

Parallel Paper Streams: Abstracts (alphabetical by surname of first author)

Joan Abbas

Contemporary 'in-work provision' in Europe: What's the big idea? [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Once associated only with liberal welfare states, fiscal and social policies for households engaged in paid work, including tax credits, reductions in social security payments and cash benefits, are now widespread across European countries (Kenworthy, 2015). Similarly, reforms to social assistance and unemployment benefits in some countries permit some paid work alongside receipt of benefit (e.g. work allowances). Although these measures vary along numerous lines (e.g. type, levels, eligibility requirements), some researchers and organisations, including the OECD, group them using labels such as 'in-work benefits,' 'employment conditional earning subsidies' and/or 'make work pay' policies (Bennett and Millar, 2005). Within this literature, efforts to develop inclusion/exclusion criteria and typologies of policies are theoretically and empirically limited. The claim that trends may be indicative of convergent policy reform across multiple contexts is also undertheorized and untested.

Given these issues, the broader and more neutral label, in-work provision, is employed in this paper, which aims to better understand the form, purpose and drivers of these policy reforms, focusing on the relationship between individual measures and broader policy paradigms (Hall, 1993; Daigneault, 2013). Put simply, I ask, is in-work provision typical of 'neoliberal' or 'social investment' policy paradigms. And is this the case for reforms in different countries? First, I present a framework for cross-national analysis of the institutional and ideational dimensions of in-work provision. I then discuss the applicability and subsequent development of this framework following data collection on national in-work provision in European Union Member States from 2015 onwards for my PhD research. Sources include a survey of country-level policy experts, policy documents, EUROMOD country reports, MISSOC and OECD data.

Nenadi Adamu

Youth transitions: Negotiating pathways into alternative employment [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Young people continue to face challenges in their transitions from youth to adulthood and these transitions are also no longer linear but are influenced by numerous external factors and the interaction of these factors often depend on individual circumstances, environment as well as personal experiences (McDonald et. al., 2011; Edwards and Weller, 2013). Significant changes within the context of welfare, education, work and independent living has led to a number of interventions and policies by various governments over the years. These policies and changes remain an area of interest in youth research, and the debate continues, on the role of structure versus individual agency in young people's transitions (Arnett, 2007; Furlong, 2009).

Youth unemployment rates remain significantly high and the routes into employment for young people are changing with many still not in education, education or training (Powell, 2018). Although due to recent changes in education policy there are a higher number of young people who remain in full time education for longer, often progressing into tertiary education while combining study with part time employment, there is a growing awareness of the emergence of new models of transitions (Woodman and Bennett, 2015). This paper explores recent and on-going significant social policy

changes that have continued to impact the trajectories of young people, leading to alternative options of employment. It argues that there are even more serious consequences for young people with limited circumstances.

Erlangga Agustino Landiyanto

Comparison of Child Poverty Measures in Indonesia [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

This research compares the child poverty measures to indicate the extent and nature of child poverty and to identify the best measure for Indonesian context.

The research strategy focuses on empirical comparison child poverty measures using Indonesian family life survey (IFLS) data. The observed child poverty measures are monetary, absolute deprivation and relative deprivation. The absolute deprivation is using human rights-based approach to determine domain and indicators. Relative deprivation measure identified the preliminary list of items based on domains and indicators from previous studies in Indonesia and then select reliable, valid and additive items for the analysis. The accuracy of those measures was investigated using latent class analysis to estimates sensitivity and specificity and carries out receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis.

This research found that there the proportion of poor children according to relative deprivation are higher comparing to according to monetary and absolute deprivation measures. This research noticed some disparities among subgroups. This research also discovered small overlaps among those three child poverty measures, especially between absolute deprivation and monetary measures.

The diagnostic test results are contested. The monetary measure is least accurate compared to absolute and relative deprivation. Although relative deprivation has highest level sensitivity and negative predicted values, absolute deprivation has high-level sensitivity, specificity and predicted values in general. Therefore, absolute deprivation would be considered to provide more accurate estimates because it has the balance of higher level sensitivity, specificity, and predicted values.

Anya Ahmed, Michaela Rogers, Mark Wilding, Iolo Madoc-Jones, Katy Jones, Andrea Gibbons

Structural challenges to implementing the prevention agenda [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Devolution in 1998-9 presented an opportunity for Welsh Government to introduce constitutional changes to housing and homelessness policy. From 2009 onwards, the Welsh Government comprehensively reviewed its approach to homelessness and subsequently 'The Housing (Wales) Act' 2014 placed a new duty on local authorities to take 'reasonable steps' to prevent or relieve homelessness for all eligible households. However, the ability of devolved governments in small countries to implement policy change is limited and there are significant structural challenges to the implementation of the Act. Just as the causes of homelessness are partly attributed to structural problems (shortage of accommodation; unemployment; poverty) the solutions to homelessness are also structural and therefore outside of the remit of the Act. The fundamental causes of homelessness are not addressed by the Act, and ultimately the Act is limited to managing need and demand. The introduction of Universal Credit, and Welfare Reform more generally runs counter to the person-centred ethos of the Act and Welfare Reform has had a disproportionate effect in several

areas of Wales as a result of industrial decline over time. The reduction in the level of benefit payments and restricting payments to those under 35 years of age compromises people's ability to pay for private rented accommodation and also acts as a deterrent to private landlords letting properties to people in receipt of benefits. A shortage of accommodation – particularly for single occupancy - across the social and private rented sector compromises local authorities' ability to prevent and relieve homelessness. This paper considers the impact of wider structural challenges to the successful implementation of the Act and the implications for the Homelessness Reduction Act in England

Tracey Allen

Schools in difficulty: Traversing a landscape of policy autonomy and everyday risk [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

This paper explores notions of school policy that encourage an autonomous school system in terms of school level leadership of improvement. National policy currently centres a networked approach of school-to-school support, particularly through the vehicle of clusters of schools led by a single excellent school.

Exploring two recent localised efforts to harness school-to-school support, this paper critically explores both the risks and benefits of this policy notion. Central to this is an exploration of wholly benevolent and unproblematic policy statements as well as real world experiences of schools involved in school-to-school support arrangements.

This paper explores key requisites including issues of capacity at individual, organisational and system level. Affordances such as identifying and securing appropriate partners and resource in a de-centralised and autonomous landscape are also explored. Within the unregulated autonomous landscape resources, partnerships and capacity are not constants and the continuum ranges from high capacity plus stability to the very outer reaches of vulnerability and fragility.

The context of school-to-school support is examined with reference to histories, perceptions and experiences of actors involved in school-to-school collaboration and networking. The issue of resilience is also raised, with some exploration of impacts on schools and their leaders when they reach out over time. The real-world experience of isolated and demoralised schools in difficulty is also touched upon and questions posed concerning the resilience and capacity of these schools to avoid marginalisation and isolation in an autonomous system.

In summary, the policy direction of an autonomous system is explored in relation to key policy statements and coherence of policy initiatives, interventions and impacts in practice.

Ahmed Aref, Gilla Camden

Re-examining Welfare Regime in the Context of Contemporary Challenges: Evidence from GCC Policies' Shifts [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

The welfare state is a concept of government in which the state plays a key role in the protection and promotion of the social and economic well-being of its citizens. The six states of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC); Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates, are well known for their welfare systems due to the high production of gas and oil. For example,

Saudi Arabia alone holds around 16 percent of global oil reserves and Qatar ranked number one on the list of the top 10 richest nations because of its high GDP per capita of USD 127,523. For decades, this surplus was accompanied by generous economic and social welfare policies, including social protection policies, housing benefits, high per capita and free-taxation systems, what makes the GCC a destination for skilled labour as temporary migrants to accumulate wealth. However, nowadays the GCC is facing major structural challenges, that could be grouped into I. economic challenges in terms of volatility in world energy market, especially falling oil price, II. security and political challenges after the GCC blockade crisis starting from June 5th, 2017, III. demographic challenge in terms of imbalance between nationals and expats, which is not new, however it is recently addressed on the agenda of policy makers.

These fundamental and contemporary challenges, especially the economic, security and political ones led to major revisions at policymaking levels and structural policy shifts which put the welfare concept under critical examination in the GCC. This paper provides situation analysis to the mentioned challenges and assesses its impact on social policy levels. Using systematic literature review methodology, this paper will map and assess the current changes in social welfare policies in a context of changing priorities of national expenditure.

Gerardo Arriaga

Control and Agency in Neoliberal Times: The Case of the Conditional Cash Transfer Program "Prospera" [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

The first of its kind conditional cash transfer program (CCT) now called "Prospera" initiated 21 years ago, in rural areas of Mexico with a population of only 300,000 families. It is now the biggest (around £1.79 million for 2018) and largest (benefiting 6.1 million families) social program in that country (SEDESOL, 2018). It is praised as the most successful antipoverty strategy (Levy, 2014) and a global example of a social intervention (WB, 2014; IADB, 2016). Since then, however, poverty has remained stagnant (CONEVAL, 2018), with a total of 53.4 million people living in poverty. In the light of growing inequalities in the region and worldwide, what can we learn from the experiences and voices of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the oldest CCT program in the world? How can we conceptualize the disparities produced between urban and rural areas through the lenses of social policy? What is the impact of social control on the agency of people in poverty?

Largely building on a neoliberal rationale, for the main anti-poverty strategy in Mexico there is a path out of poverty which rests on people's capacity to increase their income on the labour market. This in turn depends on people's human capital achieved particularly during their schooling age. The goal of "Prospera" is to facilitate the former by focusing on the latter. To put it in words of the founding father of the program "Prospera", the program can "ensure that poor workers do not enter the labour market at a disadvantage vis-à-vis other workers" (Levy, 2008: 6).

The argument of this paper is that while that discourse might aim to empower and encourage people's ownership of their own lives, the internalization of self-reliance by beneficiaries of the program praised as key to fight poverty might in fact be increasing inequalities between urban and rural areas. Thus, the focus of this paper is the relation between the agency of people in poverty and the control exerted from the Mexican government. It builds on people's experiences of urban and

rural poverty with an emphasis on the voices of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of “Prospera”. Thus, illuminating the hidden injuries of conditionalities on people’s flourishing potential.

Nazli Avsaroglu

Cash-for-care scheme targeting children with disabilities in Turkey: Parent/caregiver perspectives [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Cash-for-care scheme targeting mainly families with at least one disabled member has become the central policy response to the care needs of persons with disabilities in Turkey’s welfare regime. This paper explores how beneficiaries perceive this program by focusing specifically on caregivers of children with disabilities. In-depth semi-structured interviews were conducted with four primary caregivers who have been receiving cash for care at the time of the research and four primary caregivers who lost their benefit in Istanbul’s both Atasehir and Sultangazi districts between February and May 2016. The research reveals that although cash-for-care scheme has been widely welcomed by the informal caregivers, it has been perceived by the caregivers as a way of symbolic financial aid instead of a wage in exchange for their informal care work. In addition, cash-for-care beneficiaries that were included in this study perceive this scheme primarily as a financial support for poverty alleviation rather than a cash benefit in order to meet the special needs of their children with disabilities. While the introduction of targeted cash for care allowance has signified an extension of state responsibility in social care, this thesis concludes that the program functions not as a care support scheme but as a social assistance scheme for the very poor.

Ciprian Badescu

The non-canonical “welfare worlds”: the case of Central and Eastern Europe [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

The path-breaking work of Gosta Esping-Andersen (1990) has dominated comparative social policy for the last 25 years (see Barrientos and Powell, 2015). He classified 18 nations into ‘three worlds’ of social democratic, conservative and liberal regimes. However, his typology was based on 1980 data, and he neglected many nations, including Central and Eastern European countries (CEECs). Therefore, it has little to say about the momentous changes in CEE nations in the last 25 years.

This study seeks to identify and critically evaluate the welfare regimes from the Central and Eastern Europe, in general, by systematically reviewing the selected literature. Three possible representative cases of welfare-types were identified: (a) hybrid; (b) CEE as a distinct ‘world’ and (c) ‘others’. The modal conclusion is that the CEE „worlds” do not fit into any of Esping-Andersen’s type. The selected literature tends to arrive at ‘real types’ or representative cases instead of ‘ideal types’.

The research on welfare realities in the CEE is still in its infancy as it is not fully settled in terms of arriving at a CEE welfare model. Esping-Andersen’s dimensions need further adaptations in order to cope with welfare realities in the CEE as the selected studies exhibit a variety of “conceptual lenses” (Ebbinghaus, 2012: 2). A change of strategy and concepts is needed in order to deal with rather non-canonical welfare “worlds” in the CEE. A question still remains: Is importing the Western ‘typology business’ an option to CEE ‘worlds’?

Nick Bailey

The divisions within 'Generation Rent': poverty and the re-growth of private renting in the UK [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Over the last two decades, private renting has undergone a major revival in the UK, more than doubling its share within the housing system. Young adults increasingly remain in the sector into their 30s, giving rise to the term 'Generation Rent'. Using data from the UK's Family Resources Survey, this article shows how young people's reliance on the sector varies by income, and by poverty status in particular. In 2016/17, 43 per cent of adults under 40 in low income poverty lived in private renting, compared with just 28 per cent of non-poor. For those in poverty, this is double the proportion of 20 years earlier, and more than owner occupation and social renting combined. The tenure is also home to a growing proportion of poor children. One in three children in poverty (36 per cent) lives in private renting, three times the level of 20 years ago. For adults and children, rates are even higher in London and the South. This dramatic shift in the housing circumstances of those in poverty has a number of implications for housing and social policy which have not yet been sufficiently recognised.

Laura Bainbridge

Transferring 24/7 Sobriety From South Dakota to South London [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Take even a cursory glance at literature dedicated to discussing crime and justice policy and you are likely to stumble upon claims that policy innovations have travelled overseas and disembarked in the United Kingdom (UK). The significant problem with the majority of such claims, however, is that they are rarely substantiated by systematically conducted research. Instead, they are commonly based on hunches and assumptions that seemingly derive from an understanding that policy responses in the UK and elsewhere look rather similar. Moreover, the small number of empirical studies that have been published in the sphere of 'policy transfer' primarily fix their gaze at the national level, thus neglecting to examine if, why, when, and how subnational agents seek to borrow crime control initiatives from subnational jurisdictions in a different country. Positioned firmly at the nexus between social policy, political science, and criminology, this paper seeks to respond to this lacuna by examining the process in which the South Dakota 24/7 Sobriety Project was imported to South London by the Greater London Authority and its allies. Emphasis will be placed on the factors that facilitated and/or constrained the actions of agents of transfer.

Matt Barnes

Holiday hunger - exploring income poor families' expenditure on food during the school holidays [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Many income poor families with children qualify for Free School Meals, meaning that during term-time their children receive a healthy, balanced and nutritious lunchtime meal at school (Children's Food Trust, 2015). However, this provision is not available during school holidays meaning that poorer families can struggle to feed their children ('holiday hunger') – or have to forego other expenditure to do so.

School holidays represent a time when families spending patterns may change from the norm. Not only do families have to provide an extra meal for any children that receive a free school meal, they may also have to spend on childcare and child-related activities, plus any extra spending on holidays or celebrations at Christmas and Easter. Families spending behaviour on food could change in a

number of ways – they may simply have to spend more on food, and on particular items in particular, or they may spend less as a consequence of other forms of spending increasing. They may spend similar amounts on food but ‘trade down’ by switching to purchases of cheaper products. All of these behaviours can impact on who in the family eats what, with parents often making sacrifices for their children, with the choice of food items and food quality affecting the nutritional intake of family members.

Although there is much media spotlight on food poverty, and the use of foodbanks in particular - including suggestions that the use of foodbanks rises in the school holidays (Trussell Trust, 2016) - very little of the research on ‘holiday hunger’ is based on robust quantitative research evidence. To date the research is mainly qualitative (e.g. CPAG, 2015; Defeyter, 2015; Gill and Sharma, 2004) or lacking in methodological rigour (Kellogg’s, 2015). As Machin points out ‘Rigorous academic research into the prevalence of holiday hunger would be a welcome addition to the evidence that currently exists.’ (Machin, 2016, p312).

This project uses secondary analysis of the Living Costs and Food Survey to explore whether family expenditure on food differs in term time and holiday time, with a particular focus on low income families. The findings contribute to debates around food poverty, child poverty and policies designed to manage the extra burdens that poorer families face during school holidays.

Thomas Biegert, Bernhard Ebbinghaus

Accumulation or absorption? The development of household non-employment in Europe since the Crash [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The economic crisis over the last ten years has had a major impact on European labour markets and individual non-employment. The household is often argued to be the primary instance to buffer individual job-loss. Households without any employed household members, on the other hand, are typically associated with various detrimental outcomes, such as poverty and deprivation. Our study analyses how household level non-employment has developed since the economic crisis and how the wave of job loss across large parts of Europe have translated into more households being without work. We ask to what degree households have absorbed non-employment risks, and whether there is a trend to polarization where some households accumulate non-employment whereas others tend to have multiple earners. The study explores cross-national variation in these developments and relates the emerging patterns to the country-specific institutional and structural conditions.

Using EU-SILC data (2007-2014) covering 30 European countries, we use shift-share analysis to determine how much of the change in household non-employment is due to changes in individual non-employment, changes in household compositions, and changes in between and within household polarization. We select five countries from different regime clusters to further analyse the emerging patterns and to see how they relate to various micro-level household characteristics, such as educational level, age, and number of children using regression.

Our analysis indicates that the Great Recession has increased non-employment risks at the individual level, particularly in crisis-ridden countries, reflected in household non-employment levels. Contrasting our expectations and previous research, we do not find that households in “traditional”

family-oriented countries in southern and eastern Europe are able to absorb individual job-loss. Instead, there is a continued trend towards smaller households which exacerbates the problem. In both these countries and many more secular countries in western and northern Europe we detect a continued rise in polarization, indicating that employment losses due to the economic crisis were distributed across households in socially unequal ways. Variation across countries and regime types is significant. Partly, these differences can be explained by institutional and structural differences and by variation in the impact of the economic crisis. However, some of these differences reflect secular trends that were relatively undisturbed by the shock of the recession.

Hayley Bennett, Richard Brunner

Nurturing the buffer zone: conducting collaborative action research with public service practitioners in Scotland [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

There is an increasing shift in universities towards collaborative research, alongside a drive for innovative approaches to undertaking social research in inter-disciplinary teams and with non-academic partners. This has particular salience in social policy research. In this paper, we share our learning from collaborative research on public service reform in Scotland to demonstrate how this shift both challenges and creates new considerations for social research practices. Public service reform involves public, private, and third sector organisations collaborating within a complex, multi-actor system addressing long standing social issues or responding to new demands. It additionally involves public service practitioners experiencing swift changes to working practices and structures. Collaborative Action Research (CAR), which seeks to combine social research with social change, has offered us an agile means through which to research this demanding and fast-changing context. At the same time adopting a CAR approach appears to meet demands within academia to increase the involvement of research users in knowledge generation and in creating impact. We contend that adopting collaborative research approaches creates challenges for social science researchers, which require greater consideration. Using empirical data from a two-year CAR programme with multiple public services addressing various social policy issues as part of the What Works Scotland collaboration, this paper describes the activities used to foster what we conceptualise as a 'buffer zone': a dynamic, contextual space and set of practices necessary to enact CAR within complex and changeable settings. We find that researchers need to engage in distinctive, significant and ongoing relational and political work in the 'buffer zone' when setting up, conducting, and withdrawing from CAR with multi-agency partnerships. We discuss the implications of CAR in terms of research design, ethics, and impact, with a particular focus on social policy-focused research.

Anouk Berthier, Hugh Bochel

A place at the table? Committees, witnesses and the scrutiny of government actions and legislation [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Issues of diversity in elected bodies have been highlighted in recent years, both with regard to elected representatives themselves, and, more recentl

y, in respect of the treatment of those working in such institutions, especially women. This paper focuses on another aspect of diversity, inequality and representation, the voices heard by parliamentary committees in their scrutiny of government actions and legislation. Committees are an important part of the parliamentary structure, and can help hold governments, public bodies, and indeed others, accountable for their actions, including in relation to social policies. They can also be seen as transmitting information about what voices parliaments hear from and value.

While reflecting on the position in Westminster, and indeed other institutions, this paper draws primarily on research in the Scottish Parliament, utilising data on committee witnesses in 1999/2000, 2015/16 and 2016/17, and 38 interviews with MSPs and parliamentary staff. It highlights the variety of benefits for parliaments that can be associated with hearing from a wide range of voices, including, for example, contributing to better scrutiny (and potentially, therefore, better policies) by hearing views that may not always be represented in parliaments, and demonstrating that parliaments are engaging with wider society. While always important, at a time of substantial political disengagement and growing inequality, these considerations may be of even greater significance.

The paper identifies both 'demand' and 'supply' factors that influence the make-up of committee witnesses, with, for example, around three-fifths of witnesses at Holyrood being male, but it also recognises that there are a variety of pressures and initiatives affecting witness selection and evidence gathering more generally, and suggests that many committees already hear from a wider range of voices, although these are not always recorded and recognised in the formal records and reports of the committees.

The paper concludes with a consideration of ways in which the diversity and representativeness of voices heard by committees might be improved.

Aveek Bhattacharya

Why might choice in public services have intrinsic (dis)value? [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Arguments both for and against increasing user choice in public services come in two forms. Most academic debate has focused on the instrumental costs and benefits of greater choice: the outcomes it produces in terms of efficiency, equity, segregation etc. However, less attention has been given to arguments that posit the intrinsic value or disvalue of choice – the notion that the mere fact of having a choice or the act of choosing might be good or bad, independent of the consequences of that choice. This paper seeks to address this gap. It draws together literature from social policy, philosophy and psychology to produce a theoretical overview of arguments as to why choice in public services might have intrinsic value or disvalue, with a particular focus on parental school choice.

Some of those that believe that choice has intrinsic value focus on its affective and emotional impact, arguing that choice is enjoyable, and that the absence of choice is felt as disempowering and frustrating. Others argue that increasing choice is essential to promoting freedom, autonomy and authenticity. On the other hand, those that believe choice has intrinsic disvalue focus variously on the disagreeableness of trading off alternatives, the opportunity cost of evaluating options, the fear of pressure, responsibility and regret or the danger of creating unrealistic expectations. This paper will sketch out these theories in detail and seek to identify the outstanding empirical questions that need to be answered in order to test them.

Jane Booth

Talk about Austerity! The Limits of Co-production in Neoliberal Times. [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Co-production, as a model of service delivery, aims to empower disadvantaged individuals and communities, moving away from a paternalistic model of service delivery and towards a more responsive and responsible approach to the design of welfare services. However, there is a disconnection between the theory of co-production and its practice. Against the discourse of austerity and neoliberalism, its potential to enhance citizenship is becoming lost. The resultant policy environment, far from enabling a genuine sharing of power, frequently imposes responsibilities on those who are already disadvantaged by the economic and political system. For co-production to fulfil its potential requires not only disadvantaged communities to engage, but changes to the praxis of service providers and the language of policy makers. Drawing on a case study evidence from A Big Lottery funded project this paper will argue that co-production needs to move beyond local projects and a few willing practitioners. Instead it must become embedded in discourse, supporting the generation of new ideas about the provision of welfare and challenging political narratives about poor lifestyle choices. Change should be practiced; not just preached.

Ingun Borg

Life on Universal Credit - how everyday geography shape family policy responses [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

A number of academic scholars have shown the importance of carefully negotiated and inter-related routines across time and space in order for low-income families to enter and sustain paid work (Edin and Lein, 1997; Blumenberg, 2004; Jarvis, 2005; Skinner, 2005; Boschman, 2011; Millar and Ridge, 2013). Where such routines have been altered in order to conform to policy requirements it has been shown to have detrimental effects on parents' and children's health and well-being (Roy et al, 2004; Campbell et al, 2016).

The new Universal Credit policy enters this landscape by claiming to 'make work pay' and assures its claimants they will always be better off in work (DWP, 2010). However, this raises questions about what one wants from work and what it means to be better off. Does it mean the same for policymakers in Whitehall to low-income families on the outskirts of Greater Manchester?

This ongoing PhD research takes a specific spatial and place-based approach, and highlights a mismatch between how policymakers think families on low-income live, and how they actually live and make decisions about where, when and how much to work when faced with new requirements to 'progress' – by earning more. The research suggests that under the old tax and benefit system many families in low paid and insecure work felt rewarded for 'doing the right thing' – being a good parent and a good worker. Under Universal Credit these families feel there is no recognition of their efforts and that policymakers 'have no idea' of their life, their ambitions and dreams.

Stefanie Börner

Managing transnational solidarity through social policy? [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

For nation-states, social policy constitutes an important cross-cutting policy field that does not only provide social security and social services, but also touches issues such as social integration and identity politics. From this perspective, institutionalizing redistribution and solidarity national level social politics formed a crucial ingredient for successful nation building. However, the relationship between social policy and solidarity is highly controversial. On the one, redistributive welfare programmes are often considered contingent upon already existing solidarity bonds. On the other hand, the role of social policy for national integration and social cohesion is uncontested. These hypotheses are largely unrelated in the academic debate. Combining both debates, the talk will shed light in the theoretical relationship between social policy and solidarity and present an analytical framework for the latter, i.e. the fact that social policy can be considered as a prerequisite for the formation of solidarity within a specific polity. Based on these insights, the prospects of a Europe-wide transnational solidarity and the particularities of EU social policy will be discussed. However, given its lack of universality and redistributive elements, hitherto, so the argument, EU social policy provides a poor basis for interpersonal solidarity between citizens of different member states to emerge. This is widely due to the market-oriented and neoliberal principles of the European Union that also guided existing social policies. Therefore, social policy at the European level can be described as a policy that rewards cross-border mobility, which lies at the heart of European integration. Here the criticisms of the European Union as an elite project applies. Given this social deficit, the EU lags far behind with respect to social citizenship.

Graham Bowpitt

No way in: understanding persistent rough sleeping in an English city [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Beneath the headline figures depicting a seemingly inexorable rise in rough sleeping in the UK, there lies a sub-group of persistent rough sleepers unable to escape from a life on the streets either because of the barriers they face or because they perceive no alternative. This paper presents an account of a study undertaken in an English city that sought a deeper understanding of what binds some people more than most to a damaging and life-threatening set of circumstances and what might provide clues to effective prevention and remedial action.

The study relied for evidence on two locally generated databases and the focus group testimony of local Street Outreach Team (SOT) members who encounter rough sleepers through their early morning rounds on a daily basis. The two databases were firstly the one compiled by the SOT themselves on the characteristics and circumstances of the people they encounter, and secondly the ongoing records gathered by support workers of changes in the lives of service users of a programme for adults with multiple and complex needs, both of which contain narrative as well as statistical data. The definition of 'persistent rough sleeper' sought to capture two overlapping populations of 'sustained' rough sleepers who sleep rough fairly continuously over a restricted period, and 'recurrent' rough sleepers who repeatedly return to the streets over a much longer period.

The study found that, compared with rough sleepers generally, persistent rough sleepers are more likely to be male and of White British ethnicity, to have support needs arising from problematic substance use, mental ill health and offending, to have spent significant time in prison, to have been

evicted from accommodation or excluded from or refused services, and to engage in begging as a significant source of income. The study further found factors in rough sleeping narratives that help to explain persistence, distinguishing from people's stories systemic and personal factors by which people disabled by negative life experiences find themselves ill-equipped to negotiate what they encounter as a hostile system. The paper elaborates this finding by referring to vignettes constructed from the accounts of rough sleepers compiled by their support workers.

This paper seeks to inform debates about the exercise of agency by rough sleepers, and to reflect on the relevance to rough sleeping of recent legislation in the UK, notably the Care Act 2014, the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 and the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

Jonathan Bradshaw

Impact of Austerity on children: some worrying evidence [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

About £29 billion will have been taken mainly from working age benefits for families with children by 2020. Many of the measures have yet to bite fully – the benefit freeze, UC roll-out, two child limit. Yet some alarming changes in some child outcomes are beginning to emerge. The child poverty rates and gaps have begun to increase – and there is already some evidence that child outcomes are deteriorating. All the progress made in the 1990s and 2000s may be being swept away. This presentation will review the evidence.

Paul Bridgen

The Unexpected Rise of the State in Liberal Pension Systems [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Most comparative research on welfare state adaption suggests that the existing institutional infrastructure of a policy system will determine to a significant extent its reform path in the face of exogenous structural challenges i.e. population ageing, labour market change and economic globalisation. With respect to pension policy, this framework has been used mainly in relation to conservative and social democratic pension systems (e.g. Häusermann 2010; Pailier 2011; Anderson 2001; Bonoli 2000; Green-Pedersen/Lindbom 2006). Far less attention has been given to the liberal pensions world. Here, regime theory expected less support for public systems, increasing their vulnerability to retrenchment (Esping-Andersen, 1990: 33; also, Korpi/Palme 2003: 426).

Yet, on the face of it, recent developments in the liberal pensions world do not seem entirely consistent with the expectations of regime theory. Mixed results have been found about the scale, nature and uniformity of retrenchment in these settings (e.g. Aysan/Beaujot 2009; Lain et al 2013; Gelephitis 2014; Pierso 2001). Indeed, some liberal countries appear to have increased the role of the state in pensions policy in recent years (Bridgen 2010; Leisering/Mabbett 2011; Marschallek 2005; Meyer/Bridgen 2013).

Against this background, this paper re-considers the foundations of regime theory's expectations for liberal pension systems in the age of austerity. Using insights from Polyani (1944) and convergence theory (Overbye 1994), it argues that regime theory's understanding of pension policy dynamics in liberal systems is flawed because it exaggerates the separation of public and non-state spheres. It thus underestimates the political dynamics in favour of state action generated by the non-state sphere. It is these dynamics, the paper argues, which have been an important factor in the pressure for state expansion in liberal pension systems over the last decade or so. Against this background,

the paper considers, using OECD expenditure data, World Bank population data, the Social Policy Indicators dataset, and national data on occupational pensions, recent empirical developments in the six pension systems generally classified as part of the liberal world. It shows that these developments are generally consistent with the amended theoretical framework proposed.

Babs Broekema, Menno Fenger, Jeroen van der Waal

Public attitudes toward local social policies: A comparative analysis of decentralised welfare policy attitudes in the Netherlands [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

How do public welfare attitudes vary at the local level? Decentralisation of social policies has resulted in an increased variety of local welfare systems within many OECD countries in recent decades, including the Netherlands. Research on public welfare attitudes however, is generally still assessed as an unidimensional phenomenon (e.g. redistribution policies) (Roosma, Gelissen, & van Oorschot, 2013), measurable on the national welfare state level, and comparable across states (Blekesaune & Quadagno, 2003; Svallfors, 1997). Nevertheless, due to these decentralisations, variations among welfare attitudes at the local level become relevant as well. These local welfare attitudes, however, have never been measured before. This study measures if, how, and why local welfare attitudes vary in a comparative analysis of the decentralised welfare policies in the Netherlands.

Two divergent portraits of explanatory theories have emerged in the literature on welfare attitudes. One portrait focuses on the self-interest argument, which states that recipients or those at risk of becoming recipients “are more likely to hold positive attitudes to these benefits than those who are less likely to receive them (Blekesaune & Quadagno, 2003, p. 416)”. While the other portrait emphasizes that, “support for welfare benefits is predicated on an individual’s ideological beliefs”, which are “rooted in more general value systems regarding the proper relationship between the individual, the state and other institutions such as labour markets and voluntary organizations (Blekesaune & Quadagno, 2003, p. 416; Feldman & Zaller, 1992)”.

In order to test if, why, and how local welfare attitudes vary according to these two theories, unique data from the Dutch Local Election Studies (Lokaal Kiezeronderzoek) are analysed. This dataset includes three unique questions, specifically designed for this research. With this dataset, we aim to examine whether local attitudes vary concerning the multidimensionality of local social policies by asking questions concerning the responsibility, goals, and coverage of multiple local social policies. Subsequently, the independent variables consist of situational (e.g. unemployment, age, gender) and ideological (e.g. party preference, institutional trust) factors.

