

Institution: London School of Economics and Political Science
Unit of Assessment: 16: Economics and Econometrics
<p>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>The Department of Economics at LSE is one of the leading Economics Departments in the world, looking back on a history over a century long, during which it has been consistently at the forefront of intellectual developments in the discipline. With typically over 60 faculty and over 1,000 students it is also one of the largest Economics Departments. It offers a thriving environment for research and study with leading scholars in most mainstream areas. Maintaining and further developing excellence in academic research alongside practical engagement and training of the next generation of economists has been and remains the central goal of the Department.</p> <p>In the QS World University Rankings by subject, in Economics and Econometrics, LSE ranked number five in 2020 behind Harvard, MIT, Stanford, and Berkeley, tied with Princeton. In the Tilburg University Top 100 Worldwide Economics Schools Research Ranking based on research contribution between 2015-2019 LSE ranked number four, just below Chicago, Harvard, and Stanford. These departments and many ranked below us are in well-endowed universities with more resources than we can draw on.</p> <p>The Department of Economics is a core asset of the London School of Economics. The Department educates a large number of students from undergraduate to research training, it accounts for a significant part of School revenues and expenditures, and it engages widely in the intellectual life of the School. Many academics who trained as economists also work in other departments throughout the School. Taken together, LSE Economics contributes significantly to the external profile and international recognition of the School.</p> <p>The approach to research in the Department is bottom-up, giving researchers the freedom to develop their ideas while allowing them to draw on feedback and advice from excellent colleagues. The Department's size, frequent visitors, and a vibrant series of weekly seminars with internationally renowned speakers as well as conferences contribute to this by constantly exposing staff and PhD students to new ideas and allowing for interactions with prominent economists.</p> <p>Directly affiliated to the Department are four research centres that are critical for the success of our research strategy: the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), the Suntory and Toyota International Centres for Economics and Related Disciplines (STICERD), the Centre For Macroeconomics (CFM), and the International Growth Centre (IGC). All are housed, together with the Department of Economics, under one roof in 32 Lincoln's Inn Fields. In addition to providing essential infrastructure and research support, the research centres also serve as the interface between academic research and practical engagement. The Department also maintains strong links with the Financial Markets Group (FMG), a long-standing research centre based in the Department of Finance at the LSE, with the Institute for Global Affairs, which has now been subsumed into the new School of Public Policy, and the more recently established Marshall Institute, which studies private action for public benefit.</p> <p>The research centres play a key role in raising external research funds and most individual grants raised by Department faculty are administered by the centres. The centres also support newly recruited faculty to raise such research funds. The centres provide much of the administrative backbone for many of the activities relevant to our research environment: running seminars and conferences, hosting visitors, providing research assistant opportunities for PhD students, and the dissemination of research findings. In addition, the centres are a key avenue to facilitate the impact and engagement resulting from our work through such avenues as media work, general audience publications, collaboration with policy-makers and public events.</p>

The research focus of the Department and centres is broad, covering all mainstream fields of economics. The Department is proud to have particular strengths in the following areas at the moment:

- Political economy and development economics
- Productivity and growth
- Inequality, labour markets, and public economics

and the Department's presence in business cycle macroeconomics is growing.

As of 31 July 2020, the UOA has 66 academic and research staff. The Department also has a large PhD programme, with between 11 and 26 PhD students in the cohorts from 2013-14 to 2019-20: usually there are about 100 to 120 PhD students in the Department at any one time.

The Department dedicates significant resources to maintaining and improving its standing in the economics profession. Our hiring and promotion policies are central to this aim, along with efforts to foster a departmental culture conducive to first-rate research and an environment in which junior faculty and research students can hone their expertise and develop into world-class researchers. By attracting some of the world's top researchers, which have included a number of Nobel Prize winners over the decades, the Department is able to enhance the intellectual atmosphere of the entire scholarly community.

Recruitment of world-leading faculty including in emerging fields has been one of the important means to deliver our objectives. We have been successful in recruiting faculty with interests in political economy, behavioural economics, field experiments (often using randomized control trials) and business cycle analysis in a strategic way. In the next five years, we intend to recruit researchers who are at the frontier of data science, in line with the LSE2030 strategy to develop an important footprint in at the intersection of this growing area with the social sciences.

The PhD programme of the Department plays an integral part in our research strategy. We treat our PhD students as peers and collaborators. To be able to do this, we expend great care on the selection and recruitment of promising PhD candidates, just as we do in faculty hiring. Once at the LSE, the students become quickly integrated into the research communities in the Department and research centres, where they work as research assistants and often become collaborators on projects. As we detail below, our PhD students obtain excellent academic placements upon finishing.

The Department's mission since the REF2014 has been to be a leader in research, economics education, and public engagement, both at the national and international level. We believe that we have achieved our objectives to produce original ideas that advance our understanding of economic interactions and shed light on major international policy debates and to rank among the top economics departments worldwide by academic publications and research impact, as we hope our outputs, impact case studies, and the remainder of this statement demonstrate.

Our goal for the coming five-year period is to further strengthen the leading position of the Department. We have been building up our macroeconomics group considerably over the past 10 years and strive to have the best group in Europe in this area. We have a lot of strength across the areas of economic growth, business cycle analysis, and monetary policy but we plan to hire additional staff in international macroeconomics. At the same time, we are planning to secure new funding for the Centre for Macroeconomics in order to enable effective research and outreach in this area. Similarly, the Department has done well in the field of international trade and economic geography but we need to add a senior faculty member in this area. We are also planning to become a major player in the economics of gender. We have various senior colleagues engaged in this area already and are planning to add junior researchers and attract funds to support their work. We will build on the environment we already have, including our research centres, to enable researchers to carry out ground-breaking research, to relate this research to policy debates, inform the wider world about the results, and engage directly in the policy domain in an advisory capacity.

We are committed to identifying and pursuing opportunities to achieve wider research impact from academically excellent research and the expertise created in conducting such research. The research in the Department and centres is very diverse, ranging from highly theoretical to very applied and the tradition of the Department has always been to play host to this entire spectrum. Given this range and the size of the Department, there are numerous opportunities for knowledge exchange and impact and many colleagues are engaged in these activities. The spirit that research should inform the wider world is deeply embedded in the fabric of the School, the Department, and particularly the research centres.

