Social Science Research Unit
Annual Report
2017
This Annual Report provides an overview of activities in the Social Science Research Unit during 2017. It presents our achievements in conducting research and sharing the findings, and in teaching, and it introduces you to the staff who have made these possible. We hope you enjoy reading about our work.

Founded in 1990, the Social Science Research Unit (SSRU) is part of the UCL Institute of Education, University College London. The Unit's mission is to engage in and otherwise promote rigorous, ethical and participative social research, and to support evidence-informed public policy and practice across a range of domains, including education, health and welfare. Its work is guided by a concern for human rights, social justice and the development of human potential.

To these ends, SSRU continues to engage in the following:

- research and scholarship of national and international significance
- the communication of evidence to relevant audiences
- high-quality, research-informed learning and teaching programmes, and consultancy.
This year our research reflects two global trends, one focusing on conflict and refugees, and another on the societal role of universities. 2017 was widely recognised as the year of a global refugee crisis. Our primary research focused on violence affecting children in Ethiopia and, closer to home, unaccompanied children migrating to the UK.

Another long term trend, where SSRU has been leading the way, is the integration of academia with wider society. This is the primary focus of our stream of work on Perspectives, Participation and Research. However, the principle of bringing research to the heart of collective decisions, and shaping research with the perspectives and participation of groups potentially affected by subsequent decisions, is threaded through much of our work. The primary research of our Evaluation of Social Interventions and the systematic reviews conducted by the EPPI-Centre are particularly strong in this regard. We are encouraging greater attention to this area with Research for All, an open-access, peer-reviewed journal focusing on research that involves universities and communities, services or industries working together. The first two issues were published in 2017.

The link between academia and decisions in the public sector is being institutionalised by strengthening the links between research evidence and practitioners and policy makers. SSRU is at the forefront of this trend with its contributions to policy and professional bodies, including several What Works Centres and government departments: systematic reviews for the Department of Health’s Policy Research Programme; systematic reviews to inform National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) evidence-informed guidelines in health and in social care, and the What Works Centre for Crime and Justice; randomised controlled trials of school based interventions for the Education Endowment Foundation to include in their tool kit for Teaching and Learning; a systematic review for the Legal Education Foundation, with associated guides for designing and evaluating education and training interventions; and strengthening capacity for the production of systematic reviews in international development. This work is complemented by our methodological research for generating and using evidence, particularly focusing on the social interactions and information technology.

Professional development has been driven by the expansion of our teaching (our second cohort of undergraduates arrived in September); by university funds to develop teaching, research or impact; and by the Institute of Education programme for PhD by Publication. We are very grateful to Tom Lester for sponsoring a writing workshop in memory of his wife, Katrina Hargreaves, who was a colleague and friend in SSRU 2002 – 2014. Tom’s wish is to support researchers with their writing through annual workshops led by ThinkWrite.

During 2017 six members of SSRU with national and international reputations for their research were registered for PhD by publication, all choosing to investigate methodological questions relating to the interface between research and policy or practice.

For twenty-seven years the Social Science Research Unit has been at the forefront of policy-relevant research across the health, education and welfare sectors.
Ann Oakley, SSRU’s founding director, published in Sociological Review in 2016 ‘A small sociology of maternal memory’ which was shortlisted this year for the journal’s prize for outstanding scholarship.

Throughout the year our discussions were enriched by three thriving seminar series and by academic visitors. This year we welcomed: from Australia, Cath Chamberlain from Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, and Bronwyn Hemsley from University of Newcastle, as Honorary Senior Research Associates; from Sweden, Dr Ingemar Bohlin, University of Gothenburg, as honorary visiting lecturer; and Dr Kirsty Newman from the UK Department of International Development as Honorary Reader.

SSRU has grown this year. Dr Aris Komporozos-athanasiou arrived as a Lecturer in Social Theory and Social Policy. Dr Carol Rivas joined us as Senior lecturer in Social Policy and Programme Evaluation. Dr Chris Maidment, Research Associate, joined a study of the What Works Centres. Antonia Simon joined us from the Thomas Coram Research Unit to work closer with EPPI-Centre colleagues. At the same time Dr Katherine Twamley left for the Thomas Coram Research Unit. Our Information Technology team has grown with the arrival of Zak Ghouze and Patrick O’Driscoll. We are sorry to lose Phil Rose, SSRU’s Publications Officer for ten years, who left early in 2018. His role as designer of the SSRU Annual Report has been taken this year by Alice Negbenose.

David Gough stood down as Director of SSRU in March. David joined SSRU in 1998 as Deputy Director, and became Director of SSRU when Ann Oakley stepped back to focus on her research. We are grateful to David for strengthening the Unit and raising its profile while keeping it true to its original mission – holding things together during major changes at the Institute of Education (IOE) and in higher education more broadly. It is now David’s turn to step back after many years of representing the Unit to IOE and the outside world. He will continue in his role as Director of the EPPI-Centre, where he broadened its remit across policy sectors, introduced research on how research is used in wider society, and developed new Masters courses. As he remains in the Unit we continue to draw on his long experience.

Sandy Oliver
Acting Director
Social Science Research Unit

A bench in Woburn Square commemorates our colleague Farah Jamal who was a member of SSRU from 2014 to 2016
Journal reviewing

Staff have reviewed papers submitted for publication for the following journals:

- BMC Public Health
- BMC Research Notes
- BMC Medical Education
- BMJ Open
- BMJ Quality and Safety
- British Journal of Educational Studies
- British Medical Journal
- Childhood, Children and Society
- Children’s Geographies
- Children and Society
- Culture, Health and Social Care in the Community
- Education and Policy
- European Journal of Development Research
- Educational Philosophy and Theory
- Ethnic and Racial Studies
- Evidence and Policy
- Information and Research
- International Journal of Children’s Geographies
- International Journal of Childbirth
- International Journal of Early Childhood
- International Journal of Education and Development
- International Journal of Feminist Psychology
- International Journal of Integrative Care
- International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy
- Journal of Adolescence
- Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
- Journal of Education Policy
- Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies
- Journal of Health and Social Policy
- Journal of Philosophy of Education
- Journal of Reproductive Infant Psychology
- Knowledge Cultures
- Midwifery
- Music and Society
- Neonatology
- Nursing Research
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Pain
- Psychological Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Research Synthesis Methods and Systematic Reviews
- Sociological Research Online
- Sociological Review
- Sociology of Health and Illness
- Social Science and Medicine
- Systematic Reviews

Group membership

Advisory Group of the Office of the Children’s Commissioner, British Sociological Association; British Psychosocial Oncology Society; Chair of Trial Steering Committee, Chair of the Early and Mid Career Researchers’ Group at International Longevity Centre-UK; Group Family Nurse Partnership RCT, Birkbeck; Collaborative Poetics for Social Justice Research Network First ‘Carnival’, Core Outcome Set Development in Neonatology, Executive committee member, Collaborative Poetics for Social Justice Research Network core member, NICE Information specialist’s Joint Information Group, Placental growth factor tests to aid the assessment of suspected pre-eclampsia: systematic review and economic evaluation.

