

School of Social Sciences

Research Newsletter



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Did you know that the vision and mission for research in our school is "high quality research that engages with the major social issues of the day?"

Welcome to the first School of Social Sciences Research Newsletter.



The aim is simple: 3 times a year to give everyone an update on research activities and developments across the School.

A considerable number of developments have occurred in 2011 and we now have a school-wide research strategy that reflects and informs our direction of travel for the next 3 years.

The four strategic aims that we are expected to be working towards are to strengthen the performance of UoAs; Draw on Professoriate/Readers in the School to lead and mentor; to maintain a positive research culture and to facilitate entrepreneurial research

So what are we doing currently?

Audits of UoAs in psychology, social policy and politics/international relations are being undertaken on an ongoing basis and more systematically than before. This is informing the way that we spend funds in the school to support activities connected to the Research Excellence Framework. Information about what outputs staff need to achieve the targets is informing decisions about academic workloads. ATLs will be working within their Divisions to support individuals to undertake research related activities.

A project to develop the skills and capabilities of research mentors is in progress in collaboration with Lindsay Davies from CPLD. Seven staff across the School have been supported through one year's funding to undertake PhDs.

The number of funded Research Assistant posts in the School continues to grow and the School was also successful in achieving 2 PhD awards through the Vice Chancellor's bursary scheme in 2011; one in psychology and one in social policy.

We have a growing number of PhD students generally which contributes to a positive research culture in the School and the diversity of studies being conducted. In 2011, 3 divisional research conferences were held, in Psychology, GYS and jointly between Criminology and Politics/Sociology.

Entrepreneurial research is being developed in all Divisions and increasingly reflects our effective partnerships with a range of agencies. Examples included in this newsletter are, a Mental Capacity Act training evaluation with Leicestershire, research with the Nottingham Central Education Improvement Partnership on transitions between primary and secondary Schools and research conducted jointly with Nottingham Prisons into the resettlement of short sentenced offenders.

A lot has happened in the last 12 months that reflects the School of Social Sciences commitment to realizing the vision and mission as set out in the academic plan. We have several events planned for 2011/12 and look forward to hearing from colleagues about their research endeavours' in order so that we can give a further update in our next newsletter in January 2012.

Please send information to: Claire de Motte at claire.demotte@ntu.ac.uk

Thank you all for your commitment to research and scholarship over the last 12 months.

Professor Di Bailey

Director of Research for the School of Social Sciences

Academic Divisions

Criminology, Public Health & Policy Studies



The division is currently involved in research across all subjects, with exciting news regarding funding and PhD's ☺

PUBLICATIONS

Graham Bowpitt, Peter Dwyer, Eva Sundin & Mark Weinstein have published an article on 'Comparing men's and women's experiences of multiple exclusion homelessness'. This article explores gender as a contributing variable to homelessness in England. The overall aim of the article is to offer a critical examination of the gendered assumptions of homelessness policy and practice.

Professor Andromachi Tseloni collaborating with colleagues in partner alongside institutions has published an article on 'Income Disparities of Burglary Risk Security Availability during the Crime Drop'. The article explores the drop in the volume of crime over the past 15 years in most countries with England and Wales, encountering a fall of 58% in Domestic Burglary. The Security Impact Assessment Tool analysis presented in the article is being developed through related grant applications.

With colleagues from the same team, **Andromachi**, has also published 'The Crime Drop and the Security Hypothesis'. This article discusses explanations or lessons for policy and proposes that change in the quantity and quality of security is a key driver for the drop in crime.

Dr. Andrew Wilson has published work into 'Research ethics and the 'iron cage' of bureaucratic rationality'. **Andrew** was successful in obtaining funding from the British Academy Small Grants Scheme to conduct research into 'Immigration, moral panic and the making of racist skinheads'.

ONGOING RESEARCH INTO CRIME AND OFFENDING

Dr. Paul Hamilton, Roger Moore and **Claire de Motte** are continuing with a SIS project at HMP Sudbury regarding the 'Seven Pathways to Reducing Reoffending'. Watch this space for an update on the final report and dissemination of results.

Paul has also worked collaboratively with Superintendent Paul Giannasi, programme manager of the 'cross-governmental hate crime programme' which leads the Criminal Justice response to hate crime in the UK. Superintendent Gianassi presented a guest lecture at NTU on the 13th April which was extremely well received and attended by both staff and students, as well as the Nottingham Bench, Stop Hate UK and NCC.

Paul also co-organised (in conjunction with the UK Human Trafficking Centre (UKHTC) and Unchosen UK) an anti-trafficking event at NTU. Over 120 individuals attended including the leading human trafficking barrister in the UK, Nott's Deputy Chief Constable and representatives from Anti-Slavery International and attendees alike. Future events are planned to take place and information will follow.

Terry Gillespie and **Kristan Hopkins Burke** were successful in their bid for a SPUR student award and recruited **James Mellett**, a

second year Psychology and Criminology student, to work with them on a research project on honour based violence. James has interviewed local practitioners to explore the level of HBV and the kinds of support offered to survivors and their families by statutory and third sector agencies locally. A report will be presented at the SPUR Award ceremony in November.

