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Welcome to the April 2010 issue of the SRA's Monthly Bulletin of news, research funding, publications and events.

The next bulletin will be out in early May. Items for possible inclusion regarding News and Publications should be sent to Dorothy.williams@the-sra.org.uk and anything relating to Research Funding/ Training + Events to MakiD@the-sra.org.uk. Note that events and funding with closing dates earlier than the 10th day of the first month will rarely be listed, so send these contributions at least a month ahead.

If you are not a member of the SRA and would like further details about the benefits of membership, please go to the SRA website at www.the-sra.org.uk or email admin@the-sra.org.uk

As always we appreciate the time you take to get back to us as it helps us build upon your ideas of what you want to see the SRA do.

Best wishes from SRA London

SRA bulletin

April news items

RPI's shopping basket

The Retail Price index is based on a basket of about 650 goods and services which ONS judges typical of the British household. Each year it reviews the basket's content. And the changes are revealing of changing life styles and consumption patterns. The latest changes include the inclusion of small, portable bottles of mineral water, electric hair straighteners and cereal bars. Out go disposable cameras, men's trainers and canned fizzy drinks. Inclusion or exclusion is not just to reflect changing expenditure; it is also often a judgement of what product is now most representative of a category of expenditure. More about the methodology and the latest changes on www.statistics.gov.uk.

Research Methods Festival

This annual event will take place this year from 5-8 July at St Catharine's College, Oxford. As before there will be a varied programme of workshops, presentations, discussions, exhibitions and stalls covering research methods across the social sciences. New this year will be some leading social scientists in conversation about their work and careers. More info on www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/other/RMF2010.

All change at ESRC

The Economic and Social Research Council has a new Chair, Alan Gillespie. After a 30 year career in banking he describes himself as coming home to social science since his PhD was in economic geography. It will also soon be appointing a new Chief Executive since the present incumbent, Professor Ian Diamond, is off to be VC at Aberdeen. It is also reorganising its committees. From 1 April the new structure will comprise just three policy committees (for Research, Methods and Infrastructure, and Training and Skills) plus two virtual networks (on International and Impact), and an Evaluation Committee and an Audit Committee. Changes are also afoot to the support for the assessment of responsive mode grant applications: decisions will be taken by a Grants Delivery Group supported by a Peer Review College and three panels of expert assessors.

Revised framework for research ethics

Also from ESRC is a revision of their framework for research ethics, following widespread consultation. All the main UK funders of social science have given it their support. It can be found at www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/research_ethics_framework. Later in the year the website will have an interactive version. But ESRC will not start any 'auditing' of research organisations'; arrangements for ethical review before the next academic year.

Counter terrorism

Last year the Home Office published a strategy for science and technology related to counter terrorism. Now The Home Office is actively seeking contributions from social and behavioural scientists. Details are in a brochure *Social and behavioural science – how academia can play their part*. downloadable from <http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-publications/news-speeches/science-fight-terrorism.html>.

2010 Michael Young and Neville Butler prizes

This year's Michael Young prize, awarded by the ESRC and the Young Foundation to an early career researcher for work with non-academic impact, has been won by Dr Ann Le Mare for her research on the impact of fair trade on the wellbeing of women, businesses and organisations on Bangladesh. The research findings will provide the basis for advice to producers and artisans in Bangladesh, through village discussions and booklets. The joint winners of the Neville Butler prize (a memorial to the founder of the 1958 and 1970 Birth Cohort Studies) are Dr Mayada Elsabbagh on The British Autism Study of Infant Siblings and Dr Luna Muniz for her research on Parenting and Youth Conduct Problems and Delinquency: Reciprocal Effects and Moderation by Callous-Unemotional Traits.