In doing so, this study contributes to the existing literature by moving welfare attitude research to the local level, thereby following the institutional decentralisation of social policies. Subsequently, this paper adds new insights to the theoretical debate on the situational and ideological factors as explanatory variables for popular policy attitudes (Blekesaune & Quadagno, 2003).

Edward Brunsdon, Margaret May

The changing landscape of UK occupational welfare [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The reshaping of the UK's welfare system over the last ten years has not been confined to public and third-sector services, there have also been significant changes in the configuration of occupational

provision. Actions by Government, trade unions, consultants and benefit suppliers as well as employers themselves have brought shifts in the range of workplace benefits, their coverage and value, regulation, funding, taxation and mode of delivery. Government interventions have involved a combination of mandatory, fiscal and promotional activities, trade unions have sought to pressure organisations to protect and, where possible, enhance this element of remuneration while consultants and benefits suppliers have looked to increase access through tax advantages and tailoring provision. But it is employers, particularly the 7,000 large organisations covering 40 per cent of the workforce, who have been the key agents of reform. In non-mandatory welfare, whether contractual or discretionary, it is their decisions that have ultimately determined the patterning of an extremely complex array of benefits in a volatile politico-economic period. None of the main occupational welfare fields has escaped adjustment or revision. Employers have cutback, modified or introduced new initiatives in pension schemes, working-age financial welfare, education and training, health, social care, housing and other services. Our task in this paper is to outline the main changes that have occurred over the last decade, trace the significant drivers and consider their impact on the pre-existing inequities in the domain. Largely because non-mandatory provision has been at the behest of employers and not all have been prepared to, or could afford to invest, there have been marked differences in the distribution of benefits. So, how have recent developments affected access to provision and/or the value of what is provided?

Irene Bucelli

Poverty, inequality and conceptions of responsibility: an exploration of the philosophical and social policy literature [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Poverty and inequality elicit questions regarding responsibility, both individual and collective. The very fact that these are distinctively human phenomena brings to the forefront questions regarding the way in which they came about, in relation to individual choices and behaviour, but also in relation to their structural conditions. These considerations bear on the normative justifications underpinning our concerns with both phenomena as well as on the policies tackling them. For instance, public attitudes interpreting poverty and economic inequality in terms of individual failures of the poor, or, alternatively, considering these inevitable part of the social system, would operate as important constraints to policy (Toth, Horn, Medgvesi, 2014). At the same time, the very concept of responsibility used in policy discussion is not always clear. This paper focuses on individual responsibility and attempts to clarify this debate by comparing the way in which this concept is developed in the philosophical and social policy literature. It proposes to map the key philosophical theories and understandings of responsibility to clarify the assumptions underpinning the use of the concept in social policy. For example, powerful intuitions drawn from luck-egalitarianism are at the heart of growing body of economics literature centred around the notion of equality of opportunity, and attempting to operationalise this in relation to inequality of outcomes (Barros et al, 2009; Brunori, 2013; Fleurbaey and Peragine, 2009). At the same time, investigations of poverty (Walker, 2013; Chase and Walker, 2012) in connection to experiences of stigma and shame highlight how these psychological phenomena shape social demands and responses and have the potential of constraining human agency, undermining social cohesion and ultimately contributing to the persistence of poverty. This literature can be further analysed in relation to a rich background of philosophical research that, following Peter Strawson's pioneer work (1963), has focused on "reactive attitudes" (Fischer and Ravizza 1993; Robichaud and Wieland, 2018). Finally, the paper explores possibilities of using a conception of responsibility that challenges established "liability"

models (Young, 2003; 2007) and focuses on the implications regarding the empirical use of this concept within social policy.

Tania Burchardt, Eleni Karagiannaki

The implications of within-household allocation of resources for adult material deprivation in Europe [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

In evaluating standards of living, we often rely on household measures: household income or, sometimes, household deprivation. But, of course, households are made up of individuals and they do not always benefit equally from the resources of the household. In this paper, we explore whether measures of individual adult deprivation can illuminate the distribution of resources within households across European countries, with a particular focus on households that contain more than a nuclear family. We use the 2014 material deprivation module of the EU Statistics on Incomes and Living Conditions, which in addition to the 9 standard household deprivation items, contains questions addressed to individual adult members of households about a further 7 deprivation items. We show that there is variation in individual deprivation within households, especially among 'complex' households, and that the rates and nature of the risk varies considerably across countries. The risk of is higher for women, people in late middle age, lone parents in single-family or complex households, singles without children (especially the elderly), and for individuals with a low individual income contribution in the household. We compute a combined household and individual deprivation measure using an adjusted headcount approach. Despite limitations, we argue that individual deprivation has the potential to provide an important complement to other sources of information about standards of living, because it captures some variation in the benefit obtained from household resources by different members, and this is particularly significant for the one-third of the population across Europe who live in households containing more than a nuclear family.

Tania Burchardt, Rod Hick

Inequality, advantage and the capability approach [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The capability approach challenges the notion that all that matters to well-being is money and consumption. The multidimensional perspective has been influential in the conceptualisation and measurement of poverty, but recent scholarship on inequality focuses overwhelmingly on economic dimensions. This paper argues that if we accept the logic of looking 'beyond the market', in considering poverty and disadvantage, we should consider a similar broadening in relation to inequality. Specifically, the paper examines the conceptualisation of inequalities once we move beyond metrics of income and wealth into other aspects of life that people value such as health, physical security, learning and participation; and how advantage in these domains can be captured. We argue that the framework of the CA (focusing on ends rather than means, multidimensionality, and recognising the value of freedoms as well as attained functionings) has the potential to enrich the study of distributional inequality through offering an account of why inequality matters, exploring the association between different forms of inequality, and providing an analysis of power. But applying the CA to 'advantage' as well as disadvantage exacerbates some existing challenges to the approach (defining a capability list, and the non-observability of capabilities) and brings some fresh ones (especially insensitivity at the top of the distribution). Capability inequality is a potentially revealing conceptual apparatus for analysis of the moral economy, but must acknowledge the crucial instrumental role played by economic resources.

Gideon Calder

Child poverty, family autonomy and fair life chances [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Child poverty is importantly connected to the workings of families: it is an inter-generational affair. In the contemporary UK, as elsewhere, you remain more likely to grow up poor if your parents were poor. And children growing up poor are more likely to live in poverty in adulthood. On the other hand, strategies directed at limiting the impacts of child poverty frequently target disadvantaged families in a way which can seem punitive, and serve to reinforce patterns of inequality by placing the burden of action on poor parents. Blaming or 'responsibilising' parents for their own children's poverty may be politically expedient, but is highly tenuous (at best) as a piece of sociological explanation. As reconfirmed by study after study of the patterns of poverty: the reasons why poverty may 'run in families' are not simply to do with the choices or behaviour of family members. They reflect the relationship between families and a wider backdrop of factors – environmental, structural, and subject to a wide array of different kinds of policy. Neither can children in poverty themselves be held causally responsible for their circumstances, or be said to deserve them. And so, there is a complex relationship between the explanation of child poverty, the attribution of responsibility for it, and the devising of strategies to tackle it.

This paper will address this relationship from the point of view of the promotion of fairer life chances for children. This aim has grown to be endorsed, in words at least, across the political spectrum. In the UK, it has been a recurring theme of successive administrations since the 1990s. But policy responses to it are disjointed. This is partly, I will argue, because of the tensions between three commitments: (i) promoting fair life chances; (ii) respecting family autonomy, and (iii) invoking a sufficiently nuanced and rounded sociological understanding of inequality among children. These commitments themselves have much to commend them – but this only makes their uneasy relationship more stark. In policy terms – despite the rhetoric of the 'life chances' agendas of Cameron and now May – they interrupt each other in ways which inhibit or defeat the 'life chances' agenda. I will show why this is, and offer a suggestion for how we might overcome those tensions in developing a more joined-up child poverty agenda.

Mingyu Cao, Zhen Wei, Bei Jiang

What are the Differences in the Effect Factors of the Retirement Intention between Urban Female Employees Raised in Rural and Urban Areas? - An Empirical Research into Three Cities in the Jiangsu Province of China [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The influence of effect factors such as income and family on the female employees' attitudes on retirement age was largely examined. However, the research objects of these studies are generally the female employees raised in similar cultural and regional backgrounds. The impacts on their retirement intention and its effect factors from the environment in which female employees are reared are rarely considered. The urban and rural areas of China differ tremendously, and existing studies prove the differences of gender consciousness and values between females that are raised in urban and rural China. This provides a valuable case to address the gap stated. Drawing on the data collected in three cities of Jiangsu Province of China, this research analyses the differences between urban female employees from both urban and rural backgrounds regarding their retirement age preference, which fell into two categories: income–preferred retirement age and family–preferred retirement age relationships. The results show that pension have significant positive influences on the retirement intention, while family care has a negative influence on the retirement intention.

Pension has more influence while family care has less on the retirement intention of the employees raised in urban areas compared to those raised in rural areas. The case of China can contribute to an understanding of the differences in retirement intention between females that are raised in relatively developed areas and those who migrate to the same areas from less developed regions.

Christina Carmichael

Homelessness and the Third Sector: Insider Accounts from the 'Age of Austerity' [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

The starkest evidence of the current housing crisis can be seen in the drastic year-on-year rises to homelessness in England over the last decade. Despite this well-documented increase, and a political rhetoric that emphasises the role of charity in 'austere' times, limited attention has been given to the experiences of Third Sector homelessness services which are operating in an increasingly challenging climate. This paper presents data from on-going research on 'insider accounts' of homelessness now, based on interviews with both Third Sector and Local Authority practitioners working in homelessness services, as well as individuals who have direct experience of homelessness (in total, 35 interviews to date). Early findings illustrate a growing concern about the ability of homelessness services to offer appropriate support to their clients. Diminishing resources and budgets, the loss of tenancy support services, and a working culture characterised by gatekeeping and 'passing the buck' are all identified as significant barriers. Interviewees also described the ways in which cuts to areas such as mental health, probation and drug rehabilitation services mean that individuals accessing homelessness services are now presenting with increasingly chaotic behaviour and higher levels of support need than seen previously. The services that in the past might have supported these clients to remain in accommodation are no longer available. For practitioners, this is leading to significant changes in their job role, and in some instances, despite high levels of expertise and commitment, they express doubts about their capacity to address the current crisis in homelessness. With specific regard to the Third Sector, the key message for policy-makers is that the collective and individual capacity of the Third Sector to deal with homelessness is under threat, and that the preventative functions of homelessness services have been undermined.

Jenny Chanfreau

Changing work-family trajectories: On inferring gender equality [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

This paper investigates how gendered work-family lifecourses have changed over time in the UK. Past research suggests that men and women's work trajectories are converging, largely because women are increasingly adopting more male-typical employment patterns. However, over the same time period, the UK has also seen a delay in the transition to parenthood, with the extent of that delay differing by level of education. As a key component of the gender difference in labour market outcomes and trajectories is the gendered effect of parenthood on labour market activity, this raises a number of questions. Has the timing of the point in the lifecourse at which gender inequalities emerge merely been delayed or have the differences in trajectories of women and men become narrower after the transition to parenthood? To what extent do the patterns of change differ by level of education?

To examine how changing gender differences in work trajectories are related to how the timing of parenthood has changed over time, and how these patterns differ by level of education, data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA), the 1958 and 1970 Birth Cohort Studies, and

Understanding Society are analysed. Comparing the employment trajectories of men and women born the 1940s, 1958, 1970 and early 1980s, distinguishing by education level using tertiles for each cohort, the results reveal different patterns of change over time when analysing the lifecourse by chronological age and when looking separately at the early parenthood phase. The findings will contribute to debates about increasing gender equality in labour market outcomes over the lifecourse.

Jenny Chanfreau

The persistence in gendering: work-family policy in Britain since the 1960s [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

This paper traces how UK social policies have over time articulated and positioned gendered possibilities for combining paid work and child-rearing. In the context of work-family life courses, policy forms the contours, or the framework, differently situated individuals come to see what is possible for them in navigating paid work, family formation, childrearing and care and negotiate the division of labour. While changes to employment legislation have encouraged and facilitated the combination of paid work and family responsibilities and despite gender equality and anti-discrimination legislation in the labour market since the mid-1970s, the gendered division of labour persists and contributes to economic inequalities such as the gender pay and pension gaps, the downward occupational mobility following childbearing and the 'motherhood' penalty. The paper focuses on the role of policy in constructing and upholding the gender arrangement, drawing on feminist theorists' conceptualisation of policies as gendering practices

The aim of the paper is to make visible some of the ways that progress towards gender equality is held back despite the formal gender neutrality of social policy and more than four decades of anti-sex-discrimination legislation. The analysis asks whether and how the gendering of 'the worker' and 'the parent' in policy has changed in the last 50 years. Has the assumed 'worker' of labour market policy become less male over time, and has the 'parent' of family policy become less maternal? To address this question, the discussion brings together existing research and policy critique with the theoretical framework of policy as 'gendering practices' to draw out some of the complexities and inconsistencies over time that have shaped, and continue to shape, gendered and classed work-family life courses. Understanding these historical policy pathways that have maintained and shaped the gender arrangement over time is of interest to scholars and activists interested in advancing gender equality through state institutions and policy because any changes or replacements will also need to support a (more equitable) gender arrangement.

Yu-Chen Chang

A Shift Away from Marketisation? Construction of Childcare Discourse in Taiwan [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

The Taiwanese government has been introducing a series of childcare policies since 2008 to overcome the issue of low fertility and an ageing population in Taiwan. Childcare policies have seen an apparent shift from marketisation to publicisation recently, with the government becoming more active and dominant as funder or provider. After the introduction of the 'Programme for Improving the Environment for Child Birth and Rearing' and the 'Community-based Public Nursery Plan for 2-Year-Olds' in 2016, publicisation has become the dominant tone in the development of childcare policies in Taiwan. Studies of this issue have primarily focused on policy practices and not on the

care discourses underlying these policies. This study therefore explores the discourse behind childcare policies implemented in Taiwan and examines the social meaning and relations constructed by the Taiwanese government. It examines whether the development of childcare policies is really a shift away from marketisation even if publicisation has been prominent. The study uses the Critical Discourse Analysis approach, especially Fairclough's three-dimensional framework. The data focus on childcare policies implemented in Taiwan from 2008 to 2017. Findings reveal that the construction of care discourse in Taiwan is dominated by discourses on family financial (not care) burdens and on female employment. The government's opinion about the negative impact of care on women's economic and political life not only becomes more obvious in the period, its attitude towards the market also moved from passive compromise to active cooperation. Moreover, the longstanding Justice principle—emphasising the wealth exclusion principle and the value of equity, not equality—has constantly influenced the development of childcare policies. Consequently, care outsourcing, allowance for purchasing services based on household income, and public and private partnership have become predominant in the construction of care discourses and its practices. This is helpful in achieving consensus and reducing the conflict between women alliances' appeal for female employment and the government's idea of new public management. Therefore, the construct of publicisation that the Taiwanese government spoke about rests on the promoting female individual economic independence and not on breaking class inequality among children. The publicisation does not increase public service, but only intensifies the idea of public management causing not a decrease in, but a justification for, the idea of marketisation.

Yu-Ling Chang

Unequal Social Protection under the Federalist System: Three Unemployment Insurance Approaches in the United States, 2007–2015 [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Background The global Great Recession and its aftermath have challenged the unemployment insurance (UI) systems in industrialized countries in the provision of responsive and adequate unemployment protection for workers. Unlike in other advanced countries, the American UI system operates through a hybrid federal-state system in which the responsibilities for programme design are shared between the federal government and the states. Despite the increased attention paid to the federal-state UI system after the Great Recession and its implications for a supranational European unemployment benefits scheme (EUBS), limited UI research has examined the variation in UI approaches to social protection and their responses to the Great Recession in a federal system.

Research Questions (1) What were the UI policy characteristics in the U.S. during the 2007–2015 period? (2) What were the distinct state UI approaches during the 2007–2015 period? (3) How did the characteristics of the distinct state UI protection approaches vary from one another? (4) What were the trends in social protection across different state UI approaches during the 2007–2015 period?

Method This research uses an advanced model-based clustering technique and analyses multiple policy characteristics in the 51 state UI systems in the United States during the 2007–2015. Policy characteristics include the taxable wage base, the average tax rate, the reserve ratio, the qualifying wage, the eligibility modernization score, the reciprocity rate, the average weekly benefit amount, the maximum benefit duration, the replacement rate, and the exhaustion rate.

Results The results indicate three distinct UI approaches: (1) the low protection and financing approach, which provides limited support; (2) the medium protection, unbalanced financing approach, which allocates insufficient trust funds for the provision of support; (3) the high protection, balanced financing approach, which builds a strong UI financing structure that provides more inclusive and

adequate support. Additionally, the declining trends in social protection across the three approaches signal that the American UI system is under-prepared for the next economic recession, thereby exposing America's workers to the risk of economic insecurity. Conclusion and Implication This paper advances the knowledge about interrelated UI policy choices and their underlying policy logic in the American federal-state UI system (e.g., social protection, market stabilization, work disincentives, and state competition). The findings provide implications for coordinated policy reforms at both state and federal levels to enhance the social protection in a two-tiered UI system.

Yu-Ling Chang, Chi-Fang Wu

The Association between Income Support Program Participation and Long-Term Employment Trajectories among Low-Income Single Mothers During and After the Great Recession, 2008–2013
[Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

The lingering effect of the Great Recession and the current conservative political climate have provoked intense policy debates on the role of social safety net programs in supporting or discouraging work in the United States. Since the welfare reform in the 1990s, substantial research has investigated welfare participation and employment outcomes among single mothers. However, prior research has mostly focused on single program participation (e.g., the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, TANF) and examined employment outcomes at one point in time or over a short period in the early 2000s. This research fills a gap in the literature by analysing the five-year employment trajectories among low-income single mothers during and after the Great Recession and how these trajectories related to multiple income support program participation.

This research used the nationally representative Survey of Income and Program Participation (the 2008 panel, Wave 1 through Wave 15). The sample included 18-65 years old low-income (under the 200% federal poverty line) single mothers who had at least one related child under the age of 18 in the household and had the complete sixty monthly data points (N=870). We first analysed the patterns of multiple program participation and determined the focal programs to be included in the multivariate analysis. We then conducted the group-based trajectory modelling to test the optimal numbers and shapes of employment trajectories. Finally, we performed the multinomial logistic regression modelling to examine the association between multiple program participation and the employment trajectories, controlling for the baseline working hours and the individual and contextual covariates.

We found less than 12% of the low-income single mothers participated in three or more programs among the TANF, the Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the Medicaid, and the Unemployment Insurance (UI). Results from the group-based trajectory models showed that SNAP participation and UI participation were significantly associated with the employment trajectories. Specifically, the joint SNAP-UI participation predicted the increasing probabilities of membership in two increasing employment trajectories relative to the decreasing one.

In contrast to the work disincentives argument, our longitudinal evidence shows that the multiple program participation increased the probabilities of having better employment trajectories, as opposed to a decreasing employment trajectory among low-income single mother families. The result suggests that packaging income supports for those who experienced employment instability may achieve positive employment outcomes in the long run.

Eunhye Grace Choi

Reducing Welfare Stigma: Recipient-Sensitive Approach to Teen Welfare Recipients in South Korean Middle Schools [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Welfare programs for underprivileged children are often conducted inconsiderately with measures irrelevant for recipients, causing welfare stigma. Would increased recipient participation offer a solution to these problems? For the South Korean case, education is compulsory until middle school, and therefore schools play a crucial role as basic platforms for operating welfare programs. However, in South Korea, despite evidence of the presence of welfare stigma, not much research has been done among recipients to find solutions. In this study, several effective definitions for children's welfare participation as coined by scholars have been selected to frame a unique recipient-sensitive approach and test the correlation between participation and reduced welfare stigma among South Korean children who are welfare recipients. To test the applicability and effectiveness of these adopted definitions, a field study was conducted in a city in South Korea addressing four middle schools and a regional children's centre, utilizing 8 months of participant observation, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and more with both welfare deliverers and recipients. The results confirmed that 1) recipient participation, 2) blurring the distinction between recipients and non-recipients, 3) maintaining a close relationship between welfare deliverers and recipients and 4) establishing official recognition of welfare stigma helped lessen the development of stigma in a given context. The tactics developed in this study can be applied to more situations in Korea and even within the wider welfare community, across Asia and beyond, to offer more effective welfare support while causing less secondary drawbacks, such as recipient stigma.

Harrie Churchill

The political fallout of the 2008 financial crisis and the Americanisation of family support in England. [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

This paper reflects on the political fallout from the 2008 financial crisis as constituting 'a window of opportunity' utilised by political elites to reassert and refashion 'residual welfare' and 'traditional family' orientations to welfare state reform in the British context. The paper critically assesses the politics and policies related to family support that have emerged in this context in the last ten years; and deliberates possibilities for progressive alternatives. In particular, the paper engages with debates about the extent to which neo-conservative and neo-liberal orientated family policy reforms introduced under the Coalition government (2010-15) and Conservative government (2015-present) constitute the 'Americanisation' of welfare state support for children, youth and families in the British context. On the one hand, it considers several ways in which child-family-state-market relations have been re-ordered and restructured towards the more familiarised, decentralised, residual and market-based US public policy paradigm; and examines the significance of these changes – especially in terms of heightened socio-economic risks and widening socio-economic inequalities among young people, children and families. However, on the other hand, the paper recognises the need to consider complexities to, and limitations of, the Americanisation thesis – such as in relation to enduring differences between the UK and USA in respect of childcare and work-family policies.

Rachel Clarke, Lisa Henglien Chen, Jennifer Rusted

Everyday work and life of dementia working carers [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Research aim and objectives: The increased number of dementia carers and the abolition of the default retirement age, mean that the number of dementia working carers (DWCs) - family carers who are maintaining employment alongside the dementia caring role – is likely to rise in the coming years. However, very little is known about the experience of DWC. This study aims to fill the research gap by exploring the experiences which support and challenge a sustainable work and life balance of DWC.

Research methodology: The study included 24 DWCs who worked (paid or unpaid) and care for People with Dementia (PwD) 4 hours per week at least for a minimum of one year. Two face-to-face interviews with each participant were conducted between December 2016 and December 2017. The first interview involved structured questionnaires, and covered psychological wellbeing; everyday functioning, PwD behavioural status, and work and life balance of the DWCs. The second interview utilised a semi-structured in-depth interview centred on an artefact chosen by the DWCs to represent their work and life experiences. This paper focuses on the findings from the artefact, to illustrate the experience of being a DWC, and the strategies used to reconcile work and life balance. The interviewing data were analysed by using thematic analyses.

Findings: For all DWCs studied, the conflicting duality of roles was evident, where carers discussed how the overlap between work and caregiving impacts on personal time, cognitive functioning, and exhaustion. Exhaustion and stress were frequently experienced by participants who found that the responsibilities of working and caregiving, often resulted in minimal down-time. The central role of personal organisers and hobbies were fundamental for most (17 out of 24) DWCs in keeping on top of their multiple roles. At the same time, an adequate support system at home and at work is a significant factor for sustaining work and dementia care. It is important to note that an inadequate formal care support to DWC and/or PwD could constitute a source of anxiety to DWC.

Conclusions: Being a DWC could be stressful and exhausting. The DWCs studied have employed various methods to sustain their roles at work and in dementia care. It is argued that in addition to the individuals' efforts, the DWCs would benefit from dementia care policies and practices to provide them with more transparent support information, respite care, integrated care services and training for DWCs to reconcile work and care balance.

Micheal Collins

Private Pensions and the Gender Distribution of Fiscal Welfare [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Fiscal supports to encourage and facilitate individuals participating in private pensions are a recurring, and expanding, element of many countries approaches to pensions policy. These fiscal welfare tools are expensive, in revenue forgone terms, and have been continually found to have regressive distributive outcomes.

This paper considers the effectiveness of the current suite of private pension taxation supports in

Ireland from a gender perspective. In doing so it compares the performance of the current system in encouraging pension contributions by both males and females and examines if a 'gender pensions contribution gap' exists. It also considers the distribution of current private pension supports by gender, bringing a new equity lens to an area of substantial recurring fiscal welfare.

Micheal Collins, Michelle Norris

Examining the Social Policy Implications of BREXIT for the Island of Ireland [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

While there have been considerable assessments of the possible implications for trade, economic output and employment, to date the implications of BREXIT on the lives and rights of citizens has received less research focus.

This paper addresses that void and considers the impact on citizens, in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, of the impending departure of the UK from the European Union. It principally focuses on four areas of social policy: (i) Welfare and Social Protection; (ii) Healthcare; (iii) Citizen's rights (including employment rights); and (iv) Cross-border work/travel. Possible outcomes and implications are examined under a series of BREXIT scenarios ranging from 'extreme' (UK leaving the single market, customs union and a diluted common travel area) to 'protracted soft departure' (UK leaving with a long transition period and retaining the customs union and common travel area). The analysis draws on available material from agencies across the island of Ireland and on a series of in-depth interviews with key policy makers, officials in the citizens advisory bodies and cross-border agencies.

Despite the uncertainty regarding the final shape of BREXIT, the study aims to identify the range of implications that may arise for social policy, and for those charged with assisting citizens to realise their right and access public services.

Gary Craig

The UK Modern Slavery Act: world leading or inadequate, inconsistent and punitive? [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

The 2015 Modern Slavery Act has been described by its proponents as 'world-leading'. This not only historically inaccurate, but, like its historical predecessor, the 1807 Act abolishing the Transatlantic Slave Trade, it has a fundamental contradiction at its heart. Whilst purporting to 'rescue' and protect the victims of slavery, it is situated within a social and economic context where government is pursuing policies which create the conditions for slavery to flourish. In the twenty first century, a combination of 'hostile' immigration policies and a succession of policies deregulating the labour market and thus undermining worker' rights, means that levels of severe exploitation, trafficking and forced labour are likely to increase despite the best efforts of the many groups and organisations working on the ground to challenge the growth in the numbers of victims.

Anne Daguerre, Alex Waddan

The American social contract in the post Obama era: dismantling Medicaid? [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This contribution assesses the American social contract in the post-Obama era by examining the fate of Medicaid. The US welfare state is a three-tiered system with various levels of federal government and state control which correspond to a strict division between the 'deserving' and the 'undeserving poor'. The 'deserving poor' are those who cannot work (senior citizens with earned contributions, children and the disabled), and the working poor whose income is supplemented by various tax credits. The 'undeserving poor' are able-bodied citizens who could and should work more in order to become financially self-sufficient. The question of who is entitled to in kind (health care, food stamps) or cash benefits has been a fundamental battle in US politics since the transformation of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, AFDC, into Temporary Assistance for Needy Families in 1996. A central plank was to strengthen work requirements and to devolve cash assistance to the states through block grants. But welfare reform was seen as unfinished business, as an influential fraction of the Republican party had long wanted to dismantle the Great Society programmes of the 1960s. The Obama administration tried to expand the frontiers of the American welfare state through the expansion by stealth of existing social programmes, principally Medicaid. It's precisely this fragile compromise that's now under attack with a Republican-dominated Congress keen to generalise the principle of work requirements to all major welfare programmes, following the TANF template. This contribution is divided into three sections. First, the article provides a recap of the Medicaid expansion and explains why this was such a contested issue for the Republican Party. Second, it explains the legal reasoning of the Supreme Court decision (Sebelius 2012) allowing states to reject the Medicaid expansion. Third, it provides an account of the efforts by the Trump administration and the Republican-dominated Congress to dismantle health care for low-income populations even though this is extremely politically risky. The paradox of the post-Obama era is that his legacy will be revisited with rose-tinted glasses because of the sharp contrast between limited but nevertheless substantial attempts to improve the well-being of the working poor and a frontal attack on these constituencies under the Trump-Pence leadership. This is an unfolding story that will determine the trajectory of the American welfare state for years to come.

Nergis Dama

The Social Policy Implementation of Southern European Welfare States (Turkey, Greece, Spain, Portugal) and Human Development after 2008 [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Welfare typologies focus on economic efficiency and human development. The Southern European welfare regime is comprised of government, private sector and nongovernmental sector implementations. Despite the mixed appearance of these system, government expenditure has more influence on social protection than the other institutions. After the global of 2008, Southern European countries (including Turkey, Greece, Spain and Portugal) have sought to withdraw social policies and prioritise the economy.

This paper examines these countries' social policies in the shadow of the 2008 crisis. It examines social assistance, unemployment benefits, health expenditures, benefits for disabled people, provision for the elderly, women, youth and children. Given that the contents and practices of social

policies have changed country to country, different social policies have been examined by using country-specific data. In addition, national human development scores from the UNs Human Development Index (HDI) are examined. Finally, the effect of global crisis on relationships between the HDI and the social policy implementations is analysed.

Myfanwy Davies

Living with Policy: Exploring Work and Motherhood in the Accounts of Young Mothers in Gwynedd
[Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Young parents, particularly, young mothers have long been privileged subjects of social policy interventions. Universal Credit was introduced with the explicit rationale of ‘making work pay’ and requires that mothers of children under 3 “prepare for work”. Those with children aged over 3 are expected to look for some work and if working for fewer hours than their circumstances allow, are expected to seek to increase those hours. This major development in welfare organisation intervenes in a policy terrain that is already deeply fractured. Fundamental conflicts within childcare policy between “child-centred” outcomes and maternal economic inclusion have been identified within Welsh Government policy, which incorporates the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child as a foundational principle (Dallimore, 2016). These conflicts are replicated to varying degrees across the devolved UK.

This paper will explore the emotional and social context of decisions on the return to work or study before and after the introduction of Universal Credit among two groups of young mothers in North West Wales.

The first project 2015-2017, sought to understand the experiences of young mothers, aged between 14-25 at the time of the birth of their first child as users of an intervention that aimed to ‘build resilience’ (N = 10). It also explored experiences of targeted parenting interventions among peer mentors employed by the project (N = 5), who were or had been young mothers (Davies et al, 2017). The second project (2018-2020) is currently recruiting young mothers (N = 35) whose child is approaching its third birthday, through community-based contacts in an urban area of multiple deprivation. Both projects use discourse analysis to describe policy documents and to interpret interview transcripts (Fairclough, 1995).

Understanding policy as being enacted through the accounts of those who are subject to it (Clarke et al., 2015), the paper will report on evolving constructions of work and (young) mothering in an area where Universal Credit is currently being introduced (2018). Early findings indicate that the return to work or study was constructed in terms of a series of tensions that broadly reflect those identified within policy between what may be termed “child-centred” objectives and concerns relating to maternal economic inclusion and contribution.

It will close by outlining broader questions on the role of emotion in co-producing policy (Hunter, 2015).

Matthew Donoghue, Daniel Edmiston

Gritty Citizens? Exploring the Logic and Limits of Resilience in Social Policy During Times of Socio-Material Insecurity [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Since the Great Recession, resilience has been presented as a policy priority to overcome or adapt to socio-material insecurity. Despite limited evidence (cf. Rimfeld et al., 2016), the potential of resilience in shaping socio-economic destiny has been highly influential within the psycho-social turn in UK welfare governance. In particular, increasing emphasis has been placed on welfare conditionality to 'responsibilise' passive citizens so that they might possess 'the resilience and resources to lift themselves out of poverty' (Duncan Smith, 2012: n.p.). Active citizenship and resilience go hand in hand here, with the latter serving as a component of, but also legitimiser, of the broader socio-economic and political complex that defines late capitalism.

According to the emerging logic of 'gritty citizenship', the idealised citizen is not only expected to work hard, abide by the law and pay taxes – they are also expected to exhibit and deploy 'delayed gratification, grit, resilience' to take charge of their own lives and well-being (Cameron, 2016: n.p.). Whilst this is seen as one of the key strategies for 'helping people get on', there is also an emerging expectation and requirement for citizen subjects (particularly those on a low-income) to cope and even thrive under permanent conditions of financial hardship and social uncertainty.

