

BEI DIGEST

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - ISSUE #3



EXECUTIVE DEAN'S FOREWORD

Welcome to the Spring 2020 edition of the BEI Newsletter. At this moment in time, the coronavirus is dominating proceedings and this has been a very challenging time for BEI, Birkbeck, and the wider HE sector. I believe the philosophical musing of Donald Rumsfeld neatly captures our current situation: we are living in a period of known unknowns. We know the next 12 months is going to be challenging, uncertain and will require us to respond to these circumstances in new, flexible and innovative ways – we just don't know exactly how yet. As we progress into the summer term, the School Executive and I will be working on plans for the forthcoming academic year that will likely involve us doing things differently than in the past. Despite the uncertainty, I am confident that we can adapt to this and that this will open up new possibilities for us. The response to the move to online teaching, the support from colleagues in BEI, and the sense of collegiality has at times been overwhelming and it is a privilege to be working with you all.

Despite the challenging circumstances, life does continue and I am pleased to be able to report many new developments coming out of the hard work put in by colleagues in BEI. One recent development is the launch of the Marketing and Consumer Research Group, which will help to build a strong multi-disciplinary approach to research in this area. Continuing with the research theme, a number of colleagues in Organizational Psychology have been successful

in the 2019 Division of Occupational Psychology Excellence Awards. Dr Kevin Teoh received the Excellence in Occupational Psychology Research Early Career award, while Dr Rachel Lewis and Dr Jo Yarker and their team of researchers received the Excellence in Occupational Psychology Research award.

There have also been a number of recent successful applications for research funding, with Professor Helen Lawton-Smith (MGMT) receiving funding from the Regional Studies Association; Dr Jo Yarker and Dr Rachel Lewis (OP) receiving funding from the Department for Work and Pensions; Professor Peter Wood (CSIS) receiving funding from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council; and Professor George Roussos (CSIS) having successfully applied for funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council. I am also pleased to report some early successes coming from the Brainstorming Research Grants Group. This group was set up by Dr Caroline Kamau (OP) in the Autumn term and, so far, a number of academics from all departments in BEI have come together and are working on various grant applications. These successes all go to demonstrate that the research culture within BEI is strong and, in the run up to the REF, I believe we can put together a strong environment statement, supported by the excellent work of many colleagues across all departments in BEI.

I am also pleased to be able to announce that the recent application to the UN Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) has been accepted and BEI now joins over 700 Business and Management Schools from more than 90 countries that have made a commitment to advancing values such as sustainability, responsibility, and ethics in teaching, research and thought leadership. Dr Fred Yamoah (MGMT) has led on this initiative and will continue to do so through chairing the PRME

steering group that will take this forward. This commitment to promoting sustainability in our programmes aligned well with the recent seminar given by Sir Ed Davey, Acting Leader of the Liberal Democrats, as part of our commitment to celebrating the 100th anniversary of Birkbeck joining the University of London. He gave a thought-provoking presentation on the UK’s commitment and role in climate change, reflecting on his time as Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change between 2012 and 2015.

As this term draws to a close, and in light of the continued unrest in the HE sector, I want to thank all colleagues that have worked hard to ensure minimal disruption to our students. Where colleagues have been on strike, they have informed students and put in place measures to minimise the disruption caused. For this I am extremely grateful and it once again demonstrates our commitment to the well-being of our students. As we move into a new era, post-BEI review, I want to ensure that we maintain this focus on our students and ensure that they are central to what we do in the future.

Dr Geoff Walters

Executive Dean, School of Business, Economics and Informatics

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SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

BEI WELCOMES BACK SIR ED DAVEY



As part of celebrations marking 100 years of Birkbeck’s membership of the University of London, the School invited Sir Ed Davey, Acting Leader of the Liberal Democrats, Fellow of Birkbeck and MSc Economics alumnus to give a lecture to students, staff and friends of the College.

Entitled ‘The Climate Emergency: can the UK regain global leadership?’, Sir Davey’s talk commented on the challenges the UK faces in addressing climate change in an age of Trump, Putin, trade wars and deforestation. However, the mood of the lecture was broadly hopeful, taking in the UK’s positive track record in tackling climate change and looking to the possibilities offered by new technologies and opportunities to collaborate with countries such as China and India.

