

# BSPS News

www.bsps.org.uk

Issue No. 110 May 2013

## The BSPS Annual Conference 2013 in Swansea

The highlight of the BSPS calendar, the annual conference, is just around the corner. The provisional programme has been announced and has already been distributed by email to the BSPS membership.

There are a number of different topics covered, highlighting the breadth and depth of population research in the UK and further afield. The standard of submissions this year was higher than ever before, with some interesting papers excluded due to pressures on space and to ensure that coherent sessions were formed. Many of the papers that could not be fitted into the main presentation sessions will be shown during the poster session, held on the evening of the first day.

We are delighted that Monica Das Gupta from the World Bank and Mary Daly from the University of Oxford will be giving the plenary talks. Monica will be talking on 'Demography, Gender and Kinship Systems' while Mary will speak on 'Family policy in the UK and Europe – does it respond to fertility and ageing?'. Both of these promise to be extremely interesting and thought-provoking.

We are also very pleased to welcome Helge Brunborg from Statistics Norway who has been invited to give a special invited talk on *Demography in the courtroom* within a session on the *Demography of Armed Conflict*. This highlights the growing area of how demography can be used to examine of the consequences of conflict and violence on populations.

There are also three training sessions for participants to join if interested. The first is using the ONS Longitudinal Study to investigate modern causal inference methods, while the second is given by CeLSIUS on the three UK Census Longitudinal Studies. The final session will be mainly target delegates from local government, looking at small area population projections and at measuring the impact of policy interventions. In addition to these, there is also a Scottish Beyond 2011 workshop for those interested in this programme and its results.

Overall we have a full and exciting programme over the three days of the conference. Following on from a highly successful conference in 2012 we look forward to an even bigger and better conference in Swansea!

Edited at the Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy, University of Southampton and produced by the BSPS Secretariat, PS201, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Meetings or reports contained in this Newsletter are included as information to members. They are not necessarily endorsed by BSPS Council. BSPS is a registered charity.

# BSPS News Editors BSPS News



Welcome to the latest edition of the BSPS Newsletter. It is the time of year when summer is almost upon us (we hope!) and thoughts turn to the holidays and to conferences. Academics who have been teaching are heaving a sigh of relief as lectures draw to a close,

while longer evenings mean that there is the possibility of life outside after work. However the BSPS conference will soon be upon us and effort to prepare posters and presentations is needed.

The conference in Swansea is shaping up to be the biggest BSPS conference ever, carrying on the trend of previous years of increasing attendance. This can only be a good thing and highlights the thriving community of researchers in population across the UK and further afield, in both local government and academia. Many current debates in the news relate to population to some degree, many of which will be discussed at the conference. This also links to the way by which the UK will count its population in the future, and in this edition there is an interesting report from a recent meeting regarding Beyond 2011, which discusses the future of the census in the UK.

Comments or suggestions for future articles for inclusion in BSPS news are welcome.

Amos Channon (arc102@soton.ac.uk).

## Postgraduate Representative

Welcome to all new student members!

Since the last issue in December, BSPS welcomed 19 new student members and we are now 44 in total. I am extremely happy to see so many of you join the society. Many of you asked me about the benefits of being a student member before joining the society. Well, I am pretty sure that I am not the only student in Britain who occasionally feels lonely or overwhelmed by my PhD research and who could do with some additional discussions and peersupport. I think that young (future) British demographers should know each other to be able to engage in scientific as well as informal discussions to support each other. I hope to build a strong student presence in the society but for this I also need your support and input. Look out for the events organised for students at the annual BSPS conference, such as the career

mentoring breakfast (see page 3). Additionally, I plan to organise an informal student member get-together at the bar of the conference venue; look out for the details on the student members' Face-



book page. As always, I would encourage you to get in touch and let me know if you have any additional ideas for student member socials or BSPS day meetings or if you have a suggestion of how BSPS could engage more with students and early career researchers.

I can be contacted at the following e-mail address: jm1e11@soton.ac.uk

Julia Mikolai





# BSPS Annual Conference in Swansea Booking

A reminder that there is an early bird registration

for the conference this year—meaning that if you book the conference by the 31st July you receive a discount on your registration for the



conference.

