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UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Society Counts

Newsletter of the Division of Social Statistics & Demography

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The ESRC confirms renewal of funding for CPC for the second phase of research.

Following an independent review of its past achievements completed during the first phase of the centre and the proposed scientific programme of the next phase, the ESRC awarded funding of £5.1 million to support a further five years (2014–2018) of research to complete the second phase. The grant will be split between the Universities of Southampton, St Andrews, Edinburgh, Stirling and Strathclyde. The Centre brings together a highly inter-disciplinary group of academic staff and postdoctoral research fellows from a broad range of disciplines including demography, economics, geography, gerontology, sociology, social policy and social statistics. During the first phase of the Centre, which was established in 2009, its researchers have produced over 300 conference papers, almost 200 journal articles, working papers and book chapters, and contributed to numerous seminars and workshops. The scientific programme for Phase II reflects both continuity and change in the thematic areas of Phase I, building on existing achievements and responding to new challenges. In its second five years of operation, the scientific programme in CPC-II will be organised around the five thematic areas of: Fertility and family change; Increasing longevity and the changing life course; New mobilities and migration; Understanding intergenerational relations and exchange; Integrated demographic estimation and forecasting. CPC-II will continue its activities to sustain and further develop UK research capacity as well as continuing to proactively apply for additional funding to support our international research agenda.

The IUSSP Panel on Family Demography in Developing Countries, in collaboration with the University of Southampton, will be organising three cyberseminars funded by the ESRC in 2014-2015.

The first IUSSP Cyber Seminar, 'Family demography: Advancing knowledge about intergenerational relationships and exchanges in low and middle-income countries' went live on 19th August 2013 at <http://blog.soton.ac.uk/intergen>. During the two-day seminar on the 9th and 10th January 2014 participants will be able to read, watch, post responses and contribute written responses to moderated discussion forums. Keynote video presentations will be pre-recorded for viewing at any time. The seminar is arranged around 3 broad strands:

Strand 1: Concepts and methods: Advancing demographic studies of intergenerational relationships and support.

Strand 2: Family demography: Contributing to understanding intergenerational relationships and support in contemporary low and middle-income countries.

Strand 3: Demographic datasets: Highlighting existing data and on-going studies that can be used to understand intergenerational relationships and support in the global south.

Appointments

Four members of S3RI have been recognised for their achievements in research and teaching by the award of personal chairs. Congratulations to Ann Berrington, Sabu Padmadas, Sujit Sahu and Dave Woods.

Dr Amos Channon has been appointed to the role of Deputy Director for the ESRC DTC. Amos will be chairing the DTC training committee and taking responsibility for the oversight and sourcing of RESM and Advanced Training. Amos has also taken over as the new PhD coordinator.

Professor Nyovani Madise has been appointed to a new government task force. Nyovani has been appointed to The Task Force for Higher Education, created by the Departments for International Development (DFID) and Business, Innovation, and Skills (BIS), for a year in order to assess current and projected global trends around supply and demand for higher education and skills in low income and fragile countries.

Professor Jane Falkingham, Director of CPC, has been elected Vice-President of the British Society of Population Studies (BSPS), and is expected to hold the post for 2 years. She succeeds Professor Tony Champion.

We would like to wish a warm welcome to new PhD students who have joined the Division: Elsie Akwara, Saffron Brunskill, Karen Caruana, Sean Hladkyj, Ewa Kabzinska, Vasiliki Koutra, Alison Simmance and Nele van der Wielen.

We would also like to welcome a number of new members of staff. Welcome to Professor Marie-Louise Newell who has joined the department (joint appointment with the Faculty of Medicine) and Dr Agnese Vitali from Bocconi University, Italy. Dr David Clifford has joined the Division as a new Lecturer. He was formerly a PhD student in the Division before working as a Research Fellow with TSRC and has also been awarded an ESRC Future Leaders Fellowship. Welcome to Dr Gabriela Mejia-Pailles who has joined the Department as a Research Fellow working within the Living Arrangements strand of CPC. Welcome also to Dr Peter Tammes who joined as a Research Fellow in February.

Over the past several decades, childbearing within cohabitation has risen sharply throughout most of Europe, Australia, and the U.S. Yet little is known about whether the pattern or underlying reasons for this increase are similar across contexts. To better understand this phenomenon, the Nonmarital Childbearing Network studies the diffusion of nonmarital childbearing from a number of analytic levels and methodological perspectives. We focus on the following countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The research is primarily funded through Dr Brienna Perelli-Harris's European Research Council Starting Grant, with supplemental funding from the Norwegian Research Council, Erasmus University, Australian Research Council, and the ESRC-funded Centre for Population Change.