The talk was followed by a lively Q&A, with audience members raising questions on how to engage world leaders and the impact on the climate of other areas beyond our control, such as population growth.

We would like to thank Sir Ed Davey for an insightful talk and to all those who made the event a success.

SPORTING LEGENDS HEAD TO PARIS FOR UEFA MASTERS PROGRAMME



The second residential week of the UEFA Executive Masters for International Players, a joint programme between Birkbeck, the Centre for Law & Sport, University of Limoges and UEFA, took place in February. The programme supports players to stay in the field they love by becoming leaders and decision-makers in football administration and management.

The 24 participants, all of whom are former international footballers, spent the week learning more about the role and responsibilities of managers within sport organisations. Over five days, they discussed and debated issues such as what makes a good manager, how elite players' skills can be transferred into organisations and what additional skills are required to make a successful transition into sports administration.

During the session held at Parc des Princes, home of Paris St Germain, Sean Hamil, lead coordinator for the UEFA MIP at Birkbeck, was joined by Birkbeck Sport Business Centre colleagues Dr Geoff Walters and Dr Richard Tacon, who were there to meet with the students that they are supervising on the MIP project.

The next of the seven MIP sessions will take place in Amsterdam in April.



BEI WELCOMES NEW PROFESSOR OF FINANCE

We are delighted to welcome Professor Emmanuel Mamatzakis to the Department of Management, where he will be working with colleagues in Accounting. Emmanuel's research is primarily driven by its impact on the real economy and focuses on applied accounting and finance as well as on public finance management.

Emmanuel has served as Senior Economist at the Hellenic Council of Economic Advisors, as Secretary General of Fiscal Policy at the Hellenic General Accounting Office, and as Chairman of the Hellenic Public Debt Management Agency. Through these roles and his research, he contributed to legislation of public finance management. He has recently been appointed by the Hellenic Parliament as a Board Member of the Hellenic Fiscal Council, which is a member of the EU Independent Fiscal Institutions Network.

Emmanuel holds a DPhil in Economics from the University of London, Queen Mary College with an IKY scholarship. He also holds an MSc in Economics from the University of Warwick and a BSc in Economics from the Department of Economics of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He has taught at Queen Mary College, Cass Business School, University of Sussex, Rennes Business School and Fundação Getúlio Vargas as well as at numerous Greek universities and has contributed to curriculum development both at UG and PG level.

BEI SIGNS UP TO THE PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

The School has signed up to the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), a United Nations-supported initiative to equip today's business students with the understanding and ability to deliver change tomorrow.

This voluntary initiative represents a powerful commitment to advancing values such as sustainability, responsibility and ethics in teaching and research. Signing up means BEI has joined other business and management schools around the world dedicated to advancing core corporate social responsibility and sustainability values, while working to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.



DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT LAUNCHES MARKETING AND CONSUMER RESEARCH GROUP

The newly-established Marketing and Consumer Research Group explores marketing and consumption phenomena from a wide range of perspectives, drawing on socio-cultural, psychological, anthropological, organisational, managerial, feminist and literary traditions of research.

The group explores the implications of contemporary shifts in the digital and cultural economy for organisations, business practice and consumer welfare through a multi-disciplinary approach. To find out more and hear the latest from the group, [join their mailing list](#).

INSTITUTE OF CODING CONFERENCE 2020



The Institute of Coding (IoC) Annual Conference took place in London in February. Titled 'Thinking differently about lifelong learning', the conference focused on how lifelong learning initiatives could change the digital sector in the United Kingdom and create better diversity and inclusion.

A key finding from research shared at the conference was that over half of women in non-digital jobs said the main reason they were not pursuing a digital career was because they did not know how to retrain or did not believe they had studied the subjects necessary to work in digital. As a founding member of the IoC, BEI will be working with our partners to respond to meet the needs of those looking to retrain in digital.

KOGOD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, AMERICAN UNIVERSITY AND BIRKBEK BEI – THE COLLABORATION DEVELOPS



Kogod School of Business, American University (Washington DC, USA) and the School of Business, Economics and Informatics signed a Memorandum of Understanding in April 2019. Since then, staff on both sides have been working on a variety of exciting teaching collaborations and research projects.

