Welcome to the Nuffield College Library’s British reports, news & official publications update! Please let me know if you have any further suggestions for items we should obtain.

If you would like to see any of the items below, I would be happy to reserve them for you.

Clare Kavanagh
Nuffield College Library

**Website of the month: Symplectic Elements at Oxford**

Symplectic Elements at Oxford (SE) is the University’s tool to record bibliographic and other information about research outputs. SE is designed to improve University record keeping for the periodic assessment of research outputs by research funders, for informing strategic direction, for substantiating future research bids, and for the dissemination and showcasing of achievements. It is also the **primary method of deposit to the Oxford University Research Archive** in accordance with HEFCE’s policy on Open Access. For more information, please visit the website or contact: symplectic@admin.ox.ac.uk

*ORA (Oxford University Research Archive)*

The Oxford University Research Archive (ORA) serves as an institutional repository for the University of Oxford and is home to the scholarly research output of its members. ORA is also the home of Oxford digital theses. For more information visit this website or contact ora@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

**News:**

**Young voters and their “never Tory” mindset: the making of a Labour generation?**

The last general election brought a number of new voters into the electorate, especially younger ones who having voted for the first time, are more likely to turn out in future contests. **Anja Neundorf**, Associate Professor in the School of Politics and International Relations at the University of Nottingham, and **Thomas J. Scotto**, Head of the School of Government and Politics at the University of Strathclyde, argue that although Labour cannot take their support for granted, for many of them the Conservative option is permanently off the menu.

**Why Theresa May’s gamble at the polls failed**

What was the impact of Brexit on the 2017 general election result? What difference did the collapse of UKIP make? And what was the relative importance of factors such as turnout, education, age, and ethnic diversity on support for the two main parties? In a new article forthcoming in Political Quarterly, **Oliver Heath**, Professor of Politics at Royal Holloway, University of London and co-director of the Democracy and Elections Centre, and **Matthew Goodwin**,
Global earnings inequality: evidence from a new database

Recent studies have analysed trends in global income inequality, but for most people in the world, labour earnings represent the vast majority of their income. This column uses a new global database on occupational earnings since 1970 to examine trends in earnings inequality between countries’ high- and low- earners, between countries, and between occupational groups. Global earnings inequality has fallen over the past half-century, and so has inequality within occupations, with main equalisation in the late 1990s and 2000s. Olle Hammar, PhD student, Department of Economics, Uppsala University, and Daniel Waldenström, Professor of Economics, Research Institute of Industrial Economics and Paris School of Economics; Research fellow CEPR and IZA.

It’s education, stupid: How globalisation has made education the new political cleavage in Europe

Several recent European elections, as well as the UK’s referendum on Brexit, have produced a clear split in voting choices between citizens with different levels of education. Mark Bovens, Professor at the Utrecht University School of Governance, and Anchrit Wille, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs of Leiden University, argue that a new political cleavage in Europe has emerged between citizens with high levels of education and those with lower levels of educational attainment, with the former group more likely to support green and liberal parties, and the latter drawn toward nationalism.

Contrary to popular opinion, there is no populist upsurge in Britain

Taken how often we use the term, we need to be more accurate in who/what we call populist, writes Luke March, Professor of Post-Soviet and Comparative Politics and Deputy Director of the Princess Dashkova Russia Centre at the University of Edinburgh. In this analysis he defines the term and explains why, despite what is often said, there is no populist upsurge in the UK.

Curbing populism: remove barriers and make actual benefits visible

Over the years, the wealth gap has widened alongside the expansion of the global economic pie says Chloe Lok Yi Lam, studying a Master’s Degree in Philosophy and Public Policy at the LSE. For instance, the United Kingdom’s gini coefficient has shown more than 35% growth from the mid-70s to the late 2000s. This shows that parts of the population might not have been rewarded proportionally for their hard work. In fact, the less privileged groups who feel left behind have been rising in number, which is well evidenced by a surging number of “nationalism supporters”.