Within this context, this paper draws on data from two qualitative studies of low-income individuals across the UK, to explore the following research questions. How is the concept of resilience pursued in ways that seek to tackle socio-material insecurity in UK social policy? To what extent do strategies that seek to foster active citizenship through greater welfare conditionality and paternalism engender the capacity for resilience? And if measures seeking to create 'gritty citizens' actually undermine resilience, what conceptual and applied challenges does this present for policymakers and practitioners?

Fiona Dukelow

Re-commodification since the crisis: Ireland as a case study [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This paper seeks to advance understandings of the re-commodification of social policy in the context of financialised capitalism, austerity and post-crisis welfare states. In particular it seeks to examine ways in which the 'interpellation and orbit of the commodity form' (Gill and Cutler, 2014:7) have evolved in how welfare states have been implicated in the crisis and subsequent rescue of financialised capitalism. Drawing on the 'canonical' social policy literature on commodification (Esping-Andersen, Pierson and Offe) as well as on more recent contributions that have drawn attention to 'in-work commodification' (Papadopoulos; Pintelon) and to the commodification of social services (Holden), the paper looks at re-commodification as a multiple set of processes that involve the state in labour and welfare market-making, administering and regulating 'saleability'. As such, in the context of economic crisis and recovery, the paper suggests that the logic of re-commodification potentially shifts further away from the long established Piersonian observations. Thus, in a movement beyond this perspective, which understands re-commodification as the dismantling of those elements of the welfare state that shelter individuals from market pressures and their replacement, in some instances, with market buffers; this paper looks at ways in which re-commodification compels individuals to act in ways that are, first and foremost, responsive to the needs and vulnerabilities of markets. As an example of a country which experienced deep financial

crisis followed by 'recovery', the paper analyses changes to the Irish welfare state as a case study to explore the dynamics of this movement in commodification. Drawing on labour market policy and related areas it analyses ways in which Irish social policy has been further opened up to re-commodifying logics and practices since the crisis but also looks at ways in which such re-commodification has provoked instances of conflict and resistance.

Lynzi Duncan

Multi-Level Conditional Citizenship: The Case of Central and Eastern European Roma EU Citizens in Sheffield [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

With an emphasis on the lived experiences of Central and Eastern European Roma European Union (EU) citizens resident in Sheffield, this paper analyses the ways in which EU citizens' right to free movement intersects with governance structures at the national and local level. First, the paper briefly outlines the legal framework of EU citizenship with the purpose of highlighting the conditionality inherent in the European Union law that relates to the granting of rights to those enacting their European Union citizenship. Second, with reference to the restrictions placed on European Union citizens' access to social security provisions in 2014, the paper notes the ways in which such conditionality has been deployed in the context of the UK. Finally, by drawing on preliminary analysis of semi-structured interviews, which have recently been conducted, with Key Policy Stakeholders and Roma EU citizens resident in Sheffield, the paper analyses how the right of EU citizens to free movement intersects both local governance structures in Sheffield and the measures which limit their right to social security provision in the UK. As such it seeks to understand and demonstrate the manner in which Central and Eastern European Roma European Union citizens experience multi-level conditionality in their everyday lives.

Daniel Edmiston

Social insecurity and the collective dis-identification of marginalised citizens in liberal welfare regimes [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Heightened marginality fostered through welfare austerity has the capacity to invoke alternative forms of collective contestation, and resistance against the institutions of neoliberal citizenship. Drawing on a qualitative study undertaken in New Zealand and the UK, this paper considers how welfare withdrawal and recalibration might induce a change in how marginalised citizens 'constitute themselves as political subjects under sometimes extreme conditions of subjugation' (Tyler and Marciniak, 2013: 149).

The findings of the study suggest that an incipient welfare settlement of social insecurity has instigated an increasingly insurgent politics amongst welfare claimants for 'justice, rights and responsibilities' through new sites, strategies and scales of struggle (Isin, 2008: 18). However, the hardening of welfare politics does not appear to have ushered in effective or lasting forms of collective resistance and political subjectivity amongst those most negatively affected by welfare austerity. Whilst marginalised citizens vividly articulate heterodox conceptions of social citizenship, this has not translated into expansive forms of collective action and engagement. In large part, marginalised citizens appear inclined towards short-term, remedial forms of civic engagement that seek to address issues most exigent on their time, health and wellbeing. The multiple levels of collective dis-identification occurring amongst contingent subjects of the welfare state under

austerity perhaps best explain this.

Those experiencing relative deprivation are increasingly alienated from the shared welfare institutions and practices that structure the prevailing socio-economic and political settlement. The disjuncture between the ideals and lived realities of social citizenship belie its distributional and emancipatory promise. Within such a setting, it becomes difficult for marginalised citizens to endorse and subscribe to the existing welfare praxis – particularly if they lack the capacity to defend their claims-making and common belonging by conforming to its expectations (Holmes and Manning, 2013; Pemberton et al., 2016). Alongside this, socio-material hardship generated through welfare austerity has increased the fissure between marginalised citizens and the broader collective. Alienation from this majority undermines a sense of common collectivity and political agency that might garner momentum for ‘acts of citizenship’ to advance welfare entitlements (Isin, 2008). Finally, the unravelling of liberal citizenship from social and identity politics appears to have induced a collective dis-identification amongst marginalised citizens themselves.

In light of the distinct acts of claims-making exhibited, this presentation reflects on the acts of collective (dis-) identification that marginalised citizens engage in and what prospects and risks this presents for the future direction of welfare politics amidst economic restructuring.

Nick Ellison

Citizenship in the 21st Century: an idea beyond its sell-by date? [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

This paper, which is part of a writing project designed to re-imagine ‘citizenship’ in the 21st Century, asks an apparently simple question: is the idea of citizenship any longer relevant? In an era of bewilderingly contradictory ideologies, movements and policies the apparent security of belonging that the idea of citizenship relied upon, perhaps particularly where social policy and welfare in the developed economies were concerned, has been exposed by a combination of (different forms of) neoliberal political economy, a growing resurgence of (different forms of) nationalism and the corrosive impact of the new technologies. Is ‘citizenship’ an idea with any remaining purchase in this socio-economic and political environment? Maybe not! In this exploratory paper, two different approaches to citizenship will be considered: the first takes a restricted view of the idea – largely about how it may/may not usefully apply to membership of a nation-state; the second examines expansionist, de-territorialised arguments about how citizenship might illuminate forms of social politics in post- and trans-national settings. Both approaches have significant problems, of which arguably the most salient is the fact that the illiberal, restrictive understandings of citizenship – always a feature of the idea – are gaining intellectual ground.

Cansu Erturk

Social Policy of Housing in Turkey: Discussions and Recommendations upon the Case of Van City after the 2011 Earthquake [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The aim of the study is to analyse housing policies initiated by Turkey Mass Housing Administration (TOKİ) from social policy perspective and to provide policy recommendations. 2011 Van Earthquake had crucial impact on governmental agenda concerning housing and an urban transformation wave has been started across the country primarily targeting disaster-risky areas. Existing academic studies on housing issue throughout Turkey mostly covers metropolitan cities among which İstanbul is at the forefront since the city was hit by 1999 Marmara Earthquake rendering ‘disaster risk’ as an

important determinant of housing policies. Thus, this research intends to address the housing policies initiated after the 2011 Earthquake in Van, as one of the cities belonging to the most neglected region of Turkey. Capitalist state, land rent, landed property, capital accumulation, and commodification of housing are the main concepts that form the theoretical framework of the study. These concepts are to be interpreted within the global neoliberal restructuring process and with respect to entrepreneurialism as the new pattern in urban governance. To relate the aforementioned concepts with welfare issues, problems created by capitalist urbanization – gentrification, displacement, uneven development – are evaluated on the ground of universalist and redistributive social policy approaches. The fundamental question is how the government, as the ruling representative of the capitalist state, uses its legislative and executive power to put public lands into the service of construction industry to foster capital accumulation and extract rent upon land. To this end, the post-earthquake reconstruction process of Van is analysed on the basis of legal arrangements and activities of public institutions that are responsible for housing. Data is to be obtained from the analysis of related laws, findings of existing academic studies and reports by public institutions and professional chambers. In addition, media news concerning the post-earthquake housing reconstruction issue in Van are to be scanned and analysed beginning from the afterwards of the earthquake. Then, the reflection of mass housing and urban regeneration policies onto Van's context and its incompatibility with welfare principles are to be examined by looking at the outcomes of top-down policies which favour construction industry and undermine citizens' welfare through displacement and gentrification practices. The paper concludes that earthquakes are used as a pretext for mass housing and urban regeneration activities throughout the country. In the final part, overall results are to be discussed and alternative ways of housing supply be elaborated from redistributive social policy perspective.

Menno Fenger, Lieske van der Torre, Jaap de Koning, Paul de Hek, Elisa de Vleeschouwer

Why Work Pays works, and why it doesn't. A realist evaluation of the work-first approach in the city of Rotterdam [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The work-first approach in the Dutch city of Rotterdam, called Work Pays, is considered as one of the strictest in the country, if not in Europe. It is an intensive 12-week program, in which social assistance applicants are obliged to participate in the program which consumes 20 hours a week. For each applicant, the program consists of 2 half days of group training, a full day of mandatory unpaid labour consisting of cleaning streets and public parks, and 4 hours mandatory homework. The launch of the program in 2012 was accompanied by a randomized controlled trial which showed a significant reduction of applications which could be explained by the preventive (scaring) effect as well as by increased job placements in the Work Pays participants after the program was finished. However, the randomized controlled trial did not investigate why the program lead to prevention or job placement or for whom. Nor did it address the long-term impact of the program.

This paper addresses these two issues, based on a renewed evaluation of the program in 2016-2017. First, by tracing the career paths of people in both the control group and the treatment group of the original RCT we have been able to analyse the results of the program after 3 years. Second, through in-depth interviews and focus groups with caseworkers and participants that currently participate in the program, we have been able to identify different mechanisms through which Work Pays leads to different outcomes.

This paper contributes to a much-needed understanding of the causal mechanisms and context that play a role in work-first programs. Moreover, it helps to answer the question of the sustainability of the outcomes of work-first programs.

Ross Fergusson

Global Policy Responses to Crises of Youth Unemployment: Business as Usual or Radical Change?
[Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

As the consequences of the 2007/8 global financial crisis (GFC) continue to spread through economic, welfare and labour systems in the global north and south alike, it is clear that young people are disproportionately (and in many contexts severely) adversely affected. Interest amongst IGOs during the early years of the unfolding crisis resulted in some measure of convergence in their emergent policy positions that reflected emphasis on pro-welfare policies in many nation-states, and fuelled interventions to increase demand for young people's labour (Fergusson and Yeates, 2014). Ten years after the GFC, with the normalisation of mass youth unemployment, the ephemeral neo-Keynesian policy revival seems to be receding rapidly. Now, the balance-sheet of interventions amongst IGOs leans towards supply-side measures and work-based conditionalisation of welfare entitlements. Two global partnership initiatives reflect these trends - the 'Youth Employment Network' and 'Solutions for Youth Employment'. This paper argues that their approaches largely promise to consolidate the characteristically-neoliberal trend. Both partnerships have a strong focus on improving the capabilities of young entrants to the labour market. Their priorities also suggest that advocacy of comprehensive, universalist social protection systems providing adequate unemployment benefits is weakening substantially. And yet the two key IGO players in both partnerships have also continued to adapt their own core positions in ways that would have been especially surprising before the GFC. The paper traces the mixed and sometimes apparently contradictory priorities of these two IGOs and the partnerships which they cohabit with other IGO, global-corporate and transnational Third Sector entities. It qualifies claims that they are dominated by neoliberal positions on labour market and social protection policies. It briefly discusses how these developments may bear upon the SDG ensuring that all young people will have full and productive employment in decent jobs by 2030.

Andrew M. Fischer

Segregationist implications of substitutive social policy reforms: redistribution and social integration within current mainstream reform agendas [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Debates about universalism and targeting in social policy have exhausted themselves, at least in realm of social protection, despite efforts to revive criticisms of targeting in the 2000s. The impasse in scholarship has been reached despite the fact that targeting is still very much *en rigeur* in actual social protection practice. Indeed, part of the problem emerges from confusions about what, exactly, universalism entails. The World Bank, for instance, has co-opted the term by including just about any sort of access to any sort of provisioning as falling under the umbrella of universal coverage. Even the agenda of universalism in various UN agencies has been whittled down to a minimalist understanding of universal coverage. However, these confusions have also been facilitated by the difficulties of establishing what would be the realistic and practical alternatives to targeting, especially in the field in social protection. More generally, as is often noted, elements of targeting are also required even within universalistic systems of provisioning. This leads to the position, in response to the critiques of targeting in otherwise cherished social protection

programmes, that targeting for the time being remains the only available and realistic contingency measure for addressing poverty in contexts of resource scarcity, high levels of informality, political obstacles to more ambitious redistributive agendas, and other constraints.

In this theoretical and conceptual paper, I propose a shift in the framing away from this classic debate because, in many respects, the most fundamental issues at stake are not most effectively framed in terms of targeting. Rather, questions of redistribution and segregation remain at the core and also extend beyond criticisms of targeting. Redistributive addresses the degree to which various policies are additive or substitutive within a broader mix of policy interventions, and hence the degree to which policy innovations add to existing interventions or merely substitute for the removal of other interventions, thereby amounting to no net additional benefit at the macro level, even though often shifting groups of beneficiaries in the process. For instance, the recent position on social protection by the IMF serves as a strong example of a substitutive approach. The second, related question is the extent to which social policy interventions enforce or deepen segregation within broader social provisioning systems, or else aim towards social integration within these systems (rather than sectoral integration within a targeting modality, as 'convergence' is conceived by the World Bank). In this respect, we have arguably been observing the normalisation of a segregationist approach to social provisioning and welfare systems over the last several decades, in both statist and neoliberal regimes.

Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Beth Watts

Localism, Devolution and Homelessness in England [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Under the Localism Act 2011, the Coalition Government ushered in a range of significant changes to housing and homelessness policies in England, including the introduction of fixed-term 'flexible' social tenancies, easier arrangements for local authorities to discharge their main homelessness duty via the offer of a private tenancy, and new powers for local authorities to restrict eligibility for access to their social housing. Arguably, these local 'flexibilities' served to undermine core aspects of the national 'housing settlement' which has historically played an important role in moderating the impact of the UK's relatively high income poverty levels.

At the same time, there has been growing reliance post-2010 on locally-determined forms of welfare such as Discretionary Housing Payments, Local Welfare Assistance funds and Council Tax support schemes, as national cash transfer schemes have been withdrawn or made much less generous. This 'localisation of welfare' has left behind a discretionary, uneven and inadequate safety net of local government support for low-income households in England, at a time of unprecedented cuts in local authority budgets, and contrasts sharply with the continuing commitment to more national-level protections in Scotland and Wales

The housing and welfare 'localism' agenda in England has been described as a 'disaster' for homelessness, with sharp increases in both rough sleeping and statutory homelessness since it was implemented. The National Audit Office has severely criticised the Government's "light touch" stance to working with local authorities on this issue, which it points out "contrasts with the more interventionist approach" taken during previous periods of high homelessness. The Public Accounts Committee has described the Government's "attitude" to reducing homelessness in England as "unacceptably complacent". These official criticisms arise directly from the Coalition-era ideological commitment to localism.

But with high-profile Mayoral commitments to address homelessness in Manchester, West Midlands and Liverpool, will city-regional devolution prove a more effective decentralisation mechanism for meeting the needs of vulnerable groups than localism? While the Mayors lack formal powers with regard to homelessness, they appear to be galvanising significant goodwill, enthusiasm and momentum behind cross-border and inter-sectoral approaches. This has generated "cautious optimism" amongst key stakeholders that Mayoral "fairydust" will help to achieve the positive impacts on homelessness that localism has so manifestly failed to deliver.

Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Glen Bramley, Filip Sosenko, Janice Blenkinsopp

Destitution in the UK in 2017: scale, causes and impacts

Corresponding author: Suzanne Fitzpatrick

Research funded by Joseph Rowntree Foundation

[Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

A major, multi-method study estimated that 1,250,000 people, including over 300,000 children, were destitute in the UK at some point in 2015. While certain groups of migrants were especially vulnerable to this extreme form of poverty, the great majority of those affected by destitution in the UK were born here. Key destitution 'triggers' included debt repayments (usually to public authorities); benefit delays and sanctions; high living costs; and, for some migrants, extremely low levels of benefits. Eighty qualitative interviews conducted with people affected by destitution revealed how 'humiliated' and 'degraded' they felt about having to seek help with basic material needs like food, clothes and toiletries from charities, friends or family. This paper will update these national estimates to establish the scale of destitution in the UK in 2017, and will identify emerging trends with respect to its overall prevalence and distribution. Drawing on forty new qualitative interviews undertaken as part of the 2017 update study, the paper will also offer a deeper analysis of the drivers of destitution amongst UK nationals who are, at least in theory, protected by the mainstream benefits system.

Adam Formby, Albert Varela

'A Stratified Job-search? An Analysis of the Shifting Patterns in how People in the UK find Work

[Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The 'job-search' process is of key sociological and policy interest. Both the strategies pursued by job seekers and the outcomes of their job searching are heavily stratified by social divisions as well as shaped by the institutional features of the labour market and the role of job matching agents – such as Jobcentre Plus. Given the major institutional, technological and demographic changes experienced in the British economy, we would expect that job search has likewise been transformed. This paper examines how job-search methods in the United Kingdom have evolved over time by analysing UK Labour Force Survey data from the early 1990s to the present day. Our main goal is to answer two related but different questions: (a) whether job searching methods have changed over the past two decades; and (b) whether the differences in job searching behaviour between different types of workers have themselves changed significantly. More specifically, we explore whether the job-search process in the UK has become increasingly educationally stratified; and what impact such polarisation has on Jobcentre Plus services. The paper will present an evaluation of such trends and discuss their implications and impact on employment policy more widely.

Mark Fransham

Neighbourhood poverty dynamics and the implications for area-based policy [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Neighbourhood policy in the UK has been declared dead since the 2010 coalition government withdrew funding. Nevertheless, much locally-driven policy retains area targeting and in due course it will no doubt become en vogue with central government once again. These policies have been justified on numerous grounds including using geographic areas as a proxy for targeting individuals, and tackling area effects. Areas are typically targeted using cross-sectional indicators of income poverty or multiple deprivation. This paper considers the utility of longitudinal measures of poverty in the design of area-based policy.

Using data from the UK Household Longitudinal Study from 2010-11 to 2013-14 with neighbourhood identifiers, it investigates the spatial distribution of persistent compared to current poverty, and estimates poverty entrance and exit rates by neighbourhood income poverty rate. Persistently poor individuals were more likely to live in high poverty areas than people who were observed as currently poor. Individuals living in the highest poverty areas were three times more likely than those living in lower poverty areas to enter poverty in a given year. By comparison, the difference between areas in poverty exit rates was much smaller. Controlling for factors known to be associated with poverty dynamics, working age individuals living in higher poverty neighbourhoods were more likely to enter poverty, and more likely to be persistently poor. The differential likelihood of poverty entrance and exit is consistent with an 'area effects' thesis, but could also be explained by selection effects.

Area-based policy is often focused on promoting poverty exit, but this research suggests that preventing poverty entry should be given greater priority in high poverty neighbourhoods. This paper illustrates the benefit of using longitudinal income data to inform area-based policy; future work could utilise fine-grained longitudinal administrative data to explore the heterogeneity of poverty dynamics among high poverty neighbourhoods.

Tsung-hsi Fu, Yi-Yu Guo

The take-up of Social assistance for immigrants in Taiwan [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

The numbers of immigrants have increased sharply in the last three decades in Taiwan, as in other East Asian countries. Therefore, social protection for immigrants has become an important issue as many of them face double jeopardies. First, the majority of them are female marriage immigrants who live in relatively less well-off families. Second, they may encounter more difficulties when applying for social security benefits compared to the native due to language barrier and lack of social capital. This study analyses the take-up of social assistance for immigrants. The purpose is to understand their experience on the applying process and explore possible obstacles. A qualitative approach is employed, and 15 immigrants are interviewed. They are from Mainland China, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia and Myanmar, which represent a good variety of their original nationalities. This study borrowed van Ooschot's framework and use four dimensions to analyse the issue of take-up, namely individual, social, administration and programme. Research findings confirm that immigrants face more obstacles when applying for social assistance. Individually, many of them face psychological self-constrain and thought their case might not be dealt with fairly due to the fact that they are immigrants. Socially, they have less social capital that might help them to get

necessary information and go through application process. The design of programme does not have substantial impact on their take-up as most of them knew little about it. The administration system, on the other hand, has massive impact. In the means-test process, the applicants' financial resources are to be accessed, as well as their parents' and their children's. Many immigrants have problems getting documents from their family who live in mother countries. Therefore, the flexibility and friendliness offered by administrators is of vital importance for them to get through the process. This study concludes by suggesting a more immigrant-friendly social assistance administration system to help those who are in need of state financial support.

Katrin Gasior

Income mobility through spatial mobility? The income situation of EU migrants in different tax-benefit regimes [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The European citizenship has opened new possibilities for spatial movements from one EU Member State to another. Its cornerstone is the Right of Free Movement for all EU citizens with a framework of regulations to administer the process and to decrease the bureaucratic barrier of migration from one EU Member State to another. Research on the actual improvements of the social situation of migrants after migrating to another country is scarce, with a strong focus on male earnings. While the restriction on male earnings is often justified on grounds of data availability, it leads to a blind spot concerning the role of household composition in terms of relative sufficiency of income and the role of social policy. The European citizenship offers an interesting case for studying the income situation of migrants. It enables European Union citizens to move from one country to another in a secure environment and to participate in the labour market based on well-defined rights and regulations.

In this paper, we assess how migration within the EU contributes to a change in disposable household income of EU migrants. The comparative approach takes the role of social policy into account and discusses how EU migrants are treated by different tax-benefit regimes in the European Union. The analysis is based on EU-SILC and focuses on welfare regimes rather than single destination countries due to the small sample size of EU migrants in the data. It uses disposable household income to show how the income situation of EU migrants differs from the native population and decomposes factors behind this difference. The income situation is furthermore assessed in comparison to the counterfactual income situation of migrants if they would still be living in their country of origin. We test the hypothesis that migration outcome is dependent on the composition of the migrant population and the role of institutions in fostering and moderating the income situation of this specific group. The analysis contributes to a better understanding of the income situation of EU migrants beyond employment income by emphasizing the role of the tax and benefit system.

Louise Gazeley

Socio-economic inequalities in university participation in England viewed through the lens of teachers' lived experiences. [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Successive governments in England have emphasised the importance of reducing socio-economic inequalities in rates of university participation, arguing that this is key to social mobility. However, messages around the potential value of participation require considerably more nuance following: the global financial crisis; the introduction of austerity measures under the Coalition/Conservative governments; increased concern around graduate under-employment; substantial increases in both

the short and long-term costs of a university education. This paper draws on one strand of the data collected via a small-scale, qualitative study conducted in the South East of England that was designed to explore the value of adopting more contextualised approaches to the local enactment of the widening participation agenda. It draws on the first-hand accounts of a small number of secondary school teachers located in four schools in differing types of local area, but all directly involved in the enactment of national 'disadvantage' policies. The semi-structured interviews that were conducted stimulated a process of reflection and the sharing of 'small stories' about their own experiences of university and that of family members. Although many had been socially mobile themselves these accounts nevertheless foregrounded concerns about uncertainty, cost and inequalities. Together they highlighted the need for more attention to be paid to the multi-dimensionality of university decision-making and the extent to which participation is a family rather than an individual practice and risk. The paper argues that the shrinking of the state that has taken place in England since 2010 has particular implications for life-long learning, something that emerged as potentially important for understanding teachers' experiences of social mobility even though widening participation policies typically focus on transitions to university at the end of statutory education.

Ling Ge, Sabrina (Hongxia) Chai, Vikki McCall

Housing and health care in China: Physical and social implications of housing on the elderly care [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

It has been estimated that the Chinese proportion of elderly will reach 30.4% in 2050, which will include 100 million elderly people over 80 years old (WHO, 2012). The rapid growth in aging population also implies the increasing pressure of the elderly care, particularly for those who got health issues. For example, dementia is the most common worldwide neurodegenerative disease of aging, and the number of people with dementia in China was projected to reach 14.1 million by 2020 and 23.3 million by 2030, costing the country up to US\$114.2 billion (Bull World Health Organ, 2017). Besides, China has changed from traditional courtyard dwellings to high-rise dwellings, which implies changes in the private space and the lifestyle of Chinese families, especially the adequate environment for the care of the elderly (Ekblad & Werne, 1990; Wang & Murie, 2000; Feng et al., 2012). However, little is known about how to link the housing support with the elderly health care, especially for those with dementia in different regions in China. It is critical to address the lack of evidence and knowledge around the impact and role of housing in elderly care under the urban development in China. As the initial stage of a UK-China interdisciplinary and cross-sectional project entitled ASUME International: Evaluating volunteering in dementia care across different welfare regimes. This paper aims to provide a comprehensive literature view on the current situation of elderly care and housing in China, so as to explore the potential for a cross-country comparative framework in areas of health, social care, housing and urban development.

Ling Ge, Sabrina Chai, Carolyn Snell

Rethinking the urban informality: Lessons from informal housing in China [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Many of the significant urban transformations are taking place in the developing world. In particular, informality, once associated with conventional negative thoughts, is now seen as a generalised mode of metropolitan urbanisation (Roy, 2005). Much of this urban growth today happens in

informal housing (Roy & AlSayyad, 2004) and astonishing figures show that millions of migrants living in urban informal housing as part of the urbanisation, migration, dual urban and rural household registration system (Hukou) and dysfunctional housing provision occurring in Beijing, China. Although being different forms from slums or squatter settlements in other countries (Turner, 1978; UN-Habitat, 2003), these growing informal housing in Beijing are also associated with similar issues such as inappropriate infrastructure, insecure land tenure, potential safety issues, spatial segregation, social exclusion informal sector and informal network etc. However, both theoretical and empirical studies on informal housing in Beijing are limited.

This paper will review the diverse mechanisms behind the complexity of urban housing informality in China. The further fieldwork will interview with political and academic elites, conduct survey with informal housing dwellers; as well as apply ethnography through in-depth interview and observations of their life in informal housing. It explores the built environment of informal housing developments from physical, social, economic and political dimensions through different stakeholders' perspectives. This paper aims to rethink the value of informal properties and improve the understanding within informal housing area, so as to enable Beijing Municipality Government and housing professionals to accumulate, eliminate, and integrate informal housing areas within formal planning zones, promote urban development and alleviate housing poverty in China.

Val Gillies

What future in mind? Social investment and youth mental health [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This paper explores the UK policy response to apparent sharp increases in psychological distress experienced by the young, amidst a shortage of clinical provision for their needs. In the context of alarmist media coverage, the mental health of children and young people has become something of a cause celebre. Politicians, celebrities and even key members of the British monarchy have campaigned around the issue of child mental health, with the Government launching a range of initiatives and policy documents (including the influential report, Future in Mind). This paper will explore how the contemporary agenda to promote children's wellbeing is shaped by a vision of a future in which core personal attributes and capacities determine happiness through the empowerment of choice, emotional stability and rational decision making. More specifically, I show how this strategic orientation drives current school-based wellbeing initiatives to identify mental distress and intervene early, build resilience and reduce the stigma of mental illness. Informed by the logic human capital and social investment these approaches seek to inculcate durable self-identities, aspirational mindsets and self-management techniques in the young to offset deteriorating social and material realities. I conclude by exploring the interface between values, knowledge and policy, highlighting alternative understandings of positive mental health.

Jon Glasby

'Creating NHS local' – relationships between the NHS and local government [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

2018 is the 70th anniversary of the NHS, and there are a series of events and celebrations taking place across the country to recognise this milestone. However, 2018 is also the anniversary of the passage of the National Assistance Act and the creation of today's adult social care system. At the time there were debates about whether to create a national health service, or whether to root

health services in a local government-led system. While the former view won out, the need to create more joined-up health and social services and to promote more integrated care has been a longstanding ambition almost ever since. Against this background, this paper reviews the boundary between health and adult social care, summarises lessons learned about how best to work across organisational and professional boundaries and sets out proposals for future joint working. This is described as a process of ‘creating NHS local’ – seeking to bring together the technical and clinical skills of the NHS with the role of local government as a strategic ‘place-shaper’ and in promoting social and economic well-being.

Caroline Glendinning, Mathew Wills

Achieving Sustainable Reform to Social Care Funding: What can England learn from German social insurance approach? [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Yet another Consultation Document (Green Paper) on achieving sustainable reform to the funding of adult social care is promised for summer 2018 – the latest in a series of Commissions and Inquiries carried out both within and outside Government over more than 20 years. However, it comes at a time when social care in England is widely believed to be in crisis, reflecting both the failure to maintain pace with demographic change and successive cuts in local authority budgets. Public funding is available only to those with the highest-level needs; unmet personal care needs are evident; and family carers are carrying increasing unsupported responsibilities. The largely private ‘market’ of care providers – both residential and domiciliary – is now increasingly fragile as a result of funding pressures and associated difficulties recruiting and retaining staff; these pressures are reflected in poor quality inspection ratings.

English social care increasingly resembles the situation in Germany before the introduction of a long-term care social insurance scheme in 1994 – fragmented, residual and heavily dependent on local government funding and stigmatising means-tests. Since then German long-term care insurance has experienced 20 years of relative stability. Moreover, a series of reforms from 2002 onwards have introduced significant expansions of the scheme. Eligibility criteria have been extended to include people with dementia and other cognitive impairments. Comprehensive new entitlement regulations from January 2017 have also resulted in substantial increases in benefits for 95% of existing beneficiaries. Investment in the previously poor care infrastructure has continued: quality monitoring in nursing homes has been significantly stepped up; ‘expert standards of care’ (akin to NICE guidelines) have been introduced; and measures introduced to prevent or delay increased needs for care and promote the health and rehabilitation of nursing home residents. Social protection measures for family carers have also been strengthened. All these have been accomplished with only a very modest increase in contribution rates.

The paper will describe these reforms and discuss the key features of German long-term care insurance that contribute to both its financial sustainability and its political popularity. Despite differences in institutional structures and the consequent pressures of path dependency in each country, we argue that key features of German long-term care social insurance offer important lessons for a sustainable approach in England.

Ian Goodwin-Smith, Selina Tually, Debbie Faulkner, Victoria Skinner, David Pearson

Ending street homelessness in Adelaide, South Australia [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The Institute of Global Homelessness (a partnership between DePaul University, Chicago and DePaul International, London) is engaging with 150 cities around the world to end street homelessness by 2030. At the forefront of this global effort to address street homelessness is the work of a small group of Vanguard Cities working towards ending street homelessness by 2020. This group of cities will pave the way for the larger global movement, leading by demonstration and example. Adelaide in South Australia is a Vanguard City, and the Australian Centre for Community Services Research (Flinders University) is collaborating on research to underpin Adelaide's work to end homelessness, known as the Adelaide Zero Project. Using Community Solution's Functional Zero Approach, the Adelaide Zero Project is a Collective Impact Initiative which has galvanised the commitment of over thirty organisations from across the public, private, community and university sectors. The common commitment is to end street homelessness in the Adelaide CBD. The presentation will outline the process which was undertaken to move the Adelaide Zero project from concept to implementation, and will further outline the structure, mechanisms and components which constitute the architecture of the project. Early outcomes data and the evaluation approach will also be presented, along with an explanation of the ongoing research agenda required to underpin the evolution of the project.

Peter Taylor-Gooby, Benjamin Leruth, Heejung Chung

Moral Economies of the Welfare State: a comparison of welfare state attitudes in Germany, Norway and the UK [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This paper uses a new approach - democratic forums - to examine attitudes to UK welfare futures in a comparative context. Democratic forums provide insight into how people understand the welfare state based on their own framing of the issues rather than that of policy-makers or researchers, who typically decide on the questions and the answer categories in pre-coded sample surveys. They are large group discussions with 30-40 participants and only light-touch moderation. They take place over an extended period, in our case two days.