The audience for our knowledge exchange and impact activities is wide ranging, from the general public to policy-makers. The main goal of our research is always to answer important questions and to influence the academic discourse in the discipline and the wider social sciences. Important research finds its way into the public domain. Proactive pathways to impact include: the production of research summaries for a general audience disseminated through social media, centre publications, external platforms like VoxEU; direct contact with journalists and news outlets; public lectures; engagement with policy-making bodies; and collaboration with other research organisations. Colleagues give evidence to parliamentary committees, advise government bodies, carry out commissioned policy research and sit on important advisory or policy-making bodies (as noted in Section 4, Professor Tenreyro is a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee and Professor Manning was Chair of the Migration Advisory Committee to the Home Office). Partnerships with UK and international policy agencies play an important role for our activities. LSE researchers, within the IGC and the Marshall Institute, are at the forefront of the "co-generation of knowledge", working to combine projects in the field with significant academic value with immediate scalability into policy interventions. Our impact case study by Oriana Bandiera and Robin Burgess on improving the conditions of the ultra-poor particularly illustrates this approach.

Our impact-generating activities therefore range from sharing our research results in forms that allow much wider non-academic use to helping users solve specific problems by leveraging the research expertise of colleagues. The missions and infrastructure of the research centres provide an important backbone to the continued vitality and success of these impact activities of the UOA, through various publications and media, existing networks including policy-makers and journalists, and the administrative capacity for a variety of events. The research centres are led by colleagues with strong interests in KEI. These structures are creating an environment where extra-academic impact flourishes.

The impact case studies submitted by the UOA reflect these different approaches. Impacts described in the case study by Tim Besley on state capacity and development and by John van Reenen to increase firms' productivity by identifying and promoting sound management practices are underpinned by academic work which asks fundamental questions about the functioning of the social world. The case study by Dimitri Vayanos, Ricardo Reis, and Luis Garicano on a safer financial system for the Eurozone and by Paul Dolan, Richard Layard, and Laura Kudrna on the role of happiness in public policy start more directly with questions about the policy process. They draw on existing research and create new research output to address these issues. The above mentioned case study by Oriana Bandiera and Robin Burgess on the ultra-poor combines aspects of both these approaches.

The multifaceted research themes of colleagues in the Department and the wide-ranging methodologies used are a springboard for interactions with scholars in many other disciplines at the LSE and elsewhere. This engagement is also facilitated by the fact that many economists work in other departments of the School together with academics from other disciplines. For example, the Department has a vibrant group in political economy, which collaborates closely with political scientists in other Departments around the School. Work in urban economics and economic geography benefits from the CEP's Spatial Economics Research Centre and their affiliated colleagues in the Department of Geography and Environment. The Wellbeing Programme of the CEP cooperates with colleagues in the Department for Psychological and Behavioural Sciences. The Department also participates in the School's Beveridge 2.0 initiative,

which brings social scientists together across the School to discuss the future of the welfare state.

The School has embraced the move towards an open access publication environment and colleagues make use of this through LSE Research Online (LSERO) and gold publication routes where required by funders. Beyond this, the economics discipline has a long history of disseminating research findings early in the research process through working papers. The research centres of the Department all run working paper series, which are widely distributed and used actively by UOA members, further contributing to an open research environment. Working papers on Economics in LSERO are harvested by REPEC, making them even more discoverable. Tim Besley is Editor in Chief of *LSE Public Policy Review* which is published fully Open Access via LSE Press.

In addition to sharing the final outputs of research via open access publication routes, the Department also fully supports the initiative to engage in open data sharing and archiving. For example, datasets for two ESRC sponsored studies, Stephen Machin's "Supporting the Industrial Strategy" and Greg Fischer's "Experimental Microfinance Data on Contract Structure, Risk Sharing and Investment Choice" were deposited in the UK Data Archive. Many of our researchers also choose to publish datasets via the trusted data repository Harvard Dataverse. Examples include Alwyn Young, John Van Reenen and Xavier Jaravel.

The Department and the research centres support the maintenance of high ethical standards in their research conduct. Most of the frontline oversight is done by the research centre directors and programme directors. This is true for peer reviewing and quality controlling research grant applications prior to submission to the funding bodies. Research involving human participants or identifiable personal data is subject to scrutiny under the auspices of the LSE Research Ethics Committee.

Section 2. People

The research strategy of the Department of Economics is excellence in all core subject areas, combined with a global focus. This is both supported and implied by our policy of recruiting only the best-performing candidates, independent of field and background. Recruiting the most talented economists in a competitive international market is difficult, and the LSE has consistently supported the Department in recruiting and retaining leading researchers at both junior and senior levels.

The Department is large with about 60 full-time positions. Given its size, there is a lot of natural turnover, and we constantly have open positions and are typically searching for new colleagues at both the junior and senior level every year. The size and breadth of the Department also means that we do not need to hire simply to fill slots in specific fields or for specific teaching needs. As a result, we recruit academic colleagues solely based on individual merit and potential, drawing on the largest possible international pool of candidates. Because we can hire every year and can make multiple job offers in every hiring round, we can also be very ambitious in our offers, accepting that many of our offers will be declined. Since research activity is administered by the research centres, the Department does not employ research staff on short-term contracts but the externally funded centres CEP and CFM hire such staff with grant resources.

Regardless of rank, once joining the Department, new members are immediately integrated into the intellectual life of the Department through involvement in seminars, formal teaching, and research in close collaboration with colleagues longer established at the LSE. Junior colleagues frequently co-teach a high-level course with a more senior staff member; they have a great deal of opportunity to co-author research papers; and they interact with senior colleagues in seminars. New members of the Department typically also become directly associated with one or more of the research centres.

The Department provides out of its own revenues research funds for both faculty and students: currently each faculty member is awarded £2,000 every year; newly hired junior faculty receive an additional £25,000 start-up funds and are supported through additional research funds on an individual basis. The Department raises the funds for this purpose from its engagement in the LSE Summer School, the University of London International Programme, and executive teaching. The main financing of our research activity happens through the research centres by raising external funds. The centres can often draw on their grants or income stream to offer initial research support to new hires who fit into their research programme as well.

On top of natural interactions occurring among colleagues within their research field, all junior members of the Department are also mentored by a professor outside their field, who discusses with them their work, career plans, achievements, and research trajectory. The mentor is careful to seek a balance between teaching, administration duties, and research for the new colleague: while research activity is to be emphasised, the Department is an academic organisation that undertakes the complete range of university activity. All new members of the Department receive a reduced teaching load in their first two years and retain a slightly lower teaching load until Major Review. We adapt flexibly to the circumstances to support junior academics. For example, during the Covid-19 lockdown we started a junior seminar series in order to make up for the lost opportunities from many cancelled conferences and external seminars these colleagues would normally attend.