Five views: Is populism really a threat to democracy?

Donald Trump’s victory in the 2016 US presidential election, the UK’s decision to leave the EU, and the rise of anti-establishment parties across Europe have prompted discussions over the role of ‘populism’ in modern politics. But is populism really a threat to democracy or is the term simply used by mainstream politicians to dismiss the legitimate concerns of citizens? Five academics give their views.

Is tribalism racist? Antiracism norms and immigration

Are ethnically-motivated restrictions on immigration racist? Eric Kaufmann, Professor of Politics at Birkbeck College, draws on new data from an 18-country survey to explain how people
answered this question and how their answer affects their own support for higher or lower immigration levels.

**In public debate tug of war, being right isn’t enough**

What expert facts reveal about our society isn’t always shared by public perception, according to Will Moy, Director of Full Fact. In the first event in the Academy and Campaign’s 2017 Summer Programme, “The Return of the Experts? Facts and Expertise in the Digital Age” last week, Moy investigated the role of fact checkers, expertise and digital media in public debates in light of last year’s EU referendum and the General Election.

**If we want to improve social mobility, we have to address child poverty**

Kerris Cooper, PhD researcher at the LSE, and Kitty Stewart, Associate Director of CASE and Associate Professor in the Department of Social Policy at the LSE, discuss evidence from their new report on the effect of financial resources on children’s development. They argue that the high quality evidence from the UK and other OECD and EU countries demonstrates that money in itself matters for children’s development, above and beyond associated factors such as worklessness.

**Glass floors and slow growth: a recipe for deepening inequality and hampering social mobility**

Debates around inequality often focus on upward social mobility. But there is another side to the coin, write Abigail McKnight, Associate Professorial Research Fellow and Associate Director of the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE) at the London School of Economics, and Richard V. Reeves, Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. Serious problems are being created by the fact that those from better-off families are protected from downward mobility, combined with slow economic growth and its impact on the creation of well-paid jobs.

**“All that is solid…”: the destructive tendencies of the Conservative Party**

Is there a winning future for the Conservatives? Tom Barker, Associate Lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University, and Conor Farrington, Research Associate at the University of Cambridge, outline the party’s recent history and find that it has often demonstrated a careless approach to institutions and objectives it has otherwise claimed to champion. For there to be a winning future, the Conservatives must seek to genuinely rebuild, rather than merely pay lip-service to, a One Nation party.

**The Remainers who now chair select committees will harry the government over Brexit**

The new cohort of select committee chairs will be scrutinising the work of a weakened government, write Mark Goodwin, Lecturer in the Department of Political Science and International Studies at the University of Birmingham, Stephen Bates, Lecturer in Political Science at the University of Birmingham, and Marc Geddes, Lecturer in British Politics at the University of Edinburgh. Nine of the 28 are women, reflecting the advantage female MPs enjoy when they stand for committee elections. The current line-up also includes some well-known figures who have clashed with their party lead-erships, creating an intriguing new dynamic.

**What kind of democracy is this? Scholars must look beyond the populist signal**

Matt Flinders, Professor of Politics and Founding Director of the Sir Bernard Crick Centre for the Public Understanding of Politics at the University of Sheffield, reflects on the changing nature of democratic politics and asks whether a focus upon all things ‘post’ – post-Trump, post-Brexit, post-
truth, post-democratic, etc. – has prevented scholars and social commentators from looking beyond or beneath the populist signal.

**Why upward social mobility means some people move downwards**

Geoff Payne, Newcastle University, writes in the Conversation that the tricky truth is that change goes in both directions.

**Women in politics: Progress is still too slow**

Talat Yaqoob, Director of Equate Scotland, writes about why it's time for action by parties on gender and quotas.