Our research resolves a number of puzzles in welfare state attitude studies. These concern the conflict between the valuing of individual responsibility and deservingness and the evident support for highly-valued public services such as the NHS; the contradiction between the neo-liberalism of open markets and the exclusion of immigrants from the UK labour market; and the endorsement of social investment despite the neo-liberal rejection of interventionism. It also shows how a popular framing of welfare that undermines the idea of an inclusive welfare state predominates over one that reinforces it. A cross-national comparative component to the research shows how unusual the way many people frame the welfare state is in a European context.

The research is based on two-day democratic forums taking place in 2015 in the West Midlands with 36 participants and material from similar forums in Cologne and Oslo. We are grateful to NORFACE for support under grant number 462-14-050 and acknowledge the help and support of Benjamin Leruth (University of Canberra), Heejung Chung and Adrienn Gyorgy (University of Kent), and of Bjorn Hvinden and Mi Ah Schoyen (NOVA) and of Steffen Mau (Humboldt University). Further details are available from Taylor-Gooby, P. and Leruth, B. (eds 2018) *Attitudes, Aspirations and Welfare*, Palgrave Macmillan and at www.welfsoc.eu

Ann Marie Gray

Not what we had expected? Public attitudes to abortion in Northern Ireland [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The 1967 Abortion Act has not been extended to Northern Ireland. Successive Westminster governments and the current DUP-supported Conservative government suggest that the issue can only be legislated for from Stormont because attitudes to abortion in NI are very different to those in the rest of the UK. In 2016, as part of an ESRC funded study, the Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey (NILTS) asked the Northern Ireland public their views on a range of issues relating to abortion and abortion law. This is the most comprehensive survey of public attitudes on abortion to date. This paper explores what the findings of the survey tell us about attitudes to abortion in NI. The findings indicate that while attitudes are not as liberal as in Britain, they are not so different as to warrant the very much more restrictive regime in the region. They show that abortion legislation in Northern Ireland is out of step with public opinion and there is very strong support for changes to the law in a range of circumstances.

Ian Greener

Crisis in the NHS: What do it mean, and what are the consequences? [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The NHS in 2018 is said to be in crisis. This may well be the case, but in order to understand what this means, we must first consider what we mean by 'crisis', and then work out what specifically about the current situation fits with 'crisis', in order to be able to consider that the implications of 'crisis' might be. This paper considers NHS crisis theoretically from three different perspectives – the first two derived from the meaning of crisis as either a critical moment or a moment of decision (with the two not always corresponding to one another), and the third derived from perhaps the most prominent 'crisis theory' – that of Marxism (as expressed especially in the work of Jessop). It then explores two sources of data – occurrences of the word 'crisis' in national newspaper headlines, and in commentators on the NHS (including Klein, Baggott, and Webster) to consider which events appear to fit with the different definitions of crisis outlined theoretically, and how they fit with the situation today. Having done this, we can then consider whether the current situation represents a particular form of crisis, how it compares with other events which have been labelled as crises, and what the consequences of the present situation are likely to be, especially in the light of overarching theories of policy change such as that proposed by Kingdon.

Lee Gregory

The making of a "welfare scandal": insights from the Grenfell incident [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Debates about the construction and impact of scandal on welfare provision have received some attention within the social sciences. Primarily found within the field of Social Work and more broadly public policy these investigations explore the aftermath of an event to consider its impacts on policy and practice. Drawing on the analytical framework offered by Butler and Drakeford (2003) and others in public policy literature this paper examines the Grenfell incident to consider if this has the makings of a scandal that will change welfare provision or whether it is a "failed scandal" and unlike to generate policy change. As such the paper briefly reviews the key theories and analytical frameworks of scandal generation in relation to policy making - outline both the components of success and failure in creating policy change. This is then applied to Grenfell to consider whether this incident fiasco (to use the term offered by Bovens and t'Hart) will create change in housing policy.

Jordan Griffiths

The Experience of Social Policy Change for Voluntary Advice Organisations in Liverpool [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Voluntary advice organisations play a critical role in supporting members of their local community, delivering important advice services for individuals who are navigating social policy changes. These organisations are facing an increasingly difficult period as recent government decisions are placing pressure on voluntary advice organisations to redefine and adapt their services, whilst also negotiating the external social pressures being faced in the community (Kirwan et al., 2017). The experience of these changes and pressures can differ between types of organisation, such as those that are nationally affiliated and non-nationally affiliated. These changes can also affect staff and volunteers who provide these advisory services in different ways, having direct implications for the local communities that they serve.

This paper will present findings from PhD research based on a qualitative multi-site case study, examining the differences both between and within voluntary advice organisations in the Liverpool area during the current era of austerity. One of the initial themes that will be discussed is how being affiliated to a national body affects the provision of voluntary advice. The paper will also explore whether an organisation that is not nationally affiliated has closer connections and understanding of the local community. Similar themes relating to staff within the organisations will be presented, identifying how changes both positively and negatively influence the advice-giving process for managers, employees and volunteers.

Rita Griffiths

Why couples separate: the role of means-tested benefits [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Unemployed couples are known to have higher rates of relationship breakdown, separation and divorce than couples in which one or both partners are in regular paid work. However, how and why unemployment increases the risk of partnership dissolution is not fully understood and remains the subject of much theorising. Research suggests that the greater financial and social strain of living on a low income may be an important factor, while popular discourse highlights the incentivising effects of lone-parent benefits which are claimed to encourage intact couples with children to split or pretend to separate. Either way, the assumption is that increased relationship instability arises due to couples having less money in the household. Based on a series of in-depth, face-to-face interviews with low income mothers who had experience of separation or divorce, this paper explores whether eligibility for, or receipt of, means-tested benefits or tax credits may have been a contributory factor in partnership dissolution. The research found no evidence of contrived separation. Of greater relevance to dissolution decisions than the need or desire for more money was unequal power and control over the household budget. More salient to relationship instability than the total amount of money going into the household, therefore, was who had access to it, how well it was managed and how it was spent. To the extent that welfare systems can influence who in a couple has access to household income, the structure and administration of means-tested benefits were found to be having an important contributory effect. With the accelerated roll-out of Universal Credit presently underway, policy implications of paying the benefit to couples jointly in the form of a single monthly award are discussed.

Çağla Gün

Public-Private Partnership in the Turkish Health Care Provision [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

The role of the for-profit private sector in providing healthcare system is growing unprecedentedly throughout the world as a solution to the public budget problems stemming from rising costs of medical care and medical technology, commitments to the universal care coverage and rapidly ageing population of countries. After the implementation of a full-scale reform agenda of Health Transform Program (HTP) in 2003, private sector involvement in the publicly funded Turkish health care provision is gradually fostered by the regulatory initiatives of public authorities and both national and global private interest in the healthcare provision has increased subsequently. As a last chain of privatization and commercialization process in the Turkish pluralistic health system, the so-called Public-Private Partnership model in the health care delivery has been initiated recently. Learned from the PFI (Private Finance Initiative) model in the UK health system in which a public authority contracts with a private company to build-finance and operate an entire medical campus, health bureaucrats of Turkey established a novel model in the health care provision, namely city hospitals. Drawing on the experiences of the other countries, particularly the PFI of UK health system, this research seeks to understand the main parameters pertaining the issues of privatization in the health system of Turkey and the processes through which the private sector inclusion in the Turkish health system is consolidated. The main inquiry of research is the case of PPP practice of building and operating a hospital and how it has changed the nature of publicly-dominated health service delivery in which private agents has begun to assume public roles. Building on above mentioned trends, this paper explores the following questions: How has the Turkish state furthered the private involvement in the health system delivery after the implementation of a large-scale reform program of HTP? In this context of increased private sector involvement, what are the main characteristics of PPP implementation into the Turkish hospital provision and how it has been changing the hitherto publicly dominated health care provision? What are the prominent contradictions between the health care sector as an area of industrial development strategy of Turkish economic policy and the health care system as a major domain of social policy seeking to provide public health needs and universal health coverage for all?

Hefin Gwilym

Universal Credit and Universal Confusion: Evaluating Conditionality in the Era of the Non-Economic Policy of Austerity. [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Universal Credit was introduced as a policy idea by the Coalition Government, 2010-15 and the concept was widely supported by all political parties. Universal Credit conveniently fits into the ideology of welfare to work, including making work pay. This research project is about evaluating the roll-out of Universal Credit on Anglesey – to find out how successful it has been and what problems might have emerged on the island. Four researchers will be working on the project from March 2018 the roll-out date. Since its inception as a policy idea Universal Credit has undergone many challenges in its introduction as a new form of welfare benefit -replacing six previous benefits including housing benefit and income support. It has been dogged by technical difficulties and negative feedback following piloting in certain areas of the country, including Flintshire.

Anglesey has some of the poorest communities in Wales with three Communities First areas (two in Holyhead and one in Llangefni) indicating serious levels of multiple disadvantages. According to the ONS (Office for National Statistics) Anglesey is the poorest area in the UK according to the Gross

Value-Added figures (GVA) -measuring how wealth is generated through production and services. Anglesey has serious problems with both town and rural poverty in Wales making it an ideal place to research the impact of Universal Credit from its roll-out in March 2018.

This presentation shares preliminary findings from the research with a focus on food security, housing security and finding suitable employment as a result of Universal Credit roll-out.

Rachel Harding

(Re-) Constructing Rough Sleeping Experiences: interpretations from secondary analysis of a statistical dataset about Multiply Excluded Homeless People [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Promoting social inclusion for rough sleepers in the UK is a challenging prospect. By comparing the detailed experiences and needs between rough sleepers and a larger, multiply-excluded homelessness (MEH) non-rough sleeping population within the last decade, some clear differences emerge. Using simple univariate and bi-variate analysis of two comprehensive datasets from the ESRC RES-188-25-0023 archive, the rough sleeping experiences of 1286 MEH men and women at initial screening, and 452 at extended questionnaire stage, the sub-populations of those who were and were not sleeping rough are directly compared. The extended questionnaire, with 750 variables, showed some similar characteristics across both the rough sleeping and non-rough sleeping groups, for example regarding formative childhood experiences including homelessness up to the age of 16 years. Other features, such as alcohol and drug use, show differences depending on whether someone was sleeping rough or not, with rough sleepers reporting more alcohol use than non-rough sleepers who reported more drug use. Most striking is that rough sleepers were much less likely to have had access to professional support, such as housing, mental health, or drug and alcohol workers. Furthermore, 91% MEH who were not sleeping rough reported they had received welfare benefits at some point in their adult life, compared to 34.4% of those who were sleeping rough. The dataset, archived in 2011, is probably the most extensive statistical evidence about MEH and rough sleeping constructed in the UK. While MEH social policy has since developed, questions remain pertinent regarding how to promote the social inclusion of rough sleepers, thus transforming the lives of some of the most marginalised and vulnerable people today.

Dan Heap

An emergent Scottish social security system? [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The devolution to Scotland of a range of powers over social security is an important stage in the process of Scottish devolution and, depending on how these powers are used, in the development of social security policy in a part of the UK which has for some time attempted to resist the increasingly regressive welfare reforms developed by the UK Government.

Powers over Personal Independence Payment, Disability Living Allowance and Carer's Allowance, amongst other benefits, and the power to top-up reserved benefits all potentially provide the opportunity for Scotland to develop a radically different social security system.

Certainly, the Scottish Government has sought to articulate a vision which is different to the UK welfare reform agenda, emphasising that a new system will be built on the principles of dignity and respect for social security applicants and recipients. What limited powers the Scottish Government has previously had have been used to mitigate UK-imposed cuts, most notably the 'Bedroom Tax'.

But, establishing a new system will be challenging on a whole number of levels. Both in the sense of setting up a large and complex new public service and extricating a range of benefits from the UK system, it is arguably the biggest task ever undertaken by the Scottish Government. The Scottish Government has limited social security policymaking experience and will likely need to rapidly upscale its policymaking and administrative capacity. Perhaps the biggest task will be establishing a replacement for Personal Independence Payment and Disability Living Allowance, the single biggest group of benefits being devolved. PIP has been heavily criticised by the current Scottish Government, but it has not yet explained what a new system would look like, and nor is it clear whether it is willing to restore what has been lost by DLA recipients in the migration to PIP.

The paper provides an account of the process of devolution so far; lays out the challenges facing the Scottish Government in using the new devolved, and examines the extent to which a new social security system might emerge in Scotland.

Elke Heins, Hartwig Pautz

The politics of wellbeing – the career of a transformative policy concept in Scotland [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The concept of 'wellbeing' has received considerable attention from policy-makers worldwide with and since the eruption of the Global Financial Crisis in 2007/08. By replacing or at least supplementing the increasingly criticised measure of GDP as a yardstick for a society's success, a stronger focus on wellbeing would arguably constitute a third-order paradigm change in social policy making.

However, while wellbeing has become a frequently used term in public and political discourse, it is debatable whether it so far has led to different policies even where it has been embraced by decision-makers. An exploration of the reasons for the success or failure of wellbeing as a policy concept is worthwhile, given the potential for stimulating a step change in policy inherent in the concept, but also given the public debate around it. Such an exploration requires, inter alia, an analysis of the actor constellation around the policy concept. Wellbeing is by definition a broad, vague and unwieldy concept. Perhaps because of this very nature, wellbeing has attracted a diverse and broad coalition of supporters from across the political spectrum and from a wide range of societal interests. Thus, both the nature of the concept and the constitution of this coalition imply significant potential for internal tensions and contradictions when wellbeing policies are developed and implemented. That means its potential for addressing crucial social policy concerns, most notably the tackling of outcomes such as poverty or inequality, may stand or fall depending on the actor constellation.

This paper focusses on the career of the wellbeing concept in Scotland since the publication of the 2009 'Stiglitz Report' which recommended the establishment of national 'wellbeing roundtables' to assemble relevant stakeholders with the aim to advance the development of the concept and its implementation in national policies. Such a roundtable was set up in Scotland in 2010. Taking this roundtable as a starting point for the analysis, the paper seeks to a) map the development of the policy concept through the analysis of the network of the wellbeing coalition, b) to understand whether this actor constellation has hindered the effectiveness of the policy concept or otherwise,

and c) to discuss whether the nature of the wellbeing concept has helped to create the actor constellation and thus whether this nature could be either crucial to any success of the concept or, in contrast, be a reason for its failure in the Scottish context.

Fiona Henderson, Audrey Mutongi, Geoff Whittam

The emergence of social innovation in social enterprise: An analytical framework [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Generating socially innovative ways to provide sustainable social care for older people is increasingly important as the UK population ages and the costs of providing social care rise dramatically. However, we know very little about how social innovation emerges in social enterprise as a response to policy developments. A gap also exists in the engagement of social policy researchers with social innovations arising from welfare reforms (Ayob et al, 2016; Evers & Brandsen, 2016). To address these concerns, this study examines socially innovative services developed by the social enterprise sector in response to the Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013. This act requires local authorities to manage Self-Directed Support (SDS) implementation, including promoting four options for individuals to control their own social care budget.

This research investigated four social innovations located in social enterprises specialising in older people's social care. Interviews were conducted with social enterprise staff responsible for creating and/or managing each social innovation. Additional interviews were conducted with external representatives who independently identified the activities as socially innovative. Stakeholders were asked to describe their perception of the emergent process; their understanding of what social innovation is; and the internal and external facilitators and constraints impacting upon its development. Secondary data was collected from sources such as marketing materials, business documentation and media reports on each social innovation. A thematic analysis was then conducted to broadly organise the data and develop a descriptive narrative before further thematic analysis developed categories from the emergent patterns. These findings then informed the construction of a definitional matrix and an analytical framework describing the emergence of social innovation in social enterprise.

Martin Heneghan

Organising for Impact: International Organisations and Global Pension Reform [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

This paper argues that the internal dynamics and politics of international organisations have a substantial impact on how international policy agendas are set. It proposes that international organisations are open systems, which respond and adapt to the external policy environment, in order to remain relevant in global policymaking. It draws on an analysis of the internal politics of the World Bank and International Labour Organisation to show how at different times, both organisations' internal political battles and restructuring, as a response to a changing policy environment, have been decisive in their global impact on pensions policy. The appointment of key personnel can often be instrumental in certain policy ideas gaining prominence over others. It contends that global social policy scholars need to pay greater attention to these change agents in order to better understand the international agenda setting process.

Paul Henery

Informal care and health outcomes in older people: exploring measures of multimorbidity

[Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

The older population within developed countries is steadily increasing, leading to increased pressure on health services. Most of this demographic have multiple conditions (multimorbidity), which is difficult to measure in a methodological context. In Scotland, efforts are being made to integrate health and social care under one joint body in order to provide a person-centred environment where older people with complex needs receive tailored care at home. In this context it is important to consider the supplemental effect of informal care, which is usually provided by close family members and not subject to means assessment.

Objectives: This study intends to determine which is the best tool for predicting both mortality and informal care use amongst older people. The effect of informal care on mortality in conjunction with multimorbidity is also considered. In addition, this study attempts to derive the best predictive model for both mortality and use of care, using additional explanatory variables such as deprivation, age and sex.

This quantitative longitudinal study uses multiple waves of the Scottish Health Survey (SHeS) linked to SMR admissions data. It considers the impact of multiple measures of multimorbidity (such as self-reported or ICD-10 flagged condition indices) on outcomes such as mortality or receipt of informal care using nested logistic regression models with summary statistics such as the AIC, BIC, R-squared and ROC curve.

A limited version of the Charlson Comorbidity Index (CCI) outperforms other multimorbidity measures when predicting mortality, whilst a weighted self-report measure performs best when predicting informal care uptake. Informal care use is associated with higher likelihood of mortality when controlling for other factors.

Goretti Horgan

The experiences of women in Northern Ireland who self-manage abortions outside the law

[Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The 1967 Abortion Act was never extended to Northern Ireland. As a result, women in the region who need to end a pregnancy have to travel to Britain to obtain a legal abortion. Over the last decade, increasing numbers have accessed medical abortions using telemedicine i.e. getting abortion pills from one of the two feminist websites that provide remote access to doctors and provide abortion pills to those for whom there are no contraindications. This paper presents findings from an ESRC funded study of the experiences and views of women in Northern Ireland who have used these pills to self-manage abortions outside the law. While the pills are extremely safe and the same as those used in the NHS, the fact that there have been prosecutions, and convictions, of women for using the pills causes a huge amount of fear in case they might need medical assistance and seeking this help would lead to their arrest. In spite of that fear, most of the women interviewed say that, had free NHS abortions been available to them when they self-managed their abortion, they would not have travelled for a legal abortion. There are a range of reasons why they would not have travelled including childcare, abusive partners and work commitments.

Ceri Hughes, Ruth Lupton

How might city devolution change economic and social outcomes [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Since 2011 a series of deals have charted the transfer of powers and resources to city regions in England, Scotland and Wales. The process has been uneven and has mainly been cast as a means of securing additional economic growth and spatial economic rebalancing, and, to a lesser extent, greater accountability. Little attention has yet been paid to claims that it might enable the development of policies that better reflect and respond to local need.

The paper considers whether policies currently emerging at city-level are likely to lead to improved social and economic outcomes. It considers the extent and significance of city-region devolution thus far, and how and where concern for social and economic inequalities and poverty feature in this picture. Acknowledging that city devolution is developing at different speeds, the paper draws on research on Greater Manchester with reference to developments in other English city regions.

Gyu-Jin Hwang

How fair are unemployment benefits? The Experience of East Asia [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

In an era of permanent austerity unemployment provision is often one of the first areas that have experienced retrenchment. Despite the increasing emphasis on active labour market measures, unemployment benefits still remain as an integral part of social protection. While there are a number of different ways to protect people against the contingency of unemployment, the provision of periodic cash benefits (i.e., unemployment benefits) is one of the most important components and commonly used methods. Unemployment benefits can be financed either by general revenue or by insurance contributions (or a mix of the two). When they pay out, they can be either flat rate or earnings-related. Tax-financed unemployment benefits are often linked with the flat-rate benefits whereas contributory insurance-based provisions are associated with earnings-related benefits. However, unlike other contributory social insurance provisions such as health insurance and old-age pensions, unemployment benefits are often very restricted. Despite the fact that they are not means-tested, they are time-limited, capped and conditional upon job-search activity. This paper first discusses the logic behind the very design of various forms of unemployment benefits. It then examines how the design of unemployment benefit can be understood from a fairness point of view. It takes the cases of four East Asian countries – Japan, South Korea, China and Taiwan – to examine the extent to which they institutionalise fairness into the system of unemployment benefits. The findings are discussed against some of the conflicting principles that shape the system of unemployment benefit.

Steve lafrati

Beyond licensing and housing regulations: Supporting vulnerable tenants in houses of multiple occupation [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Downward pressure in the housing market, created by demand exceeding supply as well as welfare and financial influences, has led to more people entering a crowded private rented sector, with some people pushed down the housing ladder into low cost private rented (LCPR) housing.

The most vulnerable tenants, with limited choice increasingly find themselves in houses of multiple occupation (HMOs). With HMOs concentrated in deprived areas, a growing body of literature is

recognising the routes to living in HMOs and the potential problems of concentrating a disproportionate population of vulnerable people, including people with mental health problems, substance abuse problems, and those who have previously been rough sleeping, in care or released from prison.

In response to growing numbers of HMOs in specific neighbourhoods, many local authorities have reflected on the role of housing regulations. Whilst important, this risks overlooking that this is also a 'people problem' and the role of housing has mainly been to concentrate vulnerable people in specific neighbourhoods. The HMOs did not create the vulnerability, and nor will it be resolved through housing regulations. Whilst it is important for housing not to exacerbate vulnerability, this is only a part of the solution, with more resources needing to be focussed on vulnerable people in specific neighbourhoods.

Working with a unitary authority, CAB, letting agents and other partners to look at how these issues might be addressed, there is concern that tenants are potentially 'warehoused' with no connection to the neighbourhood and have unaddressed needs that are damaging to themselves and the neighbourhood. This, currently, is leading to a disproportionate amount of resources spent on responding to outcomes in these areas. To balance the focus on housing regulations, a greater awareness of the life course of vulnerable residents is needed to understand the impact of previous experiences, their experience of living in an HMO, and also their future plans.

The growth in HMOs can, in some respects, be understood as a private sector 'model' of social housing. However, at its core is a market failure whereby the public good of housing is not covered by the landlord and, in many cases, housing is increasingly becoming a public bad, both for the neighbourhoods and the tenants.

Nabila Idris

Politics of Social Protection: Political settlement behind Bangladesh's National Social Security Strategy [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Social protection's marked presence in several of the Sustainable Development Goals, along with its role in ameliorating some of the adverse effects of the global financial crisis, has catapulted it into greater prominence recently. But although it is responsible for the rise and fall of regimes across the world, the politics behind the social protection policy choices made by national and international stakeholders remains relatively underexplored. An emerging body of literature shows that the particular form social protection will take in a specific country will depend on the political settlement in that country. Political settlement refers to the common understanding among contending groups in society, crucially the elites, regarding how resources and power will be distributed and exercised. This paper outlines a research project to study the development of Bangladesh's social protection policy using the political settlements approach. Curiously, Bangladesh's most recent policy document on social security—the 2015 National Social Security Strategy—devotes scant attention to policies usually understood to be social security, such as unemployment benefit, employment injury protection, health insurance etc. Instead it is heavy with forms of social protection best known as safety nets, i.e. targeted intervention for the poor. This conspicuously side-lines a vulnerable group traditionally most protected by social security, and usually a powerful political lobby that needs to be catered to: labour. The paper therefore provides preliminary answers to two interlinked questions: a) Why does Bangladesh's national social security strategy employ the logic of safety nets? and b) Why does Bangladesh's national social security strategy not cater to labour? This study is significant because understanding political settlements will be essential to operationalising an effective and contextualised Agenda 2030 across the world.

Hannah Jobling

A virtual asylum? Coercion in community mental health and its contribution to felt stigma [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

There is a long-standing association between stigma and mental health difficulties. Erving Goffman's landmark sociological treatment of stigma (1963) drew in part from his earlier observations of everyday life and interactions in mental institutions, and the potentially stigmatising consequences of diagnosis (1961). More recently, the focus of research and policy has shifted to understanding public attitudes towards people with mental health difficulties, and the subsequent stigmatisation that arises from such attitudes. Public education campaigns like Time to Change are aimed at changing perceptions of mental health problems, and combatting active discrimination against people with mental health difficulties. However, less attention has been paid to the potential of mental health policy to reinforce stigma. In this paper, I present findings from a study that explores enforced treatment in the community, and specifically the responses of those individuals made subject to it. In particular, I highlight the stigmatising effects of a policy intervention which can act as a 'virtual asylum' and thus magnify the sense of difference and 'outsiderdom' experienced by individuals with severe mental health difficulties. I draw on the politics of (mis)recognition (Honneth, 1995) to contextualise these findings within the concepts of citizenship and personhood, arguing for the central place of the 'moral imagination' in policy enactment.

Mathew Johnson, Aristeia Koukiadaki, Núria Sánchez-Mira

Different means to the same end? The value (and limits) of socially responsible procurement in older people's care in the UK and Spain [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Drawing on a comparative analysis of municipal council procurement processes in the UK and Spain, this paper analyses the impact of labour clauses in contracts for outsourced care services in different institutional and labour market contexts. Building on the analytical approach of Jaehrling et al. (forthcoming) we contrast the 'compensatory' role of labour clauses in weak systems of labour market regulation such as the UK care sector with the potentially 'complementary' role for labour clauses in Spain where collective bargaining has survived (albeit in a weakened state).

Although labour clauses in various forms such as minimum wage protections for outsourced workers and automatic extension mechanisms for collective agreements have long been used to prevent 'undercutting' among private providers of public services, the notion of social value procurement has given fresh impetus to the systematic incorporation of non-commercial considerations into external contracts (Barnard 2011; Jaehrling 2015; McCrudden 2007), including 'living wage' clauses (Johnson 2017; Koukiadaki 2014). However the extent to which such clauses constitute 'binding' rules for sub-contractors and the extent to which they transmit strong signals to the market about desired workforce standards are heavily shaped by the institutional context, and the relative strength of social partners in different countries, regions and municipalities.

We find that irrespective of national context, 'left-wing' councils and trade unions increasingly view 'socially responsible' procurement as a pragmatic (but partial) solution to the problem of low wages and variable working hours among care workers. We also find that although labour clauses can partially 'compensate' for absent mechanisms of collective bargaining as observed in the UK, it requires significant additional resources for external contracts (which may not be feasible at all councils) and the fragmentation of wage setting means that there is relatively limited diffusion of positive wage gains to other areas. In contrast, in Spain despite the presence of a collective agreement for care workers, the unions appear sceptical towards the possibility of negotiating higher wages outside of the existing institutional arrangements, and are also wary of new local contracts for care services that potentially reorganise working practices and blur professional boundaries. Across both countries, strong austerity pressures acting on public expenditures, combined with the low value attached to care work in the labour market remain major barriers to improving wages and working conditions.

Andy Jolly

Statutory Neglect, Social Work and Undocumented Migrant Families in the UK [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Families in the UK with an irregular migration status are excluded from mainstream welfare provision through the no recourse to public funds (NRPF) rule, and statutory children's social work services are one of the few welfare services available to undocumented migrant families. This paper draws on semi-structured interviews with undocumented migrant families who are accessing children's support services to illustrate the sometimes-uneasy relationship between child welfare law and immigration control. Outlining the legislative and policy context for social work with undocumented migrant families in the UK, it argues that the exclusion of migrant families from the welfare state by government policy amounts to a form of 'statutory neglect' which is incompatible

with the global social work profession's commitment to social justice and human rights. The article concludes with some comparative examples of how the social exclusion of undocumented migrants has been challenged in a variety of contexts in the UK and internationally.

Katy Jones, Lisa Scullion, Sharon Wright

'Just managing'? Exploring the experiences of welfare users at the margins of the UK labour market [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

There is increasing policy concern about high levels of 'non-standard employment' (NSE) in the UK labour market (Green and Livanos, 2015; May, 2016). NSE includes variable- and short-hour contracts, marginal self-employment, and informal employment. Those working in NSE are at a higher risk of 'in-work poverty', and have been found to have limited opportunities for progression to more secure, better paid jobs (Ray et al, 2014). Against this backdrop, an increasingly 'conditional' welfare system aims to incentivise work, tackle 'dependency', and cut welfare expenditure. This has involved the recent introduction of 'in-work conditionality' to welfare claimants, placing responsibilities on individuals to increase their earnings or else face financial penalties or 'sanctions' (Wright et al, 2016).

The value of 'precarious' or 'non-standard' employment contracts is contested. Workers on such contracts are at a higher risk of being in poverty, are typically offered fewer training opportunities and report lower levels of job satisfaction. However, where individuals are unable to access full-time permanent positions, part-time or temporary jobs may be more favourable than remaining unemployed. These jobs, some argue, may work as a 'stepping stone', facilitating access to better quality labour market opportunities later on (Booth et al 2002; Gash, 2008). This has arguably underpinned the 'work first' approach advocated by many policymakers.

This presentation will draw on new data from three waves of a major qualitative longitudinal research project investigating the experiences of people in receipt of conditional welfare. This research has been supported by ESRC grant ES/K002163/2 (see <http://www.welfareconditionality.ac.uk/> for more information). It will examine the lived experiences of a diverse sample of 'welfare service users' (including lone parents, disabled people and universal credit claimants) who, when first sampled, were working in 'non-standard employment'. It will consider whether these jobs provide a 'stepping stone' towards a more secure labour market position or merely 'traps' workers at the margins. A particular focus will be given to exploring individual's experiences in the labour market over a two-year period, and the key factors which led to any observed changes in their employment situation by the time of a third research interview. The presentation will also consider the UK welfare system's role in helping the participants to move into, stay in, and progress in work.

John Jordan

Pathologised solidarities: Social Policy as 'Battleground' in the Alt-Right's Culture War against the 'Other' [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Solidarity is arguably the quintessential weapon of the weak. In its most basic iteration, it alleviates atomised despair by encouraging the formation of communal psychologies of endurance; at its very best, it evolves into cooperative projects of transformative resistance. According to Marx and Engels (1990), the history of all societies is the history of class struggles. Class struggle rests on the

achievement of some degree of 'class consciousness'; some perception, however liminal, not only of shared plight, but also of the necessity of communal alignment against a common foe. Hence, from a Marxist perspective, 'solidarity' is a material force in the class conflicts that drive historical change. However, this process is not exclusive to the Left. Solidarity's dual characteristics - as both psychological sense and practical tool - render it, at times, vulnerable to a trajectory of nationalist fascism (Anderson, 2013). The plasticity of a sense of 'us' and 'them' is particularly important in this regard. Apropos, this paper explores the ways in which the far right might be viewed as attempting to exploit the atomisation generated by service economy 'flexploitation' (Bourdieu, 1998), pathologically colonising worker solidarity as a weapon of 'alt-right' fascism. In particular, it considers the role of social policy, e.g. surrounding the NHS, welfare, employment, immigration, schooling and housing, as a key 'front' in a campaign to mobilise grass roots prejudice against 'outsiders'. Departing from the more usual analyses of 'top down' ideological projects, this paper emphasises the role of the internet, and individual 'conspiracy entrepreneurs', in an increasingly disturbing project to transform the social policy achievements of social democracy into the foundation of an isolationist, far right politics.

Eleanor Jupp

Tracing the emotional geographies of austerity activism: local responses to English Sure Start Children's Centre closures [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

This paper will draw on empirical research in two UK local authority areas where local Sure Start Children's Centres were shut down, and focuses on activism and opposition to these closures as articulated by local mothers. A particular feature of this activism has been the articulation of centre users 'stories', intimate accounts of the struggles of domestic life and care for young children and the place of the centres in providing support. These highly emotional interventions often clash with a 'rational' discourse of austerity cuts articulated by local government officials and politicians. The paper will seek to assess the wider value of this activism and its potential (or not) to 'jump scales' and speak back to national policy debates on the future of children's services, and in so doing it will also assess the value of an attention to emotions and affect within accounts of social policy and governance change.

