



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**

# IPR Annual Report

**August 2019–  
July 2020**

**IPR** Institute for  
Policy Research



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# 1

## **Executive Summary**

The Institute for Policy Research (IPR) is a leading public policy research institute, based at the University of Bath. We aim to further the public good through research into issues of significant relevance to policy debate and decision-making, building links with the worlds of policy and practice, and increasing public understanding of policy research through our public events and publications.

We deliver activities for policymakers, researchers and practitioners to enable dual learning and original contributions to both research and practice, delivered through our Policy Fellowship Programmes, International Visiting Fellows scheme, and postgraduate programmes including a Masters in Public Policy and Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice.

Below are some of the key highlights of our activities and achievements during 2019–2020.

## Research



We successfully attracted new funding and continued to work on projects to the value of £430,597.



We published 48 academic journal articles across our five research streams.



We grew our research capacity by welcoming two new members of staff, Dr Geoff Bates working on Tackling the Root Causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD), and Elena Ahonen working on research projects related to climate change, environmental economics and fiscal policy.



We expanded into the new research area of climate change, the green economy and sustainable development.

# Postgraduate Teaching



# 23



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Our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice successfully enrolled a sixth international cohort.

23 students enrolled in the second cohort of the MSc in Public Policy.

We became the theme leader for Transport Policy and Economics at the University of Bath.



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We joined the University of Bath Climate Action Framework Committee, to provide guidelines for future teaching and research policy.

Dr Joan Abbas and Dr Joe Chrisp became the second and third IPR PhD students successfully to complete their doctorates, while Dr Jeff Farrar and Seung Jin Baek became the first students to be awarded the Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice.

# Programmes

# 21



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21 Policy Fellows took part in our Policy Fellowship Programmes involving 64 meetings with Bath academics.

42 University of Bath academics from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Science, the School of Management, the Institute for Coding (IoC) and the IPR met with Fellows.

Eight Fellows took part in our Virtual Policy Fellowship Programme.

## Programmes



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We welcomed Fellows from The Department of Culture, Media and Sport, The Office for Artificial Intelligence, The Big Innovation Centre, The Centre for Data, Ethics and Innovation and IPSA on our new Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence.

We joined the COP26 Universities Network, a group of UK Universities working together to help deliver a programme of events and publications ahead of the Glasgow COP26 Summit.

## Events and Communications



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Approximately 3,000 people attended our public lectures, research seminars, conferences and symposia.

We ran a total of 27 events which included six public lectures, 10 research seminars and webinars, two symposia, five publication launches, and three co-hosted events.

We published 106 blog posts, and received an average of 7,000 hits per month.



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Our research received coverage in over 100 media outlets.



# Our Response to COVID-19



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We ran a series of webinars which addressed the political and social consequences of COVID-19.



We adapted our Policy Fellowship Programmes to a rapid, online programme for policymakers working on COVID-19 priority areas.



We ran a COVID-19 blog series, which included over 45 blog posts.



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We entered a collaborative partnership with The Good Economy to conduct an analysis of the Bath economy, and present post-COVID-19 recovery options in Autumn 2020 to the BANES Economic Recovery Taskforce.



We conducted research on COVID-19 and on-line communities.

# 2

## **IPR Structure**



## IPR Team

- Professor Nick Pearce, IPR Director
- Dr Matt Dickson, Reader in Public Policy
- Professor Jane Millar, Professor of Social Policy
- Professor James Copestake, Director of Studies for Professional Doctorate
- Dr Charlie Larkin, Director of Research
- Dr Leda Blackwood, Lecturer
- Amy Thompson, Head of Policy Programmes and Communications
- Dr Luke Martinelli, Research Associate
- Dr Iulia Cioroianu, IPR Prize Fellow
- Dr Predrag Lažetić, IPR Prize Fellow
- Dr Rita Griffiths, Research Fellow
- Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro, Research Associate
- Dr Thomais Massala, Research Associate
- Marsha Wood, Research Assistant
- Jess Lloyd-Evans, Research Assistant (until February 2020)
- Dr Geoff Bates, Research Associate (from January 2020)
- Elena Ahonen, Research Assistant (from March 2020)
- Sophie O'Brien, Events and Communications Officer
- Claudia Torres-Cervantes, IPR Co-ordinator
- Catrin Owen, IPR Research Intern (Summer 2020)
- Jac McCluskey, IPR Research Intern (Summer 2020)
- Michael Cheng, IPR-Harvard University College of Arts and Sciences Research Intern (Summer 2020)
- Lucy Jackman, IPR Researcher (Spring & Summer 2020)



## The IPR Advisory Board

We are very grateful to all Advisory Board members for their continued contributions throughout 2019–2020.

- Lord John Eatwell (Chair), President of Queens' College, University of Cambridge
- Dawn Austwick, Chief Executive of The National Lottery Community Fund
- Marcial Boo, Chief Executive of the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority
- Dr Claire Craig, Provost of The Queen's College at the University of Oxford

- Van DuBose, former investment banker and consultant
- Mats Karlsson, former Director of The Swedish Institute of International Affairs
- Gail Kent, Director of Data at the DG Connect in the European Commission
- Paul Maltby, Chief Digital Officer at the Department for Communities and Local Government
- Carey Oppenheim, former Chief Executive, Early Intervention Foundation
- Ryan Shorthouse, Director, Bright Blue
- Lord Christopher Tugendhat, the former Chancellor of the University of Bath and former EU Commissioner
- Penny Young, Librarian and Director General of Information Services at the House of Commons Library



## New IPR Staff

Dr Geoff Bates previously worked at the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and the Public Health Institute at Liverpool John Moores University.

He joins us to work on '*Tackling the Root causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD)*' – a new project which aims to understand how prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) might be fully considered and factored into the decision-making of those in control of the quality of our urban environments.

Elena Ahonen joins us to work on research projects related to climate change, environmental economics and fiscal policy. Before joining the University of Bath, she worked for the Finnish Economic Policy Council.

Catrin Owen is a recently completed undergraduate student in the Department of Economics at the University of Bath. She joins us as an intern to work on a new, joint research initiative with The Good Economy.

Jac McCluskey is an undergraduate student in the Department of Economics at the University of Bath. He joins us as an intern to work on transport economics and policy with a focus on public transport.

Michael Cheng is an undergraduate student from the liberal arts programme of the Harvard University College of Arts and Sciences. He joins us to work on the interface between political theory and the role of artificial intelligence and machine learning in the development of a new social contract.



## IPR Visitors

### IPR Global Chair

**Professor Timothy Mitchell** is Professor of Middle Eastern, South Asian and Africa Studies and of International and Public Affairs at the University of Columbia, and was IPR Global Chair 2018–2020.

Professor Mitchell visited us in January 2020 for a final visit as Global Chair. During his visit he took part in research meetings with colleagues across the University, gave a seminar to students and staff in the Departments of Social and Policy Sciences, and Politics, Languages, and International Studies, and delivered two public lectures at the University of Bath and University College London.

### IPR Visiting Professor

**Professor Dr Ricardo García Mira** is Professor of Social and Environmental Psychology at the University of Coruna, and a former Member of the Spanish parliament.

He was appointed IPR Visiting Professor from 2016–2018, and his appointment has been extended for a further four years. During his time with us he will continue to help develop our policy research networks and collaborative research projects in Europe.

### IPR Honorary Professor

**Professor Sue Maguire** joined us in July 2016 as an Honorary Professor. She is an expert on post-16 education and training, and is currently working on a multi-year EU project on young people not in education, employment or training (NEET). She has considerable expertise in evaluating government policies.

In 2020, Professor Maguire joined the Youth Employment Group (YEG), a new initiative formed by Impetus, Youth Futures Foundation, Youth Employment UK, the Institute for Employment Studies and The Prince's Trust.

### IPR Visiting Fellows

**Professor Allister McGregor** is Professor of Political Economy in the Department of Politics at the University of Sheffield. He joined us in February 2019, and continues to work on his ESRC-funded research, analysing the political economy of inequalities in the UK social care system.

**Fran Bennett** is a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Social Policy and Intervention at the University of Oxford.

After joining us in March 2020, she has continued to work on the ESRC-funded IPR project, *'Couples balancing work, money and care: exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit'*.

**Young Cheol Ji** is Director of the Labour Market Analysis Division for the Ministry of Employment and Labour in the Republic of Korea. After joining us for a six-month term in August 2019, he conducted a comparative study between the UK and Korean labour market, and employment quality indicators.

**Professor Olavi Kangas** is currently Professor of Practice in the Department of Social Research at the University of Turku, and Director of the Equal Society Research Programme at the Academy of Finland. He joined us for three months in October 2019, and during his time with us, continued his research on, and evaluation of, the Finnish basic income experiment, and collaborated with academic colleagues across the University from both the IPR and Department of Social and Policy Sciences.

**Professor Peter Whiteford** is a Professor in the Crawford School of Public Policy at The Australian National University, Canberra.

