



Electronic Bulletin February 2010

***** Deadline for submission of material for March Bulletin***
*** 5 pm Monday 8th March 2010. Target publication date 22nd March***
Send all items to m.barrows@acss.org.uk**

Inside this Bulletin:

Section I: News from the Academy and Section II: Other News

NEWS from the Academy

Making the Case for the Social Sciences



Launch Event London: 10 February 2010

To view a video of the panel discussion visit:
<http://vimeo.com/9377129>

The gauntlet was thrown down to the social science community in a packed out discussion in London. Increased collaboration with the hard sciences; using promotion and lay summaries; and playing an active role in educating the policy community were just some of the

edicts presented by panellists including David Willetts MP and Tony Wright MP. They presented to a 200-strong group of social scientists; policy makers and government at the launch of the Academy of Social Sciences report, '**Making the Case for the Social Sciences.**'



*Panel I-r Sunder Katwala; Dr Tony Wright MP;
Professor Cary Cooper CBE AcSS; Lord Kirkwood of Kirkhope;
Andrew Haldenby; David Willetts MP.*



A packed audience listens

With higher education funding under fire, speakers noted the critical timing for social scientists in getting the value of their work noticed. Commenting on the wealth of knowledge that the social sciences bring, Adrian Alsop, Director for Research at the Economic and Social Research Council noted that it is not fully appreciated how good the United Kingdom's research base is on a global scale. Yet despite the contributions made, panellists agreed that there is much work to be done to demonstrate impact and value. The audience heard from two Academicians, Professor Ruth Lister and Professor Ann Buchanan about their vital work on parenting and poverty which has successfully fed into government policy.



L-R Adrian Alsop, Cary Cooper, Ruth Lister, Ann Buchanan

David Willetts MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills, said his basic message to the group was "if we don't study our own society, then who will?" He put forward the view that the social sciences must be studied rigorously alongside hard sciences, and that in many ways they complement each other. For example he noted on the nuclear power debate that it is not just the physics that is important but also people's perceptions.

Mr Willetts also stressed the need for evidence-based research in influencing policy decisions. He commented on the value of a rounded picture of research outcomes: while it was easy to support evidence-based policy when the results are positive, the decisions were harder when the evidence was negative. Yet negative results contribute just as much as positive ones and are just as important. He added, however, that it was unrealistic to hope for a purely evidence-based approach, as politicians could not wait for a critical mass of research to be reached.



David Willetts takes questions



Other speakers noted the difficulty in getting messages across to policy makers and government. Tony Wright MP noted that many social scientists are not into the business of writing for the 'real world'. He encouraged the audience to think about who they are writing for, and how they write. He considered that the government required a social science equivalent to the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology (POST). Lord Kirkwood of Kirkhope told the audience that this was a seminal moment in the country's development with an urgent need to

find new ways of doing things for less money and he urged the social science community to seize the opportunity to make more impact and get its messages into the political process. Sunder Katwala, General Secretary, The Fabian Society added that social scientists need to champion the good use of their research, thinking about the communications environment now, which is much broader than just traditional media.

While there is more work to be done in bridging the communications gap between policy makers and social researchers, panelists and audience participants concurred a way to measure impact and value is crucial. Professor Cary Cooper, Chair of the Academy of Social Sciences noted that the social sciences are very much in the public eye, with front page headlines this week covering social science problems including childcare and parenting, ageing; and childhood obesity.



Making the Case for the Social Sciences, the report that the Academy has produced, sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), sets out some of the ways social scientists have made a contribution to these areas, and is just one strategy the Academy is using to champion the value of the social sciences at this crucial time.

Further issues will cover other major themes and will be communicated soon. The Academy is looking to publish these in conjunction with other appropriate groups. Please contact the Academy office if your society would like to be involved with this project.

Three More Learned Societies Join the Academy

The Academy is delighted to welcome three new learned societies into membership, bringing to 37 the total number of social science learned societies currently in membership.

The **British Accounting Association (BAA)**, which was established in 1947, is a UK organisation which brings together those interested in teaching and research in accounting and finance.

Scottish Economic Society (SES). The SES aims to promote the study and teaching of economics on the widest basis, in accordance with the Scottish tradition of political economy inspired by Adam Smith, and to provide a forum for the discussion of Scottish economic problems and their relationship to the political and social life of Scotland.

Society for the Advancement of Management Studies (SAMS). SAMS aims to support management research and education.

Help Please!

New Members Required for the Events Committee

Several vacancies have arisen on the Events Committee, whose remit is to compile a programme of events for the Academy looking 12 months ahead. Members are asked to originate proposals and be active in compiling a programme for at least one event a year, comment on proposals submitted by others and take part in a meeting of the committee by telephone and / or email every 2 to 3 months.

There are no physical meetings to attend. If you would like to take part in this worthwhile and growing activity in the life of the Academy, please let both Ceridwen Roberts, Chair of the Events

Committee (Ceridwen.roberts@btopenworld.com) and Stephen Anderson know (director@acss.org.uk).

Help Please! **Myths and Realities series**

In conjunction with the ESRC and the British Library, the Academy's very popular Myths and Realities series of events, held in the early evening at the British Library, has looked at themes within Migration, Risk, Crime and Food. The BL has now released 28th July and 9th September to us for further events in this series. Would you please let Ceridwen Roberts (Ceridwen.roberts@btopenworld.com) know if you would like to suggest a theme for one of these dates and contribute to arranging a small panel of speakers for the debate.

