Staff and Teaching Update

Dr. Maryann Bylander joined the department in 2012 replacing Dr. Anna Lindley who is on leave this academic session.

Professor Alfredo Saad-Filho returned from his sabbatical at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

The following members of staff will be on leave for term 3 (2012/13): Dr. Dae-oup Chang, Dr. Subir Sinha, Dr. Thomas Marois, Dr. Alessandra Mezzadri and Dr. Jens Lerche.

Professor Guy Standing joined SOAS in October 2012 on a part-time (0.3) basis as Professor of Development Studies.

The new MSc Labour Social Movements and Development was introduced for 2012/13. The course is convened by Dr. Jens Lerche.

Cambodia Labour Workshop “Labour in the Global Economy”

Members of the department, including Dr. Dae-oup Chang, Dr. Adam Hanieh, Dr. Alessandra Mezzadri, Dr. Paolo Novak and Rafeef Ziadah led sessions at a three-day labour workshop in Cambodia recently. The event was organised by a newly created independent union confederation, the Cambodian Labour Confederation (CLC). The CLC represent workers in the garment, construction, tourism sectors as well as informal sector workers. The confederation invited Development Studies academics to speak at the workshop in order to strengthen their members’ knowledge of pertinent economic issues. It was a great opportunity for Development Studies academics to initiate research on Cambodian development and meet grassroot activists involved in Cambodian social movements.

SOAS academics gave a total of eight sessions on topics including the formation and evolution of the global economy; the recent economic crisis and its impact on developing countries; economic development and labour movements in South Asia, Middle East and East Asia; gender relations in development; and labour migration in the global economy.

The workshop was attended by over 30 grassroots organisers. Many were rank-and-file workers, local union organisers or union leaders of different federations affiliated to the CLC. Roughly half of the participants were women.

On the back of the resounding success of this one-off event, academics from the Development Studies department are looking into developing similar events and programmes in the region and beyond. Established links with unions and labour organisations across Asia, Africa and the Middle East are helping to make this possible.

Development Studies Events

18/04/2013 - “Critical Perspectives on Financial and Economic Crises: Heterodox Macroeconomics Meets Feminist Economics” - Professor Naila Kabeer will be leading a seminar with contributions from Professor James Heintz and Professor Stephanie Seguino on gender and economic recovery. This is an open event held at LIDC, Room 103, 36 Gorden Square at 5pm.

25-26/04/2013 - Samir Amin Guest Lectures - On the invitation of the Department, Professor Samir Amin will be giving three lectures on his contribution to Development Studies and his experience in the field. For more information please consult the SOAS Development Studies Events page.

06/06/13 - Postgraduate Open Evening - For more info or to book your place, please email: dw13@soas.ac.uk.

For more details and other events please consult the SOAS Development Studies Events page here.
**Development Studies Research Projects News**

**Fair Trade, Employment and Poverty Reduction in Ethiopia and Uganda**
The research team (Professor Christopher Cramer, Dr. Carlos Oya, Dr. Bernd Mueller and Dr. Deborah Johnston from the Economics department) completed a re-survey and collected the last life histories for the project.

**AUGUR – Europe and the World in 2030**
The AUGUR project, an EU-funded project looking at prospects for the role of Europe in the world in 2030, came to an end in January 2013. Professor Terry McKinley and Dr. Hannah Bargawi have submitted the final contributions from the SOAS side to the project coordinators in Paris. Final outputs from this research project can be obtained here.

**Labour Conditions and the Working Poor in China and India**
The research team, led by Dr. Jens Lerche, has spent the majority of 2012 collecting data in the garment and construction sectors in Shanghai and Delhi. Research partners in China and India and SOAS researchers are currently sharing fieldwork experiences and best practices with a view to beginning their dissemination activities later in 2013. The team has scheduled a workshop in Delhi for May 2013 at which researchers will compare preliminary findings from different fieldwork sites and collaborate on forthcoming research outputs.

