



Monthly Bulletin March 2008

Here is the March 2008 issue of the SRA's Monthly Bulletin of news, research funding, publications and events. This issue includes:

News of the SRA Training Forum, changes in ESRC's news journals and a new Strategy Unit report.

Many current *research funding* opportunities, including social networking, alcohol, a major evaluation for the Big Lottery Fund and help with visits to Germany and Japan.

Publications including books on culture change, well-being and social selves.

And finally details of *events* - including workshops, seminars and conferences - over the next four months.

The next Bulletin will issue in early April. Items for possible inclusion should be sent by 27 March to the editor Bill Solesbury, either by email to wsa@solesbury.demon.co.uk or by post to William Solesbury & Associates, 1 Dolby Road, London SW6 3NE. 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.

NEWS

SRA's Expert Development Workshops

The workshops are aimed at mid-career and senior researchers who want to stay at the cutting edge of developments in their profession or develop expertise in new areas of social research. Each two day workshop will address current issues of importance to social research in a way that will bring participants up to date with the latest developments and also encourage critical debate and discussion.

Places are still available on the following courses:

11th -12th March Quality in Social Research, London

18th -19th March Ethics in Social Research, London
31st March -1st April Participatory Research, London
7th - 8th May Quality in Social Research, Edinburgh
20th -21st May Participatory Research, Bristol
17th -18th June Ethics in Social Research, Leeds.
To book a place on a workshop email: admin@the-sra.org.uk

SRA Training Forum

The SRA Training Forum is open to all those with an interest in the training and professional development of social researchers. The next meeting will take place on Monday, 31st March, 3.00-5.00pm at the SRA offices, 24-32 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HX. The focus for discussion will be Competency Frameworks and their role in Professional Development for Social Researchers. Siobhan Campbell, Government Social Research, will introduce the discussion drawing on her experience of implementing a competency framework for government social researchers. If you would like to attend please email: Janie.Percy-Smith@the-sra.org.uk.

ESRC news service

The ESRC is revamping its regular newsletters. From Summer 2008 the 20 year old quarterly *Social Sciences* will be merged with the younger *The Edge* journal in a new, as yet unnamed, thrice yearly magazine designed for the full range of readers including academics, practitioners and the public. People receiving one or both of the existing publications will get the new one. Additionally from May there will be a two monthly e-newsletter with timely information on funding opportunities, community news and corporate information. To get this you need to register at www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/enewsreg.

Policy Hub

Another change is that Policy Hub, the website with many useful references and resources for policy researchers, has been transferred from the Government Social Research Unit, which developed it, to the care of the National School of Government. Its scope and content should stay the same but its URL will henceforth be www.nationalschool.gov.uk/policyhub.

Strategic challenges

In response to a remit from Gordon Brown the Strategy Unit in the Cabinet Office has published its analysis of the future strategic challenges facing the UK. It draws on trends and projections from inside and outside government. It identifies challenges (and opportunities) in nine fields: Globalisation; Economic prosperity; Life chances and social mobility; Ageing and increasing diversity of the population; Family life and communities; Crime and public safety; Public services; Climate change; and the Renewal of democracy. The report can be found at www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/work_areas/strateguc_challenges0208.aspx.

RESEARCH FUNDING

In deadline date order over the next four months

ESRC Early Career Fellowships

The Economic and Social Research Council invites applications for its postdoctoral research fellowships. The scheme is open to all fields of social science but priority will be given to economics, education, management, advanced quantitative methods, social work and socio-legal studies. More info on www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/earlycareerpostdocfellowships/index.asp. No deadline.

ESRC research placements

The Economic and Social Research Council invites applications under its placement fellows scheme whereby researchers spend time undertaking policy-relevant research in a government department. More info on www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities. No deadline.

Leverhulme Fellowships

The Leverhulme Trust invites applications for its Early Career Fellowships for researchers in all fields who do not hold a full time academic post. They will pay 50% of salary and research expenses. More info on www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/grants/early_career_fellowships/ Deadline is 12 March.

