

Neil Lee

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June 2020

Current positions

Professor of Economic Geography, London School of Economics, Aug 2020 - present
Director, BSc in Geography with Economics, 2013 - present
Chair, Policy Committee of the Regional Studies Association (RSA)
Research affiliate: LSE Greater London Group, International Inequalities Institute (III), Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE), Centre for Responsible Banking and Finance (University of St Andrews)

Previous roles

Director, MSc in Local Economic Development, 2014 - 2020
Visiting Professor, Science Po Toulouse, 2019 - 2020
Associate Professor in Economic Geography, LSE, 2017-2020
Assistant Professor in Economic Geography, LSE, 2013-2017
Head of Socio-Economic Research Centre, The Work Foundation, 2010 - 2013
Research Fellow (seconded), Department of Economics, Lancaster University, 2011 – 2013
Senior Economist, The Work Foundation, 2005 - 2011
Project Co-ordinator, Unipal, Lebanon, 2003 - 2004
Research Assistant, Demos, Jan - April 2003

Academic

2007/11	PhD Economic Geography, London School of Economics Papers on innovation, diversity and urban inequality ESRC Quota Award for Advanced Quantitative Methods Supervisor: Professor Andrés Rodríguez-Pose Awarded without corrections, May 2011
2009	Visiting Scholar, Technological Change Lab, Columbia University
2006/7	MSc Human Geography Research, London School of Economics Distinction ESRC Quota Award for Advanced Quantitative Methods
2004/5	MSc Local Economic Development, London School of Economics Distinction School academic scholarship award

1999/02 **BSc Geography, University College London**
First class

Prizes & Awards

2020 Promotion Teaching Prize, London School of Economics
2019 Understanding Society Best Paper Prize
2017 Major Review Teaching Prize, London School of Economics
 RSA Best Referee Award, Regional Studies
2016 Highly Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards
2015 Highly Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards
2014 Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards

Publications

Journal articles (refereed)

- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2020. Entrepreneurship and the fight against poverty in US cities. *Environment and Planning A*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20924422> [Ungated]
- Rodríguez-Pose, A. & Lee, N. 2020. Creative workers, STEM and innovation in US cities. *Cities*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2020.102653> [Ungated]
- Casadei, P. & Lee, N. 2020. Global cities, creative industries and their representation on social media: A micro-data analysis of twitter data on the fashion industry *Environment and Planning A*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20901585>
- Lee, N. & Clark, S. 2019. Do low-skilled workers gain from high-tech employment growth? High-technology multipliers, employment and wages in Britain. *Research Policy*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2019.05.012>
- Ughetto, E., Cowling, M. & Lee, N. 2019. The price of a disadvantaged location: Regional variation in the price and supply of short-term credit to SMEs in UK. *Journal of Small Business Management*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00472778.2019.1681195>
- Ughetto, E., Cowling, M. and Lee, N., 2019. Editorial: The financing of small business and new ventures. *Regional Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2019.1601174>
- Lee, N., 2019. Inclusive Growth in cities: a sympathetic critique. *Regional Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2018.1476753>
- Brown, R., Mawson, S. & Lee, N. 2019. Start-up factories, transnational entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial ecosystems: Unpacking the lure of the start-up accelerator programmes. *European Planning Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2019.1588858>
- Obschonka, M., Lee, N., Rodríguez-Pose, A., Eichstaedt, J. C. & Ebert, T. 2018 Big data methods, social media, and the psychology of entrepreneurial regions: capturing cross-county personality traits and their impact on entrepreneurship in the US. *Small Business Economics*, forthcoming.