Aysecan Kartal

Commodifying or Equalizing? Two Interpretations of Turkish Health Reform [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Health-care reform in Turkey was initiated with the announcement of the Health Transformation Program (HTP) in March 2003 that followed the foundation of the first AKP (Justice and Development Party) government in November 2002.

HTP had objectives such as abolishing the differences among the various public hospitals, administrative and financial autonomy of hospitals, general health insurance system, family-physician model, extension of preventive-medicine and stimulation of private investments in health.

The objective of this paper is to look at how the health care reform in Turkey is interpreted by two different perspectives -the government is on the one side as the planner and the executer of the reform and TMA (Turkish Medical Association) is on the other side who was the leading critique of the of the program- through analysing what has been foregrounded in these interpretations via

specific issues such as general health insurance system, closure of community-clinics and introduction of compulsory service.

The materials used for this analysis are publications of the Ministry of Health, the statements of government officials in the press, the speeches made on HTP during the 2007 and 2011 electoral campaigns and publications of TMA and health sector unions SES and DEV-SAĞLIK-İŞ and their statements in the press.

Government presented HTP as a project where its broader discourse of “New Turkey” – a narrative dominated by the anti-elite and anti-establishment components- is materialized. The “New Turkey” is differentiated from “Old Turkey” primarily by its anti-elite emphasis. Doctors emerge as the elites in this “New Turkey” narrative on health who for the sake of prioritizing their own privileges victimized the people until AKP’s arrival to power.

On the other side a group led by TMA and composed mainly of health sector unions and professional associations were critical of the reform. While accepting the inequalities in the pre-HTP period resulting from the fractured social security system they argued that the government abolished the inequalities superficially and the major priority of the government is to make a market-oriented transformation in the health care system. This accordingly would result in the commodification of health -increasing co-payments, financial autonomy of hospitals and performance payments being the symptoms. In the long-run the probable consequences of the reform would be the deterioration of the working conditions of the doctors and the public health being at risk as the priority of the reform would shift from maintenance of the public health to profit-making.

Markus Ketola

Semi-authoritarian neoliberalism and welfare delivery in Turkey: the tale of two civil societies [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Since the mid-1990s, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have taken on an increasingly important role in welfare delivery in Turkey. More recently, such welfare delivery has begun to take distinctly moral character. This was largely facilitated by the ‘neoliberal turn’, orchestrated by the international financial institutions and operationalized through structural adjustment programmes in the 1980s. On the one hand, this trend has been responsible for the opening up of the civil societal space in Turkey (Gole, 1994; Kubicek, 1999), and enabled the EU civil society funding programmes of the past 15 years (Ketola, 2011; 2013). On the other hand, the same structural changes paved way for the rapid growth of faith-based NGOs from mid-2000s (Kaya, 2015). In recent years, under the tutelage of the Islamically oriented AKP party, there has been a significant transfer of welfare responsibility as well as resources away from the state and onto a wide range of faith-based NGOs (Bugra and Candas, 2011). Alongside, Turkey has witnessed the introduction of increasingly ‘traditional’ welfare policies informed by conservative Islamic values. Applying a Gramscian analytical framework, the paper analyses these developments and generates a picture of two civil societies – a secular, EU-funded group of rights-oriented NGOs as well as an Islamic, state-funded group of welfare service NGOs – that are ultimately locked in a hegemonic struggle between competing visions of a moral economy.

Rana Khazbak

Disadvantaged Adolescents' Attitudes to Living in a Mixed-Tenure Neighbourhood [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

For years, the UK housing and urban regeneration policy has aimed at creating mixed-tenure neighbourhoods to deal with concentrated poverty and social exclusion in social housing estates. Recently, as a result of the shrinking of government funding to social landlords, the introduction of units for private market sale onto social rented estates, has been one of the main ways they can finance social housing. While a number of studies have examined the impact of such interventions on local communities, little work has been done to understand their implications on disadvantaged adolescent residents of these areas. In attempting to address this gap in the literature within the UK, this study aimed to investigate the mechanisms through which the influx of more affluent families into an area can affect the attitudes and behaviours of youth from low-income families. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with young people (ages 12-24), mothers, and youth workers (n=27) in an inner London neighbourhood which has been undergoing tenure diversification in the past 10 years. I find that almost all adolescents have a negative perception of regeneration and tenure mix. For them, it results in families being priced out of the area and breaks down community relations, which are important for their health behaviour. It also highlights the socioeconomic gap between them and more affluent people reinforcing their stigmatisation and leading to conflict especially due to their structural disadvantage. The interviews also reveal that social mixing across tenures and socioeconomic groups does not take place because young people believe they don't share the same social reality and lifestyle as higher income people. They also feel they are being marginalised and that they are losing ownership of their area.

Kyunghwan Kim

The East Asian welfare and immigration regimes: comparing the social rights and responsibilities of labour migrants in Japan and South Korea [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Over the last two decades, East Asian countries have demonstrated the simultaneous development of state welfare provision and immigration policy, including both immigration control and immigrant incorporation policy. With a continuous influx of the foreign-born population, particularly, Japan and South Korea have changed from countries of origin to destinations of international migration, thereby bringing up an issue of immigrants' social rights and responsibilities. Despite a significant growth of related interest and research, however, to date, it has been under-researched in terms of an intersection of welfare and immigration regimes underpinning immigrants' social rights and responsibilities. Taking the simultaneous development of social welfare and immigration policy into account, this paper examines the social rights and responsibilities of labour migrants in Japan and South Korea. Focusing on low-skilled labour migrants, the paper explores how they have been incorporated into the ethnically homogeneous Japan and Korean societies in the context of the recent social welfare and immigration policy development. It highlights differences between Japan and Korea, as well as between different groups of labour migrants within the societies, including co-ethnic and others. It argues that the social rights and responsibilities of low-skilled labour migrants in Japan can be characterised by a system of persistent ethnic differentiation whereas Korea being by a system of ethnically hierarchical inclusion. The comparative analysis looks to provide new insights into an emerging issue of immigration and immigrants in East Asian welfare states.

Azer Kılıç

New Pronatalism and the Family Policy Change in Turkey in Comparative Perspective [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Following the acceptance of Turkey's candidacy for European Union (EU) membership in 1999, the Turkish governments carried out reforms throughout the 2000s in public policies as a part of a legislative harmonization process. The reconciliation of work and family life was mentioned as one aim of these policy reforms, although it appeared as a by-product of the main goal of EU membership. This was consistent with the fact that Turkey has not yet suffered from demographic changes such as below replacement level fertility rates and population aging, which can have negative impacts on the labour markets and public finances, as seen in Europe. However, while the relationship of the Turkish government, ruled by the Justice and Development Party (JDP), to the European Union has gradually become more complicated, the policy changes concerning family, female employment and reproductive health have come to seem more substantial and intentional, driven by the logic of new pronatalism. The policy changes were still justified with a reference to the demographic and policy-making trends in Europe; yet, some types of policy measures appeared at odds with the EU policy approaches. This paper aims to analyse the development and nature of the family policy change in Turkey under the JDP rule since 2002.

The paper uses data such as policy documents, parliamentary minutes, official statistics, the reports of national dailies of the government rhetoric and women's protests, as well as several semi-structured interviews the author conducted with the spokespersons and policy experts of domestic non-governmental organizations in the areas of women's rights, family planning, labour and business interests. Drawing on the perspective of historical institutionalism in political economy and public policy studies, the paper analyses the development and nature of the pronatalist turn in family policy approaches in contemporary Turkey. It argues that the new policy approach rests on the government's broader agendas of cultural conservatism, economic growth and Islamic nationalism. The nature of the policy change, on the other hand, appears complicated in gender terms: we see both the introduction of new benefits, such as baby bonuses, that may be significant for the practical wellbeing of low-income women and children, and a regressive turn in reproductive rights. In more general terms, the paper aims to contribute to the comparative studies of family policy.

Stefan Kühner, Maggie Lau

Meeting the best interests of Hong Kong children? Inequality, fairness and well-being in a rich global city [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Although there is an increasing recognition of the policy advocacy value of measuring children's own views of their daily lives, there is still a dearth of systematic approaches to 'hearing the voices' of children in Asia. The predominant focus on average measures of child deprivation and well-being in comparative research means there is a relative lack of knowledge of the distribution of these outcomes within Asian societies, and whether existing inequalities arise from a position of equality of opportunity. Drawing on the measures and analyses compiled for UNICEF's Report Card 13, and utilising a unique local dataset on the self-reported conditions for a good life in Hong Kong, this paper discusses the degree to which children in Hong Kong are allowed to fall behind their peers in three well-being domains (income, health and life satisfaction). We find that household income is generally not a good predictor of the most disadvantaged children in Hong Kong, as some parents

that experience income poverty sacrifice their own needs for their children. Child deprivation matters for children's probability of falling behind their peers in regard to physical activity and life satisfaction, but not for healthy eating. The latter, however, is strongly influenced by Hong Kong children's relationships to their parents, their connectedness to teachers, and existing family support networks. Our findings therefore point towards a stronger social gradient in child well-being in Hong Kong than is usually suggested in studies focussing solely on educational proficiency and attainment. These findings are particularly relevant considering the leading global city status and continuing productivist welfare policy focus in Hong Kong.

Na La

Community Society Organization Incubation: Local Government 's Role and Strategy [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

With China's economic development, people's living standard is increasing gradually. In order to correspond to the diversified demanding of community residents and improve the ability of providing public services, in recent years, the Chinese government implementing the policies of procurement, realizing the resident's participation, democratic consultation, multi-governance, to meet the needs of residents is growing. However, due to the fact that in many parts of China, the number of social organizations is very small, and their capacity is poor, and it is not enough to undertake government procurement services. Therefore, many local governments have carried out social organizations incubation.

This article is based on the community governance and service innovation experiment project conducted by the Chinese Ministry of Civil Affairs in Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia. Through three years' time, 180 community social organizations have been hatched and started to undertake the government's public services.

Analysing the experience gained by the local government from the planning, role orientation, policies, funding, and strategic practices, this paper summarizes the characteristics of the incubation situation in China, the role of the government in incubating social organizations, and the universal significance of guidance methods. This paper proposes the characteristics of the social organization of the Chinese community's incubation, and on the other hand, provides a meaningful reference for the Chinese local government incubation social organization.

Siu-Mei Lau, Kwok-kin Fung

Housing policy in Hong Kong: a policy for or against young people? [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Young people faced a number of challenges in their transition to independent living, researchers point out the possible causes of the problem such as decline of public rental housing (Forster, 2006; Forrest, & Murie, 2014), prevalence and domination of homeownership in public housing policy in different countries (Fung, 2015; Lee, 2017), housing price (Bujang, Jiram, Zarin, & Anuar, 2015), marginalization/residualisation of private rental market (Green, 2017), continual pathologizing youngsters (Bullen, 2015), moral failing in risk society (Kemp, & Rugg, 2001), and others. Different governments under the notion of welfare state have established housing policy which target at the needs of young people. Under the typology of the productivist welfare regime, housing policy in Hong Kong has a strong role in support of the private market. Young people, particular those low-income youth, can only either stay in parental homes or move to sub-divided unit with very poor living

condition.

This article examines how the Hong Kong SAR government constructs “youth housing” that leading to the formation of subsequent housing policy and programmes. In recent years, “youth hostel” and “restoration of housing ladder” as the magical solutions to youth housing problem. The paper, which draws from the findings of a research on young people and housing, argues that housing trajectory has been polarises. Housing policy in Hong Kong has actually not facilitated the youth transition process. The research involves a qualitative design with secondary data analysis of related documents, and depth interviews of 30 youngsters in 2016-2017. The findings reveal the coping methods in housing among youngsters, the dilemmas encountered in face of social expectation, as well as the persistent longing for home purchase despite the deeming opportunity exists. In addition, it further reveals that existing government strategies of adopting temporary housing programme to settle the need of young people have further delayed young people transition to independent living, despite there continues to be the social norm in society. This paper argues that the existing housing policy which favour economic development, neglect the structural factors contributing to the creation of youth housing problem. The analysis shows how housing policy in Hong Kong constrained youth transition from a life course perspective. The government orientation toward economic growth and its predominant emphasis on individual “responsibility” are the causes for all the hurdles leading to the young people housing problem. Implications for policy, research, and practice are discussed.

Vincent W. P. Lee, Henry W. H. Ling

Concerns and Struggles: Understanding the Attitude towards the Society amongst the Youths of Hong Kong from the Recent Socio-Political Issues [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

The livelihood and feelings of the young people of Hong Kong in recent years have drawn the attention of the government officials, parents, educators and social workers who are very concerned about both their emotional well-being and future prospects in pursuing career development and further education. According to a number of surveys and research studies conducted in recent years, young people in Hong Kong are generally having negative impressions towards the society as a whole, feeling not optimistic about both Hong Kong's and their own future, and rating low in national identity as Chinese citizens. At the same time, Hong Kong has experienced unstable social and political developments in the past few years as there have been controversies over the aborted constitutional reform, arguments with Mainland China over the extent of “One Country, Two Systems”, competitive labour market, commercial monopolies, and continuously rising housing costs. These all could be uneasy challenges for the contemporary young people, affecting their morale's and attitudes. This proposed paper will systematically review all the major and significant surveys and research studies conducted in Hong Kong on young people's attitudes towards the society, and will try to explain those findings by making reference to the socio-political issues occurred in recent years and induce whether the emotions of the Hong Kong youths are associated with the macro environment.

Sivan Levi, Ayelet Makaros, Nehami Baum

Social Service Workers Involvement in Policy-Making [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Over the past three decades, there have been major changes in social and economic policy in Israel. These changes have had a detrimental impact on the overall population, and have harmed

disadvantaged populations in particular. Even though involvement of social workers in policy-making could have contributed to changing this reality, studies have revealed that most social service workers tend to avoid this area. The current study examined the reasons for the lack of involvement in policy-making among social service workers from the perspective of the directors of social service departments.

The study was based on semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 13 directors of social service departments throughout Israel, in cities and towns of different sizes. The interviews were analysed in three stages: (1) open coding; (2) axial coding; and (3) integration.

The findings indicate that most of the directors perceived involvement in policy-making as a complex area of activity for social workers in local departments. The interviews revealed four main factors that explain the social workers' lack of involvement in this area. One factor is that despite the director's statements regarding the importance and priority of involvement in policy-making, they did not actually encourage it. The second factor is the social workers' lack of knowledge and skills. The third factor was the political difficulties encountered in dealing with local authorities; and the fourth factor was the social workers' caseload and the lack of appropriate job positions for social workers to engage in policy-making.

From the perspective of the directors of social service departments, various factors prevent social workers from engaging in policy-making. To encourage their involvement in this area, it is important for the directors of social service departments to give priority to this area, to legitimize and support it, and to invest resources in developing training programs that provide social workers with knowledge and tools to engage in policy-making.

Ricardo Velazquez Leyer, Oscar Martinez-Martinez, Araceli Ramirez-Lopez

Universality and Food Insecurity: The Effects of the Universal Pension for Older Adults in Mexico City [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

One of the few universal programs in Latin America is the Food Pension for Adults Older than 68 (PAAM, in Spanish) who live in Mexico City, which hopes to reduce food insecurity among this age group. After evaluations and studies, the conclusion is that the program has such a low effect because of a lack of targeting on the poorest, most-vulnerable people. For this reason, the goal of our study was to determine the effects of the program by homogenous groups, based on their socioeconomic and health characteristics, because it is possible that a program could affect subgroups of participants differently. We used data from the EVPAAM survey (2016), which shows the beneficiaries and the non-beneficiaries of the program, to analyse subgroups in three stages. In the first stage, we used clustering to identify homogenous subgroups; in the second stage, we used propensity scores matching; and in the third stage, we estimated the program's impact in each cluster. Results show that the apparent low impact of the PAMM in the clusters cannot be attributed to the program's universality but to the profound food insecurity and to problems with motor skills and comorbidities in this age group.

Neil Lunt, Laura Bainbridge, Anamaria Tibocho Nino

Place and asset-based approaches to social support: An examination of Local Area Coordination [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Local Area Coordination is an approach to supporting a range of groups (including those with mental health needs, older people and their families and carers). It aims at preventing or reducing demand for costly services wherever possible, building community capacity and resilience, supporting service reform and integration. It seeks to build capacity, prevent and reduce demand with key outcomes being at individual and system levels: including non-service solutions, increased supportive personal relationships, greater choice, confidence and control. Within the system anticipated benefits include a change of focus from crisis to prevention, local solution and building social capital, a focus on strengths, capacity building and strong partnerships and joint working.

This paper examines Local Area Coordination and emerging evidence about its delivery, implementation and outcomes, looking to UK-wide experience and our own small-scale investigation of a scheme introduced by the City of York during 2017.

Sophie Mackinder

The World Bank and the 2008 Financial Crash: Changing the game of social protection and development [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

By the time of the global financial crash in 2008, the World Bank had been using social protection as part of its poverty-reduction toolkit for ten years. Its approach to social protection during these ten years focused almost exclusively middle-income countries, and framed social protection in 'protective' terms that did not look much further than a basic income safety net for the very poorest. The 2008 crash, however, changed the game. World Bank lending for social protection increased five-fold in the years that followed as the Bank struggled to contain the fall-out of the crash in developing countries. It was compelled to extend its programmes to lower-income countries that were particularly suffering in the aftermath of the crisis, and the shortcomings of its programmatic approach became increasingly clear as social protection systems struggled to respond to the demand. Drawing on interviews with 20 World Bank staff and documentary evidence, and using a discursive institutionalist approach, this paper explores how the 2008 financial crisis changed the discourse in the World Bank towards social protection, and revisits the Bank's strategy towards social protection ten years on.

John Macnicol

Shifting Ground: Charles Murray and the 'Underclass' [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Charles Murray (b. 1943) stands as a leading exponent of the idea of an intergenerational 'underclass' – a version of the poverty concept that has been influential since the 1970s. After completing his undergraduate degree at Harvard, he spent time in Thailand. This was the subject of his first book, based on his PhD thesis and influenced by the theories of Edward Banfield. His time in Thailand was an important influence on his subsequent theories of poverty. On his return to Washington, he worked for a time as a researcher and was then recruited by the Manhattan Institute to write *Losing Ground* (1984) – a book that catapulted the 'underclass' debate into public prominence. It engendered enormous controversy, and the main points of controversy will be explored – particularly the alleged connection between welfare payments and family disintegration. Murray was, of course, the personification of the new conservative analysis of welfare, and he

aroused an enormous storm of debate in the 1980s and 1990s. The main component parts of Murray's 'positional scholarship' will be outlined. Subsequently, Murray explored fields such as race and I.Q. and has even emerged as an advocate of a basic income scheme. The paper will briefly explore these later interests of Murray, but will focus on the central issue of welfare reform.

Iolo Madoc-Jones, Caroline Hughes, Sarah Dubberley, Caro Gorden, Karen Washington-Dyer, Fiona Wilson, Anya Ahmed, Kelly Lockwood, Mark Wilding

Homelessness Services to Adults Leaving the Secure Estate: Lessons from Wales [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Housing policy is a devolved matter and increasingly divergent approaches to addressing homelessness have become the norm. From 2009 onwards, the Welsh Government comprehensively reviewed its approach to homelessness in Wales. Subsequently 'The Housing (Wales) Act' placed a new 'preventative' duty on local authorities to take 'reasonable steps' to prevent or relieve homelessness for all eligible households. Given the known links between re-offending and homelessness, concerns were expressed about aspects of the new legislation. Namely the removal of the priority need status previously afforded to all prison leavers returning to Wales and the need that would arise for housing teams to engage assertively with greater number of prison leavers, some of whom could be deemed a risk of serious harm to others. A new process for assessing and addressing homelessness amongst prison leavers was therefore introduced in Wales. However, the 'National Pathway for the Provision of Homelessness Services to Children, Young People and Adults in the Secure Estate' was introduced during a time of considerable upheaval in the criminal justice system. The Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 laid the foundations for the private sector to provide 'Through the Gate' support for most short-term as well as long-term prisoners. This paper explores the issues that have arisen in Wales as new preventative duties have been embraced by local authority housing teams. Based on interviews with 75 prison leavers and 114 professionals providing services to them, the paper reflects on the challenges associated with preventing or reliving homelessness amongst prison leavers and good practice in this area. The paper provides important insights to innovative policy and practices in Wales and also considers the strategic and operational implications for policy makers and practitioners in England with regard to the introduction of Homelessness Reduction Act.

Kamil Matuszczyk

Labour market security in United Kingdom from the perspective of Poles [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

The purpose of my presentation is to show whether Poles who have worked in the UK since 2007 and those who are planning to emigrate there in search of employment in 2018, take the level of labour market security into consideration in their decision to migrate. Labour market security is a theoretical concept which lets us understand if, in choosing a particular labour market, workers attach attention to such elements as job security, employment security and income security. The legal and administrative solutions as well as their social perception vary in different countries; this is why particular attention has been given to ways of describing labour market security in the UK. The point of reference will be the opinions and experiences of Poles from the German and Polish labour markets, which are characterized by different levels of work guarantees. In the research about Poles it was noted how Brexit affected their feeling about labour market security as well as their migration plans. To answer these questions the results of the research will be presented as carried out in the

project 'In search of labour market security. Migration to and from Poland and the attractiveness of the Polish labour market', financed by the National Science Centre. Among the groups researched are immigrants working in the UK (New Castle and London), in Germany as well as university graduates living in Poland who are planning to emigrate in search of work. The quantitative research (N=300 PAPI) and the qualitative (N=30 IDI) have been supplemented by interviews with academic and government experts as well as representatives of NGOs.

What the groups of Poles interviewed notice, first of all is the high level of flexibility of the British labour market. It is the possibility of finding a new job in a short time that mainly contributes to the feeling of security. In Germany, as the opinions of the interviewees say, the labour market is characterized by the high level of security too; however, there is greater rigidity of the legal and administrative regulations and finding a job is more difficult there. At the same time, it turns out that the UK is more often chosen by younger people who appreciate the possibility of changing jobs more frequently. Generally, the perception of labour market security varies according to sex, age and the period of time the immigrant has spent in the country of destination.

Daniel McArthur

Exposure to local unemployment and negative stereotypes about unemployed people: a longitudinal analysis [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Negative stereotypes about welfare recipients are a profound source of social division in post-financial crisis Britain. Such stereotypes both threaten the legitimacy of the welfare state and contribute to the stigmatisation of people in poverty. While there is much academic interest in the way welfare recipients are portrayed in media discourse and perceived in public opinion, little attention has been paid to the role that neighbourhood context plays in forming stigmatising beliefs. By contrast, work on neighbourhood effects shows how local conditions can shape individual attitudes through processes such as interpersonal contact. This paper, from my ongoing PhD project, draws on these literatures to investigate how exposure to unemployment in the areas individuals live in shape their attitudes towards unemployed people.

Existing research on the effects of neighbourhood poverty on attitudes towards the poor is characterised by a reliance on cross-sectional data, which makes it difficult to rule out the selection of sympathetic individuals into high poverty areas. As a result, I use panel data to examine whether individuals who live in areas where rates of unemployment benefit claims increase become more sympathetic towards welfare recipients. I analyse data from the British Election Study Internet Panel using dynamic panel models. The results provide no evidence that changes in unemployment rates affect individual attitudes towards the unemployed, except perhaps in the case of individuals who have recently become unemployed. I conclude by discussing the implications of these results for whether high economic inequality can exacerbate social divisions that lead to the stigmatisation of people in poverty.

Daniel McArthur, Rachel Loopstra

Is food bank use "complex"? Using Multiple Correspondence Analysis to understand risk factors for poverty among households using food banks [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Government sources often assert that reasons for food bank use are "complex". However, few quantitative studies have explored the extent to which food bank users suffer from overlapping

forms of deprivation. This question is addressed using data from a survey of households using food banks (n=598). Multiple Correspondence Analysis is used to understand the dimensions on which food bank users differ. Common risk factors for poverty were prevalent, including disability, unemployment, and the presence of children. Acute hardships included waiting on a new benefit claim (35% of households) and income loss in the past three months (53%). Results highlighted two core dimensions along which foodbank users vary. The first distinguished households experiencing unemployment and unsteady incomes from those with steady incomes who are unable to work due to disability. The second distinguished households containing children and having trouble paying expenses from childless households having no trouble with expenses. Common reasons for food bank referrals such as benefit delays and sanctions were mapped onto these dimensions: these overlapped with unemployment and unsteady incomes rather than disability. This suggests there are core groups of food bank users that largely do not overlap, challenging the narrative of complexity, and implying that policy interventions that address key risk factors for poverty may be more effective than sometimes asserted.

Leah McCabe

The 'Power of Naming': Intersectionality and domestic abuse policy discourses and directions in Scotland since 1990 [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Since 2000 Scotland has employed a gendered approach to addressing domestic abuse, but to what extent is an intersectional approach embedded in policymaking and service provisions? Who has the 'power of naming' both the problem and solutions to domestic abuse, and which voices are excluded? This paper explores these questions with two main aims: first, to introduce the analytical framework employed to examine how the problem and solutions of domestic abuse in Scotland since 1990 have been represented, and second, to examine the extent to which intersectionality is adopted in the representations of the problem and solutions. Domestic abuse policy presents an opportunity to analyse how issues are framed through Critical Frame Analysis (CFA). This paper employs a constructivist approach to frame analysis by engaging with Carol Bacchi's 'What's the Problem Represented to Be?' (WPR) approach which starts from the basis that policy problems are constructed and there are different interpretations of the problem. Thus, policy frames are not descriptions of reality, but specific constructions that shape the understanding of reality and give meaning to reality. This paper also employs an intersectional lens to highlight the complex interplay of discursive struggles in institutions over the interpretation and representation of needs and problems in attempts to 'rethink' policy. An intersectional approach can be challenging for the framing of the problem of domestic abuse as the objective is to give voice to women who experience abuse from different social locations, but at the same time recognising structural inequalities that shape the lives of victims in various ways. This paper highlights who has a voice in defining the problems and solutions, and who is excluded or silenced from policy discourses and directions by exploring the extent to which actors and organisations that consider the needs for minority women are involved in policymaking processes. I argue that, in theory, domestic abuse policy in Scotland employs an intersectional approach, but in practice the narratives of minority women are often lost. This results in the frame of domestic abuse being constructed too tightly and constrains a nuanced understanding of the intersecting experiences of domestic abuse.

Derek McGhee, Cristian Moreh

Re-bordering the good citizen: Polish migrants' narratives of earned citizenship and deservedness in the context of the UK's EU Referendum [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

This paper examines the narrative strategies of Polish migrants in the UK by which they challenge the formal rights of political membership and attempt to redefine the boundaries of 'citizenship' along notions of deservedness. The analysed qualitative data originate from an online survey conducted in the months before the 2016 EU referendum, and the narratives emerge from the open-text answers to two survey questions concerning attitudes towards the Referendum and the exclusion of resident EU nationals from the electoral process. The analysis identifies and describes three narrative strategies in reaction to the public discourses surrounding the EU referendum – namely discursive complicity, intergroup hostility and defensive assertiveness – which redefine 'good citizenship' in respect to welfare practices. The main theoretical contribution that the article makes is to trace the evolution of the self-perpetuated discourse of 'the hard-working Polish migrant' from merely a defensive stance for the purposes of attempting to perpetuate comparative advantages in the labour-market, to a more embedded and substantive conception of stakeholder citizenship in Brexit Britain.

Mark Monaghan, Kayleigh Garthwaite, Jo Ingold

The Impact of Policy Development on the Department for Work and Pensions: Austerity, Evidence and Universal Credit [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Introduced in April 2013 in pathfinder areas, Universal Credit (UC) has become one of the most controversial changes to the social security system in living memory. UC is an attempt to simplify the benefits system through the introduction of one single working age benefit and to improve incentives to work through the radical restructuring of the benefits and Tax Credits systems. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) was at the forefront of the then Coalition Government's programme of welfare reform.

More recently, signals of the social (rather than purely economic) cost of austerity have filtered through into the public consciousness; but to date, there has been little research on how the negative impacts of UC have been handled by Government, and the effect this has had on policy makers. The 2015 Government Spending Review revealed that over the course of the 2010-2015 Parliament the number of Civil Servants fell by 25 per cent with cuts predating this. There are now 105,758 (20.1%) fewer employees in the Civil Service compared with 525,157 in 2008 (ONS, 2017). The DWP has seen a significant reduction in staffing which coincides with the design and development of UC. Little is known, however, of the reasons for staff departures and whether the demands of working on a controversial policy such as UC played a role. This paper presents the initial findings from interviews with former DWP employees.

We initially hypothesised that reasons for departure related to (in no particular order): financial packages on offer; timing; age; ill health; other opportunities in the labour market or career change; dissatisfaction with current role/manager; and a lack of opportunities in the Department or wider civil service. We were particularly interested in whether objections to policy (though civil servants are used to implementing policies that they don't agree with) were also part of the equation. Here, we present preliminary reflections on: how and why people leave DWP; how the evidence-base for

UC might be used and improved; and finally, insights into the (often hidden) world of the policy process.

Claire Monk

Using network governance theory to examine policy making within Local Safeguarding Children Board, focusing on child neglect policy. [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The aim of this research is to explore how recent child neglect policy is communicated and implemented from Government to Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) down to frontline statutory services. This research is important and timely because, to date, very little research has been carried out on the role of the LSCBs as policy maker, policy communicator and policy implementer. Child protection practice continually meets with criticism from Government, the media and public, yet whether or not, and how, a policy is made, and then communicated prior to implementation has not been analysed. It is unclear from where and how practitioners learn about policy messages.

Drawing on my Doctoral research, the research uses governance network theory to analyse results from two qualitative case studies, carried out in two areas of the West Midlands. The research used semi structured interviews, telephone interviews and focus groups to explore how child neglect policy is interpreted, translated, communicated and implemented from the LSCB to front line practice.

Drawing on themes around power and accountability within the governance network, managerialism, trust, policy making, and governance networks as a tour de force in responding to wicked issues, the research draws on many findings which may be useful in understanding how child protection messages are interpreted, translated and put into practice (if at all).

Key findings that are emerging from the data are that there are too many messages, and not necessarily joined up messages coming out from government, media plays a huge (but not necessarily positive) role in driving forward policy, there is a blind faith that messages are being taken back from the LSCB and filtered through organisations to practice. By contrast front line practitioners are not aware of the role of the LSCB in terms of policy maker and implementer, and they don't draw enough on the experiences of front line practitioners who work with child neglect on a daily basis.

Nicola Moran

Adapting a mental health training package for front-line police officers to support multi-agency training across North Yorkshire for the benefit of people experiencing mental distress [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

A significant proportion of police time and resource is spent responding to incidents involving people in mental distress, even where no crime has been committed. It has been argued that – in an era of austerity - demand on the police has increased as a result of cuts to other services, including mental health services and social services and due to an increasing prevalence of mental health problems resulting from a rise in unemployment, insecure employment, housing problems and debt.

In 2015 the College of Policing, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), and the

Home Office jointly funded a project through the Police Knowledge Fund (PKF) to explore evidence, research and training around mental health and policing. The Connect project, a collaboration between the University of York (UoY), North Yorkshire Police (NYP), and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner North Yorkshire, led to the development of a bespoke Force-specific mental health training package for front-line police officers within NYP. The package was developed by a research team from UoY in conjunction with NYP and mental health professionals from Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV), and delivered by mental health professionals from TEWV. The training package focused on identification of mental distress, recording of mental vulnerability, responses to individuals in mental distress, referral to mental health services and other partner agencies for those needing support, and reviewing actions taken. The effectiveness of the training was evaluated using a randomised controlled trial (RCT) design, a pre-post training survey (baseline, and six months post-training follow-up), in-depth interviews with a sample of trained officers, and analyses of routinely collected police data.