Help Please! **Academy AGM and Day Conference**

Prior to the AGM this summer, a **Day Conference** will be held to continue the theme established last year of looking at social science futures in an uncertain world. The focus this year will be to examine how the current economic and political climate, with its attendant consequences, has led to predictive and explanatory challenges within the social science disciplines. A particular feature will be to examine new inter and multi disciplinary interpretations and approaches. It is intended to draw speakers from economics, politics, sociology, psychology and from the user community. If you would like to contribute to shaping this event and possibly speaking at it, please let Ceridwen Roberts know (Ceridwen.roberts@btopenworld.com).

Work and Wellbeing Conference

28th April 2010
Unilever House, 100 Victoria Embankment,
London EC4Y 0DY

Sponsored by SAGE and Unilever PLC, a major day conference for employers, operations managers, HR professionals and the academic community on current issues in work and wellbeing, viewed over the course of the traditional working life, from both employer and employee perspectives.

Good health enables human flourishing and fulfillment. Given the amount of time spent at work, the workplace is central to physical and psychological health, as well as life satisfaction. As the costs of ill health continue to rise, workplace health has become an issue that employers can no longer afford to ignore.

This conference brings together all the latest thinking on current issues in work and wellbeing, from both academic and practitioner perspectives.

Programme

10.00 Registration and Coffee

10.30 Welcome to the conference - *Stephen Anderson, Executive Director, Academy of Social Sciences*

Session Chair: TBA

10:40 The importance of the Health and Well Being Agenda – An Overview of the link between Work and Health - *Professor Cary L Cooper CBE AcSS, Chair of Council, Academy of Social Sciences and Pro Vice Chancellor (External Relations) and Distinguished Professor of Organizational Psychology and Health, Lancaster University*

11.10 Workplace Health and the Law – Current Issues : *Simon Ost, Partner, Employment Practice, Hammonds LLP, Manchester*

11.40 Refreshment Break

12.00 The Organisational Costs of Mental Ill-Health : *Mike Parsonage, Senior Policy Advisor, Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, London*

12.30 The Issue of Bullying in the Workplace : *Professor Charlotte Rayner, Professor of Human Resource Management Portsmouth Business School, University of Portsmouth*

13.00 Lunch

Session Chair: TBA

14.00 What people want from work – the changing needs and attitudes to work at different life stages : *Professor Susan Cartwright, Professor of Organizational Psychology and Well Being, Director of Centre for Organizational Health and Well-Being, Lancaster University*

14.30 The Value of Older Workers : *Mr David Fairhurst, Senior Vice President, Chief People Officer, McDonald's UK & Northern Europe*

15.00 Health Promotion in the Workplace : *Dr John Cooper, Head of Corporate Occupational Health, Unilever PLC*

15.30 Health and Worklessness : *Professor Dame Carol Black DBE, FRCP, FMedSci. Director for Health and Work, DWP, Chair of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and Chair of the Nuffield Trust*

16.00 Discussion

16:30 Close & Tea

[Click Here](#) to go to the booking form or visit www.acss.org.uk and follow the links to book online.

Myths and Realities: Series of Public Lectures and Discussions

The **next lecture** in this series, which is held jointly with the British Library and the ESRC, will be held at the British Library on **Tuesday 9th March** under the title: **Are we what we eat?** beginning at 6.30pm and finishing with a drinks reception.

The Chair will be Geoff Watts (freelance science and medical writer and broadcaster) and panel members are: Professor Anne Murcott (Professor of Sociology, University of Nottingham); Professor Martin Yeomans (Professor of Experimental Psychology, University of Sussex); Terrence Collis (Director of Communications, Food Standards Agency).

The event will explore attitudes to food; what we eat, what we buy, what we cook and the role of the food industry and government in shaping our attitudes towards food. This series of debates looks at significant public and social issues, challenges some of the common myths and assumptions we make, and shows the role social science plays to explain what is happening and point the way to solutions.

For further details visit:

<http://www.bl.uk/whatson> and click on “Events and Tours”

To download a flyer, visit <http://www.acss.org.uk> .

Report from the February Myths and Realities discussion:

Crime and Punishment in the 21st Century

On 8th February, the third event in the Myths and Realities joint series at the British Library attracted a large audience to hear Professors Mike Hough and Ian Loader challenge some of the everyday thinking and lurid headlines we have come to see so frequently and which make developing a sensible and effective crime policy increasingly difficult.

Professor Jon Silverman of the University of Bedfordshire chaired a lively debate, which opened when Professor Hough from the Institute for Criminal Policy Research at King’s College, London asked why there is a mismatch between the public perception and actual crime trends. Despite the downward trend over the last twenty years in crime that people report in the British Crime Survey, many think that crime is on the rise nationally - whilst simultaneously feeling that it is going down in their locality. Both the media and politicians foster this misunderstanding by their reporting of events and responses to them. This distrust in justice needs to be tackled.

Professor Loader of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford took this further by showing how the political consensus of twenty-five years ago had been destroyed. “Liberal elitism” was characterised by a wish to balance order and decency, to forge expert consensus on criminological policy and to manage public opinion when it challenged this. However, since Mrs Thatcher’s premiership, crime had become a key battleground of electoral politics; it had “hotted up” as it had taken an emotive and populist turn. He suggested we need to see a cooling down – was a NICE for criminal justice a way forward? Certainly we needed to build a deliberative politics of crime.