During his time with us from February–October 2019, Professor Whiteford worked with Professor Jane Millar on a project which explored the design of social security benefits, particularly how they can be redesigned to better suit changing work patterns and income risks associated with technological change.

**Steve Webb** is Partner at Lane Clark & Peacock and a public policy expert with considerable political experience, including roles as Pensions Minister (2010–2015) and MP (1997–2015). Prior to his political career, he was an academic at the University of Bath. He joined us in July 2020, and will conduct research to examine later life financial prospects through a holistic lens. Using secondary datasets, he will look at financial trend projection, pension provision, and other factors affecting household wealth.

### **IPR Visiting Policy Fellows**

**Dr Aruna Sharma** is a former Secretary to the Government of India and is currently a Member of their Digitisation Committee. She joined us in July 2019, and conducted research on vulnerable households and individuals – deprived of having equal access to Government interventions and market opportunities for self and

household growth – as well as the shift from welfare approach to entitlement.

Using this data, Dr Sharma developed a digital data model to extract entitlements to target Government interventions. Her findings were published in an IPR report, *'Leaving nobody behind: The Samagra programme in Madhya Pradesh'*.

**Dr Jorge Sainz** is an Associate Professor in the Applied Economics and Moral Philosophy Department at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. He has more than 10 years of management experience in public educational policy design. After returning to us in July 2019, Dr Sainz continued to work on his research bridging the gap between academic research and public policy in higher education.

### **IPR Sabbaticals**

**Professor Graham Room** is Professor of European Social Policy at the University of Bath. He was Director of the IPR until December 2013, and Founding Editor of the Journal of European Social Policy and is a member of the UK Academy of Social Sciences.

During his IPR Sabbatical, Professor Room spent time at the Hertie School of Governance in Berlin to research the debates on Europe underway in Germany, building on his IPR report, *'From Brexit to European renewal'*. His findings were published in an IPR report, *'Social science and politics: From Max Weber to Brexit'*, published in January 2020.

# 3

**IPR Research**



# IPR Research Overview

Our research activity and expertise are currently organised across five research streams:

- The Welfare State, Family and Work
- Evidence, Data and Democracy
- Government, Politics and Policymaking
- Science, Technology and Innovation
- Widening Participation in Higher Education



## The Welfare State, Family and Work

### About this research stream

We research the reform of welfare states through a particular focus on political economy, its tools, methods and explanatory frameworks. We are active in researching contemporary public policy welfare and social protection issues, such as proposals for universal basic income (UBI).

We are concerned with the ways in which post the financial and COVID-19 crises government policies, labour market changes and socio-technological developments produce new social risks and vulnerabilities. We are concerned with the range of political, public policy and social responses to these challenges and the options for better securing social justice.

Research projects (2019–2020):

- Assessing the Case for Basic Income in Light of Automation and Labour Market Change
- The Economics of Basic Income
- Developing a Stock-Flow Model of the UK Economy
- Couples Balancing Work and Care: Exploring the Shifting Landscape Under Universal Credit
- Development and Implementation of Innovative Tools Aimed to Restrict the Phenomenon of Unregistered Labour
- The Social and Economic Consequences of Health: Causal Analysis Using Intergenerational UK Data
- Loneliness in a Digital Age

**We are concerned with the ways in which post the financial and COVID-19 crises government policies, labour market changes and socio-technological developments produce new social risks and vulnerabilities**

- Coaching ‘welfare-to-work’: the role of work coaches in supporting couples accessing Universal Credit (PhD)
- The political economy of universal basic income (PhD project)
- How low-income families experience and manage income variability and change (PhD project)
- The rise of in-work benefits? Comparing provisions in advanced welfare states (PhD project)

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



### **Universal Basic Income Research Projects**

This year we increased our reputation as a hub of research into issues around the political dynamics and economic viability of universal basic income (UBI).

We are currently leading the ‘*Economics of basic income*’ project, which includes team members Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro, Professor Nick Pearce, Professor Chris Martin (Economics) and Dr Luke Martinelli.

The main aim of the study is to examine the scope and space for basic income as a required social policy in economies with high technological progress. In the primary stage of the project, we are looking at whether automation, AI and robotics are causing significant displacement of workers; the depression of wages; and shrinkage in consumers’ incomes.

In a later stage of the project, the research team will test various basic income proposals and their affordability. As part of this project we are developing a stock-flow model of the UK economy that can be operated alongside the DSGE model being developed by Dr Garcia-Lazaro. This project is being done in collaboration with Professor Stephen Kinsella of the University of Limerick.

Additionally, the project ‘*Assessing the case for basic income in light of automation and labour market change*’, continued this reporting year. Led by Dr Martinelli, our research looked into the comparative fiscal and distributional effects of basic income schemes across Europe, and analysed the determinants of individual-level preferences for basic income in terms of education and labour market position.

Key findings were presented at the conference, Automation, Digitalisation and the Welfare State (Bremen, Germany, January 2019). In September 2019 a final report, ‘*Basic income, automation, and labour market change*’, was produced and published.

**This year we increased our reputation as a hub of research into issues around the political dynamics and economic viability of universal basic income (UBI)**

PhD candidate, Joe Chrisp, also continued to contribute to the UBI work stream before completing his doctorate and in 2019 co-authored a book chapter with Dr Martinelli, which examined the notion that basic income is 'neither left nor right' in terms of its political orientation as a policy proposal.



## **Couples Balancing Work, Money and Care: Exploring the Shifting Landscape Under Universal Credit**

This project, in collaboration with the University of Oxford, is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ES/R004811/1) until July 2021. Led by Dr Rita Griffiths, Marsha Wood, Professor Jane Millar, Fran Bennett (University of Oxford), and Levana Magnus, this project is the first independent in-depth study of the experience of couples receiving Universal Credit.

In June 2020 we published the report, '*Uncharted Territory: Universal Credit, Couples and Money*', which sets out findings from Phase One of the research, conducted between 2018 and 2020. The report focuses on design and payment in Universal Credit, and draws on the experiences and views of 90 interview participants to identify issues relevant to couples, especially in accessing benefit and managing and negotiating their finances.

A second round of interviews took place via telephone in September/October 2020. These interviews will explore the ways in which couples make decisions about work and care and manage their household finances in the context of Universal Credit.

Over the last year, the project team have engaged with MPs, civil servants, third sector and other non-government organisations and academics working in this area in order to discuss the findings and the policy implications and issues highlighted.

Research findings were also presented to the Department for Work and Pensions and at various conferences and seminars, and included in written blogs and articles. The report was launched at an online event, and Dr Griffiths was interviewed for the Radio 4 programme, *You and Yours*.

The project team are now looking forward to the second phase of research, and the longitudinal analysis across both rounds of interviews, which will enable us to further explore the policy implications of the findings in relation to Universal Credit, working-age benefits and work-family reconciliation policies more widely, and help provide insight into the ways in which policies support or undermine choice and gender equality in work, care and couple relationships.



## **The Social and Economic Consequences of Health: Causal Analysis Using Intergenerational UK Data**

This four-year project, funded by the Health Foundation, aims to improve our understanding of health as an asset in the production of social and economic outcomes. The multi-institutional interdisciplinary research team comprises colleagues from the University of Bristol, Cardiff and Public Health Wales and includes Dr Matt Dickson.

This year, two papers have been submitted from this project. The first is accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* and examines the impact of health conditions and risk factors on socio-economic outcomes.

The second paper, under review at the *Nature Partner Journal Science of Learning*, examines the causal impact of childhood conditions that are associated with educational attainment, such as Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), depression, asthma, migraines and BMI.

An event to disseminate the findings of these and other related papers from this project to policymakers, civil servants and relevant think-tanks was due to be held at the University of Bath Pall Mall office in June 2020. However, this has been postponed due to COVID-19, and will be rearranged for later in 2020 as an online event.



## **Evidence, Data and Democracy**

### **About this research stream**

We work collaboratively with policymakers and other policy publics around the creation and use of data and the role of evidence in aiding policy deliberation and decision-making. We are interested in the contested role of data and evidence in democratic societies and in particular how they are employed in policymaking and implementation.

We develop creative methods for working with data in policy design and evaluation, both nationally and internationally. In addition, we apply our expertise in data and evidence for policy and democratic participation to research projects and activities across other areas of our programme.

Research projects (2019–2020):

- Exploring Policy Interventions to Reduce the Health Impact of Air Pollution in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
- Public Data Lab
- Studying Police Effectiveness and Public Trust in Policing Using Big Data Analysis (PhD project)
- WhoGetsMyVoteUK
- COVID-19 Online Information and Crisis Communities in Bath and North East Somerset
- Mapping the Online Debate Around the COVID-19 Government Response

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



### **WhoGetsMyVoteUK**

Dr Iulia Cioroianu – together with colleagues from the University of Bath’s Department of Politics, Languages and International Studies, and from a consortium of UK and European universities – developed an interactive online tool to help voters identify which party best fit their political views in the 2019 UK general election. WhoGetsMyVoteUK was used by more than 60,000 voters in the final weeks of the 2019 electoral campaign.

