



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

ONLINE
EVENT



KNOWLEDGE BEYOND BOUNDARIES:

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Thursday 17 June 2021

lse.ac.uk/student-futures

CONTENTS

03

Welcome from conference organisers

04

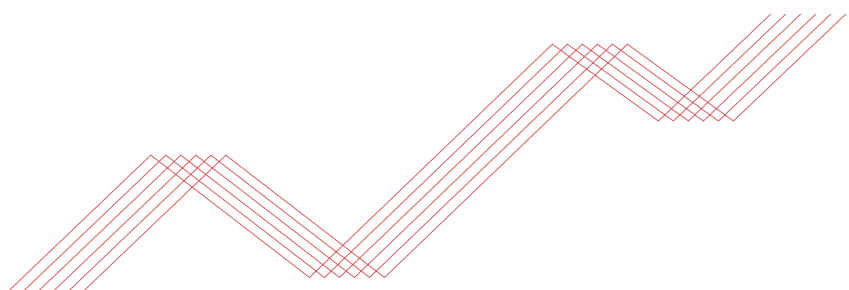
Conference programme

05

Panel details

12

Participant biographies



Organisers' welcome

Dear students, colleagues, alumni and friends of LSE,

On behalf of the LSE Student Futures team, we are delighted to welcome you to Knowledge Beyond Boundaries, LSE's inaugural interdisciplinary student research conference. This conference was designed as an open, welcoming and inclusive space for students and recent alumni of LSE to engage in interdisciplinary dialogue, debate the big questions of social science, and collaborate with others from outside their own discipline. As part of LSE's Student Futures initiative, the conference is an opportunity for participants to empower their academic, personal, and professional growth while showcasing their research for the wider School community.

In organising today's panel sessions and keynotes, our aim was to bring a diverse set of voices into conversation about some of the most pressing challenges of our time, and to provide a space for students and recent alumni to deepen their knowledge, question previously held assumptions, and learn from each other. We were excited to receive nearly 50 proposals to present at the conference, including papers, posters, and creative show-and-tell projects all the way from first-year undergraduate student research to collaborative research teams and work from recently graduated LSE alumni. Today's panels focus on a cross-cutting set of themes, ranging from the post-pandemic economy to building a sustainable future – all with the goal of interdisciplinary conversation about how we shape the world.

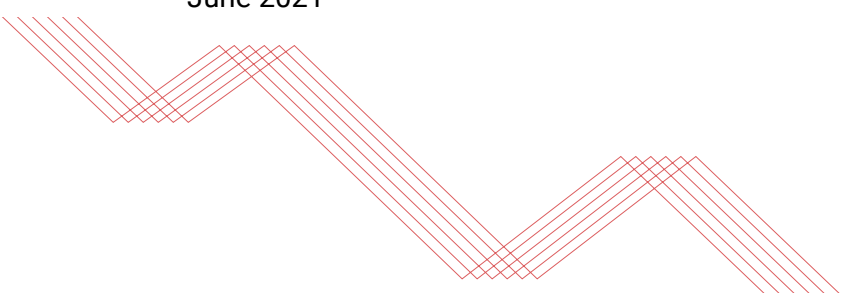
As interdisciplinary educators and academics, we are enthusiastic proponents of stepping beyond the boundaries of your degree programme while at LSE – the skills you need to tackle complex problems can't all be found within the confines of a single discipline. Whether it's learning how competing definitions shape a challenge, understanding why methodological choices matter, or interrogating the borders of disciplines themselves, we hope this conference sparks your curiosity and broadens your understandings of what student-led social science research looks like.

We are grateful to everyone whose work and support has made today's conference possible, including the generous donor support for LSE Student Futures, our keynote panellists, Dr Claire Gordon and the Eden Centre team, Clara Rawlings and the Communications Division, the PhD students acting as research mentors and conference discussants, and the 2021 Student Futures student ambassadors.

Enjoy today's conference and interdisciplinary conversation - we hope to see you again next year!