UCL Institute of Education participation

Within the IOE, staff have served on the Equality and Diversity Board, Research Ethics, the steering committee of Health Economics; UCL Population and Lifelong Health Research Domain, as co-chairs of and departmental lead of the Research Engagement and Impact group, and have established the Women’s Writing Collective, an informal and friendly network to promote and support women’s writing, through providing writing sessions and inspirational talks.
SSRU colleagues are, as usual, strengthening links between research and the wider world on an international scale.

Evidence and decision-making

Four SSRU staff visited the World Health Organisation in Geneva this year. James Thomas presented advances in automation for systematic reviews. Sandy Oliver acted as independent methodologist for a Development Guideline Panel developing recommendations about mothers and carers holding health records for themselves and their children. Mukdarut Bangpan and Kelly Dickson presented findings from their systematic review on the impact of mental health and psychosocial support interventions on people affected by humanitarian emergencies, funded by Oxfam/DFID.

David Gough has debated current issues in using evidence for decisions around the world: at the WT Grant Foundation in Washington DC, USA; at the University of Potsdam, Germany; at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre’s Workshop on Skills for Evidence Informed Policy Making in Brussels; at a Japanese Evidence Base Education meeting in Tokyo; at Taiwan’s Centre for Disease Evaluation’s annual Health Technology Assessment Symposium in Taipei; and at 14th annual Galileo meeting, Bambino Gesù Paediatric Hospital, Rome, Italy.

Similarly, Jan Tripney represented the EPPI-Centre at the latest international partners’ meeting of the Evidence for Policy and Practice in Education in Europe (EIPPEE) Network (http://www.eippee.eu/), held at the German Institute for International Educational Research (DIPF) in Frankfurt.

Ruth Stewart was co-lead of the ‘Evidence Use’ strand at the South African Monitoring and Evaluation Association Conference, Johannesburg, October 2017.

Sandy Oliver visited Kenya to meet the Department for International Development and international Non-Governmental Organisations, to discuss evidence and learning to support humanitarian efforts in South Sudan.

We have also hosted senior leaders from abroad. A team from the Ministry of Health in Chile visited us to discuss embedding systematic reviewing in a government department. Thirty senior university leaders from across Thailand came to learn about strengthening the social sciences and systematic reviewing, embedding public engagement in research, and promoting evidence-informed policy and practice, especially in education.

Members of the EPPI-Centre hold leadership roles in international networks for research synthesis and research use (see Box 1).

Inequalities in society

Interests in new social inequalities, and the impact of financial markets on civic action and contemporary populist movements has taken Aris Komporozos-Athanasio to: the 14th European Sociological Association Conference in Athens, Greece; École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris, France; the Heilbroner Center for Capital-
Box 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair, Africa Evidence Network (AEN)</td>
<td>Ruth Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director, Africa Centre for Evidence, University of Johannesburg</td>
<td>Ruth Stewart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Member, Campbell Collaboration</td>
<td>Sandy Oliver</td>
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<td>Evaluation Panel/Advisory Group Member, Swedish Foundation for</td>
<td>Rebecca Rees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Environmental Research (Mistra)'s environmental evidence</td>
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<td>(EviEM) project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-convenor, Campbell and Cochrane Economics Methods Group</td>
<td>Ian Shemilt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director, Collaboration for Environmental Evidence’s Johannesburg</td>
<td>Ruth Stewart</td>
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<td>Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member, Cochrane Methods Board</td>
<td>Ian Shemilt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Co-convenor, Cochrane Methods Executive committee</td>
<td>Ian Shemilt</td>
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<td>Co-lead, Innovations and Technology Subgroup, Cochrane Living</td>
<td>Ian Shemilt</td>
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<td>Systematic Reviews Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members, WHO Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research</td>
<td>Sandy Oliver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advisory Group</td>
<td>Ian Shemilt</td>
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ism Studies at The New School for Social Research in New York, USA; Panteion University, Greece; the 33rd Symposium of the European Group for Organisational Studies in Copenhagen, Denmark; and the 4th Ural Industrial Biennale in Ekaterinburg, Russia. Berry Mayall was the invited keynote speaker at a three-day symposium in Geneva University, at which PhD students from across Europe presented their work on theories of childhood and children’s rights.

Kirrily Pells works with the Young Lives international study of childhood poverty, based at the University of Oxford, with partnerships in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam. Her work takes her to Ethiopia where she works with colleagues on preventing violence affecting children and youth through bridging research, policy and practice. She collaborated with UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti (Florence, Italy) on a Multi-Country Study of the Drivers of Violence Affecting Children and the Aegis Trust on evaluating peace and values education in sub-Saharan Africa. Rachel Rosen visited the University of Applied Sciences in Weisbaden, Germany, to present ‘Uneasy bedfellows: women’s rights and children’s rights in contexts of domestic
SSRU hosted a series of lunchtime seminars throughout 2017 to discuss a variety of topics around social research.