This paper outlines findings on the effectiveness of the training package, and looks at how the recommendations from the study are leading to the adaptation and wider roll-out of mental health awareness training across North Yorkshire – within the Police, the County Council, and in multi-agency arena, for the benefit of people experiencing mental distress.

Lisa Morriss

Haunted Futures: the stigma of being a mother living apart from her children following state-ordered court removal [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The notion of ‘haunted futures’ (Ferreday and Kuntsman, 2011) can provoke new understandings of the experiences of birth mothers living apart from their children following state-ordered court removal. As ‘abject figures’ (Tyler, 2013), the mothers are silenced through the stigma and shame of being judged to be a deeply flawed mother, the justifiable fear of future children being removed, and court-ordered reporting restrictions. In this presentation, I depict how these mothers exist in a state of haunted motherhood: they are paralysed in anticipation of an imagined future of reunification with their children. The mothers are painfully aware that any future pregnancy will also be subject to child protection procedures; their future motherhood continues to be stigmatised by the past. However, while the ghosts of removed children signify a traumatic loss, they also simultaneously represent hope and future possibilities of transformation through re-narrativization (Gordon, 2011). The creation of spaces for the mothers to speak about their experiences can foster a ‘maternal commons’. This ending of enforced silencing can be a political act, countering the stigma caused by pathologising individual mothers and making visible how structural inequalities and governmental policies impact on the lives of the most vulnerable families in the UK.

Keerty Nakray

Disability Policies, Transnationalism and Policy Diffusion: ‘A’ Social Models of Inclusion in LMICs [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Critical disability studies have their origins in advanced economies especially UK which was at the forefront of advocating social model of disability. Internationally, the UN convention on the Persons with disabilities and its Optional Protocol was adopted on 13 December 2006 the Convention came into effect on 3 May, 2008. The convention paved the way for the diffusion of global norms on social models of disability across the world. The Convention was intended as a human rights instrument

with explicit commitment to recognizing that it is the attitudinal and environmental barriers have adverse impacts on the participation of disabled individuals in society. First, this article examines the global debates on disability and traces the paradigm shifts in policy discourses. Second, it conducts an empirical social-legal analysis of adoption of legal provisions at national levels. Third, it examines policy diffusion in the field of disability policies and welfare states. In conclusion, it draws reflections for a paradigm shift within sociology of disability towards sociology of enablement which goes beyond binaries of 'social' and 'asocial' models of disability.

Keerty Nakray, Joe Devine

Values, Welfare States and Social Policy in NEEs: Can we start connecting the dots now?

[Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

In this paper, we will look at individual attitudes of freedom, individualism and equality and welfare state spending in new emerging economies (NEEs). Values and social policy are intrinsically linked to each other. The logic of industrialization was strongly associated with industrial growth and normative and cultural universals of rationality (Weinberg, 1969). Esping-Andersen (1990) in his ground-breaking analysis developed ideal-typical welfare regimes or models, distinguished between liberal, conservative-corporatist and social-democratic welfare states. Each ideal type was based on a distinct set of ideological and cultural propositions. Liberal ideal types were characterized by personal responsibility and freedom; conservatism is based on communal and familial bonds; and the social-democratic values of social equality and mutual responsibility (van Oorschot, 2007). Paul Wilding and Vic George (1975) differentiated the differences between 'ideal types' of liberal and socialist conceptions of three social values of freedom; individualism and equality which shapes the evolution of social policy and administration in the developed countries. In this paper, we will look at individual attitudes of freedom, individualism and equality and welfare state spending in NEEs. Our primary research question is 'Do ideational elements matter in the emergence of welfare states in NEEs?' First, it reviews existing theoretical debates on 'ideal types' of liberal and socialist conceptions of three social values of freedom; individualism and equality and relevance of such attitudinal surveys in NEEs. Secondly, empirically examines the relationship between welfare state spending and attitudes towards freedom, individualism and equality. Finally, we conclude if such studies can actually predict welfare state configurations in NEEs.

Jessica Ng

Understanding the persistence of 'short-term' health crisis NGOs: The case of Toronto's Asian Canadian HIV/AIDS service organizations [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

In advanced industrialized countries, the combination of effective treatment and prevention strategies, medical advances like pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), and political economic imperatives to shrink government health spending has meant that HIV is no longer deemed by health authorities to be the public health problem it once was. In Toronto, Canada, this epidemiological and political economic trend has hit its sprawling HIV service sector particularly hard. Formed during the AIDS epidemic to address a public health crisis, HIV service organizations were never envisioned by their founders to be a long-term solution but have outlived their expected short-term purpose. Ethno-specific HIV service organizations continue to serve specific ethno-racial sub-populations in Toronto's multicultural populace, though not all of these sub-populations are affected by HIV to the same degree. Against this backdrop, the continued survival of the city's Asian Canadian HIV service providers remains a puzzle: as organizations that serve sub-populations (East,

South, and Southeast Asian Canadian) which are not considered to be HIV 'priority populations' by health authorities, these service providers have remained long after the end of the AIDS crisis. What explains the continued survival of organizations which we might otherwise expect to have disappeared as the AIDS epidemic declined? Drawing upon recently-conducted semi-structured in-depth interviews, I show that the persistence of Toronto's Asian Canadian HIV organizations emerges as a case of the unintended effects of public health policy and inclusive government policies: Asian Canadians were never included in HIV epidemiological statistics, but counterintuitively this statistical invisibility benefited Asian Canadian HIV organizations in Toronto, which continued to receive government funding because there was no hard evidence to prove that they should not receive this funding, and denying government funding to ethno-racial groups could be perceived as institutional racism. I show moreover that organizational persistence can also be attributed partly to blurred organizational boundaries, where Asian Canadian HIV service providers doubled as a space for LGBTQ Asian Canadians; indeed, as HIV funding has become more difficult to obtain, the survival of these organizations is in pursuing expansion of LGBTQ programming. Finally, I engage with the unintended negative effects of organizational persistence and the social policies which have enabled this, suggesting that the long-term survival of Asian Canadian HIV organizations might ultimately overstretch limited resources across the HIV sector but also undermine societal inclusion of minority Asian sub-groups.

Theodoros Papadopoulos, Antonios Roumpakis

Family as a Socio-economic Actor in the Political Economy of Welfare [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

In this paper, we revisit Karl Polanyi's concept of 'oikos' in order to reconceptualize the role of the family as both a welfare provider and an economic actor in the political economy of welfare. Our paper is structured in three parts. First, we critically review existing approaches on the role of the family. We argue that most of existing approaches tend to narrowly focus on how policy affects the role of the family as a welfare provider and neglect how the role of the family is (re)institutionalized as a collective actor in welfare capitalism; especially under conditions of permanent austerity, extensive recommodification and expanding re-familization. The second part revisits Polanyi's concept of 'oikos' and how 'householding' constitutes one of the most important forms of economic action allowing us to re-conceptualize the family as a collective socio-economic actor. In the third part, we provide an analysis of strategies available families and discuss evidence from different welfare regimes related to private education expenditure, household debt and labour market income share. We conclude by highlighting the need to re-articulate the role of the family as a collective socio-economic actor in light of the re-ordering of the State-Market dynamic in the Political Economy of Welfare across the globe.

Irit Porat, Fany Yuval

Quality of Life as a Function of Local Policing – Comparing the Public Value of Three Models of Local Policing [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Personal safety as well as a secured public sphere, are important factors when assessing people's quality of life. Two governmental authorities – the police and local municipalities – are entrusted with ensuring the maintenance of law & order and safety. Protecting people from everything from crime to public disorder requires extensive resources that both the local authority and the police must often include in their budgets. Hence, cooperation between the police and local municipalities

is essential for effective results and can save resources and streamline functioning for both. In some countries the police are an integral department of the local authority, whereas others prefer national policing. The relevant literature discusses the advantages and disadvantages of each of these two patterns in detail.

In recent years, Israel has been modifying the national model adding two unique alternative models of local policing intended for large and medium-size municipalities, while leaving the traditional model in smaller localities. Having three different models of policing – the municipal model, the integrated model, and the classic national policing model – function simultaneously in different localities provides a fascinating opportunity to investigate their comparable effectiveness in terms of optimizing value for the public (Moore, 1995, 2013). Comparing the three models of local policing in Israel will contribute to the understanding of the theoretical, practical, empirical and public value of municipal public management.

The current study, seeking to enhance our understanding about the effect of the local policing model on the relationships between and within the institutions their performance quality in the municipal arena, and the satisfaction with the outcomes. To achieve this goal, we chose seven municipalities, each representing one of the three models of policing. In-depth interviews with officials from relevant departments of the local municipalities as well as police officers in the police stations responsible had been conducted, and policy documents, legislation. Official crime statistics and administrative data concerning relevant incidents has also been analysed.

The research shows a newly created power-balance between the local and national authorities, enabling synergetic, collaborative relationship, that preserves the advantages of both the national and the local policing models, provides answers to their drawbacks, and produces unique benefits. United by mutual commitment, the police and the local authorities engage in a dialogue, create a common vision of policy targets and decision-making processes that ensure continuous and effective collaboration.

Fred Powell

Ireland, Brexit and Social Policy: How to beggar thy neighbour [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This paper will analyse the impact of Brexit on Ireland, as a classic example of how to beggar thy neighbour. It raises fundamental questions about the normative relationship between nationalism and social policy. The Great Irish Famine (1845-1951) has provided a historic example of the longevity of the 'Irish Question' in British policy and politics. In phase 1 of the Brexit negotiations the European Union has insisted that the UK respects Ireland in the negotiation process. However, despite agreement from the UK government to do so, there is clearly a mood amongst English Nationalists in both the Conservative and Labour parties to resile from this undertaking. The consequences for the Good Friday Agreement are very fundamental in terms of the threat to the peace process. What is of equal importance is the Brexit threat to the welfare of the Irish population, which is still recovering from the demographic consequences of the Great Irish Famine. The subject of this paper will be the potential economic and social consequences of Brexit for the Irish population. Ireland is strongly committed to remaining within the European Union after Brexit. In terms of 'KNOWN KNOWNS' there will be impacts on Irish trade. But what about 'UNKNOWN KNOWNS'? How will the Irish welfare state absorb the economic shocks? The Irish welfare state, as

described by this presenter in his book 'The Political Economy of the Irish Welfare State' (Policy Press, 2017) is a marketised version of the welfare state that is shaped by a developmental strategy-based on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). It is consequently a residual welfare state with private markets, means tests and institutional voids. The Central Statistics Office (2015) estimated half the Irish population would be 'at risk' of poverty, if it were not for the impact of social transfers e.g. pensions, unemployment benefit etc. Clearly, the impact of austerity policy, following 2008 Crash, has been very severe. Ireland has economically recovered since 2013 but remains beset by serious crises in terms of (1) homelessness and a shortage of affordable housing and (2) chronic underfunding of public health services and social care. A welfare productivist orientation has led to significant investment in education and training since the 1960s. Will it be sustainable? Because of its 'complex' and 'hybrid' nature that closely links social policy to economic development, it is beyond doubt that Brexit will have a deeply negative impact on the Irish welfare state.

Martin Powell

Inquiries in the NHS [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

It has been estimated that there have been some 126 NHS Inquiries between 1945 and 2005 (Kewell and Beck 2008). There has been some recent interest on Inquiries (e.g. House of Lords Select Committee 2014; IfG 2017), with recent calls for a Royal Commission on the NHS. Walshe (2003) notes that there are six broad purposes of Inquiries:

- Establishing the facts - providing a full and fair account of what happened
- Learning from events - and so helping to prevent their recurrence
- Catharsis or therapeutic exposure - providing an opportunity for reconciliation and resolution
- Reassurance - rebuilding public confidence after a major failure
- Accountability, blame and retribution - holding people and organisations to account
- Political considerations - serving a wider political agenda for government

More recently, according to the IfG (2017), there is an expectation that inquiries will answer at least three questions: what happened; who is responsible; and what can we learn from this? This paper will draw on content analysis for a purposive sample of NHS Inquiries to reflect on their purposes, processes and impact. Sheard (2015) claimed that most of the hundred plus NHS inquiries that have been held since the 1967 Ely inquiry have highlighted common areas for concern. She argues that we have yet to really learn from history, to put an end to this miserable sequence of systemic errors in the NHS and their subsequent exposure through a public enquiry. Put another way, is the NHS a 'learning organisation' or an 'organisation with a memory' or do we revisit the issues of each Inquiry in some version of 'Groundhog Day'?

Maddy Power

Food insecurity, food banks and the disciplinary society [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

This paper addresses a relatively neglected question in emerging debates on food insecurity and food banks in the UK: What is the political, economic and social purpose of maintaining a high level of food insecurity in a rich, yet unequal, country? Drawing upon focus group interviews with low-income women in Bradford, a city in the North of England, we interrogate this question, scrutinising, in particular, the agents, mechanisms and emotions – most notably, stigma and shame – which circumscribe the social and economic boundaries of those in or at risk of food insecurity.

We find that the pauperisation, obedience and humiliation of the poor and food insecure is created, and then cemented, by state policy and an economic structure whose inequalities in the ownership of wealth and the distribution of income are self-perpetuating. However, it is maintained by a set of social relations that keep this system in place. It is when the (dominant) economic and political system is most under threat, when its claim to fairness is most visibly denied by the distress and unfairness it manifestly creates – most starkly brought to light by troupes of people requesting charitable food aid – that poor people are subject to the most severe criticism and attack, from both the establishment and their peers.

The notion of the culpable, irresponsible food insecure woman is widely presented by our respondents, who are themselves in or at risk of food insecurity. However, this fundamentally misrepresents what is occurring in society, blaming the food insecure for much more complex and wide-ranging social problems; pin-pointing the victims of these processes, and caricaturing and abusing them as an example to others. Obedience to abide by the rules and regulations of the system – to earn an income from wage-labour, to cohabit with the parent of your child, to criticise the establishment only in the appropriate arenas and forms, and even then, only in a superficial manner – is maintained by the threat of being demonised as the food insecure ‘Other’: the woman who is culpable for her own destitution.

Gaby Ramia

International Education as Social Policy: A Regulatory Theory Approach [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

There is now longstanding acknowledgement in social policy scholarship that understanding welfare means using frameworks and concepts which move beyond the institutions and policies of the welfare state. For many welfare subjects it is necessary to think spatially, institutionally and politically beyond the national confines of traditional welfare analysis. This paper builds from the established literatures in global social policy and international education to analyse the welfare of international students. In the process it suggests that international education be viewed as an area of social policy scholarship. Like other human subjects whose rights and citizenship status differ between the home and host states, the welfare of international students can only be reliably analysed by reference to combined national and transnational concepts. The paper discusses the increasing internationalisation of education, the question of global student mobility and its main drivers, and the legal and policy forms of rights protection offered in Australia, a case study country that is a liberal welfare state and one of the world’s most significant exporters of education. In analysing international education and social policy together, the paper utilises conceptual developments in regulatory theory to understand the institutions which cover, and fail to adequately cover, international students. The implications of the analysis for social policy scholarship are also discussed in the context of real-world global change and the intellectual development of the field.

Ioana Ramia

Australia's Social Pulse - Measuring Australia's social progress [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Building on existing Australian social statistics, Australia’s Social Pulse measures changes over time in key social indicators across a range of domains: education, employment, health, disability, living standards, housing and homelessness, social cohesion and life satisfaction. While recognising the commendable work already being done nationally (for example by the Australian Bureau of

Statistics), Australia's Social Pulse – an almanac of how Australia is faring – builds on existing Australian social statistics yet moves beyond measuring simple outcomes and descriptive comparisons. Australia's Social Pulse helps answer crucial questions such as 'How is Australia tracking against key social issues? Who is faring well and who is faring poorly? How have outcomes changed over time, and for whom?'. This presentation is based on the report published by the Centre for Social Impact (CSI) at UNSW and raises questions about measurement of social outcomes, means to identify at-risk populations and tools to monitor progress in the social purpose sector. The first stage of the ASP was completed in 2016 and domains of ASP are being currently updated with most recent data. We present here findings from the ASP – how Australia fares in terms of key social indicators, who is at risk of falling through the cracks and discuss the implications of having such a monitoring tool available across the social purpose sector.

Rachel Robbins

"That wouldn't happen in Manchester": Domestic Violence in a UK rural community [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Domestic Abuse has been the subject of recent legislative development, which supports the framing of the problem as a legal rather than a welfare concern. Funding for the domestic abuse sector has been drastically cut under "austerity", affecting women's access to safety and protection. The cuts have had differing levels of impact depending on a variety of factors. There are very few UK studies that are centred on rural domestic violence. This paper reports on the process and findings of an evaluation of a small voluntary sector project within a rural area of North West England. The rurality of the location impacted upon all involved in the project (researcher, service-provider and service-users) in terms of time, travel, access to services and cost-effectiveness. Furthermore, severe local flooding exacerbated these conditions. Rurality could be seen on a continuum of natural idyll to inescapable prison. Location can be weaponised by domestic abuse perpetrators and inadequate state responses. Natural disaster also potentially creates a hierarchy of deserving and undeserving crises.

The evaluated project was a valuable resource for victim-survivors and reflected good practice in meeting the needs of a community whose agency was shaped by location, resources and perceptions and can offer examples of good practice for practitioners, policy makers and commissioners. The paper, through an exploration of domestic abuse, questions the construction of the 'rural' in the UK and how rurality is a product of social policy as well as geography.

Michaela Rogers

Evaluating outcomes for people with mental health problems under the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Implementation of the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 brought major changes to the way homelessness was being addressed across the country. There is now an increased focus on prevention and early intervention. In addition, the new practice model integrates a person-centred approach with the aim of reaching people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, addressing this and their additional presenting risks and needs. In this way, the intention was that the new Act would more systematically and effectively address homelessness with vulnerable groups, such as people with mental health problems. During 2016 and 2017, the University of Salford conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the implementation of the Act across the local authorities of Wales.

This paper draws upon interview and focus group data collected across six local authority sites (the 'case study sites'), incorporating the perspectives of both service users and service providers. In contextualising the scale and nature of poor mental health in relation to homelessness in Wales, we will illuminate the complexities involved in tackling both issues in contemporary homelessness practice settings. We are unable to situate this discussion within a comprehensive backdrop which depicts how mental health support is funded, provided and accessed as there are no formal mechanisms that methodically collect this data. However, this paper will illustrate the extent to which the Act has affected people with mental health problems who are homeless/or at risk of homelessness, and the challenges which persist in terms of the service response. In particular, the person-centred ethos at the core of the Act will be critically discussed in order to ascertain the ways in which people with mental health problems are supported when presenting as homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Steve Rolfe, Lisa Garnham

Housing as a social determinant of health: Exploring the impacts on tenants of different models of housing provision and support [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Housing is generally accepted to be one of the social determinants of health and health inequalities. There is now an established literature around the health effects of physical housing quality, such as damp and mould, toxins, cold indoor temperatures and overcrowding. However, there are significant gaps in the research evidence regarding the potential health impacts of less tangible elements of housing, such as the quality of service provided by housing organisations and landlords. This paper examines three different housing organisations, operating across the social and private rented sectors, to elucidate their potential impacts on tenants' housing situations, health and wellbeing. Using a mixed methods approach, combining Theories of Change and Realist Evaluation techniques, the project has followed a cohort of new tenants from each housing organisation over the first year of their tenancy, collecting data on their housing situation and history, health and wellbeing, and financial circumstances. The research suggests that different approaches to tenancy support, affordability, housing quality and neighbourhood can have significant impacts on the health and wellbeing of tenants. Such outcomes can be generated not only through improvements in housing situation, but also through other less obvious processes arising indirectly from housing services. These findings are particularly timely in the context of contemporary debates around the UK's 'housing crisis' and will have considerable relevance for both local delivery of housing services and for wider housing policy.

Sally Ruane

Tax Talk: Public Perceptions of Tax Avoidance [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

This paper examines the way in which people talk about tax avoidance, a term which commonly refers to lawful practices which result in a reduction in tax liabilities.

The research underpinning this paper investigated how people talk about tax. Eight focus groups were conducted between March 2016 and July 2017 and four categories of participant were approached - people in work, retired people, church-going Christians and students - via networks which privileged one of these identities such as pensioner groups, church newsletters, trade union networks and university course structures. Groups were organised around these identities (two of each). Forty-one participants were recruited and focus groups ranged from 2-10 in size, with a modal average of 5 participants.

Tax avoidance was discussed by participants in all focus groups without prompting from the facilitator. Most participants were aware of a difference between lawful and illegal avoidance (evasion). Large corporations were singled out for criticism in all focus groups with the names of some companies mentioned repeatedly (notably Google, Starbucks, Amazon) as tax avoiders. With the exception of one participant who drew a distinction between avoidance within the law and evasion outside the law but drew no other distinction, most participants distinguished different types of avoidance within the law. Participants engaged in sophisticated discussions in which they attempted to articulate why some avoidance practices within the law were acceptable while other avoidance practices within the law were unacceptable. A recurring principle, though not the sole principle, underpinning utterances around the latter was inequalities or disparities created among different social groups. The paper examines participants' reasoning in relation to tax avoidance.

Katharina Sarter, Lena Karamanidou

Public procurement and the provision of services in the context of asylum and international protection: Safeguarding Working Conditions, Quality of Services, and Applicants' Rights? [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Over the last, services provided to asylum seekers and refugees in the context of European asylum and reception systems have been increasingly provided through contracting of services and via partnerships between public authorities, international and non-governmental organisations (IGOs and NGOs), voluntary and community associations, and private companies (Darling 2016; Lethbridge 2016; Tyler 2013; Welch 2014). The privatisation of services for asylum seekers and refugees has been argued to undermine the quality of services provided, prioritise profit over adherence to protection standards and evade public scrutiny (Lethbridge 2016; Flynn 2009; Gledhill 2016; Welch 2014). Yet, while public procurement is a key mechanism in ensuring reception standards and procedural safeguards in accordance to domestic and EU legal frameworks on asylum, public procurement procedures remain under-researched. Using Greece as a case study, we examine public procurement practices. Focusing on a crucial service, the provision of translation and interpretation services, we examine key features of invitations for tender. Thereby, we place special emphasis on aspects that can serve as indicators for working conditions and the quality of services, especially relating to their potential impact in relation to reception and access to refugee protection.

Lisa Scullion

Sanctuary to sanction: asylum seekers, refugees and conditionality in the UK [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Following the arrival of increasing numbers of 'spontaneous' asylum seekers during the 1990s/2000s, the issue of asylum became a major concern in the UK. A 'moral panic' ensued during that time, followed swiftly by a raft of legislation by successive UK Governments aimed at 'managing' migration to the UK. The result has been the creation of a system that regulates the immigration of people through complex and divergent rights to residence, work and welfare dependent upon socio-legal status (Dwyer et al., 2011). This paper will explore how conditionality operates at various levels for asylum seekers and refugees in the UK. First, it will provide an overview of how conditionality unpins the asylum legislation enacted in the UK, including distinctions between 'at port' and 'in country' asylum seekers, and the creation of the National Asylum Support System (NASS), providing 'support' conditional upon regular reporting at immigration offices and acceptance of dispersal to different areas of the UK. Secondly, drawing upon

repeat interviews with refugees in England and Scotland as part of the ESRC Welfare Conditionality: Sanctions, Support & Behaviour Change project, it will provide unique insights into transitions from asylum support to the mainstream social security system. More specifically, it will explore people's experiences of managing the conditionality inherent within the mainstream system, and the diverse outcomes of refugees as they navigate this system over time.

Lisa Scullion, Peter Dwyer, Katy Jones, Philip Martin, Celia Hynes

'This is my money that I should be able to access, and you're making me beg': Military veterans' experiences of the UK social security system [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Each year approximately 17,000 men and women leave the British Armed Forces and enter civilian life (Søndergaard et al., 2016). For the vast majority, the transition to civilian life is relatively unproblematic. However, for those who do encounter difficulties, there are sometimes multiple and complex problems relating to mental health and/or physical impairment following active service (Browne et al., 2007; Buckman et al., 2012), homelessness (Gunner and Knott, 1997; Johnsen, Jones and Rugg, 2008), drug and alcohol use (Centre for Social Justice, 2014) and financial hardship (The Royal British Legion, 2011). While these issues apply to the civilian UK population, it is suggested that they can be amplified by the distinctive characteristics of active Service and Service family life.

As Dandeker et al., (2006: 161) highlight, 'An important feature of civil-military relations is the way in which states recognize the sacrifices that the men and women of the Armed Forces give to their country and provide care and support for them and their families once they leave the military'. As part of the Armed Forces Covenant, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has made a number of adjustments to Jobcentre Plus services to support current/former Armed Forces Services personnel and their families who are accessing the mainstream UK benefits system. This includes exemption from the Habitual Residency Test, early access to the Work Programme, and the development of 'Armed Forces Champions' within Jobcentre Plus Districts (DWP and MoD, 2016).

Drawing upon 68 interviews with veterans claiming unemployment benefits (i.e. ESA, JSA and Universal Credit), this presents interim findings from the first substantive UK research to explore the experiences of veterans within the UK social security system. It highlights how the current benefits system, and the medical assessments associated with benefit receipt, are often ill equipped to support the specific mental health needs of veterans, and in some cases, interactions with the benefits system can exacerbate existing mental health issues. Furthermore, it scrutinises the effectiveness of some of the commitments to the Armed Forces Covenant, raising wider ethical questions around the appropriateness of current approaches in relation to those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Simla Serim

Subjective Well-being of Syrian Refugee Children Living in Turkey [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Today, the Syrian refugee case is one of the most devastating humanitarian crises in the world over. From the start of the civil war in 2011, hundreds of thousand people have been killed and more than half of the population around 11 million people have been displaced from their homes. Syria's neighbouring countries including Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, and Lebanon have accepted the vast majority of the refugees and people who have fled and have not registered as refugees. Because of the experiencing conflict in Syria and forceful immigration process, the refugee children encounter

lives of hardship in these countries. Many have experienced prolonged disruptions to their education, and significant psychological and physical health problems. Therefore, it is important to understand their situation of well-being in the scope of resettlement. This research explores the well-being of Syrian refugee children living in Turkey in the domains of education and health through the eyes of Syrian refugee children. It specifically focuses on children's subjective experiences, and how they make meaning of their circumstances and of their well-being. The main research questions are following: What are the perceptions of refugee children on their well-being within the domains of education and health? Which factors can be associated with their subjective well-being according to their own evaluations and interpretations?

The methodology for this research will be constituted by two-staged data collection method. The first phase will be a typical, self-completion survey. The second phase will be the focus group interview which is an important instrument for hearing the voices of children. Thus, this research puts children to the centre of the research of their well-being by eliciting children's points of view, opinions and perceptions upon their own lives and well-being and valorizing these subjective views within social policymaking.

The major demographic characteristics of participant children will cover an equal number of males and females aged between 12 and 15 living in İstanbul. Rather than make an analytic generalization, the aim of this research is providing an in-depth description of cases that hold an intrinsic interest. The objective indicators and existing social policies with regard to Syrian refugee children living in Turkey will also be discussed as a context in the research.

Sandra Shaw

Anticipating change in UK Higher Education: An Ideal subject for the knowledge economy

Sandra Shaw, Institute of Community and Society, University of Wolverhampton

[Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Higher Education is operating in an increasingly fluid, challenging and uncertain context. Most notably, the white papers, *Students at the Heart of the System* (2011) and *Success as a Knowledge Economy* (2016) have signalled attempts to redraw the relationships that exist between state, students and universities. The shift to student tuition fees as a source of funding, the lifting of student quotas, the development of KIS data sets and a Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) and the desire to attract new providers, potentially at the expense of established institutions, has taken universities deeper into the open waters of market competition. The effects of these changes are starting to be felt and expressed in discussions about the future of particular institutions and the sector as a whole, where universities are expected to demonstrate the ability to anticipate, influence and react to changing and competitive contexts. With further reviews and reforms anticipated, the aim of this paper is to examine how higher education policies imagine and seek to realise the future of universities, with particular reference to what is represented as the ideal subject of a knowledge economy. This is part of a wider project examining the implementation of policy and the development of practice in higher education, through an analysis of the form and function of placement learning opportunities on social care degrees in England

Winona Shaw

“Don’t call me absent!”: Father’s understandings of, and challenges toward, prevalent discourses of non-resident fathering in the UK [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Non-resident fathers, and separated families more broadly, have been a feature of contemporary political and public discussions in the United Kingdom, with fears that 'absent' or 'feckless' fathers are having a detrimental effect on children's development, and causing financial strain on tax payers. Government data is noticeably lacking, but estimates range from a conservative one million to up to four million men in the UK with non-resident children, with recent studies suggesting that a large number of non-resident fathers maintain regular contact with their children. Desires to strengthen father's engagement in family life, and discussions of the rights and responsibilities (morally, legally and financially) of parents, have been strong features of family policy in recent decades. These discussions, popular media portrayals, and methods of data collection about fathers has led to a multitude of discourses of non-resident fathers in the UK. However, despite increasing interest in non-resident fathers in policy and practice agendas, relatively little is known academically about the lived experiences of non-resident fathers in the UK, as well as these fathers' understandings of discourses of non-resident parents. This paper will present findings from a 'father-centric' qualitative study utilising semi-structured interviews with non-resident fathers. Narratives of fathering will be compared and contrasted to prevalent discourses of non-resident fathering in the UK. Father's understandings of their positioning in government policy toward separated families and their treatment within services, both those targeted at separated parents and child and family services more broadly, will be presented.

Ofer Shinar Levanon

Treating Refugees as Infiltrators: Psycho-Social Aspects of Israel's Policy of Forced Deportation of the African Asylum Seekers Community [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

The paper examines the background for the Israeli government decision of late 2017 to forcibly deport Israel's entire African asylum seekers community, consisting of more than 40,000 men, women and children, to Rwanda or incarcerate them indefinitely. The decision to deport contradicts Israeli obligations towards asylum seekers according to the UN Refugees of 1951, which Israeli has both signed and ratified. While the decision was criticized by the UNHCR, as well as by Israeli scholars and human rights organizations, Israeli ministers described the decision as "unavoidable", considering the impact of the African asylum seekers community on Israel.

The first part of the paper examines the use of the terms 'infiltrators', 'asylum seekers' and 'refugees' by members of the Israeli Parliament, ministers as well as other officials since 2007. The paper argues that the 2017 decision to deport asylum seekers was legitimized by the use of the term 'infiltrator' in the context of African asylum seekers. Asylum seekers were called by politicians and the media 'infiltrators' since 2007, the year they begun to arrive to Israeli in significant numbers, yet the Israeli Parliament amended the Prevention of Infiltration Law, to include African asylum seekers, as late as 2012.

The second part of the paper examines the decision to forced deportation decision in the context of competitive victimhood, the tendency to see one's group as having comparatively suffered more in relation to an outgroup. Previous studies have shown that the Israeli Jewish society is involved in competitive victimhood with regard to the Palestinians: even when Palestinians objectively suffer

from more harm, the majority of Israelis continue to believe they are the ultimate victims of the conflict. Holding on to this belief demands great investment to constantly reject information regarding the outgroup's victimhood. The present study compared reactions by Israeli policy makers and state officials to statements regarding the victimhood of Africa asylum seekers, to reactions of Israeli policy makers and state officials to information regarding victimhood of Palestinians in the context of the conflict. The paper's findings suggest the forced deportation decision reflects that African asylum seekers' victimhood is perceived by the majority of members of Israeli society as a threat to their own self-perception as victims.

Mark Simpson, Gráinne McKeever, Ciara Fitzpatrick

Destitution and paths to justice – (in)justice and paths to destitution [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Many of the social patterns evidenced by individuals who have experienced justiciable problems also apply to those individuals who have experienced destitution. This paper examines links between legal problems, access to legal advice and representation (or lack thereof) and pathways into and out of destitution. Findings encompass a legal definition of destitution; analysis of legal issues contributing to destitution; and identification of potential advice points and barriers for those experiencing destitution. A proposed legal definition of destitution, drawing on human rights, immigration and asylum law, social security law and the common law, has much in common with Fitzpatrick and others' definition but, crucially, only rarely is there an absolute duty on the part of the state to prevent or alleviate destitution. Key legal triggers of destitution – social security, housing and debt problems – flow from underlying sources of increased vulnerability to both destitution and other legal problems, notably family breakdown, ill health and labour market exclusion. While opportunities for legal interventions to make a difference are identified, interviewees' experiences ultimately speak to a failure of social citizenship and the need for policy change that reduces reliance on a discretionary, patchy and stigmatised safety net of local government and charitable support for protection against social risk.