**WhoGetsMyVoteUK was used by more than 60,000 voters in the final weeks of the 2019 electoral campaign**

Users read a series of policy statements selected by the researchers based on their salience in the 2019 campaign and stated how much they agreed with them. The algorithm then established the extent to which user views were similar or dissimilar to the various parties contesting the election. User opinions about the Left-Right ideological positions of major UK parties and their leaders were also recorded.

The project was featured on iNews and in local media, and Dr Cioroianu presented results on voter partisan perceptual bias effects derived from the study at Social Science Foo Camp, organised by Facebook US and O’Reilly Media, in February 2020.



### **COVID-19 Online Information and Crisis Communities in Bath and North East Somerset**

The project, led by Dr Cioroianu, analysed the Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) social media landscape and digital community formation efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic using quantitative text analysis and network analysis. Results showed that BANES Council was at the heart of the local social media landscape

during the lockdown. Local charities and working groups acted as linking forces between online sub-communities.

The project highlighted that social media provides valuable information about local community mobilisation efforts, but that most of the relevant data is currently generated within private groups. Voluntary data exchange between these communities and local authorities is needed to ensure that public mobilisation trends continue, but this would require extensive data linkage and analysis, and the development of new digital and computational tools.

Part of the analysis was published on the IPR blog and full results are being prepared for academic publication.



## **Mapping the Online Debate Around the COVID-19 Government Response**

This project, led by Dr Cioroianu, mapped the online debate around government responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on the development of digital tools and applications, and on the political evolution of online COVID-19 conversations.

Initial results based on a sample of more than 18,000 online articles discussing the use of digital tools during the pandemic have been published on the IPR blog. They point to a need for a clearly defined theoretical and methodological framework for developing and implementing digital tools for public good. Building and maintaining public trust requires meaningful citizen involvement in the app development and implementation process.



## **Government, Politics and Policymaking**

### **About this research stream**

We are interested in the evolution of politics, the changing role of the state and the political ideas and values that define contemporary political parties, political identities and public policies. Working with colleagues across the University of Bath, we are developing a strand of research on political parties, and another on the interdisciplinary study of public policy.

Research projects (2019–2020):

- Optimising Water Quality Returns from the Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
- UK Pensions Policy 1997–2015
- The Future of Scottish Labour: Dissensus and Consensus
- Tackling the Root Causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD)
- The Age Divide in UK Politics and Political Economy of Older Voters

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



### **UK Pensions Policy 1997–2015**

This project explored how and why the UK pensions system, unlike other areas of public policy, was successfully and sustainably reformed. It focuses on pension reforms that were initiated in the early 2000s with the Pensions Commission ('Turner' Commission) and implemented during the 2010s. Led by Professor Nick Pearce, and supported by Dr Thomais Massala, we worked in collaboration with National Employment Savings Trust (Nest) Insight on this project.

Thirty elite semi-structured interviews were conducted with former UK prime ministers, including Tony Blair and Gordon Brown; secretaries of state, ministers and their special advisers; civil servants; pension stakeholders; academics and journalists.

In February 2020, a research report entitled '*Pension Reforms in the UK: 1997 to 2015*' was published by Nest Insight for this project, authored by Professor Pearce and Dr Massala. A 10-minute summary video, with the highlights of the video interviews, was created and presented at a launch event at the British Academy, organised by Nest Insight.

In addition to the interviews, a number of documents were collected for this project, related to the Pensions Commission and the reforms which resulted from its recommendations. This material along with the 24 video-recorded interviews will be stored and be openly available to researchers and anyone interested in the UK's pension reforms, through the University of Bath's Library Research Data archive.

This project will conclude with an academic article on historical institutionalist approaches to UK pension reforms in the academic literature.

**Thirty elite semi-structured interviews were conducted with former UK prime ministers, including Tony Blair and Gordon Brown; secretaries of state, ministers and their special advisers; civil servants; pension stakeholders; academics and journalists**



## **Tackling the Root Causes Upstream of Unhealthy Urban Development (TRUUD)**

With colleagues across the TRUUD consortium from University of Bath, University of Bristol, UWE Bristol, the University of Manchester and the University of Reading, we supported the launch and early stages of the five-year TRUUD project. Across the consortium the focus in 2020 has been on recruiting the research team, developing and refining research plans, and developing shared understandings of project purpose and impacts.

The project was launched in May 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has drawn further attention to the importance of improving our urban environments to reduce risk relating to both communicable and non-communicable diseases. There is increasing interest therefore in how health can be considered as part of decision-making in urban development, and in approaches to reduce health inequalities related to urban environments.

The research is primarily involved through work aiming to understand the main components of the UK's urban development system and how it functions, and how health impacts might be better integrated into this system. Early input has been through literature reviews, including a review of urban housing and transport policy in England. This work will inform the team's interviews with key stakeholders in national government in 2020 and 2021.

**The COVID-19 pandemic has drawn further attention to the importance of improving our urban environments to reduce risk relating to both communicable and non-communicable diseases**



## **Optimising Water Quality Returns from the Reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)**

The objective of this project is to do a rapid evidence assessment (REA) of the role of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the condition of Irish watercourses and frame the analysis within the existing government policies of the River Basin Management Plan (2018), National Biodiversity Action Plan (2017) and 'Ag-Climate' A Draft National Climate & Air Roadmap for the Agricultural Sector (2019), as well as existing legislation and The Water Forum strategy.

Using a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, this project will seek to understand if – and how – the CAP improves Ireland's agricultural impact on water quality. It will also look at how different farm enterprise types impact on water quality; examine the barriers prohibiting farmers from undertaking measures to avoid, minimise, or mitigate negative impacts on water quality; how barriers can be overcome through policy change; how different regulations and policies interlink with the CAP; and the socio-economic implications of potential changes to the CAP which may lead to water quality improvements.



Ultimately this project will use this evidence to outline implementable proposals for An Fóram Uisce (Irish Water Forum) to bring forward to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, to inform the Irish negotiating position as part of the European Commission's reform programme of the CAP after 2020.



## **Newham Commission on Democracy and Civic Participation**

In 2019–20, Professor Nick Pearce chaired a Commission on Democracy and Civic Participation for the London Borough of Newham. The independent Commission heard from hundreds of local residents, community groups, councillors, and national experts about how to improve local democracy in Newham. Its final report with recommendations was launched in July 2020.



## **Science, Technology and Innovation**

### **About this research stream**

We seek to bring together scientists, engineers and social scientists to research and develop solutions to the interconnected economic, social and environmental challenges we face in the UK and globally.

We have a particular focus on the role of education, skills and industrial strategy in national and regional economies, and the implications for global trade and global value chains of political and economic change.

Research projects (2019–2020):

- Build Back Better in Bath
- Our Shared Future – a Collaboration Between the University of Bath and Bath and North East Somerset Council (BANES)
- Modelling and Policy Implications of Future Carbon Emissions Scenarios for the WECA Area (In Collaboration with the Institute for Mathematical Innovation)

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



## **Build Back Better in Bath**

Collaborating with The Good Economy, this research project is led by Dr Charlie Larkin, Mark Hepworth (The Good Economy), Professor James Copestake (Department of Social and Policy Sciences) and Catrin Owen. The project focuses on a choice: should we try to rebuild the systems we had or should we build new ones? Our early conversations with local stakeholders confirmed that people want to 'build back better'.

This project has dual aims. First, to flesh out what the 'build back better' agenda means for the City of Bath, as a local framework for pursuing innovative policies and building dynamic partnerships across sectors and geographies.

Second, within this framework, to explore the 'anchor institution' role of the University as a coordinator and supporter of local economic activity, using its large resource base of knowledge and skills for business and public services innovation, as well as its local purchasing power and job creation potential.

Anchor institutions – universities, local councils and NHS trusts, as well as housing associations – also have a social role to play in developing mutually beneficial and sustainable relationships within their host communities.

The initial phase of the project will culminate in a discussion paper to be presented to the BANES Economic Recovery Taskforce and for wider stakeholder consultation in Autumn 2020 to consider the results of the research and develop possible recovery scenarios for Bath.



## **Our Shared Future**

This research project was undertaken in collaboration with Tim Kaner, Chief Marketing Officer for the University of Bath. It sought to identify anchor institutions in BANES that would be essential to consult for the decarbonisation of the Bath local economy.

This project identified future avenues for decarbonisation of heating and power in the City of Bath. Research experience from this project was invaluable for the work undertaken with The Good Economy on Building back better in Bath.



## **Modelling and Policy Implications of Future Carbon Emissions Scenarios for the WECA Area (In Collaboration with the Institute for Mathematical Innovation)**

The principal aim of this pilot study was to provide an economic scenario analysis for the future of the West of England Combined

Authorities (WECA) region looking specifically at the combination of economic output and atmospheric emissions (inclusive of CO<sub>2</sub>, CO, SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and particulate matter).