Events

**London Systematic Reviews and Research Use Seminars**

**Approaches for synthesis of complex interventions: components-based network meta-analysis**

Tuesday 17 January
Deborah Caldwell, University of Bristol

**When to rely on informal competence in synthesising research**

Tuesday 31 January
Ingemar Bohlin, University of Gothenburg

**‘What sort of review should I do?’ Findings from the MACH (Meta-analysis, Complexity and Heterogeneity) project**

Tuesday 21 February
Mark Petticrew, LSHTM

**Cochrane PICO: Using linked data technologies for evidence curation**

Wednesday 12 July
Chris Mavergames, Cochrane Information and Knowledge Management Department

**Improving the conduct and reporting of narrative synthesis of quantitative data: Rationale and update of the ICONS-Quant project**

Tuesday 21 November
Hilary Thompson, University of Glasgow

**Decisions in health Care to Introduce or Diffuse innovations using Evidence (DECIDE): survey and discrete choice experiment**

Tuesday 19 December
Steve Morris, UCL

**SSRU unit seminars**

**Designing methods of involvement and engagement with different versions of “patient experience”**

December 6
Alison Thomson, Queen Mary University of London

**The challenges and opportunities of developing brokerage at scale**

November 8
Professor Jonathan Sharples

**Listening to the voices of people with communication disability in Twitter**

October 11
Dr Bronwyn Hemsley, Associate Professor in speech pathology at The University of Newcastle, Australia

**Simulation modelling as a method of evidence synthesis**

6 September
Dr James Woodcock

**Increasing the efficiency of research and evidence synthesis: understanding Behaviour Change Interventions in their contexts**

July 5
Professor Susan Michie, UCL
Healing the Past by Nurturing the Future – a scoping review to inform identification and support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander parents who have experienced complex childhood trauma
May 29
Dr Catherine Chamberlain; La Trobe University, Australia

Connecting the dots: religion, violence and caring for babies, a sociological study of neonatal intensive care in Mexico
April 26
Dr Rosa Maria Mendizabal-Espinosa, PhD; St George’s University of London and & Kingston University

Spaces for citizen involvement in healthcare: an ethnographic study
March 1
Dr Alicia Renedo, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

SSRU: Estimating the strength of qualitative studies relations
January 18
Leonie van Grootel, Utrecht University

Citizenship, social imagination and collective action series

Performatve citizenship: democratic and demagogic
March 27
Professor Engin Isin (QMUL and ULIP)

Everyday bordering as a new citizenship duty

May 8
Professor Nira Yuval-Davis is the Director of the Research Centre on Migration, Refugees and Belonging (CMRB) at the University of East London

Citizenship-as-practice: ‘movement social learning’ on Twitter in the UK People’s Assembly Against Austerity
May 30
Dr Dan Mercea is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology at City, University of London

Planetary Futures Conference: Imagining the Future - financial capitalism and the social imagination
July 11

Rethinking utopia with social movements
June 22
Dr Ana Dinerstein, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Bath

On the praxis of global citizenship: rethinking the World Tribunal on Iraq
November 1
Dr Ayca Cubukcu, London School of Economics

Visit http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk for information about upcoming seminars
## Funders

### UK and international government related

- Department of Health (DH)
- Department for Education (DfE)
- Department for International Development (DfID)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)
- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)
- Public Health England
- World Health Organisation (WHO)
- Public Policy Institute for Wales

### Research councils

- Australian National Health and Medical Research Council
- Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC)
- ESRC Bloomsbury Scholarships
- Medical Research Council (MRC)

### Not for profit organisations and learned societies

- British Council
- College of Policing
- Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)
- International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)
- Oxfam
- Medical Research Foundation (MRF)
- The Legal Education Foundation
- Barts Health Charity Small Grant

### Other grants

- Cochrane Collaboration
- Health Education England (HEE NHS)
- Health Education South London
- The Leverhulme Trust
- UCL Grand Challenge Small Grants
- UCL Sea and Currents Fund
- UCL Beacon Bursary Fund
- Wellcome Foundation
- What Works Centre for Wellbeing
- What Works Centre for Crime Reduction
- The Independent Social Research Foundation (ISRF)
- Oak Foundation via Long Lives Study
- NERC
Since the founding of SSRU in 1990, members of the Childhood, Gender and Society Stream have played an important part in developing the sociology of childhood, including its relations with children’s rights, and the sociology of gender and the family in global contexts. Teaching, research and publication in this area concern generation and gender, and their intersections, and inter-generational justice.

In 2017, members of the Childhood, Gender and Society stream included: Priscilla Alderson, a leading authority on children’s rights and critical realism; Liesbeth de Block, a specialist on childhood, migration, and media; Berry Mayall, a pioneer in the Sociology of Childhood; Kirrily Pells, Lecturer in Childhood, with expertise in global childhoods in contexts of poverty and conflict; Rachel Rosen, Lecturer in Childhood with a specialism in unequal childhoods and care; and Katherine Twamley, a Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow who specialises in gender, love and intimacy.

Teaching

Members of the stream are involved in teaching at all levels. The Sociology of Childhood and Children’s Rights MA is led by Rachel Rosen, joined by Kirrily Pells and other members of the Department of Social Science. The MA continues to have a vibrant student body, who are joined on modules by MA and doctoral students from across UCL and the Erasmus programme. The 2016-2017 cohort had their final exam board in November with distinctions being awarded to Ella Hingley, Christine John, Katherine Lee and Macarena Oteo Morgan.

The team also lectured on other Masters programmes including Childhood Studies at Free University Berlin (Priscilla Alderson), Kings College London (Kirrily Pells) and MA in Gender, Society and Representation at UCL (Rachel Rosen).

At the undergraduate level, Kirrily Pells and Rachel Rosen co-lead a module on Sociology of Childhood and Katherine Twamley is a seminar leader on the module Introduction to Sociology. Staff continue to be involved in doctoral-level supervision, teaching and examining. In total, we supervise 13 doctoral students. Doctoral courses offered by members of the stream include: Critical Realism (Priscilla Alderson) and Reflexivity (Rachel Rosen).
Key Feature

Notable research projects and public engagement this year included:

• A Warm Welcome? Unaccompanied Migrant Children in Networks of Care and Asylum. (Rachel Rosen, PI, with Sarah Crafter and Veena Meetoo) This pilot project investigated separated child migrants’ experiences of care, and caring for others, as they navigate the ‘Kafkaesque labyrinth’ (Bhabha 2008: 200) of the asylum-welfare nexus in the UK.

• Feminism and the politics of childhood: Friends or foes? An edited collection bringing together community- and university-based academics and activists to unpack perceived conflicts between children’s interests and women’s interests (which themselves are heterogeneous) and, more broadly, intersections and antagonisms between various forms of feminism and the politics of childhood. To be published by UCL Press in 2018. (Rachel Rosen and Katherine Twamley, Editors)

• Priscilla Alderson and Kirrily Pells were discussants at the launch of Professor Michael Freeman’s new book: A “Magna Carta” for Children? Rethinking Children’s Rights.