Booking forms are available on the BSPS website (<a href="www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/bsps/">www.lse.ac.uk/Depts/bsps/</a>), which also ask if you are intending to attend the training session of the mentoring breakfast.

Early booking is appreciated!

## **Annual General Meeting**

The 2013 BSPS AGM (which will be the fortieth) will again be held at the Annual Conference. Specifically, at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10 September at the University of Swansea. All members are most welcome to attend but, if attending only the AGM and not the Conference itself, please advise the Secretariat at <a href="mailto:pic@lse.ac.uk">pic@lse.ac.uk</a>.

At the AGM, Professor Ludi Simpson will have completed his two-year term of office and is expected to be succeeded by the current Vice-President, Professor Tony Champion (to be ratified at the AGM). Professor Jane Falkingham has been nominated and seconded as the next Vice-President from September. Any further

nominations would require a postal ballot of the membership.

There will also be five vacancies on Council, due to five current members completing their four-year terms. The following have been nominated and seconded as new Council members from September and have agreed to stand, also to be ratified at the AGM: Francesco Billari, Stephen Jivraj, Romola Davenport, Greg Ball, Kirsty Maclachlan. Again, any further nominations would require a postal ballot of the membership. Please note that there will be additional Council vacancies from September 2014. Nominations (and seconders) for these are welcomed.

# Career Mentoring Breakfast

Have you already booked your place for the career mentoring breakfast at the BSPS conference?

If you are a PhD student or an early-career researcher and you feel that you could benefit from discussing your career plans with senior colleagues in an informal setting, do not forget to indicate on the conference booking form that you would like to attend the career mentoring breakfast. Act quick because places are limited

(maximum 20 students/early-career researchers) and are on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like any further infor-



mation about this, please contact your BSPS student representative, Julia Mikolai, at <a href="mailto:jm1e11@soton.ac.uk">jm1e11@soton.ac.uk</a>.

## Meeting Report

## Beyond 2011 Research Conference Ludi Simpson

#### **Summary**

A two day conference examined research by the 'Beyond 2011' team in the Office for National Statistics, with inputs from related research in Scotland and Northern Ireland, investigating alternatives to a full Census in 2021. The conference on April 30th and May 1st 2013 at the University of Southampton attracted 100 delegates drawn largely from academic, public sector and business advisory committees on government statistics.

The conference clarified that administrative records potentially offer population estimates with accuracy as good as the current methods which are anchored in a decennial census. It also clarified the risk for socioeconomic statistics for local authorities and smaller areas that the census has traditionally supplied. An economic case that they are required has yet to be developed. It is difficult to envisage alternative small area socio-economic statistics with anything like the richness of cross-tabulated and local detail, without a census. Microdata in the form of SARs could continue from the larger surveys that are being considered to measure annual change for local authority areas. Longitudinal data of the LS would change in form without a census, but possibilities exist with varying levels of richness and sample size.

This article points to the content of the conference, and some issues arising chosen from a personal viewpoint. It is likely that BSPS will be asked to support a cross-Society group to articulate the views of research users on these and other issues and to support the statistical agencies in finding the best solutions. ONS plan to consult further on options in the Autumn of 2013, and offer a recommendation to the UK Statistics Authority early in 2014.

#### **Background**

After Minister of the Cabinet Office Francis Maude's declaration in 2010 that the census is too expensive a project to continue, the UK Statistics Authority has asked ONS to investigate the feasibility of other approaches to official population and social statistics. Ini-

tial recommendations will be consulted on later in 2013, leading to a recommendation from the National Statistician early in 2014, in order that this parliament can decide what should be developed leading up to and after 2021.

Consideration of alternatives to a traditional census is not new – reports were made in the 1990s and 2000s. But new approaches are more likely now due to technical advances making use of large administrative data sets, and the government's willingness to cut spending in this area.

