and inclusive welfare system based upon the principles of solidarity and equality.

After the dissolution of Yugoslavia, the welfare regimes of these four successor states evolved in different directions. The project will therefore examine the contribution of different welfare reforms on the divergent levels of income inequality in these four countries. The focus of the research will be on the way in which reforms in education systems, labour markets and in tax and benefit policies have affected the evolution of inequality in the four countries in comparative perspective.

Projects supported by AFSEE

The Atlantic Fellows rely upon strong links between the academic institutions at the core of the programme and the collaborating partners from the third sector, civil society, and other non-academic organisations that contribute to the programme's development. Each year AFSEE will support projects which strengthen these links.

Three projects have been supported in 2017:



Young Foundation

The Power of Counter-Narratives?

Lead organisation: The Young Foundation, UK

A research residency at III which explores how, and the extent to which, counter-narratives can be an important site of challenge and change.

Focusing on the unheard, alternative or counter-narrative in particular, and developing specific examples from the Young Foundation's work in communities in the UK and with MONDRAGON (the world's largest worker-led co-operative, based in Spain), the research will look at the ways in which counter-narratives expressed by seldom-heard groups develop new insights into the embodiment of inequality in everyday life and how it might be changed.

It will also explore how they are a part of resistance and struggle, and drive social mission and vision, for example shaping alternative means and modes of action, as well as broader challenges to orthodoxy, through exploring praxis; the relationship between thought and action.

The research is drawn from the Young Foundation's recognition that narratives characterise and identify inequality problems as well as influence solutions. The Young Foundation is a research and action institute developed from the Institute of Community Studies founded by Michael Young in 1954, with a long intellectual and action-based heritage of understanding and supporting communities and alternative innovations. The Young Foundation has chosen to explore counter-narratives specifically to develop their work in this area to support communities, and as part of the post-holder's (Dr Mary Hodgson) longstanding commitment to ethnographic work exploring diverse viewpoints on socio-political change and civic activists and social movement narratives. Results of the research will be shared with the III and Atlantic Fellows as part of the Fellows' curriculum, and the tools will be used in on-going Young Foundation work.

Inequality decline and the politics of redistribution

Lead organisation: III, in collaboration with Oxfam

The current state of knowledge about inequality dynamics in developing regions remains inadequate. Given the growing concern about rising inequality globally, understanding more about the countries that have successfully reduced inequality and examining how and when governments have introduced redistributive policies may help to galvanize momentum for reform in other contexts. With this in mind, the III is developing a research programme to study cases of inequality decline and redistributive policymaking in developing countries with a focus on the political conditions that led to their adoption.

This pilot project, which will scope and develop this bigger programme of research, will review the existing literature on inequality dynamics in developing countries since c.1970 and evaluate the available data sources on inequality and the feasibility of complementing existing data sources with country-level data. It seeks to identify those countries that have undergone a marked decline in inequality in recent decades. This scoping exercise will inform a project proposal for a larger project on inequality decline and the politics of redistribution.



Photo: RapidEye/iStock

Engagement on Strategies to Overcome Inequality in South Africa

Lead organisation: University of Cape Town, in collaboration with South African NGOs

While South Africa in many ways outperforms other African nations, rising inequality continues to act as a barrier to achieving economic transformation and equitable growth. A two-day event in Pretoria, South Africa was organised to disseminate research on inequality and to help formulate policies that will tackle these constraints head on.

The event brought together South African researchers and policy makers, a select group of international participants and some of South Africa's leading NGOs/NPOs working in the policy space, to consolidate lessons from South Africa on strategies to overcome inequality and to connect with similar processes that have been running internationally. As part of the event a panel was assembled of key individuals from civil society to explore how they engage with inequalities.

Action for Equity Award

The Action for Equity Award is an exciting new prize which aims to recognise and reward the crucial work being advanced by civic organisations to combat inequalities around the world. It celebrates the excellent work which has been achieved by smaller teams, providing GBP 50,000 toward the winning organisation's ongoing activities. Moreover, award winners will extend the reach and impact of the AFSEE at LSE.

We were delighted to award the inaugural Action for Equity Award to **Shannon Trust**, a London-based charity that works to transform the lives of prisoners unable to engage in the rehabilitation journey because of their inability to read. The Shannon Trust does so through a programme of peer-to-peer learning, inspiring prisoners who can read to teach prisoners who cannot.

Special commendation also goes to the two other organisations that featured in the final shortlist – Hope into Action and Participation and the Practice of Rights – with whom AFSEE will maintain close links. You can find videos about the three organisations here: afsee.atlanticfellows.org/action-for-equity.

The Action for Equity Award will soon be inviting applications from organisations operating in Southern Africa, and will be presented in June 2018.



Photo: shannontrust.org.uk

The Global Atlantic Fellows network

The Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity at III is one of six Atlantic Fellows programmes across the globe. Through this global, interconnected set of Atlantic Fellows programmes, Fellows collaborate across disciplines and borders to understand and address the root causes of pressing global problems. These include socio-economic and racial inequality; barriers to full participation in democracy; the social determinants of health and access to quality care. Each of the six Atlantic Fellows programmes is distinct and grounded in its local context. All programmes start with a core year Fellowship experience, bringing together a cohort of 20 to 30 emerging leaders. All cohorts become part of the Atlantic Fellows' connected community of change-makers.



Photo: Atlantic Fellows for Racial Equity, Nikki Lewis and Lovette Thompson

Atlantic Fellows for Racial Equity

Based at Columbia University, USA and The Nelson Mandela Foundation, South Africa

Addressing anti-Black racism and racial inequality in the United States and South Africa to ensure that all people in both countries can achieve educational, social, and economic success.

Atlantic Fellows for Equity in Brain Health

Based at The Global Brain Health Institute at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland and the University of California, San Francisco, USA

Reducing the scale and adverse health, social, and economic impact of dementia by developing and translating research evidence and innovation into more effective policy and practice.

Atlantic Fellows for Health Equity in South Africa

Based at Tekano, South Africa

Improving health prospects and outcomes in South Africa by addressing the social determinants of health.

Atlantic Fellows for Health Equity in Southeast Asia

Based at The Equity Initiative and the China Medical Board

Advancing health equity across Southeast Asia, particularly among the most vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Atlantic Fellows for Social Equity

Based at The University of Melbourne, Australia

Growing a generation of collaborative social change leaders across Australia and the Pacific to help societies succeed and prosper, especially indigenous communities.

AFSEE Please see p.46.

III ASSOCIATED TEACHING

"The International Inequalities Institute is unique in its recognition that academics and students from different disciplines must begin to learn from one another in order to tackle the unprecedented social problems of our time. By engaging with various methodologies and topics related to the issue of rising inequalities, we produce ideas that broaden and enrich our own work."

Imani Strong
Leverhulme Trust Scholarship holder



Leverhulme Trust Doctoral Scholarships and Leverhulme Programme at III

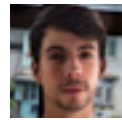
The Leverhulme Trust has awarded LSE 15 doctoral scholarships worth £1 million for students to undertake interdisciplinary research on “the challenge of escalating inequalities”. Four studentships were awarded in 2015, five in 2016, and six started in September 2017.

While based in different LSE Departments, the students are associated with the III through the Leverhulme Programme, an interdisciplinary series of taught seminars and discussions with a small group of other doctoral students

2017–18 DOCTORAL RECIPIENTS



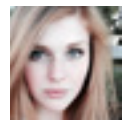
Reuben Finighan (Department of Government) aims to improve our understanding of how high levels of inequality arise and persist despite the presence of democratic institutions that are expected to produce egalitarian outcomes.



Dominique Dillabough-Lefebvre (Department of Anthropology) will be looking at how land alterations in legal land regimes and commercial land-grabs affect long-standing inequalities among minority ethnic and peasant groups, with the site for his research being among Karen smallholder farmers in southeastern Myanmar.



Riccardo Jaede (Department of Anthropology)



Hilke Gudel (Department of Government) will be looking at the labour-market integration of humanitarian migrants in a number of different European countries; in particular, how their integration is either facilitated or hindered by different institutions.



Jonathan Barnes (Department of Geography and Environment) will be exploring how the concepts of justice and equity are negotiated, contested and/or silenced by actors involved in the Green Climate Fund project development process and how this redistribution mechanism influences inequality.



Liz Mann (Department of Social Policy) will be exploring the interaction between wealth and income inequality, as well as public attitudes towards both wealth inequality and the possible policy responses.

from across the LSE that are also conducting research on aspects of inequalities. Convened by Professors Nicola Lacey and David Soskice, the programme aims to increase our understanding of the mechanisms that link the economic dimensions of inequality with their social, cultural and political dimensions at the global level.

The LSE has confirmed that it will continue the programme beyond 2018, which has been embedded in the School's PhD provision for the foreseeable future.

2016–17 DOCTORAL RECIPIENTS



Imani G. Strong (Department of Anthropology) focuses on African-American entrepreneurship and affirmative action programs in the US.



Joel Suss (Department of Psychological and Behavioural Science; CASE) looks at the consequences of economic inequality for individual behaviour and decision-making.



George Maier (Department of Media and Communications) researches the causality of digital inequalities, with a focus on government policymaking and problematising neoliberal approaches to addressing inequality.



Emma Taylor (Department of Sociology) investigates how the (re)production of privilege occurs within an independent school setting in England through a specific focus on the concept of confidence.



Selena Gray (Department of Sociology) explores how some groups of adolescent girls become vulnerable to victimisation within gangs.