In broad terms under 'business as usual' scenarios there is an inescapable trade-off between increased economic activity and reduced emissions. For regions of the UK there are, however, regulatory drivers that demand a strategy oriented explicitly towards achieving net-zero emissions. This therefore demands technical improvements in industrial production and the design of a specific trajectory for the WECA region that sets it on a path to achieve net-zero emissions.

The analysis was to disaggregate the current WECA emissions profile across industrial sectors. This will be achieved by combining sector-based data for the UK with the profile of industrial activity specifically within the WECA region itself.

The research made predictions for each industrial sector/ emissions source over future decarbonisation trajectories, incorporating explicitly the speed of transition in each sector, in order to allow different scenarios to be explored. For each forward-looking scenario to investigate the effects of 'carbon leakage' and 'output leakage' from WECA to the wider United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. These 'leakages' refer to the consequences of regulatory activity: emissions regulation causes industrial production to move from one region to another (e.g. across the EU) with consequent increases in emissions ('carbon leakage'), as well as increases in industrial output ('output leakage'), elsewhere.



## **Widening Participation in Higher Education**

### **About this research stream**

We research widening participation in higher education in order to better understand the factors that promote participation from a broader range of students, and the policies and practices that enhance wider successful participation in higher education. We are concerned with ensuring that all students with the talent and desire to attend university can do so, and go on to achieve their full potential in education and beyond.

Research projects (2019–2020):

- Analysing Employment and Earnings Returns to Higher Education Degrees Using Administrative Data
- Identifying Pupils at Risk of Poor Socio-Economic Outcomes: The Role of Educational Institutions
- The Socio-Economic Foundations of Education-to-Work Trajectories of Higher Education Graduates in the UK
- The Causes and Consequences of Youth Custody
- Do Subject Requirements of Degree Courses Impose Unfair or Inappropriate Constraints on Who Can Apply, and Impair Efforts to Widen Access to Higher Education? (PhD)
- Degree Apprenticeships as a Route for Widening Participation – Based Access to Higher Education (PhD project)

Some of the key highlights from this research stream are outlined as follows:



### **Research Update on Projects Based on the LEO Datasets**

In 2019–2020, we continued to explore the relationship between higher education and labour market outcomes, drawing research insights from the Department of Education’s Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) dataset. This unique resource has facilitated rich research into the education pathways of individuals and their subsequent employment and earning. Dr Matt Dickson has been working on two projects using this dataset.

The final report in the series of reports for the Department for Education under the project ‘*Analysing employment and earnings returns to higher education degrees using administrative data*’ has been completed and is now awaiting release by the Department for Education (DfE). This report estimates the impact of gaining a post-graduate qualification – masters or PhD – on individual’s earnings at age 35 compared to those who cease education at the undergraduate degree stage. The report was due for release in late March but has been delayed due to COVID-19.

An academic paper based on the previous report in this series – examining the earnings return to undergraduate degrees compared to not attending higher education – has been submitted to the *Journal of the European Economic Association* and is currently under review.

Within this work stream, we have also continued to carry out research on grammar schools and higher education access, with Dr Dickson co-authoring a chapter in a Higher Education Policy Institute occasional paper dedicated to this topic. The research

**In 2019–2020, we continued to explore the relationship between higher education and labour market outcomes, drawing research insights from the Department of Education’s Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) dataset**

featured in an IPR event organised with UCL's Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities, held at Portcullis House, Westminster, and chaired by Lucy Powell MP, Shadow Minister for Business and Consumers. The event included a presentation by Dr Dickson and a panel session chaired by Professor Nick Pearce, and was attended by MPs and civil servants as well as academics and researchers from education think-tanks.

Following the official postponement of all formal examinations during the summer of 2020 in light of the school's shutdown owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr Dickson co-authored a briefing note and an IPR blog highlighting the potential implications for inequality of the '11 plus' examination continuing to take place as planned in September 2020.

Dr Dickson has also carried out further analysis of the impact of the raising of the education participation age from 16 to 17 and then 18, on qualification attainment for the project '*Identifying pupils at risk of poor socio-economic outcomes: the role of educational institutions*'.

We organised an event to be held in April at the University of Bath Pall Mall offices, to launch a special edition of the Oxford Review of Education examining '*Higher Education and the Labour Market*'. The event would feature presentations by Dr Dickson and Dr Predrag Lažetić showcasing their research on graduate outcomes, with discussants from the DfE and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Due to COVID-19 this event has been postponed, with a planned launch later in the year.

In June 2020, we hosted an online roundtable discussion asking '*What will COVID-19 mean for the widening participation in higher education agenda?*'. The event, chaired by Dr Dickson, brought together four leading experts from across the sector to consider the implications of the new landscape for the widening participation agenda.

Dr Dickson is currently organising a further series of IPR online events starting in the Autumn, in partnership with the Widening Participation office at the University of Bath, to consider the challenges of WP in the current pandemic, bringing together researchers, policymakers and WP practitioners to debate the issues and proposed pathways forward.



## **The Socio-Economic Foundations of Education-to-Work Trajectories of Higher Education Graduates in the UK**

Dr Predrag Lažetić continues to work on the project '*The socio-economic foundations of education-to-work trajectories of higher education graduates in the UK*'.

**In February 2020, we received the Longitudinal Destination of Leavers of Higher Education survey (DLHE) data linked with student records from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). This unique dataset will allow an unparalleled investigation into the trajectories of UK graduates through higher education and into the labour market**

In February 2020, we received the Longitudinal Destination of Leavers of Higher Education survey (DLHE) data linked with student records from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). This unique dataset will allow an unparalleled investigation into the trajectories of UK graduates through higher education and into the labour market. The work on this data is ongoing and an article co-authored by Dr Dickson and Dr Lažetić on graduate underemployment in the UK, along with a policy brief and blog, will be completed in the autumn of 2020.

Going forward, the aim with this research is to develop and apply the method of sequence analysis to this unique data in order to analyse the entire education-to-work trajectories of higher education graduates in the UK, with a particular focus on the impact of socio-economic differences.

During this year Dr Lažetić has also published several articles based on his previous research work on higher education students in Europe and on gender differences in graduate job quality across sectors and countries in Europe. He also co-edited the special issue of the *International Journal of Social Methodology* on using creative methods to research across difference.



## **International Collaboration**

Through our widening participation in higher education research stream, we are part of a University of Bath partnership with Stellenbosch University and Forté Hare University applying to the South African Department of Higher Education and Training's University Capacity Development Programme, which is sponsored by the British Council.

The aim of the programme is to increase the number of academic staff in South African Universities who hold doctorates, in order to enhance the quality, success and equity in the South African University system.

We will collaborate in providing quantitative methods training, with a particular focus on policy evaluation. This would fit with a further potential collaboration with the South African government's Centre for Economic Policy and Regulation. We will be looking to help train quantitative social scientists who will have the skills to evaluate economic policies and draw robust conclusions, helping to provide policy guidance to local and national government policymakers.

This collaboration will directly widen participation at the PhD level in a developing world context by helping academics that may not otherwise have the opportunity to get the qualification to obtain their PhD. By doing so this would increase their human

capital and potential for mobility both within their own university career structure and also within the sector as a whole.

This project received approval from the South African Department for Higher Education and Training in January 2020, and though delayed due to COVID-19, the initiative will commence in January 2021.



## **International Connections**

Through our research, we have developed a number of international collaborations. Professor Pearce, Dr Dickson and Dr Larkin are visiting Research Associates of the Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin. Research collaborations with the Kemmy School of Business at the University of Limerick are also underway.

Dr Larkin has maintained research and teaching collaborations with the Krieger School of Arts and Science at Johns Hopkins University, Trinity College Dublin, Dublin City University and the University of Waikato, New Zealand. This has been advantageous for the purposes of publications and research grant applications.

In addition, we are currently developing a pan-European group for researching micro-simulations of Universal Basic Income schemes, in partnership with the University of Freiburg Institute for Basic Income Studies. In January 2020, we were also granted funding from the Bath International Research Funding Scheme to develop research on the declining labour share and income inequality as a result of technological change in developing economies. Dr Garcia-Lazaro is working on this research in collaboration with Professor Armando Sanchez-Vargas, Director of the Institute of Economics Research from the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM). Two journal articles and two seminars in Mexico and the UK are expected from this collaboration. A planned academic visit to Mexico in June 2020 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are also continuing to strengthen our research collaborations with the Republic of Korea, through the Korean Government Overseas Fellowship. This year we welcomed Young Cheol Ji, Director of the Labour Market Analysis Division for the Ministry of Employment and Labour, as part of the Fellowship. During his time with us he worked on the project 'Study of UK labour market conditions and employment quality indicators' - a comparative study between the UK and Korean labour market, and employment quality indicators.



