

**Editor: Melanie Frost**

The British Society for Population Studies Newsletter

## Editorial: Here Comes the Summer... Maybe

Summer is rapidly approaching (as long as you ignore the heavy rain currently falling outside my window), and the BSPS conference is just under four months away. This year we will be heading down to Winchester, former capital of England and home to the longest nave of any gothic cathedral. I will save all my other interesting Winchester related facts for the conference edition of the newsletter, but look out for early bird registration and make sure you join us.

Meanwhile, for any student members looking to get more involved take a look at page 3 and consider applying to be the next student rep. This will also involve working with me on this fine publication, so if you have any ideas for *BSPS News* then this is the job for you. However, I'll leave the finer details for our current student rep to explain over the page.

In this edition we have lots of information about the future of the Census for you to digest (pages 4-5). We also have a report and discussion about the

BSPS-sponsored day meeting on household formation held in December last year (pages 7-9). And, if that's not enough for you, I've found some interesting blog posts for you to read should you have any spare reading time (see page 2).



As always do let me know if you have any suggestions for the newsletter—especially if you want to write an article.

**Contact me: [melanie.frost@ageing.ox.ac.uk](mailto:melanie.frost@ageing.ox.ac.uk)**  
**Tweet us: [@bpsuk](https://twitter.com/bpsuk)**

## Contents

Page 1: Introduction

Page 2: Postgraduate student rep & council members

Pages 3: Advert for new postgraduate student rep

Page 4: Government response to PASC's report on the quality of international migration estimates published

Pages 4-5: The future of the England and Wales Census

Page 6: Spotlight on research: Heini Vaisanen

Pages 7-9: Estimating future household formation

Page 10: Forthcoming BSPS-sponsored day meetings

Page 11: Other announcements

# Postgraduate Student Representative

## Welcome to all “old” and “new” BSPS student members!

I have been the postgraduate student representative of BSPS for the last two years. As my PhD is coming to an end, BSPS is looking for (a) new postgraduate student representative(s). Details of the application process can be found on page 3. Please do get in touch if you feel that this would be something for you and/or encourage other PhD students that you think could do a good job in representing you. As usual, the Spotlight on Research section introduces one of our student members. In this issue, Heini Vaisanen from the London School of Economics and Political Science writes



about herself and her PhD work.

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/or early career researchers. Additionally, if you have not already done so, join the BSPS Student Members’ Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300124886760445/>

**Contact me: [jm1e11@soton.ac.uk](mailto:jm1e11@soton.ac.uk)**

## A Little Light Reading from Around the Web

Here is a roundup of a few interesting blog posts and articles from around the web.

A hot topic and a futile quest? The recent discussion on age-period-cohort analysis: <http://demotrends.wordpress.com/2014/02/17/a-hot-topic-and-a-futile-quest-the-recent-discussion-on-age-period-cohort-analysis/>

Do Grandparents Benefit from Grandparenting?: <http://www.openpop.org/?p=805>

How Bad Demography Has Contributed to Pronatalist Policy in Iran: <http://www.openpop.org/?p=799>

Causal Inference: <http://demotrends.wordpress.com/2014/05/09/causal-inference/>

## Learning to be an Expert Researcher: Project Completion

There is a new resource for senior academics with responsibility for supporting the research development of mid-career staff in the social sciences. It is the outcome of an ESRC-funded Researcher Development Initiative Project at Cardiff University. The project focussed on understanding the nature of social science research expertise, how it is acquired and sustained, and how mid-career researchers can be supported in developing it further.

The project included an empirical element—interviews with top international social science researchers—and the piloting of workshops of different designs.

The main publication is a substantial peer reviewed, open access training manual, which offers ideas and information for academics in a training role. The manual and some other support materials are available on the project website: <http://www.restore.ac.uk/researchexpertise/>

Alison Wray, Cardiff University, UK  
[wraya@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:wraya@cardiff.ac.uk)

Mike Wallace, Cardiff University, UK  
[wallaceam@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:wallaceam@cardiff.ac.uk)

# Be the Next Postgraduate Student Representative

BSPS is looking for someone who is at the early stages of their PhDs and who would be willing to take initiatives to facilitate a more vibrant student community within BSPS.