In addition to Department provided teaching reductions, all academic staff receive a full year of sabbatical after seven years of full-time teaching. Unpaid leave is also available to allow academics to visit other institutions. Sabbatical and leave requests are routinely granted as the Department can manage individual absences from teaching relatively easily due to its size. The following number of terms of sabbatical leave were taken by Department staff during the REF period, with the split between males and females roughly reflecting the gender composition in the Department:

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Cumul.
Female	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	11
Male	2	7	10	8	11	8	11	57
Total	4	9	11	9	13	9	13	68

Except for the early career reduction, the notional teaching load is 100 contact hours per year for all Departmental faculty. Actual teaching loads are typically significantly lower as most faculty are able to attract research funding, either internal or external, which enables them to buy out some teaching time. The Department welcomes staff members raising funds for such buyouts. Inside the School, sources of buyout money include our main research centres, STICERD, CEP and CFM. Outside the School, the main sources are ESRC, the ERC, Leverhulme, and the British Academy. The Department, the centres, and the School's Research and Innovation Division provide advice and assistance in applying for and obtaining research grants.

The Department participates in the LSE Academic Career Development Scheme, monitoring non-professorial colleagues annually to discuss research, teaching and collegiality. An annual written report is prepared jointly by a Professor and the early-career researcher for the Head of Department to co-sign, and then filed with HR. This process is strictly monitored both by the Department's internal processes and the School's Human Resources Division.

Individual performance of non-professorial faculty is also monitored by the Departmental Promotion and Reviews Committee, a sub-committee of the Professors of Economics Committee that is chaired by the Deputy Head of Department for Research. This Committee is the body responsible for guiding the academic promotion and review process according to Departmental procedures. The guidelines require that for each candidate for promotion an internal committee consisting of three Professors provides a detailed appraisal of research achievements and citizenship. The committee also obtains at least ten independent evaluations

by external referees of a candidate's research quality and international standing. During the REF period, the introduction of the New Academic Career structure with an up-or-out review by the end of the eighth year has been established at the LSE, and all junior colleagues are now subject to this regime. In response, we have sharpened the monitoring of the progress made by junior faculty after their Interim Review in year four and provide tailored support and guidance for junior colleagues ahead of their Major Review.

An important feature of the LSE's review and promotions process is the reading of four publications by a School-wide Promotions Committee. This signals a focus on the candidates' most important work rather than on the length of the CV. We very much stress this vis-à-vis our junior colleagues and encourage them to work on important questions where they can make a real difference. As a result, many of them grow into accomplished researchers in their field at the LSE.

A Junior Recruitment Committee, comprised of both junior and senior faculty, coordinates the junior hiring over a five-month period. The committee shortlists about 12 to 20 candidates among the applicants, in some years after interviews of a larger number at the meetings organised by the AEA or EEA. All faculty members are invited by the committee to provide their views at the shortlisting stage. The Department then hosts the shortlisted candidates through January and February. These candidates present a research seminar attended by the entire Department and meet faculty members during their visit. At the end of this process, the Department decides on the best candidates and then makes, on average, four to six Assistant Professor offers.

In contrast to the time-focused junior recruitment process, the Senior Recruitment Committee is constantly looking for new hires. This Committee provides a first layer of early information-gathering, to make sure that time is well spent on all sides. After due discussion, selected individuals are invited to visit, present research work, and meet other members of the Department. The timing of these visits is less constrained than for junior recruits, and so can, in principle, occur anytime during the academic year. At the end of this process, the Professors decide whether to recommend any offers to the School based on substantive discussions at two meetings and the reading of ten or more external letters of evaluation in addition to an internal report.

The Department has had considerable success with academic recruitment. At the professorial level we have attracted Benjamin Moll (previously Professor at Princeton), Nava Ashraf (previously Associate Professor at Harvard Business School, also appointed as Research Director, Marshall Institute), Stephen Machin (previously Professor at UCL, also appointed as CEP Director), Ricardo Reis (previously Professor at Columbia) and Philippe Aghion (half time shared with College de France, previously Professor at Harvard), and we rehired John Van Reenen, who left the Department to become a Professor at MIT. Michael Callen joined as an Associate Professor from UCSD. At the Assistant Professor level, we recruited Rachael Meager (PhD MIT), Daniel Reck (Michigan), Xavier Jaravel (Harvard), David Baqaee (Harvard), Shengxing Zhang (NYU), and Yike Wang (Chicago).

These hires have substantially strengthened the Department in the areas of monetary economics and business cycle analysis (Moll, Reis, Baqaee, and Zhang) and on productivity and growth (Aghion, van Reenen, Jaravel), while adding to our existing strength in development economics (Ashraf, Callen, Meager) and public economics (Jaravel, Reck).

Research staff in the research centres are typically junior researchers who just or recently obtained their PhD. They would normally join an existing research project on which they work in collaboration with more senior colleagues and become co-authors. Like junior faculty in the Department, these researchers are integrated into the wider research environment of their centre and the entire UOA: they attend seminars and have ample opportunities to interact with a variety of LSE staff and visitors. All these interactions give them plenty of scope to grow and

mature under the mentorship of more senior colleagues. As this happens, they often also work on their own projects, sometimes raising their own funds as principal investigators.

The Department and its associated research centres are involved in a substantial amount of applied research, and many researchers are interested and engaged in taking research results into the public domain outside academia. Section 4 gives details of many of these activities. The research centres provide infrastructural support for such engagement, including by organising public events, policy panels, non-academic publications to disseminate research results and providing a social media presence. The International Growth Centre is directly built on the premise of integrating research with policy-making processes in a two-way interaction. A lot of the funds for impact activities therefore come from the external fundraising of the centres.

The Department has no formal mechanisms for rewarding impact activities as the existing model work well, drawing on the interests and motivations of staff, which are in turn supported by both the mission and infrastructure of the research centres. We are able to generate a large amount of impact activities without creating negative impacts on the workloads of particular colleagues. On some occasions, when a colleague takes on a particularly substantial and important role in this area in the School or the public arena, this is supported through reductions in teaching or administrative responsibilities.

The Department runs a large PhD programme and we see our doctoral students as an important and integral part of our research environment. Over recent years, the Department has apportioned an increasing amount of resources to the training and development of research students, teaching them over two years in a set of dedicated courses. The Department and the School are substantially increasing this investment during the REF period through 16 PhD Scholarships per year, administered at the Department level, which will allow us to compete more strongly with the very well-funded top US PhD programmes.

Our PhD students work in all major areas within economics. The Department offers a comprehensive range of advanced field seminars in which our students are able to appreciate the most recent research advances. The research environment offers ample opportunities for informal interaction with more senior researchers, and students are integrated into research groups formed across the Department and in associated research centres.