Social networking/mobile IT

The Edusev Foundation invites proposals for research on social networking and on mobile computing. More info on www.eduserv.org.uk/foundation/grants. Deadline is 14 March.

DH Applied health research

The National Institute for Health Research at the Department of Health offers programme grants for collaborative research with NHS organisations on improved health care or better health care delivery. More info on <http://tinyurl.com/yrgrwc>. Deadline for outline proposals is 17 March, invited full applications 13 October.

FP7 Advanced investigator grants

The European Research Council, under the EU Framework Programme 7, offers awards in the humanities and the social sciences for researchers who have already established themselves as independent research leaders. More info on <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=Usersite.IdeasDetails>. Deadline is 18 March.

Assisted living

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council in partnership with the Technology Strategy Board, the Economic and Social Research Council, the Advanced Institute of Management Research and the National Institute of Health Research are calling for economic and business modelling of the market for technologies for assisted living. More info on www.epsrc.ac.uk/CallsforProposals/ATModelling.htm. Deadline is 26 March.

HEI Governing bodies

The Leadership Foundation for Higher Education invites tenders for research on the diversity of governing bodies and their role in promoting equality. More info on www.ecu.ac.uk/about/tenders/. Deadline is 28 March

COST European networks

European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) calls for collaborative work by researchers in at least five COST countries in i.a. the fields of Individuals, society, culture and health; Information and communication technologies; and Transport and the urban environment. More info from opencall@cost.esf.org. Deadline is 30 March.

ESRC business engagement grants

The Economic and Social Research Council offers awards to support the engagement of social scientists with the creative and cultural industries. More info on <http://tinyurl.com/26wqpw>. Deadline is 31 March.

Alcohol research

The European Advisory Board travel awards and exchange visit awards to young researchers on any aspect of biomedical and psychosocial research into alcohol. More info on www.erab.org/asp/awards/11.asp?doc_id=32. Deadline is 31 March.

Japan 1

The Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation offers small grants for interactions between the UK and Japan. More info on www.dajf.org.uk/page_e.asp?Section=Grants&ID=81. Deadline is 31 March.

Japan 2

The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation offers small grants to pump prime research in a variety of fields including social issues. More info on www.gbsf.org.uk/activities. Deadline is 31 March.

BIG Evaluation of the Community Assets programme

The Big Lottery Fund is inviting tenders for the evaluation of this programme that supports asset transfers from local authorities to third sector organisations. The full tender invitation is available from Nita.Vryparj@biglotteryfund.org.uk. Deadline is 4 April.

JRF Drinking cultures

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation invites proposals for research on the transmission of drinking cultures. More info on www.jrf.org.uk/research-funding. Deadline is 8 April.

Telecommunications

British Telecom invites applications for its short term research fellowships aimed at furthering links between BT and academia. More info on www.btplc.com/Careercentre/Researchfellowships/Researchfellowship. Deadline is 11 April.

British Academy international collaboration awards

The Academy offers awards for individual or collaborative research in a number of countries: China, Taiwan, France, Sweden, Israel. More info on www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/. Deadline is 15 April.

British Academy conference grants

The Academy offers awards up to £20,000 for conferences disseminating humanities or social science research. More info on www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/. Deadline is 15 April.

Germany

The German Academic Exchange Service offers grants to senior academics for visits to Germany of one to three months. More info on <http://tinyurl.com/24c4qr>. Deadline is 15 April.

Leverhulme Fellowships

The Leverhulme Foundation invites applications for its major research fellowships in the humanities and social sciences. More info on www.leverhulme.ac.uk/grants_awards/grants/major_research_fellowships. Deadline is 1 May.

Carnegie research grants

The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland offers small grants for the travel and subsistence or publication costs of research projects. More info on www.carnegie-trust.org/what_we_do.htm. Deadline is 15 May.