Being the postgraduate student representative of BSPS involves the following responsibilities:

- Attending Council meetings (3 times a year)
- Securing student member contribution to the BSPS Newsletter (3 issues per year)
- Maintaining a Facebook page (adding student members only, contacting those who wish to join the page but are not yet members)
- Organising events for students at the annual BSPS conference (e.g. career mentoring breakfast last year or the PhD workshop this year)
- Maintaining a list of student members and contacting them occasionally (renewal of membership, welcoming new members, help with payment of memberships, etc.)
- Trying to boost student membership
- Anything else you can think of to make BSPS a better place for student members and early career researchers

On average, it takes about 1-1.5 hours per week to perform these tasks, some of them (e.g. organising activities at the annual conference) involve a bit more work.

Being the BSPS postgraduate student representative has been an invaluable experience at the early stages of my academic career. Next to getting to know members of the Council, who are internationally renowned British demographers, I also had the opportunity to get involved with conference organisation (co-organising the poster session) and to better understand how sessions and submissions are dealt with. I really enjoyed organising events for students and early career researchers during which we could interact and get to know each other.

If you feel that you would like to be the next postgraduate student representative, please send a short CV (max 2 pages) and motivation letter (1 page) to [jm1e11@soton.ac.uk](mailto:jm1e11@soton.ac.uk) by **30 June 2014** explaining why you would be a good student rep and what kind of ideas you would have in mind to implement if we chose you. Should you have any questions about the role, please feel free to contact me.

## Population Histories in Context: Past Achievements and Future Directions

**A conference to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure, 16-18 September 2014. Downing College, Cambridge.**

There will be six themed sessions: (1) Locating the industrial revolution: population and economy, Malthus and beyond (2) Life expectancy: levels and trends with particular reference to the mortality of large urban centres and the disappearance of the 'urban penalty' (3) Household formation systems and their social and economic correlates (4) Marital fertility and celibacy before, during and after the Demographic Transition (5) Ageing, maximum life extent and social and economic correlates (6) The West and the Rest (two sessions).

Website and booking information: <http://www.geog.cam.ac.uk/research/centres/campop/>

# Government response to PASC's report on the quality of international migration estimates published

The Government's response to the House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) report on the quality of international migration estimates was published on 22nd April 2014. PASC began its inquiry on migration statistics in December 2012, with BPS submitting evidence the following month. Its report was submitted to Government in July 2013, with Sir Andrew Dilnot, Chair of the UK Statistics Authority submitting his response to PASC in December 2013.

The Government's main point is that it does not agree with PASC's conclusion that the International Passenger Survey (IPS) is inadequate for measuring, managing and understanding levels of migration. Instead, it shares the Statistics Authority's view that the IPS estimates are at the national level as reliable and accurate as is achievable under current survey design and levels of funding and that the central statistical estimate derived from the IPS is currently the best available estimate of 'net migration'.

The Government looks forward to the programme of comprehensive exit checks, which will be implemented during 2014-15 and improve the coverage and quality of data. This will provide the basis for a clearer and more comprehensive data system to help identify and act on overstayers. While it recognises that this data is by itself insufficient to provide a direct measurement of migration flows, as the information on entries and exits from the UK gets more comprehensive, it will, when combined with

other data sources, help improve our statistics in this area.

At the same time, it agrees with PASC that data held by other countries on migration to and from the UK could help improve the depth and quality of UK migration statistics and that ONS should co-operate further with foreign national and international statistics agencies to improve the quality of UK migration statistics. It also agrees with PASC's recommendation that ONS should produce a user guide to ONS migration statistics similar to the Home Office's Immigration Statistics User Guide. This should explain what migration statistics measure, how they are produced, and what data are available—including table by table guidance. It should be honest and open about the weaknesses of the data.

In sum, the Government believes that ONS is doing its best with the statistics provided by the IPS, supplemented by Home Office data and by the new insights being gained from the new Census questions on immigrants. It will continue to work closely with ONS, involving users of migration statistics, to improve the statistical system in this area, including by ensuring the statistics are presented in a way that is meaningful and better understood.