#### Beyond 2011 research

ONS papers are published at <a href="http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/what-we-do/programmes---projects/beyond-2011/news/reports-and-publications/index.html">http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/what-we-do/programmes---projects/beyond-2011/news/reports-and-publications/index.html</a>. Further papers are expected in July, containing further evaluation of the main options.

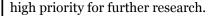
Discussion at the conference and in ONS's appraisals distinguishes population estimates – the number of people by age and sex – and population attributes – all other characteristics. The papers also usefully distinguish census-type approaches, administrative data, and survey approaches. Here is my summary of the options under consideration:

Traditional census: A full 'long form' census where information is collected about characteristics as well as basic age, sex and household information remains an option - but a relatively expensive one. This may be the only way to produce the wealth of small area and multivariate data produced by the current census - but only produces data every 10 years. A 'short-form' version could collect not much more than age, sex and household information, and would not offer advantages if other methods could provide population estimates with sufficient accuracy.

Rolling census: Research on the practicality of a rolling census (as in France) has suggested that while it would spread costs and staff engagement over a decade, there would be no overall cost saving. It is not a *(continued)* 

# Meeting Report

# Beyond 2011 Research Conference Ludi Simpson



Aggregate administrative records: have been assessed by ONS as inappropriate for population estimation at present, because of significant overcount that varies locally. If there existed an indicator of activity for each record so that inactive records could be discarded, the local overcounts could be largely eliminated, as NISRA has shown with their access to health records containing detailed patient activity; in Northern Ireland these provided strong evidence used directly when dealing with undercount in the 2011 Census.

Linked administrative records: the frontrunner in ONS research on population estimates. Individual records from different sources are linked; unlinked records are discarded which deals with most overcount in each source. Rules have been developed to deal with linked records for a person recorded at different addresses; for example a student recorded at home and term-time address can be resolved through HESA data, while others recorded at two addresses can be weighted to share them between two locations. These rules lead to a Statistical Population Dataset (SPD) for the whole country. A large coverage survey would be used annually or each ten years to provide estimates of undercount and remaining overcount of usual residents In the SPD. The methods of using the coverage survey and SPD to estimate the complete population are a key part of the research. This would be much like the 2011 Census Coverage Survey, but designed to focus on areas where the administrative records are least accurate.

A trial for 2011 has provided promising results for population totals of each local authority. Algorithms to 'hash' (anonymise) personal data on each administrative dataset without losing much power when then linking them, have successfully been tested and would make confidentiality issues less of an issue. The quality targets set for population estimates are not yet reached, but are within sight – achieving the current accuracy of the Mid -Year Estimates in Census year, or the current average accuracy over ten years. An evaluation of local age-sex structures has not yet been released.

Attributes on administrative records do exist, for example income from DWP data and ethnicity from schools data. However such attributes tend not to have complete coverage of the population, and have been difficult to obtain from the data-owning departments; their use has not been part of the current ONS evaluation.

Attributes survey: In order to supplement population estimates estimated either by a 'short-form census' or by a system based on administrative records, the sample size of a large survey of socio-economic attributes has been investigated. Initial calculations assuming simple random sampling show that an achieved annual sample of 2.2m people, 5-6 times that of the current Annual Population Survey, would with two-year averages meet quality criteria for an average-sized Local Authority if set at measuring an attribute of 0.2% with a relative 95% confidence interval of +/-40%. At the same time threeyear averages and five-year averages to estimate attributes of 3% and 8% in MSOAs and LSOAs respectively, would meet the same accuracy level. Larger samples would be required for more accurate estimates. Attributes for the smallest statistical area OAs could be estimated only by a survey so large that it would be more efficient to run a full Census.