Publications

We would be very grateful if SRA members who were interested could write a book review of one of the following titles:

[Qualitative Research, Sheila Keegan](#)

[Social Research Methodology, Roger Gomm](#)

[Researching with Children and Young People, Tidall, Davis and Gallagher](#)

If any of SRA members are interested in writing a review of any of the titles mentioned above please contact Dorothy Williams at Dorothy.williams@the-sra.org.uk to receive a copy of the book and speak to Carolyn Roberts at: carolyn.roberts@samh.org.uk to inform her that they wish to review and submit their entries to her.

Policy Press

Why not subscribe to their monthly e-Newsletter? It's completely free and you'll receive exclusive subscriber offers. We'd love you to become part of The Policy Press community. It's easy to sign up here: <http://www.policypress.co.uk/subscribe.asp>

PHOENIX CITIES

The fall and rise of great industrial cities

Anne Power, Jörg Plöger and Astrid Winkler

This book explores economic, social and environmental transformations in Europe and the USA to inform the regeneration of 'weak market cities'.

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781847426833>

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEM IN ENGLAND

David J. Hunter, Linda Marks and Katherine Smith

This timely and wide-ranging book offers an accessible assessment of challenges confronting a public health system, which will appeal to public health professionals and students.

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781847424624>

LEADERSHIP FOR HEALTHCARE

Jean Hartley and John Benington

It is vital for healthcare leaders to have a clear sense of which leadership ideas and practices are rooted in sound theory and convincing evidence, and which are more speculative. This book provides a coherent framework through which to scrutinise the leadership literature relevant to healthcare.

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781847424860>

EMBODYING IDENTITIES

Victor Jeleniewski Seidler

This book shapes a new language of social theory that allows people to embody their differences with a sense of dignity and self-worth, enabling them to come to terms with the complexities of their lived identities in a post-modern globalised world.

<http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781847423818>

New journal issue publishing this month

THE JOURNAL OF POVERTY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (Volume 18, Number 1)

A new issue of *The Journal of Poverty and Social Justice* (formerly known as Benefits) is now available online: <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/tpp/ipsj>.

If you are not a subscriber to this journal you can sign up for a free online 30-day trial which will allow you to access all content online, including the new articles. For more information go to:

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/tpp>

Check out The Policy Press blog at <http://policypress.wordpress.com/> and follow us on Twitter:

<http://twitter.com/policypress>.

The following DWP reports were published recently:

The Social Fund: Customer experiences and perspectives: Qualitative research with Jobcentre Plus customers

This report, produced by ECOTEC, was commissioned by the Department for Work and Pensions to explore Jobcentre Plus customers' understanding and experiences of the Social Fund, particularly the discretionary elements, i.e. Crisis Loans, Budgeting Loans and Community Care Grants. Customers' views were also sought on alternative ways in which the discretionary Social Fund might be administered. The findings in this report are based on primary qualitative research using data from 100 Jobcentre Plus customers; 50 from depth interviews and 50 from focus group participants. Understanding more about our customers' perspectives on a scheme which was first set up in 1986, will help inform any long-term reform of the Social Fund.

The full report can be downloaded from their website at

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep625.pdf>

Family values, parents, views on necessities for families with children

This is a report of a qualitative research project looking at parents' views of which items are necessities for families with children. The reason for undertaking this work was to allow the updating of the questions used to measure material deprivation on the Family Resources Survey. This updating is required because what is considered a necessity does change over time and the questions on the Family Resources Study need to reflect this.

Eight focus groups of parents were run in summer 2009 - with a mix of income levels, couple and lone parents, mothers and fathers, and ages of children. The 21 items we currently use to calculate material deprivation for children, such as home contents insurance and an annual holiday away from home for a week, were used as a basis for the discussions. Further possible

items came out of the discussions. This showed that there is a wide range of items that are considered necessities by people, with those who were parents giving priority to social relationships in families and children's long-term health.