The Department aims to recruit 20-25 research students to its MRes/PhD programme each year. The doctoral programme offers structured research training and supervision by faculty members prominent in their fields. Specifically, the MRes/PhD programme is grounded in a rigorous two-year coursework component and strong research element. In the first year, our students take core courses in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Econometrics. In the second year, they take PhD-level field courses, which might continue into the third year, and write a supervised research paper. After this extensive and formalised training component, students enter a more apprenticeship-based component by developing their dissertation under faculty supervision from the third year onwards. Dissertations consist of three chapters with the expectation that these will be turned into journal articles upon completion.

Each research student has a main supervisor and a second advisor/supervisor from among the Department's faculty, based on fields of interest. Typically, however, de facto supervision and advice are provided throughout the student's LSE career by the entire group of Department faculty in the student's research area—both through seminar interaction and individual consultations.

All research students and faculty working in specific areas participate in the corresponding field seminars organised within the Department and research centres. These research seminars, held weekly during term time, are organised around presentation of research in progress by Department and visiting faculty and are attended by 30 to 50 faculty and PhD students. We find that a great deal of research training is imparted to our research students in these seminars, as this is where they see faculty and outside researchers thinking through research problems.

Discussion in these seminars is always lively. PhD students also have the opportunity to meet seminar speakers in small groups or in one-to-one meetings outside the seminar.

In addition, research students participate in field specific work in progress (WIP) seminars, where they present their own developing research and receive feedback and guidance. Faculty in the various research fields get a good idea of the progress of PhD students through these WIP seminars. At a more formal level, the PhD Programme Director monitors progress and PhD supervision through annual progress reports completed by both students and supervisors.

Starting in 2019/20, the Department of Economics with support from the School has begun to create 16 PhD Scholarships paying a stipend of £22,000 in addition to fee remission for five years, which will complement PhD fellowships obtained from ESRC or other funding students may obtain from external sources. In conjunction with introducing these scholarships, we have stepped up our efforts in recruiting PhD students. We put great care in the admissions process of our PhD applicants to select highly talented individuals. We also work hard in recruiting the applicants we admit to our programme. In 2019, we ran our first PhD Open Day, where we invited admitted applicants to visit the LSE for a day or two and meet faculty and current PhD students, and get a feel for the environment in the Department. In the last two years, we managed to attract new PhD cohorts which include applicants with competing offers from PhD programmes like Chicago, Northwestern, Yale, Columbia, Berkeley and Penn.

Research students have desk-space in the Department to maximise interaction with faculty. All research students have a dedicated desk with a desk-top PC from their second year onwards; first-year students share hot-desk space. Many students bring in their own laptop computers to connect with LSE's network.

The Department of Economics runs its own placement programme, chaired by a senior faculty member. This effort focuses on placing students in academic jobs. PhD students start preparing for the job market beginning in the spring before entering the market. In October, students present a mock job talk in front of faculty and fellow students. In November, they are invited to mock interviews with faculty. These activities help them to hone their presentation skills to pitch their presentations to a wider audience outside their own research field. The Placement Officer disseminates information on the job candidates to recruiting institutions throughout the world. LSE Careers supports students seeking non-academic jobs with consultations and advice. The Department also supports job candidates in managing the stress of the process, for example by sponsoring yoga classes.

Our PhD students who graduated in 2014–2020 went on to placements throughout the world, securing jobs in highly regarded academic departments as well as non-academic institutions. From 2014 to 2020, our prominent academic placements include the following:

- 2019-20: Oxford (Economics), Cornell (Economics), Bocconi (Economics), Warwick (Economics), Toulouse School of Economics
- 2018-19: MIT (Economics), Stanford GSB (Finance), Northwestern Kellogg (Strategy), Duke (Economics), Bocconi (Economics), Maryland College Park (Economics), Carnegie Mellon Heinz School
- 2017-18: University of Pennsylvania (Economics), Berkeley Haas (Finance), Chicago Booth (Economics)
- 2016-17: Berkeley Haas (Business and Public Policy), Bocconi (Finance), Pompeu Fabra (Economics), Essex (Economics)
- 2015-16: Harvard (Kennedy School), University of Chicago (Harris School)
- 2014-15: Columbia (Economics), Stanford GSB (Finance), Toronto (Rotman School of Management), Duke (Economics), Northwestern (Kellogg School) – two placements, Warwick (Economics), Bonn (Economics)
- 2013-14: Harvard Business School, Essex (Economics)

This record is comparable only to the most prestigious US Economics Departments.

We treat our PhD students as colleagues and we encourage them to work to their full potential, just as our junior faculty. As a result, many become collaborators of faculty or publish their own research in top academic outlets. The following top economics journal publications were either part of the PhD work or produced shortly after by our students who graduated during the REF period (in bold); many of these are co-authored with faculty (underlined):

- **(Michael Best PhD 2014)**, Anne Brockmeyer (PhD 2013), Henrik Kleven, Johannes Spinnewijn and **Mazhar Waseem (PhD 2014)**, 2015 “Production vs Revenue Efficiency with Limited Tax Capacity: Theory and Evidence from Pakistan,” *Journal of Political Economy* 123 (6), 1311-55
- **Michael Best (PhD 2014)**, Henrik Kleven, 2018 “Housing market responses to transaction taxes: Evidence from notches and stimulus in the UK,” *Review of Economic Studies* 85 (1), 157-193
- **Michael Best (PhD 2014)**, James Cloyne, Ethan Ilzetzki, and Henrik Kleven, 2020 “Estimating the Elasticity of Intertemporal Substitution Using Mortgage Notches,” *Review of Economic Studies* 87 (2), 656-690
- **Jonathan de Quidt (PhD 2014)**, Johannes Haushofer and Christopher Roth, 2018 “Measuring and Bounding Experimenter Demand,” *American Economic Review*, 108 (11), 3266–3302
- **Claudia Steinwender (PhD 2014)**, 2018 “Real Effects of Information Frictions: When the States and the Kingdom became United,” *American Economic Review* 108 (3), 657-696
- Henrik Kleven and **Mazhar Waseem (PhD 2014)**, 2013 “Using notches to uncover optimization frictions and structural elasticities: Theory and evidence from Pakistan,” *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 128 (2), 669-723
- **Thiemo Fetzer (PhD 2015)**, 2019 “Did Austerity Cause Brexit?” *American Economic Review*, 109(11), 3849–3886
- **Reka Juhasz (PhD 2015)**, 2018 “Temporary Protection and Technology Adoption: Evidence from the Napoleonic Blockade,” *American Economic Review*, 108 (11): 3339-3376
- **Andrea Lanteri (PhD 2015)**, 2018 “The Market for Used Capital: Endogenous Irreversibility and Reallocation over the Business Cycle,” *American Economic Review*, 108(9), 2383-2419
- **Guo Xu (PhD 2017)**, 2018 “The Costs of Patronage: Evidence from the British Empire”, *American Economic Review*, 108(11), 3170-3198.
- Marianne Bertrand, Robin Burgess, Arunish Chawla, and **Guo Xu (PhD 2017)**, 2020, “The Glittering Prizes: Career Incentives and Bureaucrat Performance,” *Review of Economic Studies* 87 (2), 626-655.
- **Kilian Huber (PhD 2018)**, 2018 “Disentangling the Effects of a Banking Crisis: Evidence from German Firms and Counties,” *American Economic Review*, 108(3), 868–898
- James Cloyne, Henrik Kleven, **Kilian Huber (PhD 2018)**, and Ethan Ilzetzki, 2019 “The Effect of House Prices on Household Borrowing: A New Approach,” *American Economic Review* 109, 2104-2136

The Department awards PhDs as the only type of doctorate degree.