Best wishes,

Dr Jillian Terry and Dr Chris Blunt
Conference organisers
June 2021



Conference programme Thursday 17 June 2021 (all times BST)

ONLINE
EVENT

Zoom links will be provided to registered attendees

10.05-10.35am	Welcome and opening keynote panel Professor Julia Black <i>Strategic Director of Innovation, LSE</i> Professor Susana Mourato <i>Department of Geography and Environment, LSE</i> Chair: Dr Chris Blunt <i>Assistant Professorial Lecturer and Deputy Director of LSE100, LSE</i>
10.35-10.45am	Break
10.45-12pm	Parallel panel sessions (I)
12-12.15pm	Break
12.15-1.15pm	Parallel panel sessions (II)
1.15-1.30pm	Break
1.30-2.45pm	Parallel panel sessions (III) <i>Meet the editors: student publishing panel</i>
2.45-3pm	Break
3-3.45pm	Afternoon keynote panel Professor Dilly Fung <i>Pro-Director Education, LSE</i> Professor Carl Gombrich <i>Academic Lead and Head of Learning, London Interdisciplinary School</i> Dr Jessica Templeton <i>Associate Professorial Lecturer and Director of LSE100, LSE</i> Chair: Dr Jillian Terry <i>Assistant Professorial Lecturer and Deputy Director of LSE100, LSE</i>
3.45-4pm	Break
4-5.15pm	Parallel panel sessions (IV)
5.15-6pm	Closing reception and poster gallery (Gather.town)

10-10.35am

Welcome and opening keynote panel**Welcome: introductions, logistics and schedule****Dr Jillian Terry and Dr Chris Blunt***Conference organisers***Opening keynote panel**

In this opening session, LSE Professors Susana Mourato and Julia Black will welcome conference attendees and share reflections on student-led research and interdisciplinarity in the social sciences.

Professor Julia Black*Strategic Director of Innovation, LSE***Professor Susana Mourato***Department of Geography and Environment, LSE***Chair: Dr Chris Blunt***Assistant Professorial Lecturer and Deputy Director of LSE100, LSE*

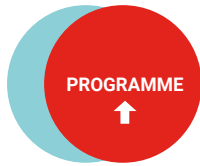
Professor Julia Black is Strategic Director of Innovation at LSE. She was Pro-Director Research from 2014-19 and interim Director of LSE from 2016-17. She is currently leading on the implementation of the LSE's 2030 Strategy, on LSE's entrepreneurship and commercialisation activities, and remains a Professor in the Department of Law. Julia was recently appointed as the 31st President of the British Academy, a role she will take up in July 2021.

Professor Susana Mourato is Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Geography and Environment at LSE, Academic Director of LSE Summer School, and Associate of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment. Susana was recently appointed as the incoming Pro-Director Research at LSE, a role she will take up in September 2021.



10.45-12pm

Parallel panel sessions (I)



Vulnerability and precarity in the COVID-19 pandemic

In Search of Lost Rights:

Finnis' Natural Law Theory vs Legal Positivism in the Age of COVID-19

Callum Costello

Covid And The City: Intra-Hospital Transmission of Covid-19

Eddy Zou, Brooklyn Han, Stefanus Phan, and Callum Renton

Precarious Work in a Precarious World:

Casualised Work in a Primary School During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Kaia Sollie

Revolutionary futures: perspectives on data, science and technology

Does data-driven science lead to a scientific revolution?

Emma Cavazzoni

Bereavement Online: Loss, Technology and Connection for Young Grievors

Arden Farrow

Encoding mechanisms for generating social data to drive business value

Gitanjali Kler

The Human Cost of Technological Development: A Working Paper on Sustainable Governance, Science, and Society

Sydney Stewart, Georgina Morris, Hannah Dawson, Esther Matey, and Jae Park

Data Ownership and Transparency in the European Gig Economy:

Workers' role in platform regulation

Lucas Stiglich and Gwendolin Barnard

Interrogating intersections: gender and sexuality in global context

Letting God Out of the Closet and Into the Gay Bar

Benny Cardullo

Reproductive health resources and services for unmarried women in urban Vietnam: a cultural analysis

Ha Chau Ngo

Is fraud the worst crime? Neoliberal warfare at the cost of the racialised and gendered citizen: an intersectional policy analysis