Full report available at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep641.pdf>

An evaluation of European Social Fund information and publicity

In 2009, Insite Research and Consulting was commissioned by DWP to carry out a mid-term qualitative evaluation of ESF information and publicity. The aim of the evaluation was to assess the progress made towards achieving the objectives set out in the Convergence, Competitiveness and Employment programme's Communication Plan. This report sets out the findings of this small-scale study looking at progress to date and identifying areas of good practice and potential changes to strengthen information and publicity activity in the second half of the programme to 2013. This report is part-funded by ESF technical assistance.

The full report can be downloaded from their website at

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep646.pdf>

Report summary available at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/summ2009-2010/646summ.pdf>

Evaluation of the Care First Careers Pilot Employer research

This report presents findings from a research study undertaken by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The study gathered feedback from care sector employers regarding their views on a new DWP initiative Care First Careers, which aims to boost the recruitment of young unemployed people into the care sector.

Full report available at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/WP78.pdf>

EVENTS & TRAINING:

For more information please visit: <http://www.the-sra.org.uk/training.htm>

SRA training days over the next few months:

Course: [Consultancy Skills for Social Researchers](#)

Level: Advanced

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)

Location: Manchester

Date: 22nd April 2010

Course: [Introduction to Evaluations](#)

Level: Introductory

Length: 1 Day

Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)

Location: Leeds
Date: 29th April 2010

Course: [Cognitive Methods for Testing Survey Questions](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)
Location: Manchester
Date: 6th May 2010

Course: [Designing a Qualitative Study](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)
Location: Cardiff
Date: 11th May 2010

Course: [In-depth Interviewing](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)
Location: Cardiff
Date: 12th May 2010

Course: [Writing Effective Research Reports](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day

Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)

Location: London
Date: 8th June 2010

Course: [Running Focus Groups](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)
Location: London
Date: 9th June 2010

Course: [Introduction to Qualitative Data Analysis](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members) Location: London
Date: 10th June 2010

Course: [Research with People with Disabilities](#)

Level: Introductory
Length: 1 Day
Cost: £250 (non members) £175 (members)
Location: Cardiff
Date: 21st June 2010

SRA Courses in Ireland

Knowledge Transfer Strategy by Annette Boaz and William Solesbury

Researchers are increasingly under pressure – from their employers or from research funders – to communicate their research to practitioners who might benefit from its application to their work, a process now known as knowledge transfer. This requirement may apply to an individual researcher, a research team, research centre or agency. They then need see organisations and need to develop a strategy for knowledge transfer which can guide a range of communication activities by themselves and colleagues.

This Advanced course focuses on the development of such a strategy..

Content includes:

- concepts of knowledge transfer
- the varied ways in which research may influence policy and practice
- methods for identifying and prioritising possible audiences for research
- the pros and cons of different media and modes of communication
- methods for monitoring and evaluating research impact

By the end of the workshop, delegates will:

- understand the concept of knowledge transfer
- develop a framework for a knowledge transfer strategy
- acquire tools and techniques for expressing the messages of research, identifying potential audiences and communicating effectively with them

learn approaches for assessing the impact of their research.

To book a place on this course please e-mail: sra.ireland@gmail.com

SRA Events

International Dimension in Social Research Training Event

In association with the London School of Economics, the SRA has received funding for a suite of international ESRC Researchers Development Initiative for a suite of International Social Research Training workshops.

To launch the training programme, we are organising a late afternoon event designed to raise awareness of the importance of the international dimension in social research and to identify training needs that can be fed into the training modules scheduled for the autumn.

17 May 2010 at 16-19.00 at the British Library in London

Speakers drawn largely from SRA and Academy of Social Sciences memberships will talk about their varied experience of international social research in academic and non-academic sectors, including:

- Researching in international settings, individually or in national teams operating in countries other than their own
- Coordinating research projects carried out by international teams
- Managing research in international organisations
- Carrying out research for international organisations
- Achieving and maintaining professionalism and international standards
- Using international comparators in public policy

We are writing to invite expressions of interest in the launch event from senior researchers in academic and non-academic organisations, who recognise the need to enhance the research skills in their institutions by adding an international dimension, and who would want their researchers to participate in the training programme.