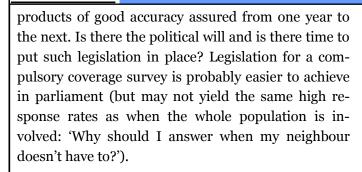
#### **Issues**

There is much at stake for the statistical infrastructure of the UK. With appropriate data-sharing legislation, there could be fabulously useful regular statistical products from administrative records. A statistical system from administrative records system could greatly improve design for survey resources. On the other hand, understanding of sub-national areas, and small populations generally, is genuinely at risk under any government committed to very significantly reducing public spending. Some of the issues that I think BSPS members will have to get to grips with, and advise government on are:

1. Legislation: Strong new legislation for data sharing and statistical use of administrative records is an essential prerequisite for their use in statistical (continued)

## Meeting Report





2. The case for small area and small population statistics: ONS has addressed production of population estimates for local authorities and the limited population attributes required by the EU. These are not directed at the statutory requirements of public bodies, for example in the areas of equalities, town planning and health monitoring, nor the host of other policyrelevant uses of accurate sub-national data. The case for other attributes appears not to have been voiced yet either in the ONS research or by others.

Concern here extends to the wider economic impact on the UK's reputation for a knowledge-rich environment for research and development.

3. Evaluation of options: quality criteria. The current quality criteria partly described above are being used to distinguish successful methods. They are in need of further development, and are yet to include age groups, small areas and change over time. Defining quality criteria can have a great impact; for example, fixing an accuracy that should be achieved in all areas would focus improvements in method on the most difficult areas. However, fixing only limited quality criteria allows consideration of methods which succeed only in the aspects that have been assessed by criteria.

Quality criteria refer to local authorities, but should they target the accuracy of statistics for the average local authority as suggested at present, or for the smallest? Given that such major changes are considered to produce a new statistical system, a more stable geographical unit than local authorities should also be considered.

On the face of it, the quality target of 40% relative 95% confidence interval for attributes means that changes from one occasion to another will not be confidently identified even when they reach 50%. Is this too low a target quality for change over time, when it will allow methods that don't capture confidently any likely social changes?! How can users needs be expressed?

- 4. Households: There is not yet an accurate address register required for household estimates, nor a consideration of how administrative data can distinguish households within addresses where the two do not coincide. What will be the impact of a proposal without these in place?
- 5. Evaluation of options: feasibility of specific studies. It would seem useful to use past studies that have been influential using each of the census tabulated and microdata products, particularly those that impact on current social policies, to measure the impact of each option. After what is widely considered as the extremely successful 2011 census, current uses should be central in the discussion.

The conference was hugely useful, bringing up to date with ONS research one hundred people most concerned with current social statistics products, and engaging us to consider the options. BSPS and the ESRC UK Data Service (via Dave Martin's key input) supported discussants for most sessions from outside ONS. The discussants' varied approaches gave a great flavour of the hopes for the research and the concerns about the future of government socio-demographic statistics. BSPS also financially supported two of the local authority attendees at the conference.

Ludi Simpson



## Spotlight on Research

# Annemarie Ernsten PhD Student at St Andrews

I have recently entered the third year of my PhD research in Human Geography at the University of St Andrews, supervised by Professor Elspeth Graham and Dr Chris Wilson. My research is about fertility and housing in Scotland; more specifically I aim to demonstrate that understandings of family formation need to be placed in a sociospatial framework that recognizes both shared social values and the local context in which people live.

Before my PhD I did a Bachelor degree in Middle East Studies and a Masters in Human Population Studies at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. I then spent some years working on the UNFPA Resource Flows project at the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute. In 2011 I started my PhD at St Andrews in the ESRC Research Centre for Population Change.

In my current research project, I review the ways in which norms and values about family formation have been changing during the 21st century. The modernization process led to increases in wealth, which in turn led to an alteration in normative ideas. Amongst the changes were shifts in norms and values about parenthood, including ideas about family size, timing of family formation within the life course, and about the preconditions for starting a family.

Simultaneously ideas about housing have also changed. As the population became more affluent, there was an increasing interest in home ownership. The British government responded to this by designing the 'Right to Buy' Scheme. This legislation gave council tenants the right to buy their house, which many did. Consequently the percentage of social housing in Scotland diminished, from around 40 percent to less than 25 percent. This led to the residualisation of social housing

(because it was mainly the better quality houses that were bought) and the increasing social exclusion of inhabitants of social housing. The current heterogeneity of fertility behaviour in Britain is partly due to the entrenchment of this social fault line.