The third speaker, Lindsey Poole spoke from the experience of running the Thames Valley Partnership. She contrasted the policy approach which tended to be 'top down' with the reality of delivering many very different and frequently changing programmes on the ground - often with limited resources. Like Alice in Wonderland the same people kept appearing in different meetings wearing different hats as local groups aimed to engage different sections of the community and public sector in delivering diverse services.

The lively discussion showed that the power of the media is indeed strong and much of the politicians' rhetoric leaves the public uncertain who or what to believe - which cannot be a good basis to develop the rational and effective policy on crime that many of us want.

Ethical Guidelines – Discussion

The Academy, the Social Research Association (SRA) and the Association of Research Ethics Committees (AREC) are organising initial discussions to investigate the possibility of developing some general principles of ethical research practice to which all social scientists might be able to subscribe. If some principles, which found general favour, could be developed, they could form the basis of a set of Ethical Guidelines for social science research across the board. At the present time there are a variety of detailed guidelines produced by different learned societies, although there are common features between many of them.

A group of representatives of member learned societies of the Academy and other relevant bodies is meeting in March to discuss this question. The findings will be reported in future issues of this bulletin.

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Section II: Other News

1. **New British Academy of Management (BAM): Professional Development Conference for Early Career Academics.** York, 8—9 April 2010 [Click Here](#)
2. **New British Sociological Association (BSA): Annual Conference 2010.** Glasgow UK 7-9 April. [Click Here](#)
3. **New British Psychological Society (BPS) Psychology of Women Section: Annual Conference 2010 - Call for papers.** 14th - 16th July 2010, Cumberland Lodge, Windsor [Click Here](#)
4. **New British Psychological Society (BPS) Marxism and Psychology Conference - Call For Papers (Extended Deadline).** 5th -7th August 2010 The University of Prince Edward Island [Click Here](#)
5. **New Scottish Economic Society (SES) - Annual Conference.** 12th – 14th April 2010, Perth, Scotland. [Click Here](#)
6. **Political Studies Association (PSA) News and Forthcoming Events** [Click Here](#)
7. **New Political Studies Association (PSA) Specialist Group Events –**
 - **British Idealism Specialist Group Conference: The Empire of Idealism.** 19th-22nd July 2010, Prato, Italy. [Click Here](#)
 - **Participatory and Deliberative Democracy Specialist Group Conference: Deliberative and Participatory Democracy in the UK - Call for Panels and Papers.** 23rd-25th June 2010, Glasgow Caledonian University [Click Here](#)
8. **Regional Studies Association (RSA) Annual Conference: Regional Responses and Global Shifts: Actors, Institutions and Organisations - Call for Papers [Deadline – 28 February].** Pécs, Hungary, Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th May 2010. [Click Here](#)
9. **Regional Studies Association (RSA) “Conference within a Conference” at the AAG Conference.** Washington DC 14th – 18th April 2010 [Click Here](#)
10. **New RSA News** [Click Here](#)
11. **New Royal Geographical Society (with IGB) (RGS with IGB). 21st Century Challenges: Not in My Back Yard.** Wednesday 3 March at 7.00pm [Click Here](#)
12. **New Royal Statistical Society (RSS) CPD Courses** [Click Here](#)
13. **New Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) – Events:** Seminar - Delivering the Welsh Planning Agenda Cardiff, 24th February 2010; Building Knowledge Capital 8th March London [Click Here](#)

- 14. New National Centre for Research Methods - Fourth ESRC Research Methods Festival.** 5th – 8th July 2010, St Catherine's College, Oxford.
- 15. New University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) News** [Click Here](#)
- 16. Social Research Association (SRA) – Training Courses.** [Click Here](#)
- 17. New Research Development Workshops: Exploring Ethnic Diversity in UK Social Research.** Sheffield and London April 2010. [Click Here](#)
- 18. New British Society of Criminology (BSC): Investing in Criminological Research,** British Academy, London 1st March. [Click Here](#)

II Other News: further details

I BAM

Professional Development Conference for Early Career Academics

8-9 April 2010

Vanbrugh College, University of York

As a leading provider of professional development events for academic researchers in business and management, the British Academy of Management is building on the popularity of the Doctoral Symposium to offer a developmental conference designed for PhD students in their final year who are considering entering the academic profession, and researchers in their first academic appointment. The overall aim is to support researchers in their personal development within the context of today's higher education workplace, where pressures of insecure employment and limited induction have to be balanced with the excitement of pursuing a research career and achieving high quality publications.

The conference will include a mix of formal presentations by academic leaders, practical workshops and informal presentation sessions, as well as plenty of time for socialising and networking. You will have a chance to explore and reflect on issues which are not always easy to discuss at your own workplace. This is to support researchers in their personal development within the context of today's higher education workplace, where pressures of insecure employment and limited induction should be balanced with the excitement of pursuing a research career and achieving high quality publications.

You will also have the opportunity to explore issues related to projects that you are currently engaged with, and plans for your later career, with peers and experienced researchers. You will meet people from all management disciplines and kinds of institutions, gain insights into what works for them and take away ideas about how to manage your own situation if problems arise. There will be time for presentations of short papers on themes related to the design and development of business and management research projects, and to build networks within your own subject or methodological areas of interest.

