Foreword by the Head of Department

This latest edition of our Newsletter comes to you, as ever, from the Clore Management Centre, the home of Management at Birkbeck. I’m delighted to share news of the impactful contributions of Departmental colleagues on a range of fronts. The widely praised hosting of the high profile Academy of International Business, UK and Ireland Chapter Conference in April is a standout achievement for the period, but there are also other notable accomplishments, including international visits, keynote presentations/invitations, research grants, new external appointments, research publications, and recent PhD graduation. Next up in the Department’s major event calendar is the Summer 2016 hosting of the Uddevalla Symposium on Entrepreneurship. We look forward to another successful outing and to disseminating selected highlights in a future Newsletter.

Thanks for your continuing contributions and best wishes.

Kevin

Spring 2016 International Business Conference

International Activities
Awards and Research Grants
Research Voices
Media Coverage
New Appointments
Latest Publications
Conference Presentations
Research Centres Activities
PHD News
MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT PULLS OFF A STUNNINGLY SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The Department of Management, April 7-9, 2016, hosted international business scholars, practitioners and policy makers from over 30 countries to an outstandingly successful 43rd Academy of International Business UK & Ireland Chapter annual Conference. The event, on the theme of International Business in a multi-speed global economy, provided a platform for scholarly debate and discussion on the role of international businesses and policy makers in re-invigorating the faltering post-crisis multi-speed global economy.

The Conference, held mainly in the magnificent facilities of the iconic Senate House, featured a series of keynote presentations, special panel sessions, including Meet-the-Editors panel, parallel sessions, doctoral colloquia, and a gala dinner and awards ceremony. Professor Pankaj Ghemawat of New York University and IESE and Robert Whyte of the World Bank Group headlined the Conference’s Opening Plenary, while Professor Julian Birkinshaw of the London Business School delivered a keynote at the inaugural Founders’ Plenary. The Special Panels also featured acclaimed Professors and policy and industry speakers, notably from the European Commission, Commonwealth Commission, House of Lords, and Banco Santander.

Delegates generously praised and lauded the Conference Organising Team of Kevin Ibeh (Chair), Odile Janne, Ximing Liu and Paz Estrella Tolentino for their painstaking, leave-no-stone-untumed efforts and deft innovations, which
lifted the annual Conference to a new height. They also appreciated Rachel Dowle and Dominic Funston for their excellent support, and the PhD Help Team of Wenhui Huang, Guilherme Macedo, Lida Metallinou, Yuanyuan Liu, Xiaojing Lu and Na Yang for going about their business effectively and cheerfully.

Particularly commended aspects of the Conference include the first-ever Founders’ plenary (in honour of the AIB-UKI founding/early members and past chairs), the keynote speakers, the special panels, the academic quality of the work presented, the magnificent venues, the record attendance figures, and the many new faces, including doctoral researchers. The entertainment and catering programmes, including the stunningly beautiful Saturday lunch, also attracted effusive compliments.

As Professor Heinz Tüsleman, Chair of AIB UK & Ireland Chapter, aptly observed, “this year’s Birkbeck Conference clearly raised the bar”.

The Organising Team heartily thanks all participants for their contributions to the success of the event. See additional pictures below and at http://www.bbk.ac.uk/management/about-us/events/aibuki2016
INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Dr Luca Andriani spent the period 27-29 April as a visiting academic via the Erasmus Fellowship scheme at the Athens University of Economics and Business, Athens, Greece.

In March 2016, Dr Olivier Sibai gave an invited seminar to the Coactis Marketing Research Centre at University Lyon 2, France. The seminar focused on ‘the consumption of conflict on social media’. In his presentation, Olivier developed a typology of social media conflict based on the value they create for consumers.

In March 2016, Dr Richard Tacon made an international trip to Seoul and Shanghai on behalf of Birkbeck, University of London. Richard was accompanied by Lauren Prone, Head of the International Office at Birkbeck.

On 31 March, he delivered a lecture at the British Council in Seoul as part of their ‘UK Sports Relay’, and visited a number of educational agencies to meet with Birkbeck offer-holders and potential Birkbeck applicants. He also participated in an event for alumni and offer-holders.