2015–16 DOCTORAL RECIPIENTS



Kristina Kolbe (Department of Sociology) looks at arising forms of cultural expression, production and consumption in contemporary urban spheres in light of increasing sociocultural diversity.



Fabian Mushövel (European Institute) analyses how austerity policies affect inequality in Europe.



Nora Ratzmann (Department of Social Policy; CASE) examines EU migrants' (in)equalities of access to German social security.



Sandhya Fuchs (Department of Anthropology)

MSc Inequalities and Social Science

We are delighted to host what we believe is the first interdisciplinary Masters course in the world examining issues of inequality. We admitted our first cohort of 18 students in 2015, and our second cohort of 20 students in 2016. A third cohort of 30 students started in September 2017, expanded to include the residential Fellows of our embedded Atlantic Fellows programme.

MSc Aims

The MSc offers a comprehensive and wide-ranging programme which includes expertise from leading academics in the Departments of Sociology, Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Government, Law, Social Policy, Media and Communications, Gender, and Statistics, providing students with state-of-the-art teaching. The programme:

- introduces students to a range of interdisciplinary approaches to the social scientific analysis of inequalities
- develops theoretical awareness of different conceptions of the meaning of inequality and its various dimensions
- introduces students to the political economy of inequality and the role of political institutions in combating inequality
- introduces students to different methods for the measurement of inequality, both quantitative and qualitative
- makes students familiar with debates on the causes and consequences of increasing global inequality
- allows students to place issues of inequality in a fully international context
- gives students the skills and awareness to go onto conducting research in the area of inequalities

More information about how to apply is on the Institute's [website](#).

Atkinson Prize

Each year, the MSc student with the best overall performance will be awarded the Atkinson Prize, named for Professor Tony Atkinson who sadly passed away on New Year's Day 2017. Professor Atkinson played a very important role in the establishment of the III, most importantly as the economist worldwide, ensuring that inequality is given the attention it deserves.



2016's Atkinson Prize was awarded to **Michael George**.

“The MSc in Inequalities and Social Science has truly broadened my horizons in terms of how to approach problems from a multi-disciplinary perspective.”

Aziz Sidky, MSc graduate 2016



Photo: Kristyn Ulanday

GRADUATE DESTINATIONS

We expect students to go into a wide variety of fields addressing inequalities. See some of our recent graduates' career destinations below.



Harry Anderson (UK) 2017 graduate
Policy Advisor, Confederation of British Industry (CBI)



Liz Mann (UK) 2017 graduate
PhD candidate, LSE Dept of Social Policy



Hannah Rich (UK) 2016 graduate
Research Assistant, The Young Foundation



Mark Rucci (US) 2016 graduate
Strategy Analyst, Deloitte Consulting LLP



Ana Santellanes (Mexico) 2016 graduate
Advisor, Ministry of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development



Bart Van-Bruggen (Netherlands) 2017 graduate
Project Leader and Policy Adviser, Dutch Patients' Federation

III EVENTS, PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS



"Such an honour and delight to be at #LSEIII2017 listening to the great Prof Armatya Sen"

@theyoung_fdn @maryhodgson @MikeSav47032563

"Very glad to see #disability given prominent attention at #LSEIII2017 – often missing from broad discussion of #inequality"

@RobinAnderson20

"The #LSEBranko event this evening was fascinating. Branko Milanovic certainly expanded my mind. #GlobalInequality"

@BakitaKK

"#LSEBasicIncom Public lecture with Prof Guy Standing – the most revolutionary, inspiring and wealth distributing 2 hours of my week"

@MsFranklinstein

"Soaking in all the amazing things @darrenwalker is sharing with us about philanthropy #LSEFord"

@MelanieBrown

EVENTS SEPTEMBER 2016 – OCTOBER 2017

In 2016/2017, the III ran an active public engagement programme of public events.

Wherever possible, events were recorded and posted on the III **website**, for the benefit of those unable to attend in person.

PUBLIC LECTURES

Taxing the Rich: a history of fiscal fairness in the US and Europe

12 October 2016

Speaker: Professor David Stasavage (NYU)

Chair: Professor David Soskice (LSE)

In today's social climate of growing inequality, why are there not greater efforts to tax the rich? David Stasavage asks when and why countries tax their wealthiest citizens.

Charles Booth Centenary Lectures

3 November 2016

Speakers: Professors Mary Morgan, Alan Manning, Stephen Machin, Fran Tonkiss, Anne Power, Emily Grundy, Tim Newburn, John Hills and Dr Suzi Hall

This event was part of a wider LSE celebration of pioneering social scientist Charles Booth, who died in 1916. Booth's investigation of poverty in London provides a key example both of the creative development of social science and of the ways in which research may be used to have a positive impact on society. The full day event brought together a group of scholars from a range of disciplines to explore the substance of Booth's ideas as well as his broader legacy for the social sciences and for contemporary social analysis.

Credit Suisse Global Wealth Report 2016

23 November 2016

Speaker: Anthony Shorrocks (Global Economic Perspectives; World Institute of Development Economics Research)

Discussants: Dr Abigail McKnight (LSE) and Deborah Hardoon (Oxfam)

Chair: Professor John Hills (LSE)

To mark the publication of the Global Wealth Report 2016, Tony Shorrocks explained the basis of Credit Suisse data and summarised the current evidence on the level, distribution and trends of household wealth in all regions and countries of the world since 2000.

Success and Luck: good fortune and the myth of meritocracy

7 December 2016

Speaker: Professor Robert H Frank (Cornell University)

Discussants: Professor Nicola Lacey (LSE) and Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP

Chair: Professor John Hills (LSE)

Professor Robert Frank discussed the role luck plays in economic success.

Photos: Billie Elmqvist Thurén



Top: Religious Intolerance: Asma Jilani Jahangir
Bottom: Success and Luck: good fortune and the myth of meritocracy: John Mills and Ed Milliband

Social Solidarity in the “Knowledge Economy”

12 January 2017

Speaker: Professor Kathleen Thelen (MIT)

Discussant: Dr Waltraud Schelkle (LSE)

Chair: Professor David Soskice (LSE)

This lecture examined cross-nationally divergent responses to the challenges posed by the transition to the “knowledge economy” and explored the role of the state in sustaining growth, employment, and social solidarity in the contemporary period.

STICERD Amartya Sen Lecture: Religious Intolerance and its Impact on Democracy

17 January 2017

Co-hosted by STICERD and the III

Speaker: Asma Jilani Jahangir

Discussant: Professor Amartya Sen (Harvard University)

Chair: Professor Chetan Bhatt (LSE Human Rights Centre and Sociology Department)

Asma Jilani Jahangir is a human rights lawyer and activist who co-founded and chaired the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. Her talk focused on how government failure to address the questions of religious intolerance and free expression dilutes the principles of democracy, equality and justice, particularly for women and religious minorities.

The Piketty Opportunity

26 January 2017

Speaker: Professor Patricia Hudson (Cardiff University), Professor Avner Offer (Oxford University) and Keith Tribe (Independent Scholar)

Discussants: Professor Torben Iversen (Harvard) and Dr Tasha Fairfield (LSE)

Chair: Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

This event marked the publication of *The Contradictions of Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, a volume of essays that builds upon the renewed interest in wealth and inequality stimulated by the work of Thomas Piketty. Editors and authors Patricia Hudson, Avner Offer and Keith Tribe joined with associates of the III to discuss the analysis of inequality in an international context.

Getting Respect: responding to stigma and discrimination in the United States, Brazil and Israel

8 March 2017

Speaker: Professor Michèle Lamont (Harvard University)

Chair: Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

This lecture was based on Michèle Lamont's latest book, which contributes to the study of everyday racism and stigma management, the quest for recognition, and the comparative study of inequality and processes of cultural change.

Basic Income: and how we can make it happen

8 May 2017

Speaker: Professor Guy Standing (SOAS; Basic Income Earth Network)

Discussants: Professor Lord Desai (LSE), Barb Jacobson (Basic Income UK) and Dr Malcolm Torry (Citizen's Income Trust; LSE)

Chair: Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

This event marked the launch of Guy Standing's latest book, which covers basic income's effects on the economy, poverty, work and labour; dissects and disproves the standard arguments against basic income; explains what we can learn from pilot studies across the world; and illustrates exactly why a basic income has now become such an urgent necessity.

Why did Trump win? Overcoming Class Cluelessness in America

10 May 2017

Speaker: Professor Joan C. Williams (UC Hastings Foundation; Center for WorkLife Law)

Chair: Dr Michael McQuarrie (LSE)

Much analysis has focused on the fact that Donald Trump won the US Election because liberals lost the white working class vote. In this talk, marking the publication of her latest book, Joan C Williams addressed why so much of the elite's analysis of the white working class is misguided and rooted in class cluelessness, dismissing the white working-class motivations as racist or xenophobic and wrongly conflating “working class” with “poor”. She also explored how to increase one's own class consciousness.

The Equality Effect: improving life for everyone

18 May 2017

Speaker: Professor Danny Dorling (Oxford University)

Chair: Dr Neil Lee (LSE)

In this talk to launch his latest book, Danny Dorling showed that the evidence of the equality effect – that greater economic equality benefits all people in all societies, whether you are rich, poor or in-between – is now so overwhelming that it should be changing politics and society all over the world.



Top: Why Did Trump Win?: Professor Joan C. Williams
Bottom: The Evolution of Global Inequalities: Professor Branko Milanovic

Eva Colorni Memorial Lecture: A Village, a Country and the Discipline: economic development in Palanpur over seven decades

7 June 2017

Hosted by the III, LSE Department for Gender Studies and Eva Colorni Memorial Trust

Speaker: Professor Lord Nicholas Stern (LSE; British Academy)

Discussant: Professor Amartya Sen (Harvard University)

Chair: Professor Naila Kabeer (LSE)

Nicholas Stern and Amartya Sen discussed what seven decades of research in Palanpur, Uttar Pradesh can tell us about economic development, inequality and prospects for India.