Conference fee

BAM members £250

non BAM member £250 plus membership Fee of £25 for student members and £80 for ordinary members

What is included

- a two day conference
- one night accommodation- Bed and Breakfast
- two lunches
- evening dinner on the 8th

How to register

Please see draft programme (<http://www.bam.ac.uk/uploadedfiles/ECAA.pdf>) for further information. To register, please fill in the registration form , which is available at: (<http://www.bam.ac.uk/uploadedfiles/REGISTRATIONFORMECA.pdf>) and scan, fax (02073830377) or post (The British Academy of Management, 137 Euston Rd, ground floor, London, NW1 2AA) to the BAM office before Thursday 4th of March 2010.

Note: This event complements rather than replicates the in-depth training and research dissemination opportunities offered through the Researcher Development Initiative events offered by BAM, AIM and others, and the main BAM conference.

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BSA

Annual Conference: Inequalities & Social Justice

7-9 April 2010

Glasgow Caledonian University

The 2010 Annual Conference is the second year of the new conference format. It will be a less theme-led model, similar to that of the ISA. The aim is to widen the participation of presenters and attendees.

Instead of the call for papers being organised under a single conference theme, participants may present on whatever topics they wish within broad streams (and open streams) that reflect the core research areas of the membership. The streams are:

- Crime and control
- Culture and Consumption
- Work, Economy & Society
- Education
- Families, Relationships, Lifecourse
- Media
- Medicine, Health & Illness
- Methodological Innovations
- Professional Forum
- Religion
- Science & Technology Studies
- Social Divisions/Social Identities
- Space, Mobility & Place
- Theory
- Open Stream(s)

There is a conference theme: **Inequalities and Social Justice**, which will be addressed in both the main plenary sessions and the sub-plenary sessions in each discipline. In this way we hope that more established figures in a number of fields will be represented at the conference. There will also be Open Streams, in recognition that not everyone's field of interest is covered by the main stream titles. We believe that this will be a rewarding and exciting conference that will be of interest to all our members.

We are delighted that the plenary speakers for the 2010 Annual Conference are:

- **Neera Chandhoke** -University of Delhi, India
- **Karen Rowlingson** - University of Birmingham, UK
- **Loïc Wacquant** - University of California, Berkeley, USA

For further details, visit: <http://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/Conference.htm>

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BPS

Psychology of Women Section

Annual Conference 2010 - Call for papers

14th - 16th July 2010

Cumberland Lodge, Windsor

Conference themes include: **Virtual Feminisms; Politics & Activism; (Dis)embodiment**

Keynote Speakers:

1. **Jessica Valenti** Feminist Activist and Executive Editor of Feministing.com
2. **Professor Wendy Stainton-Rogers** Open University, UK
3. **Professor Eva Magnusson**, University of Umea, Sweden
4. **Professor Jeanne Marecek**, Swarthmore College, USA
5. **Dr Anita Ghai**, Jesus and Mary College, India

First Submission deadline for proposals 31st March 2010 (notification of success by 30th April)

Latest date for abstract submission 30th April 2010

The Psychology of Women Section annual conference welcomes submissions relating to these themes including: gender, mental health, womens health, feminist theory, masculinities, sexualities, qualitative and innovative methodologies, disability, culture and racism. Proposals for (A) individual papers, (B) symposiums (C) workshops and (D) posters are invited. All proposals will be peer reviewed.

(A) Individual Papers should last 20 minutes. Proposers should submit an abstract (c. 150 words).

(B) Symposiums should include at least 3 speakers and 1 convenor. Each paper should last 20 minutes, with a further 30 minutes for questions and discussion. The convenor should submit session title, paper titles and abstracts for each paper (c. 150 words).

(C) Workshops should be up to 2 hours. Proposers should submit workshop title and rationale for workshop (c. 150 words).

(D) Posters please submit poster title and abstract (c. 150 words).

Please Note: In line with other BPS events, all presenters are required to register for the conference.

For further information and details about registration see www.bps.org.uk/pows2010 or call Kerry Wood at the BPS conference office on 0116 252 9555 or email powsconference@bps.org.uk

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BPS

Marxism and Psychology Conference - Call For Papers (Extended Deadline)

The University of Prince Edward Island

August 5-7, 2010

Website: <http://vre.upei.ca/mprg/>

Contact: marfken@upei.ca

Submission Deadline: February 1, 2010 (Extended Deadline – but some leeway may be available)

In the history of social thought, it is difficult to find a more divisive figure than Karl Marx. For many, the mere mention of his name conjures up images of totalitarian regimes dominating nearly every aspect of an individual's existence. Yet for others, Marx's critique of the capitalist mode of production draws attention to the fact that our beliefs, thoughts, and desires inevitably emerge against the background of specific cultural, historical, and social practices.

The purpose of this conference is to bring students, scholars, and activists together to discuss exciting issues at the intersection of Marxism and Psychology. While it is clear that a number of organizations are making important contributions to this area of study, we believe that the time is right to open up a space for students, scholars, and activists from a variety of disciplinary backgrounds to reflect on the role that Marxism can play in psychological theory, research, and practice.