In Shanghai, Dr Tacon visited the Shanghai University of Sport to discuss the development of a potential institutional partnership. He also met with offer-holders and potential applicants.

**Prof. Kevin Ibeh** was recently invited as a Speaker to the International Conference on Emerging Market Multinationals being organised by the NYU-Stern Centre for Globalization of Education and Management on 30 Sept, 2016. The Conference seeks to provide a forum for the leading scholars in this field to reflect on current understanding of the challenges and opportunities encountered by multinationals from emerging markets in their global expansion. Professor Ibeh’s contribution will focus on his pioneering research on Africa’s emerging multinationals. **Prof. Ibeh** also recently received two other keynote speaker invitations, specifically to the 3rd Academy of International Business, sub-Sahara African Chapter Conference holding organised at the Lagos Business School, Pan Atlantic University, Lagos, Nigeria, 17-19 August, 2016; and the Global Entrepreneurship Development Conference being organised by the Kingston Business School, London 5-7 Oct, 2016.

**AWARDS AND RESEARCH GRANTS**

**Dr Luca Andriani** (with Andrea Filippetti from the National Research Council, Italy) has been awarded a Small Research Grant (£2,000) by Birkbeck’s Business, Economics and Informatics School to support a research project entitled ‘Space and Civic Engagement: A Spatial Analysis on Individual Level Data’.

**Dr Sue Konzelmann** has been awarded a research grant (October 2015-May 2016, £5,000) by the Cambridge Political Economy Society Trust for a video project entitled *Oral History of the Cambridge Journal of Economics*. **Dr Konzelmann** is the organiser and narrator of the video project, the first stage of which will be screened in July 2016 at the Cambridge Journal of Economics’ 40th Anniversary Conference. The video will later be permanently posted to the Cambridge Political Economy Society website ([http://www.cpes.org.uk/](http://www.cpes.org.uk/)). This will be the first of a series of short films in support of the Society’s mission to advance the education of the public in political economy and related matters, to promote research in matters
pertaining to political economy and to publish the useful results of such research.

**Dr Sue Konzelmann** has received a research grant (March 2015 - August 2016, £16,266), together with Professors S. Deakin and F. Wilkinson, by the *Cambridge Political Economy Society Trust* for a project entitled ‘Labour, Finance and Inequality: The Changing Nature of Economic Policy in Britain’.

**RESEARCH VOICES**

**Social Capital Embeddedness**

[Image of Dr Richard Tacon]

**Dr Richard Tacon’s** latest article examines the embeddedness of social capital. Social capital is a popular, but contested concept. It draws attention to the way in which social relations and constructed forms of social organization can produce outcomes on individual and collective levels. However, it is often founded on individualistic, rational-choice models of human behavior that neglect its embeddedness. Dr Tacon explores the embeddedness of social capital through a comparative case study of two voluntary sport organizations in the UK. Through close analysis of in-depth interviews and longitudinal observation, he looks at the processes of social capital development and the way socio-organizational context and identity shape these processes.
MEDIA COVERAGE

Upbeat and in the margins: the British Trotskyist left and their exceptionally poor election results.

Prof. John Kelly wrote a blog on British politics discussing the latest election results. Prof. Kelly notices that only eight out of forty-one Trotskyist candidates secured more than one per cent of the vote in the 2010 general election. But how do parties cope with, and explain, such results? He argues that Trotskyist organisations saw the vote share as not reflecting the actual level of support for their policies. Many would also highlight positive features of the campaign, such as new party recruits, while others thought the result was due to tactical voting, and hence actually not that bad.

The article was published on the London School of Economics blog series and can be read here: [http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/trotskyist-election-results/](http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/politicsandpolicy/trotskyist-election-results/)

NEW APPOINTMENTS

The Athens Institute for Education and Research (Athens, Greece) has appointed Dr Luca Andriani as Academic Member of the Sociology Research Unit and of the Political Science and International Affairs Research Unit. As academic member Dr Luca Andriani is invited to participate and to contribute to the research activities of the Institute by disseminating his works and by organising panels in the conferences organised by the Institute.
**Prof. Kevin Ibeh** has been appointed Guest Editor for the International Small Business Journal Special Issue on International New Ventures and their Post-Entry International Performance (with Professor Marian Jones and Professor Olli Kuivalainen). He was also recently appointed Guest Editor for the Thunderbird International Business Review Special Issue on Internationalization of African Firms: Nature, Drivers, Outcomes and Boundary Conditions (with Dr Nathaniel Boso, Dr Ifedapo Adeleye and Professor Amon Chizema).