The Evolution of Global Inequalities: the impact on politics and the economy

5 July 2017

Speaker: Professor Branko Milanovic (City University of New York; Luxembourg Income Study Cross-National Data Center)

Chair: Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

Professor Branko Milanovic discussed the recent evolution in global inequality and focused on the political implications of the important changes in the global distribution of income.

“You are being tracked, evaluated for digital trading and sold as you read this”: an analysis of the making of digital inequalities

26 September 2017

Speaker: Professor Beverley Skeggs (LSE)

Respondent: Dr Seeta Peña Gangadharan (LSE)

Chair: Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

Beverley Skeggs identified how a person's browser use is tracked and searched in detail for sources of potential value that can be sold to advertising companies. She argued that if we want to know how inequalities are being shaped in the present and future we need to understand the opaque mechanisms that operate through stealth and experiment with our personal disclosures.

III ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017: Challenging Inequalities, Developing a global response

14 June 2017

At this full-day conference, key speakers from academia and the third sector discussed concepts around racial, health, social and economic equity, alongside presentations from upcoming researchers and the presentation of the inaugural Action for Equity Award by George Alagiah (BBC) (see page 25). The conference was followed by an evening discussion which explored how to "change the terms of the debate" around inequalities.



III Annual Conference 2017: Professor John A. Powell and Baroness Ruth Lister
Photo: Kristyn Ulanday

Social and Economic Mobility: are destinies diverging?

Speakers: Professor Jane Waldfogel (Columbia University), Professor Mike Savage (LSE), Anna Ludwine (European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions), Dr Faiza Shaheen (Centre for Labour and Social Studies)
Chair: Professor John Hills (LSE)

From Ideas to Practice: new frontiers in research

Speakers: Kerris Cooper (LSE), Refilwe Lepelle (University of Cape Town), Lisa Windsteiger (LSE), Abigail McKnight (LSE), Naila Kabeer (LSE), Will Bartlett (LSE), Lisa McKenzie (LSE)
Chair: Professor Alan Hirsch (UCT).

Otherring and Belonging: race, poverty and disability

Speakers: Professor John A. Powell (University of California, Berkeley), Baroness Lister of Burtersett (House of Lords and Loughborough University), Liz Sayce (Disability Rights UK)
Chair: June Sarpong (independent broadcaster and author of *Diversify*)

Health Equity: barriers and opportunities

Speakers: Chuck Collins (Institute for Policy Studies), Dr Mvuyo Tom (Tekano and Atlantic Fellows programme for Health Equity in South Africa), Anne Rathbone and Simon Duncan (Boingboing)
Chair: Dr Aaron Reeves

Inequalities: changing the terms of the debate

Speakers: Jee Kim (Narratives Initiative), Katy Wright (Oxfam GB), Professor Amartya Sen (Harvard University)
Chair: Professor Beverley Skeggs (LSE)

INEQUALITIES SEMINAR SERIES

Our Inequalities Seminar Series was launched in September 2016, and is free and open to all. It is a venue for scholars from LSE and beyond to present their innovative work on social and economic inequality, as well as a place for exploring fresh perspectives on the various structural and cultural processes that underlie the formation of inequality broadly defined.

Top Incomes and the Gender Divide

27 September 2016

Speakers: Professor Alessandra Casarico (Bocconi) and Dr Sarah Voitchovsky (University of Melbourne)

This seminar presented findings from a paper co-authored with Professor Tony Atkinson, investigating the gender divide at the top of the income distribution using tax record data for a sample of eight countries with individual taxation.

The Organisational Production of Earnings Inequalities

25 October 2016

Speaker: Professor Donald Tomaskovic-Devey (UMASS)

What drives workplace inequality levels and trends? Professor Donald Tomaskovic-Devey introduced the idea of organisations as income distribution devices, followed by a broad descriptive analysis of workplace earnings inequalities levels and trends from the early 1990s to the present for ten countries.

The Strength of Weak Performance: a relational theory of executive pay

8 November 2016

Speaker: Professor Thomas A. DiPrete (Columbia University)

Using the most comprehensive data on executive compensation peer groups yet analysed, Professor Thomas A. DiPrete demonstrated that compensation peer groups tend to be biased upwards, showing how the pattern of bias arises through the relational structure underlying benchmarking processes. He also provided evidence that compensation peer group bias produces higher levels of executive compensation.

Support for Redistribution: preferences for reducing economic inequality in the US and Sweden

29 November 2016

Speaker: Professor Leslie McCall (Northwestern University)

In contrast to studies of the multiple determinants and implications of inequality, research into the potential array of solutions to the problem of inequality is narrower in scope. There are two main strands: social redistribution and market redistribution. The attitudinal literature is narrower still, focusing only on support for social redistribution. Professor Leslie McCall developed an expanded definition of preferences for redistribution that includes the second category and new questions on the GSS and ISSP that permit a careful comparison of support for the two kinds of policies in the US and Sweden.



Photo: Billie Elmquist Thurén

Who are the Global Top 1%?

17 January 2017

Speaker: Dr Paul Segal (KCL, LSE III)

This seminar presented findings from the paper with the same title, representing the first in-depth analysis of the changing composition of the global income rich and the rising representation of developing countries at the top of the global distribution.

Regional Inequality and Preferences for Market- Promoting Land Law Reform: Kenya Pilot Study

31 January 2017

Speaker: Professor Catherine Boone (LSE Government and International Development)

This seminar was based on a project on land law reform in Kenya since 2013, seeking to understand the effects of spatial inequalities on political struggles over the commodification of land in African countries. Catherine Boone framed the problem of land law reform as one of redistributive politics in territorially-fragmented polities and developed an analytic strategy that draws upon research on the politics of social entitlements in developed and developing countries.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

Older peoples' experiences of dignity and nutritional support during hospital stays

21 February 2017

Speaker: Dr Polly Vizard (LSE CASE)

Dr Polly Vizard presented findings from a new study that provides in-depth nationally representative quantitative evidence on older people's experiences of poor and inconsistent standards of treatment with dignity and respect, and support with eating, during hospital stays using the Adult Inpatient Survey. The study highlights how older age interacts with gender and disability as a driver of inpatient experience, considers the role of socio-economic disadvantage, and makes specific recommendations on how to build inequalities analysis into national frameworks for healthcare monitoring, inspection and regulation.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

Addressing recognition gaps: destigmatisation processes and the making of inequality

7 March 2017

Speaker: Professor Michèle Lamont (Harvard University)

This talk brought together three lines of research focused on destigmatisation processes (as they pertain to African Americans, people with HIV-AIDS, and the obese); cultural processes feeding into inequality; and recognition gaps experienced by white working-class men in the United States and France, and stigmatised groups in Brazil, Israel, and the United States. From these studies, Michèle Lamont proposed an agenda for the empirical analysis of recognition, which she views as an essential but largely missing dimension to the study of inequality.

Dynamics of Democracy and Inequality in the context of Globalisation

21 March 2017

Speaker: Dr Dena Freeman (LSE Anthropology)

Revisiting historical studies of the relationship between democracy and inequality in the nineteenth and early 20th century Europe, this seminar considered how contemporary processes of de-democratisation may be playing a role in the recent upturn in inequality trends.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

Health and Income Inequality Aversion: results from a UK survey experiment

25 April 2017

Speaker: Dr Joan Costa-i-Font (LSE Social Policy and European Institute)

Drawing on representative survey data from the UK, this talk examined 1) whether individuals' preferences for inequality are domain specific, and specifically between income and health; 2) whether attitudes conventionally measured in surveys are different from inequality preferences; 3) some of the determinants of inequality preferences such as risk aversion and personality.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

Post-Industrialisation in the East Midlands: ethnographic narratives from the communities that were thrown under the Brexit bus

2 May 2017

Speaker: Dr Lisa McKenzie (LSE Sociology)

Following a four month ethnographic study in the mining towns of the East Midlands funded by the III, Lisa McKenzie introduced the narratives and the images of those that since "Brexit" have been described as the "left behind". The seminar used the voices, images and the landscapes of the de-industrialised midlands to tell the narrative not of the 'left behind' but of a proud people, that were "thrown under the Brexit bus".

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

Intersecting Inequalities and the Sustainable Development Goals: insights from Brazil

9 May 2017

Speakers: Professor Naila Kabeer (LSE Gender Studies and International Development) and Dr Ricardo Santos (UNU-WIDER)

This talk presented findings from new research supported by the III using national data from Brazil to explore how groups at the intersection of race, class, gender and spatial inequalities fared in relation to indicators of poverty, labour market engagement and well-being that have been highlighted by the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. It documented the decline in intersecting inequalities 2004-2013, and explored some of the explanations as to why and how.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

The Decline and Persistence of the Old Boy: Private Schools and Elite Recruitment 1897-2016

10 October 2017

Speakers: Dr Aaron Reeves (LSE III) and Dr Sam Friedman (LSE Sociology)

Drawing upon 120 years of biographical data contained within Who's Who – a unique catalogue of the British elite – this talk explored the changing relationship between elite schools and elite recruitment. The speakers argued that while the propulsive power of Britain's "public schools" has diminished significantly over time, these schools remain extraordinarily powerful channels of elite formation.

Do Firms Manage Pay Inequality?