## Publications

**Table 1: IPR published journal articles and books (2019–2020)**

Research Theme	Research Area	Publication Reference
<b>Welfare State, Family and Work</b>		Griffiths, R., Wood, M., Bennett, F. and Millar, J. (2020) <i>Uncharted Territory: Universal Credit, Couples and Money</i> , University of Bath Institute for Policy Research.
		Harrison, S., Davies, A., Dickson, M., Tyrrell, J., Green, M., Katikireddi, S.V., Campbell, D., Munaf, M., Dixon, P., Jones, H., Rice, F., Davies, N., and Howe, L. (2020). 'The Causal Effects of Health Conditions and Risk Factors on Social and Socioeconomic Outcomes: Mendelian Randomization in UK Biobank'. <i>International Journal of Epidemiology</i> , forthcoming.
		Hughes, A., Wade, K., Dickson, M., Rice, F., Davies, A., Davies, N. and Howe, L. (2020). 'Common health conditions in childhood and adolescence, school absence, and educational attainment: Mendelian randomization study'. Under review, <i>Nature Partner Journal Science of Learning</i> .
		Martinelli, L. (2019). <i>Basic Income, Automation and Labour Market Change</i> , University of Bath Institute for Policy Research.
		Martinelli, L. (2019). 'Review article: Philippe Van Parijs (ed.) Basic Income and the Left.' <i>Citizen's Basic Income Trust</i> . Available via: <a href="https://citizensincome.org/book-reviews/review-article-philippe-van-parijs-ed-basic-income-and-the-left/">https://citizensincome.org/book-reviews/review-article-philippe-van-parijs-ed-basic-income-and-the-left/</a>
		Martinelli, L. and Chrisp, J. (2019). 'Neither Left nor Right' in Torry, M. (Ed.) <i>The International Handbook of Basic Income</i> . Palgrave Macmillan.
		Martinelli, L. and Chrisp, J. 'The case for basic income in the emergent digitised economy', in Busemeyer et al. (Eds.) <i>Digitalisation and the Welfare State</i> . Cambridge University Press. <i>Forthcoming</i> .
		Millar, J. and Whiteford, P. (2020) 'Timing it right or timing it wrong: How should income-tested benefits deal with changes in circumstances?' <i>Journal of Poverty and Social Justice</i> 28 (1), pp. 3–20(18), (winner of the FISS 2019 conference best paper award).
		Platt, D., Riches, K., Wijedasa, D., and Wood, M. (2020). Assessment of Parental Capacity to Change where Children may be At Risk of Harm: Evaluation of the C-Change pilot project. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i> , 105265.
		Walker, R. and Millar, J. (2020) 'Editorial: Left Behind? The Status of Women in Contemporary China', <i>Social Inclusion</i> 8(2), pp. 1–9.
	Wood, M., Griffiths, R., Bennett, F. and Millar, J. (2020) <i>Uncharted Territory: Universal Credit, Couples and Money: Technical Report</i> , University of Bath Institute for Policy Research.	
	Young, D. and Summers, K. (2020) 'Universal simplicity? The alleged simplicity of Universal Credit from administrative and claimant perspectives' <i>Journal of Poverty and Social Justice</i> , 28 (2), pp. 169–186(18).	
<b>Evidence, Data and Democracy</b>		Abu-Ghunmi, D., Corbet, S., and Larkin, C. (2020). 'An international analysis of the economic cost for countries located in crisis zones', <i>Research in International Business and Finance</i> , 51, 101090.
		Barrett, S., Corbet, S., and Larkin, C. (2019). 'Sustainability, accountability and democracy: Ireland's Troika experience', <i>Finance Research Letters</i> , 28, pp. 53–60.
		Corbet, S., Dunne, J. J., and Larkin, C. (2019). 'Quantitative easing announcements and high-frequency stock market volatility: Evidence from the United States', <i>Research in International Business and Finance</i> , 48, pp. 321–334.
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., and McMullan, C. (2020). 'The impact of industrial incidents on stock market volatility', <i>Research in International Business and Finance</i> , 52.
		Kayal, B., Abu-Ghunmi, D., Abu-Ghunmi, L., Archenti, A., and Nicolescu, M. (2019). 'An economic index for measuring firm's circularity: The case of water industry', <i>Journal of Behavioural and Experimental Finance</i> , 21, pp. 123–129.



Research Theme	Research Area	Publication Reference
<b>Government, Politics and Policymaking</b>		Ahuja, R., Barrett, S., Corbet, S., and Larkin, C. (2019). 'A way forward: The future of Irish and European union financial regulation', <i>Economic Analysis and Policy</i> , 64, pp. 346–360.
		Barrett, S., Corbet, S., and Larkin, C. (2020). 'Public Accountability and Parliamentary Scrutiny in Finance', <i>European Journal of Risk Regulation</i> , 11 (1), pp. 94–108.
		Bennett, S., Moon, D., Whiting, S. and Pearce, N., (2020), Labouring under a delusion? Scotland's national questions and the crisis of the Scottish Labour Party, <i>Territory, Politics, Governance</i> , DOI: 10.1080/21622671.2020.1743204.
		Chrisp, J. and Pearce, N., (2019) Grey Power: Towards a Political Economy of Older Voters in the UK, <i>Political Quarterly</i> , 90(4), pp. 743–756.
		Coffé, H., Cioroianu, I., and Vandenberghe, M. (2019). Social media networks of political candidates in Belgium's multilevel elections. In <i>Advances in the Empirical and Theoretical Study of Parliaments</i> . Konstanz, Germany.
		Corbet, S. and Larkin, C. (2020). <i>The Effects of German Economic and Political Progress on the Sparkassen Savings Bank System</i> . Available at SSRN: <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=3550849">https://ssrn.com/abstract=3550849</a> or <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3550849">http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3550849</a>
		Corbet, S. and Larkin, C. (2019). 'Populism and extremism: The immediate political challenges to Europeanism', <i>Geoforum</i> , 102, pp. 218–221.
		Larkin, C. (2019). 'Friendship at the Interface of Research and Policymaking Finding a common language', <i>Ireland's Education Yearbook 2019–2020</i> , pp. 357–361.
		Larkin, C. (2019). 'In Irlanda il passato non passa mai', <i>Limes Rivista Italiana di Geopolitica</i> , 19(5).
		Pearce, N. and Massala, T. (2020) <i>Pension Reforms in the UK: 1997–2015</i> . NEST Insight.
		Pearce, N. and Kenny, M. (2019). 'Churchill, Powell and the Conservative 'Brexiteers': The Political Legacies of the Anglosphere', in Wellings, B. and Mycock, A. (Eds.) <i>The Anglosphere: Continuity, Dissonance and Location</i> , Oxford: Oxford University Press.
		Pearce, N., Kenny, M. and Aqui, L. (2020). 'The Empire of England': Enoch Powell, Sovereignty, and the Constitution of the Nation. <i>Twentieth Century British History</i> .
	<b>Science, Technology and Innovation</b>	
		Bates, G. and Backhouse, S. (2019). Preventing image and performance enhancing drug use. It's not all chalk and talk. In van de Ven, K., Mulrooney, K.J.D., and McVeigh, J. (Eds), <i>Human Enhancement Drugs</i> , pp. 280–296.
		Cioroianu, I. (2020). An Agent-Based Model of Cooperation with Cross-Cutting Identity Dimensions. <i>Journal of Computational Social Science</i> . DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s42001-020-00065-w">https://doi.org/10.1007/s42001-020-00065-w</a> .
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., Lucey, B., Meegan, A., and Yarovaya, L. (2020) 'Cryptocurrency reaction to FOMC announcements: Evidence of heterogeneity based on blockchain stack position', <i>Journal of Financial Stability</i> , 46, 100706.
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., and Lucey, B. (2020). 'The contagion effects of the COVID-19 pandemic: Evidence from gold and cryptocurrencies', <i>Finance Research Letters</i> , 35, 101554.
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., Lucey, B., and Yarovaya, L. (2020). 'KODAKCoin: a blockchain revolution or exploiting a potential cryptocurrency bubble?', <i>Applied Economics Letters</i> , 27 (7), pp. 518–524.
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., Lucey, B., Meegan, A., and Yarovaya, L. (2020). 'The impact of macroeconomic news on bitcoin returns', <i>The European Journal of Finance</i> , pp. 1–21.
		Corbet, S., Hou, G., Hu, Y., Larkin, C., and Oxley, L. (2020). 'Any port in a storm: Cryptocurrency safe-havens during the COVID-19 pandemic', <i>Economics Letters</i> , 194, 109377.
		Corbet, S., Larkin, C., Lucey, B., Meegan, A., and Vigne, S. (2019). <i>Cryptocurrency Architecture and Interaction with Market Shocks</i> . Available at SSRN: <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=3369527">https://ssrn.com/abstract=3369527</a> or <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3369527">http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3369527</a>