**New Publications by Members of the Department**


**Financialisation, Economy, Society & Sustainable development - FESSUD**
The EU-funded FESSUD project brings together academics in the Economics and Development Studies departments as well as researchers from 13 other institutions in Europe. This multidisciplinary project aims to forge alliances across the social sciences, so as to understand how finance can better serve economic, social and environmental needs. Follow the project’s progress here.

**Delivering intensive enumerator training in Kampala, Uganda**
Development Studies Members Out & About and Online

**Professor Gilbert Achcar** gave interviews on his new book to French Press, including a Television appearance on France 24 and an interview printed in Le Monde in February 2013. Professor Achcar has also given numerous lectures and presentations on the Arab Uprisings at International conferences and symposia across Europe, North America and the Middle East. You can watch his TV interview [here](#).

**Dr. Maryann Bylander** has an 8-pages photo essay, entitled “Borders and Margins” in Contexts, a quarterly magazine that makes cutting-edge social research accessible to general readers. More information about Dr. Bylander’s work can be found [here](#).

**Professor Christopher Cramer** spoke at the Overseas Development Institute, commenting on six books produced by the Centre for Research on Inequality, Human Security and Ethnicity (CRISE). More information about the event can be found [here](#). Professor Cramer also spoke at the Royal Africa Society event for the launch of A Good African Story, by Andrew Rugasira (an alumnus of SOAS) about his experiences creating and developing the Good African Coffee company in Uganda. In January Professor Cramer gave a talk to the World Bank’s Human Development Forum in Washington on the topic of labour markets and violence. You can follow him on twitter @CramerChristoph.

**Dr. Laura Hammond** was reappointed Associate Fellow to the Emerging Security Challenges Programme at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy. She has also become a Fellow for Development Policy at the new Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, the first think-tank to be established in Mogadishu, Somalia. Dr. Hammond will be speaking at the LIDC Seminar Series ‘Understanding Development - Disciplinary Perspectives’ on Wednesday 27th March. You can follow her on twitter @lhammondsoas.

**Dr. Michael Jennings** has been contributing to the Poverty Matters Blog of the Guardian Newspaper with an article entitled ‘International NGOs must address their accountability deficit’. He continues his own blog on diverse issues, including the recent European horse meat scandal [here](#) or follow him on twitter @mikejennings101.

**Professor Naila Kabeer** participated in a debate organised by UNICEF’s Innocenti Research Centre on the Post-MDG agenda. You can watch the debate on [YouTube](#).

**Dr. Carlos Oya** contributed to a Roundtable discussion at the 2nd International Conference on Land Grabbing at Cornell University, 17-19 October 2012. You can watch his contribution [here](#).

**Professor Guy Standing** is working with SEWA (the Self-Employed Women’s Association of India) on a number of pilot unconditional cash transfer schemes. A short film on one of these schemes, which is funded by UNICEF, can be watched [here](#). A longer presentation on the projects is posted [here](#), and a report on their findings is currently in preparation. Professor Standing spoke at a conference on Poverty and Inequality in Societies of Human Rights in France in February 2013. He also gave a keynote speech to a symposium on Precarious Work and the Living Wage in our Communities conference, in Auckland, New Zealand in February 2013. Further information about Professor Standing’s current work can be found on his personal website: [www.guystanding.com](http://www.guystanding.com)

The Violence Peace and Development research cluster has a new and exciting [blog](#).

---

**Development Job Shop**

**Internal SOAS Vacancies/ Scholarships**

There are currently no internal job vacancies in the Development Studies department, but you can keep up to date by checking the following SOAS [site](#).

**SOAS Scholarships**

A number of scholarships to study at SOAS are currently available with deadlines in Spring 2013. Find out more [here](#).

**Other Opportunities**

**LIDC Fellowships Scheme, deadline: 11 April 2013**

This new scheme aims to support new collaborative research projects in international development between academics from at least two Bloomsbury Colleges – LIDC members (Birkbeck, Institute of Education, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, SOAS and Royal Veterinary College). Information Session: 25 March, 1 - 2 pm, LIDC, 36 Gordon Square. More information [here](#).