The representation of female academic staff in the Department is low, although this is largely a reflection of the female share in the economics profession at large. During the REF period, the Department has addressed this issue in junior recruiting. The Junior Recruitment Committee was instructed to target 50% female candidates in longlisting and this target was later extended to the shortlisting (visit) stage as well. In most years, the actual numbers were at or near this target. During the REF period we have hired two female Assistant Professors out of five new hires (40 %). As a result, the fraction of female staff in the Department has increased from 15% in 2014 to 21% in 2020. At the senior level, one of five new hires (20 %) has been female. Overall, only four Professors in the Department (13%) are female, and so the Department is now

being similarly pro-active in identifying senior candidates to improve representation at senior level.

The intake of female PhD students has also increased over this period. From 2014 to 2018, just over 30% of external offers were made to female applicants on average. For the 2019 intake, we broadened the application process by asking candidates to write about specific topics in their research statement, including discussing their favourite economics paper and writing a short comment for a general audience on one out of a list of eight questions. This was designed to enable the admissions committee to better gauge the research potential of applicants, in terms of how they think about economics as well as widen the evidence on which applications are assessed. We believe that this has helped to increase the diversity of our intake, and particularly has allowed us to attract more female candidates. In 2019, we made 40% of offers to female candidates and in 2020 over 50%. These shares are diluted by the fact that we also offer a place on our PhD programme to well-performing candidates in our own MSc programme, and the applicant pool from that programme is more strongly male biased.

In terms of selecting REF outputs, the internal grading of individual outputs is done on the basis of the academic merit of the outputs. However, the Departmental REF Panel is committed to taking EDI issues into consideration, as identified by HR analysis of the selected portfolio and in consultation with the REF Strategy Committee. In particular, in the final stage of the evaluation, the panel will make sure that the number of submitted outputs by protected characteristics reflects the proportion of individuals with protected characteristics in the population of the UOA.

Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

It is relatively costly to sustain the research environment of the Economics Department. By most measures, the UOA has been highly successful in acquiring funding for its research, attracting over £50M in external research grants over the REF period. The main vehicles for raising these funds and supporting this research are three affiliated research centres; the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), the Centre for Macroeconomics (CFM), and STICERD. In addition, the International Growth Centre (IGC), although a much broader network, plays a role in supporting research done in the Economics Department, as do other centres around the LSE, like the Institute for Global Affairs and the Marshall Institute. CEP and CFM raise external funding centrally to support a programme of work by associated researchers and have successfully utilised the ESRC centre grants. STICERD has an endowment supporting its activities. Department faculty also raise numerous individual research grants, typically with assistance of the centres.

The research centres also provide infrastructure to support the research of faculty and PhD students. The research centres collaborate in the Research Laboratory (RLAB) and the RLAB IT team provide a full range of data support and a computing and server infrastructure for its members and visitors. Expertise and working relations with government departments built over decades allow us privileged access to administrative data, for example access to Department for Education datasets. High end computer needs beyond those of the RLAB IT infrastructure are provided by the LSE's High Performance Computing (HPC) Cluster "Fabian". Faculty and PhD students from the Department of Economics and the research centres have accounted for 84% of the usage on the system.

Apart from funding IT needs and administrative staff, centre funding is used to hire research assistants, often our own PhD students but also PhD students from other institutions as well as pre-doctoral students. In addition, the CEP and CFM employ Research Officers to work on specific projects. Centre funding also supports our seminar series, academic visitors, and publications.

The CEP was established in 1990 and has received its core funding as an ESRC research centre over six consecutive funding rounds. In 2018, it has been recognised as a global centre

of excellence by the ESRC and granted official ESRC Research Institute status guaranteeing its future funding. The CEP is an interdisciplinary research centre, housing seven research programmes on Growth, Trade, Labour Markets, Education and Skills, Urban and Spatial Economics, Wellbeing, and Community. Each research programme carries out a number of projects, circa 70 projects in total, addressing key issues, set out under the Programme of Work 2015-2020 (and previously 2010-2015). In addition, the Centre for Vocational Education Research (CVER), part of the What Works Centre for Wellbeing, and the What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth are housed within CEP. Members of the CEP who have left the LSE often stay associated and continue to contribute to the work of the centre, like Stephen Redding (Princeton), Nick Bloom (Stanford), or Raffaella Sadun (Harvard), thus creating an international network of researchers we can tap into.

The CFM was founded in 2012 with a centre grant from the ESRC. It is a joint research centre of the LSE, the University of Cambridge, UCL, the Bank of England, and NIESR. It has five research strands: developing new methodologies; consequences of fiscal austerity plans and high debt levels; interaction between financial markets, monetary policy, and the macro economy; shifts in the world economy; and labour markets, unemployment levels and long-term prospects.

STICERD was established in 1978 with funds donated by Suntory Limited and the (then) Toyota Motor Company Limited of Japan, with further donations from Suntory Limited in 1984 and 1989 and the Toyota Motor Corporation in 1995. The centre has eight research programmes: development economics, econometrics, economics of industry, economic theory, Japanese studies, political science and political economy, psychology and economics, and public economics. Including faculty, research students, and visitors, on average 75 resident researchers are involved in the work of the centres at any one time.

The IGC is a global research network primarily funded by DfID, directed by staff from the LSE and Oxford, and headquartered at the LSE. During the REF2021 period, IGC has provided £596k in funding for projects resulting in 11 publications by faculty or PhD students associated with the UOA and sponsored six further projects by department PhD students. The IGC received a new seven-year grant of £56m from DfID in October 2019.

Over the REF census period, UOA 16 researchers and centres have received a total of about £53m in external research funding. This includes £14.7m in centre grants from the ESRC and another £5.8m in individual grants and £15m in individual grants from the ERC. The Department and centres encourage and support all researchers equally in raising external research income. Female PIs raised 22% of the external research funds, above the representation of females in the UOA.