Terry and **Kristan** are also working with **Chris Crowther-Dowey** and members of the Nottingham Drugs and Crime Partnership on research into domestic violence and the local multi-agency partnership response.

Roger Hopkins-Burke's has completed his book '*Criminal Justice Theory: an introduction*' that will be published in October of this year. This book examines the theoretical foundations of criminal justice in the modern era and will be a helpful guide for those commencing postgraduate studies in the disciplines of criminal justice, criminology, and law.

PAPERS PRESENTED

So far in 2011, the division have excelled in their number of papers delivered at conferences.

Graham Bowpitt has delivered papers at both the University of Lincoln and Glasgow, discussing 'The Protestant ethic and the spirit of social work' and 'Places of sanctuary for the undeserving: homeless people's day centres and the problem of conditionality'.

James Hunter, Sian Buckley, Richard Howarth & Ann McCarthy contributed to the Social Policy Association Annual Conference at the University of Lincoln in July. The paper presented was titled 'From Landshare to Capital Growth: Big Society responses to land and food scarcity?'

Richard Howarth provided a paper on 'Sustainable SME practice; A reflection on supply-chain environmental management intervention' at London Metropolitan University in April of this year.

Dr. Matthew Long presented at the Cultures of Boxing Conference in Dublin, July 2011 discussing 'The censure of boxing' (minus Mohammed Ali!).

Dr. Mike Sutton, Dr. Paul Hamilton, Dr. Matthew Long, Phil Hodgson & Dr. Andrew Wilson all contributed to the presentation of 'Zombie Cops' developed by **Dr. Mike Sutton** at the University of York in July. Further information can be found at http://www.bestthinking.com/articles/science/social_sciences/sociology/the-problem-of-zombie-cops-in-vooodoo-criminology-a-27-year-old-myth-about-beat-patrol-policing-is-busted

Andrea Lyons-Lewis presented at the Staff and Educational Development Association Conference in Edinburgh, discussing 'Academic practices & communities of practices: can academics open up the disciplines to new learners?'

STAFF PhDs

Claire de Motte (Research Assistant) was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Bursary for Social Policy. **Claire** will be starting her full time PhD studies in October exploring the 'Quality of Life and Experiences of Custody in Older Men in HMPS'.

Natasha Chubbock has been awarded part funding by the School for her PhD studies into 'Policing Animal Cruelty in the UK: A Criminological Study'. Natasha's research will examine cruelty to domestic animals in the UK, a subject which remains conspicuously absent from the criminological literature. We all wish Natasha the best of luck!

Guidance, Youth Studies & Youth Justice

Research Activity in the Division of Guidance, Youth Studies & Youth Justice has great potential for its impact on education policy and practice. A number of articles due to be published in 2012.

On the 22nd June the Division of Guidance, Youth Studies & Youth Justice (GYS) hosted a research seminar in collaboration with the University of Loughborough and the International Centre for Guidance studies (University of Derby). Twenty-five delegates attended the Seminar, including NTU colleagues from the Widening Participation Office and Student Support Services. During the Seminar, GYS colleagues **Helen Reed** and **Angela Vesey** presented an overview of their recently completed research projects.

Helen Reed's recent longitudinal study has built on research commissioned by the Nottingham Central Education Improvement Partnership in 2009 – this focussed on the experiences of primary school pupils as they anticipated the transition to secondary school. Helen presented the findings from the second phase of her study - this explored the reality of the transition as the pupils moved into Year 7. **Helen's** presentation also addressed the implications for school practice arising from her research.

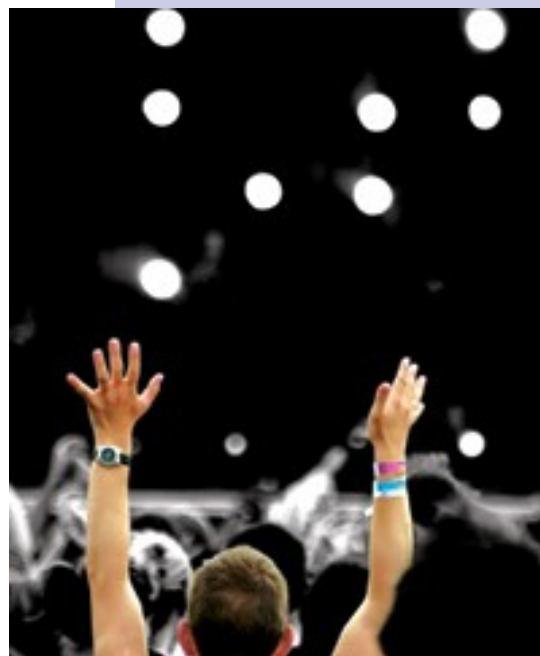
Angela Vesey's recently completed research explored the nature, extent, and impact of term-time working on undergraduates at NTU. Research confirmed that a significant proportion of NTU students sampled, were working during their undergraduate programme from anything between 5 to 40-plus hours a week. Participation in employment was higher than the national average for all UK undergraduates.