In bringing together scholars at the forefront of research in Marxism and Psychology, we also hope to give new students and activists an opportunity to interact with individuals who have made significant contributions within this area. By organizing an impressive collection of plenary participants, we hope to foster an environment where students, activists, and scholars can identify potential graduate advisors, research assistants, and participatory investigators. This year, confirmed plenary participants include:

- **Kum-Kum Bhavnani** is Professor of Sociology, Women's Studies and Global Studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara.
- **John Cromby** is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at Loughborough University UK.
- **Raquel Guzzo** Professor of Psychology at the Catholic University of Campinas and a member of the International Committee for Liberation Social Psychology..
- **Lois Holzman** co-founder (with Fred Newman) and director of the East Side Institute for Group and Short Term Psychotherapy in New York City.
- **Gordana Jovanovic** is Associate Professor of Psychology at the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Serbia.
- **Athanasios Marvakis** Associate Professor in Clinical Social Psychology at the School of Primary Education of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki/Greece.
- **Morten Nissen** Senior Lecturer /Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology, University of Copenhagen, in community and educational psychology.
- **Ian Parker** Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychology at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU).
- **Carl Ratner** is a cultural psychologist who uses Marxism as his cultural theory
- **Hans Skott-Myhre** is an interdisciplinary cultural theorist
- **Thomas Teo** is Associate Professor in the History and Theory of Psychology Program at York University and current editor of the Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology.

We welcome submissions for individual papers and panel sessions. For individual papers, please submit an abstract (150-200 words) no later than **February 1, 2010**. For panel submissions, please include an abstract (150-200 words) for each paper as well as a brief description of the panel (150-200 words). Please submit all materials to marfken@upei.ca. Abstracts should either be in the body of the email or sent as an attachment (DOC or PDF format).

For further information, please visit the conference website: <http://vre.upei.ca/mprgl/>

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**5
SES
Annual Conference**

12-14 April, 2010 Scotland
Ramada-Jarvis Hotel, Perth.

Further information at: www.scotecsoc.org

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**6
PSA News and Events**

The Political Studies Association is one of the world's oldest political studies associations. The 60th anniversary in 2010 is an opportunity to reflect on the achievements over the last 60 years, in the UK and internationally, on the issues and ideas that are now at the cutting edge of political analysis, and on the new directions to pursue in the future.

To commemorate the anniversary a number of events and celebrations are being planned, to include:

Political Insight to be launched

Political Insight is the new magazine of the Political Studies Association, which will provide a window to the world on all aspects of research in politics. Published three times a year, this full-colour magazine is written for everyone with an interest in politics. International both in the scope of issues it covers and in the sources it draws from, *Political Insight* aims to present research into politics and international studies to a broad audience in an entertaining and engaging way. Further details can be found at www.blackwellpublishing.com/pins

60th anniversary international conference 29th March – 1st April, Edinburgh, UK

The 2010 annual conference theme is 'Sixty Years of Political Studies: Achievements and Futures' and will showcase the research from an international gathering of political scientists. A special annual dinner is planned to be held at the conference and further details can be found at www.psa.ac.uk/2010

Diamond Jubilee Awards Dinner

This major event will be held on 30 November 2010 at One Great George Street, London.

New Directions in Political Science edited by Colin Hay, is due to be published by Palgrave MacMillan in February 2010. Written by a team of leading scholars, *New Directions in Political Science* focuses on a range of key challenges posed by developments in 21st century politics to provide a state-of-the-art assessment of current thinking and future directions in political science and international relations.

British Political Theory in the Twentieth Century edited by Paul Kelly, will be published by Wiley-Blackwell in April 2010. This volume contains a selection of writings from the seminal figures in British political theory from Bernard Bosanquet to Anne Philips and Bhikhu Parekh. It traces the transformation of political theory and its relation to trends in British politics and the state.

The Development of a Discipline: The History of the Political Studies Association by Wyn Grant will be published by Wiley-Blackwell in 2010. This book will trace the history of the Association to reveal the changing nature of the study of politics in Britain and the development of British higher education.

An extra issue of **Political Studies** will be published including papers from a workshop held in Oxford in 2008 on 'Dialogue and Innovation in Contemporary Political Science'.

An extra issue of **POLITICS** will be published containing papers from a workshop to be held in March 2010.

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PSA – Specialist Group events

I. British Idealism Specialist Group Conference: The Empire of Idealism

19-22 July 2010

Monash University Conference Centre, Prato, Italy

The British Idealism Specialist Group of the Political Studies Association with Macquarie University and the Collingwood Society are hosting a conference in Italy. It is supported by The Political Studies Association, The R. G. Collingwood Society, Cardiff University, and the Australian Research Council.

Philosophical Idealism dominated British and British Empire universities from the 1880s to the 1920s. At this time the influence of Idealism could also be found in America through figures such as Josiah Royce, and in Italy in the writings of Benedetto Croce and Giovanni Gentile. As a body of thought Idealism was socially and politically engaged and inspired reform across fields such as education, social welfare, politics and international relations. The conference aims to explore not only the major figures of Idealism but also the social, educational and political influence of Idealism from the 1880s to the mid twentieth century in Britain, Australia, Canada, the United States, South Africa, New Zealand, India, and Italy. Papers would be particularly welcome on R. G. Collingwood's relationship to Idealism, or to any of the above issues or people.

Contacts:

Associate Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington. Macquarie University, Sydney.
Email: mhughesw@humn.mq.edu.au

Dr Ian Tregenza. Macquarie University, Sydney.
Email: ian.tregenza@mq.edu.au

Professor David Boucher, Cardiff University
Email: BoucherDE@cardiff.ac.uk

2. Participatory and Deliberative Democracy Specialist Group

CONFERENCE: Deliberative and Participatory Democracy in the UK CALL FOR PANELS & PAPERS

23rd-25th June, 2010
Glasgow Caledonian University

Keynote Speakers:

- Professor Albert Weale (University College London)
- Dr André Bächtiger (University of Bern)

Discussions of deliberative and participatory democracy have dominated democratic theory for some time, and these debates have received extensive coverage in the UK. However, with deliberative democracy in particular, it is only in the last 10 years that we have witnessed what John Dryzek terms an 'empirical turn' in the discipline, as its proponents have increasingly sought to engage in the task of institutional design. Consequently, research in these areas has progressively taken on a more practical and empirical focus.

