

# Sociological Studies Newsletter: Issue 1 2011/12

## 29 September 2011

For general enquiries, please call at the Enquiry Desk in Elmfield (open 09:30 - 14:30 daily). Please also remember to check noticeboards and general pages on MOLE frequently. You can find the latest copy of your handbook at [www.shef.ac.uk/socstudies/current/handbooks.html](http://www.shef.ac.uk/socstudies/current/handbooks.html).

In this newsletter:

- 1) Getting Involved - Staff Student Committee
- 2) Presentation Wednesday 29 September - Dr Hanna Björg Sigurjónsdóttir, University of Iceland
- 3) Sociology Netball
- 4) If the Shoe Fits: Footwear, Identity and Transition
- 5) Battle of Ideas festival
- 6) UNYSA Society
- 7) Careers Service

----

- 1) Getting Involved - Staff Student Committee

A great way to get involved and find out a bit more how the department works is to join the Staff Student Committee. It meets four times a year and has representation from all courses and programmes.

It's an opportunity to contribute your views and those of others on your course.

If you are interested in getting involved:

- \* come along to meet with other student reps on Wednesday 5 October from 1 - 2pm in room 1.55, Elmfield building,
- \* go to the department's web pages for current students and click the button on the top right hand corner, or
- \* email [gillian.brown@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:gillian.brown@sheffield.ac.uk)

- 2) Presentation Wednesday 29 September - Dr Hanna Björg Sigurjónsdóttir, University of Iceland

Dr Hanna Björg Sigurjónsdóttir from the University of Iceland is visiting the department for a couple of weeks. On Wednesday 29 September from 1pm - 2pm she will give a presentation about her work with parents with learning (intellectual) disabilities - see abstract below. The presentation will be in Room G19, Elmfield.

This paper presents a new and innovative family project for parents with intellectual disabilities and their children. The aim of the project is to strengthen families by encouraging positive communication, strengthening social ties and tackling discrimination. The project is grounded in the experiences of the participating parents and their children. It builds on existing knowledge about parents with intellectual disabilities and their learning style. The project is carried out in close collaboration with the participating parents who are actively involved in designing the project.

### 3) Sociology Netball

Our first training session is on Mon 3rd October at 3-4pm in Goodwin Sports Hall. The league will start on Tues 18th Oct. Games will be played between 3-5 pm. Anyone is welcome however experienced they are. It is just a bit of fun and a great way to keep fit and meet people on your course.

The best way to get in touch with us is through our facebook page <http://en-gb.facebook.com/#!/groups/socsocnetball/> If anyone has any questions feel free to message us there.

Best Wishes, Rosalyn, Orla, Emily and Lucy

### 4) If the Shoe Fits: Footwear, Identity and Transition

A new blog and Facebook page have been launched as part of the three-year ESRC research project which is being conducted within the department of Sociological Studies. The research team are keen to get as many people to participate with the project as possible. So whether you (or anyone you know) love them, hate them or are indifferent, your shoe comments, stories, experiences and pictures will be greatly appreciated. The team would also be interested to hear from anyone that might want to contribute to the blog. The latest blog entry, by principle investigator Professor Jenny Hockey, provides a fascinating focus on a topic relevant to many at the university: Graduation shoes.

Blog: <http://iftheshoefits.group.shef.ac.uk>

Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/If-the-Shoe-Fits/113979782020225>

Website: <http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/iftheshoefits/>

### 5) Battle of Ideas festival

This year's Battle of Ideas festival is taking place at the Royal College of Art, London on October 29-30. During the course of the weekend, over 2,250 people will be participating in 75 different debates involving hundreds of incisive and thought-provoking speakers.

This year's festival programme includes strands of debate entitled Battle for the World, Battle for Morality, Food Fight, Society Wars, Battle for Our Brains, and Reassessing Politics and Sporting Contests.

It also features keynote debates on: The Battle against the Fates, Profiting responsibly? Business in the big society, Creativity and curiosity: do we make stuff up or find it out? Has tolerance gone too far? Loyalty in an age of whistle-blowing and Wikileaks, Is individualism bad for society? as well as many more discussions on current themes in the arts, science, health, parenting, education, design, international relations and religion.

Visit [www.battleofideas.org.uk](http://www.battleofideas.org.uk) to view this year's festival programme, including satellite events, as well as carefully selected readings for each session and videos of previous years' sessions.

There are a limited number of HALF PRICE Student Champion tickets, allowing university students full access to the weekend festival for just £27.50. Tickets are available through online booking, or by phone: 0207 269 9220.

## 6) UNYSA Society

Hi everyone,

We are from the United Nations Youth and Student Association (UNYSA) Society and we will like to invite you join our society. In a snapshot, UNYSA is centred around Model United Nations, fund raising, speakers, socials and raising awareness in general. Membership costs £5 for the year.

For more details on our society join UNYSA on Facebook: UNYSA - SHEFFIELD or email us at [unysasheffield@gmail.com](mailto:unysasheffield@gmail.com).

## 7) Careers Service

With the start of another academic year this entry is to remind continuing students and alert new ones to the existence of the Careers Services and some of our forthcoming events which we have organised for this semester. Have a look at our 'What's On Diary' to find out

more about all of the sessions, talks and workshops which will be taking place over the next few weeks:

[www.shef.ac.uk/careers-whats-on/daily.do](http://www.shef.ac.uk/careers-whats-on/daily.do)

If you're keen to get a part-time job, or to broaden your experience, come along to the 'Part-time Jobs and Volunteering Fair', which is taking place on Wednesday 5th October in the Octagon Centre from 11-00 am until 3-00 pm. As well as a number of employer presentations which are taking place next week, anybody who has given some thought about a classroom based career may be interested in attending the talk 'Routes into Teaching' on Thursday 6th October at 1-00 pm.

Finally – if you would like to talk to a Careers Adviser at any stage about your future plans please visit us on the 1st Floor of 388 Glossop Rd or call the Careers Service reception on 0114 222 0910.

--

Mickey Conn

Postgraduate Course Secretary

Department of Sociological Studies

University of Sheffield

Elmfield, Northumberland Road

Sheffield S10 2TU

0114 222 6449

[m.conn@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:m.conn@sheffield.ac.uk)