The event is free of charge for SRA members.

As the number of places will be strictly limited, please contact MakiD@the-sra.org.uk as soon as possible, and no later than 30 March 2010, to reserve a place at the event. To reserve a place please complete and return the booking form.

The full programme of speakers and details of the venue will be posted in mid-March.

If you are unable to attend but are interested in knowing more about the training programme, and contributing your views and suggestions, we should be pleased to hear from you.

Julia Brannen [J.Brannen@ioe.ac.uk] and Linda Hantrais [L.Hantrais@lse.ac.uk]
Consultants for the International Social Research Training Programme

Other organizations' courses and events coming up

Selection of NatCen Courses

Introduction to Framework Software – 5th Feb and the 25th June 2010 in London:
<http://www.natcen.ac.uk/course/introduction-to-framework-software> (Other NatCen courses can be found on the website as well).

University of East Anglia

CONNECTIONS, EMOTIONS, EMPATHY: HOW DO WE CONCEPTUALISE AND USE AFFECT AND EMOTIONS IN QUALITATIVE HEALTH RESEARCH? Sixth Colloquium in Qualitative Health Research, 6th - 7th May 2010, University of East Anglia, Norwich

KEY NOTE SPEAKERS: Veronica James, Jill Robinson,

AIM: Qualitative health and social science research emphasises the need to conceptualise connections, relations and divisions between healthcare practitioners, technologies, patients and researchers. Affect and emotions are major research topics, leading to questions about how human connections and relations influence qualitative research. This two day colloquium welcomes health and social care professionals and social scientists researching health, illness and medicine, to examine these.

FEES: £200 (2 days), £100 (1 day) Reduced student fee £150 (2 days), £75 (1 day)

TO APPLY: please contact: Mrs Joanne Durrant : Tel: 00 44 (0)1603 591846
Email: joanne.durrant@uea.ac.uk

DETAILED INFO, ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AND BOOKING FORM:

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/ahp/courses/Short+Courses>

WORKSHOP ON USER INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH

29th April, 2010 – 9.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., University of East Anglia

Session Leaders Dr Fiona Poland and Dr Laura Bowater

Sponsored by Community University Engagement in the East (CUE East) & NIHR East of England Research Design Service (RDS),

There is growing recognition that involving service users, carers and members of the public in research processes can help improve practice, making research more relevant to peoples' lives and concerns ensuring that research findings will be used in the future.

This one day workshop has been designed for researchers and people planning research, who want to find out more about how to begin to involve the public within their research. It will use a mixture of information-giving, real-life examples and experience-sharing with other researchers and service users involved in research to introduce the concepts of involving service users, carers and members of the public in research. This course will provide researchers with skills they can use to start applying these concepts in their own research and to involve the public and people who use services at different stages of the research process.

This workshop is open to researchers, research students and health and social care professionals involved in health-related research

Currently £158 unless funded by an NHS Trust via the Eastern Region Strategic Health Authority (SHA) Post Registration Contract. Reduced student fee £75.

Please refer to our website to find out if you are eligible for one of the SHA-funded and Trust Supported places <http://www.uea.ac.uk/ahp/courses/Short+Courses>

However, for those not covered through the normal SHA Post Registration Contract, there may be other monies available. **TO APPLY: please contact**
For information email – Sandra Horn - s.horn@uea.ac.uk.

