



SCOTTISH ECONOMIC SOCIETY

Promoting the study and teaching of economics since 1897

School Students and Teachers of Economics

Twelfth Annual Conference

Perth Concert Hall

Wednesday 31st October 2018

PROGRAMME

9.45-10.15	Arrival
10.15-10.20	Welcome Matthias Klaes, President, Scottish Economic Society
10.20-11.05	Dollar street Fernanda Drumond, Head of Operations at Gapminder
11.05-11.15	Break
11.15-11.45	How income inequality has changed over the last 60 years and why? Agnes Norris Keiller, Institute of Fiscal Studies
11.45-12.30	Lunch
12.30-1.15	Panel on careers and studying economics Raakhi Odedra, Agnes Norris Keiller, Ashley Lait, Alvin Birdi and Michael Young
1.15-1.30	Break
1.30-2.30	Sarah Smith Why economics needs women.... And women need economics
2.30-3.00	Examination tips for economics Mark Moore, Dollar Academy
3.15	Departure

The objectives of the Scottish Economic Society are to promote the study and teaching of economics on the widest basis, in accordance with the Scottish tradition of political economy inspired by Adam Smith and to provide a forum for the discussion of Scottish economic problems and their relationship to the political and social life of Scotland.

Successor from 1954 to the Scottish Society of Economists founded in 1897, the Scottish Economic Society supports an approach to economic explanation which acknowledges the human, social and historical dimensions of economic activity. This accommodates a rich variety of positions on theoretical and policy matters.

The Society is a professional body for economists, whether academic or not; it seeks to represent the collective interests of its members in all relevant contexts, and make a positive and informed contribution to economic and political debate, particularly in Scotland.

SPEAKERS

Harminder Battu is a Reader in Economics at the University of Aberdeen. His main research interests are in the fields of labour and regional economics. In particular, his research has focused on over-education in the labour market, mobility and commuting behaviour and ethnic, gender and religious identity, discrimination and inequality. He has published in a range of international journals including the *Economic Journal*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, the *Journal of Population Economics* and *Labour Economics*. He is also the Honorary Secretary of the Scottish Economic Society.

Alvin Birdi is Professor of Economics Education and Head of Teaching in the Economics Department of the School of Economics, Finance and Management. He is also the University of Bristol's Academic Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Director of The Economics Network, a national body that trains lecturers and promotes high quality and innovative teaching practice in Economics within the Higher Education sector. Professor Birdi sits on the Council of the Scottish Economic Society and is a member of the Royal Economic Society's Conference of Heads of Departments of Economics (CHUDE). He is a member of the Education Committee of the European Economic Association and was on the 2015 Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Benchmark Committee which revised the Benchmark Statement for Economics. He is also on the editorial board of the *International Review of Economics Education*. Previously, he has been the Undergraduate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law and has taught at a number of institutions including the universities of Manchester, Oxford, Cape Town, Sussex and Middlesex.

Sarah Smith is a Professor at the University of Bristol and Head of the Economics Department. She is also the current Chair of the RES Women's Committee. She has previously worked at the London School of Economics, Institute for Fiscal Studies, HM Treasury and Financial Services Authority.

Fernanda Drumond is the Head of Operations at Gapminder. She holds a Master of Science degree in Development Studies, with background in International Relations. Demography and frame analysis are her main interests and she believes that understanding global trends is the key to a sustainable future. Fernanda likes to lecture about Dollar Street, showing how people really live across different income levels. She also talks about the mega misconceptions that skew people's worldview in lectures and workshops to companies, universities, schools and non-profits.

Agnes Norris Keiller is a research economist at the Institute for Fiscal Studies. Her research focuses on the determinants of inequality and on changes in the labour market, with current work including an assessment of post-Brexit changes in trade policy and an analysis of the relationship between commuting and the gender pay gap. Agnes previously studied at University College London, where she gained a BSc in Economics and Geography and an MSc in Economics.

Matthias Klaes is the Nigel Vinson Chair of Political Economy at the University of Buckingham. He has an interest in the changing technologies of commerce and his work covers transaction costs, online financial intermediation and crowdfunding, behavioral and institutional economics, and economic methodology. An alumni of the University of Edinburgh (MSc 1993, PhD 1999), he has held academic appointments in the UK, continental Europe and the US, since 2003 at professorial level, before joining the European Crowdfunding Network as Research Director in 2017. He is co-author of *An Introduction to Behavioral Economics* (3rd ed. Palgrave 2018) and his research has attracted grants from the Nuffield Foundation, the Leverhulme Trust, and the European Commission. He is teaching on the Scottish Graduate Programme in Economics and is a Fellow of the *Institute of Leadership and Management*, member of the governing board of the *History of Economic Thought Society*, and the current President of the *Scottish Economic Society*.

Ashley Lait

Mark Moore has been teaching Economics at Dollar Academy since 2005. He is a graduate of Bristol University with a BSc in Economics & Politics and has an MBA from Cranfield Business School, specialising in globalisation and european integration. He initially trained as a chartered accountant with Deloitte and then worked as a researcher in the House of Commons. He worked as a senior manager for over ten years in the travel industry, managing airports, including in South Africa. He has travelled extensively and been on various expeditions in different parts of the world. He has experience of the TA and CCF and enjoys the outdoors. He is married with three boys and has coached successful teams at both Murrayfield and Tynecastle. He currently umpires 1st XI cricket matches including the MCC.

Raakhi Odedra has been a Deputy Agent of the Bank of England since September 2015. Prior to joining the Bank, she worked as an economist at the Scottish Government for eight years. Her experience spans regional, industrial and macroeconomic analysis and includes the development of policy frameworks and Scotland's Economic Strategy. She has published academic work on creative industries and has undertaken analysis across a broad range of sectors including digital business, financial services, manufacturing, agriculture, and social care. Raakhi was an Overseas Development Institute Fellow in Rwanda from 2005 to 2007 where she worked with the Ministry of Education to launch an education strategy and financing framework. She also has broader experience working as a teaching assistant at a Malaysian secondary school and a Japanese university summer school. Raakhi holds a BA in Economics from the University of Cambridge and an MSc in Economics for Development from the University of Oxford.

Sarah Smith is a Professor at the University of Bristol and Head of the Economics Department. She is also the current Chair of the RES Women's Committee. She has previously worked at the London School of Economics, Institute for Fiscal Studies, HM Treasury and Financial Services Authority.

Tanya Wilson is a Lecturer in the Economics at the University of Glasgow. Her research areas are predominantly within Family Economics and Labour Economics.

Michael Young has been an economist in the Scottish Government since 2004. He is currently an Economic Adviser in the Macroeconomic Analysis team and has previously provided economic advice in a range of policy areas including rural development, transport and climate change. He studied economics at the University of Edinburgh.

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Aberdeen Grammar, Aberdeen
Boroughmuir High School, Edinburgh
Dollar Academy, Dollar
The Edinburgh Academy, Edinburgh
Edinburgh College, Edinburgh
Fettes College, Edinburgh
Firrhill High School, Edinburgh
Fortrose Academy, Fortrose
Glasgow Academy, Glasgow
George Heriot's School, Edinburgh
George Watson's College, Edinburgh
High School of Dundee, Dundee
Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow
Leith Academy, Edinburgh
Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen
Stewart's Melville College, Edinburgh
St Aloysius College, Glasgow
St George's School for Girls, Edinburgh
St Margaret's School for Girls, Aberdeen
The Mary Erskine School, Edinburgh

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