

## Croeso i Swansea ar gyfer y Gynhadledd BSPS 2013

A large proportion of British population scientists are descending on Swansea for the annual conference. Once again this year there are a record number of participants attending, with a strong programme of speakers, talks and posters scheduled.

The plenary speakers are confirmed as Monica das Gupta from the University of Maryland (previously of the World Bank) and Mary Daly from the Oxford Institute of Social Policy. A profile of each plenary speaker is given on the following pages. Furthermore, while not a full plenary, there is a special invited talk from Helge Brunborg from Statistics Norway which will focus on his experiences at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. A brief interview with Helge is at the end of the newsletter.

There are a number of new events

happening this year, including a career mentoring breakfast for PhD students and early career researchers, alongside informal drinks for the student members. Furthermore there is the BSPS quiz taking place in the bar on the Tuesday night, following on from the quiz last year which seemed to tax the brains of those who took part.

The numbers of posters scheduled to be shown grow year by year, with as many as 57 posters on display. This shows the health of the conference and of BSPS as a whole. These will be displayed in the evening of the first day of the conference, alongside a drinks reception.

Finally there is the BSPS Annual General Meeting on the evening of the Tuesday night, where all BSPS members are invited. The AGM will be the last act of the current president, Professor Ludi Simpson, who will hand over to the current vice-president, Professor Tony Champion. New committee members will also be elected, as a number of the current committee come to the end of their term. Please come along!



It is amazing how quickly the BSPS conference comes around, but it is always a great opportunity to see what colleagues (both inside and outside of your institution) have been working on over the previous year. I have been attending BSPS conferences for 10 years now and am constantly impressed by the standard of the presentations and posters, which I feel highlights the strength of demography and population studies within the UK. The conference also attracts a wide range of international delegates too, again showing that the UK is at the forefront of population research.

Stories about population are in the news every day. From the stories regarding the increasing fertility in the country, to the numbers of migrants and changes in family life, population is a topic where lots of people have an opinion on. Sadly it is often misguided and informed by the media who do not often have the facts at their fingertips. I believe that it is our role to become involved in these debates in order to provide the evidence and

interpretation that would allow people to be informed. Yet we are sometimes crowded out by those who have louder voices and a more sensationalist interpretation than the facts allow. It is our job to put the rational side of the argument forward—something that at BSPS I feel we do well. However we could, and should, do more.



On a different topic, this is my last edition as editor. I have very much enjoyed pulling together the stories and reports that have been in the newsletter over the last three years or so, but it is time for someone else to move the newsletter forward again. Dr Melanie Frost from the University of Southampton will be taking over for the Christmas issue. I would like to thank Anne Shepherd in the BSPS office for all the help she has been—the newsletter wouldn't exist without her!

*Amos Channon* ([a.r.channon@soton.ac.uk](mailto:a.r.channon@soton.ac.uk)).

## Postgraduate Representative



Since the last issue of the Newsletter, some of the student members had the opportunity to meet at the 21st PopFest conference, organised by postgraduate students at the University of Southampton (see page 10). It

was very nice to meet some of you there and learn a little bit more about your research. But the real opportunity for us to catch up and to exchange ideas will be the career mentoring breakfast and the informal drinks at the annual

BSPS conference (for more details turn to page 4).

I would like to encourage all of you to join the BSPS Student Members' Facebook page to share your news, thoughts, questions or ideas: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/300124886760445/>. Finally, if you have any suggestions for student member socials, BSPS day meetings or how BSPS could engage more with BSPS student members and early career researchers, please feel free to contact me at [jm1e11@soton.ac.uk](mailto:jm1e11@soton.ac.uk).

*Julia Mikolai*



## BSPS Conference *Plenary Speakers*

### **Professor Monica Das Gupta**

In 2012 Monica joined the University of Maryland after 14 years working at the World Bank, and before that at Harvard University. Her main research interests include gender and health, population and development and public health systems and environmental sanitation.

Her PhD was written at the University of Sussex within the Social Anthropology and Demography department, and this link between anthropological and demographic research has continued throughout her studies. This has led into some of her most influential work, looking at the causes and consequences of sex imbalances at birth.

Starting while on research fieldwork in India in the late 1970s, she noticed that there was a fervent preference for male offspring. Monica also noticed that this preference was actually more prevalent within high income states compared with the poorer areas of the country. Following this up by research in Punjab, one of the richest states in India, she

documented the issues with 'missing girls' - those that had been aborted, killed as newborns or died from neglect early in their lives.