24 October 2017

Speaker: Professor Paul Willman (LSE Management)

This talk examined the role of the modern firm in the creation of inequality of income. Specifically, it examined the growth in the use of asset based rewards for senior executives, combined with continued use of salaried rewards for other employees, and the impact this has on measures of inequality both within the firm and society.

OTHER III-SUPPORTED EVENTS

CISPS: Climate change, inequality and social policy

3 November 2016

Speaker: Professor Ian Gough (LSE CASE and GRI)

This seminar marked the launch of the Climate Change, Inequality and Social Policy Seminar Series (CISPS) hosted by three institutes at LSE – the Grantham Research Institute (GRI), the Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) and the III. The goal of this series is to bring together the overlap between environmental pressures and degradation on the one hand and the "social dimension" of inequality and human wellbeing on the other hand, to facilitate an interdisciplinary dialogue between them and to develop an agenda for research and policy development.

CISPS: Carbon and Inequality: from Measurement to Policy

1 December 2016

Speaker: Dr Lucas Chancel (Paris School of Economics; Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations; Sciences Po)

Respondent: Dr Dario Kenner (author of *Inequality of overconsumption: The ecological footprint of the richest*)

This seminar presented recent trends in economic inequality and individual carbon emissions at the international and national levels. It also identified the conditions under which carbon mitigation measures can be implemented with positive social impacts – and, conversely, discuss how economic inequality reduction policies can be performed with limited impacts on carbon emissions.

Design and "the Social": mapping new approaches to Inequality in design

British Sociology Association workshop hosted by III

7 February 2017

Keynote speaker: Dr Lucy Kimbell (University of the Arts London)
With contributions from: Professor Mike Savage (LSE) and Dr Adam Kaasa (Theatrum Mundi)

This seminar looked to map out current social science research and thinking on the link between "design" and "inequality" to explore how designers operate as social theorists, actors and activists. The event was organised by Mona Sloane and Nell Beecham (both PhD candidates in LSE Sociology) and co-hosted by the III and Theatrum Mundi.

CISPS: The health co-benefits of the low-carbon economy

16 February 2017

Speakers: Professor Paul Wilkinson (London School of Medicine and Tropical Hygiene), Dr Alison Smith (Oxford University) and Dr Ruth Mayne (Oxfam GB; Oxford University)

This seminar explored the health co-benefits of the low-carbon economy, and asked whether the co-benefits of climate action can help deliver social equity and if local carbon reduction programmes can work in disadvantaged areas.

CISPS: Carbon and time

9 March 2017

Speakers: Professor Angela Druckman (University of Surrey) and Anna Coote (New Economics Foundation)

Professor Angela Druckman explored the time use perspective towards sustainability, and Anna Coote made the case for a shorter working week.

CISPS: Would income redistribution result in higher aggregate emissions?

27 April 2017

Speaker: Lutz Sager (LSE GRI)

Discussants: Professor Angela Druckman (University of Surrey), Professor Ian Gough (LSE CASE and GRI)

Lutz Sager presented findings from his research analysing the relationship between the distribution of income and the carbon content of household consumption.

CISPS: Postgrowth and Wellbeing?

16 February 2017

Speakers: Dr Milena Buchs (University of Leeds) and Professor Max Koch (Lund University)

Chair: Professor Ian Gough (LSE CASE and GRI)

Dr Milena Buchs and Professor Max Koch demonstrated that the relationship between happiness and economic growth is more complex than claimed by some post- and degrowth authors, proposed that this debate should adopt a more comprehensive concept of wellbeing which also relates to theories of human need; and argued that further work is required to understand possible implications of rapid and radical socio-economic change towards post-growth for human welfare and wellbeing.

YSI Inequality Workshop

12-13 June 2017

Speakers: Dr Paul Segal (King's College London), Dr Alex Teytelboym (University of Oxford) and Professor Mike Savage (LSE)

This interactive workshop hosted by the YSI Inequality Working Group (IWG) attempted to visualise and disentangle the complex web of research that the interest in inequality has spurred over the past years. The joint work of the participants will eventually be published online and serve as a guide for those who are interested in studying and researching inequality.

Nuffield Conference: From Preferences to Politics in the New Economy

15-16 July 2017

This conference, organised by Professors David Soskice (LSE), Torben Iversen (Harvard University) and David Rueda (Oxford University) took place at Nuffield College, Oxford University and focused on the sharp rise in inequality, deep changes to the structure of production, and emergence of new electoral cleavages that have been associated with the transition away from the Fordist industrial economy.

UPCOMING MICHAELMAS TERM 2017 EVENTS

PUBLIC LECTURES

Investing in Equality: the role of capital and justice in addressing inequality

1 November 2017

Speaker: Darren Walker (Ford Foundation)

Chair: Professor Julia Black (LSE)

What We Treasure We Measure: a theatrical engagement with gender inequality

PartecipArte Theatre Company

The Myth of Millionaire Tax Flight: how place still matters for the rich

20 November 2017

Speaker: Dr Cristobal Young (Stanford University)

Discussants: Dr Andrew Summers (LSE) and Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP

Chair: Professor Nicola Lacey (LSE)

The Great Leveler: violence and economic inequality from the Stone Age to the future

27 November 2017

Speaker: Professor Walter Scheidel (Stanford University)

Chair: Dr Aaron Reeves (LSE)

INEQUALITIES SEMINAR SERIES

Can Social Landlords Make Private Renting Work Better?

14 November 2017

Speaker: Professor Anne Power (LSE Housing and Community)

Inequality and Service

28 November 2017

Speaker: Paul Segal (King's College London, LSE III)

PUBLICATIONS WORKING PAPERS 2017

Working Paper 8 Who are the Global Top 1%?

by Sudhir Anand and Paul Segal

This paper presents the first in-depth analysis of the changing composition of the global income rich and the rising representation of developing countries at the top of the global distribution. The authors find that the representation of developing countries in the global top 1% declined until about 2002, but that since 2005 it has risen significantly. This coincides with a decline in global inequality since 2005, according to a range of measures.

Working Paper 9 Wealth, Top Incomes and Inequality

by Frank Cowell, Brian Nolan, Javier Olivera and Philippe Van Kerm

This paper highlights issues that arise in making ideas and facts about wealth inequality precise, and employs newly-available data to take a fresh look at wealth and wealth inequality in a comparative perspective.

Working Paper 10 The rise and fall of Africa's bureaucratic bourgeoisie: public employment and the income elites of postcolonial Kenya and Tanzania

by Rebecca Simson

This paper explores whether the characterisation of Africa's public sector employees as a privileged rentier class is accurate. Situating public sector employees in Kenya and Tanzania within their respective national income distributions, this paper finds that while public sector employees formed a considerable share of the top 1%– 0.1% at independence, their share of the broader middle class was never that large and fell substantially over the postcolonial era.

Working Paper 11 A Relational Analysis of Top Incomes and Wealth: economic evaluation, relative (dis)advantage and the service to capital

by Katharina Hecht

Drawing on a mixed-methods study in the UK, this paper elaborates how top incomes and wealth are made sense of and produced by economic "elites" through the cultural process of economic evaluation.

Working Paper 12 De-Democratisation and Rising Inequality: The Underlying Cause of a Worrying Trend

by Dena Freeman

This paper is concerned with the paradoxical situation that the upswing in inequality has taken place at the same time as a major spread of democracy worldwide. It argues that democracy itself has changed in this period and that globalization has led to a process of economic de-democratisation, suggesting that if we want to tackle the contemporary rise in inequality we must democratise economic policy-making at both the national and the global level.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund



Photo: Leandro Centomo

Working Paper 13 Understanding the Determinants of Penal Policy: crime, culture and comparative political economy

by Nicola Lacey, David Soskice and David Hope

This review sets out four main explanatory paradigms of penal policy—crime, cultural dynamics, economic structures and interests, and institutional differences in the organisation of different political economies. It argues that these paradigms are best seen as complementary rather than competitive, and present a case for integrating them analytically in a comparative political economy framework situated within the *longue durée* of technology regime change. To illustrate this, the paper presents case studies of one exceptional case – the United States – and of one substantive variable – race. Race provides a pertinent example of how the different dynamics intersect in practice.

Working Paper 15 Inequalities in the application of welfare sanctions in Britain

by Robert de Vries, Aaron Reeves and Ben Baumberg-Geiger

This paper provides an introduction to the British system of benefit sanctions and identifies the demographic inequalities in the application of sanctions. Using data published by the UK Department of Work and Pensions, it finds that younger people, men, and ethnic minorities are at substantially higher risk of experiencing a sanction than other groups.

Working Paper 16 The Wider Impacts of High-Technology Employment: Evidence from US Cities

by Tom Kemeny and Taner Osman

Across a large sample of US cities, this paper estimates how growth in tradable tech employment affects the real, living-cost deflated wages of local workers in nontradable sectors. Results indicate that high-technology employment has significant, positive, but substantively modest effects on the real wages of workers in nontradable sectors. However, in cities with highly price-inelastic housing markets, the relationship is inverted, with tech generating negative externalities for nontradable workers.

Working Paper 14 Intersecting Inequalities and the Sustainable Development Goals: Insights from Brazil

by Naila Kabeer and Ricardo Santos

The last few decades have seen growing concerns about the dramatic rise in income inequality across the world, bringing the issue to the forefront of the international development agenda. At the same time, however, the Millennium Development Goals have been heavily criticised for their failure to acknowledge the various other forms that inequality could take, with the consequence that those located at the intersection of multiple and overlapping inequalities were left out of most forms of progress reported by their respective countries.