An understanding of psychological perspectives, particularly role theory, were particularly effective in facilitating deeper insights and understandings into the perceived impact of working on student well-being, and personal and career development. Key points emerging from the Seminar included: the coping ability of undergraduates in combining work with study; the career development and other learning gained as a result of working; and, some key issues which NTU would do well to address in relation to planning and organising the curriculum and support for learners.

Angela will be disseminating the findings to a wider audience at the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (AGCAS) Biennial Conference at the University of Nottingham in September 2011. With the inevitability of increasing numbers of students in HE working longer hours under the future funding structure, the findings from this research are particularly pertinent to the HE sector.

Angela's work has been shortlisted for the John Roberts Memorial Prize by the AGCAS Annual Awards for Excellence.

Anne Owen is currently undertaking a research project entitled 'An exploration of the perceptions of first year youth studies students in relation to their career decision-making'. This is a predominantly qualitative and interpretive piece of research. Methods include a class-based activity, focus groups and interviews. The results of **Anne's** research will be published in 2012.



Phil Mignot is engaged in the final phase of a ten-year longitudinal study which focuses on the career development of a group of Pakistani-Muslim young men. The results will be published in the Autumn of 2012.

GYS and the Division of Social Work, Health & Social Care, and Counselling were successful in their recent tender to provide analytical support to Nottinghamshire County Council to undertake an evaluation of substance misuse services for young people within the county. The evaluation project will be undertaken collaboratively with colleagues in Social Work and will be for 18 months in the first instance.

SEMINARS

Finally, GYS is working in partnership with the Institute for Employment Research (University of Warwick) and the University of Loughborough to present a series of seminars on professionalization in careers guidance. GYS will host the final seminar of the series in May 2012.

STAFF PhDs

Ricky Gee, Anne Owen, Vicky Palmer and **Helen Reed** were all successful in their proposals to undertake PhD studies. All are being part funded through the School's initiative to build research capacity through academic staff development across the School.

Politics & Sociology

The Division of Politics & Sociology is involved in a number of exciting projects taking place at NTU. Furthermore, a number of book editions have been reissued, as well as presentations of papers by staff across the division.

Matt Ashton and **Linda Gibson** have a Spur grant on the role of social media and health promotion. They are hoping that this initial research will be carried forward and extended.

Oli Harrison presented a paper at the Manchester Workshops in Political Theory (August 31-Sept 2, 2011): 'From self-valorization to dignity; reflections on the theory of revolutionary subjectivity in Negri and Holloway'.

Oli has had an article 'Revolutionary subjectivity in post-Marxist thought: the case of Laclau and Badiou' accepted in *Global Discourse* and this will also appear as a chapter in Johnson, M. ed. *The Legacy of Marxism: Contemporary Challenges, Conflicts, and Developments*. London and New York. Continuum to be published early in 2012. **Oli** is also writing two dictionary entries ('revolution' and 'the subject') for the *Encyclopaedia of Critical Psychology* which will be published by Springer (New York) in 2012.

Mike Keenan, together with Dr Andrew Yip (University of Nottingham) and Dr Sarah Page (Durham University) completed *The religion, youth and sexuality project* with a launch conference at Nottingham University in February 2011.

Some photos and a description are available here: <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/sociology/research/projects/rys/blog.aspx>. This project received coverage in the Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2011/mar/21/sexuality-religion-young-people-survey>

What this space for information regarding 2 forthcoming book chapters, a journal article and a book.

Joanna McKay recently completed a research project on women MPs in Germany and the UK and work-life balance issues. This resulted in the publication of 'Having it all? Women MPs and Motherhood in Germany and the UK', *Parliamentary Affairs* (2011). Jo's current research focuses on far right wing parties in Germany, their similarities and differences compared with their counterparts elsewhere in Europe, and also the attempts of some to appeal to female voters.



Mike O'Neill had *The struggle for the European constitution: a past and future history*, London: Routledge reissued in a revised paperback edition earlier this year. A book chapter on theories of the greening of contemporary politics will be published by MIT press in early 2012. Mike's chapter on green parties has just been accepted for publication in the major reference work *The Oxford Companion to World Politics* in 2012. Mike is currently working on a chapter on the values debate in the Atlantic community for a book edited by Politics colleagues at the State University of New York.

Professor Larry Wilde was co-coordinator (with former Politics colleague Ian Fraser now at Loughborough) of the Aesthetics and Politics panel at the Manchester Workshops in Political Theory, August 31 to September 2. There were eight paper givers, including contributors from Brazil and Japan. Larry's paper was on "Image and Gesture in Salles's *The Motorcycle Diaries*", applying insights from the social theory of Giorgio Agamben to the film about the young Che Guevara. Anyone who wants copies of the paper and the slides is welcome.