PUBLICATIONS

Any publications marked with *asterisks* below are available for short reviews of about 300 words in SRA News. If you are interested, contact Annie Irving, SRA's book review editor, on aj513@york.ac.uk. In return you get to keep the copy

David Knott et al
Achieving culture change: a policy framework – discussion paper
Cabinet Office Strategy Unit, 2008
Downloadable from www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/strategy/achieving_culture_change.pdf.

Beverley Searle
Well-being: In search of the good life??
The Policy Press, 2008

Timothy Hall et al
The SAGE Companion to the City
Sage, 2008

Ian Burkitt
Social selves – 2nd edition
Sage, 2008

Eds Pam Foley and Stephen Leverett
Connecting with Children
The Policy Press, 2008

Patricia L Sunderland and Rita M Denny
Doing Anthropology in Consumer Research
Left Coast Press, 2008

EVENTS

SRA events over the next few months –

10 March, London
SRA event: Making Policy in Theory and Practice
In conjunction with ESRC and British Library
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk

11-12 March, London
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Quality in Social Research
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

18 March, Edinburgh
SRA Scotland evening seminar: Making sense of national identity in Scotland and England

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_scotland.htm

18-19 March, London
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Ethics in Social Research

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

25 March , Edinburgh
SRA Scotland Annual Event: Making use of longitudinal research

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_scotland.htm.

31 March, London
SRA workshop: Reviewing Research

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

31 March-1 April, London
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Participatory Research

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

18 April, London
SRA workshop: Qualitative interviewing

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

22 April, London
SRA seminar: Researching Standards in Public Life
In conjunction with Standards in Public Life, the Academy of Social Sciences and the British Library

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk

22-23 April, Newport
SRA Cymru course: Cognitive interviewing

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_cymru.htm.

22-23 April, Edinburgh
SRA Scotland course: Introduction to Quantitative Methods with a focus on Survey Design

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_scotland.htm.

24 April, Edinburgh
SRA Scotland course: Survey Sampling

More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_scotland.htm.

25 April, Edinburgh
SRA Scotland course: Statistical analysis
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/sra_scotland.htm.

7-8 May, Edinburgh
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Quality in Social Research
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

16 May, London
SRA Workshop: Longitudinal Qualitative Research and Analysis
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

20-21 May, Bristol
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Participatory Research
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

17-18 June, Leeds
SRA/RDI Advanced workshop: Ethics in Social Research
More info on www.the-sra.org.uk/training

Other events in date order over the next four months –

10-11 March, Southampton
CASS course: Handling non-response in sample surveys
More info on www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/programme.php

11 March, London
RSS meeting: Recent developments in fear of crime research
More info on www.rss.org.uk

11-13 March, London
MRS Essentials course: Essentials of Qualitative Research
More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

12 March, London
NatCen course: Communicating research to policy and practice
More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

13 March, London
RSS workshop: Presenting data
More info on www.rss.org.uk/courses

14 March, London
AcSS debate: The economic and social impact of the 2012 London Olympics
More info from administrator@acss.org.uk

17-19 March, Lancaster
Course on research ethics and the media
More info on www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/events/ethicalresearch.

18 March, London
CWDC conference: Developing the Childcare Workforce
More info on www.neilstewartassociates.co.uk.

18 March, London
RSS workshop: Effective presentation
More info on www.rss.org.uk/courses

18-19 March, Durham
NCRM workshop: Case based methods
More info on www.ncrm.ac.uk

27-28 March, London
RSS workshop: Introduction to time series forecasting
More info on www.rss.org.uk/courses

28 March, London
MRS course: Idea generation
More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

31 March-1 April, London
CASS course: Essentials of survey design and implementation
More info on www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/programme.php

1-3 April, London
MRS Essentials course: Essentials of Quantitative Research
More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

1-3 April, Nottingham
LARIA conference: Places, partnerships and performance
More info on www.laria.gov.uk

8-10 April, London
MRS Refining skills course: Refining Skills in Qualitative Research