**Three challenges Labour must grapple with before it can deliver a progressive majority**

Charlie Cadywould, researcher at Policy Network, writes about the long-term demographic issues that divide Britain and explains how they may impact on the Labour vote as we head into the middle decades of the twenty-first century.

**New ‘wellbeing indicators’ to help councils understand their residents published**

Councils will now be able to tailor their services to residents’ needs by drawing on a wide-ranging set of data concerning ‘wellbeing’. Local Wellbeing Indicators, published in *Understanding Local Needs for Wellbeing Data*, are made up of data on things like job quality, anxiety levels, social isolation, green space and how physically active people are.

**Redshift over Britain: is the Centre moving Left?**

Is Jeremy Corbyn the new Centre in British politics? Ed Straw, writer and campaigner for the reform of government, and a visiting fellow in Applied Systems Thinking in Practice at the Open University, explains how years of privatisation, uncontrolled immigration, and deterioration in public services – combined with the lack of choice that comes with First Past the Post – all call for a leftward turn, and could rejuvenate the Labour Party.

**Research:**

**Without a critical approach to big data it risks becoming an increasingly sophisticated paradigm for coercion**

Hamish Robertson, affiliated with the Centre for Health Services Management, University of Technology Sydney, and Joanne Travaglia, medical sociologist and Professor and Chair of Health Services Management at the University of Technology Sydney, argue that big data quantification is now not only a mechanism for extracting information but has become an idea with social and political power in its own right. The lack of critique of quantitative methods and their application contributes to the existing and potentially coercive power of digital information systems and their attendant methods, and enhances the potential for “collateral damage” associated with such applications.

**What does the future hold for academic books?**

Between August 2014 and September 2016, the Academic Book of the Future Project, initiated by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the British Library, explored the current and future status of the traditional academic monograph. Marilyn Deegan, Emeritus Professor of Digital
Humanities at King’s College London, one of the co-investigators on the project and author of the project report, reflects on its findings, welcoming them as an opportunity to open up further dialogue on the horizons of the academic book.

**A more interdisciplinary approach can help us understand why research evidence does or doesn’t make it into policy**

Fiona Blyth, Professor of Public Health and Pain Medicine at the University of Sydney, and Carmen Huckel Schneider, Director of the Master of Health Policy at the Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney, explain why breaking down walls between different academic disciplines could enhance our understanding of why research evidence does – or doesn’t – make it into policy, and also suggest questions that researchers might ask as a “gateway” to understanding these different approaches to evidence-informed policymaking.

**Four questions you should ask yourself before undertaking a multimedia research project**

There is no escaping the power of images. Researchers who use photography and video as part of their projects have the potential to reach huge audiences through visual-obsessed social media channels. As part of a series previewing their new book ‘Communicating Your Research with Social Media’, Amy Mollett, Social Media Manager at the London School of Economics, Cheryl Brumley, senior producer at The Economist, Chris Gilson, Managing Editor of USAPP – American Politics and Policy, the blog of the LSE’s United States Centre, and Sierra Williams, Community Manager at PeerJ, run through the questions you should ask yourself before getting started; questions that will help you to identify realistic objectives as well as potential barriers.

**Formalised data citation practices would encourage more authors to make their data available for reuse**

Hyoungjoo Park, PhD candidate in the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Dietmar Wolfram, Professor in the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, have studied characteristics of data sharing, reuse, and citation and found that current data citation practices do not yet benefit data sharers, with little or no consistency in their format. More formalised citation practices might encourage more authors to make their data available for reuse.