This sparked Monica's research on population and development—why did development make things worse for Indian girls? The reason why was thought to be due to the value put on females within society, although this value changed depending on the birth order. Females who were first births were not subjected to inferior treatment—it was females born at later parities who were more likely to die in childhood.

It seems that this was due to a kind of economic logic was at work. A firstborn girl still gave plenty of chances to have a boy. Yet with each additional girl, the pressure to have a son increased. This has been confirmed in subsequent studies of missing girls. With development, the richer families have easier access to cutting-edge technology to allow the sex to be determined before birth.

Monica has continued her research on this topic and is currently studying the upcoming marriage squeeze due to the unbalanced sex ratios and the implications for this for the social protection needs of future aging bachelors.

Obviously this short profile does not cover all of Monica's wide range of current work. The title of the plenary that will be presented in BSPS will be 'Demography, Gender and Kinship systems'. This promises to be a highly interesting and thought provoking talk.

# BSPS Conference *Plenary Speakers*

### **Professor Mary Daly**

Mary is currently Professor of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Oxford. The main body of her work focuses on the analysis of social policy in advanced OECD countries, comparing between European and international countries.

Currently Professor Daly has two ESRC projects. The first project looks behind the child-centred investment approaches that are now being adopted widely in Europe, especially on interventions with parents. As well as examining how they are functioning, the research project is especially interested in identifying the ambiguities in recent policies for families and children, such as the tension between helping and controlling families and the possibility that new social divides between different kinds of families are being generated. It is a cross-national comparative study, covering France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and UK.

The second is looking at poverty and social exclusion in the UK. A central component of the project is the replication of the Poverty and Social Exclusion Survey which was carried out in 1998-99 in Britain and in Northern Ireland in 2002-03. This new research will build on these previous methodological innovations in light of current policy concerns. With funding to the value of over £4.5 million, the project involves a large multi-disciplinary team. One of the elements which Mary is

overseeing is a qualitative study of family life under conditions of low income and poverty.

Mary's plenary talk is on the subject of 'Family policy in the UK and Europe –

does it respond to fertility and ageing?'. This links with many of the themes of her research and will examine the critical questions of how policies will respond to the lower fertility and higher older adult population in the future in many European countries.



### **Attention BSPS Student members!**

Do not miss out on the opportunity to get to know the other student members in the society! Let's meet for an informal chat and a drink in the bar after dinner, around 9.30pm on 9 September (Monday) at the annual BSPS conference!



## PASC Report on Migration Statistics

Following its call for evidence last December, the House of Commons Public Administration Select Committee (PASC) published its report on migration statistics on 28 July 2013, drawing on 14 items of written evidence (including BSPS's submission) and oral evidence from 7 witnesses (including John Salt and Scott Blinder).

Its main conclusions are that the migration statistics produced by the ONS and Home Office are blunt instruments for measuring, managing and understanding migration to and from the UK. It says they are not accurate enough to measure the effect of migration on population, particularly in local areas, and they are not detailed enough to measure the social and economic impacts of migration, or the effects of immigration policy.

According to PASC, the current sources are just not adequate for understanding the scale and complexity of modern migration flows, despite attempts to improve their accuracy and usefulness in recent years. The report is particularly critical of the incompatibility between the ONS and Home Office data, with the former containing no information on the immigration status of migrants and the latter not indicating the number of visa holders with valid leave to remain. It also notes that some characteristics are not recorded at all, such as ethnicity.

Among its recommendations are that the Government must end reliance on the

International Passenger Survey (IPS) as the primary method of estimating migration, as it is not fit for this purpose. The ONS and Home Office should move as quickly as possible to using e-Borders data and linking it to the IPS responses. But new sources of migration statistic are also needed, including a routine migrant survey capturing the characteristics of migrants and much more robust data on flows to and from local authority areas, especially if the Census does not continue in something like its present form.

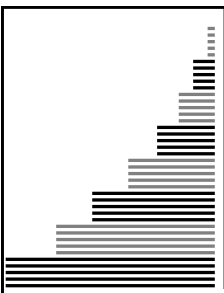
For more information, see the PASC website [www.parliament.uk/pasc](http://www.parliament.uk/pasc), which gives access to the two volumes: I. Report, together with formal minutes, oral evidence; II. Additional written evidence, which can also be downloaded directly from (respectively) <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmpubadm/523/523.pdf> and <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmselect/cmpubadm/523/523vw.pdf>.

This inquiry was the fifth undertaken by PASC in its series of 10 areas of statistics which it began in June last year. It is now into its consultation on 'Transparency, open data and statistics' and should soon be launching its seventh topic, which is to be on 'The Census'.