Larry's *The Marx Dictionary* co-authored with Ian Fraser will be published by Continuum in November. This is the first Marx dictionary since the end of the Cold War and is entirely free from Soviet Marxist glosses! Larry is currently working on *Global Solidarity*, commissioned by Edinburgh University Press.

Psychology



The division of Psychology houses 50+ research-active staff and continues to nurture a broad range of research activity. In 2011, great success was achieved in terms of high quality publications, grant income, research esteem and impact. Presented below are a selection of research highlights.

GRANTS

Dr. Catherine Preston had funding success from the Dunhill Medical Trust, with Catherine and her team awarded £23,594 from The Serendipity Award. The project will investigate a previous accidental finding that bodily illusions can substantially reduce the experience of pain from arthritis.

Dr. Rebecca Larkin and **Dr. Gareth Williams** successfully won a British Academy Small Research Grant of £7000 to explore spelling and written language skills of children with Specific Language Impairment (SLI). The study will compare children with SLI to typical children on their abilities to write narratives and stories as well as on their language abilities.

Professor Deb Hall was awarded a vacation studentship award of £1,600 from The Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID) to allow a second year Psychology student from NTU – Miss Kathryn Fackrell – to spend eight weeks with the tinnitus team at the National Biomedical Research Unit in Hearing. Kathryn will be working on a project to evaluate the quality of information about tinnitus assessment and referral criteria most commonly used by GPs and will provide invaluable experience for Kathryn and her research career.

Professor Deb Hall also led the successful bid for the renewed funding of the National Biomedical Research Unit in Hearing. Her secondment to this centre generates £70,000 to NTU. From this, **Professor Hall** also brought the *British Society of Audiology Conference* to NTU in September (7th-9th). The conference was built around the statement: We're all Ears : Multidisciplinary Research and Practice for Hearing and Balance.

Finally, **Dr Louise Brown**, one of the newest colleagues in Psychology, has just been awarded an ESRC grant of around £90,000 for a project on memory and ageing.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Gillian Smith and **Professor Mark Griffiths** have showcased their recent collaborative efforts on substance misuse at the NTU Buzz lunch 'A healthy slice of knowledge'. **Professor Brendan Gough** provided his collaborative research on various aspects of men's health. **Dr. Glenn Williams**, **Professor Jean Underwood**, and **Dr. Hugh Miller** also presented their work on healthy commuting and finally **Dr. Maria Karanika-Murray** presented research on interventions to promote health and well-being in the workplace.

Professor Mark Griffiths was recently invited by the Government's Department of Children, Schools and Families to write a policy-orientated research brief for the UK Council for Child Internet Safety's "Research Highlight" series. This has just been published with input from PhD student, **Daria Kuss**.

On St Patrick's day; 17th March 2011, **Dr. Gillian Smith** addressed a group of pub goers at a British Psychological Society Public Engagement 'Psychologists in the Pub event'. Gillian presented recent and ongoing work of Alcohol and drug use in the UK. Gillian discussed how conducting research in these and other locations provided a unique perspective on alcohol and drug consumption in the UK, and how psychology can be used to explore some of the reasons why we consume

Dr. Claire Bloxson has been invited by **Dr Tim Jennings**, Programme Director within the East Midlands Deanery, to provide a presentation and discussion session to GPs across the Loughborough area. The presentation will focus on patients who display anger and aggression, the psychological basis of these, and strategies for early identification. This is a collaborative presentation with a Leicestershire GP interested in consultation skills and the practical management of anger in primary healthcare settings.

EVENTS

Recent events in the division include an end-of-grant workshop based on **Dr. Maria Karanika-Murray's** ESRC-funded project on *Developing Healthy Work Environments* in June 2011. The Vice Chancellor, **Professor Neil Gorman**, opened the workshop, and **Dame Carol Black**, the National Director for Health and Work, provided the keynote address. Participants came from key stakeholder groups including business organisations, academia, and practitioners. The University welcomed external academics, practitioners, employer and policy makers to the event, which was well attended.

Dr James Houston hosted an event held in the Nottingham Conference Centre in June which saw four renowned guest speakers talk about their research on *Psychosis, Trauma and Cannabis use*: Professor Richard Bentall, Professor Mark Shevlin, Dr Ciaran Shannon and Dr Paul Morrison. Representatives from the University of Nottingham, the local NHS, as well as staff and students from NTU attended the event.

Professor Brendan Gough recently led a series of British Psychological Society-funded seminar days on *The Psychology of Men's Health*, with experts from the UK, Canada and Finland speaking at events in Sussex (June 2010), Nottingham Trent (Dec. 2010) and Glasgow Caledonian (April 2011).

A number of staff have given external talks across the globe. **Dr Gillian Smith** gave an invited lecture at The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Canada in June on: 'Conceptualisations of poly-drug use and the relationship with mental health', whilst **Dr Andrew Dunn** gave a paper at the 28th BPS Cognitive Section Annual Conference, Sept, 2011, Cardiff, on 'Evaluating own health status shifts – female body shape preferences in men and women'.