The findings of a latent

class analysis using data from a special module on fertility included in Scottish Social Attitude Survey in 2005, identified three main population groups that share attitudes to fertility and family formation but are distinct from each other: (i) those with more negative attitudes towards the impact of having children; (ii) those with more ambivalent attitudes towards children; (iii) those with more positive attitudes towards the impact of having children. These groups were incorporated in multivariate logit models predicting the expected fertility of childless women. Some results were as anticipated (e.g. age is an important indicator for expected fertility) but others were less so. For example, housing tenure is associated with expectations towards future parenthood, as anticipated, but childless people in social housing were found to be significantly less likely than owneroccupiers to expect to have a child in future. Furthermore shared social attitudes to family formation seem to have a strong influence on fertility expectations.

As a next step I will link these findings to the analyses of other datasets. For more information about my research you can mail me at <a href="mailto:ae22@st-andrews.ac.uk">ae22@st-andrews.ac.uk</a>.

### Research News



Since its inception in January 2009, the ESRC Centre for Population Change has brought together academics from many disciplines, including anthropology, demography, economics, geography, gerontology, sociology, social policy and social statistics, encouraging cross-discipline working. Our partnerships with the Office for National Statistics and National Records of Scotland have improved demographic statistics in the UK, strengthening the evidence base for policy-making.

Our seminar series has seen over 80 researchers visiting from around the world to present their work and share their knowledge, and we have produced over 450 publications, including conference papers and seminars, journals, working papers, books and reports. The CPC Briefing Paper series has translated our research into a useable format for policy makers and practitioners, and there have been over 100 references to our research in local, national and international media.

The landmark of global population reaching 7 billion in 2011 saw us organise an on-going series of highly successful events with an art exhibition taking place recently as a result of collaboration with Winchester School of Art . Our workshops & seminars held at government offices have taken CPC research to the decision

makers, and, to extend the impact of our research, we have collaborated with others, including the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), the Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR), and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation,.

In addition to our work in the UK, our international research projects in China, South Africa, India, Kenya and North Africa, have seen us place our research in the global context.

#### Recent events and activities

So far, 2013 has seen CPC members present work at a variety of events including COMPAS Breakfast Briefings, a Population Europe event on active ageing, a South East England Councils workshop on ageing, an event examining women's reproductive health across the life course, the 2013 Population Association of America Conference, and an international conference on migration in Germany.

Our research is currently being shown as part of the University of Southampton Research Roadshow, with part of the exhibition dedicated to five short videos on 'The Changing UK Population'. The roadshow runs between March – September and is exhibiting at events such as the Cheltenham Science Festival and Bestival. You can see the full list of locations and dates at: www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/outreach/roadshow.page.

As briefly mentioned above, in May 2013, CPC

Director Professor Jane Falkingham opened an exhibition resulting from collaborative work with the Winchester School of Art around the announcement of the seven (continued)



### Research News

# ESRC Centre for Population Change

billionth citizen in 2011. The video project has been created by artists from the five major population zones of the world: the Americas; Europe; the Middle Eastern and North African region; sub-Saharan Africa; and Asia and Oceania. Inspired by the nineteenth century paintings of Caspar David Friedrich, showing a lone figure facing away from the viewer and gazing upon a sublime landscape, the five global artists have replicated the formula developed by Friedrich to achieve contemporary relevance to issues of pressing societal concern. Essays aligned with the artwork are currently being edited ahead of publication in a book, which will see the artwork combined with research. The exhibition at the Solent Showcase Gallery, Southampton runs until 15 June and admission is free.

Also in May, we hosted a joint event with Population Europe and the Centre for Demographic Studies at the Autonomous University of Barcelona on 'Recession and social vulnerability in Europe'. It focussed on the social effects of the economic crisis on families, generations, youth and migrants from a demographic perspective. Professor Jane Falkingham and Dr Jakub Bijak from CPC took part in the event, which featured a discussion on potential new collaborations between demographers, scien-

tists, politicians, policy makers, and representatives from interest groups and NGOs.