*Tony Champion*



## Emigration – Don't leave me this way?



This one day event was held 16th May at the LSE, with around 50 people participating and BSPS Vice President Tony Champion in the chair. The aim was to bring together not only statistics, data and models of emigration but also research looking at why people had moved and their experiences of doing so.

The day started with Joanna Wroe, from the Migration Statistics Unit at the Office for National Statistics, looking at what the official data show about the trends in emigration. Emigration from the UK has declined since the mid-2000s, to around 350,000 a year since 2009. This decline includes British and non-British citizens. Work-related reasons are the most common for emigration – emigration to accompany or join relatives has declined. Australia has been the most popular country to emigrate to amongst British citizens since 1985, 25-44 is the most common age at which to emigrate and 30 percent of emigrants leaving the UK do so from London.

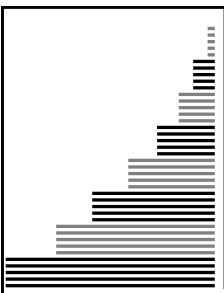
Dr Susan Collard (University of Sussex) followed this with a presentation from herself and Helen Drake (University of Loughborough). France has been up to the 5th most popular destination for British emigrants. Two waves of migration were noted: the late 1980's 'Peter Mayle generation' who were largely middle class, professional, well educated, taking part in international

counterurbanisation. These had some competence in French or acquired it, and a strong urge to integrate. This contrasted with a post 2000 'Ryanair generation', part of the 'democratisation' of lifestyle migration, and who had little or no competence in French and a weak urge to integrate. The push and pull factors included: property prices, a desire for a change of lifestyle, and the charms of the rural idyll. When looking at EU candidates and elected councillors by nationality in communes of under 3,500 inhabitants in 2008 it is striking that the British are by far the most numerous with 405. Going on to look at British people who had set up their own businesses a number of types were identified: the Francophile ('France is in our soul'); the Shop-Keeper (selling Marmite and Ketchup); and the people who simply wanted 'A Castle of my Own' ('Where else can I own my own turret?').

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## Emigration – Don't leave me this way?



Dr Michaela Benson (University of York) and Professor Karen O'Reilly (Loughborough University) looked at emigration from the view from ethnography. They had carried out work on emigrants to Spain, France, Panama, and Thailand. Lifestyle migrants are relatively affluent individuals of all ages, moving either part-time or full-time to places that, for various reasons, signify, for the migrant, a better quality of life. Key features were the multi-faceted reasons for leaving (both push and pull), a denigration of UK and the lifestyle available there, and the creation of the 'myth of no return' with return to the UK seen as last resort.

Dr Kelly Hall (University of Northampton) reported on older British people in Spain, where approximately 100,000 British nationals receive state pension and where they received free healthcare, were entitled to same level of care as Spanish people, and where hospital care was very good. However there was little aftercare on leaving hospital and limited social care (few residential homes). Furthermore prescription charges have now been introduced. As a result older people were returning to the UK following health problems. Some returned for support as they had no family in Spain, needed informal care and support and faced isolation and loneliness following death of partner. They could experience physical isolation from a rural location (away from support/health services) and language and cultural



barriers; with resultant nostalgia, boredom and apathy. Some returned for financial help. It was no longer cheap to live in Spain, particularly with the changing exchange rate – for those living on the basic state pension with few savings.

Brian Foley from the Office for National Statistics gave a presentation of a model-based approach for estimating international emigration for local authorities. Difficulties were caused by the small sample size of emigrants in the International Passenger Survey and by the fact that there was no administrative or survey data sources providing information on long-term emigration from Local Authorities. Brian reported on developments and testing to see if there were other variables more readily available at the Local Authority level which could be used to predict emigration. Further examples were being sought and would be welcome.

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## Emigration – Don't leave me this way?

Dr Carlos Vargas-Silva, (Migration Observatory, University of Oxford) finished the day by looking at issues and uncertainty which could influence a target to reduce net immigration. It was noted that efforts to reduce inflows (i.e. immigration) to the UK are likely to lead to a reduction in future outflows (i.e. emigration). So much of the short-term drop in net-migration could be a result of lower inflows and will be fleeting, because fewer migrants will subsequently leave. Some problems for policy were noted as coming from the considerable margins of error from the primary data source currently used to estimate emigration (and net migration) in the UK. This could mean that the government could miss the “tens of thousands” target and still appear to have hit

it or, conversely the government could hit, or even exceed, its target and still appear to have missed it.

The day brought together consideration that moves are a two way issue: one country's emigrants are another's immigrants. Current statistical data is not perfect, but our understanding of emigration as an issue and the policy implications is greatly improved by looking at the reasons for it and the experiences of those who do it.