Professor Jean Underwood gave a keynote address to the 2011 CAL conference entitled 'Return to Sin City? Living and Learning with Digital Technology (University of Manchester) and **Dr Katherine Humphrey** gave a talk at the European Conference of Eye Movements in Marseilles on 21st-25th August 2011 on "Picture Search is in the Eye of the Beholder".

Professor Mark Griffiths has presented four keynote addresses in Belgium, Austria, Finland and UK in a four week period. These keynote talks included another invitation to speak in Brussels at the European Parliament on "Assessing problem gambling in Europe" to MEPs, policymakers, and the gaming industry. Mark was also invited to open the 8th Annual Responsible Gaming Academy in Vienna with a talk on "Online behavioural tracking in Internet gambling research".

ESTEEM

Psychology colleagues recently invited to guest edit special prestigious journals, include **Professor Deb Hall**, *Hearing Research*, **Professor Brendan Gough** *Health Psychology*, and **Professor Jean Underwood**, *E-Learning*.

So far this year a number of awards presented have been presented to staff for their influential research. **Professor Deb Hall** was awarded the Thomas Simm Little Prize for 2011 by the British Society of Audiology in recognition of her research on tinnitus and neuroimaging. **Dr Kim Bartholomew** was also awarded the University of Birmingham's *Ratcliffe Prize in Science* in March 2011 for her doctoral research on psychological issues in athletic contexts.

We wish to congratulate both Kim and Deb on their successful research and the deserved recognition for their work.

Over the past year psychology has had a number of recent PhD successes. In total, seven PhD students have completed their research degrees, with two other students passing subject to corrections. This demonstrates the successful ongoing research that continues to grow in the Division of Psychology.

Social Work, Health & Social Care Counseling

The recent research activity currently taking place in the division has seen much progressive and positive development. The ongoing research activity is highlighted below.

The Division is participating in the fourth Research Development Initiative (RDI) funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. Four divisional members are engaged in this programme; **Adam Barnard, Matthew Gough, Fiona Boyd, Helen Burrows** and will be giving papers at the final conference at Middlesex University in September. Papers will be selected for a special edition of *Social Work and Social Sciences Review* for publication in Summer 2012.

CHILD CARE RESEARCH

The Division has a Stimulating Innovation for Success (SIS) ingenuity funded project, lead by **Jo Ward**, in partnership with Faith in Families on the evaluation of the implementation of concurrent planning for looked After Children in the East Midlands. The project 'Can concurrent planning still contribute to early placement decisions for young children who are "Looked after"?' Based on developments in attachment theory, research has highlighted the negative effects of early adversity, repeated changes of placement once in care and delays in securing permanence, on young children. Jo is currently writing up the concurrent planning research for the *British Journal of Social Work*.

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENTS

Graham Whitehead is writing for *The Journal of Practice of Teaching & Learning*, his submission regards students who fail to meet assessment requirements & exit.

Bridget Hallam headed a poster presentation at the Health Buzz Lunch on the team's work in Health Promotion. A presentation from the local PCT was followed up with an email inviting the Health Promotion Team to have an input into the programme review process. This has resulted in a very productive meeting involving GYS and Health and Social Care teams to discuss options for further collaboration. Research activity in the area of health promotion links with the work **Lianne Kerlin** has been undertaking into an evaluation of the role of Health Trainer Champions in Health Promotion and the ongoing collaboration with Nott's County Council exploring substance misuse issues with young people.

Jane Challinor presented student feedback on the redesign of her Module Learning Rooms on NOW as part of a discussion on inclusive teaching.

Adam Barnard is currently working on a number of research outputs relating to 'the self' in social work (Barnard 2011a), and a review of social science professional doctorates (Barnard 2011b). Adam has presented conference papers at the International Sociological Association, in Amsterdam, July 2011, and the International Conference on Professional Doctorates in Edinburgh (April 2011). He is exploring professional learning in terms of space and through the model of critical dialogue.

Adam is leading the research project in collaboration with colleagues from GYS and the Business School to provide analytical support to Nottinghamshire County Council's Substance Misuse Services for Young People. He is also working with **Deborah Bardouille** on promoting Interprofessional Learning for social workers in primary care settings.



Professor Di Bailey has presented research papers at international conferences in Hong Kong and Barcelona. These relate to her work on improving health outcomes for offenders.

Di leads the Health Trainer Champion's evaluation project with **Lianne Kerlin** and final reports are available on the impact of the role in prison, probation and mental health settings.

Di also heads the Knowledge Transfer Partnership Project: *Improving Care for Women who Self Harm*, jointly sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council and Durham Primary Care Trust. This project is in its final implementation stage and will be complete in February 2012.

Matthew Gough has received funding from the Department of Health to evaluate the impact of the 2005 Mental Capacity Act (MCA) in older peoples' residential care homes in Leicestershire. **Lianne Kerlin** and **Matthew** have developed a mixed method approach, particularly focusing on the impact of MCA training. They found that several barriers existed to implementing the requirements of the MCA and that training was less focused around typical venue based training. The report is particularly pertinent in the light of the recent Winterbourne abuse scandal, whereby commentators have noted that much of the abuse of adults with learning disabilities could not have happened if the home had been complying with its Mental Capacity Act requirements.