We have also been very pleased to welcome Mike Daly, from the Department for Work and Pensions as a new member of the CPC Advisory Board, alongside supporting Professor Jackline Wahba in her appointment to the Home Office's Migration Advisory Committee.

### Research and publications

Since January 2013, we have published four CPC Working Papers; 'The impact of parental characteristics and contextual effects on returns to the parental home in Britain'; 'With or Without You: Partnership context of first conceptions and births in Hungary'; 'With a lot of help from my friends: Social networks and immigrants in the UK'; 'Review of the Rolling Census Approach: and other survey-based options'. We have also just published our tenth Briefing Paper, 'Patterns and perceptions of migration, is Scotland distinct from the rest of the UK?', all of which are available to download for free from the CPC website.

CPC research has also featured in the media over the last few months, including the BBC, The Economist, the Daily Mail and Channel 4 News.

(continued)

Stills taken from the video project to celebrate the birth of the seven billionth citizen, on show until the 15th June

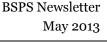














### Research News



## **ESRC** Centre for Population Change

Recently, CPC members have secured funding for projects which will look at: the Scottish Independence referendum in 2014; the role of NGOs in asylum seeker and irregular migrant voluntary returns; pension protection for minority ethnic groups in Britain; young adulthood in the 21st Century; beta testing 2011 Census data on informal carers; and have also won policy commission funding from Public Policy@Southampton to examine food and fuel poverty among older people in the UK.

#### **Meet the CPC Team**

During the last week of August, CPC members will be presenting at the XXVII IUSSP International Population Conference in Busan, South Korea. If you are attending, please come and visit our exhibition stand, where there will be a chance to meet the presenters of our 12 accepted papers for one-to-one discussion. Please drop by the stand and check the 'Meet the researcher' board to find out times.

Of course, you can also catch us at the BSPS conference in September. CPC member, Dr Jakub Bijak is strand organiser for the session on 'Demographic consequences of large-scale population crises'; Dr Amos Channon is strand organiser for 'Health & mortality'; and Dr Dieter Demey is strand organiser for 'Life course linkages'.

#### Find out more

We launched a new-look CPC website at the start of 2013, so please do take a look at <a href="https://www.cpc.ac.uk">www.cpc.ac.uk</a> where you will also find further

details on all of the activities listed above. Alongside the new site, we have launched a CPC Facebook page and also added our research papers to a CPC group on Mendeley. 'Like' get updates our page to www.facebook.com/CPCpopulation, or follow our group on Mendeley (search ESRC Centre for Population Change). Don't forget you can also follow us on Twitter @CPC\_population to get our latest news, publication and event updates. To find out more about us and our projects download our recently published research brochure from our website.

#### **Recent Publications**

Findlay, A. and McCollum, D. (2013) Recruitment and employment regimes: Migrant labour channels in the agribusiness sector, from accession to recession. Journal of Rural Studies, 30, 10-19.

Heath, S. and Calvert, E. (2013) 'Gifts, loans and intergenerational support to young adults', *Sociology*. DOI: 10.1177/0038038512455736.

McGhee, D. Heath, S. and Trevena, P.(2013) Post-accession Polish migrants—their experiences of living in 'low-demand' social housing areas in Glasgow, *Environment and Planning* A, 45 (2), 329 – 343.

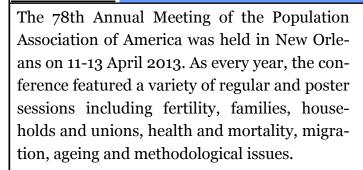
McGhee, D. Heath, S. and Trevena, P.(2013) Post-accession Polish migrants—their experiences of living in 'low-demand' social housing areas in Glasgow, *Environment and Planning A*, 45 (2), 329-343.

Nowok, B., van Ham, M., Findlay, A. and Gayle, V. (2013) Does migration make you happy? A longitudinal study of internal migration and subjective wellbeing. *Environment and Planning A*, 45 (4), 986-1002.