*Richard Potter*

All presentations from this meeting can be accessed via the BSPS website at: <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/dayMeetings/Emigration-Dont-leave-me-this-way-.aspx>

## Urban Health and Communicable disease

A one day meeting is being held at the Royal Society of Medicine, 18th September 2013 to mark the bicentenary of the birth of John Snow. This is led by the Royal Society of Medicine Section for Epidemiology & Public Health.


The day aims to demonstrate that, 200 years after the birth of John Snow, communicable disease is still a major factor in urban health. It will also raise awareness of the issue of urban health and its long association with communicable disease, identification of vulnerable groups in society today and looking at the im-

pact of social and environmental factors.

Those who attend will understand the interplay between social, behavioural and environmental factors and health, with particular respect to communicable disease. Furthermore, the participants to obtain practical knowledge to improve their practice in the area of testing patients for HIV and prescribing for HIV positive patients.

For more details see: <http://www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/epdo3.php>





## Spotlight on Research

# Matthew Wallace

## PhD Student at Liverpool

As the BSPS conference commences on September 9th I will be nearing the end of my first year as a PhD candidate. I am based in the Geography and Planning department at the University of Liverpool and my thesis, titled "Mortality among immigrants and their descendants in Britain", has roots in Demography, Population Studies and Social Statistics.

I have a Bachelor's degree in Geography and a Master's degree (Research Methodology) in Population Studies (both from the University of Liverpool). My MA was made possible through an ESRC/PIC scholarship; my PhD is funded by the ESRC and Doctoral Training Centre with an additional Advanced Quantitative Methods stipend. My work is supervised by Dr Hill Kulu and Dr Paul Williamson.

My research stems from a body of literature which advocates the exceptional health and mortality prospects of international migrants when compared with host and origin populations. As to why, the Healthy Migrant Effect theorises positive self-selection by health before migration. The Salmon Bias suggests a filtering out process after migration in which the worst of the best who made the move ultimately succumb to illness and return home. The perceived advantage may also be a mere fallacy; the result of poor quality migration data.

My aims are to examine mortality patterns among international immigrants, their descendants and the host population in England and Wales and to investigate the causes of mortality differences between these three groups. I will use a combination of survival analysis (with piecewise constant and Gompertz specifications of the baseline hazard), multivariate analysis

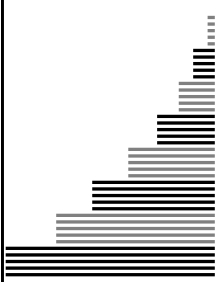
(controlling for socio-economic characteristics) and frailty modelling (with Gamma, log-normal and inverse Gaussian estimations of frailty distribution) to achieve this. For Salmon Bias, I will fit models to correct for a possible bias on selective return migration and investigate how health status at the 1991 census influences likelihood of exit before 2001.



I am using the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study (ONS LS) which is a 1% sample of the population of England and Wales. The LS currently spans thirty years from 1971 to 2001 and links individual-level events (births, deaths, entries, exits) with decennial census data. I was granted access to the ONS LS in February 2013 and accessed the data for the first time in March. My main aim by the time BSPS begins in September is to have the data fully set up and ready for analysis. Given that I am writing this profile in late July, I have a month and a half to achieve this objective. So you can ask me if I was successful or not at BSPS...

This year I have also published my first paper: Wallace, M and Kulu, H. (2014). Migration and health in England and Scotland: a study of migrant selectivity and 'Salmon Bias'. *Population, Space and Place*. (Available online 15/07/2013). This will be a poster at BSPS so please feel welcome to come along and discuss. For more information about the above paper or research, my email address is [ggou7237@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:ggou7237@liverpool.ac.uk).





# Meeting Report

## PopFest 2013

### A Metaphorical 'Coming of Age'



8-10th July saw the hosting of PopFest2013, the 21st Annual Postgraduate Studies Conference, at the University of Southampton.

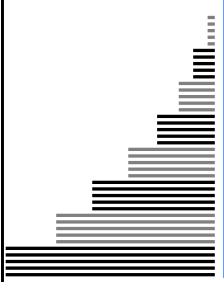
We had the enormous pleasure of welcoming 53 delegates from over 9 countries across the globe making PopFest2013 a truly international affair. The conference featured nearly forty presentations in eleven sessions including Family and Employment, Mapping, Migration and the Life-Course and Vulnerability. In addition to oral sessions, the Monday evening saw the hosting of the PopFest Wine Reception and Poster Session. Delegates were able to continue networking informally into the evening whilst making the most of the rare British sunshine at our BBQ buffet.