Kogod's Dr Tomasz Mroczkowski has studied and written about innovation, the management of change and economic transition for most of his career. In February 2020 he came to Birkbeck to be part of a panel event that was organised by the Centre for Innovation Management Research.

For further information, please contact [Andrea Williams](#), Internationalisations and Partnerships Manager.

DEPARTMENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY CHAMPIONS FLEXIBLE WORKING

Four members of academic staff are now working in a job share arrangement in the Department of Organizational Psychology. Senior Lecturers Dr Rachel Lewis and Dr Jo Yarker were the first to successfully apply for a job share in the Department and have now been joined by Janet Sheath and Dr Susan Kahn, who

share responsibility for the Department's coaching portfolio.

Speaking of the arrangement, Lewis and Yarker said: "In working together, we can fulfil one FTE and as such be treated equitably on that footing. This means that our workload is distributed in the same way as full-time staff, but beyond that, we can support each other and enable our mutual research goals to thrive. Job sharing has allowed us both as individuals to follow our passions and drive our careers forward; we act as each other's trusted advisor and support, meaning that we can really focus our goals and deliver more for the university than would be possible if we were working independently."



AWARDS, HONOURS AND APPOINTMENTS

The School of Business, Economics and Informatics' innovative partnership with Le Cordon Bleu London received an Independent Higher Education Award in December. The BBA Culinary Industry Management and new MSc Culinary Innovation Management, both jointly delivered by Birkbeck and Le Cordon Bleu, received the 'Breakthrough Course: Innovation in Design or Delivery' award.

Organizational Psychology academics took home both research awards from the 2019 British Psychological Society and Division of Occupational Psychology awards ceremony. **Dr Rachel Lewis** and **Dr Jo Yarker** were awarded the DOP Excellence in Occupational Psychology Research Award and **Dr Kevin Teoh** was awarded the DOP Excellence in Occupational Psychology Research Award (Early Career).



Dr Rachel Lewis and Dr Jo Yarker received the DOP Excellence in Occupational Psychology Research Award.

Dr Muthu De Silva (MGMT) has been appointed to the external Peer Review Group of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Muthu was also appointed Panel Member of the *Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I.P.* (FCT), the Portuguese public funding agency for R&D, chaired by Professor Stephen Roper from Warwick Business School, UK.

Dr Alexandra Beauregard (OP) was elected to the Executive Board of the Work and Family Researchers Network (WFRN), an international membership organization of interdisciplinary work and family researchers based in the USA.

Dr Luca Andriani (MGMT) has been appointed as Guest Editor (with Dr Randolph Bruno, UCL) for a special issue titled "Institutions and Culture in Economic Contexts" for the *Journal of Institutional Economics*.

Dr Vanessa Iwowo (OP) was appointed as Visiting Fellow to the Firoz Lalji Africa Centre at the London School of Economics.

Professor George Roussos (CSIS) was appointed co-editor of IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society. The Transactions will publish research papers on the interactions among technology, science, and society; on the impact of such interactions on individuals and society; and on the ethical, professional and social responsibility in the practice of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Professor Almuth McDowall (OP) was invited by the UK Ministry of Defence to attend an Innovation Sandpit in November 2019. She is now involved in two collaborative funded scoping projects to research the future of defence.

Professor Gail Kinman, Shafag Garayeva and Kirsty Lauder (OP) have obtained a full grant from the British Psychological Society to represent the Division of Occupational Psychology at the Congress of the European Academy of Occupational Health in Nicosia, Cyprus, April 2020.

Professor Kevin Ibeh (MGMT) received funding from the British Council India to speak at two international seminars in Bangalore and New Delhi, India. Professor Ibeh was also appointed external assessor for professorial appointments by Universities in the UK and abroad.

IMPACT

Applying Data Science techniques to solve societal problems

Professor George Roussos (CSIS) is working with collaborators at the NYU Centre for Data Science to develop novel data science methods and techniques which aim to improve the efficiency of metropolitan ambulance services when responding to high-priority emergencies by incorporating a variety of data sources including traffic, weather, demographic and social media.

This project is part of a wider collaboration between Birkbeck and NYU London.

Gender, Science and Innovation

A new book edited by Helen Lawton Smith, Colette Henry, Henry Etzkowitz and Alexandra Poulouvassilis demonstrates how persisting gender inequality in women's scientific and social science careers necessitates measures to overcome it.