Some of the most influential research produced by the UOA has been supported by this infrastructure and research funding. For example, the ESRC core grant to the CEP 2010-15 supported:

- Alan Manning (with Goos and Salomons) "Explaining job polarization: Routine-biased technological change and offshoring" *American Economic Review* 104 (8), 2014, 2509-26

and the CEP core grant 2015-20:

- Nick Bloom, Mirco Draca, and John van Reenen, "Trade induced technical change? The impact of Chinese imports on innovation, IT and productivity" *Review of Economic Studies* 83 (1), 2016, 87-117

Daniel Sturm's ERC grant supported his work

- (with Ahlfeld, Redding, and Wolf) “The economics of density: Evidence from the Berlin Wall” *Econometrica* 83 (6), 2015, 2127-2189, winner of the Frisch Medal.

The Department of Economics has been housed together with its research centres under one roof in 32 Lincoln’s Inn Fields since January 2013, facilitating a cohesive research environment. Seminars, workshops, lectures and the arrangement of offices and desks enable effective interaction and collegiality among faculty, visitors, and PhD students.

Journals are the main publication avenue in economics, and the LSE Library supports faculty and research students through electronic access to journal publications from JSTOR and other platforms. In addition, pre-publication working papers are an important resource for frontier knowledge. The Library subscribes to the working paper series from the NBER and from 52 central banks around the world.

4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society

Activities to share and engage users with our research results are wide ranging. At one end of the spectrum, the UOA is extremely active in disseminating the results of our own research to non-specialists and the user community in a variety of ways. At the other end, many colleagues engage with specific users (particularly policy-makers) to help them solve problems by drawing on our expert knowledge of the research frontier. In addition, some impact activities draw on a wide range of research results seeking to influence the policy agenda directly.

In many cases, this involves working with UK and international policy agencies directly. In addition, LSE economists routinely work with non-government organisations, think tanks, and businesses, to co-produce and disseminate research and hence reach a wider audience we are not otherwise directly connected with. For example, CEP has worked with UK in a Changing Europe on Brexit, with the Sutton Trust on intergenerational mobility, with Action for Happiness and Healthy Minds, Hertfordshire, on mental health, and with Cognition X and Capital Enterprise on future technologies.

An example of our work drawing on a broad base of research is the LSE Growth Commission, which first reported in 2013 to provide recommendations to the UK government on policies to promote productivity growth. The commissioners consisted of LSE academics and leaders in business and public affairs and brought together existing frontier research and new evidence to distil a set of growth promoting policies. The commission reconvened for a new report in 2017 to address new questions facing the UK following the result of the 2016 Brexit Referendum. *The Sunday Times* called the report “more coherent and comprehensive than anything the government has yet come up with.” A similar model was used by the LSE-Oxford Commission on State Fragility, Growth and Development in 2017-18, to leverage academic expertise and knowledge in order to help some of the poorest states ravaged by conflicts and lacking effective government. The work of both commissions was supported by the LSE KEI Fund.

The Industrial Strategy Papers of the CEP are written in an accessible way for non-specialists and bring together CEP research to inform the UK Industrial Strategy. These policy papers present best evidence on training and apprenticeships, the role of universities in fostering productivity growth, ways to enhance the productivity of small enterprises, and low carbon growth.

From 2016, the CEP has been deeply engaged in the Brexit discussion under the leadership of researchers Swati Dhingra, Gianmarco Ottaviano, Steve Machin, Thomas Sampson, and John van Reenen. The core of this effort has been the CEP Brexit Analysis series, published between 2016 and 2020. This comprises 16 pieces, each discussing a specific topic like the impact of Brexit on trade, living standards, foreign investment, immigration, inequality, and regions, as well as policy options and analysis of particular policy proposals. Although based on rigorous academic research, the Brexit Analysis series is written for and accessible to a much wider

audience. Papers from the series had been downloaded over 2.3 million times by December 2019. In addition, researchers have published academic articles in the *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, *Economic Policy*, and *Fiscal Policy* and the CEP has produced a video and Brexit Blog.

The CEP regularly provides non-partisan Election Analyses before every UK national election on major areas of public interest where the centre has expertise.

While the CEP provides research- based policy analysis for a UK and rich country audience, the International Growth Centre (IGC) does the same for poor countries. The IGC, founded in 2009, is a network of world-leading researchers on development issues and includes colleagues Robin Burgess, Oriana Bandiera, John Sutton, Michael Callen, Camille Landais, and Gharad Bryan in leadership roles. The IGC model is based on the recognition that building effective growth policies in developing countries requires more than imported solutions. Countries face a range of challenges that require new thinking, new evidence and a flow of new ideas. Running programmes in 20 countries, the Centre develops research projects to provide solutions to specific questions posed by developing country governments and working in close collaboration with them. Many LSE PhD students get involved in these IGC projects.

The Marshall Institute at the LSE pursues a very similar model of co-developing research projects with partners who implement them, focusing on the non-profit and social enterprise sector. Department member Nava Ashraf is Research Director of the Marshall Institute, which started in 2016. Much of the Institute's work is about understanding and leveraging prosocial behaviour by individuals in developing countries. The IGC and Marshall models make it easy to scale up successful interventions through the partners involved in the initial projects and can therefore influence policy delivery very quickly and directly.

One example of this approach is Nava Ashraf's work in Zambia, whose team designed a programme of negotiation skills to be taught to adolescent girls in schools. The programme was evaluated with a randomised control trial and showed effects on educational outcomes as well as a reduction in teen pregnancies. From the beginning, this project was designed and implemented with partners in the Zambian Ministry of General Education. As a result, elements of the programme were implemented in a 2016 curriculum reform, only four years after the start of the initial project. In comparison, the academic paper analysing the project appeared only in May 2020 in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*. The LSE KEI Fund supported Nava Ashraf's work to expand this co-generation of knowledge model further.

The Centre for Macroeconomics (CFM) was founded in order to respond to the challenges arising from the global financial crisis starting in 2008. Like the other research centres, it has been heavily engaged with policy-makers and the public. The Centre carries out the monthly CFM Survey started in 2014, which informs the general public about the views held by UK-based economists on important macroeconomic and public policy questions. It has now broadened its scope to economists based in Europe. An important motivation for the survey is to give a more comprehensive overview of the beliefs held by economists, and in particular to embrace the views of those economists whose opinions are not frequently heard in public debates. It can also shed light on the extent to which there is agreement or disagreement among these experts. As a result, it hopes to provide a more rounded basis for policy discussions.