The diversity and quality of the research presented in the poster and oral sessions reflects the dynamism and vibrancy of contemporary research into matters of population. We would like to thank all our delegates for their enthusiasm making

PopFest2013 such a successful conference. The engagement of delegates in sessions led to the generation of lively discussions during which the variety of expertise at conference was showcased. The bringing together of researchers from different backgrounds resulted in welcomed feedback and questions of a multitude of perspectives highlighting the multi-disciplinary nature of PopFest.

PopFest reaching the milestone of 21 conferences represents a metaphorical 'Coming of Age' and the committee believed this resonated nicely with the idea that PopFest exists to help population researchers in the early stages of their academic careers develop their skills and ideas. Consequently, the remit of this year's conference was expanded with the inclusion of a training day, which comprised of sessions on employability and how to publish from Dr Helen Goulding and Dr Alice Reid, designed to help delegates start looking forward to their future careers.

Additionally we were lucky to welcome excellent keynote and plenary speakers whose sessions focused on contemporary policy-focused research. The conference was kicked off by a keynote from Professor David Martin, co-Director of both the ESRC UK data Service and ESRC National Centre of Research Methods. *(continued overleaf)*



# *Meeting Report*

## PopFest 2013

### A Metaphorical ‘Coming of Age’

Professor Martin talk focused on the 2011 census and beyond, drawing upon international experience about the possible future of population estimates in the UK. We were also very fortunate to host Doctor Diana Lopez-Falcon. Her plenary focused on policy issues in contemporary population studies, and the challenges and opportunities for researchers in the future. As a Research Scientist at Population Europe this plenary offered delegates the unique chance to gain an understanding of a post-graduate career in the context of a leading international research institutions. Last but not least Wednesday morning was started with a thought provoking talk by Professor Asghar Zaidi “Changing the way we age: Lessons about active and health ageing from Europe.” This lecture addressed the challenge of identifying and recommending strategies that promote and sustain the activity, independence and health of older people. We must also



Delegates at PopFest 2013

extend our thanks to Professor Jane Falkingham and Doctor Andy Hinde for their inspirational words and encouragement of early career researchers as the future in the constantly evolving field of population studies during their open and close talks of the conference respectively.

We would like to take this last opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who contributed towards making PopFest2013 possible - of course a special mention goes to our Sponsors! We would also like to wish good luck to University College London who have taken on the challenge of PopFest2014! We hope to see everyone next year in London!

*Philippa, Ally, Rachel, Jason and Neil*

*The PopFest2013 Conference Committee*



**Coming of Age: The 21st Annual Postgraduate Population Studies Conference**

## Travel Report

Kristin Snopkowski

### The Annual Conference of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society

The 25th annual conference of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES) was held in Miami Beach, Florida from July 17th – 20th, 2013. The meeting consisted of approximately 60 sessions, with a range of topics including cooperation, mating, kinship, cognition, and fertility. As an evolutionary demographer, it was a great opportunity to learn about current work being conducted in the field of human behavioural ecology and evolutionary psychology.

One of the best aspects of this conference is the breadth of topics covered by plenary speakers, which provides conference participants an introduction into a wide array of research areas. This year some plenary topics included behavioural economics, infant sociomoral reasoning, cleaner fish cooperation, and children's educative instincts. Each of these talks was really interesting, thought

provoking and taught me something new.

I presented a paper titled, “The interplay of individual- and community-level postnuptial residence on fertility outcomes: Do community norms or individual decisions matter more?” This paper examined the role of postnuptial residence at both an individual and community level to determine which mattered more in predicting fertility outcomes. Using data from the Indonesia Family Life Survey, I found that both individual and group level patrilocal postnuptial residence (living with the husband's family after marriage) had a positive effect on fertility outcomes, with the effect sizes being approximately the same.

Next, this paper tested different hypotheses related to the empirical finding that women tend to have higher fertility

when they live patrilocally. I discussed three hypotheses: (1) that women living patrilocally have reduced autonomy (2) that women living patrilocally are exploited and have more children than they really...

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## Travel Report

Kristin Snopkowski

### The Annual Conference of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society

want and (3) that an intergenerational conflict exists when women live with their mothers-in-law, where mothers-in-law cease reproduction so that daughters-in-law can begin their reproductive careers (so as to reduce conflict from having two women reproducing at the same time). I showed that women living virilocally do not have reduced autonomy compared with women living matrilocally (with the wife's parents after marriage) and there is no evidence for inter-generational conflict. There is some weak evidence to suggest that women living patrilocally are having more children than is optimal, but more data needs to be collected before a strong argument can be made. The feedback I received at the conference has helped me to improve the paper.