This project aims to study the diffusion of childbearing within cohabitation using a number of analytic levels and methodological perspectives. The following questions are being explored:

1) Trends: How does fertility differ by union status, and how do these differences change over time? Are there differences by parity, age pattern, or timing? How does the decline in marital fertility contribute to the increase in share of nonmarital births?

2) Explanations: What are the underlying reasons for increasing childbearing within cohabitation? What has produced variation across countries? How do policies impact and/or respond to childbearing within cohabitation? How do societal-level perceptions of cohabitation, marriage, and childbearing differ across countries?

3) Lifecourse trajectories: How do the lifecourse trajectories for women who bear children differ by union status? Are women who give birth within cohabitation more likely to experience changes in family structure? Is childbearing within cohabitation associated with future negative social, emotional, or economic outcomes?

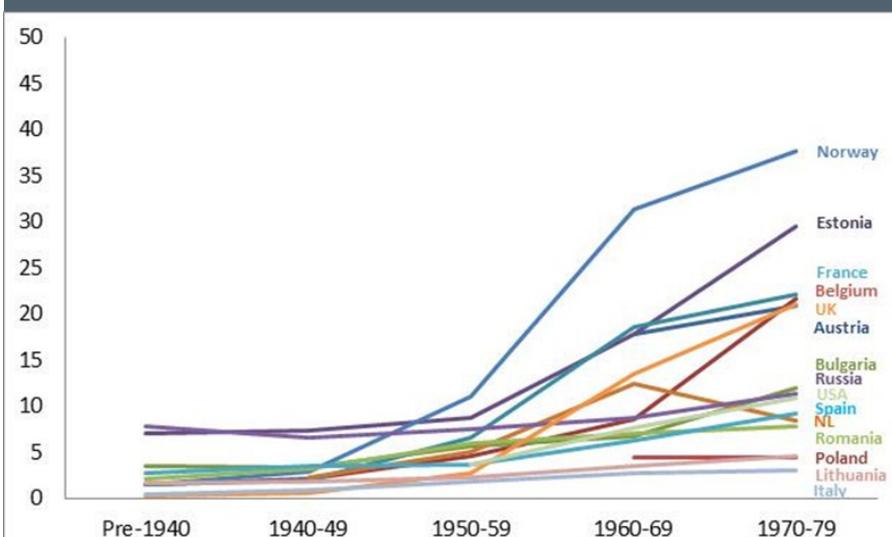
To answer these questions, an innovative mixed-methods strategy is used that 1) analyses a unique database of harmonized reproductive and union histories, 2) conducts qualitative research into the role of policies and general perspectives on nonmarital childbearing, and 3) examines the Generations and Gender Surveys in comparative perspective. Ultimately, the project aims to develop a new theoretical framework for understanding the diffusion of family change. This research will provide insights into whether lifecourse trajectories are diverging, potentially exacerbating social inequality.

Although we aim to analyse general trends across countries, we are aware that the development of the trends is country-specific. For example, we explore the social policies that could impact or be impacted by childbearing within cohabitation, such as the legalization of cohabitation, parental rights, tax transfers, and single-mother benefits. Ultimately, the project aims to develop a new theoretical framework for understanding family change. Taken as a whole, we anticipate that the study will provide evidence of multiple pathways to family change, but that in general, nonmarital childbearing will be indicative of a divergence in family formation strategies between higher and lesser educated sections of the population.

For more about this project, please visit: www.nonmarital.org.

Diffusion over time

Figure 1: Proportion of women with a first birth in cohabitation by birth cohort



Source: Perelli-Harris, B., M. Kreyenfeld, K. Kubish (2010) *Harmonized histories: manual for the preparation of comparative fertility and union histories*, Rostock, MPIDR Working Paper WP-2010-011.

Meet a PGR student

Federico de Luca

Federico joined the European PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies in 2010, giving him access to a network of some of the most prestigious European universities. The programme also gave him the opportunity to visit some wonderful cities across Europe, particularly through the Exchange programme which allowed him to spend some of his PhD at the Universitat de Barcelona as well as through the Annual Seminars which have been hosted in a variety of locations across Europe.