The full Government response can be found at <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmpublicadm/1228/1228.pdf>.

## The Future of the England and Wales Population Census

In 2010 the incoming Coalition Government indicated that the 2011 Census would be the last of its kind and asked the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to explore alternatives. Following two rounds of consultations including a Beyond 2011 conference at Southampton University this time last year and that BPS co-sponsored, on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 the National Statistician, Jil Matheson, duly submitted her recom-

mendations on the Census and the future provision of population statistics in England and Wales to the government. Additionally, on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014, the House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) published the report of its review of the census under the title 'Too soon to scrap the Census'.

(continued overleaf...)

# The Future of the England and Wales Population Census

## The National Statistician's recommendation

The main recommendation from the National Statistician, Jil Matheson, is that there should be an online census of all households and communal establishments in England and Wales in 2021 as a modern successor to the traditional paper-based decennial census. At the same time, ONS recognises that special care would need to be taken to support those who are unable to complete the census online.

The online census would be combined with increased use of administrative data and surveys in order to enhance the statistics from the 2021 Census and improve annual statistics between censuses.

Together, these would make the best use of all available data to provide the population statistics which England and Wales require and offer a springboard to the greater use of administrative data and annual surveys in the future.

Further research is to be carried out over the coming months and years to determine the most appropriate blend of methods and data sources.

You can find the National Statistician's recommendation at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/who-ons-are/programmes-and-projects/beyond-2011/beyond-2011-report-on-autumn-2013-consultation--and-recommendations/index.html>.

In sum, ONS's consultations underlined the value to users of existing census data about small areas, about small populations and as part of the historical record. It also showed that users recognise the potential value of modernising our approach and making use of other sources. It is felt that the resulting recommendation of a mixed approach provides the best possible solution and a very positive base for the future.

## PASC's report on the future of the census

PASC's views are based mainly on a session of interviews with users (including BSPS Vice President Jane Falkingham) held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, but were also informed by the findings of the Science and Technology Select Committee's report on the future of the census and social science published two years ago (to which BSPS submitted its views) and were

also able to take account of the National Statistician's recommendation above. Its main point is that, 'The census needs to change, but it is too soon to decide whether or not to scrap the census'. Their report can be found at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-administration-select-committee/inquiries/parliament-2010/statistics/future-of-the-census/>

In summary, PASC believes that the alternative options for the collection of population statistics are not sufficiently advanced to provide a proper replacement. Its witnesses emphasised, among other things, the great financial benefits to business provided by census data.

At the same time, PASC recommends that ONS now sets out a more ambitious vision for the creative and full use of administrative data to provide rich and valuable population statistics, which could potentially be more accurate and up-to-date than the census, as well as covering new topics.

PASC also recommends that the Government now embarks on a public information campaign to communicate the benefits of increased data sharing for statistical purposes, as well as the safeguards which will be in place to protect people's personal information and privacy.

The Government will respond to both these reports in due course. Announcements can also be expected from NRS and NISRA about their views on the future of census in Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively.

## ONS's Beyond 2011 Research Conference now to be an annual event

As a footnote, ONS has announced that the Beyond 2011 conference held this time last year will now be an annual event. The 2014 conference is being held on 20<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> May. Unfortunately, the booking system is now closed.

But, for information, the conference has two key purposes: (1) to provide an update on its recent research; and (2) to look forward to the programme of statistical and operational research now being



## Spotlight on Research: Heini Vaisanen, LSE

I am a second year PhD student in Demography at the London School of Economics and Political Science. My thesis examines how the life course pathways of women having abortions differ from other women in socioeconomic and fertility terms and how these differences may depend on having several abortions versus only having one.

Induced abortion is a major personal decision and an important part of fertility behaviour, because abortions are used to postpone, space, and stop childbearing. Abortions are difficult to study due to underreporting of abortions in surveys and lack of longitudinal data. Women in less advantaged socioeconomic groups have more abortions than other women, but little is known about the mechanisms behind this pattern. I am lucky to be able to use Finnish register data in my research, since it offers reliable information about abortion (no underreporting), a longitudinal perspective (follow-up of three birth cohorts of women throughout their reproductive lives), and a large sample size (N=274,908).