The conference also provided several

dinners, which allowed for extensive networking with individuals I would have not otherwise met. Discussing papers with other academics led to lots of ideas for future research projects.

I am extremely thankful to the British Society for Population Studies for supporting my participation in this conference. I was able to network with other conference participants, gain knowledge about current research in the field, and get useful feedback on my paper.



## BSPS International Travel Grants

BSPS provides bursaries for members of the society to attend conferences and professional meetings outside the UK. Grants will be awarded up to a maximum of £250. Eligibility criteria include the following conditions:

- Must be a member or student member of BSPS and have paid the current year's subscription dues
- Must be giving a paper on a demographic topic (oral presentations only, not posters)
- Awards will be limited to one per individu-

al every two years

- Have exhausted other funding possibilities such as own department

Grants are awarded on a first come, first served basis and are subject to the availability of funding. Applications will be considered at any time during the year but applications must be made well in advance of the conference date. For more information see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/awardsGrants.aspx>

# Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI)

Earlier in 2013 there was news that the funding for population research was being cut by the government of the Netherlands. This had direct relevance for the funding for NIDI, a key organisation conducting high quality and important demographic research within the Netherlands, Europe and around the world. As a response to this shocking news BSPS, and a number of individual members, wrote to NIDI in support of their continued work. Recently an update to the fight to save NIDI has been sent out by Nico van Nimwegen and Leo van Wissen. This is reproduced below.

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*NIDI continues with support of the Academy!  
Population research is very much needed.*

Population research is of vital importance for Dutch society. Since 1970 the Netherlands has a demographic institute, NIDI, where research on population issues is carried out. NIDI is an institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and has a unique national and leading international position. Demographic changes are among the major challenges to modern society and affect a host of policy domains. As a consequence governments usually place a high value on population research. However, in its most recent budget cuts the Dutch government unfortunately decided to cut its funding for population research which directly threatened NIDI. But NIDI will prevail and continue its work!

It has become very clear that the concerns about this budget cut are widely shared both by policymakers at all levels ranging from government departments, provincial authorities, planning agencies to the United Nations, as well

as by leading national and international scientific institutions. NIDI and the Academy are motivated by this support to fight the decision in every possible way. Our joined conviction is reinforced by the fact that the motivation for this budget cut is demonstrably wrong and its legal basis very weak while the decision itself contradicts major overall policy priorities as expressed by government. Supported by the Academy, NIDI will continue its fight for population research. Your support is very much needed.

### *Support NIDI*

NIDI greatly appreciates all support that it received through mail, the media and in politics. As parliament recently approved the budget cuts, we are now considering other options which we are jointly exploring with the Academy. It remains critically important to communicate the value of population research, as well as the need to concentrate this interdisciplinary research in one institute where all expertise is combined. The more people are convinced of this, the higher will be the chances that NIDI research will continue!

You can support NIDI in various ways. If you wish to support our cause by mail we will publish this on our website and use your reactions in discussions with stakeholders. You can also follow us on Twitter (@NIDI\_KNAW) and share our tweets with your own followers. We hope that everybody will use her or his networks to stress the relevance of population research at NIDI!

For specific questions please send an email to [directie@nidi.nl](mailto:directie@nidi.nl)

## Announcements and Conferences

### Using Paradata to Enhance Survey Design and Analysis

22 - 23 October 2013, University of Southampton

Presenters: Prof Frauke Kreuter and Dr Gabriele Durrant (with contributions from Dr Mario Callegaro, Dr Olga Maslovskaya and Prof Peter W. Smith)

Please note that we are able to offer the reduced course fees of £60 per day to all public sector staff for 2013/14.

Information at <http://www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/showcourse.php?id=12102070>

In recent years the use of paradata ('field process data') has received increasing attention in survey research. Typical examples of paradata are key-stroke files, which capture navigation through the questionnaire, and time stamps, which provide information such

as date and time of each call attempt or the length of a question-answer sequence. Other examples are interviewer observations about a sampled household or neighbourhood, recordings of vocal properties of the interviewer and respondent, and information about interviewer calls and interviewing strategies. It is hoped to use paradata for the improvement of survey designs, survey quality and analysis. It also offers opportunities for efficiency gains and cost savings in surveys.

This course introduces participants to the practices and cutting-edge research in the up-and-coming field of paradata. It is aimed at both producers and users of paradata, both at junior and senior levels.

This course is part of a 3.5 year ESRC research project (grant number: RES-062-23-2997). The event is organised jointly with the Social Statistics Section of the Royal Statistical Society.