The SDG agenda shows clear signs of improvement, extending beyond income inequalities to also include inequalities based on sex, race, religion or other status within a country, endeavouring to 'leave no one behind'. There are clearly lessons to be learnt from countries that have made progress in this direction. Brazil stands out among these. It has long been known as one of the most unequal countries in the world. Yet, at the time when much of the world was experiencing rising income inequalities, Brazil succeeded in reducing both absolute poverty and income inequality. What has been less well publicised is that it has also made progress in reducing intersecting inequalities. This paper documents this decline in intersecting inequalities, and explores how and why this has happened.

Leaving no one behind? The decline in intersecting inequalities 2002-2013

Using PNAD data – and structuring the analysis around the SDG indicators – the authors find clear evidence that the lives and life chances of groups located at the intersection of income inequality and marginalised group identities improved 2002-13.

Income inequalities. Gender, ethno-racial and regional inequalities in income all declined. The overall decline in poverty among groups defined by intersecting inequalities was larger among the most deprived ethnic groups, particularly black and mixed Brazilians, but also among indigenous people.

Wage inequalities. There was a convergence of income among market occupations, particularly in relation to domestic work but also informal labour. The formalisation of work status emerged as a major indicator of improvement in working conditions for those most disadvantaged by intersecting inequalities.

Land rights. There has also been increased formalisation of land rights to the benefit of most groups, with the exception of indigenous men and women.

Education. There have been clear signs of improvement in both pre-school and primary school enrolment with convergence towards the levels prevailing among boys from the most privileged ethno-racial group. Years of primary and secondary education and the proportion of individuals with tertiary education increased for all groups, including groups at the intersection of different inequalities.

Policies for social change: Liberal neo-developmentalism

While a number of researchers have pointed to the commodity boom and the strong growth rates as the main explanations for the decline in economic inequalities in the early 2000s, it is notable that earlier periods of growth did not have the same impact (Amman and Barrientos, 2014).

Instead, focus should be redirected to the policies adopted by Brazil in the wake of its democratic transition, which have been termed a "liberal neo-developmental policy regime" (Cornell, 2012; Grindberg, 2016). The left-wing Workers Party that took power in 2001 upheld the previous regime's commitment to promote Brazil's global competitiveness and retained several of its orthodox macroeconomic policies. At the same time, however, it pursued an agenda marking a clear break with classic neoliberal prescriptions:

Interventionist economic policy. Lula's "growth acceleration program" expanded aggregate demand in the economy through state investment in infrastructure, increased supply of credit by state banks and expanded investment by state-owned enterprises (Barbosa and Souza, 2010). The state supported public enterprises to compete in the open economy and diversify the domestic productive base.

Labour market policies. With job growth resulting from economic recovery, additional policies were put in place to encourage greater formalization of the economy (Berg, 2010).

Pursuit of redistributive policies. The Lula administrations 2003-2011 consolidated all federal guaranteed income programmes into *Bolsa Família* while at the same time expanding the target population to 13 million households, halving the number of people living below the poverty line by the late 2000s. Another important measure was the policy of regularly increasing the minimum wage above the inflation rate, with the bottom quintile of the labour force seeing its incomes rise by 38% 2003-04. The important feature was that the growth in social expenditure led to multiplier effects through their impact on domestic demand.

The politics of social change: mobilising from the grassroots
The pursuit of the liberal neo-developmental regime poses the important question of how it came to be adopted in the first place. An important explanatory factor is the long history of social mobilization that allowed the Workers Party into power. The military regime's disregard for human rights and legality had lost it the support of several of its traditional political allies, opening up a space for grassroots opposition to emerge. Simultaneously, the growing prominence of cultural politics extended the movement beyond the demand for formal institutions of democracy to the demand for equality and participation for poor and marginalised groups (Dagnino, 2007). New interpretations of citizenship provided a common ground between those struggling for redistributive demands and those challenging cultural rules that denied them recognition, giving rise to new categories of rights. Labour organisations emerged as the most influential groups pushing for change, with the New Union Movement founding the Workers Party when the military legalised the setting up of new parties. Its leadership was drawn from the popular classes and the party strongly committed itself to fostering grassroots democratic practices both before and after it came into power.

In sum, Brazil's break with its longstanding history of intersecting inequalities should be seen in the light of the willingness to move away from the policy orthodoxy associated with rising inequalities in much of the rest of the world, supported by an extensive period of social mobilisation.

The economic decline that set in by the end of the study period can be attributed to the fact that Brazil's pattern of growth has not resulted in major productivity and technological gains (Costa et al. 2015). In addition, regressive taxes continue to account for half of the country's tax revenue, attesting to the fact that redistribution did not go far enough to empower those at the bottom to become a sufficiently strong political force that could hold the party accountable to those who voted it into power, prevent the slide into corruption and counter the continued influence of powerful interests with a stake in maintaining the status quo.

This research was supported by the III Research Innovation Fund.

III RESEARCH STAFF PUBLICATIONS 2016–17

Dr Luna Glucksberg

"The Blue Bit, that Was My Bedroom": Rubble, Displacement and Regeneration in Inner-City London

L Glucksberg

In book: *Social Housing and Urban Renewal: A Cross-National Perspective*, 2017 by P Watt, P Smets

Family Offices and the Contemporary Infrastructures of Dynastic Wealth

L Glucksberg, R Burrows

Sociologica 2017

Minimum City? The Deeper Impacts of the "Super-Rich" on Urban Life

R Atkinson, R Burrows, L Glucksberg, H K Ho, C Knowles, D Rhodes

In book: *Cities and the Super-Rich*, 2017, by R Forrest, S Y Koh, B Wissink

Fighting Gentrification in the Neoliberal University: Displacing Communities, Researchers and the Very Possibility of Radical Critique

M Ferreri, L Glucksberg

Sociological Research Online 21 (3) 2016

Dr David Hope

Understanding the Determinants of Penal Policy: Crime, Culture and Comparative Political Economy

N Lacey, D Soskice, D Hope

Annual Review of Criminology 1, 2018 (forthcoming)

Estimating the effect of the EMU on current account balances: A synthetic control approach

D Hope

European Journal of Political Economy 44, 20-40

Growth Models, Varieties of Capitalism, and Macroeconomics

D Soskice, D Hope

Politics & Society 44 (2) 2016, 209-226

The Eurozone and Political Economic Institutions

T Iversen, D Soskice, D Hope

Annual Review of Political Science 19 2016, 163-185

Dr Aaron Reeves

Does sanctioning disabled claimants of unemployment insurance increase labour market inactivity? An analysis of 346 British local authorities between 2009 and 2014

A Reeves

Journal of Poverty and Social Justice 25 (2) 2017, 129-146

Constructing a Housing Precariousness Measure for Europe

A Clair, A Reeves, M McKee, D Stuckler

Journal of European Social Policy 2017

Introduction of a National Minimum Wage Reduced Depressive Symptoms in Low Wage Workers: A Quasi Natural Experiment in the UK

A Reeves, M McKee, J Mackenbach, M Whitehead, D Stuckler

Health Economics 26 (5) 2017, 639-655

"Set up to Fail"? How Welfare Conditionality Undermines Citizenship for Vulnerable Groups

A Reeves, R Loopstra

Social Policy and Society 16 (2) 2017, 327-338

National sex work policy and HIV prevalence among sex workers: an ecological regression analysis of 27 European countries

A Reeves, S Steele, D Stuckler, M McKee, A Amato-Gauci, JC Semenza

The Lancet HIV 4 (3) 2017, 134-140

How do health behaviour interventions take account of social context? A literature trend and co-citation analysis

D Holman, R Lynch, A Reeves

Health 2017, 1-22

The growing disconnect between food prices and wages in Europe: cross-national analysis of food deprivation and welfare regimes in twenty-one EU countries, 2004-2012

A Reeves, R Loopstra, D Stuckler

Public Health Nutrition 2017, 1-9

Public pensions and unmet medical need among older people: cross-national analysis of 16 European countries, 2004-2010

A Reeves, M McKee, J Mackenbach, M Whitehead, D Stuckler

Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health 71 (2) 2017, 174-180

Gender violence, poverty and HIV infection risk among persons engaged in the sex industry: cross national analysis of the political economy of sex markets in 30 European and Central Asian countries