I am currently studying the association between socioeconomic characteristics and abortion. I will present a poster "Comparison of cohort abortion among those aged 20 and over in Finland" in the PAA conference in Boston, examining how and why the association between socioeconomic characteristics and the risk of induced abortion has changed in Finland over time. My next project is to expand the analysis to include socioeconomic life course pathways after abortion, before presenting the paper in the IUSSP seminar on Decision-making regarding abortion in Nanyuki, Kenya in June.

I will spend Easter and Summer this year in New York visiting the Guttmacher Institute, where I will have a chance to learn more about abortion and reproductive health research in other countries than Finland from some of the leading researchers in the field.

At LSE I have the privilege to work with three en-



thusiastic supervisors, Professor Mike Murphy, Dr Tiziana Leone and Professor Mikko Myrskylä. In addition, people I used to work with in Finland continue to be interested in my research and I have stayed in contact with Drs Markus Jokela and Anna Rotkirch as well as Professor Mika Gissler. I would like to thank all of these people for their help and support.

Before starting my PhD studies, I achieved a Master's degree in Sociology from University of Helsinki and an MSc in Social Research Methods from LSE. My MSc dissertation from the latter studying teenage pregnancies received the BSPS prize last September. A related article "Social Inequalities of Teenage Fertility Outcomes: Childbearing and Abortion Trends of Three Birth Cohorts in Finland" will be published in *Perspectives of Sexual and Reproductive Health* this summer. My MSc and PhD studies at LSE have been possible thanks to an ESRC DTC Studentship award.

For more information visit my home page (<http://personal.lse.ac.uk/vaisanen/>), blog (<http://heinivaisanen.wordpress.com/category/in-english/>), email me ([h.e.vaisanen@lse.ac.uk](mailto:h.e.vaisanen@lse.ac.uk)) or come and talk to me wherever our paths may cross!

# Estimating Future Household Formation: BSPS-Sponsored Day Meeting, 16th December 2013

## Report by Gemma Quarendon, Hampshire County Council

The potentially dry subject of household formation was made lively and imaginative by speakers at a jam packed day meeting on estimating future household formation, held just before Christmas at the LSE in London.

Ludi Simpson opened the day which looked to investigate current research into household formation, whether recent changes are indicative of a cultural shift or more temporal in nature and resultant implications for estimating future rates.

Current government household projections are one of the core ingredients in determining the quantity and location of new housing. But they are intended to show what would happen with a continuation of past levels of demographic rates and household formation, incorporating trends over time where these are evident. Throughout the day, as in government projections, household formation was taken to mean the net result of households forming and dissolving.

The release of 2011 Census data which has shown that the long term trend of reducing household size has been stalling of late has led to calls for a reassessment of the rates and trends used for those projections. However, in order to address this, it is first necessary to understand why there has been the change. Does the change reflect wider societal changes in the way people are choosing to live and therefore likely to be much longer term changes in household formation? Or are they more of a reaction to recent economic conditions, and as such perhaps more short term in nature?

Setting the scene of how current projections of household formation rates are produced, Tim Lyne from Experian spoke about the evidence that underpinned the 2011 CLG household projections. The presentation looked at how the methodology and resulting figures differ from the 2008 set and began to look at possible new datasets as well as changing the emphasis given to datasets currently used to de-

velop the methodology and improve the figures going forward.

Glen Bramley followed Tim's talk and looked at economic influences on household growth. He argued that the current methodology of largely extrapolating past trends misunderstood the nature of household change and that some form of econometric model which took into account the economic cycle would produce more accurate projections. Glen then went on to present the results of some work he has done using one such model at the sub-regional level. He argued that housing supply affected household formation and that the current planning process is circular: depressed household formation would lead to lower household projections, less housing supply, and further depressed household formation. The evidence was debated in the meeting.