**What do the 2014 REF results tell us about the relationship between excellent research and societal impact?**

Results of the 2014 Research Excellence Framework have, in some quarters, been interpreted as evidence of a direct relationship between the quality of scientific outputs and the degree of societal impact generated by researchers. However, such an interpretation, allied to definitions of impact such as that used by Research Councils UK, arguably promotes a stronger reading of the REF results whereby only excellent science leads to high-quality impacts. Richard Woolley and Nicolas Robinson-Garcia, research fellows at Ingenio (CSIC-UPV), a science policy and innovation institute at the Universitat Politècnica de València, looked again at the relationship between the 4* components of evaluated scientific outputs and impacts and found a great deal of variation across all panels. It may be that it is this diversity and heterogeneity that constitutes the strength and vibrancy of UK university research.
Credit for research outputs should go to the originating institution but with a transitional arrangement for this REF cycle

One of the most contentious aspects of the Stern review of the 2014 REF was the recommendation that research outputs should not be portable in future exercises. The subsequent consultation revealed a significant minority to be in support of this, echoing Stern’s concerns that current rules distort investment incentives and encourage rent-seeking. However, a majority opposed this recommendation as stifling of researcher mobility, with many also highlighting the disruption caused by a mid-cycle change. David Sweeney, Director of Research and Knowledge Exchange at HEFCE and Executive Chair Designate of Research England, explains that the Stern recommendation will be implemented but that one of two proposed transitional arrangements should also be set in place for the current cycle.

Publications:

“The minimum required? minimum wages and the self-employed”, Resolution Foundation

The minimum wage revolutionised the lower end of the UK’s labour market, protecting employees from exploitation. But the self-employed – now one in seven of the workforce – are not entitled to the minimum wage. With growing concerns over their earnings and conditions, particularly in the so-called gig economy, extending the minimum wage to some of this group has been discussed. While a minimum wage would not be appropriate for the majority of the self-employed, for those who take work from firms or platforms and – crucially – don’t have control over the price they charge, moves to reduce exploitatively low pay for this group would be both meaningful and welcome.

Good work: the Taylor review of modern working practices, Matthew Taylor, chief executive of the Royal Society of Arts

This independent review considers the implications of new forms of work on worker rights and responsibilities, as well as on employer freedoms and obligations. It sets out 7 principles to address the challenges facing the UK labour market.

‘General Election 2017: full results and analysis’, House of Commons Library

This briefing paper contains summary information about the results of the 2017 General Election, held on 8th June. It provides election results by party & constituency, as well as analysis of voter trends, MP characteristics, and more.

Brexit: a reading list of post-EU Referendum publications by Parliament and the Devolved Assemblies, House of Commons Library

This reading list brings together briefings on Brexit by the Parliamentary libraries and the Devolved Assembly research services with reports by Parliamentary and Devolved Assembly committees following the result of the EU Referendum on 23 June 2016.

What sort of Brexit do the British people want? A proof of concept study using stated preference discrete choice experiments, Kings College London, RAND Europe & University of Cambridge

One of several key findings from this research was that, “given how much value the public place on the UK making its own trade deals and having access to the single market, they would prefer to have a relationship with the EU similar to that of Norway. This allows for free trade with other countries, while remaining within the single market and accepting freedom of movement and
some loss of sovereignty to EU institutions, such as the European Court of Justice”. Conversation article giving analysis here.

**The environment is central to achieving the UN Global Goals, the first joint Rockefeller Foundation-NERC-ESRC report finds**

A clear understanding of the multiple ways we, as humans, interact with and depend on the environment is essential to achieving the United Nation’s 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development. That’s the conclusion of a newly published report by the University of Sussex, commissioned by NERC, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

**Cost of no deal, UK in a Changing Europe**

The consequences of the UK failing to reach a deal with the EU will be “widespread, damaging and pervasive” a new report by The UK in a Changing Europe finds. The ‘Cost of no deal’ report examines the consequences of the UK failing to strike either an Article 50 or a trade deal with the EU – what is termed a ‘chaotic Brexit’.

**UK in a Changing Europe newsletter**

Includes coverage of their latest Brexit report “Cost of no deal” and several pieces analysing the European Union (Withdrawal) Bill which was released last week. There are also articles on the possible effect of Brexit on health, wages, EU citizens’ status, energy and employment skills, as well as analysis of the General Election result.

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