In 2019, the LSE opened its School of Public Policy (SPP), which took over running the successful Master of Public Administration programme. The Department of Economics has been involved in the conception and running of this programme for over a decade and has strong links with the new School. The SPP's education programmes directly trains the next generation of individuals to be involved in the policy making process. This includes a customised programme for the UK civil service, strengthening our connection to this important backbone of the policy process. The School's remit goes beyond teaching and it is becoming an additional vehicle at the LSE for discussion and dissemination of policy relevant research and

analysis. Economists and other social scientists from around the LSE are heavily involved in this as the SPP does not have any faculty members of its own.

There are many examples of academically oriented research influencing public policy. The Impact Case Studies by Tim Besley on state capacity and development and by John van Reenen on how to raise firms' productivity by identifying and promoting sound management practices are examples of this. Another one is the research by Camille Landais, Johannes Spinnewijn, and Pascal Michaillat on the optimal design of unemployment insurance policies. In various research papers published in the *American Economic Review* and the *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* between 2015 and 2018, they explore how unemployment benefits should vary over the business cycle and over individual unemployment spells. The results have influenced discussions in various countries. In the US, the research figured in the main report made by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) reviewing unemployment insurance during the Great Recession. In France, Camille Landais wrote policy briefs to the French Prime Minister and the French President to advise them on a reform of the unemployment insurance system in 2019.

Various members of the Department have served in important policy-making roles or on advisory bodies of the UK government.

- Professor Silvana Tenreyro is external member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England
- Professor Alan Manning was Chairman of the Migration Advisory Committee to the Home Office
- Professor Nick Stern authored the Independent Review of the Research Excellence Framework "Building on Success and Learning from Experience" 2016
- Professor Tim Besley is a Commissioner for National Infrastructure Commission
- Professor Besley is also on the IFS Deaton Review Panel on Inequality
- Professor Charles Bean is a member of the Budget Responsibility Committee

The work of our colleagues on these external bodies typically draws both on their own research as well as their knowledge of the evidence base. The policy activities often feed back into new research motivated by the policy challenges. Where necessary, the Department supports its members to carry out such high-profile roles in the public policy arena, for example through teaching buyouts. Many Department members frequently also act in smaller or more ad-hoc roles.

The Department and the research centres engage in interdisciplinary research through links with other LSE units as well as externals. Colleagues working on political economy in the Department are part of the interdisciplinary Political Science and Political Economy (PSPE) group, which includes members from the Government Department, the European Institute, International Relations, the Department of International Development, and most recently also the SPP, which hosted the latest conference for the group on populism. The PSPE group provides a unique interdisciplinary environment, through weekly research seminars, the beating heart of the group, and periodic workshops and conferences. The group also delivers joint courses at the MSc and PhD level and is involved in the new four-year BSc in PPE. PSPE is a founder member of several national and international research networks, POLECONUK (a UK based political economy network), the European Political Economy Consortium (EPEC), which includes universities such as Toulouse, Warwick, Bocconi and others, and the new CEPR group in political economy. The PSPE group organizes three annual conferences: The Formal Theory and Comparative Politics Conference, now in its eighth year, the LSE/NYU Conference in Political Science and Political Economy, and the Behavioural Political Economy Conference.

The CEP Wellbeing Group, led by Richard Layard, cooperates with health and psychological experts, as well as colleagues in Departments around the LSE. The Impact Case Study by Dolan, Layard, and Kudrna on the role of happiness in public policy documents the work of the group in promoting subjective wellbeing as a central objective of public policy in the UK and

elsewhere, with a focus on developing measurement tools which can be part of the headline indicators collected by the ONS. Apart from working on the measurement of wellbeing, the research of the group has highlighted the importance of life events and mental illness for individual wellbeing and analysed programmes designed to improve life satisfaction. An example of such a project, Healthy Minds, is a new four-year curriculum for secondary schools – on physical health, emotional health and behaviour. The elements of the programme, which involve building resilience, looking after one's mental health, developing healthy relationships with others, were sourced and developed by Richard Layard together with psychologists John Coleman and Daniel Hale. The programme was then implemented by the educational charity Bounce Forward and evaluated in a randomised trial of 39 school cohorts by Grace Lordan, LSE Department of Psychological and Behavioural Sciences, and Alistair McGuire from the LSE Health Policy Department in 2018. They found substantial improvement in self-reported physical and mental health as well as life-satisfaction.

Beveridge 2.0. Redefining the Social Contract, directed by Department member Tim Besley, is a new LSE-wide initiative exploring avenues for collaborative cross-disciplinary research. Set up in 2017, 75 years after the original Beveridge Report, it is addressing new challenges which are putting a strain on social sustainability and forcing us to reconsider the conditions underpinning the social contract. These challenges bring to the fore cross-cutting questions - from issues of rights and expectations of citizens with respect to welfare provision and democratic institutions, to questions around financial, environmental and social sustainability, but also to the values and goals that welfare states seek to promote.

These questions require a global perspective and a focus on their interconnectedness, which can only be achieved through fostering dialogue across disciplines. Beveridge 2.0 aims to provide the space for this dialogue, recognizing the unique position of the LSE in contributing to the research and public debate around the solutions suited to the demands of the twenty-first century. Beveridge 2.0 supports interdisciplinary research, runs events, engages students in research activities, and sponsors a new publication, the *LSE Public Policy Review* to which Economics Department members contribute.

Other interdisciplinary initiatives happen at the level of individual faculty members. For example, Maitreesh Ghatak (Economics) is collaborating with Mukulika Banerjee (Anthropology) in a project to examine how poor individuals in India are coping with the Covid-19 crisis and the lockdown. They focus primarily on migrant workers who work in cities and were forced to return to the villages when the lockdown was announced with very little notice and without proper planning. While the pandemic is preventing standard approaches to data collection, they want to use this collaboration between the disciplines of Economics and Anthropology to overcome these challenges. They will carry out phone interviews utilising pre-existing research networks, creatively use secondary data from a number of surveys that have already been carried out by other researchers, and draw on their existing contacts in the media and bureaucracy to form a composite picture of how migrants coped with the crisis and what they perceive the future to hold for them.

In addition to the main disciplinary seminars, there are a number of regular seminar series which involve collaboration with other departments, such as the Joint Econometrics and Statistics Workshop Series, Political Science and Political Economy Research Seminar Series, Psychology and Economics Seminar Series (STICERD), Capabilities, Competition and Innovation Seminar Series (CEP), Wellbeing Seminar Series (CEP), Urban and Regional Economics Seminar Series (CEP), and the Centre for Vocational Education Research Seminar Series (CEP).

Apart from engaging with non-specialists and colleagues in other disciplines, the central goal of LSE Economists is to disseminate new research results to our own academic community. Many of our colleagues are leaders in their respective fields and become authors of survey pieces. For example, UOA members have been authors of 13 articles in the *Journal of Economic Perspectives* or eight in the *Annual Review of Economics* during the REF period. Steve Machin

is one of the editors of Volume 5 of the *Handbook of the Economics of Education* (2016). Four Department members are programme directors of the CEPR, the leading European research network in applied economics, and Robin Burgess is President of BREAD, an international research network in development economics.