Ann Berrington finished the morning session off with a very informative and thought provoking look at trends in household formation and put forward a range of demographic reasons that may lie behind them. Ann noted the importance of looking at the whole picture and remembering that one size in terms of the reasons behind changing household formation patterns doesn't necessarily fit all. For example, for changes in the household formation of very young adults (particularly those in their late teens), whereby they are remaining in the parental home for longer, Ann argued that the evidence suggests that this may be a longer term trend. However, those slightly older (25-34 year olds) and who seem to be the main group driving the changes we are seeing in household formation, are also the hardest to predict, and Ann highlight a broad range of factors that may impact on trends going forward.

After a quick bite to eat, delegates returned to hear a round-up of census analysis of household formation by a range of researchers from academics, to local government analysis, to speakers from the Welsh and Scottish statistics offices highlighting both results and dilemmas caused by the changes seen.

# Estimating Future Household Formation: BSPS-Sponsored Day Meeting, 16th December 2013

The final hour of the day was devoted to an open floor debate on how to improve our understanding and ability to project household formation. The key themes that emerged from this included -

- The availability of data (beyond census data) that would provide more up-to-date information from which to improve estimates and projections. Sample surveys often have an issue with sample size and uneven response by household type making it hard to draw conclusions and evaluate trends;
- The issue over whether the change in household formation rates is a long term trend or short term blip was debated. It was also noted that things were unlikely to get any easier. As we live more complex lives our household formation patterns are only going to get more complex making it ever more difficult to project;
- The issue of cultural differences in household formation norms and preferences and that these aren't taken into account specifically in projections. As we become more diverse this is likely to become a bigger issue.
- There was also some debate over whether we are looking at demand or need. Having a roof over one's head is a basic right, but demand for a certain type of household is not.
- Another issue that came up several times was the need for a range of projections rather than a single figure. It was acknowledged that this would in turn lead to a need for education of what a range of numbers means and how to use them appropriately. And as such we were encouraged to 'embrace the uncertainty'.

The presentations at the meeting are available at <http://www.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/dayMeetings/Estimating-future-household-formation.aspx>

## Robin Edwards – some post-meeting thoughts on need and demand for housing.

One of the issues which seemed to me to pervade the meeting on household formation was the implicit assumption that housing need and housing demand were one and the same thing.

It is true that both housing need and housing demand are normative concepts i.e. to satisfy either requires a value judgment as to what should or ought to be done.

However, given the assumption that in a civilised economy, a basic human right is that everyone should have a roof over their head, housing need is clearly quite distinct from housing demand.

One of the few things which can be said with any certainty about housing demand is that the market will only respond to effective demand, i.e. demand backed up by the ability to pay.

In a market economy, those unable to pay will not be able to satisfy their demand for their own dwelling but they may very well be able to satisfy their housing requirement in some other way, e.g. by renting, either individually or joining together with others, or by continuing to live in their parental home.

Those without the resources or family support to satisfy their requirement for a roof over their head in any of these ways are those in housing need. Without public subsidy in one form or another, they will not be able to achieve the security of a permanent dwelling.

It is a moot point how much of housing demand should be satisfied, given that potential demand, if not infinite, is certainly much higher than any realistic assumption of dwelling supply is likely to satisfy.

The conventional wisdom appears to be that by increasing the supply of dwellings, more households will be enabled to enter the housing market as a result of a reduction in price, thus satisfying a higher proportion of housing demand.



# Estimating Future Household Formation: BSPS-Sponsored Day Meeting, 16th December 2013

However, it is worth pointing out that the Andrews and Meen model of housing demand and supply, commissioned by the Government in 2005 and mentioned in Glen Bramley's literature review, found that supply would need to be expanded very substantially indeed to have any significant effect on price, and it was only when supply exceeded effective demand, resulting in an increase in the vacancy rate, that really significant reductions in price would occur.

At least part of the reason for this is that, in Britain, housing is regarded as an investment as well as a means of shelter. The price of housing does not behave in a similar manner to that of other consumer goods for two reasons. Firstly, there is an inbuilt resistance from existing owner occupiers against any reduction in price.