Rosa Soeterbroek

A Qualitative Study on the Politics of Abortion Legislation in Thailand

Nick Williamson

12.15-1.15pm

Parallel panel sessions (II)

**Lockdown economy: measuring the impact of COVID-19****Economic measurement issues due to COVID-19: importance, challenges and opportunities***Gabrielle Lee, Celine Mano, and Xinyue Cheng***The Impact of COVID-19 on Social Enterprises based in the United Kingdom***Donna Maher***Political perceptions: analysing discourse in an era of social change****Change Makers or Echo Chambers: The Relationship between Outrage Culture, Social Media and Constitutional Change***Brian Cheung and Michaela Chen***'Othering Extinction Rebellion': Media frames as structural barriers to social movement support***Adrian Baeck***"Fake News" and Government Regulation in Argentina: A New Panopticon?***Ernesto Edwards***Re-evaluating the socio-political context of India's 20th century foreign policy on Tibet: A modified political history approach***Aarti Malhotra***Care and community: investigating health and wellbeing****An economic case for increasing spending on young people's mental health***Melissa Bui***Barriers towards opioid availability in LMICs***Zoe Friedmann***Life@2m (Life at 2 Meters)***Aarthi Ratnam*

1.30-2.45pm

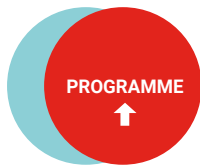
Meet the editors: student publishing panel

In this session, conference attendees will have the chance to meet some of LSE's student journal editors and take part in a roundtable discussion on student publishing and showcasing student-led research at the School.

Come along to learn more about academic publishing and ask the editors about how to share your work with a wider scholarly community.

1.30-2.45pm

Parallel panel sessions (III)

**Women in the global economy**

Insurgency despite vulnerability? Analysing women street traders' experiences to define Post-Apartheid citizenship in South Africa

Jeanne Carric

The power of women's economic solidarity networks in crisis: the case of CASEM in Monteverde, Costa Rica

Katherine Fulshaw

Life at the margins: social science perspectives on inequality and access

The Relationship Between Social Class and Prosocial Behavior in the United States, and the Role of Economic Inequality in this Relationship

Catherine Lott

Studying the effects of policies on the underperformance of certain ethnic groups

Wee Jern Wong

#EsLey: Lessons on the Legalisation of Abortion in Argentina

Melisa T. Slep

The new trajectory of social policy in Greece: An ambulance service or a sustainable pathway to social policy improvement at the local level?

Kyriillos Spyridopoulos

Business and entrepreneurship in the age of COVID-19

A digital revival for the high streets: Empowering the ordinary entrepreneur

Arushi Malhotra

Gentrification in the 'New Midwest': Local economic development policy, marketing rhetoric, and resident resistance in Kansas City, Missouri

Erin Lea Melton

Parental roles in next-generation members' commitment to their family's firm

Tyler Gieseke

3-3.45pm

Afternoon keynote panel



This keynote panel brings together academic experts in interdisciplinary education for discussions about the value and opportunities of interdisciplinarity, the challenges of learning beyond disciplinary boundaries, and the future of higher education.

Professor Dilly Fung

Pro-Director for Education, LSE

Professor Carl Gombrich

Academic Lead and Director of Teaching & Learning, London Interdisciplinary School

Dr Jessica Templeton

Associate Professorial Lecturer and Director of LSE100, LSE

Chair: Dr Jillian Terry

Assistant Professorial Lecturer and Deputy Director of LSE100, LSE

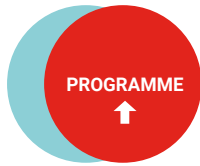
Professor Dilly Fung is Pro-Director for Education at LSE, a role she began in July 2018. In her responsibilities as Pro-Director, she oversees student education across the School with an aim towards developing an inclusive, outward-looking scholarly community in which every student is inspired by and contributes to LSE's research-rich intellectual culture. She is also Professor in Practice at the LSE School of Public Policy. Her academic work draws on her interdisciplinary roots in English, Politics and Philosophy of Education to analyse connections between research, learning, student agency, policy and leadership.