Matthew Gough is currently working with **Graham Bowpitt** in investigating how social work education integrates sexuality and faith into its curriculum. **Matthew** is presenting findings from pilot study of NTU social work students at Bradford University in September. The pilot study investigated individual student attitudes towards both sexuality and faith and how their personal identities interact with the subject material. The findings from the research will be timely as nationally, social work education and its curriculum is being reviewed. **Matthew** is making this work the focus of a PhD at NTU and he intends to extend the research to other East Midlands HEIs.

Dates for the Diary

Guest Speakers & Events

Undergraduate Open Day

Saturday 15th October, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Newton Building

Distinguished Lecture Series: Kevin Cahill CBE

Wednesday 2nd November, 6:00 pm
Newton Building

School of Social Sciences Postgraduate and Professional Open evening

Thursday 10th November, 4:00 pm—6:30pm
Newton Building

Conferences & Seminars

Alternative Futures II February 22nd 2012 – Call for Papers

Following the success of the first Alternative Futures conference, we are planning to run another research conference that will provide an opportunity for staff and research students to present papers they may be considering for publication.

We are interested in staff submitting papers and/organising panels that will be aligned to current and future potential REF submissions.

If you would like to present a paper, or organise a panel, at this conference then please submit a 500 word abstract via email to either James Hunter or Larry Wilde by Friday October 28th 2011.

The British Sociological Annual Conference 2012

For anyone wanting to submit a paper for The British Sociological Association, the closing date for submissions is Friday 7th October 2011.

Dr. Andrew Wilson will be presenting his paper 'Subcultural style, image, and action: finding the right fit' at London Metropolitan University from **15-16 September 2011**.

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Recent Events

The New Computational Modelling and Data Analysis Laboratory (CMDA).

At the start of the summer, using REF funds, Dan Wilson and Mark Andrews set up a new research lab in the Psychology division, known as the "Computational Modelling and Data Analysis Laboratory (CMDA). Mark Andrews explains more.....

"The purpose of the lab is to be a general resource for anyone in the Psychology division who is doing computational, mathematical and statistical modelling.

The lab itself is in room 435 of the Chaucer building and consists essentially of a high performance linux cluster and walls covered in whiteboards. The linux cluster runs numerical programs written in languages like C, Fortran, R and python, but also has extensive amounts of software for data visualization and graphical modelling. The whiteboards are for writing equations and diagrams, which is a surprisingly vital and often overlooked part of any computational modelling project.

One of the things Dan and I are most proud of, is that we have been extremely economical in the development of this lab. Dan and I built all the computers ourselves, buying inexpensive but high quality individual components like CPUs, RAM sticks and motherboards and then assembling them into working computers.

We also set up a server-terminal system, whereby some computers are computational work-horses and others do simpler jobs like relaying information to and from the monitors and keyboards at which people work.

The simple computers, which are referred to as thin clients, could be really inexpensive machines and in fact some of them were made from old computers that were being discarded by the Division.

Finally, on all the computers we are only running non-commercial open-source software, which is distributed for free. The suite of software they are running is enormous (literally tens of thousands of programs and packages) but cost nothing to purchase.

Currently, Dan and I are developing a dynamic website (www.cmdalab.net) to accompany the lab. This website will archive data and programs on which they are jointly working, and also provide a repository for the sharing of technical advice related to the computational models and programs that we are running.

Although the lab has just begun, it has become a hive of activity already. We hope this will continue and that the lab will act as a resource hub for diverse research projects throughout the division of Psychology."



Recent Publications

- Bailey, D.** & Liyanage, L. (2011) The Role of the Mental Health Social Worker: Political Pawns in the Reconfiguration of Adult Health and Social Care. *British Journal of Social Work* Vol and pages to be confirmed.
- Bailey, D.** & Cooke, K. (2011) The Experience of Women in Secure Mental Health Settings. Submitted to *Journal of Mental Health Education and Training Practice* vol 6 (4) pages to be confirmed
- Barnard, A.** (2011a) The Self in Social Work. *Journal of Work-Based Learning*.
- Barnard, A.** (2011b) Professional Doctorates in Social Science. *Journal of work-Based Learning*.
- Bartholomew, K. J.,** Ntoumanis, N., Ryan, R. M., Bosch, J. A., & Thøgersen-Ntoumani, C. (2011). *Self-determination theory and diminished functioning: The role of interpersonal control and psychological need thwarting*. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*. DOI: 10.1177/0146167211413125
- Bowpitt, G.,** Dwyer, P., Sundin, E. & Weinstein, M. (2011) 'Comparing men's and women's experiences of multiple exclusion', *Social Policy & Society*, 10, 4, 537-546
- Castro, A.** & Pearson, R. (2011). *Lateralisation of language and emotion in schizotypal personality: Evidence from dichotic listening*. *Personality and Individual Differences*.
- Griffiths, M.D.** & Kuss, D.J. (2011). Children's online gaming: A brief review of the empirical literature. *UK Council For Child Internet Safety (Research Highlight No.12)*. London: UKCCIS.
- Hopkins-Burke, R.** *Criminal Justice Theory: An Introduction*. Routledge, October 2011
- Houston, J.E.,** Murphy J, Shevlin M, Adamson G. Cannabis use and psychosis: Re-visiting the role of childhood trauma (2011) *Psychological Medicine*, 18, 1-10
- Howard, C. J.,** Masom, D. & Holcombe, A. O. (in press). Position perception in multiple object tracking. *Vision Research*.
- Trigg, R.,** Watts, S., Jones, R., & Tod, A. (2011). Predictors of subjective quality of life in dementia: The role of insight. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 26(1), 83-91.
- Tseloni, A.,** Tilley, N. & Farrell, G. (2011) 'Income disparities of burglary risk and security availability during the crime drop', *British Journal of Criminology*, 51, 2, 296-313
- Tseloni, A.,** Tilley, N. & Farrell, G. & Mailley, J. (2011) 'The crime drop and the security hypothesis', *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 48, 2
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Research grants, Bursaries & Awards