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

9-11 April, Cardiff

CASS course: Regression Methods for Survey Data

More info on www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/programme.php

10 April, London

ESRC Question Bank conference: Survey Measurement – Assessing the Reliability and Validity of Contemporary Questionnaire Items

More info on <http://qb.surrey.ac.uk/qbworkshop.html>

16 April, London

MRS Introductory course: Introduction to Qualitative Research

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

16-17 April, London

NatCen course: Qualitative research design

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

17 April, London

MRS Introductory course: Introduction to Quantitative Research

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

17-18 April, Colchester

ISER course: Introduction to BHPS using STATA

More info on www.iser.essex.ac.uk/ulsc/methods/psmw2008

22 April, London

MRS Introductory course: Introductory Statistics

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

22-23 April, London

RDI/TREPP course: Reviewing existing research – searching, appraising and synthesising

More info on www.evidencenetwork.org.

23 April, Cardiff

NCRM workshop: Evaluating Complex Social Interventions – Randomised Controlled Trials and Realist Evaluation

More info on www.ncrm.ac.uk

23 April, London

MRS Introductory course: Introduction to Semiotics

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

23-24 April, London

NatCen course: Moderating focus groups

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

24 April, London

MRS Essentials course: Introductory sampling

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

25 April, London

ESDS event: Family Resources Survey user meeting

More info on www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/2008-04-25.

30 April, Nottingham

ESDS event: Introduction to government microdata – focus on consumption

More info on www.ccsr.ac.uk/esds/events/2008-04-30

30 April-1 May, London

NatCen course: Cognitive interviewing skills

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

30 April-2 May, Bristol

SPS course: Researching child and family welfare

More info on www.bris.ac.uk/sps/studying/shortcourses/default.shtml

1 May, London

MRS Advanced course: Developing relationships using online panels

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

13 May, London

RDI/TREPP course: Policy transfer – learning from overseas experience

More info on www.evidencenetwork.org.

15 May, London

NatCen course: Formulating policy recommendations

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

15 May, London

CMPO conference: Evaluating health policy – new evidence from administrative data

More info on www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/PSZ/News/default.aspx

20 May, London

RDI/TREPP course: Analysing documents

More info on www.evidencenetwork.org.

20 May, London

RDI/TREPP course: Elite interviewing

More info on www.evidencenetwork.org.

20-21 May, Cardiff

CASS course: Questionnaire design

More info on www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/programme.php

21 May, London

MRS Introductory course: Quantitative analysis

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

21-22 May, London

NatCen course: Integrating multiple methods in social research

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

22 May, London

MRS Introductory course: Qualitative analysis

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

28 May, London

MRS Essentials course: Online Quantitative Research

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

29 May, London

MRS Essentials course: Ethnic research

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

4 June, London

MRS Introductory course: Effective depth interviewing

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

4-5 June, London

NatCen course: Questionnaire design

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

10-11 June, London

MRS Advanced course: Semiotics – applying the theory to business practice

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

11-12 June, London

NatCen course: Depth interviewing skills

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

12 June, London

MRS Essentials course: Extending moderating skills

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

18-20 June, Manchester

4th International Conference on e-Social Science

More info on www.ncess.ac.uk/events/conference.

23-27 June, London

MRS Refining skills course: Research in Action Summer School

More info on www.mrs.org.uk/training/2008.htm

25-26 June, London

NatCen course: The analysis of qualitative data

More info on www.natcen.ac.uk/natcen/pages/nm_natcen_learning.htm

26-27 June, Southampton

CASS course: Nonresponse rates and nonresponse bias in surveys

More info on www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/cass/programme.php

26-29 June, Berlin

International conference on Survey Methods in Multinational, Multiregional and Multicultural contexts

More info on www.csdi-workshop.org.

30 June- 3 July, Oxford

3rd ESRC Research Methods Festival 2008

More info on www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/other/festival2008/dates.php.