A Reeves, S Steele, D Stuckler, M McKee, A Amato Gauci, JC Semenza

HIV Medicine, 2017

LSE Inequalities Publications Portal

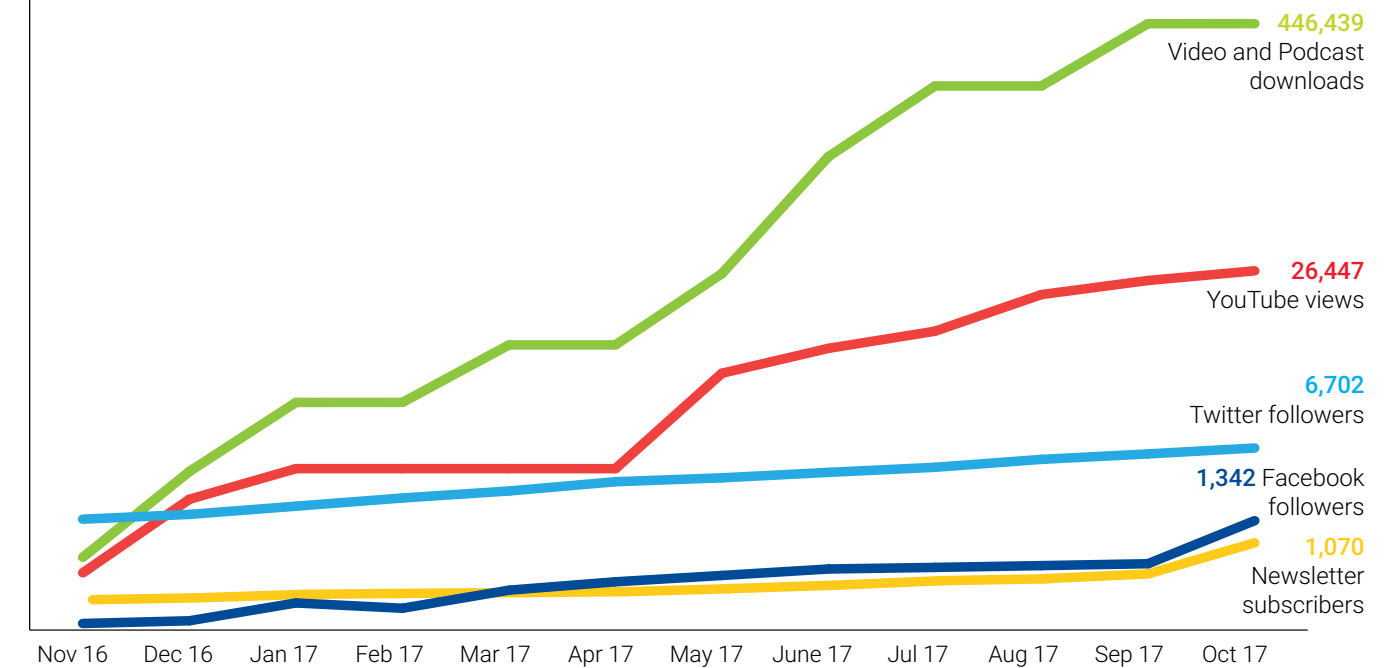
In addition to the papers we publish ourselves, we host a portal on our website linking to research about inequality from across the LSE, indexed according to the main thematic focus.

lse.ac.uk/International-Inequalities/Publications-Portal

III DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

The International Inequalities Institute has established a strong social media presence in the past year, making use of a range of digital platforms including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Mailchimp to extend our reach to new audiences and cultivate ties with existing partners.

Digital communications November 2016–October 2017



Twitter

Twitter continues to be the III's main social media channel, with an average growth of 240 followers per month, and having attracted over 2,800 new followers in the last year. The account sees strong levels of engagement, peaking during, public events, conferences and the release of new research. This year's highlight was the III Annual Conference 2017, with live coverage generating 78,900 impressions on the day.

[@LSEInequalities](https://twitter.com/LSEInequalities)



Facebook

An LSE Inequalities Facebook page was set up in October 2016 and has so far attracted 1,342 followers. The page has proven highly successful in promoting public events, with a total event reach of 370,000 in the past year.

[@LSEInequalities](https://www.facebook.com/LSEInequalities)



Newsletter

The III has seen an additional 530 subscribers to its mailing list. The Institute sends out regular newsletters containing videos and podcasts from the latest events, the latest research papers, news from the Atlantic Fellows programme, and invitations to upcoming lectures and seminars. The list currently has a 37.9% open rate and 3% click rate (compared to the industry averages of 13.7% and 1.5% respectively).

<http://bit.ly/2vavHuO>



YouTube

A majority of the Institute's public lectures are uploaded to the LSE YouTube channel. This allows the III to extend the reach of its lectures, as the LSE YouTube channel has 96,000 subscribers who receive notifications each time a new video is published. On average, III videos have around 1,300 views each, totalling 26,447 views in the past year.

youtube.com/user/lsewebsite



Video and podcast downloads

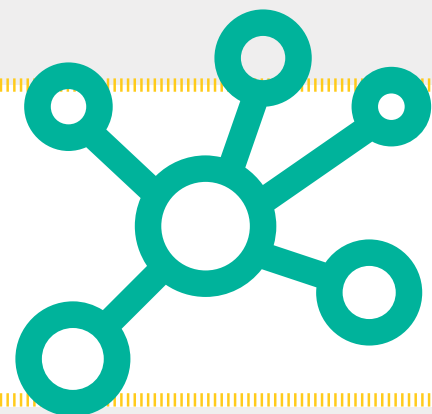
Whenever possible, the III aims to record its events and make them publically available online. In the past year, the Institute's videos and podcasts have been downloaded a total of 446,439 times. III podcasts have been particularly popular, averaging 48,000 downloads each (compared to the LSE average of 40,000).



Website

In March, the Institute's website underwent an extensive redesign, as part of a School-wide migration to a new web platform. New features of the III website include a Videos and Podcasts Archive, indexed according to main thematic focus.

lse.ac.uk/International-Inequalities



III PRESS COVERAGE

Political challenges in devolved land administration

The Star, 10 December 2016

Professor Catherine Boone discusses her findings from a project on Kenya's devolved land administration, funded by the III's Research Innovation Fund and featured as an III working paper.

The new benefit cap will not only make people poorer – it will harm their health

The Conversation, 10 November 2016

Dr Aaron Reeves, Dr Emma Baker and Dr Rebecca Bentley discuss how the new benefits cap introduced on November 7 in Britain will exacerbate the effects of the housing crisis and affect people's mental health.

Our lives keep changing – yet the welfare myth of “them” and “us” persists

LSE British Politics and Policy blog, 22 February 2017

Professor John Hills draws on the revised edition of his book *Good Times, Bad Times* to explain some of the implications of the myth that the population is divided into those who benefit from the welfare state and those who pay into it.

Voices of the 1%: how do Britain's highest earners feel about their income?

The Guardian, 3 May 2017

This article features an III working paper by PhD researcher Katharina Hecht, shedding light on attitudes to wealth and inequality among the UK's top 1%, and revealing that even when you're rich, you can still feel disadvantaged by "vast income inequality".

Democracy undermined – power and inequality

My Fair London, 19 May 2017

This blog post summarises Dena Freeman's seminar Dynamics of Democracy and Inequality in the Context of Globalisation, held on the 21 March and part of our Inequalities Seminar Series.

Half of Britain's prisoners are functionally illiterate. Can fellow inmates change that?

The Guardian, 15 June 2017

This article sheds light on the important work carried out by Shannon Trust, a London-based charity working to enhance prisoners' literacy levels through a one-to-one peer mentoring programme. It coincided with the Trust's reception of the inaugural Action for Equity Award, presented by George Alagiah at the III Annual Conference 2017.

"Treated as though they do not matter": Luna Glucksberg discusses the Grenfell Tragedy on LBC

Leading Britain's Conversation, 22 June 2017

Dr Luna Glucksberg discusses the Grenfell Tragedy in the context of deepening inequalities in London.

How our narrowing social circles create a more unequal world

The Guardian, 27 June 2017

Following her presentation at the III Annual Conference 2017, PhD researcher Lisa Windsteiger discusses her research showing that most social interactions take place with people similar to ourselves, making us less sensitive to how people outside our "social bubble" live.



The good and bad in Germany's economic model are strongly linked

The Economist, 8 July 2017

This piece on Germany's economic model cites Professor David Soskice and Dr David Hope's research on the norms and institutions that have governed the German economy.

"I fell between the cracks": author Winnie M Li on how rape survivors are failed by the system

The Guardian, 31 July 2017

PhD Researcher Winnie M Li talks about how she turned the experience of an attack into her debut novel, *Dark Chapter*, which won *The Guardian's* Not the Booker prize 2017. She is affiliated with the III through the Leverhulme programme, researching the impact of social media on the public discourse about rape.

Could Brazil's success in tackling intersecting inequalities be a model for the rest of the world?

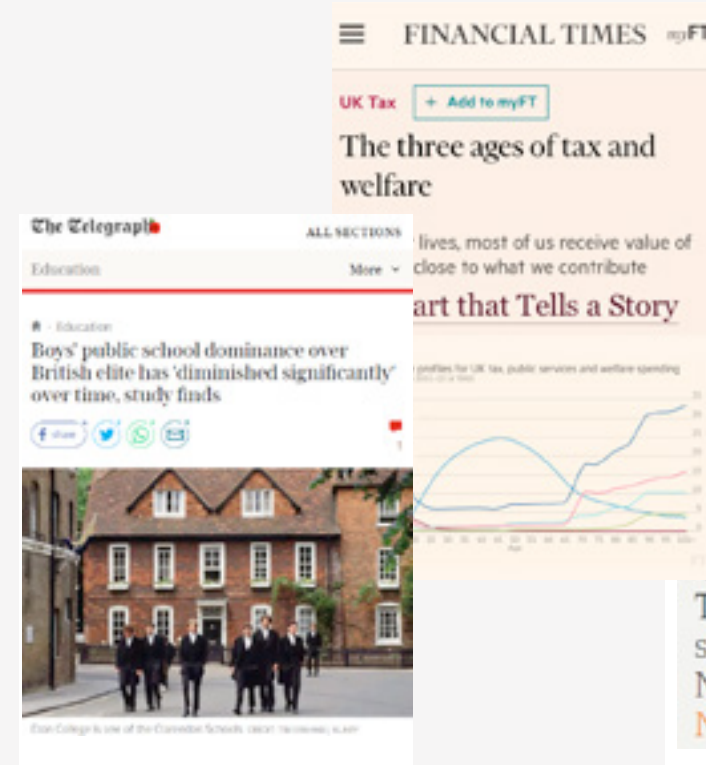
LSE Latin America and Caribbean Centre blog, 19 September 2017

Drawing on insights from their recent working paper for the III, Professor Naila Kabeer and Dr Ricardo Santos argue that a better understanding of Brazil's progress in reducing multiple and overlapping inequalities could help other countries make real progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Wake up, algorithms are trawling your phone while you sleep

LSE Business Review, 21 September 2017

Professor Beverley Skeggs explains that our web browsing history is the most lucrative piece of information that can be traded. This piece was written in advance of her public lecture "You Are Being Tracked, Evaluated For Digital Trading and Sold As You Read This": an analysis of the making of digital inequalities", hosted by the III and the Atlantic Fellows for Social and Economic Equity programme.