Federico de Luca

"Joining the European PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistics Studies was the big turning point for my PhD."

Federico's PhD thesis examines healthcare workers' knowledge about Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). The contacts made during his time in Barcelona were later crucial for the completion of his PhD; he was able to liaise with professionals from the Col·legi Oficial de Metges (the Official College of Physicians) and the possibility to collaborate with the Col·legi was invaluable in allowing Federico to implement part of his PhD in Spain. The high quality of his work was acknowledged earlier this year when he was named by the Association of British Turkish Academics (ABTA) as a winner of the 2013 Doctoral Researcher Awards after presenting his research with the three other nominees.

Federico is also a representative of the students of the European PhD, an experience which has made him understand more clearly all the dynamics involved in this wonderful programme and through which he has improved the student experience throughout all the years of membership in the programme.



Federico de Luca receiving his prize as the winner of the Management and Social Sciences category of the 2013 Doctoral Researcher Awards.

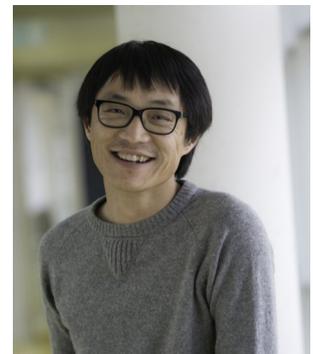
Meet a member of staff

Li-Chun Zhang

Professor Zhang joined the Division of Social Statistics & Demography at UoS in 2012. Li-Chun obtained his Dr. Scient. in Statistics from University of Tromsø in 1996 and has worked in a variety of areas in Official Statistics, having worked at Statistics Norway (SSB) since 1997. His research interests include survey sampling and estimation, sample coordination, treatment of non-sampling errors, small area estimation, price index, editing and imputation, statistical uses of administrative data and data integration.

Li-Chun is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and has collaborated with many colleagues from around Europe through the EU framework projects EURAREA, DACEIS, RISQ and BLUE-ETS, the ESSnet projects SAE and Data Integration. He contributed to the draft of the Strategic Vision of CES-UNECE and the initial development of the Generic Statistical Information Model.

Combining his positions at UoS and SSB, Li-Chun pursues the two overriding R&D tasks in Official Statistics: industrialisation of statistical production, and development statistical theory for integration of data from multiple sources. The latter in particular provides interesting opportunities for statisticians working in academia, as administrative data has received much attention in the past decades. Most of the practical uses of such data at the moment, however, lack assessment of the associated statistical uncertainty in terms of bias, variance, *etc.* There are many new challenges here beyond the traditional topics of survey sampling, due to the different nature of the errors involved. Moreover, the scope and accuracy of data integration may be extended through powerful techniques for record linkage, data fusion and micro integration, as well as novel methods for estimation and analysis. For example, a key issue of the Beyond 2011 programme at ONS is to investigate whether alternative population size estimates utilizing administrative data may be used to replace the traditional census. The recently awarded Administrative Data Research Centre for England at UoS (together with other institutes) provides an excellent setting forward.



Professor Li-Chun Zhang

Professor Zhang has been with the Division of Social Statistics and Demography since last year.

The European PhD in Socioeconomic and Statistical Studies 5

The Division of Social Statistics and Demography is a participant in the European PhD in Socioeconomic and Statistical Studies.

The European PhD is an international, interdisciplinary graduate programme targeted at those who have achieved above average results in a completed qualification in the field of Social Science or Economics. The programme was started in 2001 and offers students the opportunity to conduct their studies at different university sites. Eight partner universities cooperate in the scheme: the University of Southampton; L'Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium; Tampereen yliopisto (University of Tampere), Finland; Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille, France; Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany; Università degli Studi di Roma, 'La Sapienza', Italy and Universitat de Barcelona, Spain.

The objective of the European PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies is the scientific training of scholars who intend to dedicate themselves to academic careers or to serve as experts in national or international organisations where they are called to analyse and cope with social issues in an encompassing perspective. The opportunity for students to perform their studies at different university sites and of familiarising themselves with traditions, cultural activity and socio-political factors characterising different parts of Europe is assumed to represent a positive challenge for personal development and, indirectly, for the improvement of international relations.



Annual Seminar of the European PhD in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies, Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest.

Frederike Esche, a student on the European PhD programme, describes her experience at the University of Southampton during her semester abroad.