Association for Research in the Voluntary and Community Sector (ARVAC) Annual Lecture

Making Voices Count: Towards A Theory Of User Control And Community: Integration In Voluntary Action Research

30 April 2010 14.00-17.00 UEA London, 102 Middlesex street, London, E1 7EZ

ARVAC and Community University Engagement East (CUE-East) are jointly hosting this event which aims to actively engage academics, practitioners and policymakers in community research with this important topic. Lectures include:

- **Carl Milofsky** 'How It Works - User Control, Democracy, And Entrepreneurship'

- **Peter Beresford** 'Why It Works - User And Disabled People's Movements' Responses will be led by: **Peter Halfpenny**, Voluntary Sector Studies Network and **Cathy Pharoah**, Centre For Charitable Giving And Philanthropy. Attendance is free but places are limited. Please register and book a place by contacting: Jane Eade on community@uea.ac.uk or 01603 591567

For further details please see: <http://www.arvac.org.uk/docs/making%20voices%20count.pdf>

RSS Events

Anchoring vignettes in social sciences: 17th Nov 2010 – London (Queries to arnaud.chevalier@rhul.ac.uk)

Statistical Issues in Child Protection: 16th March 2010 (Queries to conference@rss.org.uk)
16 March 2010, 2:00-6.00pm, at the Royal Statistical Society

Public debate about child protection – placing children perceived to be vulnerable on a register or taking them into care – is repeatedly reinforced by cases that suggest that the existing systems are not working well. This debate is not, however, as well-informed as it might be if quantitative evidence and statistical issues were further to the fore. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss, from a range of perspectives, the available evidence and its implications for the important decisions that have to be taken about children's futures.

Speakers:

2.00 – 2.40 Neil Jackson (Head of Edinburgh Office, UK Statistics Authority) and Iain Bradley (Department for Children, Schools & Families).
Review of statistics in the area of Child Protection.

2.40 – 3.20 Charlie Owen and June Statham (Thomas Coram Research Unit, Institute of Education). Black and Minority Ethnic group children on child protection registers.

3.20 – 3.40 Refreshments

3.40 – 4.20 Lorraine Radford (NSPCC). Methodological issues on measuring the prevalence of child maltreatment.

4.20 – 5.00 Lawrence Sherman (Institute of Criminology Cambridge). Applying risk modelling to child protection.

5.00 – 5.30 Discussion: Harriet Ward (Director, Centre for Child and Family Research, Department of Social Sciences, Loughborough University) and Jane Tunstill (Director, Implementation Evaluation Module, National Evaluation of Sure Start, Royal Holloway, University of London).

Advanced registration (with payment) is required. Booking forms can be downloaded from www.rss.org.uk/events or requested by email conference@rss.org.uk

Fees starting at £20 for RSS Student Fellows up to £40 for non-RSS members

For more information please contact: meetings@rss.org.uk or by phone (020) 7638 8998

The 2010 International Conference of the Royal Statistical Society will take place in Brighton from 13-17 September.

This annual conference seeks to bring together statisticians, researchers, analysts and other users of statistics from across the UK and around the world to hear, digest and discuss the latest research and developments in the world of statistics.

Topics for the 2010 Conference include:

- Climate change modelling
- Building trust in statistics
- 2011 UK Census
- National Statistics
- Financial Statistics
- Measuring progress
- Scientific analysis in policy making
- Performance indicators
- Data capture
- Statistics and the Law
- Risk
- Survey Methodology
- Statistical literacy

For a full list please see <http://www.rss.org.uk/main.asp?page=3168>

Submissions are now open for contributed sessions, talks and posters on any of the conference topics or any other topic or area of interest related to the study and use of statistics. Submissions from statisticians and users of statistics in the early stages of their careers are positively encouraged.

The deadline for submissions is Wednesday 31 March.

Full details about submitting an abstract can be found here:
<http://www.rss.org.uk/main.asp?page=3167>

Policy Research Institute event: Leadership Development in Children's Services: 21st
April at the Rose Bowl, Leeds Metropolitan University in Leeds, LS1 3HB. For more information and to book a place please contact: n.bohan@leedsmet.ac.uk

Personal Social Services Research Unit and Social Care Institute for Excellence's

Supporting the use of research evidence in social care management and policymaking: Lessons from the health sector

Date: Monday 12 April 2010

Time: 10.30am-12pm

Venue: U8, Tower One

Speaker: Dr John Lavis

This seminar forms part of the HEIF 4 Funding Knowledge Transfer in Social Care Research Project. This seminar will address the following questions: 1) what do we know about supporting research use by managers and policymakers? 2) what are the challenges that efforts to support research use are striving to overcome? 3) what are some of the innovative strategies that are being developed and evaluated in the health sector?