The book *Mostly Harmless Econometrics: An Empiricist's Companion* by Jorn-Steffen Pischke (with Joshua Angrist) is contributing to the methodological training of a large audience of PhD students and young researchers. It is also reaching neighbouring disciplines like political science, sociology, public health, and epidemiology, bringing methods and toolkits developed in economics to a wide academic audience. In 2018, the book was awarded the Eugene Fama Prize for Outstanding Contributions to Doctoral Education.

An important part of the UOA's engagement with the academic community is to bring prominent economists as visitors to the LSE. During the REF period, among the visitors to the Department or research centres were: Mary Amemiya (NY Fed), David Austen-Smith (Kellogg School of Management), Andrew Bernard (Dartmouth), Andrew Clark (PSE), Jordi Gali (UPF), Keith Head (UBC), Elhanan Helpman (Harvard), Nobu Kiyotaki (Princeton), Eliana La Ferrara (Bocconi), Oliver Linton (Cambridge), Roger Myerson (Chicago), Tuomas Pekkari (VATT, Helsinki), Robert Shimer (Chicago), David Weinstein (Columbia), and Michael Whinston (MIT).

Members of the Department are highly active in professional activities. During the REF period, they have been editors of the following journals:

- *Econometrica*
- *Review of Economic Studies*
- *Economic Journal*
- *Quantitative Economics*
- *AEJ: Applied Economics*
- *AEJ: Macroeconomics*
- *Review of Economics and Statistics*
- *European Economic Review*
- *Journal of Monetary Economics*
- *Journal of Industrial Economics*
- *Journal of Development Economics*,
- *Journal of Public Economics*
- *Annual Review of Economics*

Members of the UOA also routinely carry out a large volume of refereeing duties for major scholarly journals and funding agencies, far too many to list here. They are routinely involved in the organisation of conferences, often in leadership roles of research networks. Most Professors in the Departments frequently give keynote lectures.

The Economics Department took over the running of the LSE journal *Economica* from the School in 2015. The editorial board has since consisted of professors in Economics and from related departments of the School and they published the first issue in January 2016. The editors have since played a much more active role in soliciting high quality submissions. At the same time, the Coase and Phillips Lectures have both moved to an annual format and become important events in the Department and prominent pieces in the journal.

Economica's impact factor had declined from a peak of 1.29 in 2010 to 0.92 in 2016. The new editorial team's efforts paid off with an increase of the impact factor to 1.48 in 2019. At the same time, this stewardship of the journal has created an annual net revenue stream for the Department of about £100 – 150k. The plan of the editorial team is to further leverage the new prominence of the journal with a conference, special issue, and an associated fundraising campaign in 2021, *Economica's* centenary.

Department members have always received high academic honours including Nobel Prizes (Nobel Laureate Chris Pissarides is a current Department member). During the REF period UOA members received the following prizes and played leading roles in professional bodies:

- Winner of the Yrjö Jahnsson Award: Oriana Bandiera (2019)
- Winners of the Philip Leverhulme Prize in Economics: Camille Landais (2016), Ben Moll and Xavier Jaravel (2019).
- Presidents of RES: Charles Bean (2013-15), John Moore (2015-16), Nick Stern (2018-19)
- Presidents of the EEA: Philippe Aghion (2017), Silvana Tenreyro will become president in 2021 and Oriana Bandiera in 2022
- President of the Econometric Society: Tim Besley (2018)
- Fellows of the Econometric Society: Philippe Aghion, Oriana Bandiera, Tim Besley, Francesco Caselli, Richard Layard, Martin Pesendorfer, Michele Piccione, Chris Pissarides, Ricardo Reis, Peter Robinson, Nick Stern, John Sutton, and John van Reenen
- Fellows of the British Academy: Philippe Aghion, Oriana Bandiera, Tim Besley, Robin Burgess, Francesco Caselli, Maitreesh Ghatak, Richard Layard, Steve Machin, John Moore, Chris Pissarides, Peter Robinson, Nick Stern, John Sutton, Silvana Tenreyro, and John van Reenen
- Queens Honours: Charles Bean, Knights Bachelor (2014), John van Reenen, OBE (2017), John Moore, CBE (2017), Nick Stern, Companion of Honour (2017), Tim Besley, Knights Bachelor (2018)

The Department of Economics is collaborating with colleagues at Sciences Po, Paris, under the School's Academic Partnerships scheme. The Department has received staff from Sciences Po for up to one term, hosting visiting faculty members who engage with our students through a teaching commitment and interact with our faculty.

The Department of Economics participates in the European Doctoral Programme (EDP), allowing exchanges of research students with Université Catholique de Louvain, Bonn Graduate School of Economics, University of Bonn, Tel Aviv University, the European University Institute, Florence, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona and the Paris School of Economics, Paris. Visits can be for a minimum of a term and maximum of a year.

The reaction of the UOA to the Covid-19 crisis provides a capsule summary of its research strength and its embeddedness in public debate and the policy process. The following is a list of working papers and opinion pieces produced on the topic (LSE faculty in bold, PhD students underlined):

Tim Besley and Sascha Dray, The Political Economy of Lockdown: Does Free Media Make a Difference?

Tim Besley and **Nicholas Stern**, The Economics of Lockdown.

Swati Dhingra, Protecting informal workers in urban India: the need for a universal job guarantee.

Ethan Ilizetzi and Hugo Reichardt, Ramping up ventilator production: lessons from WWII.

Ethan Ilizetzi, COVID-19: the economic policy response.

Xavier Jaravel and Martin O'Connell, High-frequency changes in shopping behaviours, promotions and the measurement of inflation: evidence from the Great Lockdown.

Camille Landais, Emmanuel Saez, and Gabriel Zucman, A progressive European wealth tax to fund the European COVID response.

Giulia Giupponi and **Camille Landais**, Building effective short-time work schemes for the COVID-19 crisis.

Greg Kaplan, **Ben Moll**, and Gianluca Violante, Pandemics According to HANK.

Faheem Ahmed, Ahmed Na'eem, **Christopher Pissarides**, and Joseph Stiglitz, Why inequality could spread COVID-19.

Christopher Pissarides, Pietro Garibaldi, and Espen R. Moen, Lessons from the economic-epidemiological frontier.

Ricardo Reis, The economics of coronavirus: a reading list.

Nicholas Stern and Amar Bhattacharya, From rescue to recovery, to transformation and growth: building a better world after COVID-19.