Stone, J. Evandrou, M. and Falkingham, J. (2013) The transition to living alone and psychological distress in later life, *Age and Ageing*, DOI:10.1093/ageing/aft006.

## Travel Report

# Population Association of America 2013 Julia Mikolai



I had the opportunity to present my first PhD paper titled "Later or Never? Partnership Histories and Motherhood in Later Reproductive Ages in a Comparative Perspective" in the session 'Life Course Perspectives on Fertility'. I received positive feedback which inspired me to further polish my paper. The presentation also enabled me to discuss my paper with researchers from my field and in both a formal and an informal context. Next to attending presentations that were directly related to my PhD, I also participated in a session that encouraged demographers to use data from social media, such as Twitter or Facebook. These



data hold extremely rich information on a massive number of individuals and thus pose a real challenge to scientists and call for new and innova-

tive analytical approaches. As it was indicated by the completely packed room, I was not the only one who found this session interesting.

The tight schedule of the conference did not allow us to visit the Jazz Festival which took place parallel to the conference but in the evenings, researchers
went for dinner
with their colleagues and took
the chance to discover the streets,
restaurants and



bars of the French Quarter. New Orleans has a rich French (Cajun) culture and history which is reflected in the architecture and cuisine. I tried the traditional red beans with rice, jambalaya, and the famous beignets (French doughnuts) with a café au lait at the French Market. When walking on the streets of the French Quarter, jazz music filters out from almost every bar, most of which allow visitors to listen to the music via the wide open windows and doors for free. Music cannot only be enjoyed from bars but also from brilliant street musicians whose performances are accompanied by random dynamic groups of people dancing, clapping and cheering for them. The groups change as some people leave and new people join the crowd. The French culture is not only represented in the food and architecture but also in people's mentality; they're extremely easy-going, friendly and extrovert. One night a taxi driver let the eight of us cram in to his six-person cab - this would never happen to you in the UK.

I am really grateful for the financial contribution of BSPS towards my travel expenses with £250. Without this support, I would not have been able to attend the conference and gather these scientific and cultural experiences.

### *Announcements*



## **Graunt Bills of Mortality Day Meeting**

On the 29th November 2012 a meeting was held at Gresham College, London, to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the publication of John Graunt's ground-breaking London Bills of Mortality. These are treated as the birth of Demography, at least in the UK, and still have relevance today.

The lectures from the day, supported by BSPS alongside the ESRC Centre for Population Change and Gresham College, are available online at <a href="http://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures">http://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures</a>

-and-events/mortality-past-and-present-john
-graunts-bills-of-mortality-part-one. Speakers included Jon Anson (Ben Gurion University of the Negev), Jeremy Boulton and
Romola Davenport (University of Cambridge), Marc Luy (Vienna Institute of Demography), Mike Murphy (LSE), Gill Newton
(University of Cambridge), Richard Smith,
(University of Cambridge) and James Vaupel,
(Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research).

## Beyond 2011 Consultation

Beyond 2011 Consultation: User requirements for future population and socio-demographic information. The Beyond 2011 programme is an ongoing programme within National Records of Scotland (NRS) to research suitable methods for producing population and socio-demographic information. A Beyond 2011 Consultation was issued on Monday 18 March

2013 and we are inviting responses to this consultation by Monday 10 June 2013. This consultation aims to build upon previous consultations conducted by NRS as well as stakeholder engagement sessions. You can respond this consultation by completing the questionnaire online at: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Beyond2011Scotland">https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Beyond2011Scotland</a> Consultation

### Other events

Professor John Logan is coming over in June and will be speaking at Birkbeck (London) on: "The Persistence of Segregation in the 21st Century American Metropolis", at 3.30 pm on 12 June. Details at: <a href="http://www.bbk.ac.uk/events-calendar/the-persistence-of-segregation-in-the-21st-century-american-metropolis">http://www.bbk.ac.uk/events-calendar/the-persistence-of-segregation-in-the-21st-century-american-metropolis</a>.