Research Theme	Research Area	Publication Reference
<b>Science, Technology and Innovation</b>		Zahnow, R., McVeigh, J., Bates, G., and Winstock, A. (2020). Motives and correlates of anabolic-androgenic steroid use with stimulant polypharmacy. <i>Contemporary Drug Problem</i> , 47 (2). DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0091450920919456">https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0091450920919456</a>
		Britton, J., van der Erve, L., Belfield, C., Vignoles, A., Zhu, Y., Walker, I., Dickson, M., Dearden, L., Sibieta, S., and Buscha, F. (2020). 'The impact of different university degrees on early-career earnings'. Under review, <i>Journal of the European Economic Association</i> .
<b>Widening Participation in Higher Education</b>		Brooks, R., Lainio, A. and Lažetić, P. (2020). 'Using creative methods to research across difference: An introduction to the special issue'. <i>International Journal of Social Research Methodology</i> , 23(1), pp. 1–6.
		Brooks, R., Gupta, A. Jayadeva, S., Abrahams, J. and Lažetić, P. (2020). 'Students as political actors? Similarities and differences across six European nations'. <i>British Educational Research Journal</i> . DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1002/berj.3628">https://doi.org/10.1002/berj.3628</a> .
		Davies, N., Dickson, M., Davey Smith, G., Windmeijer, F. and van den Berg, G. (2020). 'The Causal Effects of Education on Adult Health, Mortality and Income: Evidence from Mendelian Randomization and the Raising of the School Leaving Age'. Under review, <i>Journal of Political Economy</i> .
		Dickson, M. and Macmillan, L. (2020). 'A methodological critique' in Furlong, J. and Lunt, I. (Eds.) <i>Social Mobility and Higher Education: Are grammar schools the answer?</i> Higher Education Policy Institute, Occasional Paper 22.
		Lažetić, P. (2020). 'Studying Similarities and Differences in Higher Education Organisations based on their Websites – Comparative Methodological Approaches and Research Potential'. <i>International Journal of Social Research Methodology</i> , 23(1), pp. 75–90.
		Lažetić, P. (2020). 'The gender gap in graduate job quality in Europe – a comparative analysis across economic sectors and countries'. <i>Oxford Review of Education</i> , 41(1), pp. 129–151.

# 4

## **IPR Postgraduate Teaching**



## Teaching

We offer postgraduate courses and doctoral supervision through our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP), our joint MSc in Public Policy, and supervision of seven full-time doctoral students, including through the recently launched UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) Centre for Doctoral Training in Accountable, Responsible and Transparent AI.

### **Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice**

**By the end of 2019, more than 40 mid-career policy professionals from 15 countries were registered on our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP)**

By the end of 2019, more than 40 mid-career policy professionals from 15 countries were registered on our Professional Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice (DPRP).

This year saw the first students successfully graduating. Jeff Farrar's thesis examined incentives and disincentives to interdepartmental collaboration, building on his leadership experience in both the UK Police Force and National Health Service. Seung Jin Baek analysed synergies and trade-offs between economic, social and environmental goals of low-income countries, building on his work as an economist for the UN Economic Commission based in Addis Ababa and Beirut.

The annual two-week residential in Bath took place in September. Students presented work to each other on topics ranging from the role of ethnography in tackling the Ebola epidemic in Sierra Leone to conducting interviews in Westminster and Whitehall.

Since then students have continued to study remotely, while sharing global experiences of the impact of COVID-19, and public policy responses. Applications to join the sixth cohort of DPRP students, starting in September 2020, have been stronger than ever.

### **Masters in Public Policy**

The MSc in Public Policy (MPP) is a part-time two-year course run in conjunction with the Department of Social and Policy Sciences (SPS), that offers students the opportunity to delve into how public policy is made, what shapes it, and how to make a real difference as a policymaker.

Highly applied in nature, the course draws on diverse cases from policymaking globally, as well as from Europe and the UK. Students work with academics from the IPR, Department of Social and Policy Sciences, and Department of Politics, Languages and International

Studies, and link with senior and experienced policymakers from around the world.

In 2018–19, the first year of the course was completed with a cohort of 14. As part of the course, we ran two successful residential in Bath and London. In 2019–20, we recruited 23 students to the new cohort, and 11 of the original cohort are due to complete in September 2020. The students who suspended from the original cohort have either already re-joined the programme to complete their final year, or will do so shortly. The 2019 cohort includes a number of students working in other countries and international governmental organisations.

Due to COVID-19 all residential for first and second years took place online rather than in London. The residential were successful and garnered a very positive response from students.

Interest in the programme continues to increase, and we expect to recruit more than 30 students for September 2020 entry.

A number of the students have gained promotions in their professional roles since starting the programme, and several have pointed to their learning on the programme as instrumental in those processes.

## **Our PhD Students**

**This year a further two PhD students completed their doctorates**

We have several PhD students studying a range of topics including: in-work benefits; universal basic income and its political feasibility; the role of degree apprenticeships in education and training; widening access to higher education; the impact of Universal Credit on low income and non-working families; big data with applications to policing; and income variation.

This year a further two PhD students completed their doctorates: Dr Joan Abbas with *'The Rise of In-Work Benefits? Comparing Provisions in Advanced Welfare States'*; and Dr Joe Chrisp on *'Welfare States in Transition – The Political Economy of Universal Basic Income'*.

### **PhD students in 2019–2020:**

- Joan Abbas, PhD Candidate
- Xinyan Cheng, PhD Candidate, co-supervised with Dr Theresa Smith, Department of Mathematics and Professor Julie Barnett, Department of Psychology
- Joe Chrisp, PhD Candidate
- David Young, PhD Candidate
- Jane Mackay, PhD Candidate, co-supervised with School of Management
- Seren Essex, PhD Candidate, co-supervised with Dr Paul McCombie, Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering
- Levana Magnus, PhD Candidate

# 5

## **IPR Policy Programmes**



## IPR Policy Programmes

**During 2019–2020, we continued to develop our activity and development of relationships of relationships between University of Bath academics and policymakers across Whitehall and the West of England**

During 2019–2020, we continued to develop our activity and development of relationships between University of Bath academics and policymakers across Whitehall and the West of England.

Our policy engagement activities aim to align with core areas of University research strengths and our own expertise, as well as the needs of policymakers. Over the past year this has been achieved through seven streams:

- The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme
- The launch of the IPR Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence
- Our affiliate agreement with the University of Cambridge Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP) Fellowship Programme
- Policy Fellowship Virtual Programme, designed in response to COVID-19
- Contribution to the Civil Service Policy Profession Masterclasses
- Engagement with the Universities Policy Engagement Network (UPEN)
- Visiting Fellowships for civil servants and other policy practitioners from the UK and overseas

### The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme

The IPR Policy Fellowship Programme brings policymakers to the University on one-to-two-day visits to meet with academics in scheduled meetings.

The programme offers senior decision-makers from government, industry and the third sector fresh perspectives on the policy questions they are looking to address in their day-to-day professional roles. Additional follow up activity, between academics and policymakers, is built into the design of each programme visit.

During 2019–2020, 21 Policy Fellows took part in our Policy Fellowship Programmes, and affiliate programme, involving 64 meetings with Bath academics. Forty-two University of Bath academics from eight Departments from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty of Science, the School of Management, the Institute for Coding (IoC) and the IPR met with Fellows.

In March, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we innovatively adapted our Policy Fellowship Programme to a rapid response virtual programme initially aimed at policymakers working on COVID-19 priority areas. Eight Fellows took part in our virtual policy Fellowship Programme.

Some of spin offs from the Policy Fellowship Programme, over the past year, have included:

**During 2019–2020, 21 Policy Fellows took part in our Policy Fellowship Programmes, and affiliate programme, involving 64 meetings with Bath academics**

- Joint funding bids;
- Letters of support for research bids;
- Membership of government advisory panels;
- Delivery of Masterclasses to senior civil servants;
- Fellows sitting as Advisory Board members on research projects;
- PhD placement opportunities and opportunities for ongoing research collaboration;
- The launch of a book inspired by time spent at the IPR;
- Advice for a House of Lords COVID-19 enquiry;
- Advice to the Indian Government on the impact of AI and automation on labour force preparedness in emerging economies.