Professor Carl Gombrich is Academic Lead and Director of Teaching & Learning at the London Interdisciplinary School (LIS), a new university which will admit its first cohort of students in 2021. Prior to joining LIS, he worked at UCL as a Professorial Teaching Fellow in Interdisciplinary Education, where he led the set-up and direction of the interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (BASc) degree programme. He is also a Principal Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. His education and teaching experience span maths, physics, philosophy and music, and he was a professional opera singer prior to joining UCL.

Dr Jessica Templeton is Associate Professorial Lecturer and Director of LSE100, the School's flagship interdisciplinary course taken by all first-year undergraduates. A political scientist by training, her research investigates global environmental politics and regulation of hazardous chemicals. She is also a writer, editor and team leader for the Earth Negotiations Bulletin, a nonpartisan publication of the International Institute for Sustainable Development that analyses multilateral environmental negotiations conducted under the auspices of the United Nations.

4-5.15pm

Parallel panel sessions (IV)



Shaping a sustainable future

Creating a Sustainability Index for Micro and Small Enterprises in Bogota

Carolina Bernal, Olivia Björk, Kiana Shahbazi, and Daniela Tapia

Addressing the exclusivity of what constitutes damage to the natural environment: ecocide and the Eurocentricity of the genocide convention

Shikha Chopra

Drones for Environmental Protection

Katherine Hasnain

Sustainability, Economic Growth, and the Open Future

Melanie Erspamer

Can decentralisation be a force for bad? New evidence from decentralising environmental clearances in India

Eddy Zou, Brooklyn Han, Chloe Chong, Visheshika Baheti, and Naomi Sanders

Gender-based violence in the 21st century

Breaking the Walls of Silence: Women's Motivations for Participating in the Newly Emerging Greek #MeToo Movement on Social Media

Tatiana Harkiolakis

Sexual violence as a weapon of war in the Rohingya genocide: more than a manifestation of patriarchal oppression?

Amy Rosenberg

What are the Key Risk Factors for Siberian Women Under the Russian Federation's 2017 De-Criminalisation of Domestic Violence Legislation?

Emma Casey

Enforcement Violence in the Policing of Sex Working Women in the United States

Erica Somerson

A Feminist intervention into critiques of the human rights approach in the refugee regime

Jenifer Elmslie

4-5.15pm

Parallel panel sessions (IV)

**Bridging educational divides: opportunity and innovation**

Widening education access to disadvantaged populations through adaptive e-learning features: an exploration of Covid-19 opportunities

Boluwatife Ajibola and Munira Rajkotwalla

Turning Brain Drains into Brain Gains: Microeconomic Determinants of Emigration and Return Migration Intentions of Malaysian Students at UK Universities

Julia Loh

A Mixed-Methods Evaluation of a Novel Digital Intervention to Improve Higher Education Students' Digital Well-being Using Microboundary Strategies

Ash Zhang

Empirical evaluation of Generic Machine Learning Inference: estimating heterogeneous treatment effects in RCTs

Chan Mun Fai

5.15-6pm

Closing reception and poster gallery

The closing reception of the conference will take place on the Gather.town virtual platform, where attendees will have the opportunity to meet, network, and chat following the day's panel sessions. The reception will also include a poster gallery which will showcase the posters submitted as part of this year's conference.



Participant biographies

Boluwatife Ajibola is a master's student in the Department of International Development studying International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies. He has a background in Political Science. Furthermore, his areas of research interest cuts across ICTS for Development, contemporary social movements, democratic studies and policy science.

Adrian Baeck works at the UK's Office for National Statistics as a Research Officer and graduated from the LSE in 2020. He holds a MSc in International Social and Public Policy from the LSE and a BA in International Relations from the University of Exeter.

Visheshika Baheti is interested in development and behavioral economics. She has previously worked as a Research Assistant at Ashoka University where she studied the socio-economic and health impact of pollution in Delhi, India.