• Kirrily Pells has been collaborating with the Young Lives longitudinal study of childhood poverty, based at the University of Oxford, to conduct a qualitative study on violence affecting children in Ethiopia. In May she conducted fieldworker training and is planning a workshop with researchers, policy actors and practitioners from across Africa for 2018, in collaboration with Young Lives and Jenny Parkes (UCL).
The National Institute of Health Research funded our work with University of East London that focuses on practitioners promoting health in pregnancy in community and NHS settings. This work involves two RCTs, a realist systematic review and a study supporting input from users into the planning of maternity services. The Education Endowment Foundation funded two RCTs of classroom interventions for schools. Together the same two funders supported a large RCT of an intervention targeted at improving a range of health outcomes for young people by reducing bullying and aggression in secondary schools.

Mary and Meg also taught for other institutions. For example, Mary who is a qualified health visitor and Institute of Health Visiting Research Champion, taught sessions on perinatal care for the MSc Infancy and Early Years at UCL’s Institute of Child Health. Meg taught on evaluation methodology for the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine’s (LSHTM) MSc in Public Health.

In the Msc module Evidence for Policy and Practice, Carol Rivas taught evaluation methods for social intervention.

Key research output

This year saw the publication of two randomised controlled trials of educational interventions. One of them, asking ‘Does teaching children how to play cognitively demanding games improve their educational attainment?’, appeared as a typical academic paper in a peer-reviewed journal. More importantly, this study and another evaluating RCT relating to electronic feedback systems in primary schools, appear in the Education Endowment Foundation’s Teaching and Learning Tool Kit. This tool kit summarises, in ways accessible to teachers and school leaders, evidence about what has worked most
effectively to boost the attainment of disadvantaged pupils.

Projects

RCT of Cigbreak a gaming app for smoking cessation
Funder: Cochrane Collaboration
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Sergio Graziosi

NHS Small group clinics, multiple sclerosis
Funder: MRC
SSRU Leads: Carol Rivas
Collaborators: Led by Prof Gavin Giovanonni, Barts Health NHS Trust

Healthy Eating and Active Lifestyles for Diabetes (HEAL-D): development, implementation and process
Funder: National Institute Health Research-Senior CDA

SSRU Lead: Carol Rivas
Staff: Dylan Kneale, Alison O’Mara-Eves, Claire Stansfield, James Thomas, Carol Vigurs
Collaborators: Led by Dr Louise Goff

Mindfulness meditation using a smart-phone application for women with chronic pelvic pain MEMPHIS
Funder: NHR Research for Patient Benefit
SSRU Leads: Carol Rivas
Collaborators: Led by Liza Ball, Royal London Hospital

Key Feature

Carol Rivas is developing research interests in hidden disabilities with a focus on life transitions, social and clinical encounters and evaluation processes. This work led by Carol Rivas, encompasses a range of mental and physical and learning disabilities. The first pieces of work in this stream have been in collaboration with the Royal London Hospital. One was on the evaluation of m-health for chronic pelvic pain in women. The second has been looking at the measurement of outcomes in people with multiple sclerosis, in particular considering how and why the current focus needs to shift from mobility, to also include hand and upper limb function. Currently, the NHS withdraws access to disease modifying drugs once patients with multiple sclerosis become wheelchair-bound, since most trials only consider a drug’s effectiveness up to this point. Carol is also involved with Kings’ College London on the development and evaluation of a culturally-tailored healthy eating and active lifestyle programme for type 2 diabetes for UK African and Caribbean communities. Carol supervised the co-design work for the intervention development, which involved patients, the Healthcare Professionals that support them and Community and Faith Leaders from the North London African and Caribbean communities. Some of these became actively involved in the process, even helping to make – and starring in - educational videos.
This stream of work emphasises research as a social enterprise. We focus particularly on the effort that is required from university researchers to reach out and engage other people with their work, and from people elsewhere to think about how research might help them with decisions in their personal or professional lives. We look for people whose lives touch on the issues we research, invite them to comment on our work and benefit from their insights when conducting research or sharing the findings. We also support university colleagues to do the same.

Teaching

Public engagement features highly in the curriculum for the MSc in Systematic Reviews and MSc in Social Policy and Social research. A new module has been created to reflect the growing interest in public engagement, stakeholder involvement and the impact of such endeavours. The module entitled Research Engagement, Participation and Impact explores the complex nature of public engagement and the various theoretical and practical aspects that need to be considered when involving diverse publics in research. The module encourages students and practitioners from a variety of disciplines to evaluate the processes of research and consider how, where and when publics are involved in these research processes. Topics that are covered within the module are diverse reflecting the complexity of the field and include areas such as: social movements; research knowledge and power; user involvement in the design and conduct of research; and stakeholder involvement in research at the institutional level, to name but a few. Such is the interest and importance of this growing discipline, this topic has now been incorporated in the UCL Eastman Dental Institute MSc in Paediatric Dentistry for the past 3 years.

Key research outputs

At a time when inequalities in health are increasingly on public health research agendas, Rebecca Rees explored, as part of her doctoral studies, an area where two current and influential methodological developments overlap. It focuses on the active participation in the design and conduct...
of research of people from all walks of life, but especially those who might hold marginalised positions in society (inclusive research), and the production of systematic reviews to study people’s experiences of their everyday lives (qualitative evidence synthesis - QES). There is currently no guidance for reviewers on how they might conduct systematic reviews of qualitative evidence in ways that bring the insights and rights of people from marginalised groups to the fore. Case studies are hard to locate. She analysed publications relating to three of her own qualitative evidence syntheses. All had a focus on population groups that can be considered marginalised (men who have sex with men, children and young people). The projects ranged from one of the first reported examples of active involvement in systematic review projects (a project on HIV-related health promotion published in 2004) through to the first two to report the active involvement of children and young people (projects focused on obesity and body size). The study argues that inclusive active involvement in QES is not only feasible, but can also be thought of as contributing to a review’s quality. Relevance, rigour and the degree of respect for the groups that a review attempts to represent might all potentially be enhanced by taking an inclusive QES approach. She illustrated how the principles of inclusive research can usefully be applied at the stages of defining the review focus, conducting a synthesis and reporting findings, but identify work still to be done to help with planning such work in the future.