John N. Lavis, MD PhD, is the Director of the McMaster Health Forum (www.mcmasterhealthforum.org), Canada Research Chair in Knowledge Transfer and Exchange, a Professor (in both the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Department of Political Science), and a Member of the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis at McMaster University. His principal research interests include knowledge transfer and exchange in public policymaking environments and the politics of health systems.

This event is free and open to all but registration in advance is required by email to pssru@lse.ac.uk. Entry is on a first come, first served basis.

For more information, contact Anji Mehta or Dan Kearns at PSSRU by email pssru@lse.ac.uk, phone 020 7955 6238 or visit the PSSRU website.

LSE Health and Social Care 2010 Annual Lecture

Trust, Transparency and Care

Date: Monday 17 May 2010

Time: 6-7pm

Venue: New Theatre, East Building

Speaker: Sir Christopher Kelly

Chair: Professor Julian Le Grand

The lecture will discuss some of the issues facing the health and social care system following the election. The lecture is followed by a reception.

Sir Christopher Kelly is chair of the NSPCC, of the Committee on Standards in Public Life and of the Financial Ombudsman Service. In October 2010 when he stands down from the NSPCC after 9 years he will become chair of the Kings Fund. He was Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health from 1997 to 2000 and head of the Policy Group at the then Department of Social Security 1995-97. Before that he spent 25 years in HM Treasury, finally as Director of Monetary and Fiscal Policy and then Director of the Budget and PSBR. He has also been a board member of the National Consumer Council and chaired various inquiries and advisory groups, including one on long-term care for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Julian Le Grand is Richard Titmuss Professor of Social Policy at LSE, Chairman of LSE Health and Chairman of Health England: the National Reference Group for Health and Well Being for the UK Department of Health.

This event is free and open to all but pre registration is required by email to pssru@lse.ac.uk.

For more information, contact Anji Mehta (020 7955 6238) or Dan Kearns (020 7849 4665), email pssru@lse.ac.uk or visit the [LSE Health and Social Care](http://www.lse.ac.uk/HealthandSocialCare) website

CCSR Short Courses (University of Manchester)

Multiple Linear Regression

26th April 2010

£175 (£125 for those from academic institutions)

Further information and booking: <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/multipleRegression/>

Contact: Katey.matthews@manchester.ac.uk

Understanding Statistics

27th April 2010

£175 (£125 for those from academic institutions)

Further information and booking: <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/list/understandingstats.htm>

Contact: Katey.matthews@manchester.ac.uk

Logistic Regression

28th April 2010

£175 (£125 for those from academic institutions)

Further information and booking: <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/logisticRegression/>

Contact: Katey.matthews@manchester.ac.uk

Data Reduction and Classification

10th May 2010

£175 (£125 for those from academic institutions)

Further information and booking: <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/dataReduction/>

Contact: Katey.matthews@manchester.ac.uk

Multilevel Modelling

14th May 2010

£175 (£125 for those from academic institutions)

Further information and booking: <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/courses/mlm.htm>

Contact: Katey.matthews@manchester.ac.uk

HEEPI (Higher Education Environmental Performance Improvement) have just launched a free newsletter on sustainable lab issues, and have a number of new events planned. All events are free, and the Edinburgh and Oxford events will be of particular interest to lab and research managers and administrators:

Greening STEM - Sustainability in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, University of Bradford, 22 April

Opportunities for embedding sustainability within STEM disciplines and operations. Featuring Dr. Michael Grove, Director of the £21 million National HE Stem Initiative.

Laboratory Environmental Improvement: UK/US Best Practice Examples and Processes, University of Edinburgh, 23 April
Featuring presentations on lab auditing and better chemical management.

