

CGR&IS Newsletter (January 2024)

Dear Colleagues,

A belated Happy New Year!

We hope all is well and that you are all looking forward to Semester 2!

Here is a brief update on what has been happening in CGR&IS over the last few months, and some details of forthcoming activities.

Welcome to new CGR&IS members and associates!

Welcome to **Dr Sandrine Labory** (University of Ferrara) who has been appointed as a **Visiting Professor** to the School of Management, and will be associated with CGR&IS. Sandrine conducts research in industrial strategy and regional development - which are key themes of CGR&IS - and in which she has published widely. She is currently the Coordinator (and lead) on a €14.5 million EU Erasmus grant entitled [COLOURS \(COLlaborative innOvative sUstainable Regional univerSities\)](#) Alliance, across 9 partner institutions. This project will host research workshops, Summer schools and other collaborations on regional development across the EU over the next 4 years. She is also currently the Chair of RSA (Europe), the European wing of the Regional Studies Association.

Welcome aboard Sandrine! We look forward to working with you and drawing on your expertise/experiences over the coming months and years!

Welcome also to **Prof Richard Jackson** from *Accounting & Finance*, who has also joined CGR&IS and we've enjoyed his presence at a couple of seminars in Semester 1!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following **CGR&IS** members for recent paper publications:

Gupta, J., **Barzotto, M.**, & De Moura, A. A. F. (2024). 'Bankruptcy Resolution: Misery or Strategy'. *Abacus A Journal of Accounting Finance and Business Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/abac.12311>

Fai, F. M., & **Tomlinson, P. R.** (2023). 'Levelling up or down? Addressing regional inequalities in the UK'. *Contemporary Social Science*, 18(3-4), 285-297. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21582041.2023.2282161>

Leventis, S., Tsalavoutas, I., & **Tsoligkas, F.** (In press). 'Informal institutions in accounting research: A review and research agenda. *Journal of International Accounting, Auditing and Taxation*.

Newton, D. P., Ongena, S., **Xie, R.**, & Zhao, B. (2023). 'Firm ESG Reputation Risk and Debt Choice'. *European Financial Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eufm.12468>

Fu, A., Jenkinson, T., **Newton, D.**, & **Xie, R.** (2023). 'Research Unbundling and Market Liquidity: Evidence from MiFID II'. *European Financial Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eufm.12460>

In the media

Baboukardos, D, Seretis, E, **Tsoligkas, F.** Tsalavoutas, I & Slack, R, [Climate disclosures: corporations underprepared for tighter new standards, study of 100 companies reveals](#) , *The Conversation*, 11/1/2024

Tomlinson, P. R. [Autumn statement: experts react to national insurance and business tax cuts](#), *The Conversation*, 22/11/22

In December 2023, a [press release](#) on research from **David Newton** and **Ru Xie** on how the European Union's MiFID II financial market reforms inadvertently reduced research activity and adversely affected liquidity in London's main stock market, attracted the eye of the [Financial Times](#) who cited it in a wider piece about tour operator TUI.

PhD Seminar workshops

After discussions with several CGR&IS PhD students, we have established a PhD seminar/workshop series. This series is run **by** CGR&IS PhD students **for** CGR&IS PhD students and is an opportunity for the students - over a lunch/refreshments – to present (in an informal setting) some of their work or formative ideas in front of other PhD students in the Centre, with some occasional attendance by CGR&IS academics. Subject to funding, there may also be opportunities to invite PhD students from elsewhere in the UK to come and give a talk/seminar in the series, here at Bath. In this regard, we will try and accommodate any reasonable requests.

The PhD workshop/seminar co-ordinator is **Laura Smyth** (ls2507@bath.ac.uk) - so a big thank you to Laura for taking on this role! The first meeting took place in December, and others are planned for Semester 2.

Forthcoming Events (29th January 2024)

On **29th January 2024**, CGR&IS is delighted to be hosting a one-day workshop and a policy roundtable on 'Levelling Up'. The workshop is a celebration/official launch of the recent Special Issue of *Contemporary Social Science* available here: <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rsoc21/current>

Several of you have already signed up to the workshop and received a separate set of emails in relation to the programme and catering arrangements. If you have not signed up and would still like to attend, please drop us a line.

The **policy roundtable** ends the day and is open to **all University faculty & students**. Please come along if you can. It will be a great event and refreshments will be provided! Some further details below

Title: *Where next for Levelling Up?*

Date: Monday, 29th January 2024

Time 17:30 -18:45 (UK time)

Room: 10E 0.13 (tiered lecture theatre)

Zoom Link: <https://shorturl.at/pCZ18>

Chair: Dr Felicia Fai (School of Management)

Panel:

Dr Nicola Headlam (Chief Economist, Red Flag Alert)

Dan Turner (Senior Advisor, South Yorkshire Combined Authority)

Prof Phil McCann (University of Manchester)

Debby Skellern (CEO, SWLEP)

Prof Chris White (Executive Director, Manufacturing Technology Centre)

Distinguished Speaker Visit (March 4-8th, 2024)

During the week of **4th-8th March 2024**, CGR&IS will be hosting [Professor Ron Boschma](#) (University of Utrecht) as part of the School's Distinguished Speaker series. Ron is one of the world's most distinguished economic geographers and has published widely and extensively especially on regional innovation, diversification and the implications for regional policy. He has over [47,000 google scholar](#) cites!

We are currently planning a set of activities for Ron to engage with CGR&IS including a faculty seminar, and the opportunity for him to meet faculty and PhD students. Watch this space for more details.

Forthcoming CGR&IS Seminars (March and April 2024)

In March and April, we will be welcoming two seminar speakers to Bath. The first seminar will be a hybrid event although if you are on campus, please join us. It is important to welcome and meet our guest speakers on campus, and there will be a lunch.

Also, if you would like to meet/discuss your work and/or ideas or would just like an informal conversation with either/both speakers, then please let us know and we will look to schedule something.

1. Prof Davide Parrilli (Bournemouth University Business School)

Davide is an expert in regional economic development, clusters and SMEs/entrepreneurship.

Title: **SME Development amidst Social Transformations: New conceptual elements and empirical observations (UK)**

Date: Friday 15th March 2024

Time 12:15-13:15 (UK time)

Room: 10 E 3.58

Zoom Link: TBA

Abstract: Over the past forty years the literature on regional economic development has shown the importance of social capital as a driver of trust and cooperation, which are critical factors for SME competitiveness and their local economies. However, the former basis of social capital has changed dramatically in recent years. Nowadays, our societies are much more heterogeneous than in the past, thus require a different type of social capital to regenerate new bases for trust and cooperation. Robert Putnam led the way by identifying a bridging type of social capital that can serve this purpose as it helps to link people from different background through voluntary civic and political engagement. Echoing his work, we take a step further to discuss the importance of ethnic communities that bring in their values, routines, social support and business engagement which produce additive outcomes for regional economic development. This discussion is supported by some preliminary evidence related to the impact of ethnic minorities' entrepreneurship in business teams on economic growth in the UK context.

The second seminar will be a webinar by **Dr Ilaria Mariotti (University of Venice)** and will be hosted in late April. We are awaiting full details of the webinar, but we will inform you in due course. Further details of both these seminars will be circulated by email separately.

If you have **speakers, you would like us to invite to conduct a seminar/webinar** over the next few months, please contact Felicia or Phil. Popular speakers fill up their diaries quickly!

That is all for now. Please remember to use the [spreadsheet link](#) to update us on your activities.

Best wishes,

Felicia and Phil

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