## Health Impact Assessment Course

IMPACT is based in the Division of Public Health, a WHO Collaborating Centre for Public Policy Research on Social Determinants of Health, at the University of Liverpool, UK.



IMPACT aims to improve health and reduce health inequalities locally, nationally and internationally, by promoting the integration of HIA into policy planning to achieve Health in All Policies.

An early bird delegate rate for the November HIA course, running 11-15 November at the University of Liverpool in the award-winning Foresight Centre, is available for those who reserve a place before 27th September. For more details and an application form, please contact [impact@liv.ac.uk](mailto:impact@liv.ac.uk) or telephone +44(0)151-794 5004.

For further information see <http://www.liv.ac.uk/psychology-health-and-society/research/impact/knowledge-exchange/>



## ESRC/PIC Masters Studentship Scheme in Population Studies

Those of you at institutions who are already invited to put forward candidates for the ESRC/PIC studentship scheme in population studies will be familiar with the scheme. For those of you who are not, read on.

First, some background: the Population Investigation Committee (PIC) first established a scholarship fund in 1996, perceiving that UK students were having difficulty in obtaining funding for the further study of demography beyond undergraduate level. As the funding for these scholarships came solely from surpluses received from the publication of the PIC's Journal, *Population Studies*, only two scholarships a year were offered initially. For three or four years, four scholarships were offered as a result of the generosity of the now-defunct Simon Population Trust.

In 2009, the ESRC & the PIC entered into a funding agreement for a five-year period to enable additional scholarships to be offered under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two bodies. The aim of the scheme is to aid the recruitment & initial development of talented students in demography by contributing to student fees and maintenance costs. The ESRC entered into the scheme to build capacity in a priority area for the Council. The ambition within the co-funding agreement is to actively increase the research capacity within Demography in the UK.

Eligibility for the Scholarships is restricted to students accepted on a Master's degree course

with a high demographic content, leading to a Master's qualification at an ESRC-accredited Doctoral Training Centre. There are currently some Doctoral Training Centres approved by the ESRC which do not actually appear to be offering any suitable pathways and this piece is intended to reach these Centres, and any others that may be eligible.

Additional research training pathways at currently-approved and other ESRC-accredited Doctoral Training Centres MAY be eligible if the institution can show that these pathways would meet the agreed aims of the scheme 'to actively increase the research capacity within Demography'. Prospective students would be expected to take a high proportion (75%) of course units with demographic training content and candidates would be monitored to ensure these courses were those studied. To all intents and purposes, eligible courses would be taught Masters.

For full information on the scheme, please see the PIC website at:

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/researchcentresandgroups/PIC/scholarshipScheme.aspx>

The information posted on the site relates to the 2013 round of Scholarships, but there will be at least eight available in 2014 and relevant information is likely to remain broadly the same. For further information or to discuss eligibility, please contact the PIC at [pic@lse.ac.uk](mailto:pic@lse.ac.uk) in the first instance.



## Resources for Demographers



openpop.org

Research in population issues is currently at the top of the policy agenda, and media interest in the field has rarely been greater. However, there is often a disconnect between the innovative, dynamic research performed across the world by scholars of population studies and policymakers, the media and the general public.

openpop.org seeks to contribute towards bridging this gap.

'Collaborative blogs' have been used to great effect in economics, political science and other social science fields. Based upon this model, we have designed openpop.org to serve as a means for population researchers to communicate their research to a broader audience, but without the high time commitment required to maintain their own personal blog.

We are currently looking for 500-1000 word submissions in any field broadly related to population research. This could be a report of latest research finding or 'work in progress', a

response to a significant population-related issue in the media, or even simply an 'opinion piece'. We welcome submissions from faculty, students and professionals working in population research. For full details of the submissions procedure and editorial policy, please see [openpop.org](http://openpop.org)

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### Applied Demography Toolbox

Recently a good demography resource has been put together which may be of use to you. It is called the "Applied Demography Toolbox" and is available at <http://www.demog.berkeley.edu/~eddieh/toolbox.html>. The site was built with a specific group and Berkeley University in mind, and has a few goals:

- (1) To be a resource for people who are looking for any applied demography computing tools,
- (2) To help researchers share their wares with no fuss/worry, and
- (3) To help folks who are new to making and describing population estimates and projections get their bearings.

## How to Join BSPS

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

Full Member — £25                      Country (Live outside S. E. train region) and overseas — £20

Retired (from work) — £7.50

Full-time Student — £7.50

Overseas (LEDCs only) — £7.50



## Announcements

# Current Job Openings

### **Lecturer in Demography, University of Southampton**

The Division of Social Statistics and Demography invites applications for a Lectureship from candidates with commitment to excellence in research and teaching.