Project

You’re bulletproof, our kid
Funder: Wellcome Public Engagement Fund
SSRU Lead: Carol Rivas
Collaborators: Led by Ms Annie Nicholson, independent film maker

Collaborative Poetics network development
Funder: ISRF small grant
SSRU Leads: Carol Riva
Collaborator: Led by Dr Helen Johnson, Brighton University

Key Feature

Significant public engagement activity was conducted in 2017 within the Department of Health reviews facility in SSRU as part of a systematic review on Lyme disease. A central aspect of the review facility’s work is to develop methods that enhance the relevance and utility of reviews for informing policy and practice decisions. Public engagement is an important strand of this work as it ensures our reviews reflect a range of perspectives and are cognisant of the context of their intended application. The Lyme disease review was commissioned by the Department of Health to address uncertainties surrounding the incidence, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of Lyme disease. Uncertainties in these areas have led to sustained and polarising debate within medical and patient communities. Public engagement was thus felt to be imperative to ensure that the review reflected the full spectrum of opinion and in particular the views of UK patients regarding contentious issues. We conducted consultation meetings with eight UK patient advocacy groups in which we shared our initial findings; these consultations were invaluable for understanding the relevance of our emerging analyses from international studies to the UK context. Following completion of our analyses we also sought comment from the groups on the key findings via an online survey; this feedback was reported in our review reports to make clear which findings the groups found useful and their views on the inadequacies of existing research evidence.
The EPPI-Centre has two main related areas of work. The first is the development of methods of systematic review. Systematic reviews are simply the use of formal rigorous and transparent research methods to review previously undertaken research. This includes systematic mapping (describing) of what research has been undertaken and the synthesis of the findings of that research. Instead of undertaking new primary research, research questions are applied to existing research. The second area of work is ‘research on research use’ - the study of research is used in practice.

Key research outputs

A major output in 2017 was the publication of the second updated edition of our textbook on systematic reviews: Gough D, Oliver S, Thomas J (2017) An Introduction to Systematic Reviews. London: Sage. The book was fully revised to take account of developments in the field and to be more overt in discussing the logic of formally reviewing research evidence to answer all forms of research questions including all sorts of primary research studies. The book now has two chapters on methods of synthesis since the growth of methods could not be contained in a single chapter. Also, the chapter on quality appraisal is now towards the end of the book since it not only considers the appraisal of included studies but also of the whole review process and the quality of the evidence base identified by a systematic review.

Teaching

The EPPI-Centre runs a MSc course Systematic Reviews for Social Policy and Practice. This includes a range of modules on research methods and social policy. The EPPI-Centre MSc examines both quantitative and qualitative perspectives and is relevant to all areas of social policy. The modules can also be taken as independent short courses and we also provide commissioned courses to groups in the UK and internationally.
Projects

Education, Crime and Social Care

**NICE: NICE Collaborating Centre for Social Care**
SSRU Lead: David Gough
Staff: Claire Stansfield
Collaborators: NICE

**NICE Social Care Guidelines: Decision-making and mental capacity**
SSRU Lead: Professor David Gough
Staff: Preethy D’Souza, Irene Kwan, Carol Vigurs
Collaborators: SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence), PSSRU (Personal social services research unit), Research in Practice, Research in Practice for Adults
Funder: NICE, Department of Health

**NICE Social Care Guidelines: Care and support of older people with learning disabilities**
SSRU Lead: Professor David Gough
Staff: Preethy D’Souza, Irene Kwan, Carol Vigurs
Collaborators: SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence), PSSRU (Personal social services research unit), Research in Practice, Research in Practice for Adults
Funder: NICE, Department of Health

**How can mainstream subject lessons in schools help to prevent substance misuse and violence among young people? Systematic review and evidence synthesis**
Funder: NIHR
SSRU Lead: Chris Bonell
Staff: James Thomas, Adam Fletcher, Rona Campbell, GJ Melendez-Torres, Claire Stansfield, Tara Tancred

**Support for a systematic review by DIFD: Language intervention for children aged three to six years in daycare centres in Germany**
Funder: DIFD
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney

**Women welfare-state builders**
Funder: Titmuss-Meinhardt Fund, London School of Economics
SSRU Lead: Ann Oakley

**Maximising the value of research on domestic violence and abuse interventions through the development of a core outcome set for diverse contexts**
Funder: Wellcome Small Grant in Humanities and Social Science
SSRU Lead: Carol Rivas
Collaborators: Dr Emma Howarth, Cambridge University

**Realist review of advocacy interventions for domestic violence**
SSRU Lead: Carol Rivas (CI)
Collaborators: NIHR Cochrane Review Incentive Awards
Funder: NIHR (to Cochrane)

Key Feature

A key feature of the systematic review areas of the EPPI-Centre’s work has been the further development of our EPPI-Reviewer software to support the process of undertaking reviews. The software is used by many review groups around the world including for the more complex types of Cochrane and Campbell Collaboration reviews. We have been working with Cochrane and NICE to further develop the software’s functions including the increased automation of the review process. Reviews are very labour intensive and so any way that software can take on review tasks such as screening and identifying research publications of a particular type are valuable.

A key feature of the research on research use are of work has been the study of the UK What Works Centres for the ESRC. These centres are unique in providing a knowledge brokerage function (supporting the use of research evidence by policy and practice decision makers) across so many areas of social policy. The study is clarifying how they perform their key functions (e.g. evidence standards); the extent and manner of their work outside of these key functions (e.g. overall remit); and their wider strategies to engage and influence their audiences.
Health and Health Promotion

Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research
Funder: NIHR
SSRU Lead: James Thomas, David Gough, Sandy Oliver, Chris Bonell, Mark Newman
Staff: Dylan Kneale
Collaborator: Barts Health NHS Trust (Lead)