**Table 2: Policy Fellows During 2019–2020**

Policy Fellow	Job role	Place of work	Number of meetings	Date of visit
Edward Humpherson	Director General for Regulation	UK Statistics Authority	3	9th October 2019
Elizabeth Surkovic (CSaP)	Head of Policy, Resilient Futures	The Royal Society	7	22nd October 2019
Carl El-Khoueiri	Engagement Officer	Big Innovation Centre	7	23rd October 2019
Freya Pascall	Senior Policy Advisor	Office for Artificial Intelligence, UK Government	7	11th November 2019
Edward Gilbert	Team Lead International Directorate	Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport (DCMS)	7	23rd January 2020
Isabelle Scott Jennifer Tyldesley	International Policy Adviser Head of the China Team			
Vicky Fox Nicole Casey Kevin Molloy	Director of Regulation and Insight Head of Assurance and Policy Head of Data, Publication and Validation	Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority (IPSA)	10	3rd and 4th March 2020
Neil Smart Florence Dyer	Senior Policy Adviser Assurance Analyst			
Anvar Sarygulov	Researcher	Bright Blue	7	27th February 2020
Anna Hossain* Samuel Atwell	Senior Policy Advisor	Institute for the Future of Work	2	7th April 2020
Laura Slater*	Development Associate	Equal Education	2	27th April 2020
Amit Kumar Pandey*	Director, Government & Public Sector Advisory Services	Ernst & Young	2	23rd April 2020
Mark Hudson* Tristan Stubbs*	Policy Analyst for Public Services Committee Clerk, Public Services Committee	House of Lords	3	5th May 2020
Steve Haines*	Executive Director, Policy and Campaigns	National Deaf Children's Society	5	12th May
Hugh Knowles*	Chief Executive Office	Friends of the Earth	2	23rd July 2020

\* University of Cambridge Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP) Fellow

## **Feedback from Fellows**

*An excellent opportunity to learn both about research at the University of Bath, and to gather valuable perspectives and expertise to inform policy development. All of the meetings were insightful and valuable. The highest value came from the reflections the academics could make on 'what works' and from the alternative perspective they could provide on the landscape. I have already recommended this programme to colleagues.*

Freya Pascal, Senior Policy Advisor, Office for Artificial Intelligence, UK Government

*We all thoroughly enjoyed the day – every session was incredibly useful, and each academic offered a different perspective. Honestly one of the best courses that we've been on, and the day has given us a huge amount of enthusiasm for our work.*

Edward Gilbert, Team Lead International Directorate, Department for Culture, Media and Sport

*I enjoyed all my meetings, and I had some very informative and interesting discussions at each meeting that made me a lot more informed on the policy areas I am currently working. Taking part in the PFP allowed me to make connections with academics who work in the same policy space, with the meetings informing my thinking and helping me to develop ideas and perspective on various policy areas.*

Anvar Sarygulov, Researcher, BrightBlue

*I wanted to email to say a huge thank you on behalf of all of us for our policy fellowship. We enjoyed it immensely and found it very stimulating. We are already starting to work on how to integrate some of the ideas into our work and are following up with reading some of the speakers' research papers.*

Vicky Fox, Director of Regulation and Insight, IPSA

## **The IPR Affiliate Agreement with The University of Cambridge (CSaP)**

In addition to running our own Policy Fellowship Programme, we have an affiliate agreement with the University of Cambridge Centre for Science and Policy (CSaP). During 2019–2020, we hosted one visit to the university under this affiliation. Further visits were scheduled but were delayed due to COVID-19.

## **The launch of the IPR Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence**

Launched in July 2019, the IPR Policy Fellowship Programme: Artificial Intelligence is structured around tailored one-to-one meetings with selected academic experts who are researching and working in the fields of artificial intelligence (AI), data science, coding, machine learning, policy and ethics. These individual Fellow, or small group, meetings take place over a period of between one and two days at the University of Bath.

The University's interdisciplinary expertise provides perspectives which can inform key areas of policy, including, smart technologies, robotics, human computer interactions, machine learning, big data, the ethics of the application of AI to common public sector issues such as equality and non-discrimination in decision-making and healthcare technologies. In addition, our post-graduate provision trains and develops people for the future of AI skills and knowledge in the UK.

The Programme aims to engage academics across the University and to inspire Policy Fellows with new ideas and perspectives.

Since the launch of the PFP: AI we have had Fellows take part from The Department of Culture, Media and Sport, The Office for Artificial Intelligence, The Big Innovation Centre and IPSA. Additionally, meetings were scheduled with Fellows from The Centre for Data, Ethics and Innovation, The Home Office and The Cabinet Office, which were postponed due to COVID-19.

**Since the launch of the PFP: AI we have had Fellows take part from The Department of Culture, Media and Sport, The Office for Artificial Intelligence, The Big Innovation Centre and IPSA**

### **Masterclasses**

In October 2019, Dr Joanna Bryson (Computer Science), Dr Özgür-Şimşek (Computer Science) and Dr Iulia Cioroianu delivered a Masterclass: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Algorithms and Ethics to 40 senior Civil Servants as part of the Policy Profession's Masterclass series.

The Masterclass explored the increasing use of public and private use of AI, how changing technology impacts individuals and governments, and how we can ensure that those using AI remain accountable while not hindering their ability to provide social value.

### **The Universities Policy Engagement Network (UPEN)**

The Universities Policy Engagement Network, UPEN, is a network of 50 UK universities who are working together to increase the public policy impact from their research.

UPEN offers a dedicated contact point for policymakers, and a collective response to requests for evidence.

It organises knowledge exchange events with government, parliament, devolved bodies, and identifies mechanisms to take forward specific projects.

Amy Thompson, Head of Policy Programmes and Communications in the IPR, is the lead contact between the UPEN network and the University of Bath. Activities over the past year have included disseminating to relevant parties: calls for evidence, academic advice on COVID-19 priority areas, academic placements and secondment opportunities for staff.

### **Some highlights of activities include:**

- In July 2019 four University of Bath academics were proposed to be included in a new HMRC database of researchers involved in different aspects of taxation.
- In August 2019 Professor Julie Barnett (Psychology) and Dr Marianne Ellis (Chemical Engineering) responded to a Call for Evidence from The Food Standards Agency for the Independent Review that will support the development of a National Food Strategy, led by Sir Henry Dimbleby.
- In November 2019 Professor Sue Maguire was invited to join the Government Equalities Office's Workplace and Gender Equality (WAGE) Academic Network.
- In February 2020 three academics – Professor Nick Pearce, Professor Ania Zalewska (School of Management) and Dr Thomais Massala – were put forward to the Private Pensions Analysis, Pensions and Later Life Analysis Division, Department for Work and Pensions to explore the link between workplace pension saving and climate change, and/or Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors more generally.
- In April 2020, five academics were submitted to The Department for Trade who were looking for experts who could advise on the 'impact of coronavirus on international trade'.
- In June 2020, in light of COVID-19, GO-Science asked for academic help to identifying the research questions government would need to address in the next 12 months to five years, and that built on the government departments' existing Areas of Research Interest documents. 58 University of Bath academics

were submitted to GO Science as potential participants in soon-to-be established working groups, and 13 Research Centres or Institutes that could contribute to the thematic areas.

**Significant numbers of policy-academic links and relationships have been established across many government departments and with a wide range of government employees both locally and centrally**

## **The Impact of IPR's Policy Engagement Work**

Our policy engagement work has brought important benefits to the IPR and the University. Significant numbers of policy-academic links and relationships have been established across many government departments and with a wide range of government employees both locally and centrally. These relationships have helped strengthen research bids as well as our ability to get policy relevant research to policymakers. In addition we have a strong and growing policy alumni network who have been very supportive of, and engaged with, our work.

# 6

## **Events and Communications**



**Between September 2019 and August 2020, we delivered a varied and highly engaging programme of 27 events**

**During the reporting period, we also ran a public lecture series, 'The future is in our lands', which focused on the future of UK land and farming, sustainable food production, and the protection of our ecosystems**

## **IPR Events**

Between September 2019 and August 2020, we delivered a varied and highly engaging programme of 27 events which included six public lectures, 10 research seminars and webinars, two symposia, five publication launches, and three co-hosted events with the Bristol Festival of Ideas and the UCL Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities (CEPEO).

Approximately 3,000 people attended our events this year, both in-person and online, and we have gained an additional reach through our Policy Podcast series, which currently has a total of 44,852 listens, and our online lectures, which have received a total of 4,235 views.

### **IPR Public Lectures**

Our portfolio of guest public lecture speakers has been outstanding during the reporting period with speakers including: Director General at UK Statistics Authority, Ed Humpherson; IPR Global Chair and William B. Ransford Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Columbia University, Professor Timothy Mitchell; former HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, Professor Nicholas Hardwick; and former Permanent Secretary of the Department for Exiting the European Union, Philip Rycroft.

### **The Future is in our Lands Public Lecture Series**

During the reporting period, we also ran a public lecture series, 'The future is in our lands', which focused on the future of UK land and farming, sustainable food production, and the protection of our ecosystems.

As part of the series we welcomed an array of high profile speakers including the Chief Executive of Friends of the Earth, Craig Bennett; Founding Director and Chief Executive of the Sustainable Food Trust, Patrick Holden; Policy and Strategy Director at the Soil Association, Joanna Lewis; Owner and Farmer at Castle Farm Organics, Jo Edwards; Co-Founder of Let Us Grow, Jack Farmer; and Director of Rewilding Britain, Professor Alastair Driver.

To-date the series has proven to be incredibly popular with the local community, with 1,100 registrations and 900 attendees. Of the attendees, 78% had not attended an IPR event previously.

## **IPR Research Seminars**

This year we have hosted 10 research seminars. These are academic – and practitioner – led events, which aim to engage University of Bath research with current debate and issues in the policy world. The overall aim is to discuss policy issues, concerns and ideas on specific themes and to foster a shared language across the research/policy divide and research/policy links. They are open to all members of the University, policymakers, and practitioners.