Sustainable Clean Rooms, Cranfield University, 26 April
Focusing on physical science facilities, with particular emphasis on clean rooms. Also featuring Cranfield's introduction of an ISO 14001 compliant environmental management system in its School of Applied Sciences.

Good Laboratory Housekeeping - Reducing Environmental Impacts, Costs and Safety Risks, University of Oxford, 27 April
This interactive workshop will highlight the environmental benefits of good housekeeping and discuss how it can be achieved.

Sustainable Laboratory Chemistry - New Challenges and Effective Responses, University of York, 14 June
Featuring the Green Chemistry Network, micro-scale chemistry, chemistry lab auditing and operational improvement, and greening the chemistry curriculum.
To book a place contact: l.m.hopkinson@bradford.ac.uk

ESRC Event

Social Policy Courses

Sample data from surveys and the Census: data sources and resources for health analysts

University of Manchester
Thursday 15 April 2010

This day will provide an introduction to some key national data sources for health analysts: the health surveys (e.g. Health Survey for England) and the Samples of Anonymised Records (SARs) from the Census. The day will introduce the data themselves, case studies of use in academic and policy settings and the ways in which the data are obtainable. Access routes described will include the data services which hold these data (the SARs team and the Economic and Social Data Service) and Methodbox; a software project to help health researchers access data and share expertise more easily.

Hands on sessions will look at access tools from ESDS, SARs and Methodbox. SPSS may be used but prior experience of the software is not required.

To view the programme and book a place please go to
<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/2010-04-15/index.html>

Introductory Workshop: Analysing Complex Sample Design in ESDS Government Datasets

Basement Computer Lab, Humanities Bridgeford Street, University of Manchester
Thursday 27 May 2010

Standard statistical software commands typically treat data as simple random samples. A large proportion of Government surveys however employ complex sample design features such as stratification and clustering. Rather than treating such data as simple random samples, techniques, or approaches to analysis are required that take into account these design features. Focussing on design-based approaches, this introductory workshop provides grounding in elementary concepts in complex sample design and the analysis of survey data using Stata.

To view the programme and book a place please go to
<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/2010-05-27/index.html>

CALLS FOR PAPERS: Family Resources Survey user meeting and Health surveys user meeting

The next Family Resources Survey user meeting is being organised by ESDS Government for Thursday 10 June 2010 at the Royal Statistical Society, London. The FRS programme will contain a mixture of papers from data producers and researchers. We would like to invite offers of presentations based on analysis of the FRS. Presenters will have 20 minutes for their talk followed by 10 minutes for questions.

Details of the previous user meeting can be found at
<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/past.shtml#FRS2009>

Please send offers of a paper to Gillian.Meadows@manchester.ac.uk as soon as possible, but by 21 March 2010 at the latest.

The next Health surveys user meeting is being organised by ESDS Government for Wednesday 14 July 2010 at the Royal Statistical Society, London. The programme will contain a mixture of papers from data producers and

researchers. We would like to invite offers of presentations based on analysis of the Health Survey for England, the Scottish Health Survey or the Welsh Health Survey. Presenters will have 20 minutes for their talk followed by 10 minutes for questions.

Details of previous user meetings can be found at <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/themes/health/>

Association Resource

This year's congress focuses on best practice for increasing Return on Investment (ROI) and value for members, delegates and the association itself. Over two days, targeted practical sessions will look at reducing costs, improving efficiency, developing new products and alternative revenue streams, as well as building up and securing your membership base. Highlighted through real examples, each of the sessions and tracks are highly practical, focusing on: balancing the short-term requirements with long-term goals; and surviving in the current economic trading conditions.