Gender, Science and Innovation has its origins in the Transforming Institutions by Gendering Contents and Gaining Equality in Research (TRIGGER) project at Birkbeck, led by the editors. Its chapters provide analysis and evidence on the underlying causes of gender inequality faced by women at various stages of careers in universities and scientific research institutions, in a variety of contexts. It highlights the prevalence of the need for systemic institutional change in order to advance gender equality.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Research by **Dr Walter Beckert (EMS)** was highly commended in the 'Transforming Public Life' category at Birkbeck's Public Engagement Awards. In response to the Competition Markets Authority's claim that hospital competition ultimately benefits patients, Dr Beckert and partners' work outlines how more rigorous, well-designed

research is needed to measure the impact of competition on the quality of care.

- **Dr Jo Yarker (OP)** will present a keynote address on work and wellbeing at the BPS Northern Ireland Annual Conference.
- **Professor Andy Ross (EMS)** has recently trained Government Economic Assessment Centre Assessors in Scotland, Leeds and at HM Treasury.
- **Dr Rachel Lewis and Dr Jo Yarker (OP)** are invited speakers at Health and Wellbeing at Work 2020 in Birmingham in March. Lewis will be speaking at two sessions on business travel and managing remote work, while Yarker will speak on managing return to work.
- **Dr Kevin Teoh (OP)** presented at a national working group of senior NHS and nursing leaders working on supporting the mental health of nurses and midwives in the United Kingdom.
- **Professor Kevin Ibeh (MGMT)** recently presented keynote remarks at international seminars on Governance, Leadership and Autonomy in Higher Education Systems in New Delhi and Bangalore, India. He also recently delivered invited talks to the British Universities International Liaison Association's Regional Interest Group on Africa and an international workshop on African Business and Sustainable Development at University College Dublin, Ireland.
- The Department of Organizational Psychology had a strong presence at the Division of Occupational Psychology Conference in January 2020, including recent graduates presenting from their dissertation projects (**Kirsty Denyer, Zainal Ezzat Adel, Jo Gray, Maria Falsone and Fiona Falkingham**) alongside staff and PhD students (**Professor Almuth McDowall, Dr Kevin Teoh, Dr Jo Yarker, Dr Rachel Lewis, Dr Nancy Doyle and Shafag Garayeva**).

LATEST PROGRAMME INNOVATIONS

The following programmes are being offered for the first time this year:

- MSc Coaching Psychology (OP)
- MSc Business, Political Economy and Society (MGMT)
- BSc Data Science and Computing with Foundation Year (CSIS)
- PG Cert Career Coaching (OP)
- PG Cert Applied Data Science (CSIS)

The following programmes in Organizational Psychology have changed their title:

- The PG Cert Coaching is now the PG Cert Coaching Psychology
- The MSc Career Management and Coaching is now the MSc Career Coaching

LATEST PHD GRADUATES FROM BEI

Congratulations to the PhD candidates who have successfully defended their theses:

- **Xiaochong Chen (EMS)**, *Credit Growth in China: determinants and consequences*
- **Peter Jelfs (MGMT)**, *Financial performance studies of University Spin-Off Companies (USOs) in the West Midlands*
- **Luciano Rispoli (EMS)**, *News in Structural Vector-Auto Regression and Now-casting*

NEW STAFF APPOINTMENTS

We are pleased to welcome the following new colleagues:

Computer Science and Information Systems

- **Dr Jan Hidders**, Lecturer

Economics, Mathematics and Statistics

- **Dr Tinghua Yu**, Lecturer

Management

- **Professor Emmanuel Mamatzakis**, Professor of Finance
- **Dr Ammar Sammour**, Lecturer in Marketing

Organizational Psychology

- **Dr Yi-Ling Lai**, Lecturer. Dr Lai's work focuses on coaching and wellbeing.
- **Professor Gail Kinman**, Visiting Professor. Professor Kinman is interested in the psychosocial working conditions of those who do emotionally demanding and knowledge intensive work and how this affects their wellbeing and job performance.
- **Dr Alan Redman**, Research Fellow
- **Dr Nancy Doyle**, Research Fellow
- **Dr Keely Frasca**, Research Fellow

School of BEI Centre

- **Alice Dowden**, Events Coordinator

STAFF LEAVERS

We say goodbye to the following staff members and wish them all the best in the future.