This year, seminars have included: ‘NHS: A 30-year circle’; ‘Europe’s future global role in an uncertain world’; and ‘Capitalism and climate change: In-conversation with Professor Timothy Mitchell’. Speakers have included: Senior fellow at the Institute for Government and the King’s Fund, Nicholas Timmins; Advisor (Analytics) to the Swedish Foreign Ministry, Mats Karlsson; and IPR Global Chair and William B. Ransford Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Columbia University, Professor Timothy Mitchell.

## **Webinar Series in Response to COVID-19**

**This year we also organised a webinar series which addressed the political and social consequences of the coronavirus pandemic**

This year we also organised a webinar series which addressed the political and social consequences of the coronavirus pandemic. Titles included: ‘COVID-19 and global perspectives on UBI’; ‘How will COVID-19 impact the widening participation in higher education agenda?’; ‘In the time of AIDS in the age of COVID-19’; ‘End of life care and bereavement support amid COVID-19’; and ‘Lockdown and young people: Consequences and looking ahead’.

We welcomed speakers from across the University of Bath, including: IPR colleagues Professor Nick Pearce, Dr Aida Garcia-Lazaro, Dr Luke Martinelli, and Dr Matt Dickson; Dr John Troyer, Dr Chao Fang and Dr Paul Smith from the Centre for Death and Society; Dr Shona McIntosh from the Department of Education; and Dr Maria Loades from the Department of Psychology.

We also welcomed external speakers including: Senior Research Fellow at IPPR Scotland, Rachel Statham; Research and Policy Manager at the Sutton Trust, Rebecca Montacute; Professor of Education at Bath Spa University, Charlotte Chadderton; Associate Professor of Sociology at LSE, Dr Sam Friedman; Chair of the Office for Students student panel, Martha Longdon; Consultant Nurse in Palliative Care at the Royal Free London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Dr Jo Wilson; and Director of Programmes and Knowledge at The Martin James Foundation, Dr Justin Rogers.



## **IPR Symposia**

IPR symposia are designed to further share our research and best practice. We look to work with experts in their fields both within the UK and internationally, from academics to policymakers to policy practitioners.

Over the last year we have held two symposia, including our annual symposium 'This is tomorrow', and 'Welfare systems in UK, Finland and Europe'. Speakers included: Martin Jacques, author, broadcaster and speaker; Sarah Hunter, Director of Public Policy at X; Gavin Kelly, Chair of Resolution Foundation and Chair of Living Wage Commission; plus colleagues from the University of Turku and Kela.

## **IPR Co-Hosted Events**

This year we co-hosted two events with the Bristol Festival of Ideas. These included '*Can both cities and towns prosper?*' as part of the Festival of the Future City, and '*What is democracy?*' Both events took place at the Watershed, Bristol.

We also co-hosted a panel debate with UCL CEPEO, which took place in Portcullis House, UK Parliament. As part of the event '*Are grammar schools good for social mobility?*', we welcomed Lucy Powell MP; Director of CEPEO, Professor Lindsey Macmillan; Dr Queralt Capsada-Munsech from the University of Glasgow; Professor Alice Sullivan from UCL; Director of the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI), Nick Hillman; author and former Director of the Equality Trust, Duncan Exley; and Executive Director and Head of Research at the Education Policy Institute, Natalie Perera.

## **Publication Launches**

This year we ran five launch events for upcoming and released research reports and books.

We launched Dr Luke Martinelli's report, '*Basic income, automation and labour market change*' in Pall Mall, London, and welcomed Executive Director of IPPR, Carys Roberts.

'*Pension Reforms in the UK: 1997 to 2015*', published by Nest Insight, and authored by Professor Nick Pearce and Dr Thomais Massala, was launched at The Royal Society in London.

We launched '*Reactionary democracy: How racism and the populist far right became mainstream*', published by Policy Press, and authored by Dr Aaron Winter and Dr Aurelien Mondon. The launch took place online, and welcomed hosts of the Surviving Society podcast, Chantelle Lewis and Tissot Regis.

Also online, we launched *'Uncharted territory: Universal Credit, couples and money'* – the first report from the ESRC-funded study, *'Couples balancing work, money and care: exploring the shifting landscape under Universal Credit'*. The launch welcomed contributions from some of the report's authors – Professor Jane Millar, Fran Bennett and Dr Rita Griffiths – as well as Chief Executive of the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG), Alison Garnham.

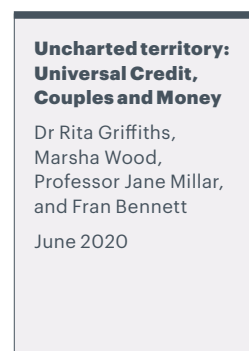
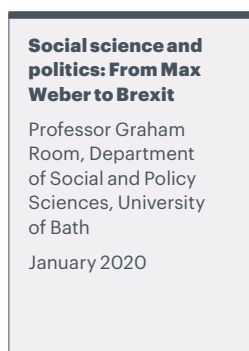
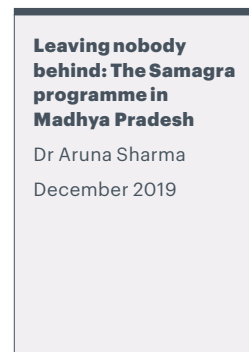
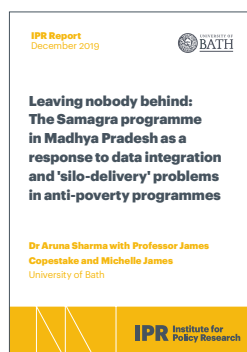
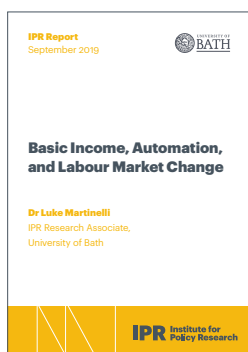
We also launched *'Culture and values at the heart of policymaking: An insider's guide'*, published by Policy Press, and authored by former IPR Policy Fellow, Stephen Muers. The launch included a contribution from Senior Research Fellow at the UK in a Changing Europe, Jill Rutter.



## IPR Publications

We have produced four reports during the reporting year. All our publications were delivered to strategic and key contacts working in relevant fields to each report's findings and/or recommendations.

Our publications during 2019–2020:





## Media

We have assisted in the development of press opportunities for a number of academics, where there have been strong links or relevance to our research. As a result, we have received coverage in over 100 media outlets, including *The Telegraph*, *BBC*, *Financial Times*, and *The Economist*, on topics ranging from universal basic income to democracy and civic participation. Highlights include:

**We have received coverage in over 100 media outlets, including *The Telegraph*, *BBC*, *Financial Times*, and *The Economist*, on topics ranging from universal basic income to democracy and civic participation**

- The release of our report, '*Uncharted territory: Universal Credit, couples and money*', authored by Dr Rita Griffiths, Marsha Wood, Professor Jane Millar, and Fran Bennett, received coverage in over 50 media outlets.
- Dr Griffiths appeared on BBC Radio 4 *You and Yours* to discuss Universal Credit.
- Professor Nick Pearce appeared on Sky News to discuss election manifestos.
- Visiting speaker Philip Rycroft appeared on the *BBC Sunday Politics* show, coinciding with his IPR Public Lecture.
- Our blog, '*Is SARS-CoV-2 mutating, and does this matter?*', written by Professor Edward Feil, was picked up and re-posted by *The Spectator*.



## Social Media, IPR Policy Podcast, IPR Videos, IPR Blog

We utilise social media platforms to engage with interested individuals and organisations. Over the last year we have developed our use and engagement on all platforms, and significantly increased our following.



### IPR Policy Podcast

Our Policy Podcast series was launched to enable people who miss our events, or those located internationally, to catch up on the best of our lectures and seminars. To-date, we have 49 podcasts with a total of 44,852 listens.



## **IPR Videos**

Our videos enable people who miss our events to catch up or re-visit the best of our lectures and seminars, and view the presentations. Our videos also inform viewers about the variety of programmes we offer. To-date, we have 82 videos.



## **IPR blog**

Our blog offers expert analysis, debate and comment on recent developments across UK government, policy and academia. The blog is for researchers, academics and policy experts to comment on a range of topical policy-relevant issues, with the potential to reach a wide audience. We publish posts that reflect the expertise in research at the University of Bath and mirror the current priorities of external policy stakeholders and research funders.

To date we have published 375 posts and received a total of 165,796 blog hits. We achieve an average readership of c.7000 a month.




## **IPR Newsletter**


We are continuing to distribute a bi-monthly newsletter to our mailing list, which summarises our latest news, events, research and publications. This continues to be an effective method for engaging with external stakeholders who are not on social media.

During 2019–2020, our newsletter was delivered to 28,067 recipients.





## Discover more about the IPR

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