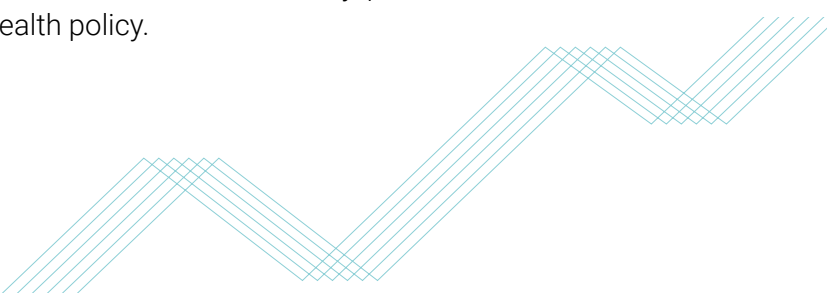
Gwendolin Barnard is an MSc Candidate in Data and Society at the Media and Communications Department at the LSE. She is a researcher for the Institute for Technology in the Public Interest and Our Data Bodies. Gwendolin has a keen interest in how digital technologies shape our relations at work.

Carolina Bernal is an MSc Development Management candidate. Her research interests are the development of entrepreneurship, and international trade and investment. She is currently pursuing research on the impact of foreign direct investment (FDI) on entrepreneurship in emerging markets. She holds a degree in Finance and International Relations and has experience in international trade in East Asia and LATAM.

Olivia Björk is an MSc Development Management candidate. Her research interests are focused on how technology, particularly private sector firms, can support a country's economic and social development. She holds an undergraduate degree in Computer Science and Business Studies. She has experience in technology consulting and FinTech (Financial Technology).

Melissa Bui is a senior researcher at the Intergenerational Foundation, a UK-based think tank that produces and disseminates research on issues related to intergenerational fairness. She carries out quantitative research in a range of policy areas, including the economic consequences of mental ill-health, government spending and graduate and non-graduate employment.

Emma Casey is a current MSc Global Health Policy Student and a qualified Physiotherapist. She has worked clinically in a variety of settings in both the United Kingdom and South-East Asia. Her research interests lie in gender-based violence, health security, political discourse analysis, structural violence and industrial health policy.



Participant biographies

Emma Cavazzoni received her BA in Philosophy from the University of Bologna in 2019, having spent one year as an exchange scholar at Uppsala University. She is currently studying for a MS in Philosophy of the Social Science at LSE. Her research interests are Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Technology and Philosophy of Law.

There are some who feel uncomfortable taking rosaries into gay bars and same-sex lovers into churches, **Benny Cardullo** rejects that. Pursuing an MSc of Gender (Sexuality) from The London School of Economics and Political Science, Benny's research uses a Queer Theology to interrogate the intersections of sexuality and religion.

Originally from France, **Jeanne Carric** has studied in the Netherlands, South Africa and the UK. Fascinated by civil society's mobilisation in context of deep socio-economic inequalities, Jeanne likes to bring insights from multiple disciplines to understand complex social issues, politics and struggles over power. Jeanne is currently working for an Indian NGO and would like to undertake PhD studies in the future.

Chan Mun Fai is a 3rd year BSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics student. His research interests lie in the usage of machine learning in addressing social science questions. He is presently RA to Associate Professor Ethan Ilzetzki and will be pursuing a Masters in Artificial Intelligence this autumn.

Michaela Chen is completing her LLM with a specialism in Human Rights Law. She previously completed her JD and practiced as a civil litigator and sexual assault advocate in Toronto. Her primary interests are in critical race theory, intersectional feminism, anti-oppression theory and practice, and international human rights law.

Xinyue Cheng is a final-year undergraduate at LSE studying BSc Politics and Economics. She is interested in economic research and enjoys learning about experimental designs and data analytics.

Brian Cheung is an LLM student specialising in human rights law. His primary research interests are in civil liberties, rights of protest and public order legislation, constitutional law and migrants' rights. He graduated from UCL with an LLB (Hons) degree and is a practising solicitor.

Chloe Chong (BSc Politics and Economics) is a third-year undergraduate. Her main interests lie in international and development economics. She will be pursuing an MA in International and Development Economics at Yale after graduating from the LSE.

Shikha Chopra is an MSc History of International Relations student at the LSE. Shikha is interested in studying for a PhD in the field of genocide and the work she is presenting at the conference will form the basis of that.

Participant biographies

Callum Costello is a Law LLB graduate from the London School of Economics (Class of 2019) and a General Law LLM graduate with Distinction from the University of Birmingham (Class of 2021). His interests focus on legal and political philosophy, also drawing from multidisciplinary spheres such as literature and ethics.