Frederike Esche, from Humboldt University, Berlin

"My semester at the University of Southampton was an amazing experience".

"In October 2010 I started with my PhD in Social Sciences at Humboldt University, Berlin. As part of the European PhD programme in Socio-Economic and Statistical Studies (SESS.EuroPhD) I spent my semester abroad at the University of Southampton, which has been an amazing experience due to both academic as well as personal reasons. Since I am doing a comparative analysis between Germany and Great Britain in my PhD, it was very important for me not only to study about the British culture and life in theory, but also to experience British life for myself. Besides that my PhD project profited substantially from the great supervision provided by having a different lecturer and researcher from the department of Social Sciences. Discussing my PhD project with social scientists, demographers and statisticians helped me very much to further elaborate my project especially with regard to the cross-national comparison. In addition to the academic benefits I met lots of new people and made new friends from all over the world. The atmosphere among the PhD students in Southampton was just great. Sharing the office with PhD students from different disciplines showed me again that we are all struggling with the same problems no matter in which discipline and in which country we are doing our PhD".

PopFest2013 – 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. Professor Martin’s 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 extend our thanks to Professor Jane Falkingham and Dr 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



Delegates participating in PopFest 2013 held at the University of Southampton.

59th World Statistics Congress (WSC)

Every two years, the International Statistical Institute (ISI) organises the World Statistics Congress where experts, researchers and practitioners come together to discuss a wide range of topics in Statistics. This year, the congress took place from 25th - 30th August in Hong Kong with over 2,500 participants and more than 300 scientific sessions. Current staff and PhD students from the Division had the opportunity to meet again with former colleagues now working in different areas all around the world.

Members of the Division of Social Statistics and Demography presented their research in several areas: Professor Danny Pfeffermann showed recent work on model fitting under non-ignorable sampling and nonresponse; Dr Yves Berger and Omar de la Riva Torres focused on estimation of confidence intervals/regions using empirical-likelihood; Professor Peter Smith and Professor Li-Chun Zhang presented work on population estimates, the former under a Bayesian approach and the latter using Pseudo Conditional Independence; Dr Nikos Tzavidis showed results of his work on robust Small Area Estimation for discrete outcomes and Professor Sujit Sahu discussed spatial and spatio-temporal models for environmental epidemiology. In the area of Official Statistics, Professor Zhang presented some proposals in the context of Data Fusion and Dr James Brown commented on the lessons learnt from the coverage assessment of UK 2011 population census.

A former UoS PhD student Dr Emilio Lopez Escobar received the Cochran-Hansen Prize awarded by the International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) for research related to his PhD thesis. Emilio worked on variance estimation under complex sampling designs, under the supervision of Dr Berger.

First Asian Satellite Meeting on SAE

Before and after the WSC, several more specific meetings were organized with sponsorship of ISI. Several members of the division attended the First Asian ISI Satellite Meeting on Small Area Estimation, which took place in Bangkok, Thailand from 1st -4th September 2013.



Members of the Division of Social Statistics and Demography at the World Statistics Congress, held in Hong Kong.

Future Dates for the Diary

12th-15th November 2013	Quetelet Seminar 2013, "Demography Revisited: The past 50 years, the coming 50 years", Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium.	Call for papers now closed.
27th November 2013	ESRC DTC First Year Student Conference, Nottingham, UK.	Registration open soon.
2nd-4th December 2013	Conference of European Statisticians, "The Way Forward in Poverty Measurement", Geneva, Switzerland.	Deadline for submissions now closed.
30th-31st December 2013	International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Paris, France.	Deadline for submissions now closed.
9th-10th January 2014	IUSSP Scientific Panel on Family Demography in Developing Countries International 1st Cyberseminar "Family demography: Advancing knowledge about intergenerational relationships and exchanges in low and middle-income countries".	Deadline for submissions now closed.
22nd-25th January 2014	Eighth Annual Research Conference on Population, Reproductive Health and Economic Development, Nairobi, Kenya.	Call for papers now closed.
28th April-1st May 2014	Research Students Conference (RSC) in Statistics, Probability and Applied Social Statistics, University of Nottingham, UK.	Details to follow.
1st-3rd May 2014	Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.	Deadline for submissions now closed.
25th-28th June 2014	European Population Conference (EPC), Budapest, Hungary.	Deadline for submissions 15th November 2013.
13th-19th July 2014	XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology "Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology", Yokohama, Japan.	Deadline for submissions now closed.
8th-10th September 2014	British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Annual Conference, University of Winchester, UK.	Submission deadline January 2014.