The three ages of tax and welfare

Financial Times, 5 October 2017

This article asserts that over our lives, most of us receive value of benefits close to what we contribute. It cites Professor John Hills, who argues that the divide between those who benefit from the welfare state and those who pay into it is shallower than people often think.

Not the Booker prize 2017: Dark Chapter by Winnie M Li wins

The Guardian, 16 October 2017

PhD Researcher Winnie M Li is announced as winner of 2017's Not the Booker prize, having been the public's clear favourite.

It Costs Workers £9,300 A Year Not To Be A White Man, New Research Reveals

Huffington Post, 18 October 2017

This article documents the pay gaps between white British men, women and ethnic minorities in the UK, based on research towards which the III and LSE CASE contributed, in collaboration with June Sarpong.

Who's Who study sheds new light on power of old boy network

The Guardian, 30 October 2017

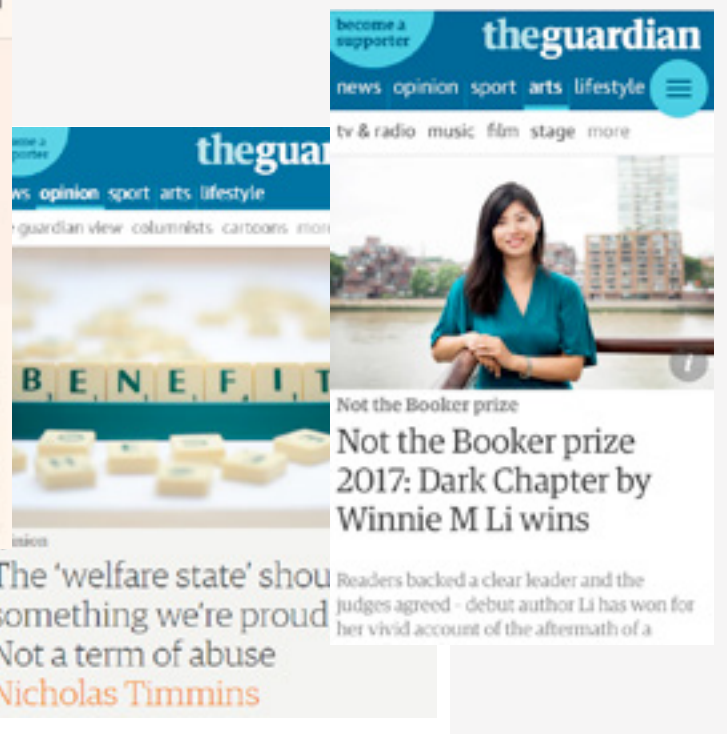
Boys' public school dominance over British elite has "diminished significantly" over time, study finds

The Telegraph, 30 October 2017

Nine elite schools provide path to power

The Times, 31 October 2017

The three articles above cover a recent study by Aaron Reeves, Sam Friedman, Charles Rahal and Magne Flemmen exploring the changing relationship between elite schools and elite recruitment in the UK. The paper finds that while the propulsive power of Britain's public schools has diminished significantly over time, these schools remain extraordinarily powerful channels of elite formation.



The "welfare state" should be something we're proud of. Not a term of abuse

The Guardian, 31 October 2017

Nicholas Timmins argues that we must reclaim the phrase 'welfare state' if we are to build a more cohesive society. He references Professor John Hills' book *Good Times, Bad Times* as ably demonstrating that, over a lifetime, we pretty much all benefit from the welfare state.

The dogged persistence of the British "old boy": how private school alumni reach the elite

LSE British Politics and Policy Blog, 31 October 2017

Dr Aaron Reeves and Dr Sam Friedman explore why alumni of elite schools continue to enjoy very real advantages in reaching the elite.

Women's empowerment in business and the labour force

Policy Options, Institute for Research on Public Policy, 1 November 2017

Professor Naila Kabeer discusses her recent working paper published in McGill University's GrOW research series, in which she tries to address the lack of empowering employment options for women. She does this by focusing on two categories of work – entrepreneurial activity and wage employment – in order to work out what distinguishes women in the poorly paid and poor-quality versions of these activities from those in better-paid, higher-quality versions.

III STAFF

CO-DIRECTORS



Professor John Hills

Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy,
Department of Social Policy, LSE

John Hills is former Director of the LSE's Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE), having stepped down after over 17 years. He remains as Chair of the research centre. His research interests include income distribution and the welfare state, social security, housing and taxation. His latest books are *Good Times, Bad Times: the welfare myth of them and us* (2014-2017) and *Social Policy in a Cold Climate* (coedited with Ruth Lupton and others, 2016).



Professor Mike Savage

Martin White Professor of Sociology, Department
of Sociology, LSE

Mike Savage is Professor of Sociology and previously Head of the Department of Sociology at LSE. His research focuses principally on social inequality, with a particular interest in social stratification and inequality. In 2013, he led the research for the BBC's The Great British Class Survey. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and was the founding Director of CRESC (the ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change) at the University of Manchester (2002-10) and Director of the York European Centre for Cultural Sociology at the University of York (2010-12). His book with Sam Friedman *et al Social Class in the 21st Century* was published in 2015.

INSTITUTE MANAGER



Liza Ryan

Liza Ryan manages the International Inequalities Institute having previously co-ordinated the Europe–Russia – Ukraine Relations working group of the Dahrendorf Forum at LSE IDEAS. She graduated from University College London School of Slavonic and Eastern European Studies (SSEES) in "Russian and Soviet Studies" and completed her Masters in MSc "Economics of Rural Change" at Imperial College at Wye.

INSTITUTE ASSISTANT



Billie Elmqvist Thurén

Billie Elmqvist Thurén provides organisational, research and communications support within the Institute. She holds a BSc in International Relations and an MSc in Development Management from LSE. Prior to joining the III, she had carried out an external consultancy project for Transparency International, worked for a strategy consultancy that incubates social movements, and conducted a research project into the efficacy of Tata Chemicals' CSR projects in India.

CENTENNIAL PROFESSOR



Professor Sudhir Anand

Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University
of Oxford

Sudhir Anand is an economist who works on inequality, development, and health. He has published widely in the areas of income inequality and poverty; undernutrition; human development; health equity; population ethics; health metrics and health inequalities; human resources for health; and other topics in economics and in health.

DIRECTOR, MSC INEQUALITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCE



Professor Diane Perrons

Professor of Economic Geography and Gender
Studies, Department of Gender Studies, LSE

Diane Perrons' research focuses on globalisation, gender and inequality; paid work, care, and social reproduction; and regional development and social change. Much of her work examines the interplay between economic and social theory and everyday life. She is currently working on the gendered dimensions of austerity policies and alternative socially inclusive patterns of development. She recently completed a project for the ITUC on Investing in the Care Economy with colleagues from the UK's Women's Budget Group.

VISITING FELLOWS



Dr Paul Segal

Senior Lecturer in Economics at the Department of
International Development, King's College London

Paul Segal has written on global inequality and poverty, where he pioneered the use of the new top incomes data in analysing the global distribution of income. He has also written on the economics of resource revenues and their potential role in inequality and poverty reduction. He is currently working on the determinants of inequality and wages in Mexico since 1800, and on the political economy of income distribution in Argentina over the 20th century. For 2017 he is on a Leverhulme Research Fellowship working on new approaches to economic inequality.



Dr Tom Kemeny

Senior Lecturer in Economic Development in the
School of Business and Management at Queen Mary, University of London

Tom Kemeny studies comparative economic development, mainly at the city scale, with interests in the determinants of inequality both within and between places. Current projects explore such topics as international and internal migration; specialisation patterns; social networks and institutions; and international trade. Cutting across these topics, he is interested in policy efforts to stimulate development. Prior to his appointment at QMUL, he held positions at the University of Southampton, the LSE, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

RESEARCH DIRECTOR



Professor David Soskice

School Professor of Political Science and
Economics, Department of Government,
LSE, Research Director III

David Soskice has been School Professor of Political Science and Economics at LSE since 2012. In addition to Research Director, he is also co-Director of the Leverhulme Doctoral Programme in the III. He taught macroeconomics at Oxford 1967-1990, was then Research Director/Professor at the issenschaftzentrum Berlin 1990-2005, and subsequently Research Professor of Comparative Political Economy at Oxford and Senior Research Fellow at Nuffield College, and Research Professor of Political Science at Duke. He is currently working with Wendy Carlin (UCL) on tractable acroeconomic models; with Nicola Lacey (LSE) on the comparative political economy of crime and punishment; and with Torben Iversen (Harvard) on advanced capitalist democracies.

RESEARCH STAFF



Dr Aaron Reeves

Associate Professorial Research Fellow in Poverty
and Inequality

Aaron Reeves is a sociologist with interests in public health, culture, and political economy. To date, his work has broadly been in three areas: 1) the political economy of health, 2) the political and cultural consequences of the mass media, and 3) the cultural politics of class. Prior to joining the III, Aaron was Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Sociology at Oxford University and has worked briefly at the University of Cambridge. He completed his PhD (2013) in Applied Social and Economic Research at the University of Essex.