---

Development Studies at SOAS online

Why not stay up to date with all the news from the Department on Twitter [@SOASDevelopment](#) or join the Facebook Group [SOAS Development Studies - Young ‘n’ Old](#).
Life After SOAS...

Sayantani Gupta Jafa, Msc Development Studies 1999

DS: Can you tell us a little about what you are doing at the moment?
SGJ: I am a civil senior servant in the Indian Government. I work in areas concerned with transparency and accountability. I am also a leading contributor to academic journals, national newspapers and periodicals on gender issues in India. My book Uncertain Identities: Craftwork, Women and Patriarchy In A Village Of Eastern Uttar Pradesh was published in 2003 and has recently also been published as an E-book. It studies poor Muslim crafts-women in the Ayodhya-Faizabad region of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, India. It is available on Kindle as well as in hardcover print edition (see www.pothi.com.)

DS: What do you remember most about your time at SOAS?
SGJ: I remember my time at SOAS as a wonderfully exhilarating one, active and multi-dimensional, where along with academic rigour I evolved a social conscience. No quibbles at all, other than the fact that I only had one year to soak in the course!

DS: What was the most important lesson you learnt at SOAS that has helped you get to where you are now?
SGJ: My training at SOAS helped me immensely to dovetail my professional knowledge with academic skills in development issues especially in relation to emerging economies. The course helped me to link up a lot of stray thoughts on governance and institution-building into a structured and informed corpus of academic knowledge on the subject.

DS: What tips do you have for current Development Studies students looking to work in government and policy-making?
SGJ: I strongly recommend you decide your areas of professional interest and select your options accordingly. It is also worth trying to pinpoint an area of specialisation for your dissertation. If you are looking for work in government departments or multilateral organisations, it could be helpful to decide what sphere you want to specialise in on a sectoral basis such as health, education or gender.

Miriam Nabarro, Msc Violence, Conflict and Development 2006

DS: Can you tell us a little about yourself?
MN: I am a London based artist working with photography, printmaking and textiles. I also work as a Theatre designer, community artist and educator. I studied Violence, Conflict and Development part time, graduating in 2006.

DS: Why did you decide to study in the Development Studies department at SOAS?
MN: Because it’s the best department in the world! Also, I was returning to London after five years in the field as a humanitarian worker and I knew the transition back would be tricky, and that at SOAS I would find like-minded people to work with and reflect on my time away with.

DS: Did the course and SOAS live up to your expectations?
MN: Absolutely and more so. The course was brilliant. My fellow students were diverse, informed, questioning and opinionated. The teaching was challenging and inspiring and the general environment (lectures, talks, library, exhibitions, concerts) was completely absorbing. My past experience had been very ‘front line’, the course made me think about things in a deeper, more analytic way.

DS: How has your time in the department influenced your work since?
MN: In many ways! When I left SOAS I did bits of policy work for NGOs but soon returned to my creative work. My most successful projects (e.g. The Great Game: Afghanistan for the Tricycle Theatre) are all directly related to what I learnt and the course outlook shaped my research and response. My own visual work often concerns issues of identity, conflict and resilience, and again has been, and continues to be influenced by the course and by discussions with alumni and staff. Recently I have done some teaching on the MA Music and Development and it’s been brilliant to interact with students and to be back at SOAS.

DS: Do you try to follow what staff and alumni of the department are up to?
MN: We have a yahoo group to connect those of us who graduated in 2005-6; I keep in touch with friends though Facebook and email, and staff through email or events.

DS: Where can we find out more about what you do now?
MN: My website - www.miriamnabarro.co.uk

This is a monoprint with offset which forms part of the series Congo Memoryscreens. Returning from Bukavu, Eastern DRC, I made a series of collages, monoprints and paintings informed by these memories. Some works were exhibited in Tbilisi, Georgia with the British Council, and at the Space Open Studios, Martello Street London.