- Brown, R. & Lee, N. 2019. Funding for UK high-growth SMEs since the Global Financial Crisis. *Journal of Business Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2019.02.001>
- Von Berlepsch, V, Rodríguez-Pose, A., & Lee, N. 2018. A woman's touch? Female migration and economic development in the United States. *Regional Studies*, 53 (1), 131-145. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2018.1463092>
- Obschonka, M., Stuetzer, M., Rentfrow, P. J., Lee, N., Potter, J. & Gosling, D. 2018 Fear, populism and the geopolitical landscape: On the effect of neurotic personality traits on regional voting behaviour in the 2016 Brexit and Trump votes. *Social Psychological & Personality Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550618755874>
- Lee, N. & Luca, D. 2018 The Big City Bias in Access to Finance: Evidence from firm perceptions in almost 100 countries. *Journal of Economic Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbx047> [ungated]
- Lee, N., Morris, K. & Kemeny, T. 2018. Immobility and the Brexit vote. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 11 (1), 143-163. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsx027> [Winner: Understanding Society Best Paper Prize]
- Lee, N., Green, A. & Sissons, P. 2018. Low-pay sectors, earnings mobility and economic policy in the UK. *Policy & Politics*, 46 (3), 347-369. <https://doi.org/10.1332/030557317X15072086455899>
- Ughetto, E., Cowling, M. & Lee, N. 2017. The innovation debt penalty: Cost of debt, loan default, and the effects of a public loan guarantee on high-tech firms. *Technological Forecasting & Social Change*, 127, 166 – 176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2017.06.016> [ungated]
- Sissons, P., Green, A. & Lee, N. 2017. Employment structure, growth sectors and household poverty in the United Kingdom. *Work, Employment and Society*, 32 (6), 1078-1098. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0950017017722939> [ungated]
- Lee, N. 2017. Psychology and the geography of innovation. *Economic Geography*, 93 (2), 106-130. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00130095.2016.1249845> [ungated]
- Lee, N. 2017. Powerhouse of cards? Understanding the Northern Powerhouse. *Regional Studies*, 51(3), 478-489. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2016.1196289>
- Lee, N. & Brown, R. 2017. Innovation, SMEs and the liability of distance: the demand and supply of bank funding in peripheral UK regions. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 17 (1), 233-260. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbw011> [ungated]
- Lee, N. & Sissons, P. 2016. Inclusive growth? Economic growth and poverty in British cities. *Environment and Planning A*. 48(11), 2317-2339. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X16656000>
- Lee, N. & Rodriguez-Pose, A. 2016 Is there trickle-down from tech? Poverty, employment and the high-technology multiplier in US cities. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 106 (5), 1114-1134. <https://doi.org/10.1080/24694452.2016.1184081> [ungated]

- Lee, N., Sissons, P. & Jones, K. 2016. The geography of wage inequality in British cities. *Regional Studies*, 50 (10), 1714 – 1727. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2015.1053859> [Ungated]
- Lee, N., Cowling, M. and Sameen, H. 2015. Access to finance for innovative SMEs since the financial crisis. *Research Policy*, 44 (2), 370-380. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2014.09.008>[Ungated]
- Lee, N. 2015. Migrant and ethnic diversity, cities and innovation: Firm effects or city effects? *Journal of Economic Geography*, 15 (4), 769-796. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbu032>
- Lee, N. & Drever, E. 2014. Do SMEs in deprived areas find it harder to access finance? Evidence from the UK Small Business Survey. *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development*, 26 (3-4), 337-356. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08985626.2014.911966>
- Lee, N. 2014. What holds back high growth firms? Evidence from UK SMEs. *Small Business Economics*, 43 (1), 183-195. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-013-9525-5>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2014. Innovation in creative cities: Evidence from British small firms. *Industry & Innovation*, 21(6), 494-512. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13662716.2014.983748> [Ungated] [Nominated for Industry & Innovation 'Best Paper Award', 2014]
- Lee, N. & Rodriguez-Pose, A. 2013. Creativity, cities and innovation. *Environment and Planning A*, 46 (5): 1139 - 1159. <https://doi.org/10.1068/a46202>
- Cowling, M. & Lee, N. 2015. Do Rural Firms Perceive Different Problems? Geography, Sorting, and Barriers to Growth in UK SMEs. *Environment & Planning C: Government and Policy*, 33 (1), 25-42. <https://doi.org/10.1068/c12234b>
- Lee, N. 2013. The creative industries and urban economic growth in the UK. *Environment and Planning A*, 46 (2) 455-470. <https://doi.org/10.1068/a4472>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2013. Innovation and spatial inequality in Europe and the United States. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 13 (1), 1- 22. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbs022>
- Nathan, M. & Lee, N. 2012. Cultural diversity, innovation and entrepreneurship: Firm-level evidence from London. *Economic Geography*. 89 (4), 367-394. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecge.12016>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2013. Original innovation, learnt innovation and cities: Evidence from UK SMEs. *Urban Studies*, 50 (9), 1742-1759. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098012470395>
- Hutton, W. & Lee, N. 2012. The City and the cities: Finance, ownership and the geography of recession. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 5 (3): 325-337 [Editors' choice] <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rss018>
- Lee, N. 2012. Grim down south? The determinants of unemployment in British cities in the 2008-2009 recession. *Regional Studies*, 48(11), 1761-1778. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2012.709609>