"White Flight and Anti-Immigration Politics in the West," Thursday 13 June 2013 18:00 to 19:15 , Chatham House, London. Participants: Eric Kaufmann, Professor of Politics, Birkbeck College, University of London, John Logan, Professor of Sociology, Brown University, Marcel Lubbers, Associate Professor in Sociology, Radboud University Nijmegen. The event will be followed by a wine reception. Further details at: <a href="http://www.chathamhouse.org/events/view/191083">http://www.chathamhouse.org/events/view/191083</a>





# Grants available from the Society for the Study of Human Biology

The Society for the Study of Human Biology (SSHB) has two different schemes that may be of interest to some BSPS members who are researching on topics which cover both population and biology.

#### **Research Grants**

Financial grants are offered to support research projects in human biology. It is anticipated that one award of up to £1000 will be made in 2013.

The purpose of the grant is to support original research in human biology. The research project must fall within the remit of the Society for the Study of Human Biology (the general advancement and promotion of research in the biology of human populations in all its branches, including human variability and genetics, human adaptability and ecology, and human evolution). Retrospective applications are not permitted.

Applications should be on the official application form, which can be downloaded from www.sshb.org or requested from the Hon. Secretary, Dr Sarabjit Mastana (S.S.Mastana@lboro.ac.uk). Applications include

a short abstract (250 words) and a 1000 word summary of the proposed project. The research environment and facilities for the research should also be outlined, along with the start and end dates of the project. A brief CV of the applicant should also be included.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 1st July 2013.

#### **Undergraduate Bursary Scheme**

Two awards of up to £1200 are offered to support undergraduate research in human biology. Students supported by an undergraduate bursary will also be given a complementary student membership of the Society.

The purpose of the bursaries is to give undergraduates (normally between the second and third years of study) the opportunity to undertake a specific supervised research project during the summer vacation.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 1st June 2013. More information is available at <a href="http://www.sshb.org/">http://www.sshb.org/</a>.

## How to Join BSPS

Details of how to apply and the application form are on the website. Rates are:

Full Member — £25

Country (Live outside S. E. train region) and overseas - £20

Retired (from work) - £7.50

Full-time Student — £7.50

Overseas (LEDCs only) - £7.50

## **New Members**

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to BSPS.

- *Abigail Rimmer*, Research student, Social policy at the University of York
- Afshin Zilanawala, PhD in Social Policy & Policy Analysis at Columbia University, New York
- *Alan Lewis*, Senior research & statistical analyst at GLA
- Amy Wilson, National Records of Scotland
- Annemarie Ernsten, PhD student at the University of St Andrews
- Barbak Yamini, EFM Ltd
- David George, Senior planning officer at Lincolnshire CC
- *Dr. Christina Moya*, Post-doctoral research fellow, LSHTM
- *Dr. Emma White*, Head of Policy & Analysis 2011 Census Outputs/Methodology, ONS
- *Dr. Sonia Zakrzewski*, Senior lecturer in archaeology at the University of Southampton
- *Gerardo Melendez-Torres*, M.Phil evidence-based social intervention, University of Oxford
- Greta Morando, PhD economics, ISER, Essex
- Juliet Goodlet-Rowley, National Records of Scotland
- *Katherine Harris*, Research student at the University of Southampton

- *Liili Abuladze*, PhD student at the Estonian Institute for Population Studies
- *Megan Ledger*, Research student at the University of Southampton
- *Neil Bailey*, PhD student at the University of Southampton
- *Oleosi Ntshebe*, Research student at the University of Southampton
- Peter Tammes, Research Fellow at the ESRC Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton
- *Philippa Waterhouse*, Research student at the University of Southampton
- *Pierre Dutey-Magni*, Research student at the University of Southampton
- Seetha Menon, Research student at ISER, University of Essex
- *Sarkis Manoukian*, PhD in economics at the University of Bristol
- Stacey Balsdon, PhD in Geography at Loughborough
- *Thomas Norris*, PhD human biology at Loughborough
- Woody Caan, Editor, Journal of Public Mental Health and Professorial Fellow, Royal Society for Public Health
- Yuxi Zhang, MSc comparative social policy at the University of Oxford