Integrated Modelling of European Migration (IMEM) Project

In the context of inconsistent, inadequate and missing data, the IMEM project brought together academics and researchers with expertise in migration and statistical modelling (James Raymer, Jon Forster, Peter Smith, Jakub Bijak, Arek Wiśniowski and Guy Abel, Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute and the ESRC Centre for Population Change), expert knowledge (Nico Keilman and Solveig Christiansen, University of Oslo), and data on migration (Rob van der Erf and Jeannette Schoorl, Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute).

This multidisciplinary project, funded by New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE Migration), developed a Bayesian statistical model for migration count data which allows for flows to be measured to different accuracies, and is able to incorporate auxiliary information on the associations between origins and destinations of migration (e.g., language, borders and distance) to estimate missing flows. The modelling framework accommodates various complexities in the reported international migration data and provides realistic measures of uncertainty for the estimates. This involves the reconciliation of the official and publicly available migration flow data that are reported to Eurostat, based on various definitions used by countries to measure international migration, and the use of multiple sources of data on particular flows, including qualitative and subjective judgements of experts on migration data collection.

The advantages in having a consistent and reliable set of migration flows are numerous:

- Estimates of migration flows are needed so that governments have the means to improve their planning policies directed at supplying particular social services or at influencing levels of migration. This is important because migration is currently (and increasingly) the major factor contributing to population change.
- Our understanding of how or why populations change requires reliable information about migrants. Without this, the ability to predict, control or understand that change is limited.
- Countries will soon be required to provide harmonised migration flow statistics to Eurostat as part of a new regulation passed by the European Parliament. Recognising the many obstacles with existing data, Article 9 of the Regulation states that 'As part of the statistics process, scientifically based and well documented statistical estimation methods may be used.' The framework established by the project helps countries achieve this aim and provides measures of accuracy required for understanding the estimated parameters and flows.



Members of the Integrated Modelling of European Migration Project at an IMEM Team Meeting in Asker, Norway in February, 2012.



The project started in November 2009 and finished in April 2012. The methods developed are described in papers to appear in the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and the *Journal of Official Statistics*. An interactive database containing estimate flows between 31 countries in Europe, disaggregated by age and sex for 2002 to 2008, as well as further details on the project are available at <http://www.imem.cpc.ac.uk/>.

Centre for Population Change

Extending our outlook – the Centre for Population Change and European research



While CPC research remains grounded in exploring population change in the UK, it is essential to our understanding that we situate this work in the European/worldwide context. For example, CPC research has considered fertility trends using France's Family History Survey and Census alongside UK data. We have also carried out research on the Netherlands in a project using the Dutch immigrant register to consider whether unemployment causes return migration. Our researchers are also exploring international labour mobility through A8 migrants' patterns of recruitment, employment and household formation and a project investigating projected pension outcomes of EU migrants to the UK has used Eurostat and OECD data. We have developed a Bayesian model to estimate migration flows between countries in Europe and a research project on fertility intentions is examining trends in fertility behaviour across Europe. Furthermore, with our success in securing a further five years funding we plan to develop and extend our comparative work.

CPC is very proud to have been a founding member of Population Europe: the European Population Partnership of leading demographic institutes and universities in Europe, designed to establish a platform to share information and best practice. CPC's Director, Professor Jane Falkingham is Chair of the European Population Information Center (EPIC) and a member of Population Europe's Governing Board. Excitingly, CPC has recently won funding from the ESRC to extend a Population Europe interactive exhibition project, 'How to make it to 100 – and enjoy it!' which will be touring Europe from late 2013 onwards. Adapting it for a UK audience, CPC will be taking the exhibition to key locations in the British Isles in late 2014, hoping to bring key demographic questions for both the UK and Europe to a wider audience.

Further information on these projects and other CPC activities can be found by visiting www.cpc.ac.uk.

ESRC National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM)

NCRM sponsors the Qualitative Expertise at Southampton (QUEST) seminar discussions series.

The seminar series brings together expert practitioners of qualitative methods based within and outside of the University of Southampton, to discuss and explore methodological approaches. QUEST promotes the development, application and teaching of qualitative methods. The seminars will be led by two speakers presenting and discussing the different or variant ways in which they use a methodological approach, and its affordances, advantages and disadvantages. The presentations will be recorded and posted up on the QUEST website www.quest.soton.ac.uk/training/. Experienced and new researchers from within and outside of the University are welcome. The seminars start with lunch and attendance is free. If you would like to attend, please book your free ticket in <http://ncrm.eventbrite.co.uk/>.