Lee, N. & Cowling, M. 2012. Place, sorting effects and SMEs in deprived areas: Different problems or different firms? *International Small Business Journal*, 31 (8), 914-937. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0266242612445402>

Lee, N. & Drever, E. 2012. Creative industries, creative occupations and innovation in London. *European Planning Studies*, 21(12), 1977-1997. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2012.722969>

Lee, N. 2011. Are innovative regions more unequal? Evidence from Europe. *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*, 29 (1), 2 – 23. [Editors' choice] <https://doi.org/10.1068/c1046r>

Lee, N. 2011. Ethnic diversity and employment growth in English cities. *Urban Studies*, 48 (2), 407–425. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098010363500>

Policy Reports

Arntzen, S., Wilcox, Z., Lee, N., Hadfield, C. & Rae, J. 2019. [*Real world innovation testbeds*](#). NESTA, London.

Brown, R. & Lee, N. 2018 [*Financial instruments for regional development*](#). OECD, Paris.

Pike, A., Lee, N., MacKinnon, D., Kempton, L. and Iddawela, Y., 2017. [*Job creation for inclusive growth in cities*](#). York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Lee, N. & Clarke, S. 2017 [*A rising tide lifts all boats? Advanced industries and their impact upon living standards*](#). Resolution Foundation, London.

Lee, N., Brown, R. & Schlueter, T. .2015. [*Modes of firm growth: A report for the Business Growth Service*](#). Business Growth Service, London.

Brown, R. and Lee, N. 2014. [*Funding issues confronting high growth SMEs in the UK*](#). ICAS, Edinburgh.

Lee, N., Sissons, P., Hughes, C., Green, A., Adam, D., Atfield, G. and Rodriguez-Pose, A. 2014. [*Cities, growth and poverty: A review of the evidence*](#). Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York.

Sameen, H. & Lee, N. 2012. *An econometric analysis of the UKTI reputation in overseas markets survey*. London: Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Cominetti, N., Crowley, L. & Lee, N. 2012. *The business of cities: The private sector, local enterprise partnerships and growth*. London: The Work Foundation.

Crowley, L., Balam, B. & Lee, N. 2012. *People or place? Urban policy in an age of austerity*. London: The Work Foundation.

Lee, N., Sissons, P., Balam, B., Cominetti, N. & Jones, K. 2012. *Short-term crisis - long-term problem? Addressing the youth employment challenge*. London: The Work Foundation.

Levy, C., Lee, N. & Peate, A. 2011. *Ready, steady, grow? How the government can support high growth firms*. London: The Work Foundation.

Lee, N., Morris, K., Wright, J., Jones, A. & Brinkley, I. 2010. *No city left behind? The geography of the recovery and the implications for the coalition*. London: The Work Foundation.

Jones, A., Clayton, N., Lee, N. & Wright, J. 2010. *Past Recessions: What can we learn for regeneration in the recovery?* Leeds: The Northern Way.

Lee, N., Jones, A. & Morris, K. 2009. *Recession and Recovery: How cities can respond to the recession*. London: The Work Foundation / OECD.

Lee, N., Schneider, P. & Brinkley, I. 2007. *R&D, ICT and Productivity*. London: The Work Foundation.

Brinkley, I. & Lee, N. 2007. *The Knowledge Economy in Europe*. London: The Work Foundation.

Jones, A., Coats, D., Williams, L., Lee, N. & O'Keeffe, A. 2006. *Enabling Cities in the Knowledge Economy*. London: Department for Communities and Local Government.

Jones, A., Williams, L., Lee, N., Coats, D. & Cowling, M. 2006. *Ideopolis: Knowledge City Regions*. London: The Work Foundation.

Professional Service

Committees:

Chair, Policy Committee, Regional Studies Association (2019 -)
Research Committee, LSE International Inequalities Institute (2019 -)
Management Committee, Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) (2017 -)
Power to Change Research Advisory Board / Grants Committee (2016 -)
Strategic Advisor, Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2014 - 2016)
Advisor on poverty to the London Assembly Housing and Planning Committee, 2014

Conference organisation:

Cambridge Political Economy Society / Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society, 2019 Summer Conference, St Catherine's College Cambridge.
Birkbeck / UCL / Big Innovation Centre, 2013 Triple Helix Conference.