A selection of speakers include:

- Isabel Bardinnet, **European Society of Cardiology**
- Ian Adams, **IBIA**
- Anna Hedrzak, **European Wind Energy Association**
- Janice Liverseidge, **Royal Society of Medicine**
- Simon Ray, **The Open University**
- Hellen Beveridge, **Pure Rocket Science**

The event includes:

- Conference & Events stream over two days
- Membership Retention & Association Growth streams
- Six workshops - for concentrated learning
- 12 case studies from leading associations
- International, European & national association speakers
- Structured networking lunches
- Pre-event online networking for delegates & speakers
- Exhibition of specialist suppliers
- Welcome reception & Gala Dinner

Others

LARIA Conference – 14th April 2010, Royal Holloway University (Queries to admin@laria.gov.uk)

Centre for Longitudinal Studies - Understanding Ageing Conference: 14-16 April at St. Catherine's College Oxford. For more information please call Richard Bull on 020 7612 6804

International Conference on Evidence-Based Policy in Long-term Care – London School of Economics between the 8th and 11th Sept 2010. Queries to Events Information Line: 020 7955 6043.

The consequences of the global economic crisis for social work and social policies: 14-18 June 2010. Anyone interested in participating should send a brief abstract (c.100-200 words) of their proposed presentation and a short cv/resume in English to **Paul Stubbs** by email pstubbs@eizg.hr. The deadline for applications is **26 April 2010** and all applicants will be notified as to whether they have been accepted for the course by **6 May 2010** at the latest.

ARMA - Research, VAT and Other Taxing Issues, which will take place at Holywell Park, Loughborough University on Thursday 13th May. The seminar is designed for research administrators with financial responsibilities (but who are not expected to be VAT experts).

Delegates will receive a comprehensive grounding in a wide variety of scenarios involving the interaction of VAT on universities and the research they carry out. They will then be better placed to understand the often complex requirements of their finance offices in dealing with, and accounting, for VAT and will gain confidence in dealing with VAT issues that may be raised by their researcher communities.

For full details of the programme please see:

https://www.arma.ac.uk/news/training/training_seminars/ts_vat.xhtml

To book: <https://www.arma.ac.uk/list-events.xhtml>

SPSS Workshops

DATE: THURSDAY 8TH JULY 2010

TITLE: SPSS (PASW) ONE-DAY SYNTAX WORKSHOP

DURATION: ONE-DAY (9-45am to 4-45pm)

VENUE: UNIVERSITY OF CARDIFF, UK

FURTHER DETAILS: <http://www.spssusers.co.uk/Events/2010/workshopannounce.html>

CONTACT: peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk

DATE: FRIDAY 9TH JULY 2010

TITLE: SPSS (PASW) ONE-DAY MACROS AND OMS WORKSHOP

DURATION: ONE-DAY (9-45am to 4-45pm)

VENUE: UNIVERSITY OF CARDIFF, UK

FURTHER DETAILS: <http://www.spssusers.co.uk/Events/2010/workshopannounce.html>

CONTACT: peter.watson@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk

Winter Conference 15.12.2010

The Future of the Research Degree: Diversity, Convergence, Comparability at the British Library

Please contact: <http://www.ukcge.ac.uk/events/eventsarea/wc10.htm>

Introduction to BHPS using Stata taught by [Alita Nandi](#) & [Simonetta Longhi](#) on the 15-16 April 2009. For more details please see: <http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/survey/bhps/courses/stata-intro>

KT EQUAL workshop on Digital Identity now available on the SPARC/KT-EQUAL website www.sparc.ac.uk. The workshop will be held in Reading on the 16th April 2010. It has a very interesting programme which will draw on the latest research and developments in practice.

How best can the criminal justice system and agencies meet the needs of older offenders – at the Royal Commonwealth Society, 16th April 2010. **To book:** seminars@cppseminars.org.uk

SHORT COURSES AT CASS, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Survey Data Analysis 2: Introduction to Linear Regression Modelling -
Olga Maslovskaya, April 2010

If you have any further questions please contact cass@southampton.ac.uk or visit www.southampton.ac.uk/cass

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