Professor Deb Hall

Psychology

**National Biomedical
Research Unit in hearing**

£70,000

**Dr. Rebecca Larkin &
Dr. Gareth
Williams**

Psychology

The British Academy

£7,000

Dr. Louise Brown

Psychology

ESRC Grant

£23,594

Dr. Andrew Wilson

Criminology

The British Academy

£1,000

Professor Deb Hall

Awarded the Thomas Simm Little Prize for 2011

By the British Society of Audiology

For recognition of her research on tinnitus and neuroimaging.

Dr Kim Bartholomew

Awarded the University of Birmingham's Ratcliffe Prize in Science

For her doctoral research on psychological issues in athletic contexts.

Research Assistants

Rebecca Lievesley BSc (Hons) MSc



Rebecca first graduated from NTU in 2009 with a 1st Class Honours Degree in Psychology. It was this degree and the third year modular options that introduced her to a broad range of areas within psychology such as 'Psychopathology and Offending' and 'Criminological Psychology' sparking her interest in the forensic aspect of psychology. This led her to apply and gain a place on the MSc in Forensic Psychology at NTU from which she graduated last year.

Since finishing University Rebecca has worked as a Research Assistant at NTU, with a view to gaining experience and developing her own expertise, whilst working towards a career that will balance clinical practice, academic research and lecturing. Rebecca's role as a Research Assistant currently involves co-ordinating numerous research projects at both HMP Whatton and HMP Nottingham.

The ongoing research at HMP Whatton is primarily concerned with reducing sexual preoccupation in convicted sexual offenders. It is felt that for individuals who are deemed particularly high risk and experience high levels of deviant sexual compulsivity, psychological treatment alone is not appropriate and so pharmacological interventions may be a way forward. HMP Whatton has recently started prescribing anti-libidinal medication for this purpose and so Rebecca's current research aims to investigate and evaluate the effectiveness of this medication.

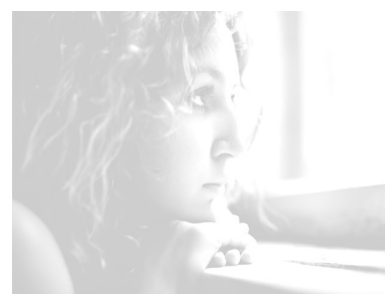
At HMP Nottingham, Rebecca's work is more focussed on exploring the resettlement of short sentenced (less than 12 months) offenders. This involves collaborating with external agencies who work with offenders both inside the prison and after release in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the services they offer. Rebecca is also working towards a PhD on desistance and reoffending in short sentenced offenders with the support of HMP Nottingham. This will explore individual accounts of what leads people to reoffend, gain insight into what the offenders themselves believe they need to prevent them from reoffending in the future and explore what actually helps people change their lives and stop offending from those who have achieved it.

Future research areas that Rebecca wishes to pursue include denial in sexual offenders. She also hopes to have the opportunity to gain more clinical practice within forensic settings such as prisons and secure hospitals at some point in the future.

If you would like to contact Rebecca regarding her research or any other areas of interest, please feel free to at rebecca.lievesley@ntu.ac.uk

A Service Users Perspective

Claire has been involved in the Participatory Action Research (PAR) project to improve care delivery to women offenders who self-injure in custody. The project, led by Di Bailey has involved staff and women prisoners in addressing the negative attitudes and practice that surrounds self-harm. This is the first time PAR has been conducted in a women's prison and Claire has been involved in co-delivering staff awareness sessions with the Research Associate. Below, Claire provides an account of her experiences being involved in the project.



“My name is Claire

and I am 29 years of age. Before coming to prison I was committing crime on a daily basis in order to fuel my drug addiction to heroin and crack cocaine. I was arrested for Robbery in 2005 and received an indeterminate sentence for public protection (IPP) with a tariff of at least 2 ½ years to serve until I could be considered for parole. To date I have served 5 years 3 months and am currently awaiting a move to an open prison.