Secondly, potential owner occupiers are not the only participants in the market. In an era of very low returns on capital invested in financial markets, housing is a comparatively lucrative form of investment for those with capital to spare. Hence the rapid increase in the proportion of the dwelling stock owned by private landlords in recent years. Something of the order of 17% of the stock is now in the private rented sector, and therefore not available to potential owner occupiers.

So what does all this mean for projections of household formation?

We are constantly being told that there is a shortage of housing, and the very large numbers of people on local authority housing waiting lists indicates there is certainly a severe shortage of social housing. But, as noted above, this can only be resolved by Government funding, whether through local authorities or housing associations or by subsidising rents in the private sector.

But the issue is far less clear in respect of private housing.

Successive sets of Government projections of household formation, since at least the 1980s, have consistently indicated a larger increase in the number of

households in the projection periods than the increases in dwellings which have actually occurred.

If households had actually been forming at the rate indicated by the projections, one would therefore have expected very large increases in the numbers of sharing and concealed households. In reality, sharing and concealment rates have remained relatively static throughout this time period.

That would suggest, either that there is a strong positive relationship between dwelling supply and household formation, or that the propensity to form households has been lower than assumed in the Government projections.

In either case, it seems to me that trend based projections of household formation, i.e. assuming that past experience is the most reliable guide to the future – remains the best available method, since it reflects the outcome of the interaction of the various forces involved in recent economic circumstances. It is an indicator of the possible, as opposed to the multifarious views of what may be desirable or possible in different economic circumstances.

The problem with the current DCLG household projections, which are, of course, ostensibly trend based, is that they are too reliant on Census data. The Census is the only source of the sub national age, gender, marital status data needed to produce detailed household projections, but the timespan between censuses is too long to be sensitive to trends.

In producing intercensal updates, greater use should therefore be made of alternative sources of data, such as the Labour Supply survey, the Survey of English housing, etc which would allow annual changes in household formation to be determined, at least at national level.

Annual data is likely to be a far more reliable guide to long term trends than the necessarily spiked nature of the decennial Census data, and a possible method of incorporating the national trends projected on this basis could be to control the Census based sub national projections to the national totals indicated.

# Forthcoming BSPS-Sponsored Day Meetings in June

## **Find Your Voice: Promoting Your Research to Diverse Audiences. A Workshop for Early Career Researchers**

**5 June 2014, 10am-5pm, University of Manchester**

Effectively publishing and publicising research is an essential and rewarding part of academic life. Pro-active engagement with wide and diverse audiences, both academic and non-academic, will ensure that the work that you do has a powerful impact. It is an essential skill needed for the development of a successful academic career.

This one-day workshop, aimed at early career researchers including postgraduates, will equip participants with the skills and information needed to successfully disseminate research outputs. A range of expert speakers will focus on different aspects of publishing and promoting research: (1) journal editors discuss getting a paper accepted and published; (2) media experts focus on distilling information to the general public; and (3) experienced academics discuss the key requirements for engaging with the wider world.

The event is free, but places limited. Participants are asked to submit a short abstract (max 300 words) for a piece of research that they are undertaking or thinking of undertaking. This could be a summary of a thesis chapter. This piece of research will form the basis of practical sessions, where the idea is adapted for various appropriate audiences.

The workshop is sponsored by BSPS with co-sponsorship from the RGS-IBG Population Geography Research Group and the University of Leeds. If you would like further information, visit the website at [www.findyourvoice2014.moonfroot.com](http://www.findyourvoice2014.moonfroot.com) or contact Nik Lomax, [N.M.Lomax@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:N.M.Lomax@leeds.ac.uk).

To apply, please email your abstract submission to [findyourvoice2014@gmail.com](mailto:findyourvoice2014@gmail.com) by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May and include 'abstract submission' in the subject line. Applicants should also include their

full name, year of study or number of years since graduating, place of work or study, and whether they are a member of either the Population Geography Research Group or BSPS (whose membership subscription is up-to-date).

## **Scotland's Census Conference**

**25 June 2014, 10am-4pm, at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh**

National Records of Scotland, supported by BSPS, are hosting a conference on Scotland's Census. You are invited to attend free of charge and also to consider whether you have any census related analysis or plans that you would like to showcase.