Hannah Dawson is pursuing an MSc in Global Health Policy at the LSE, focusing on access to medicines and health governance. She completed her undergraduate degree in International Development at McGill University, and has previously worked with MSF Canada. As the Head of Marketing at Mind over Media (LSESU), she has focused on the importance of communication and narrative for topics in health, social media, and more.

Ernesto Edwards holds an LL.B. from the National University of Rosario (UNR '12). He currently is an LL.M. Candidate at the London School of Economics (LSE 2020/21), Director of Legal Research at Fundación Libertad (Argentina), professor of Philosophy of Law at UCEL, and radio host at CNN Radio Rosario.

Jenifer Elmslie is currently studying for an MSc in Gender and International Development alongside working for the feminist NGO Plan International and has previously worked at the United Nations (OCHA) in humanitarian aid delivery. Her research interests include gender empowerment in humanitarian programming and gender equality in the refugee regime.

Melanie Erspamer is a master's student in Philosophy and Public Policy at LSE. Previously, she completed her bachelor's in Philosophy and English Literature at the University of Edinburgh. Her research interests include republicanism, the presence of values in political decision-making, the relationship between phenomenology and politics, and political and environmental sustainability, including the degrowth movement.

Arden Farrow is a 2nd-year Anthropology and Spanish undergraduate. Arden works at the LSE Students Union and has volunteered, been on committees and started societies at LSE. Arden wants to improve student welfare and is working with a youth bereavement charity to start a support scheme for bereaved students at LSE.

Zoe Friedmann is a candidate for the MSc in Development Studies from Florida, USA and previously studied Anthropology and Entrepreneurship at Mount Holyoke College. With an eye towards women's economic empowerment, her research focuses on the gendered experiences of those with marginal access to formal labor markets. In the future, she will work in the international development arena specializing in inclusive economic policy.

Tyler Gieseke is expected to graduate from the LSE in 2021 with a master's degree in management. He lives in Minneapolis and is an editor of educational books for ABDO Publishing, a family business. Tyler hopes his research provides new actionable insights that ease the family firm succession process.

Participant biographies

Kate Fulshaw is a candidate for the MSc in Development Studies from Florida, USA and previously studied Anthropology and Entrepreneurship at Mount Holyoke College. With an eye towards women's economic empowerment, her research focuses on the gendered experiences of those with marginal access to formal labor markets. In the future, she will work in the international development arena specializing in inclusive economic policy.

Brooklyn Han (BSc EME) is a third-year undergraduate who is mainly interested in industrial organisation and development economics. He has written a thesis on productivity effects of government ownership in Chinese private firms.

Tatiana Harkiolakis is a journalist and researcher currently completing her MSc in Media and Communications. She is the Director of Communications at Executive Coaching Consultants. Tatiana is currently writing her dissertation on what motivates women to participate in the newly-emerging Greek #MeToo movement via social media. Her research interests include digital feminist activism, transnational #MeToo, feminism in Greece, and alternative media.

Katherine Hasnain is a Duke Law graduate and a MSc student at the London School of Economics studying Environmental Policy and Regulation. Katherine is a multi-ethnic individual who has lived overseas in many countries, and loves travelling, world cuisine, and philosophy. She hopes to increase environmental awareness and improve understanding of climate change.

Wee Jern Jong is a Year 1 BSc Economics student who is passionate about the social sciences, behavioural economics, and game theory. Having studied in Singapore for six years, she enjoys the scenic drives with her father between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

Gitanjali Kler is a MISDI student, with an interest in the socio-technicalities involved in operationalising innovation to solve business and societal challenges. Her research entails an amalgamation of academia and business practice, supplemented with concepts and perspectives from the field of innovation and information systems.

Gabrielle Lee is a final-year undergraduate at LSE studying economics and philosophy. Her research interests are political economy of development, behavioural economics and health economics. She intends to further develop a research modality in RCTs and quasi-experimental methods.

Julia Loh is a final-year BSc Social Policy and Economics student at the LSE. Her dissertation research studies migration motivations using a microeconomic framework and qualitative methods. Julia will be furthering her studies in Economics at Oxford, and hopes to one day inform policy that can truly improve well-being.