The seminar series consist of the following events:

Participatory Research Methods

9 October 2013, 1.00-3.00 pm; Building 58/1023 (Murray Building), Lecture Room G, University of Southampton. Speakers: Melanie Nind (University of Southampton) and Alison Clark (The Open University).

Ethnography

11 December 2013, 1.00-3.00 pm; Building 58/1023 (Murray Building), Lecture Room G, University of Southampton. Speakers: Catherine Pope (Professor of Medical Sociology, Southampton) and Bella Dicks (Reader in Sociology, Cardiff).

Psycho-Social Approaches to Research

22 January 2014, 1.00-3.00 pm; Room 44 Building 44/1057 (Shackleton Building), Lecture Theatre B, University of Southampton. Speakers: Gillian Ruch (University of Southampton) and Andrew Cooper (Tavistock Institute).





A collaborative blog on global population issues

Openpop.org is a new international collaborative blog aiming to link population researchers with policy makers, industry, the media, the general public - and each other.

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 a 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 findings 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.

If you are interested in posting a contribution, please send it to openpop.blog@gmail.com, together with a short bio. All contributions that are submitted will be acknowledged by the Editorial Team and published as soon as possible. If you are interested in contributing regularly, please fill the "Prospective Writers" contact form at the top-right corner of the website. For all other enquiries, please e-mail us at pop.blog@openpop.org.

This initiative is funded by the Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF).

ESRC Internship applications for 2013/2014 are now open

Those looking to undertake an internship award during 2014 need to complete and submit an application form by 18th October 2013. The ESRC internship has a range of benefits for PhD students. Sarah Lubman, who has recently returned to her PhD in Social Statistics and Demography after completing a six month ESRC internship with the Home Office Migration and Border Analysis Unit (MBA), describes her experience:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed this internship which has been challenging but very rewarding and allowed me to experience being a researcher outside of academia. I would really encourage others to apply for one of the newly advertised positions, particularly the MBA project on census data which is a continuation the work I was involved in".

The project involved working with colleagues across Home Office and the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to produce two joint publications on migration using data from the 2011 Census of England and Wales. With her time split between Home Office and ONS, she was able to gain the invaluable experience of working across two government departments. During this project she contributed to two publications:

1. Detailed country of birth and nationality analysis from the 2011 Census of England and Wales.
2. Economic and social characteristics of the resident population of England and Wales by nationality and country of birth in 2011.

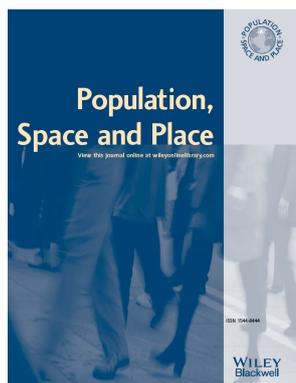
The first compared two key measures of the migrant population, 'passports held' and 'country of birth' looking at differences by age and sex, as well as analysis of data on year of arrival. The second publication analysed the characteristics of foreign passport-holders and those born abroad; including data on economic activity, occupation and industry, qualifications, English language proficiency, housing tenure and health. Her role also involved contributing to submissions which briefed Ministers on regular census releases throughout the internship.

Following the internship, she presented the findings from the two publications, on behalf of the MBA, at the Migration Statistics User Forum on 17th September. She has also been asked to continue doing a few days of work in the same role on a consultancy basis.

For more details regarding the internship opportunities available please visit: <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/funding-opportunities/internship-opportunities.aspx>.



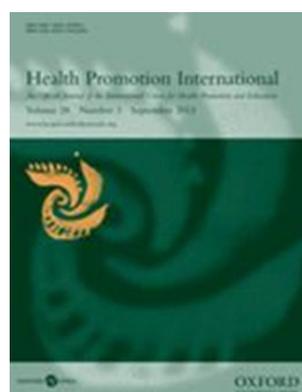
Sarah Lubman, PhD student at UoS



Location, location? A critical examination of patterns and determinants of internal mobility among post-accession Polish migrants in the UK

P. Trevena, D. McGhee and S. Heath

This analysis of internal mobility based on a large-scale qualitative study carried out on post-accession Polish migrants in the UK, looks at the reasons behind their initial choice of location in the destination country and the propensity for subsequent internal mobility after their arrival. Findings indicate that migrants who arrive through recruitment agencies and without children are the most internally mobile. Those arriving through personal networks and with children are the least likely to relocate after arriving in the UK. Having families is associated with a higher willingness to make urban to rural moves and vice versa. Notably, the internal migration of some (childless) study participants was sometimes interspersed with short-term return migration.