Applications are welcome from outstanding candidates with experience in any aspect of demography or social statistics. The Division is especially interested in applications from candidates who can contribute to the teaching of advanced demographic methods, particularly the analysis of mortality.

You will be required to contribute to the teaching of both undergraduate and postgraduate students in demography and/or social statistics, to coordinate and develop existing and new teaching modules, to contribute to the supervision of postgraduate students, and to carry our administrative duties within the Division of Social Statistics and Demography and the Academic Unit of Social Sciences. You will also be expected to engage in advanced study or research.

You will have a PhD or equivalent level qualification in demography or statistics or in a relevant subject area and be able to satisfy all the essential criteria detailed in the job description.

The position is tenable from 1 October 2013 or as soon as possible thereafter.

### **Quantitative Education Developer, University of Southampton**

The School of Social Sciences is seeking to recruit a Quantitative Education Developer to work on an exciting research project aiming to enhance the quantitative capabilities of both

students and researchers. This position is part of two ESRC projects aiming to enhance quantitative methods within the Social Sciences. The first project embeds quantitative methods in both Sociology and Criminology modules, designing computer workshops, lecture material and module assessments. The second project develops online workbooks from the embedded material to develop skills of established researchers across the UK and beyond. Deadline is the 20th September.

### **Population and Environment (Assistant or Associate Professor) - Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University**

The Department of Development Sociology in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University is seeking applicants for a 9 month tenure track position focusing on population and environment. Responsibilities: This position has 50% teaching and 50% research responsibilities. Qualified applicants must have a demonstrated record of scholarship that focuses on the interrelationships of population dynamics and the changing bio-physical environment. The appointee will be expected to teach a course on population and environment, and one on GIS and spatial statistics. Other courses might include population dynamics, graduate-level quantitative methods, or/and other specialized courses focusing on spatial population processes. More information on the demographic and environmental research, teaching and outreach interests in the Department of Development Sociology can be found at: <http://devsoc.cals.cornell.edu>. Review of applications will begin on October 1, 2013.



## 5 minutes with...

# Helge Brunborg

*In this issue we have had a brief chat with Helge Brunborg from Statistics Norway. Helge has been heavily involved in the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, using demographic methods in the trials of a number of high profile defendants. He is attending the BSPS conference in Swansea, giving a presentation on his experiences of using demography in the courtroom (11pm Tuesday in the Faraday Lecture Theatre)*

### **Can you introduce yourself and your background in 2-3 sentences?**

I have studied mathematics, economics and demography at the universities of Oslo and Michigan. I have been employed at Statistics Norway since I graduated; only interrupted by two years in Botswana at the Central Statistics Office and the University of Botswana, and to look after my three children when they were small.

### **How did you get involved in the work of the International Criminal Court?**

The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia realised soon after its establishment in 1993 that there was a need for a person with experience in demography



to evaluate and estimate numbers on the demographic consequences of the armed conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, 1991-1995. Norway was approached and I was asked to apply for a temporary position.

### **What is the relationship between your work on the demography of conflict and the work you do at Statistics Norway?**

I have learned a lot about data quality and the use of administrative registers at Statistics Norway, which has benefited my work at ICTY. Otherwise there is no direct connection.

### **What are you currently working on?**

I have been in charge of population projections for Norway for many years. I am now mostly working on immigration and mortality.

*(continued overleaf).*

*5 minutes with...*

## Helge Brunborg

### **What are the main challenges you face when investigating war crimes?**

The main challenge was to obtain good and authenticated data on the victims. It was also a challenge to experience attacks on my credibility and my professionalism in court.

### **Do you feel that demography has a larger part to play when investigating war crimes?**

Yes, demography may have a large part to play when investigating war crimes, depending on the circumstances. Demography may not, however, solve problems like how and why people were killed and by whom.

### **What recommendations would you have to increase the profile of demographers with respect to conflict and violence?**

There has been a rapid increase in demographic research on conflict and violence in recent years. More focused seminars and conferences might help to increase the awareness of the possible contribution of demography to this important area.



### **What has been your most satisfying experience with regard to your work?**

Contributing to the collection, analysis and presentation of evidence against persons accused of war crimes.

### **What would your plan B have been if you hadn't been a Demographer?**

My interest in demography grew gradually through my studies of economics. Otherwise I would probably have become a macro economist.

### **Who is your academic hero? Who inspired you?**

Several great demographers have inspired me, in particular Jan M. Hoem and Ronald D. Lee.

### **Any hobbies or similar outside of working?**

My greatest non-work interests besides my family are music (singing in a choir), cross-country skiing and carpentry.