Dr Luna Glucksberg

Researcher

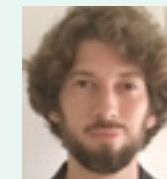
Luna Glucksberg is an urban anthropologist looking at socio-economic stratification in contemporary British society. Her current work focuses on the reproduction of wealth amongst elites in the UK, considering the roles of two key and so far under-researched actors: family offices and women. Prior to joining the III, Luna gained her degree from UCL and her PhD from Goldsmiths, University of London. She then joined the Centre for Urban and Community Research (CUCR) as a Research Associate at Goldsmiths, where she maintains a Fellowship.



Dr David Hope

Researcher/Visiting Fellow

David Hope is a political scientist who works on the comparative political economy of advanced democracies. His specific areas of interest include growth models, macroeconomic imbalances, inequality and redistribution, and electoral politics. Prior to joining the LSE III, David gained his degree in Economics from UCL and his masters in Economics from the LSE. He recently completed his PhD in Political Science with the Department of Government at the LSE. David left his position as Researcher in the III in 2017, to take up the post as Lecturer in Political Economy in the King's College London Department of Political Economy, but continues his research as a Visiting Fellow in the Institute.



Dr Jonathan Mijs

Assistant Professorial Research Fellow in Ethnicity,
Race and Equity

Jonathan Mijs' work uses ethnography, experiments, and quantitative analysis of survey data to investigate how, in a post-industrial society increasingly driven by inequalities, beliefs in meritocracy are developed and sustained. More broadly, he is interested in the interplay between the structural and agentic forces that together shape the course of people's lives. In previous work, he has studied such processes in schools and educational policy, criminal justice, and urban social change. He completed his PhD (2017) at Harvard University, where he remains a Fellow in Sociology.



Dr Susanne Wessendorf

Assistant Professorial Research Fellow in Ethnicity,
Race and Equity

Susanne Wessendorf's research focuses on immigration, integration, ethnicity and race. Her work explores new forms of social inclusion and exclusion in contexts of immigration-related diversity. Her current work looks at recent immigration into urban areas which host long-established ethnic minorities, and how long-term racialisation and discrimination of long-settled ethnic minorities impacts on the reception and settlement of more recent migrants. Since completing her DPhil at the University of Oxford, she has been a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, and held a Marie Curie Research Fellowship at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRIS) at the University of Birmingham.

AFSEE STAFF



Professor Beverley Skeggs
Academic Director

Beverley Skeggs is one of the foremost feminist sociologists in the world. Her book *Formations of Class and Gender* (1997) has been profoundly significant in drawing attention to the intersections between class and gender inequality, as experienced by working class young women dealing with the vulnerabilities of daily life in harsh conditions. Her more recent work has shown how contemporary ideas of the "self" implicitly discriminate against many groups who are seen to fall short of the assumed values of control and autonomy. In recent years, she has explored the source of these values through pioneering studies of traditional and social media: reality television and Facebook. Beverley has also been Head of two of the UK's leading Sociology Departments, at Manchester and Goldsmiths, and transformed *The Sociological Review* into an independent foundation devoted to opening up critical social science.



Rana Zincir Celal
Deputy Director

Prior to joining the AFSEE programme, Rana Zincir Celal was Senior Program Manager at Columbia Global Centers in Istanbul where she worked with Columbia University to design and implement collaborative programs in Turkey. In Cyprus, she was involved in establishing the Home for Cooperation, producing art exhibitions on contested histories, developing educational materials on enforced disappearance with The Elders and the International Center for Transitional Justice, and advocating for a gender perspective in the peace process. She holds a BA in Political Science from Columbia University, and an MSc in Development Studies from LSE.



Dr Mary Hodgson
Researcher

Mary is Director of Research at the Young Foundation and has a background in ethnographic research exploring citizen narratives on inequality and experience of change, as well as homelessness and place. Mary is also committed to involving more voices and analysis in knowledge production to create social change, and has worked with a broad range of stakeholders, activists and social movements on experimental projects to bring together research and practice. Mary has worked in academic, campaigning and voluntary sectors, and is also a Fellow of the RSA.



Dr Rebecca Simson
Researcher

Rebecca Simson is an economic historian with an interest in inequality, social mobility and elite formation in developing countries. Her research at the III examines inequality trends and the politics of redistribution in developing countries. Rebecca recently completed a PhD in economic history at LSE, which studied the role of public sector employment in shaping the elites of postcolonial Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. She currently holds the Economic History Society Anniversary fellowship at the Institute for Historical Research. She has previously worked as a policy researcher and advisor for several international organisations, with a focus on public finance and aid.



Dr Clive Nwonka
Course Tutor

Clive Nwonka completed his PhD in Film Studies at Brunel University, which sought to improve understandings of the relationship between political ideology and film texts, and the broader concept of film as social practice. His research is situated at the intersection of contemporary realism and film policy, with particular interests in black British film, international cinemas and American Independent film. This is framed around the representation of socio-political issues in contemporary cinema, exploring the linearity between decontextualised representations with the macro changes in the political sphere – how national cinemas appropriate and counter political hegemony. He spent two years as a Post-Doctoral Research Assistant on the AHRC Community Filmmaking and Cultural Diversity project at Brunel University and has previously lectured at Brunel, Birbeck and University of Greenwich.



Neil Johnson
Communications and Events Officer

Neil Johnson coordinates the communications and knowledge exchange work for the Atlantic Fellows programme. Prior to joining the LSE, Neil worked for the Association of Commonwealth Universities. He has also worked for the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK, Universities UK, and two MPs with higher education policy portfolios..



Verity Treadwell
Programme and Events Associate

Prior to joining the III at LSE, Verity had worked in the charity sector in London and Scotland, completing an MSc in Childhood Studies at the University of Edinburgh in 2011.



Katie Boulton
Programme Coordinator

Prior to joining the LSE, Katie worked for the fellowship program at the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University. She holds a Bachelors degree in Theology from Durham University, and a Masters degree in Museum Studies from Harvard University.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Professor Laura Bear
Department of Anthropology

Professor Nick Couldry
Professor of Media, Communications and Social Theory, Department of Media and Communications

Professor Frank Cowell
Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, CASE, STICERD

Professor Gareth Jones
Professor of Urban Geography, Department of Geography and Environment

Dr Insa Koch
Assistant Professor in Law and Anthropology, Department of Law

Professor Nicola Lacey
School Professor of Law, Gender and Social Policy, Department of Law and International Inequalities Institute

Dr Alpa Shah
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology

Professor John Hills
Professor Diane Perrons

Dr Aaron Reeves

Professor Mike Savage

Professor Beverley Skeggs

Professor David Soskice
(see III Staff pages)

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Dame Nicola Brewer is Vice-Provost (International) at UCL, responsible for UCL's Global Engagement Strategy: London's Global University working with partners to achieve fair solutions to global challenges. Before joining UCL in May 2014, Nicola was a senior diplomat at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Nicola became the first Chief Executive of the Equality and Human Rights Commission in March 2007, a role she held until May 2009.



Professor Wendy Carlin is Professor of Economics at University College London (UCL) and Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR). Her research focuses on macroeconomics, institutions and economic performance, and the economics of transition. She is a member of the Expert Advisory Panel of the UK's Office for Budget Responsibility.



Aditya Chakraborty is senior economics commentator for The Guardian. An alumnus of St Hugh's College, Oxford, he was previously a senior producer for Newsnight and the Ten O'Clock News, and an economics producer working with Evan Davis. He has also written for the Financial Times, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. His work on the housing crisis in London with The Guardian team was shortlisted in the "Prize for Exposing Britain's Social Evils" category for The Orwell Prize 2015.



The Hon. Dame Linda Dobbs Following a successful career at the Bar, in October 2004, Dame Linda became the first non-white high court judge in the UK. At the Bar she was a member of, and chaired, a number of different committees, including the Race Relations, Equal Opportunities, Professional Conduct and Professional Standard Committees. In 2003 she became the Chairman of the Criminal Bar Association where she formed an equality and diversity sub-committee.



James Holston is Professor of Anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley, where he is also founding co-director of the Social Apps Lab and co-director of Global Metropolitan Studies. He is a political anthropologist whose work focuses on the worldwide insurgence of democratic citizenships, especially urban citizenship and right-to-the-city movements.



Professor Brian Nolan, Chair of the Advisory Board, is Director of INET's Employment, Equity and Growth Programme and Professor of Social Policy at the Department of Social Policy and Intervention, University of Oxford. He was previously Principal of the College of Human Sciences and Professor of Public Policy at University College Dublin. His main areas of research are income inequality, poverty, and the economics of social policy.

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Stephan Chambers took up the post of inaugural director of the Marshall Institute at LSE in May 2016. The Marshall Institute is committed to increasing the impact of private contributions to public benefit through teaching, research, and convening. He was the co-founder of the Skoll World Forum and chair of the Skoll Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Director of International Strategy at Oxford's Saïd Business School, and Senior Research Fellow at Lincoln College Oxford.



Professor Stephen Machin is Research Director, Centre for Economic Performance; Professor of Economics, University College London. His research areas are labour market inequality, economics of education and economics of crime.



Professor Linda Mulcahy joined the Law Department at LSE in 2010. Having gained qualifications in law, sociology and the history of art and architecture, Linda's work has a strong interdisciplinary flavour. Her research focuses on disputes and their resolution and she has studied the socio-legal dynamics of disputes in a number of contexts including the car distribution industry, NHS, divorce, public sector complaints systems and judicial review.



Professor Naila Kabeer is currently Professor of Gender and Development at the Gender Institute, LSE. Prior to this, she was Professor of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at London University, and Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex to which she is still associated as an Emeritus Fellow.



Photo: Jonathan Mijs