Participant biographies

Catherine Lott is a 2020 MSc Psychology of Economic Life graduate from the US. She graduated from Pomona College in 2019 with a double major in economics and neuroscience. She is broadly interested in behavioral economics and the social psychology behind economic decision-making and systems. Her quantitative dissertation at LSE explores the relationship between social class, prosocial behavior, and economic inequality in the US.

Donna Maher recently graduated from LSE with her MSc in International Social and Public Policy. She previously read BA Education at Cardiff University and has worked across the public and private sectors. Donna is passionate about inclusive and equitable educational opportunities, sustainable societies and conscious consumerism.

Aarti Malhotra is a 1st-year BSc International Relations and History student at the LSE. She is particularly interested in post-structural approaches to historical analysis and the geopolitics of the Sino-Indian region. Aarti was recently elected as the news editor of The Beaver, LSE's student newspaper.

Arushi Malhotra is an architect and urban sociologist with a master's degree in City Design and Social Science from the London School of Economics. Currently working with the urban planning team at Jacobs, she takes keen interest in themes like in urban regeneration, smart cities, digital transformation and local economic development strategies.

Celine Mano is a 2nd-year Mathematics and Economics student. Alongside her role leading the Economics Society, she enjoys learning more about economic research, with particular interest in the economics of education, gender economics and urban economics.

Esther Matey is an intercalating medical student pursuing an MSc in Health and International Development with a specialism in African Development. Her interests lie in the alleviation of health inequality, universal healthcare provision and African development. As Co-secretary of Mind Over Media (LSESU), she has focused on issues concerning health communication and misinformation in the medical field.

Erin Melton attended William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri for her undergraduate education, majoring in English Literature & Theory. Upon graduating, she was an AmeriCorps VISTA at Habitat for Humanity, where her passion for affordable housing policy grew. Erin was then part of LSE's International Social and Public Policy programme, 2019-2020. She now resides in Kansas City, Missouri.

Georgina Morris is pursuing an MSc in Health and International Development at LSE, with an undergraduate degree in History. Her interests include the intersection of climate change, non-communicable diseases and health inequity. As President of Mind Over Media (LSESU), she is passionate about presenting less hegemonic narratives of misrepresented topics in (social) media.

Participant biographies

Ha Chau Ngo is a postgraduate student at the International and Social Public Policy (ISPP) program, Research stream, at the LSE. She obtained a bachelor's degree in Social Science in the United States with an exchange semester in Argentina. She aims to pursue a career in Policy Research with a focus on gender and environmental policies in developing countries.

Jae Park is pursuing an MSc in Economics at LSE, with an undergraduate degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. Prior to enrolling at LSE, Jae was a consultant at Deloitte, focusing on economic impact assessments for public sector bodies. His primary interests include poverty alleviation and income inequality.

Stefanus Phan (BSc EME) is a 3rd year undergraduate who is mainly interested in labour economics, he has written a thesis on people's willingness to pay for flexible work arrangements and how they affect job separation choices.

Munira Rajkotwalla is a M.Sc. Development Studies student at the LSE. Prior to this, she has completed a B.A in Politics and International Relations from the University of Cambridge. Her main research interests lie in South Asian politics, particularly in studying the intersections between politics, poverty, religion and gender.

Aarthi Ratnam: Hello! On most days you can find me with a cup of tea lost in my happy place filled with poetry and some good ol' Rolling Stones music. I'm a strong advocate of normalizing mental health in a comfortable manner which inspired Life@2m. Also, if you're amused by killer puns and lame jokes, I'm your gal!

Callum Renton (BSc EME) is a 3rd year undergraduate who is mainly interested in macroeconomics, he has written a thesis on unequal effects of forward guidance and monetary policies on households in the Euro Area.

Amy Rosenberg is on the MSc in Human Rights programme, with a BA Combined Honours in Politics, Philosophy and Psychology from Newcastle University. Other research conducted includes a final year project titled: 'Examining UK public engagement with the humanitarian crisis in Yemen: nationalism, parochialism and inhumanisation'. Following the MSc, she plans to pursue a PhD in International Development at the LSE.