A health promotion logic model to review progress in HIV prevention in China

D. Nutbeam, S. S. Padmadas, O. Maslovskaya and Z. Wu

This paper proposes a logic model for HIV/AIDS prevention and control which provides a structure for describing planned actions and predicted impacts/outcomes from comprehensive HIV prevention interventions. The model compared actions taken over these two distinct periods, before and after 2003 when China commenced its 'official' response to the HIV epidemic, and highlights the importance of political leadership in distinguishing between the two phases, and the continuing importance of systematic and broadly based public education. It concludes that the logic model can be used both for planning and applying retrospectively to assess successes and failures in national and local responses to HIV in complex social settings.

doi:10.1093/heapro/dat037.



New important developments in small area estimation

D. Pfefferman

This paper reviews some of the new important developments in small area estimation methods. Rao (2003) covered all the main developments in this topic until that time. A few review papers have been written after 2003, but they are limited in scope. Hence, the review focuses on new developments in the last 7–8 years, with some mention of the older developments to keep the review self-contained. The review covers both design-based and model-dependent methods, with the latter methods further classified into frequentist and Bayesian methods, explaining the new problems investigated and describing the proposed solutions, but without dwelling on theoretical details, which can be found in original articles.

doi:10.1214/12-STS395.



Austerity policing: is visibility more important than numbers in determining public confidence in the police?

O. Maslovskaya, J. Brown, P. W. F. Smith and S. S. Padmadas

This paper examines the evolution of HIV awareness among women in China between 1997 and 2005 using a regression decomposition analysis technique to disentangle the two main components driving a change in HIV awareness. Results show that HIV awareness has increased over time in China due mainly in the change in the environment such as in political commitment, interventions and campaigns rather than change in population structure, with lower awareness groups catching up with higher awareness groups. Main factors associated with HIV awareness in 2005 were education, ethnicity and media exposure.

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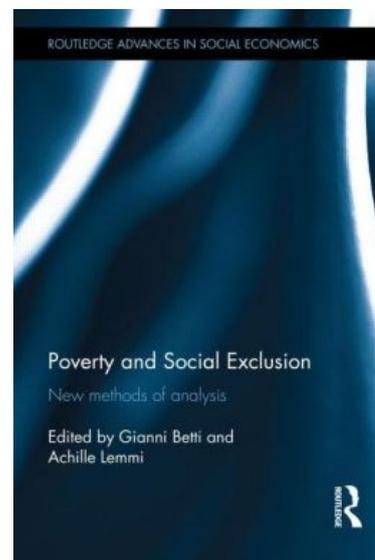
Outlier Robust Semi-Parametric Small Area Methods for Poverty Estimation

Nikos Tzavidis, Stefano Marchetti and Steve Donbavand

In the first attempt to compile recent research on local estimates of multidimensional deprivation, *Poverty and Social Exclusion: New Methods of Analysis* examines traditional and multidimensional methodologies for estimating poverty at the local level.

The first step in designing effective poverty relief programmes is to establish a clear picture of the current state of deprivation within a country. As poverty can be highly localised, it is important that such estimates are made at a fine geographic level. However, when survey data is disaggregated to this extent the sample sizes typically become very small leading to unstable estimates of poverty levels within small areas. The most popular way to tackle this problem is to use parametric model-based approaches such as the method proposed by Elders, Lanjouw and Lanjouw (2003) and advocated by The World Bank.

Unfortunately, such parametric methods make certain assumptions about the distribution of the key welfare variable (income, for example) which may not always be true. Tzavidis, Marchetti and Donbavand compare The World Bank approach to a semi-parametric M-quantile method developed by Chambers and Tzavidis (2006) across a variety of simulated populations and through a case study of poverty levels in the provinces of Tuscany. They demonstrate that the M-quantile method provides a plausible (and indeed, preferable) alternative to the parametric World Bank approach without relying on assumptions which are typically unsubstantiated.



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