Adrian Sinfield

Building social policies in fiscal welfare [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

'Any adequate "answer" to a problem, in turn, will contain a view of the strategic points of intervention - of the "levers" by which the structure may be maintained or changed: and an assessment of those who are in a position to intervene but are not doing so' (C. Wright Mills, *The Sociological Imagination*, 1959, p 131).

The pattern of resource distribution in any society depends not only on how it is spent but how it is raised. Yet social policy has tended to neglect the extent and form of the second and how this affects the common wealth and the welfare of individual communities, families and people. The use of tax and other reliefs is little analysed, and policy strategies even less debated. This paper aims to develop this second element, discussing what might be the objectives of fiscal policy directed to supporting public welfare and promoting social security across society. What evidence is needed to provide a basis for debate to develop robust and flexible policies; what are 'the strategic points of intervention'; and why has there been a prolonged failure to engage more openly with issues raised at least two generations ago? The analysis seeks to build on earlier papers, and particularly on the fiscal elements of 'The credit crunch, inequality and social policy', in Kevin Farnsworth and Zoe Irving

(eds) Social Policy in challenging times: economic crisis and welfare systems, Bristol: Policy Press, 2011, pp 65-80, also presented at an SPA annual conference.

Linus Siöland, Zachary Parolin

Support for a Universal Basic Income: A Demand-Capacity Paradox? [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Universal basic income (UBI) in different guises has become a common topic of discussion within social policy and welfare state reform. With much discussion to date concerning its economic or behavioural implications, this article aims to investigate the determinants of support for UBI, and what these determinants may tell us about how UBI fits into existing explanatory theories of welfare state development. Using data from the 2016 European Social Survey (ESS8), to our knowledge the first academic, large-N study which includes a question on UBI support, we investigate whether support for UBI can be explained by (i) material wellbeing and prevailing levels of social inequality; (ii) power resources theory, in terms of trade union membership and social democratic mobilisation; (iii) welfare state chauvinism, in terms of diversity levels as well as attitudes towards immigrants and their access to social welfare; (iv) path dependence and the role of institutions, investigating welfare regime, social spending and de-commodification; and finally (v) trust in politicians and the party system, following the theories of quality of governance as a predictor of welfare support.

To investigate this the study utilises the ESS8 variable for UBI support, and uses a multi-level model of both individual and macro-level variables to investigate predictors of support. Early results indicate that the generosity and scope of the welfare states they live in acts as a predictor of UBI support, with less generous or developed welfare states tending to record higher levels of support for UBI, and generous, developed welfare states like the Scandinavian one seeing lower levels. We also note higher support among respondents who are less trusting of their country's politicians. These findings seem to indicate that UBI is most likely to find support in contexts where it can be seen as supplanting or replacing an existing system that does not deliver the social outcomes its inhabitants desire, and that it is less likely to garner support where welfare states are perceived as well-functioning. The study contributes to a wider understanding of institutions' role in shaping policy-making, mapping support for UBI, and to our understanding of where UBI locates itself in relation to other, traditional welfare state measures.

Remo Siza

The uneven disappearance of 'the social' in current social policy [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

A large body of research argues that what we call 'the social' has been hollowed out and downgraded in both policy and everyday life. In the last decade, the political response to the financial crisis has contributed to a further period of marginalization of 'the social' (Atkinson 2017, Walker 2017). It has been excluded from the most important domains of our lives and public life and social institutions have been replaced by a milieu of atomized individuals (Winlow and Hall 2013). Touraine (2007) proclaimed the substitution of 'the social' by non-social forces such as interest, violence and fear. More recently, Bauman (2017) has observed the growing marketisation of social life and Archer and Donati (2015) have noted the detachment of 'the human' from 'the social', arguing that the human subject 'floats' within the environment of the social system.

Although many analyses and much evidence could lead us to think that in the last decade the 'stage

where welfare takes place' has changed drastically, I argue that in the academic and political debate the shared rethinking of welfare priorities and areas of intervention has not happened.

When in the past many scholars identified new social risks, the existence of a social sphere that could guarantee economic resources and social relations was taken for granted or deemed feasible. In the last decade, informal and formal care relations, relations with welfare services, intermediate groups, community organisations and social movements and values which we have used to represent the strength of 'the social universe' are fragmented, less relevant and much less specific. The sphere of social relations that are different from market and economic transactions or not ruled by the principle of hierarchy are characterized by increasingly blurred contours. The effects of the disappearance of 'the social' are uneven for many social groups and especially for lower middle, working class and low-income families. For these groups, the economic and care resources needed to face old and new risks have been decreasing significantly and the existing solutions proposed by welfare systems appear less and less accessible and effective.

This paper highlights that taking into account this new 'stage of welfare', it is necessary to radically rethink and reorganize social policy.

Maria Smith

Academia, workload and pay satisfaction [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

There is a growing interest in the problems that are associated with a poor work-life balance and evidence to suggest that it results in poor health and lowered performance at work (Abendroth and Kulk, 2011). It has also been noted that academic staff within the United Kingdom experience high workloads which may negatively impact upon their home lives (Kinman and Wray, 2013). At the same time, public sector pay-freezes have affected the pay of all university staff (Dolton et al, 2014). This presentation explores the workload of academics and the connection that this has upon their levels of pay satisfaction. It uses data from a mixed method study of pay satisfaction with 731 staff at two UK universities, which examined why women and low paid employees are often more satisfied with their pay than men and higher paid employees.

Qualitative data suggested that academic staff experienced a heavy workload. Furthermore, the data suggested that this encouraged lower paid staff to feel that their own pay, although relatively low, was reasonable given their work hours. In addition, in line with Marxian ideas of autonomy and alienation, quantitative data suggested that in general, employees who experience autonomy at work tended to be more satisfied with their pay. However, even though the data suggested that academics experience higher levels of control than other staff groups, when they do not experience control, their pay satisfaction levels reduce significantly. This finding helps to explain why higher paid staff are often more dissatisfied with their pay than lower paid ones. However, the data does not easily explain why women are often more satisfied than men. Indeed, the data also suggested that the pay satisfaction of female academics was more sensitive than men to a lack of autonomy at work.

Steve Smith

Tales from the Chair of a Fairness Commission: Debates about Fairness in Local Government Policy-Making and Budget Allocations in Times of Severe Economic Austerity [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

This paper explores Newport City (South Wales) Fairness Commission's (NFC) understanding of fairness in the context of severe cuts being administered year-on-year to Local Government budgets since 2012. The NFC has produced various reports and responses to Local Authority budget allocations, and other Welsh and UK policy initiatives, which includes a detailed report submitted to Council in November 2013 identifying how the value of fairness should be understood and employed in Local Government. The NFC has argued that in any debate about 'fairness' in policy development and in wider political discourses, it is important to acknowledge that 'fairness' is an essentially contested concept, and which is a contestation that is accentuated in periods of economic austerity. Consequently, debates about 'fairness' are multi-layered and so do not lend themselves to simple, non-conflicting, all-purpose definitions. Given this complex understanding of fairness, this paper outlines the NFC's view of fairness and how its understanding of fairness reflects these complexities in matters concerning the 2018-19 budget allocations agreed by the Labour-led Newport City Council in February 2018. Various themes are explored centred on four parameters of debate about fairness identified by the NFC, focussing on issues concerning equality and diversity measures, mutual obligations between local government and citizens, reciprocity and interdependency in community relations, and the accountability and transparency of decision-making. The central argument of the paper is that these themes are thrown into sharp relief during times of severe economic austerity resulting in various trade-offs having to be increasingly made between, for example, different disadvantaged groups, inter-generational demands and needs, statutory obligations and powers, and the short-term versus long-term interests of vulnerable citizens. These trade-offs, in turn, risk undermining the capacity Local Governments have to prioritise the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, and signifies a number of sea-changes concerning the role of Local Government in relation to its citizens and in the wake of implementing these austerity measures.

Warren Smith

Ambitious Plans: An examination of 'Vision 30' and the role of the future in regional planning, policy and practice. [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Local authority vision statements are declarations of intent, delineating plans, aims and ambitions for the medium-term future. They present a future idyll and key objectives in how to achieve it. Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) in the West Midlands published its 'Vision 2030' in September 2017. The vision statement consists of ten broad ambitions including raising aspirations; improving health and wellbeing; building a skilled and talented workforce, ensuring high quality education opportunities for all; reducing crime and anti-social behaviour; implementing efficient, cost effective transport links; building approximately 8,500 new homes; fostering a greater sense of community, expansion of local economy resulting in a more resilient, flexible, dynamic and successful Sandwell.

The aim of this paper is to examine the form and function of 'Vision 30' and to identify the development and position of such visions within regional and national policy making. An examination of 'Vision 30' provides an opportunity how the future is considered in current regional

planning, policy and practice. The paper is part of a broader doctoral study exploring narratives of the future, both in policy and in people's accounts of their futures in an area of Sandwell and the challenges for agents seeking to extend the horizon of what futures, relations and practices are considered probable, possible and preferable.

Carolyn Snell, Mark Bevan, Ross Gillard

Justice, fuel poverty and vulnerable groups [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Energy justice is an emerging field that has gained much attention and geographical reach over the past decade. It draws heavily on both social and environmental justice theories, bringing together the concepts of 'distributive', 'procedural' and 'recognition' justice. It has gained a particular resonance amongst fuel poverty researchers, as it provides a framework for analysing the negative impacts (and associated policies) on various vulnerable groups. Looking beyond just distributional patterns enables critical reflection of the policy process, and the assumptions contained within it. For example, Walker and Day (2012) argue that addressing fuel poverty must involve seeking justice for marginalised groups in terms of transparent decision-making, and Snell et al (2015) combine analysis of distributional and recognition injustices to show how the needs of disabled people are hidden by official measures of fuel poverty.

Despite these developments in understanding fuel poverty as a justice issue, there remain gaps in knowledge. Firstly, whilst there is a substantial evidence base around the extent and impact of fuel poverty, there is limited work on how patterns of fuel poverty have co-evolved with changes in policy (e.g. definitions and eligibility criteria) over time. Secondly, there is virtually no empirical work that considers how low-income families with children and disabled people (two groups that are considered vulnerable to fuel poverty) are impacted by, and have influence over, different styles of policy and governance.

This paper reports on initial findings from a two-year research project funded by the UK's Energy Research Centre. Drawing on the energy justice literature, the paper investigates the development and impact of fuel poverty policies across the four nations of the UK. It also considers the extent to which disabled people and low-income families with children have been recognised and included in the policy process, and the impact that this had on policy outcomes.

Svetlana Speight, Allison Dunatchik

Parental wellbeing: what is the relationship with time-use patterns? [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

A growing body of literature has sought to understand the relationship between parents' time-use patterns and their wellbeing, although it has tended to focus on the experiences of parents in the US. Time pressures on the parents of dependent children are different from those experienced by individuals at other stages of their life course (e.g. Craig and Mullan, 2010) and can be affected by government policies. The policy landscape affecting parents' work-family reconciliation in the UK has changed dramatically over the last 20 years or so, with increasing levels of support for the dual earner/dual carer model. The UK has seen a large-scale expansion of early childhood education and care services, providing parents with more "time to work", at the same time as more generous parental leave and flexible working policies have enabled them to have more "time to care" (Lewis, 2012). These policy developments have coincided with increases in mothers' labour market hours

and in dual earning families (Connolly et al., 2016) and substantial shifts towards more egalitarian views in how paid work and unpaid domestic work should be divided within the household (Scott and Clery, 2013).

Our research seeks to explore parental wellbeing in relation to how mothers and fathers spend their time. Using data from the UK Time Use Survey 2014-15, we employ regression analysis to examine the relationship between evaluative (life satisfaction and satisfaction with work-life balance), eudemonic (feeling life is worthwhile) and hedonic (feeling rushed, stress, happiness, anxiety) wellbeing and the amounts and shares of the time mothers and fathers spend on paid work, housework, childcare and leisure activities. In addition to amounts of time spent and the shares of that time within two-parent households, we also examine patterns of multi-tasking and fragmentation in parental time and how these might affect parental wellbeing.

Research presented in this paper aims to contribute to policy debates around work-family reconciliation policies and their potential to support parents' subjective wellbeing.

Mark Stephens, Suzanne Fitzpatrick, Glen Bramley

Devolution in Scotland: Powers, Resources, Politics, Policies and Values [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

This paper examines the evolution of social policy in Scotland since devolution, with particular reference to housing, homelessness, and tax/social security. It examines the growth of powers over policy and taxation since 1999, and how the method of funding is changing as income tax powers are devolved. Evidence will be presented on social attitudes and the party political system. It identifies differences in approaches to poverty with a greater emphasis on inequality rather than social mobility in the rest of the UK (RUK), the retention and reform of child poverty targets, and adoption of Minimum Incomes Standards in fuel poverty targets. Several exemplar policies will be examined: approaches to homelessness, social housing provision and the Right to Buy, and reform of private sector tenancies. Further, the way in which tax and social security powers have been used are examined with reference to income tax, council tax reform, council tax rebate, the welfare fund, and housing benefit.

Helen Stinson

Sickness and Vulnerability: The Relationship between Sick Notes and Fit to Work Assessments [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Introduced in 2013, Universal Credit replaced a number of inherited means-tested working-age benefits and tax credit systems with a single monthly benefit payment. It has found considerable cross-party political favour as a benefit system that will promote self-sufficiency and financial independence. Central to Universal Credit is a new system of 'Claimant Commitments' which intend to clearly specify the various job preparation and search conditions that an individual must fulfil in return for their benefit payment. These work-related commitments are temporarily eased when an individual receives a 'sick note' from their doctor. Anyone who remains ill for an extended period, however, is eventually referred for a Work Capability Assessment, which assesses how capable someone is of re-engaging with their work-search activities. Someone considered 'fit for work' following this assessment can therefore have their Claimant Commitment reinstated and be expected to apply for work, even if they still have an active 'sick note' from their doctor. Drawing

upon new empirical research with Universal Credit recipients, this presentation will argue that the interaction between 'sick notes' and Work Capability Assessments exposes increasing numbers of sick and disabled people to intensified levels of conditionality, justifying the withdrawal of social protection from Universal Credit recipients who may be unable to move into paid employment. Using the voices of sick and disabled Universal Credit recipients, this presentation will explore the extent to which intensified conditionality has the capacity to exacerbate lived experiences of vulnerability

Harald Stoeger

Studying the Relationship Between Crises and the Transformation of Housing Systems: Empirical Evidence from Austria [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The paper aims at contributing to ongoing debates on the patterns of continuity and change of contemporary housing systems. Particular emphasis is placed on the impact of crises on policy reforms, with a particular focus on the housing realm. Some scholars perceive crises as leading to fundamental policy reforms breaking with long established country-specific paths. Still others emphasise that the effects of crises are less dramatic so that the established country-specific policy trajectories are largely maintained. The first part of the paper hence develops a theoretical framework identifying the main driving forces of housing system change over time, building on theories of path-dependence and change. Besides the impact of crises, the role of the historical heritage and the particular preferences of key actors are identified as crucial explanatory factors.

These theoretical assumptions are tested empirically, using the case study of the conservative housing system of Austria, which is seldom dealt with by the comparative social policy literature. The paper traces the long-term development of the Austrian housing system since the 1990s in order to assess continuity and change. Empirical research builds on a mix of sources, including secondary data sets and policy documents that provide insights into how policy-makers respond to housing problems.

The main empirical findings indicate that (since about 2010) Austria has experienced a housing affordability crisis, which has increased the vulnerability not only of low-income households, but also of parts of the middle-classes in the urban housing markets. This crisis did not lead to path-breaking housing reforms, at least in the short-run; instead, the pattern of incremental change is continued. Policy-makers place emphasis on a demand-side approach focused on housing allowances, on transforming social housing into a "safety net" for low-income (native) citizens, and on promoting affordable home-ownership (via introducing a "buy option"). Economic pressures to reduce public funding for new housing construction and political pressures to promote market-oriented housing solutions and to tighten eligibility are identified as the key driving forces of housing system change in Austria. Despite these changes, Austria still markedly differs from countries such as England where the transformation especially of social housing has been more radical. Finally, the paper draws some conclusions for prospective cross-national research on housing issues.

Ellie Suh

Can't save or won't save -Examining the role of internal and external factors in retirement saving among British adults in their 30s and 40s. [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Over the past few decades, individuals' responsibility to save for their retirement has increased as a result of changes made in the pension policies in the UK. The younger population is now expected to save more and via various means than previously. Prior research suggests that younger workers recognise their role being greater (McLeod 2012); however, the under-saving among the young individuals continues to be a problem (DWP, 2014). Automatic enrolment, introduced in 2012, contributes to closing this gap by providing a platform to save via work. Nevertheless, the issue of saving sufficiency remains questionable, especially for the individuals in their 30s and 40s who are caught in the middle of the policy transition. These individuals are unable to benefit fully from the previous or the current pension policy; therefore, they have a greater need to save actively and other than contributing to the national insurance or the work pension schemes. Despite its importance, not much is known about how these individuals save for retirement.

This study aims to fill this gap by assessing the current state of young British adults' retirement saving activity. Using a modified version of the model of financial planning (Hershey et al. 2007), the role of individuals' internal factors in the retirement saving decision-making process, such as attitudes and behavioural tendencies, are examined in the context of their broader social and economic environment. This study utilises the 4th wave of the Wealth and Assets Survey (WAS) and employs factor analysis to construct attitudinal and behavioural measures. The relationships among these factors are hypothesised based on previous studies and tested using the Structural Equation Modelling (SEM), controlling for demographic and socio-economic characteristics.

Results show that financial resilience, which captures individuals' behavioural tendencies to manage their money responsibly today, is found to be the strongest predictor of retirement saving. However, financial resilience is more closely related to individuals' broader economic resources, such as income, home-ownership and inheritance receipt, than attitudinal characteristics such as myopia. These findings collectively suggest that while individuals' attitudes and behaviours are indeed relevant to understanding retirement saving decisions, how and the extent to which they influence retirement saving vary substantially depending on individuals' socio-demographic characteristics and their broader economic resources. In addition, considering the current economic resources are inequality distributed, the inequality is expected to widen along the accumulation path among the younger generation in the absence of an effective policy intervention.

Ellie Suh

How important is the bank of mum and dad? – Young British adults' entry to housing market and the role of intergenerational transfer [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

The problem young British adults experience in purchasing a home has become one of the critical policy issues. While they have inherited the strong aspiration for homeownership from the previous generations (Clapham et al. 2014), there has been a chronic shortage of affordable homes in the market as the house prices have increased faster than real earnings over the last two decades. Also, post-crisis financial regulations now require a higher level of deposit and income to borrow against. The current economic circumstances for the young British adults are unfavourable as they experience a low-wage growth, increasing living costs and unstable employment. These coupled

with the lack of suitable alternatives have left little room for the young people to navigate in the housing market (Resolution Foundation 2016). For individuals who are in the private rental sector, the cost of renting exceeds the mortgage payments. This signals a considerable disadvantage concerning asset accumulation as a more significant share of income is spent on rent. Among the potential first-time buyers, a substantial proportion has been helped by 'the bank of mum and dad' according to mortgage lenders (e.g., HSBC 2014). It implies that wealthy parents enable their children to not only get on the housing ladder but also accumulate their assets from earlier on. This study aims to investigate the current state of and the pathways to homeownership among the younger generation using the third and the fourth waves of Wealth and Assets Survey (WAS). It examines the characteristics of existing homeowners among the individuals aged between 25 and 45 using logistic regression. Then, it tests whether having received an inheritance and in-kind transfers, such as gifts and informal loans from family and friends, indeed enable the individuals to move from renting to owning their homes using longitudinal analysis. It is also relevant to examine to whether and what extent the entry to homeownership enhances the asset-building of the younger generation in the long-run. Preliminary results point to a systematic difference in characteristics associated with homeownership and that the chances are substantially higher for individuals who have received an intergenerational transfer. In the second part of the research, it will be studied whether the intergenerational transfers recipients enter homeownership faster and whether it generates an advantage in accumulating the housing and financial wealth compared to individuals without such transfer.

Kate Summers

'Dirty Money'? An overview of findings from a qualitative research project exploring the meaning of working age social security money [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The 2008 financial crisis and ensuing political reaction precipitated an era of 'welfare reform' in the United Kingdom. Ten years on working age social security provision is less generous and more discretionary. A rhetoric that problematises and blames individual claimants has arguably solidified and become entrenched over this period.

Within this context, how do social security recipients themselves make sense of the money that they receive in the form of benefits? This paper works from the premise that money is an inherently social medium that carries and communicates meaning: what does this mean for recipients' understandings and feelings in terms of working age social security monies?

This paper draws on findings from a qualitative study based in east London involving depth-interviews with 43 social security claimants who were either unemployed or working and receiving a low income. In many instances working age social security money was understood as 'dirty' money by claimants. This money was tainted in various ways: it marked one's dependence on the state; and was a reminder of one's current predicament of (perceived) personal failure, and (ontological) insecurity.

The paper explores the bases for this 'contamination'; exceptions to these conceptions; and the implications that this had for how this money was used. Finally, the paper considers implications for policy: under what conditions might it be possible to 'decontaminate' working age benefits?

Min Tak

Carer support 'off the agenda'?: Informal caregiving in South Korea [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The population in South Korea is rapidly ageing. Since the introduction of the Long-Term Care Insurance (LTCI) in 2008, there has been growing interest in care qualifications and the social care workforce in general, and, more recently, qualified (and paid) family carers. However, support for informal carers has received little attention and informal carers are systematically excluded from the discussion relating to long-term care, despite the fact that they are still providing a significant proportion of adult social care in South Korea. Considering that individual users can receive care for up to four hours per day under the current system, it is clear that unpaid informal carers still plays a major role in providing personal care in the community. There are also a number of older people whose needs do not meet the eligibility criteria and informal carers are filling the gaps in the system by meeting their needs. The current LTCI system mainly focuses on meeting the needs of eligible service users and there is little support given to informal carers, both in terms of service and of cash benefits. There is a need for a formal recognition of the value of caring provided by informal carers and the impact of caring, and appropriate support for informal carers.

Yong Tang

Challenges, Personal Growth and Social Support among Family Caregivers of Dementia Elders in Southern China [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The purpose of this study was to obtain a deeper understanding of the experiences of family caregivers (FCs) of dementia elders in Shenzhen, Southern China. This study sought to describe how being the main caregiver influences FCs' daily lives. This article reports on the findings from individual interviews with 10 FCs of dementia elders. The interview transcripts were analysed using qualitative thematic analysis, which revealed that caring for a cancer patient over the course of his or her illness significantly affected many aspects of FCs' lives. Three major themes were identified in their experiences: (1) challenges, (2) personal growth, and (3) social support. In exploring these themes, this article offers insights into FCs' experiences in Southern China, particularly among family members of dementia elders, and presents implications for future professional practice, especially oncology social work. This study adds to the body of social work knowledge by explicating the voices of FCs in a Chinese dementia context, and it elucidates the caregiving experience from the perspective of caregivers attending to dementia elders.

David Taylor

A relational theory of wellbeing [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Attaining and improving human wellbeing is a seductive goal for social policy. It has a strong normative dimension: at the individual level, 'being well' touches on a moral notion of human capability for personal fulfilment and at the social level, on the idea of 'the good society'. Within the study of social policy some have argued it enables a more positive approach than focussing on social problems, and others, the possibility of a more rounded view of humanity. But how should we understand wellbeing? Despite increased attention to the concept of subjective wellbeing and a focus on empirical measurement and comparative indices we still lack an adequate theory of wellbeing for social policy.

Drawing on earlier work (Taylor, 2015; Barnes, Taylor and Ward, 2013; Taylor 2011; Stenner and Taylor, 2008)) the paper now proposes a theory of wellbeing to frame a critical analysis of social

policy. It is psychosocial in orientation and relational in substance. I suggest a methodologically 'generative' account where human wellbeing is constituted as both subjective and objective together. At the individual level wellbeing is understood a state of psychological balance or equilibrium. At the social level it is about the quality of social relationships, rather than simply the individual quality of life. This approach aims to overcome the problems of methodological individualism of some contemporary approaches, especially those that seek to measure aggregate 'national' wellbeing on the basis of cumulative individual happiness and/or life-satisfaction scores.

Despite the confidence of some that we are approaching a clearer 'scientific' understanding of wellbeing and how to measure it there is little evidence that current approaches have directly influenced the development of policy or have clarified how to measure the effects of policy on wellbeing. This is, in part, due to the close association of much recent work on wellbeing with 'individualisation' and 'responsibilisation' and a focus on happiness and life-satisfaction.

In this paper I take a different approach focussing on how an understanding of wellbeing needs to build on meeting human need, the provision of welfare and the quality of human relationships. It is argued that a range of relationships that encompass the personal, domestic and public spheres are constitutive of positive social wellbeing. Understanding wellbeing for social policy, therefore, requires us to consider how the material and emotional quality of a range of relationships can be enhanced by key agencies and institutions.

Julie Thomson, Fiona Henderson, Anne Smith, Geoff Whittam

The impact of social policy on social enterprise failure [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

A decade on from the 2008 crisis, austerity is changing the way public services are being delivered in rural areas in Scotland. As in the rest of the UK, there has been a marked shift in the delivery of some social welfare services to the third sector, and particularly to social enterprise (Sepulveda, 2015). The Scottish Government's Social Enterprise Strategy 2016-2026 (Scottish Government, 2016) supports and encourages the growth of the social enterprise sector in Scotland. The rural social enterprise sector is proportionally much larger than in urban areas, with 34% of all Scottish enterprises located in rural areas despite just 18% of Scotland's population living there (Social Value Lab, 2017).

This paper presents evidence of social policies' role in rural social enterprise failure which emerged during an investigation of the antecedents of social enterprise failure. This paper demonstrates how conflicting policy agendas have impacted local service provision through an in-depth analysis of the failure of a rural social enterprise that offered training and employment support to vulnerable and marginalised people across rural western Scotland. The findings are supplemented by emergent data from guided conversations with CEOs and managers of five other failed rural Scottish social enterprise initiatives. Analysis of this combined data suggests that wider Scottish and UK social policy can impact negatively upon social enterprise and contribute to such organisations' failure. While some of these policies empower communities and rural organisations to take ownership of their economic development, others were found to be counterproductive and in fact undermine this same process.

This paper concludes that a disconnect exists between national social policies and regional

approaches to policy implementation which can constrain local regional economic development, and that this disconnect is encapsulated within the antecedents of social enterprise failure.

This paper concludes that a disconnect exists between national social policies and regional approaches to policy implementation which can constrain local regional economic development, and that this disconnect is encapsulated within social enterprise failure.

Jennifer Threlfall

School choice in segregated urban communities: the experiences of Black parents [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Background. The current US administration has promoted school choice as the centre of their education policy and as a primary means of reducing educational inequality. Responsibility for securing a quality education is therefore placed on parents who are positioned as empowered consumers. However, this rhetoric ignores the history of segregation and racial injustice that has shaped the educational landscape for racial minority families. The current study uses Critical Race Theory as a lens through which to examine the school choice experiences of Black families living in a Midwestern US city with high levels of residential and educational segregation.

Method. Twenty-four qualitative interviews were conducted with low-income Black caregivers of high school students. Participants were mothers (n=17), fathers (n=3), and other family members with primary caregiving responsibility (n=4). Their ages ranged from 33 to 76. Participants' children attended locally zoned public high schools (n=14), public schools of choice (magnet/ charter schools; n=8), and private schools (n=2). Data were analysed using grounded theory methods involving initial open coding and the subsequent formation of abstract theoretical codes. Each transcript was independently coded by two team members.

Results. Findings indicate that parents experienced their choice of school to be driven and constrained by the racial context in which they lived. First, parents pointed to a lack of investment in Black neighbourhood schools as necessitating a search for alternative options. They identified pervasive academic and disciplinary problems in these predominantly Black local schools and worried about their children's internalisation of negative racial stereotypes. Second, parents pointed to the complexity of the various school choice policies created to combat segregation. Choosing an alternative school demanded considerable agency and not all families were successful. Third, parents discussed wider costs to the Black community of school choice programmes. Some caregivers observed that in sending their children to other institutions, they were withholding their support from neighbourhood schools and thereby contributing to their decline.

Conclusion. Despite the rhetoric of parental empowerment surrounding school choice, caregivers experienced their search for a quality education for their children as an unwanted burden. School choice policies, ostensibly designed to reduce inequality, benefitted some families, but were perceived to have a deleterious effect on the Black community as a whole. The findings suggest that school "choice" is a false narrative for many urban Black families so long as they cannot access equitable schooling within their own localities.

Morag Treanor

Can we put the 'poverty of aspiration' myth to bed now? [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Children's less successful progress in education is often blamed on their, and/or their parents', poor aspirations. This has become known as the 'poverty of aspiration'. Aspirations have become a key educational policy driver in Scotland and the rest of the UK and are seen as critical levers for closing the attainment gap between children and young people of high and low socioeconomic backgrounds. Yet the existing evidence shows that children living in poverty do have high aspirations for themselves and, that their parents also have high aspirations for them, but they feel inadequate in their knowledge and experience to help their children. The problem with the 'poverty of aspiration' as a concept is not only that the research evidence does not support it, but also that it passes the responsibility for a presumed lack of aspirations onto parents and children. This paper uses approximately 3,500 responses from Growing Up in Scotland (GUS) data. Parents' responses to questions on the aspirations they hold for their children and their confidence in their ability to influence their children's schooling were analysed. The results show that there are statistically significant differences in the types of aspirations parents hold for their children according to their experience of poverty. However, there is no 'lack' of aspiration per se. It shows that poorer parents are more likely to aspire to apprenticeships/training/further education and less likely to aspire to higher education for their children. However, although parents' aspirations differ by poverty experience, they are still 'high' aspirations, and are a construct of parents' own knowledge, understanding and experience.

Nadav Perez-Vaisvidovsky, Ayana Halpern, Reli Mizrahi

Involving fathers in the social services in Israel: In the absence of policy [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

The role of fathers receiving welfare and social services enjoys growing attention in recent years, both from academia and from policy makers, who stand at the focus of this paper. However, while those policymakers generally agree that attention to the role of fathers is important for the sake of the family and the children, the nature and function of this role seem to elude them. What does involving fathers as clients within the social services mean in the eyes of the policy? How can it be achieved? Do fathers constitute a resource to families in poverty, or do they pose a risk? And which gender perspectives are supporting the policy making process? Insofar, this paper meets the conference's following themes: 'Poverty and social protection' and 'attitudes to welfare'. Moreover, it relates to an additional theme, highly relevant for understanding social policy in recent decade: Masculinity as a new factor within social welfare.

Based on a qualitative-categorical analysis of more than 15 in-depths interviews with top bureaucrats in Israeli welfare governmental agencies, followed by a reliability test compared between three researchers, the paper aims at analysing the policy of those agencies in psychosocial interventions that target fathers or families in general, without explicitly engaging fathers. Accordingly, a typology of the main themes that were identified in the texts will be presented, followed by the derived conclusions, all of which depicts the conflictual perspectives of policy makers with regard to fathers as clients of social services, and within the unique Israeli case.

The data shows that various actors in the field hold differing – and sometimes ambivalent – views on the role of fathers and on the attitude the services should adopt toward them. Policy is not a

product of a centrally coordinated policymaking process that is based on shared premises, but rather a myriad of policy trajectories, each different from the others, but all devised in the same network of organizational and ideational factors.