The PSA's Participatory and Deliberative Democracy Specialist Group is hosting a conference which will explore the broad range of issues that relate to the institutionalisation of deliberative and participatory democracy. In particular it encourages papers and panels that have a particular focus on, or relevance to, democracy in the UK. Papers drawing on empirical evidence as well as those with a more theoretical approach are equally welcome, as are papers from supporters, sceptics and critics of deliberative and participatory democracy. The organisers also encourage non-PSA members, and graduate students, to submit a proposal and attend the conference.

The deadline for the electronic submission of proposals for papers or panels is **1st March 2010**. If you are suggesting a paper, please submit as an email attachment your name, institutional affiliation, email address, title of paper and an abstract of 200-300 words. If you are proposing a panel of 3-4 papers, please provide these details for all of the papers which constitute the panel, along with a title for the panel. A full conference programme will be agreed and published soon after, along with details of booking arrangements.

The organisers have been invited to apply for a 'special section' of the *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*. A selection of abstracts from the conference will form the basis of this application.

Please submit paper and panel proposals to Dr Stewart Davidson: stewart.davidson@gcal.ac.uk

Conference website: <http://www.gcal.ac.uk/lss/research/conferences/>

The conference organisers would like to thank the Institute for Society and Social Justice at Glasgow Caledonian University for supporting this event.

CONFERENCE ORGANISERS:

Dr Stewart Davidson
Department of Social Sciences

Dr Stephen Elstub
School of Social Sciences

Glasgow Caledonian University
Tel: (44) (0)141 331 3307
Email: stewart.davidson@gcal.ac.uk

University of the West of Scotland
Tel: (44) (0)141 848 3781
Email: stephen.elstub@uws.ac.uk

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**8
RSA**

**Annual Conference: Regional Responses and Global Shifts: Actors, Institutions and Organisations
Call for Papers [Deadline – 28 February]**

**Pécs, Hungary
Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th May 2010**

Key note speakers include:

Dirk Ahner, Director-General, EU Regional Policy, European Commission
Gerhard Stahl, Secretary General, Committee of the Regions

- A. Innovative strategies and practices of firms in regional development
- B. Labour markets and labour organisations and their continued relevance for regional development
- C. Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) and Civil Society Organisations (CSO): facilitators of regional development?
- D. Regional policies: government and quasi-government initiatives
- E. Reassessing EU Regional Policy
- F. People in regions: leadership, collective action and regional development
- G. Financing regions: global financial crisis and beyond?
- H. Cooperation across borders
- I. Global environmental change and the future of regional development
- J. Theory and research in regional studies
- K. Spatial planning in cities and regions
- L. Experience economy and experience society. Culture, leisure and experiences in spatial strategies
- M. Creative regions in a creative economy
- N. Regional Policy and Development in Southern, Central and Eastern Europe

For more information, to submit an abstract and to register visit:

<http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/events/2010/may-pecs-registration.asp>

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**9
RSA**

“Conference within a Conference” at the AAG Conference

**Washington DC
14th – 18th April 2010**

Regional Studies Annual Lecture at the AAG in Washington DC (Friday 16th April 2010)

Nobel Prize Winner in Economics, Professor Paul Krugman, Princeton University, “The New Economic Geography, Now Middle Aged”

Regional Studies Association Plenary Session at the AAG in Washington DC (Thursday 15th April 2010)

Professor Ed Glaeser, Harvard, “Two Centuries of Urban Resurgence and Decline”
Professor Ann Markusen, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, discussant

“Local and Regional Resilience” sessions on Thursday 15th April 2010:

Titles within the theme are:

- Innovation and restructuring – speakers include: Maryann Feldman and Sam Ock Park
- Ecological and social perspectives – speakers include: Helka Moilanen and Bas Hendrikx
- Urban responses and strategies – speakers include: Roger Keil and Erik Stam
- Regional Resilience “Panel Debate” – panel includes: Henry Yeung, Ann Markusen and Susan Christopherson

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**10
RSA
News**

Regional Studies Association announce a Special Publication Issue Book entitled: *Leadership and Place*

Edited by: Chris Collinge, John Gibney and Chris Mabey - due to come out in August 2010

Further information will be available on the Regional Studies Association website at: www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk

Regional Studies Association – new magazine: *Regional Insights*

Regional Insights is a magazine published by the Regional Studies Association which seeks to make research findings from early career researchers more accessible to a wider audience. Complementing the Association's existing publications, *Regional Insights* emphasises helping contributors to shape their research into a story which will entertain, engage and inform readers drawn from across academia, policy-makers and practitioners in the field of regional studies. Each issue endeavours to provide coverage of regional issues from across the globe, and to help place-specific issues and findings participate in a more general conversation around issues in Regional Studies.

<http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/news.asp#RI>

Regional Studies Association Annual International Conference 2011

To be held in Newcastle-on-Tyne, UK from Sunday 17th – Wednesday 20th April 2011 – more information will be available soon on the website.