- **Alexander Aspen** – OP Team Leader
- **Jenny Kananov** - OP Associate Tutor
- **Zad Santospirito** – CSIS Foundation Degree Administrator. Zad has taken up a new role in IT Services as Digital Education Consultant.

DR FRANK WATT MBA MSC PHD

It is with deep sadness that the Department of Organizational Psychology announces that its alumnus Frank Watt has died suddenly at the age of 62. His PhD, earned in 2016, focused on the importance of community self-efficacy in recovering from disasters. A long serving fire officer, Frank had left school with few academic qualifications and came to flourish academically later in life. His research had been presented at the UN Global Risk Forum in Davos and published in an edited volume. At the time of his untimely death, further publications were due to be published and he had recently been appointed as an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Warwick.



LATEST PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Anesa, M., **Chalkias, K.**, Jarzabkowski, P. and Spee, A. (2019), "Practicing Capitals Across Fields: Extending Bourdieu to Study Inter-Field Dynamics", Haack, P., Sieweke, J. and Wessel, L. (Ed.) *Microfoundations of Institutions (Research in the Sociology of Organizations, Vol. 65B)*, Emerald Publishing Limited, pp. 129-142.
- Au, W., **Chatrakul Na Ayudhya, U.**, Soon, Y., & Ahmed, P.K. (2019, online first) The work-life experiences of an invisible workforce: The case of live-in women migrant domestic workers in Malaysia. *Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion: An International Journal*.
- Batinti, A. **Andriani, L.** and **Filippetti, A.** (2019), Local Government Fiscal Policy, Social Capital and Electoral Payoff: Evidence across Italian Municipalities. *Kyklos* 72(4): 503-526.
- **Beauregard, T. A.**, & King, K. A. (2019). "Bring in Your Parents Day": Building inclusion and engagement through a cross-generational family-friendly workplace initiative. *Strategic HR Review*, (19)1, 15-21.
- Bednarek, R., **Chalkias, K.** and Jarzabkowski, P. (2019), "Managing Risk as a Duality of Harm and Benefit: A Study of Organizational Risk Objects in the Global Insurance Industry." *British Journal of Management*. In press.
- Booth, J. E., & **Beauregard, T. A.** (2019), Workplace silence, today? Transgender employees' voice and well-being. *LERA Perspectives on Work*, 23(1), 24-29.
- **Chatrakul Na Ayudhya, U.**, Prouska, R., & **Beauregard, T. A.** (2019). The impact of global economic crisis and austerity on quality of working life and work-life balance: A capabilities perspective. *European Management Review*, 16(4), 847-862.

- **Evans, S., Whiting, R., & MacKenzie-Davey, K.** (2020), Struggles for distinction: Classing as discursive process in UK museum work. *Gender, Work & Organization*.
- **Filippetti, A. and Guy, F.** (2020), “Labor Market Regulation, the Diversity of Knowledge and Skill, and National Innovation Performance.” *Research Policy* Volume 49, Issue 1.
- **McDowall, A. & Brown, J.** (accepted), Do good cops need a degree? Special issue on policing education (editorial) for *Policing: A Journal of Policy and Practice*.
- **Schröder, D., Gilboa Freedman, G.** (2020), Decision making under uncertainty: the relation between economic preferences and psychological personality traits. *Theory Decis.* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11238-019-09742-3>
- **Teoh, K. R. H., Lima, E., Vasconcelos, A., Nascimento, E., & Cox, T.** (2019), Trauma and work factors as predictors of firefighters’ psychiatric distress. *Occupational Medicine*, 69(8-9), 598-603. doi: 10.1093/occmed/kqz168.

Books, Chapters and Reports

- Jarzabkowski, P., **Chalkias, K.**, Clarke, D., Iyahan, E., Stadtmueller, D. and Zwick, A. (2019) Insurance for climate adaptation: opportunities and limitations. Global Commission on Adaptation, UN, Rotterdam, the Netherlands and Washington, DC, U.S.

Coverage of BEI Research

- **Alexey Pokrovskiy's** research, “A proof of Ringel’s Conjecture, has been featured in [Quanta Magazine](#).

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School of Business, Economics and Informatics

Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HX

bbk.ac.uk/business

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