This event is aimed at all users - and potential users - of Scotland's Census data. The primary purpose is to share information about current and planned census analyses and to discuss where collaboration could result in improved understanding and benefits to Scotland and its people.

The aims of the conference are (1) to increase understanding of the census and its background; (2) to inform people about the various ways to access and use the information; (3) to consider what the census results to date are telling us about Scotland; and (4) to discuss plans for analysis and promote collaboration

The draft outline for the day is as follows:

- Examples of current uses - discussions
- Overview of processes and background – opportunities and constraints
- Ways to access the data
- What are your plans? How can we help?
- Collaborating to maximise impact

If you would like to highlight any of your activity – perhaps as a poster or short presentation – or if you have any immediate queries, please let us know at: [2011comms@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:2011comms@gro-scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

[Book your place now](#) on the Eventbrite website.

## Other Announcements

### BSPS AGM 2014 & Council

The 2014 BSPS AGM will be held during the Annual Conference, specifically On Tuesday 9 September at 7.00pm at the University of Winchester. Members not attending Conference are welcome to attend, but will need to advise [pic@lse.ac.uk](mailto:pic@lse.ac.uk) in advance. The agenda will be sent out in advance of the meeting.

Roy Lewis has announced that he will stand down as Hon Treasurer at the 2014 AGM, after more than 13 years outstanding service to BSPS in this role. BSPS and the Secretariat will be very sad to see him go. Dermot Grenham (GAD) has been nominated to succeed Roy by Roy himself, seconded by Tony Champion. Any further nominations should be sent to [pic@lse.ac.uk](mailto:pic@lse.ac.uk), but please note that a postal ballot of the membership would then be required.

There will be one additional vacancy on Council in September 2014, when Sylvie Dubuc will have completed her 4-year term. Alan Marshall (Manchester) has been nominated by Ludi Simpson to fill this vacancy, seconded by Stephen Jivraj. Again, further nominations may be made to [pic@lse.ac.uk](mailto:pic@lse.ac.uk) but would require a postal ballot of the membership.

### Quetelet seminar 2014 – Fertility, childlessness and the family: A pluridisciplinary approach

November 5-7, 2014, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

The Center for Research in Demography and Societies at Université catholique de Louvain invites researchers from all disciplines to the 40th edition of the Quetelet Seminar. The main objective of this seminar is to present the most advanced works on "Fertility, childlessness and the family".

There will be a special focus on:

1. New forms of families
2. Fertility and childlessness: A public policy perspective
3. Evolution of Union Formation

Call for papers deadline, organisation: <http://www.uclouvain.be/en-467964.html>

Deadline for submission of proposals: **10th June 2014**

To submit a proposal: [cq2014@listes.uclouvain.be](mailto:cq2014@listes.uclouvain.be)

### IUSSP Proposals for Scientific Panels, 2015-2017

**Deadline for submissions: 15 October 2014.**

The Council, in carrying out its mandate to set the Union's scientific programme, will review all proposals submitted by IUSSP members, prioritize proposals for new panels, and, if needed, merge proposals, propose other topics or select individuals to chair new panels.

Priority topics for panels identified by the Council at its meeting in January include:

- Youth and intergenerational relations
- Family planning and reproductive health
- Living arrangements and child welfare
- Demography and inequality
- New approaches to simulation and modelling of demographic processes
- Migration
- Population, climate change and the environment
- The demographic dividend: population, poverty and development

Where multiple panels are established within the same theme, the Council will endeavour to ensure that the work of each panel is complementary and non-overlapping.

If you wish to propose a new panel on these or other topics, follow these three steps:

- Consult the IUSSP website to review [current](#) or [past issues](#) addressed by IUSSP Scientific Panels
- Read the information on "[What are IUSSP Scientific Panels?](#)"
- Familiarise yourself with the new short [guidelines for panel proposals](#)

To submit a panel proposal please login as an IUSSP member and **make your suggestion online:** <http://www.iussp.org/en/proposals-new-iussp-panels>