Department of Health reviews facility to support national policy development and implementation
Funder: Department of Health
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Ginny Brunton, Kelly Dickson, Kate Hinds, Meena Khatwa, Dylan Kneale, Sandy Oliver, Alison O’Mara-Eves, Rebecca Rees, Michelle Richardson, Philip Rose, Ian Shemilt, Claire Stansfield, Gillian Stokes, Katy Sutcliffe
Collaborators: Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Decision-making and behaviour change in self-care for minor ailments
Funder: Department of Health
SSRU Lead: Michelle Richardson
Staff: Kate Hinds, Katy Sutcliffe, James Thomas

Preserving Antibiotics through Safe Stewardship – PASS
Funder: Economic and Social Research Council
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Michelle Richardson

Human Behaviour Change Project
Funder: Wellcome Trust
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: James Thomas; Alison O’Mara-Eves; Gillian Stokes
CollaboratorS: Susan Michie (UCL), John Shawe-Taylor (UCL), Mike Kelly (NICE), Marie Johnston (University of Aberdeen), Pol Mac Aonghusa (IBM Research Lab, Dublin), Robert West (UCL)

Using new evidence synthesis techniques to explore health and care inequalities among Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people
Funder: Wellcome Trust
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale
Staff: James Thomas
Collaborators: Cardiff University, International Longevity Centre-UK

The nature, effectiveness and appropriateness of public health service provision by community pharmacies: A systematic review
SSRU Lead: Gillian Stokes
Staff: Kelly Dickson, Meena Khatwa, Rebecca Rees, Claire Stansfield

Collaboration for leadership in applied health research. Project 1: Systematic review of asthma interventions
Collaboration for leadership in applied health research. Project 2: Exploring evidence use and evidence needs in public health
Funder: NIHR
SSRU Leads: David Gough, Mark Newman, Sandy Oliver, James Thomas
Staff: Dylan Kneale
Collaborators: Barts Health NHS Trust (Lead), UCL Department of Applied Health Research

Public health service provision by community pharmacies: A systematic map of evidence
Funder: Department of Health
SSRU Lead: Gillian Stokes
Staff: Ginny Brunton, Kelly Dickson, Meena Khatwa, Rebecca Rees, Claire Stansfield, James Thomas
Collaborators: Helen Burchett

Children, obesity and inequalities evidence scan
Funder: Department of Health
SSRU Lead: Rebecca Rees

Health Promotion and Public Health Reviews
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Claire Stansfield
Funders: Department of Health

Data usage - cohort studies
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale
Staff: Claire Stansfield
Funders: ESRC

Department of Health: Obesity Policy Research Unit
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Claire Stansfield
Funder: Department of Health

Lyme Disease
SSRU Lead: Katy Sutcliffe
Staff: Katy Sutcliffe, James Thomas, Kelly Dickson, Ginny Brunton
Funder: Department of Health
Collaborators: Amanda Sowden (CRD), Lawrence Blanchard (LSHTM)

Mass Media for Public Health Messages - NIHR Public Health Programme
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Kate Hinds
Collaborators: Linda Bauld, Institute of Social Marketing – Stirling University (Lead)

CRESCENDO: Creating a Screening Tool to predict Surgical Success in Endometriosis
SSRU Lead: Carol Rivas
Staff: Ruth Stewart, Janice Tripney
Funder: NIHR RfPB
Collaborator: Liza Ball, Royal London Hospital

International development

Supporting 10 systematic reviews for DfID
SSRU Lead: Sandy Oliver
Staff: Kelly Dickson, Claire Stansfield

Ecosystems services for poverty alleviation
Funder: NERC
SSRU Lead: Ruth Stewart
Collaborators: Yvonne Erasmus and Laurenz Langer are leads (University of Johannesburg)

The impact of mental health and psychosocial support programmes for populations affected by humanitarian emergencies: A systematic review
Funder: Oxfam
SSRU Lead: Mukdarut Bangpan
Staff: Kelly Dickson
Collaborator: LSHTM

Humanitarian evidence synthesis to support mental health and well-being: disseminating the findings and methodological lessons learned
Funder: UCL (seed funding)
SSRU Lead: Kelly Dickson
Staff: Mukdarut Bangpan

The effectiveness and design features of interventions that aim to overcome the barriers to women’s participation in the labour market in higher growth/male-dominated sectors: a systematic review
Funder: DFID
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney
Collaborators: Laurenz Langer, University of Johannesburg (Lead)

Co-producing evidence in migration, public health and human rights in Thailand, UCL Global Engagement Fund
Funder: UCL Global Engagement Office
SSRU Lead: Mukdarut Bangpan
Staff: Kelly Dickson
Collaborators: Associate Professor Boonyarat Chokebandanchai, Faculty of Law, Naresuan University, Thailand Kitiwaraya Rattanannee, Faculty of Law, Naresuan University, Thailand

Manufacturing Agribusiness and Services Evidence Gap Map, International Finance Corporation (IFC)
Funder: World Bank
SSRU Lead: Sandy Oliver
Staff: Mukdarut Bangpan, Preethy D’Souza
Collaborator: PricewaterhouseCoopers (project lead)

DFID Centre of Excellence for Development Impact and Learning (CEDIL)
Funder: DFID
SSRU Lead: David Gough
Staff: Sandy Oliver, Dylan Kneale, Kelly Dickson, Mukdarut Bangpan, Kirrily Pells, Ruth Stewart, James Thomas
Collaborators: 3ie, Campbell Collaboration, London International Development Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UCL Department of Economics
Methods for Generating and using evidence

Methods Research Support Unit
Funder: NICE
SSRU Lead: David Gough
Staff: James Thomas, Caroline Kenny, Carol Vigurs, Claire Stansfield, Alison O’Mara-Eves
Collaborator: Department of Social Policy and the Social Services Research Unit (PSSRU), London School of Economics, Blizard Institute, Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Department of Health Sciences, University of Leicester, Department of Health Services Research and Policy, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Kleijnen Systematic Reviews Ltd, MRC Biostatistics Unit, University of Cambridge, University of Bangor, University of Sussex, COMPASS, University of Auckland

Causal Chain Analysis in Systematic Reviews
Funder: DFID/Centre of Excellence for Development Impact and Learning (CEDIL).
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale
Staff: Dylan Kneale, James Thomas, Mukdarut Bangpan, Ian Shemilt, David Gough
Collaborators: 3ie