Analysis shows that several issues influence these trajectories: Gender assumptions on the nature of fathers, parenting, families and the professional ethos of social work; Barriers such as extreme lack of resources and knowledge on approaching men clients; emphasizing the responsibilities of practitioners as opposed to the responsibility of the ministry of welfare; Ethno-cultural aspects; and trying to follow the gender political and philosophical Zeitgeist.

Sanne (W. A.) van der Valk, Menno (H. J. M.) Fenger

When caseworkers and benefit-recipients meet: A systematic review on the effectiveness of meetings on various activation outcomes [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

Active labour market policies (ALMPs) are, to a great extent, carried out by caseworkers through meetings with unemployed workers (Berg, Kjærsgaard & Rosholm, 2012). These meetings play a crucial role in the activation process, and are therefore, unsurprisingly, also referred to as “the cornerstone” of ALMPs (Pedersen, Rosholm & Svarer 2012, p.5). For instance, it is at meetings that participation in activation programmes is decided, job search is monitored, and job search assistance is provided. The relevance of meetings within ALMPs is regularly overlooked in policy implementation, since meetings are typically only used for administrative purposes (Rosholm, 2014). Nonetheless, meetings have many desirable qualities that more traditional activation policies lack: they can easily be scaled up or down and their content can easily be varied (Rosholm, 2014). Therefore, meetings between caseworkers and the unemployed deserve renewed scholarly attention.

Research on the effectiveness of meetings is generally positive. For instance, Pedersen et al. (2012) summarize the evidence of 37 studies that analyse the impact of meetings on among others exit rates and unemployment-duration. Thirty of these find significant positive effects and seven find no significant effects. In addition, follow-up meetings after an initial intake are found to increase employment probability with each meeting (Heyma & Werf, 2014) and the time spend by caseworkers on meetings is found to be more than compensated by the benefit savings that are generated (Koning, 2012). However, since most of the existing research focuses on the question if meeting lead to positive outcomes, less research is focused on the questions why, for whom and under which circumstances these outcomes occur. Furthermore, when it comes to policy implementation not much can be done with research in the ‘effectiveness tradition’, since this type of research – however valuable – does not provide us with information on improvement of policy measures (Geuns, Wesdorp & Duinker, 2011).

The objective of this paper is to overcome these deficiencies in current literature. In this paper, we analyse under which circumstances and why meetings between the unemployed and their caseworker affect various outcome measures. We will try to do so by presenting a collection of recent studies that are conducted on the topic of meetings and summarize findings in a descriptive manner. The central aim of this systematic literature-review is to differentiate between different types of meetings and to clarify factors that might be associated with the relative success or failure of various types of meetings.

Alison Wallace, David Rhodes

Hidden in plain sight: homeowners and poverty after the crisis [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Although the financial crisis of 2007/8 was a profound experience for homeowners who lost their homes or struggled with mortgage debt, the aftermath saw policy responses contain adverse impacts on UK homeowners relative to some other countries and in comparison to the market downturn of the 1990s. Consequently, policy attention drifted elsewhere, but a long tail of weaknesses remains in UK homeownership and new challenges arise for those on low incomes. Despite the potential for new directions, housing policy remains focussed on subsidising access to homeownership for those locked out of local housing markets. But does so against a backdrop of falling or stagnating incomes, weakening mortgage safety nets and regional and class inequalities. Moreover, poverty rates among homeowners have declined over time but the crisis slowed the fall among mortgaged households, especially after housing costs are considered.

Homeownership is infrequently associated with poverty, being linked more in the public and policy imagination with wealth and social mobility, nonetheless, homeowners comprise half of all UK households in poverty or a third after housing costs are considered. On average homeowners have better housing outcomes but the tenure encompasses almost two-thirds of all households and so the absolute extent of homeownership among those on low incomes or in poverty is significant but garners little attention. Policy designed to smooth entry for those on low incomes into the tenure fail to consider outcomes of this investment in terms of financial sustainability, physical housing conditions, and wealth accumulation.

This paper examines the circumstances of homeowners that experience poverty over time using data from the 2013/14 Understanding Society survey, supplemented with data from the British Household Panel Survey from 1993/4 onwards. The paper highlights the exclusion of people in lower grade occupations, rendering constrained access a class issue as well as an intergenerational one; demonstrates new constraints of affordability and its impact on poverty when interest rates rise; and the interactions between spatial and class inequalities inherent in the tenure. The paper discusses the potential and limits of low-income homeownership in the UK and concludes by considering the policy implications for maintaining subsidies for low-income homeownership without securing adequate mechanisms to sustain the tenure throughout the market cycle.

Julia Shu-Huah Wang

Welfare Conditionalities and Long-Term Trajectories of Welfare Use, Labour Supply, and Income: The case of the 1996 welfare reform in the U.S. [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Attaching conditionalities to welfare provision has become the new normal in the developing and developed societies. Yet, little is known of the extent to which these conditionalities have long-term behavioural effects. This study uses the welfare reform in the U.S. since 1996 as an example to examine impacts of welfare conditionalities on long-term trajectories of welfare use, labour supply and income. Specifically, the conditionalities under examination are time limits and sanctions on non-compliance to work requirements. I study whether stringent conditionalities encourage individuals to work more, earn more, and be less likely to receive welfare over the long term.

I use a nationally representative longitudinal dataset in the U.S. – Survey of Income and Program Participation 1996, 2001 and 2004 Panels and a difference-in-difference research design to examine

the policy effects. I use low-educated mothers as the treatment group as this is the population group most affected by the welfare reform. The comparison group adopted in this study is low-educated married mothers. Furthermore, this study examines how stringencies of state work sanction and time limit policies were associated with long-term outcomes. The outcomes include welfare use (TANF, SNAP, SSI), labour supply (employment and work hours), income (earned income and family income), financial independence (not receiving public or private transfers), and disconnection (not receiving welfare and not employed). I use multilevel models as the analytic approach. A rich set of individual, household and state characteristics is controlled for in this study. I also conduct a series of sensitivity analyses to test the robustness of findings.

Findings indicate that stringent work sanction policies were associated with a lower likelihood of TANF participation in the long run, but work sanctions did not affect other outcomes. Short time limit policies (less than 60 months) were associated with reduced TANF and SNAP participation but did not increase employment or income. Nevertheless, neither work sanction nor time limits policies increased risks of disconnection. In conclusion, this study finds some evidence that stringent welfare conditionalities are effective in discouraging families to use welfare, but there is no evidence that stringent welfare conditionalities lead to long-term effects on labour supply or income.

Julia Shu-Huah Wang

Patterns and Determinants of Poverty Dynamics in Taiwan and Southeast China [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

Cross-national comparative studies on poverty dynamics can offer crucial insights into the patterns of poverty across different contexts and the effectiveness of alternative policy responses. Yet, East Asian countries have been precluded from these investigations due to data limitations. This study will be the first to use the cross-nationally harmonized Panel Study on Family Dynamics (PSFD), covering both Taiwan and Southeast China (Fujian, Zhejiang and Shanghai) in 2006–2013, to examine the patterns and determinants of poverty dynamics during a period when these regions experienced rapid demographic, economic, political, and social transformations.

This study first uses sequence analyses and multilevel models to depict the poverty trends across the time and space. Poverty trends across Taiwan, urban and rural Southeast China before and after public transfers will be compared. Next, individual and structural determinants of poverty dynamics will be examined using multilevel models. Data on structural determinants are collected from statistical yearbooks and government websites, and these data are merged to the PSFD micro-data by district and year. Individual determinants under examination include education, age, family composition, occupation, health, and asset ownership. Structural determinants under examination are welfare generosity, welfare coverage, industrial composition, unemployment rates, gross regional product, and dependency ratio. Findings from this study can inform the evaluations of poverty alleviation policies in Taiwan and mainland China in responding to the changing demographic and economic trends.

Beth Watts, Suzanne Fitzpatrick

Exploring the Ethical Legitimacy of Welfare Conditionality [Thursday 12th July 9.00-10.30]

Welfare conditionality is now a firmly established mainstream policy tool in North America, Australia, and across Europe. Its use within social security system has been linked to austerity

politics, and the rise of foodbanks and destitution. The deployment of conditional mechanisms in other policy domains (housing, health, education and homelessness) has featured less in mainstream debates, but has also been controversial. In the Global South, conditional approaches have become a key means of pursuing human development goals – promoting take up of education and health services among low income families – but debates about their efficacy remain heated.

The essence of welfare conditionality lies in requirements for people to behave in prescribed ways in order to access cash benefits or other welfare supports. These conditions are enforced through monitoring and verification regimes and ‘sanctions’ of various kinds. This paper provides an overview of the techniques, targets and impacts of conduct conditionality, before considering its ethical legitimacy drawing on a range of perspectives (rights, contractualism, communitarianism, utilitarianism, paternalism and social justice) drawn from moral and political philosophy. The overarching aims are to facilitate more constructive dialogue on the use of conditionality and to provide a clear framework via which to assess whether specific examples of conditional welfare are ethically defensible, or not.

Martin Watts

The Myth of the Fiscal Austerity Imperative [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

In October 2015 the then Chancellor George Osborne successfully piloted The Charter for Budget Responsibility legislation through the UK Parliament. The legislation required that after 2019 real GDP growth of 1 percent or more should be accompanied by a budget surplus. The ostensible reason for this strategy was that public debt was at an unsustainable level, so that there would be limited scope for the UK Government to address future economic turbulence. At the time many economists questioned the constraints imposed by this commitment, without formally challenging the budget surplus mantra.

Following the Brexit vote of 2016, the date for a surplus budget has been pushed back to the mid-2020s. After the November 2017 budget, the Institute for Fiscal Studies (2017) argued that this fiscal objective seemed ‘increasingly ambitious’. The fiscal constraints since the Global Financial Crisis have led to divisive budgets, with, for example, major welfare cuts being announced in the 2015 budget.

This paper, which is underpinned by Modern Monetary Theory principles, is designed to substantiate a number of key propositions which should underpin the conduct of fiscal and monetary policy.

The analysis of sectoral balances reveals that sustained full employment requires that most countries typically run fiscal deficits. Hence fiscal austerity and reliance of monetary policy, whether conventional or unconventional, as the active component of UK macroeconomic policy will fail to achieve and sustain full employment.

As a currency issuer, the UK Treasury is not financially constrained in its spending on UK goods and services, and cannot go broke if it needs to run sustained fiscal deficits. In short, the principles which inform household budgets do not apply to the UK Treasury.

The most effective full employment strategy requires the adoption of a Job Guarantee, which will

address the additional objective of stable inflation.

The implementation of this full employment strategy would change the political discourse from 'the government cannot afford to fund this proposed project' to an informed discussion with the electorate about their preferred mix of public and private expenditure and the composition of public expenditure.

Na Wei, Can Yang

The Current Situation, Problems and Strategies of the participation of Non-profit Organizations in Urban Community Service for the elderly people in China – A Case Study of Beijing [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The acceleration in the process of urbanization has led to the continuous development of economy and society in China, making cities become the concentration of various social contradictions, in which the aging of population is an extraordinarily serious one. As China has now been in the social transition period, the traditional pension model has been out of date due to some extent. On one hand, the social demographic structure has changed enormously due to the gradual miniaturization of family structure, which means the pension function of families has been weakened; On the other hand, the institutional pension may not be widely promoted in the whole country because of the limited resources and high cost. Thus, the community pension, a new type of pension model combining both family pension and institutional one has come into being, which will probably be China's main pension model in the next few years. However, there may be inefficiency and a waste of public resources and if the government takes all the responsibility to provide community pension, while non-profit organizations have shown their incomparable advantages due to their unique characteristics.

This paper first introduces the current situation and trend of population aging in China, and then analyses the necessity and advantages of non-profit organizations' participating in urban community pension, followed by the discussion of several influencing factors, such as the subject, the content and mode of participation, etc. It takes the pension service in several communities in Beijing as typical cases to analyse the background, process of implementation, experience and problems of the participation of NPOs in community pension in China. Finally, the paper tries to put forward some thoughts and suggestions on fund-raising, legal construction, talent attraction and supervision so as to promote the development of urban community pension career in China.

Jacques Wels, John Macnicol

Is the 'Lump of Labour' a Self-evident Fallacy? [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Since the end of the nineteenth century, the notion of a 'lump of labour fallacy' has been used in order to criticise the view that the number of jobs in an economy is fixed in relation to population size. This is particularly true of the period since the 1990s, which has been characterised by government policies dedicated to labour market expansion. The debate on social policy has been profoundly affected, with a growing emphasis on exit from benefit being based upon labour market participation. In particular, the debate on early retirement has been affected with the idea that little can be gained by encouraging later-life exit.

This paper will trace the historical origins of the idea that the 'lump of labour' is a fallacy – back to D.

F. Schloss and others over one hundred years ago – and up to more recent advocates such as Gosta Esping-Anderson and Alicia Munnell. In particular, it will consider any possible effects of expanding the labour supply of older workers on overall employment rates.

The notion that the lump of labour is a fallacy has been used in times of economic growth, as in the last twenty-five years. Yet it does not necessarily stand up to empirical scrutiny. The evidence for this will be examined in the presentation, using quantitative and historical analysis.

Jacques Wels, Robert Holzmann

The portability of social rights for migrant workers. Recent trends and issues raised by portability between Great Britain and the European Economic Area. [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

The portability of social benefits – such as the state pension, child allowances and unemployment benefits – for international migrants is regulated by social security agreements concluded between countries or at supra-national level, such as within the European Economic Area (EEA). This paper aims at investigating the main evolutions of social security agreements over the last decade and, looking particularly at the case of Great Britain, stating the main issues raised by the forthcoming withdrawal from the European Union. It is divided in two parts. The first section presents the different portability regimes allowing documented migrants to transport social security benefits from one country to another and shows the recent evolution in both migration flows (using the 2013 World Bank Migration Matrix) and social security agreements (using our own data). Focusing on Great Britain, the second summarizes the main issues that were raised in relation to the European Economic Area multilateral agreement including the notion of residence, family allowances, the state pension, and the portability of health care benefits. The conclusion highlights the main concerns and options that are ahead following the withdrawal from the European Union.

Peter Whiteford

Budget Policy and Distributional Politics in an Age of Austerity: The Case of Australia [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

One of the central issues in political decision-making is "who gets what?" particularly in the context of government Budgets (Wildavsky, 1961). The distributional effects of Budget proposals and changes have gained increasing prominence since the Global Financial Crisis in 2008, as governments have subsequently sought to cut fiscal deficits and reduce public debt, through reductions in public spending.

This paper discusses the case of the 2014 Australian Budget, which proposed wide ranging changes in public spending including cuts in higher education spending, the introduction of user charges in health, changed indexation provisions for public pensions, and severe restrictions in access to benefits for unemployed young people, among other changes. While many of these proposals were not implemented, the popularity of the government suffered significantly, with a significant role played by academic analysis of the distributional effects of these proposals and resulting perceptions of the unfairness of the proposed Budget changes. Subsequently both the Prime Minister and the Treasurer lost their positions, although the Government narrowly won the next election in 2016.

The Budget proposals were defended as economically necessary by the Government, and the "unfairness" of the proposed changes were contested by government, business and some media

commentators and think-tanks. This paper reviews and assesses the differing sides of these arguments, including arguments about the reliability of the methodologies of distributional analysis (“cameo families” and policy microsimulation), with the contested positions reflecting both technical issues and value positions.

The paper concludes with a discussion of the broader relevance of this experience to similar debates internationally, as well as discussing why these proposals were largely never implemented. This discussion is situated within the literature on “the new politics of the welfare state” (Pierson, 1996) and studies of welfare state retrenchment (Starke, 2008).

Adam Whitworth

Transforming employment experiences and outcomes for individuals with health conditions: building the case for change [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

Health-related unemployment is a major issue across advanced economies despite years of attempted employment policy interventions. Modified versions of well-evidenced voluntary, personalised, intensive Individual Placement and Support (IPS) models of employment support for health cohorts offer considerable potential for transformative change in experiences and outcomes. As such, modified IPS is, understandably, the subject of mushrooming policy interest and activity. However, two significant gaps limit the effectiveness of, and increase the risks around, the potential of modified IPS however and this paper responds to these gaps, building on embedded policy experiences with national and regional policy partners. Firstly, the paper develops an original analytical framework for the critically reflective design of modified IPS services for tailored cohorts and local contexts, opening up the possibility of multiple equally plausible modified IPS models (in contrast to traditional IPS). Secondly, in recognition that the take-up of such models requires the economic as well as the conceptual case to be made, the paper moves on to estimate financial costs and savings for twelve of these equally plausible modified IPS models. Modified IPS is shown to offer savings potential to Exchequers alongside marked improvements in employment experiences and outcomes for individuals. The paper concludes by stepping out to consider wider lessons of the discussion for UK national employment policy where DWP are at present seen in key ways to move farther away from, rather than closer towards, the solid evidence base around the principles and performance of IPS.

Jay Wiggan

Constructing new financialised markets in social policy: the UK Government and the boosting of social impact investing 2010-2016 [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Following the formation of the UK Conservative-Liberal Coalition Government in June 2010 a suite of policy reforms to develop and accelerate the growth of a social impact investment market in the UK were undertaken. UK Government Ministers identified impact investment as an innovative mechanism that would enhance the use of outcomes based contracting and the growing role of private and social economy organisations in delivering services alongside, or in place of, the public sector (Social Impact Investment Taskforce, 2013: 1; HM Government 2011; 2016). This turn to impact investing marks a process of extensive financialisation (Fine, 2011) as finance is inserted into new market spaces in social policy. The aim of this paper is to examine the official discourse accompanying the impact investing reform measures in order to draw out how the discursive contributes to market making by manufacturing demand and legitimating this new financialised

social policy. Drawing on Hyatt's (2013a; 2013b; 2015) Critical Policy Discourse Analysis Framework this paper examines and deconstructs a purposively selected sample of impact investing texts published between 2011 and 2016 to explore the language and images embedded within UK government impact investing discourse during this period. The paper concentrates on unpacking the socio-political (Big Society) and economic (Global Britain) imaginaries within which social impact investment is embedded and actualised and how these create the space for representing impact investment as a uniquely powerful and socially beneficial policy tool. The paper contends the weaving together of these imaginaries enables a boosterist representation of social impact investment as the necessary and desirable future of welfare state resourcing, organisation and delivery.

Mark Wilding, Anya Ahmed, Andrea Gibbons, Katy Jones, Michaela Rogers, Iolo Madoc-Jones
The Potential for Policy Transfer from Part 2 of the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Part 2 of the Housing Act (Wales) 2014 (hereafter 'the Act') introduced major changes for local authorities to address homelessness, including focusing services on prevention and widening eligibility for assistance. New measures include extending the length of time when people are threatened with homelessness to 56 days, along with changes to the application of priority need, intentionality, and local connection, along with the introduction of Personal Housing Plans. There is also greater scope for involving housing associations and the private rented sector in alleviating homelessness. The change in policy and its implementation has been keenly observed by governments outside of Wales, both in other UK countries and elsewhere, as they continue to search for policy solutions to help address the homelessness crisis.

This paper views the Act through the lens of prospective policy transfer in order to draw lessons for other governments looking to change their policy approach to homelessness. The paper builds on the Evaluation of the Homelessness Part of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 and associated data, including a survey of all 22 local authorities in Wales (two-waves), and interviews with national stakeholders, service users, and service providers. The data is used to understand perspectives on changes relating to the Act, and to assess factors impacting upon its programmatic and political success. The paper also considers the transferability of provisions in the Act to different types of housing and welfare systems, and the level of adaptation and modification that would be necessary.

Evan Williams

The impact of benefit sanctions on the mental health of JSA claimants [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Successive UK governments have increased conditionality for individuals claiming out-of-work benefits, enforcing work-related behavioural requirements through the threat and imposition of benefit sanctions. This trend has been present since at least the 1990s, but has intensified since the 2008 crisis. The Coalition Government (2010–2015), for example, is characterised by an abnormally high imposition of benefit sanctions as well as an increase in the average length of such penalties through the Welfare Reform Act 2012. The on-going rollout of Universal Credit (UC) extends the logic of an escalating sanctions regime to claimants of in-work benefits for the first time. A growing area of research investigates the non-labour market impacts of sanctions, linking them to financial hardship, homelessness and food bank usage. This study investigates the impact of sanctions on the mental health of individuals claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). Using data from the Labour Force

Survey (LFS), it focuses on the marked rise in sanctions that immediately followed the onset of the Coalition Government in May 2010. A difference-in-differences design is used to estimate the impact of this harsher sanctioning environment on the mental health of JSA claimants. The results indicate that the experience of being a JSA claimant in this period is associated with a worsening in self-reported mental health, which suggests that sanctions policy is leading to adverse mental health impacts.

Marisa Wilson, Denise Baden, Stephen Wilkinson

Towards Ecological Public Health? Cuba's Moral Economy of Food and Pharma [Thursday 12th July 15.00-16.30]

The concept of moral economy can be applied to all economies as all involve conceptions of the 'common good' that designate who gets what, why and how, and who is responsible for this distribution, e.g. state or private actors. In this paper we use the concept of moral economy to demonstrate how normative reasonings shape public health governance in Cuba, comparing these with neoliberal contexts. The question of who gets what, why and how is closely related to research in ecological public health. Proponents of ecological public health seek to develop more holistic approaches to the sector that include social, cultural, political, ecological and moral considerations as well as economic considerations. In its focus on redirecting responsibility of public health from individual actors, corporations and the market to public institutions such as the state, ecological public health draws attention to the social and ecological limitations of market-centred approaches to public health. In this paper, we use the concept of ecological public health to evaluate neoliberal and Cuban socialist moral economies of food and pharma. We conclude that, despite its faults, Cuba's approach to food and pharma sheds much light on how more ecological approaches to public health might work in practice.

Emma Wincup, Kate Brown

Conceptualising vulnerability through UK drug policy [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The recently published UK drug strategy (HM Government, 2017) introduced the concept of vulnerability to drug policy. This represents a further example of 'vulnerability creep' which has already shaped responses to 'problems' as diverse as homelessness, crime, disability and migration (Brown et al, 2017). The strategy constructed drug use as a problem experienced disproportionately by specific 'vulnerable' groups. This led to calls for prevention efforts aimed at those 'at risk' of using drugs and tailored treatment for those already using drugs. This paper draws on the interdisciplinary literature on vulnerability and explores the implications of the adoption of a vulnerability narrative in drug policy. The analysis is guided by Carol Bacchi's (2009) post-structuralist approach to policy analysis, and in particular the question of 'what effects are produced by this representation of the 'problem'?'. Analysis will highlight how increased attention to vulnerability usefully draws attention to diversity and differentiation within drug-using populations and cautions against 'one-size-fits-all' models of prevention and treatment. However, the concept as deployed in this policy implies tacit hierarchies of worthiness and sources of vulnerability are obfuscated, potentially causing more difficulties for some of those deemed 'vulnerable'. We suggest a more progressive conceptualisation of vulnerability grounded in lived experiences of inequality might offer a more useful theoretical lens for framing policy responses to drug use.

Sharon Wright

Gender and the conditional welfare subject: welfare reform in lived experience and street-level practice [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

Internationally, the reform of social security systems has involved a major shift towards behavioural conditionality. In Britain, a series of recent hard-hitting welfare reforms have raised the expectation that women, as well as men, will fulfil paid employment as their primary citizenship obligation. Since 2012, the penalties for non-compliance with job search requirements have risen to include benefit sanctions that withdraw social security benefits for up to three years, or indefinitely until 're-compliance'. This punitive approach has been justified using a gender-neutral rationale that foregrounds the fiscal necessity of cutting social security spending, based on austerity narratives, and conceptualises moral responsibility in purely economic terms, relying on stigmatising anti-welfare myths that position non-workers as illegitimate citizens. The terms of debate, legal reductions in entitlement and practices of conditionality have failed to adequately recognise the ways in which women and men are differently positioned in relation to the demands and rewards of paid employment and unpaid care. This paper presents new evidence from the first major independent study of 'Welfare conditionality: sanctions, support and behaviour change' (ESRC-funded 2013-18). A wealth of qualitative longitudinal evidence (drawing from approx. 1000 in-depth interviews with users) is used to cast light on women and men's lived experiences of claiming benefits and looking for work in the new context of harsh sanctions and minimal, yet mandatory, support. Theoretically, the paper advances the analysis of welfare conditionality by drawing together insights from: feminist thought, interpretivist sociology and street-level bureaucracy. These perspectives are combined to provide a fresh analysis of policies and practices of British welfare conditionality and new ways of understanding the gendered impacts of conditionality.

Qiaobing WU

Welfare Boundary: What, Where and How? [Wednesday 11th July 15.15-16.45]

With the recent reform of the household registration system (hukou) in China, equalizing welfare benefits and public services among all Chinese citizens regardless of their hukou status has been the goal and direction of social welfare provision. However, migrants in the urban cities are still living on the periphery and are faced with various barriers to access welfare benefits and services. This paper argues that, despite the reform of the hukou registration, the conflict between the universal rights of all citizens in a society and the limited resources for welfare provision in a particular place will continue to exist. Consequently, the compromise between the rights and resources would create a threshold that defines a set of eligibility criteria to decide who are included/excluded from enjoying the benefits. It proposes a new conceptual construct, "welfare boundary", to delineate such a compromised threshold. Drawing upon a qualitative study in a city that hosts a great many migrants in China, this study aims to understand from the migrants' own perspectives that how "welfare boundary" is defined, where does welfare boundary exist, how it is manifested, whether and how the welfare boundary is perceived and experienced by migrants and their families, in which domains, how they cope with that, and whether and how the existence and experience of welfare boundary really influence their access to and utilization of welfare benefits and services. Semi-structured in-depth interviews were conducted with ten migrants with a balanced composition of gender, educational level, length of stay in the city, and socioeconomic status. Findings of this qualitative study have advanced our understanding of the concept "welfare boundary" and revealed its

potential to become an innovative and adaptable theoretical framework to be applied in broader contexts of international migration studies.

Lixiong Yang

Poverty Studies in Rural China: A Gender Perspective [Friday 13th July 11.00-12.30]

From the gender perspective, the male poverty incidence is higher than female and the number of the poor men outnumber women significantly in rural China, which is sharp in contrast to other developing countries. This paper identifies two factors contributing to this phenomenon. Firstly, the general favorite toward the male and one-child policy lead to gender imbalance, further, working-age women coming to cities for employment aggravates such gender imbalance, and thus increases the competition at rural marriage market for the poor men, they are more likely to become the marital loser, which deepen their poverty severity. Secondly, with the fast economic development, accelerating urbanization and the developed manufacturing in eastern coastal area in China, women in poor areas come to city, and get more jobs than men, consequently, the female incidence poverty has declined. In the meanwhile, the improvement of economic independence and equality idea for rural women has weakened the stability of marriage, the proportion of women initiating divorce (or leaving home) has increased obviously. As a result, rapid increase in the number of single-parent(male) families in rural areas has led to an increase in the proportion of rural men living in poverty. At last, this paper raises two issues for preliminary discussion: 1. Does the rural male poverty incidence rising imply rural woman's status rising? 2. How about of the female hidden poverty in rural areas?

Volkan Yilmaz

Exploring the rise of regulatory challenges to state regulation of Turkish healthcare sector in the age of extensive private sector activity [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Extensive private sector activity in publicly funded healthcare systems brings forth a number of new regulatory challenges. These challenges include but not limited to ensuring the financial protection of patients from the abuse of the private sector providers and reconciling public sector responsibilities with private sector profit motives in PPP hospitals. The transformation in the healthcare system in Turkey since 2003 has been portrayed as a benchmark for building universal healthcare systems in emerging market economies by international organisations such as World Health Organisation and the World Bank. Nevertheless, while aiming at achieving universal health coverage, the 2003 healthcare reform also increased private sector activity in healthcare provision in Turkey. In this context, this paper explores the regulatory challenges that Turkish healthcare system faces in the age of extensive private sector activity. In doing so, the paper examines if and how reconciling the goals of making healthcare growth sector and guaranteeing universal health coverage is possible.

David Young

Low incomes and change: managing instability [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Longitudinal research has added to our understanding of the dynamics of low-income, challenging static conceptions of poverty. There is a growing body of evidence showing that people often move in and out of poverty from one year to the next (Jenkins, 2011). But there is very little research that focusses on income, expenditure and circumstance change within the year. One study that does look within the year is Hills et al (2006) who find greater income variation for those on the lowest incomes and that the yearly income of a sample of working families was not very representative of

their income in shorter periods. Narratives of increasing labour market and societal insecurity and ongoing change within the social security system also raise questions of how people manage the financial consequences of change over relatively short time periods.

This paper will present early findings from an ongoing PhD project on low-income and change, and what this means for how people experience and manage instability. Qualitative interviews and a diary concept have been used to monitor the income, expenditure and circumstances of a small sample of low-income households over a three-month period. How do the incomes, expenditure and circumstances of low-income households change over short periods? How do they experience and manage income and expenditure variation and circumstance change that has financial consequences?

Batuğhan Yüzüak

The Voiceless Precariat: On Double Precarity of Commercial Sex Workers in Turkey [Wednesday 11th July 13.30-15.00]

The aim of this paper is to analyse whether commercial sex workers in Turkey face double precarity by examining insecurities they face in the labour market and their everyday lives. Double precarity refers here to both economic aspect of their precarity conforming to Standing's definition of the concept, and to its social aspect originating from the legal framework on commercial sex work and social attitudes towards sex workers. This paper draws on in-depth interviews conducted with 20 individuals (10 transsexual women, 7 cisgender women, 2 cisgender men and 1 trans-sexed woman) in Turkey, complemented with a small-scaled online survey with 23 individuals (13 transsexual women, 5 cisgender women, 2 cisgender men, 2 transsexual men and 1 other who identified as transvestite). Contributing to a limited number of studies on commercial sex work in the Turkish case by analysing the issue at hand using the concept of precarity, this paper suggests that commercial sex workers in Turkey are experiencing double precarity, but different subgroups (according to sex, gender identity) in the commercial sex work experience this double precarity in different ways.

Lea Zanbar

The Impact of Community Activity on the Personal Resources of Low-SES Residents: Differences between Activists and Non-activists [Thursday 12th July 10.50-12.20]

Community social work interventions enable low-SES residents to improve their situation themselves by becoming community activists who design and implement social plans, rather than being passive recipients of welfare services. In addition to aiding themselves and their communities, involvement in this meaningful activity may also enhance the personal resources of activists. The current study compared the levels of seven personal resources, categorized in the literature as capability resources (self-efficacy, self-esteem, mastery, self-actualization) and hardiness resources (resilience, wellbeing, hope), among 200 community activists and 200 non-activists in low-SES communities. The findings reveal significantly higher levels of almost all resources among the activists. Significant correlations between the personal resources and years of involvement in community activity and the centrality of the role performed suggest that activists' resources are indeed strengthened by their work for the community. The implications for researchers and community social workers are discussed, and practical recommendations are offered.

Xiaochen Zhou

Buying homes for school choice and education inequality in China [Friday 13th July 9.10-10.40]

Comparing to some nations that have school choice systems, China does not have school choice programs and school choice is officially prohibited for compulsory public education. However, still the Chinese parents are managing to practice school choice in spite of the highly government-controlled system. This study is interested in one popular form of school choice emerged in the current Chinese society, which is purchasing a property in the catchment of the preferable schools. This study is also interested in the consequence of this school choice practice on school segregation and educational inequality in China. Inspired by the Bourdieusian framework, it attempts to explore the relationship between family origins (constructed by economic, social, cultural capital) and parental school choice. Further it might also determine the pattern of educational stratification in China. In this study, cultural capital was generated from parents' education, family cultural environment; economic capital was generated from family income and educational expense, and social capital was generated from the families' network. The analytical sample size is 1124. Descriptive, bivariate and logistic regression analysis methods and structural equation model have been adopted for data analysis. The potential contribution is to build the scholarship to uncover a local situation of school choice, and to figure out the role of familial factors. In addition, it attempts to test the western educational theories in the modern Chinese context, and to reveal the potential problem of educational inequality in China at compulsory educational stage.