**Dr Sue Konzelmann** has been appointed External Examiner by Queens University, Belfast, for the following programmes: MA in Human Resource Management (HRM); MSc in HRM; Executive MBA and International MBA.

In March 2016, **Prof. Helen Lawton Smith** was appointed External examiner for a PhD thesis at Sussex University. She was also appointed External Reviewer for The Knowledge Foundation in Sweden.

**LATEST PUBLICATIONS**

**Journal Articles**


**Konzelmann, S.** and Wilkinson, F. (2016) ‘Co-operation and Industrial Organization’, Introduction to the Virtual Special Issue on Industrial Districts of
the Cambridge Journal of Economics. This issue is the first in the CJE’s series of Virtual Special Issues; and it celebrates the CJE’s 40th Anniversary Year.


**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**


RESEARCH CENTRE ACTIVITIES

CENTRE FOR INNOVATION MANAGEMENT RESEARCH (CIMR)

Alumni page
The Centre for Innovation Management Research (CIMR) has recently launched an alumni page, which showcases former students (UG, PG, PhD) of innovation and entrepreneurship modules and programmes who are contributing to the work of the CIMR.
CIMR new Working Papers

WP28: Does training help in times of crisis? Training in employment in Northern and Southern Italy by Andrea Filippetti, Frederick Guy, and Simona Iammarino

WP29: Train the worst or train the best? The determinants of employer-sponsored training in five European countries by Francesca Sgobbi

WP30: Academic Inventors: Collaboration and Proximity with Industry, by Riccardo Crescenzi, Andrea Filippetti, and Simona Iammarino

WP 31: The Retreat of Public Research and its Adverse Consequences on Innovation, by Daniele Archibugi and Andrea Filippetti

Gender and Entrepreneurship in the Biotech Sector

The TRIGGER team, on 10 March, 2016, hosted a networking event on Gender and entrepreneurship in the biotech sector. Miranda Weston-Smith, founder of BioBeat talked on ‘Growing Your Ecosystem’. The blog can be found here: http://blogs.bbk.ac.uk/events/2016/03/14/growing-your-ecosystem/

On April 14, 2016, Birkbeck hosted the TRIGGER mid-term workshop. This was an international event which showcased to the outside world the work of the five TRIGGER partners – from the UK, Italy, France, Spain. The workshop was organized by the Italian Department of Equal Opportunities. More info can be found here: http://triggerproject.eu/
What can aspiring female professors/managers learn from those who have got there?

The TRIGGER team (in collaboration with Athena SWAN) is holding a Networking & Panel Event to inspire aspiring professors and managers through hearing about the experiences of professors and directors. The panel's speakers will reflect on what inspired them to become a professor/director and what their aspirations now are as a professor/director. Topics discussed by the panellists will include career progression, aspirations & current and future career purpose.

The event is taking place on June 28th, at 30 Russell Square, Room 102, 2:30pm - 5.00pm. Please click here for more info: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/trigger/news/networking-panel-event-28th-june-2016

PHD NEWS

Dr Nick Hajli was awarded the School of Business, Economics and Informatics' (BEI) prize for the 'Best PhD Thesis by an international student' at a School reception event following the 18 April, 2016 graduation ceremony. The event took place from 1:30 - 2:30pm in the Chancellor's Hall of the Senate House. The BEI Executive Dean, Professor Philip Powell, presented a certificate and £200 prize. Nick, supervised by Dr. Julian Sims and Prof. John Kelly, is currently Lecturer in Marketing and Entrepreneurship at Newcastle University.

Mr Maxim Wolf, one of Dr Julian Sims’ PhD students, was invited to sit on a panel to discuss ‘21 years of Information Systems research’, representing a ‘young’ researcher’s view of Information Systems research at the 2016 UK Academy for Information Systems conference. The conference took place in Oxford, 11-13 April.