Introduction

The Centre for Applied Social Research (CeASR) is a University-wide Research Centre which orchestrates interdisciplinary research across the social sciences in Leeds School of Social Sciences (LSSS) and School of Health and Community Studies (SHC) in different programmes:

Director of CeASR: Dr. Rachel Julian
Director of Research REF Units 19/20: Prof Karl Spracklen

- Crime, Justice & Society - Programme Lead Dr Tom Cockcroft
- Global Inequalities - Programme Leads Dr. Joseph Ibrahim & Dr. Sophia Price
- Social Change - Programme Leads Dr. Laura Davies & Dr. Natalia Gerodetti
- Peace - Programme Lead Dr. Maria O’Reilly
- Child Welfare - Programme Lead Prof Nick Frost
- Play and Playwork - Programme Lead Prof Fraser Brown

CeASR has two cross cutting themes:

Early Career Researchers Network which focuses on specific support needed to develop research and writing and Pedagogy Research which develops from the teaching and learning cross CeASR.

- ECRN - Programme Lead Dr Linda Asquith

Find out more about the Centre on the CeASR Webpage

From the Director of CeASR

The massive and sudden disruption means that none of us, nor our students, nor research partners, is unaffected by the Covid 19 crisis and the impact on our lives and work. Many of us have had disappointments about the cancelled events and projects or having to postpone research or collaborations.

In this newsletter is some of the good news that shows the diversity and range of research we are involved in across CeASR, and we would like to encourage you all to continue to submit news about your articles and participation in remote events.

If any member of CeASR would like advice, support or help while we are working remotely, please get in touch.

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Recent Publications


Spracklen, K. (2019). ‘Cycling, bread and circuses? When Le Tour came to Yorkshire and what it left
Welcome to Semester 2 2019/20 CeASR Newsletter. If you have anything you’d like to be included in the next edition, please contact Cat Brooke behind'. Sport in Society. doi.org/10.1080/17430437.2019.1673735


Good news

Rachel Julian has been an invited speaker at four national events on peace and nonviolence including:

- Nonviolence Roundtable, University of Aberystwyth. January 2020
- Turning the Tide international course in Nonviolence. March 2020

Researchers who are going to work together to produce a book on innovations in peacebuilding in Africa. The participants loved the workshop and Rachel Julian was an invited speaker.

Fraser Brown was invited to speak at “Adventure Playgrounds: Theory and Practice to the National Archives of France” in November 2019. He has subsequently been invited to contribute to a research study focusing on the history, theory and practice associated with adventure playgrounds throughout Europe.

Tom Cockcroft had his new book ‘Police Occupational Culture: Research and Practice’ published March 2020 https://policy.bristoluniversitypress.co.uk/police-culture

Tom Cockcroft has been invited to deliver a keynote presentation entitled ‘Social, Organisational and Cultural Change: Contemporary Challenges for Policing’ at the Policing and Society conference in Akureyri, Iceland in February 2021.

John Craig presented a paper in February 2020 at the University of Cardiff on the development of politics teaching in the UK, with a special focus on development within the University of Wales in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Joseph Ibrahim has co-founded and co-convenes a new Political Studies Association-Specialist Group entitled ‘Political and Social Movements’ with Dr John Roberts, Brunel University.

Joseph Ibrahim contributed to University of Leeds, Social Sciences Institute event ‘Harnessing the Vital Role of The Social Sciences’, as part of the ESRC Social Sciences Festival in November 2019.

Bevis McNeil was invited to present his paper ‘Nietzsche contra Heidegger: On the Importance of Heraclitean Play for Eternal Recurrence, Transformation and the Overhuman’, at ‘Nietzsche and Humanity: Humanism, Posthumanism, Transhumanism’ Conference at Tilburg University in the Netherlands on September 2019.

Bevis McNeil has his book manuscript for ‘Nietzsche and Eternal Recurrence’ published later in 2020.

Bevis McNeil, Maria de Angelis, Anthony Drummond, John
Gregson and Kirsty Bennett will have their proposal for a co-authored book 'Mental Health, Crime and the Impact of Criminal Justice on the Vulnerable' published in 2021.

Maria O’Reilly was invited to participate in a workshop on ‘United Nations Television and the media in Former Yugoslavia: Lessons for Peacebuilders’. The workshop was held at the Imperial War Museum in September 2019, and featured former UNTV filmmakers, journalists, museum curators, and peacebuilding researchers.

Sophia Price was invited to present at the ‘All Party Parliamentary Group on Africa Symposium on UK’ on UK-Africa Trade and Brexit at the House of Commons in January 2020, alongside the Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Minister for Africa.

Sophia Price has been awarded £6,500 to create the UACES Network on EU-Africa Research (NEAR).

Sophia Price will have a paper ‘West Africa’s Cocoa Sector and Development with Africa -EU Relations: Engaging business perspectives’ in Third World Quarterly with Mark Langan published later in 2020.

Chris Till was invited to present at two conferences:

BSA Annual Conference 2020 in April 2020.