Stakeholder engagement with decision-making and research evidence
Funder: DFID/Centre of Excellence for Development Impact and Learning (CEDIL).
SSRU Lead: Sandy Oliver
Staff: Mukdarut Bangpan, Kelly Dickson, David Gough, Kirrily Pells, Ruth Stewart
Collaborators: Chris Roche, Nancy Cartwright, James Hargreaves

Systematic reviews of scientific contribution of NCDS and BCS70
Funder: ESRC
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale
Staff: Claire Stansfield
Collaborators: Alissa Goodman (QSS Lead)

Impact of research Toolkit
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney, David Gough, Sarah Lester
Collaborator: Laurenz Langer, University of Johannesburg

ESRC Study of UK What Works Centres
Funder: ESRC
SSRU Lead: David Gough
Staff: Chris Maidment, Jonathan Sharples

Cochrane: ‘Transform Project’
Funder: Cochrane and the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council
SSRU Lead: James Thomas
Staff: Ian Shemilt
Collaborator: Monash University, Australia (Co-Leads)

Pilot review of millennium cohort study data usage
Funder: MRC
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale, James Thomas
Staff: Meena Khatwa, Claire Stansfield
Collaborator: Emla Fitzsimons (QSS lead)

NICE - Mapping out sources of real world clinical, public health and social care data
Funder: NICE
SSRU Lead: Dylan Kneale, James Thomas, David Gough
Staff: Meena Khatwa

BCURE Programme: Building Capacity to Use Research Evidence
Funder: DFID
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney
Collaborators: Ruth Stewart, University of Johannesburg (Lead)

Research review on teachers’ use of research
Funder: Public Policy Institute for Wales
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney, David Gough, Sarah Lester, Jonathan Sharples

NICE National Collaborating Centre in Social Care
Funder: NICE
SSRU Lead: David Gough
Staff: Carol Vigurs, Irene Kwan, Preethy D’Souza, Antonia Simon, Claire Stansfield

IOE Seed Funding: toolkits for evidence uptake
Funder: IOE
SSRU Lead: Jan Tripney
Staff: David Gough, Laurenz Langer, Zak Ghouze
In recent years some staff in SSRU have developed a distinct area of research, consultancy and teaching that focuses on healthcare workforce development. This work considers how evidence from education and social science is used to effect change and development in the healthcare environment. Much of this research is done by postgraduate researchers who choose to focus on issues directly related to their professional roles within the NHS. The work generated within this stream overlaps with other SSRU streams such as those of the EPPI-Centre; and Perspectives, Participation and Research streams and extends to the education of healthcare practitioners in practical teaching skills and participatory methods for medical research.

Members of the stream have been involved in teaching research and consultancy projects of various kinds. We continued to support our doctoral students and to teach on the Masters in Clinical Education programme in UCL Medical School. Mark Newman ran a workshop on systematic reviews in Medical Education at the Association for the Study of Medical Education annual research conference in London in November.

The main project that we were involved in was funded by the Legal Education Foundation to help improve the quality of education and training delivered by legal and quasi-legal professionals and designed to increase understanding and access to the Law. The Legal Education Foundation wanted to promote discussion with the wider legal community about the use of evidence in designing education and training and so we carried a systematic rapid evidence on the effectiveness of workshops for education and training of this type. We also produced some guides for people working in these fields on how to design and evaluate education and training interventions.

### Projects

**An Evaluation study of NHS London Simulation-Based Training (SBT): what are the theories of practice and methods of evaluation**

**Funder:** Health Education South London  
**SSRU Lead:** Mark Newman  
**Collaborators:** Caroline Pelletier (LCE), Gabriel Reedy, Kings College London & Huon Snelgrove, St. Georges

**London BEME International Collaborating centre**  
**SSRU Leads:** Mark Newman  
**Collaborators:** Sophie Park, Ann Griffin, Melvyn Jones, Nada Khan; Henry Potts; (all UCL) Kieron Walshe BMJ; Scott Reeves Kingston and St Georges Universities.

**Evidence for Effective Continuing Professional Education**  
**Funder:** Legal Education Foundation  
**SSRU Lead:** Mark Newman  
**Staff:** Antonia Simon; Hanan Hauri  
**Collaborators:** Steve Higgins (Durham)
Teaching courses

Masters

MSc in Systematic reviews for public policy and practice
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/Msc
Course leader
Antonia Simon

MSc in Social policy and social research
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/spsr
Course leader
Janice Tripney

MA Sociology of childhood and children's rights
http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/courses
Course leader
Rachel Rosen

Short courses

Some of our course modules can be taken individually for credit or as stand-alone short courses. They are available online, as traditional face-to-face sessions or as blended learning with face-to-face and online work. We have tailored courses for other organisations in the UK and internationally on evaluation, systematic reviews, research use, and organisational change.

Systematic reviews: Diversity Design and Debate
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/Msc/srpp
Module leader
Mukdarut Bangpan

Systematic Reviews for Complex Policy Issues
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/Msc/repi
Module leader
Katie Cliff

Systematic reviews: Meta-analysis, qualitative synthesis, and mixed methods synthesis
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/Msc/mrs
Module leader
Alison O’Mara-Eves

Research Engagement, Participation and Impact
www.eppi.ioe.ac.uk/spsr
Module leader
Janice Tripney
Sharifa Al Battashi
Supervisors: Rosen Rachel, Alison Phoenix
Exploring the translanguaging identity: children’s identity negotiations in imaginative play.

Rachel Benchekroun
Supervisors: Louise Berg, Rachel Rosen
How do migrant mothers with no recourse to public funds access support and services, and what is the role of social networks? An ethnographic study.

Ginny Brunton
Supervisors: Sandy Oliver, James Thomas
Innovation in systematic review methods: successive developments in framework synthesis

Andrea Cortes Saavedra
Supervisor: Louise Berg, Rachel Rosen
Experiences of the migrant childhood within Chilean school and impact of the public policy on migration: identities, transnational practices and interpersonal relations in the educational community.