RSA Funding Opportunities and Awards

RSA Event Support Scheme

The scheme is open to RSA members who wish to organise **one-off events** (conferences, workshops etc...) on regional studies issues.

RSA Travel Award

Apply for up to £200 funding towards your travel costs to attend a non RSA event.

Fantastic opportunity to help you towards your travel costs to present your work, network and participate to worldwide events within the field!

RSA Awards

Introduced to celebrate excellence, our winners for the 2009 RSA Awards are:

- Contribution to the Field
- Early career.
- Taught Master
- Best Book
- Best Referee Regional Studies
- Best Paper RS
- Best Referee SEA
- Best Paper SEA

International Conference Bursary Scheme

Conference bursaries are available to current RSA members only but preference will be given to research students, those in the early part of their career and those from countries with accepted funding difficulties. The bursary will be a free conference place. Participants will have to pay all travel, accommodation and subsistence.

RSA Research Networks

Regional Studies Association Research Networks are formed by the Association's members to organise a series of events to examine an issue of collective interest (the issue discussed need not necessarily have a direct policy focus but the examination would normally lead to policy related conclusions) and the Association can offer grants of up to a **maximum of £3000** to members wishing to establish a Research Network. Organisers must be current members of the RSA at the time of the application and throughout the duration of the Research Network. If an organiser's membership lapses during the Research Network, claims will not be reimbursed.

- Introduction and Guidelines
- Apply for a Research Network
- Current Research Networks
- Past Research Networks

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RGS (with IGB)

21st Century Challenges: Not in My Back Yard

Wednesday 3 March at 7.00pm

People for progress or a community of complainers? Is Britain an island of NIMBYs? Join our expert panel including Dame Fiona Reynolds, Director-General of The National Trust, to explore these issues.

Further details: www.21stcenturychallenges.org

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12

RSS

CPD Courses

Invest in your career with CPD courses from the RSS Professional Development Centre

Our courses have been developed by people with years of hands-on experience, and our presenters are all experienced both in their field of expertise and as trainers. All courses are subject to a rigorous quality approval process, so you can be assured they offer value for money. You'll receive practical, relevant training that you can use immediately, presented in an interactive and enjoyable setting.

Our course programme aims to meet the needs of both statisticians and users of statistics alike. The courses available include:

- **Presenting data** – a one day course covering the interpretation of information by non-statisticians, the reporting on data – of any description – within organisations, and the presentation of a message to specific communities and the general public.
- **Multilevel Modelling** – a two day course which provides a solid grounding in the theory and application of multilevel models. Previous participants have included researchers from the social sciences, medicine and public health.
- **Consultancy skills** - a highly participative workshop for statisticians who wish to improve their ability to help non-statistical clients.

Course fees remain fixed at 2008 rates (excluding VAT). Special rates apply for members of the RSS and Early Bird discounts are available so book early to take advantage of these.

We are also pleased to offer a 10% discount to members of partner ACSS organisations who register on the Presenting Data course (please mention this offer when booking).

We can also arrange for PDC courses to be delivered in your own workplace at competitive rates – contact courses@rss.org.uk for more information.

For details of course dates and how to register, please visit <http://www.rss.org.uk/courses>

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**13
RTPI
Events**

**Seminar Delivering the Welsh Planning Agenda
Cardiff
24th February 2010**

RTPI Cymru and the RTPI Planning Education and Research Network (PERN) invite you to a free one day seminar to discuss the research agenda to support planning policy in Wales. More at: www.rtpi.org.uk/item/3273

**8th March 2010
MWB Business Exchange, 10 Greycoat Place, London, SW1P 1SB**

ESPON and INTERREG in the UK – building knowledge capital. This workshop is aimed at UK practitioners and researchers who are involved in INTERREG or ESPON projects, or who are interested in developing projects for current and future rounds. It offers a unique UK opportunity to explore priorities, develop connections, share and test ideas and make recommendations. Find out more at: www.rtpi.org.uk/item/3359

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**14
NCRM
Fourth ESRC Research Methods Festival**

**5th – 8th July 2010
St Catherine's College, Oxford**

Information can be found at: <http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/other/RMF2010/> . Booking for general delegates opens on Monday 1 March with discounts for bookings received before 17 April.

In addition to the programme of the Festival proper, colleagues in NCRM and other ESRC investments have taken advantage of the Festival to put on two day-long events on Monday 5 July, the first day of the festival, on methodological innovation and school effectiveness.

The Academy of Social Sciences' Jo Campling Memorial Prize will be awarded for the best poster exhibited by a research student.

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**15
UACES
News**

UACES is running a major project on Communicating European Citizenship, co-funded by the European Commission. See [Closing Conference](#) for details of the project, including the final event, being held at Lancaster House in London, 22 March 2010. www.uaces.org/cec

Also of interest to all those looking to their future career development, please see www.uaces.org/career - London, 23 April 2010. Registration is open now.