Funding news

Rachel Julian has been successful in two new Research Council funded research projects:
1. Principle Investigator in an ‘Urgent Grant’ on ‘Policy development-oriented research leading to counter human trafficking protection and prevention policies in Kenya.’ (£146,000 12 months). Working with Haart Kenya the project will collect new data to be presented to Kenyan Government on developing services to victims and survivors of human trafficking.
2. Development Grant led by Aberystwyth University. An international partnership to improve local implementation of protection from direct violence.

Rachel is Co-Investigator in two other successful bids which will be announced when they start.

Research Councils are still accepting applications. See the UKRI website for further details.

The UK has now agreed a deal and left the EU on 31 January 2020. Under the Withdrawal Agreement negotiated with the EU, the UK will continue to participate fully in the current funding programmes (including Horizon2020 and Erasmus+). This means that the projects successfully bid for during the current (2014-2020) will continue to receive EU funding for the full duration of the project, including those where funding runs beyond 2020 and the end of the transition period.

Funding opportunities:

- Erasmus+ 2020 deadlines have now been announced.
- Leverhulme Trust Major Research Fellowships Now Open – deadline 15th May 2020. These are designed to enable well-established and distinguished researchers in the humanities and social sciences to devote themselves to a single research project of outstanding originality and significance, capable of completion within two or three years. These fellowships are particularly aimed at those who are or have been prevented by routine duties from completing a programme of original research.

If you’re interested in applying for or would like to talk through any other funding opportunities, please get in touch with LSSS Research Funding Advisor Nicoletta Mirachi 0113 81 23943

The following researchers were successful in their applications for internal CeASR REF 19/ 20 units
funding in September and December 2019 rounds, so look out for hearing about their research over the next year:

- Linda Asquith
- Laura Davies
- Maria De Angelis
- Jackie De Wet & Katie Dhingra
- Katie Dhingra
- Natalia Gerodetti
- Joseph Ibrahim
- Maria O’Reilly
- Sofia Persson & Katie Dhingra
- Sophia Price
- Mandy Shaw
- Chris Till
- Waqas Tufail
- Alexandria Bradley
- Rachel Julian

Let’s get to know…

**Social Change** - Programme Leads
Dr. Laura Davies & Dr. Natalia Gerodetti

Laura- I am a Senior Lecturer in Sociology and Co-Lead (with Natalia Gerodetti) of the CeASR Social Change Programme. I have been working at Leeds Beckett University since September 2015 teaching and researching in areas related to poverty, inequality and welfare. I am a qualitative researcher with a focus on examining how policy interventions that are designed to change and/or encourage particular behaviours relate to the lived experiences of those who access support or services. My research aims to develop understandings of how the complex policy landscape is understood and navigated by those who access support from an increasingly fragmented welfare state and how the assumptions embedded in policy development relate to service users’ lived experiences.

I am currently working on a HEIF funded research project on food bank provision and usage in Leeds and a CeASR funded project exploring young women’s experiences of insecure housing and homelessness.

Prior to joining Leeds Beckett University, I was a Research Fellow at the University of Leeds on the ESRC funded research project Following Young Fathers. This major ESRC funded project used qualitative longitudinal methods to develop understandings of the changing lives and support needs of young fathers. This research is currently being extended further by researchers at the University of Lincoln funded by UKRI and I am a member of the advisory board for this 4 year project.

Natalia- I am the Course Director in the Sociology Group and Co-Lead (with Laura Davies) of the CeASR Social Change Programme and have been working at Leeds Beckett University for over 12 years. My teaching covers social identities (in particular gender and sexuality), family practices, feminism and sociological theory.

Committed to qualitative research and discourse analysis, my research has covered the socio-political, socio-historical and socio-legal construction of sexuality, eugenic policies and practices in 20th Century Switzerland, as well as following from that project more recent emerging historical injustice and reparation debates. In collaboration with a colleague I am also interested in aspects of belonging and identity as they are manifested through food growing practices amongst migrants, and, in another collaboration, I work with a colleague to explore the development of collaborative teaching tools with and for students.

Prior to joining Leeds Beckett University, I worked at the Institut de Sciences Economiques et Politiques at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies at the University of Leeds.

**A word with Director of Research**
REF Units 19/20

The REF is a big focus in 2020. We are submitting for the first time in Unit 19 (Politics and International Studies) as well as Unit 20 (Social Work and Social Policy). The hard work has been done by everybody who has been doing research, writing and getting published, winning grants and supervising post-
graduate research students. We now have the fun of the various REF submission stages and improving all the documents (Environments, Impact Case Studies, Outputs). When we press the submit button my next step is to plan to get people in every subject group excited about doing research. Please get in touch for more information or for an informal chat.

Prof. Karl Spracklen

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The next CeASR newsletter will be out in semester 1 2020/2021, please send anything you would like to be included to Cat Brooke by 1st October 2020

Picture courtesy of Mia Iley, student @ LBU

Take care and stay safe

https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/covid-19/