Naomi Sanders (BSc Economics) a 3rd year undergraduate, she's interested in behavioural applications within the development economics sphere, particularly within the context of increasing educational attainment of women in developing countries. She hopes to apply her Economics degree to public policy in the future.

Kiana Shahbazi is an MSc Development Management candidate. Her research interests are motivated by the potential for public-private sector cooperation towards sustainability and economic development. She is currently evaluating the impact of payment for ecosystem services on poverty reduction in Latin America. She holds a degree in Political Science and has experience in project management and public affairs.

Participant biographies

Melisa T. Slep holds a Master of Science in Development Management from LSE and a Bachelor in Political Science from the National University of Buenos Aires. She has been consulting for international cooperation projects since 2011. Her research interests include development practice, public policy, youth and access to sexual and reproductive health rights.

Rosa Soeterbroek is an MSc student from the Netherlands studying in the Gender Department at LSE. Her academic interests lie in a range of topics spanning gender welfare regimes, (anti)neoliberalism, contraceptive responsibilities, and EU gender policy. She has done research on gender in international partnerships as well as menstrual suppression.

Kaia Sollie is a 2nd Year Social Anthropology with Spanish student at the LSE, from Oslo, Norway. Kaia is especially interested in how economic relations, namely neoliberal capitalism, impacts domains usually seen as non-economic, like love, care and the domestic sphere. In her spare time she works as a volunteer mentor for underrepresented students wanting to apply to top universities.

Erica Somerson is a sexual and reproductive health and rights researcher, educator, and advocate. With work backgrounds in sexual and gender-based violence prevention, her analytical approaches are shaped by notions of power, autonomy, and justice. Her research interests include sexuality studies, feminist thought, state violence, and anti-capitalism.

Kyrillos Spyridopoulos is an Alexander S. Onassis Foundation Scholar. He holds a BA in Political Science from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and a MSc in Social Policy Research from the London School of Economics. Currently, he works as a Research Assistant at Ecorys Brussels.

Sydney Stewart is pursuing an MSc in Culture and Conflict in a Global Europe, examining the politics of identity, ethnic conflict, and political philosophy. She earned her Bachelor in International Affairs specializing in European Peace and Security Studies in Brussels, Belgium. As the Head of Research & Coordination at Mind Over Media (LSESU), she has furthered her interests at the intersection of politics, beliefs, technology, and security.

Lucas Stiglich is an MSc Candidate in Data and Society at the Media and Communications Department at the LSE and holds a BA in Economics from the University of the Pacific (Peru). He's interested in studying how platforms and algorithms shape social and economic relations.

Daniela Tapia is an MSc in Anthropology and Development Management candidate. She is a social anthropologist with experience in research on public policy and poverty in Latin America. Her research interests are focused on community development and Corporate Social Responsibility issues in extractive industries. She is currently doing research on the impacts of COVID-19 and mining in Chile.

Participant biographies

Nick Williamson is a MSc student studying Health and International Development. With an Undergraduate background in molecular biology and research experience in the field of reproductive health, he is interested in addressing the gaps in essential sexual and reproductive health service provision that exist in many global settings.

Ash Zhang is from Canada and is currently pursuing a master's in management degree at LSE. Ash completed an undergraduate degree in Psychology at UCL. Ash's research interests centre around digital innovation and the practical application of theory. Ash enjoys photography and travelling!

Eddy Zou (BSc Economics) is a 2nd year undergraduate who is mainly interested in development and environmental economics. He has co-authored a working paper that evaluates impacts of decentralising environmental regulations in India and has previously studied impacts of FDI liberalisation in India on firms and intra-hospital transmission of COVID-19 in New York City.



The School seeks to ensure that people are treated equitably, regardless of age, disability, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstances.

Freedom of thought and expression is essential to the pursuit, advancement and dissemination of knowledge. LSE seeks to ensure that intellectual freedom and freedom of expression within the law is secured for all our members and those we invite to the School.

Design: LSE Design Unit **lse.ac.uk/designUnit**

Photography: Nigel Stead, LSE Photographer

Produced by LSE Student Futures, June 2021