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**16
SRA
Training Courses**

Course	Length	Date	Month	Location	Level
Essentials of Survey Research Design	1 Day	3	March	Cardiff	Introductory
Research Project Management	1 Day	4	March	London	Introductory
Introduction to Survey Sampling (Theory and Design)	1 Day	4	March	Cardiff	Introductory
Introduction to Research Commissioning	1 Day	17	March	London	Introductory
Essentials of Survey Design	1 Day	30	March	Belfast	Introductory
Introduction to Evaluation	1 Day	15	April	Leeds	Introductory
Consultancy Skills	1 Day	22	April	Manchester	Advanced
Introduction to Evaluations	1 Day	29	April	Leeds	Introductory
Cognitive Interviewing	1 Day	6	May	Manchester	Introductory
Qualitative Research Design	1 Day	11	May	Cardiff	Introductory
Making an Impact; Getting Research into Policy and Practice	1 Day	18	May	London	Introductory
In Depth Interviewing	1 Day	12	May	Cardiff	Introductory
Writing Effective Research Reports	1 Day	8	June	London	Introductory
Running Focus Groups	1 Day	9	June	Cardiff	Introductory
Qualitative Data Analysis	1 Day	10	June	Cardiff	Introductory
Ethics In Health and Social Care Research/ Master Class	1 Day	TBC	TBC	London	Advanced
Researching People With Disabilities	2 Days	16-17	June	Cardiff	Introductory

1 day courses: £250 non-members; £175 members
2 day courses: £450 non-members; £315 members
 To book visit: www.the-sra.org.uk/training.htm

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**17
Research Development Workshops:
Exploring Ethnic Diversity in UK Social Research**

Free workshops in Sheffield and London exploring good scientific and ethical practice in researching ethnic diversity. Using a combination of lectures, exercises and open discussion workshops will explore:

- how to increase the quality of research
- ethical and scientific issues
- guidance for good practice throughout the research cycle
- findings from an ongoing JRF funded project

Four tailored one-day workshops (11:00am-4:00pm) are planned for researchers and research commissioners.

1. **15th April 2010.** For researchers in HEIs—particularly junior researchers and doctoral students. Sheffield Hallam University
2. **16th April 2010.** For researchers in government departments Sheffield Hallam University
3. **27th April 2010.** For researchers in private and voluntary research agencies London Metropolitan University
4. **28th April 2010.** For commissioners and funders of social research London Metropolitan University

Workshop facilitators will include: Dr. Sarah Salway, Professor George Ellison, Dr. Peter Allmark, Punita Chowbey, Ruth Barley and Helen Barnard (Joseph Rowntree Foundation)

Places on the workshops are limited. To download a registration form, visit:

<http://research.shu.ac.uk/ethics-ethnicity/Website/templates%20final/images/Workshop%20Registration%20Form%20FINAL.pdf>

For further information, visit: <http://research.shu.ac.uk/ethics-ethnicity/htm/outputs/Workshops.html>

A small number of travel bursaries are available to help doctoral students attend an event. For more information please contact Ruth Barley at r.barley@shu.ac.uk or on 0114 225 5585.

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BSC

Investing in Criminological Research

1st March 2010, 10.30 – 2.00

British Academy, 10 Carlton Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH

This half-day event sponsored by the British Society of Criminology, the British Academy and the Economic and Social Research Council is intended to improve mutual understanding about ways in which criminological research can contribute to crime policy. Participants will include:

- Politicians and their advisors
- Academic criminologists
- Government funders and the Government Social Research Unit
- The ESRC and British Academy

The three sponsoring bodies hope to act as honest brokers in promoting dialogue between politicians, as the end-users of much criminological research, those who commission and fund criminological research and those academic criminologists who produce policy research. I attach a provisional programme.

I would like to extend an invitation to you for this event. Spaces are free but limited. If you would like to attend, could you please contact Marzena Bien (marzena.bien@esrc.ac.uk) in the ESRC's Knowledge Transfer team on 01793 413137 to confirm your place, as they are taking the lead in organising the day.

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*******END OF BULLETIN*******



Work and Wellbeing Conference

On 28th April 2010

At **Unilever House, 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0DY**

Booking Form

I should like to attend the Work and Wellbeing Conference of the Academy of Social Sciences on Wednesday 28 April 2010 from 10:00 until 16:30 at Unilever House, 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0DY www.unilever.co.uk

Title	
First name	
Surname	
Position	
Institution/Organisation	
Full address including postcode	
Telephone	
Email	
Special dietary requirements	

Please tick the relevant box below:

1. ATTENDANCE

I should like to attend and
either

- I should like to attend on an open basis. The Conference fee is £195

or

- I am an Academician, Affiliate or member of a Social Science Learned Society in membership of the Academy. The Conference fee is £125

2. PAYMENT

***please delete where applicable:**

*I have paid £ online via the Events section of the Academy's website at:
<http://www.acss.org.uk/events.php>

*I enclose a cheque made out for £ made payable to "Academy of Social Sciences".

Please post to:

**Academy of Social Sciences
30 Tabernacle Street
London EC2A 4UE**

Please write your name and the event name on the back of the cheque

*I have paid £ by bank transfer to:

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Bank Sort Code: 40-52-40

Account Number: 00015735

Account Name: Academy of Social Sciences AcSS Current Account

Please return the booking form to administrator@acss.org.uk

Terms and Conditions

- All cancellations must be received in writing
- Cancellations received at the Academy's offices before 15th April will receive a refund of 90%
- Cancellations received after 15th April until 21st April will receive a refund of 75%
- Cancellations received after 21st April until 27th April will receive a refund of 50%
- Cancellations received on 28th April, or a failure to attend on the day, will not receive any refund because refreshments and lunch will have been ordered
- Your name, and the name and address of your organisation should be printed IN FULL
- All attendees will receive EMAIL confirmation of their place before the event. If you have not received confirmation of your place within seven working days please phone or email the administrative office to check. The Academy is not VAT registered