I didn't know anything about the 'At Arm's Length' project until I found out that my name had been put forward as someone who had the ability to deliver PowerPoint presentations. Once I was introduced to James, the research associate, I had a look over the material and decided that it was something I would like to be involved with. I did have reservations about my ability to deliver presentations to staff, not because I didn't think I was capable, I just doubted myself being able to put aside the irrational assumptions I was thinking in regards to staff's opinion of me. But I decided to stick it out regardless.

I felt that, as a prisoner, I had somewhat of a responsibility towards the girls who had worked with James to make the project successful as they had put so much work in to it, in a way I felt like I was representing them.

There were times when I didn't want to turn up but I did and I am glad that I was determined as I have gained so much confidence from it. My self-esteem and confidence have grown since getting involved with the 'Arm's Length' and I have greater understanding of self-harm. The most important thing for me though is that I feel like the presentations are making a difference.

I think that the awareness sessions have made a big difference and have given the staff a better understanding of self-harm in general. I believe the officers now feel that what they are doing is right which makes them more confident in dealing with and helping self-harmers. Most importantly I believe it has gone a long way in addressing the prisoner-officer divide and as a prisoner it has been overwhelming the support and the positivity shown towards me. I don't think that there is a prison in this country that wouldn't benefit

from the same kind of awareness programmes. ”

In Profile:

Professor Mark Griffiths

Mark, you are renowned in the School of Social Sciences for having one of the most prestigious careers in research. What do you think it takes to be a successful researcher?

Having a successful career in research involves many different skills. Underlying everything that I do is the passion to disseminate my work to as wide an audience as possible. I am as proud of my dissemination awards and prizes as I am for ones that were given for my research. I can't speak for other researchers but my own research success has been based on a variety of skills that go beyond generic ones like generating interesting research questions, strategic planning, project management, prioritisation, and time management. I have total belief in my abilities to carry out and complete projects and to second guess what the key areas of research interest in my area are going to be. I think the one skill that all successful researchers have to develop is the ability to overcome criticism and rejection in the peer review process. Whether it's your latest grant application being turned down or your latest paper being harshly criticised by journal referees, it's the ability to deal with rejection that separates successful researchers from the not-so-successful. To quote Chumbawumba "I get knocked down but I get up again".

What is the one piece of research that you are most proud of and why?

I'm far more proud of my cumulative impact in my field than any single study. I think the best evidence of this was when the *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction* devoted a whole issue in tribute to my work on behavioural addictions. I have often been the first person in my area to have something published in a particular area. For instance, I coined the term 'technological addictions' back in 1995 and now there are now hundreds of people worldwide working in the area. I was also the first person to have an academic paper published on Internet gambling back in 1996. My motto has always been 'don't jump on the bandwagon, create it'. Arguably my single most influential study is a paper I published in the *British Journal of Psychology* in 1994. This was on cognitive bias and skill in slot machine gambling and is now one of the 15 compulsory studies that all A Level psychology students have to know about alongside the works of Freud, Skinner and Bandura.

What aspects of conducting research do you find the most interesting?

Nowadays I am more involved in the inception, supervision and completion of research projects than the collection and analysis of the data. I love developing ideas for research projects, seeing them come to fruition, and disseminating the findings. I'm also lucky that I like writing so that really helps speed up things once the data have been analysed!

Are there any aspects of carrying out research that you find frustrating?

Most of my frustrations concern research infrastructure and how slow everything can be. I get frustrated waiting for ethics forms to be reviewed or for journal papers to be reviewed. I just want to get on doing the research and disseminating it rather than waiting for other people.



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To quote
Chumbawumba
"I get knocked down
but I get up again".
.....

If you could collaborate with any other researcher worldwide, who would it be, why and what would you wish to research into?

In all honesty it's never crossed my mind as to who I would like to collaborate with. Most of my collaborative work happens opportunistically. I'm far more interested in big ideas than big names.

Can you tell us about any research that you are currently working on?

At any one time I have about ten projects that I am actively involved in. Most of my current research projects involve the examination of the psychosocial impacts of gambling, video gaming and/or online addictions. For the past six years I have been a member of the research team that carries out the national British gambling prevalence surveys. These data generate many journal papers and we are currently doing lots of secondary analysis on the latest data set. The most interesting project I am leading on at the moment is the analysis of behavioural tracking data from 160,000 Internet gamblers provided by an online gaming company. I think that project alone will keep me busy for years!

Many thanks to Professor Mark Griffiths for taking the time to be interviewed.

Next Issue:

January 2012

We have tried to reflect the exciting range of research going on in the School. If we have not included your work this time please tell us about it for the next edition.

We will welcome in the New Year by Reflecting further on the Research Achievements of 2011 ...

.... AND Look Forward to the Exciting Prospects of New Research at NTU!



Please provide your feedback or any contributions that you may have on the

Research Newsletter to claire.demotte@ntu.ac.uk