Terence Cronin
Supervisors: Rachel Rosen, Ian Warwick
Pupils’ experiences of alternative provision: A critical review of the impact of mental health needs and returning to school after accessing alternative provision

Kelly Dickson
Supervisors: Sandy Oliver, Mukdarut Bangpan
Systematic reviews to inform policy: institutional mechanisms and social interactions to support their production

Brenda Hayanga
Supervisors: Alison Phoenix, Dylan Kneale
The efficacy of social isolation and loneliness interventions for Black and Minority Ethnic individuals aged 65 and over living in the UK

Alison Penny
Supervisors: Charlie Owen, Berry Mayall
Exploring the effectiveness of UK child bereavement services

Rebecca Rees
Supervisors: Sandy Oliver, James Thomas
Inclusive approaches to the synthesis of qualitative research: navigating the landscape of perspectives and participation to inform public policy

Mary Sawtell

UCL has a vibrant MPhil and Doctoral community. There is a range of funding opportunities, including a quota of ESRC Doctoral Studentships and Bloomsbury scholarships for particular projects. Students with a strong academic background who wish to undertake research leading to a MPhil/PhD or an EdD are invited to apply at https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/courses/graduate-research/find-a-supervisor. We offer supervision for doctoral research within a range of areas. Read the list below for details of our current supervision.
Supervisors: Sandy Oliver, Ginny Brunton
An exploration of practitioner – researcher collaboration on randomised controlled trials of complex interventions

Antonia Simon
Supervisors: Ingrid Schoon, Elizabeth O'Connell
Understanding childhood wellbeing: supporting children and young people’s development within the central domains of care, education, health and nutrition.

Gillian Stokes
Supervisor: Sandy Oliver
Rhetoric, role and realisation: Professionals views regarding the potential for children’s involvement in medicines research and development - a UK based qualitative study

Claire Stansfield
Supervisors: James Thomas, Ginny Brunton
Exploring search strategy design to identify diverse literature for inclusion in systematic reviews

Seilin Uhm
Blogs

1. Dickson K and Bangpan M (2017, November 6). Mental health and wellbeing after humanitarian emergencies: what do we know about support programmes for children and young people in low- and middle-income countries?

2. Dickson K and Bangpan M (2017, November 7). The impact of mental health & psychosocial programmes for adults affected by humanitarian emergencies


6. Oliver S (2017, November 09). Broadening our understanding of ‘evidence’ for humanitarian aid to maximise learning where we currently know least

Book reviews


Chapters


20. Rivas C (2017) Coding qualitative data. In:


**Journal articles**


42. Haddaway NR, Cohi C, Rebelo da Silva C, Schiemann J, Spōk A, Stewart R, Sweet JB,


Reports


Protocols


Conference Presentations

90. Alderson P (April) ‘The need for revolution in the early years services and transformative change’. Guest lecture. University of Edinburgh, BA Practice in the Early Years annual conference


93. Bangpan M and Dickson K (June) ‘Mental health and psychosocial support programmes on people affected by humanitarian crises.’ Launch of Centre for Education and International Development, UCL

94. Bangpan M and Dickson K (September) ‘The impact of mental health and psychosocial support programmes on people affected by
humanitarian crises: a systematic review and meta-analysis’. Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa

95. Bangpan M and Dickson K (September) ‘Identifying key mechanisms of effective mental health and psychosocial support programmes: a cross-study synthesis of the findings from qualitative and quantitative evidence.’ Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa

96. Bangpan M and Dickson K (September) ‘Overcoming barriers to implementing an evidence-based approach in the humanitarian sector.’ Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa

97. Bangpan M and Dickson K (October) WHO-Elhra meeting on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) research in humanitarian settings. WHO-Elhra meeting, Geneva.


100. Brunton G (September) ‘Innovations in framework synthesis (oral presentation)’. Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa


103. Dickson K and Bangpan M (September) ‘What are the barriers to, and facilitators of, implementing and receiving MHPSS programmes delivered to populations affected by humanitarian emergencies? A qualitative evidence synthesis’. Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa

104. Dickson K and Bangpan M (September) ‘Producing evidence for policy: a worked example of two reviews in health and social care.’ Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town, South Africa


108. Kneale D (November) ‘Enhancing the portability of public health intervention review evidence for localised decision-making’. ESMI Guest Lecture Series, University of Exeter Medical School


111. Kneale D (July) ‘Evidence use in public health decision-making’. SPHR Knowledge Exchange Workshops. Imperial College London


113. Lavalette M and Alderson P (July) Education and the commodification of childhood, 8/7 Marxism Annual Conference, London


120. Oliver S (December 2017) Social science and an ‘evidence synthesis’ culture. Knowledge Network Institute of Thailand (KNIT) and Engagement Thailand (EnT) visit SSRU.

121. Oliver S (June 2017) Shaping research to make it useful who’s involved and how? 8th Symposium of the Swiss Clinical Trial Organisation. University Hospital Basel.


124. Pells K (May) ‘The dynamics of time and place in young people’s experience of violence in Ethiopia, India, Peru and Vietnam’. Growing up Global?: a workshop for researchers working on youth-related research, UCL

125. Pells K (July) ‘Broadening the horizons: sociological approaches to children and violence’. Understanding Human Rights in Practice: Opportunities, Challenges and the Need for a Contextual Approach. Hosted by the Department of Sociology and the Human Rights Centre (University of Essex, Colchester, UK) and funded by the British Sociological Association

126. Pells K (October) ‘Violence prevention and peace education workshops in the Central African Republic, Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan.’ Education, Peace and Refugee Contexts. Education in Conflict and Emergencies seminar series


129. Rees R (September) ‘Interventions to address inequalities in childhood obesity - International evidence and theory.’ Chief Medical Officer Roundtable on poverty and childhood obesity, Richmond House, London.


133. Rivas C (September). ‘A metasynthesis of qualitative papers that highlights the change processes in men navigating the prostate cancer journey’. BSA Medsoc, York

134. Rivas C (August) ‘Insights from themes arising from an automated “real time” analysis of large volume cancer patient experience survey freetext responses’. IPOS, Berlin

135. Rivas C (July) ‘Your partner, the sex: navigating sensitive topics in the prostate cancer interview’. CACE, University of Bristol

136. Rivas C, Anstee S (June) An automated approach to analysing and visualising patient experience survey freetext comments to drive service improvements - PRESENT Study: Development and Proof of Concept with patients and health care professionals. Evidence Live,
Oxford


139. Schucan Bird K, Arif M (July) ‘Reviewing representation: Where are the female, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME), and non-western authors in systematic review

140. Schucan Bird K, Pitman L (June) ‘How diverse is your curriculum? Student-staff collaboration in the examination of reading lists.’ Students as Partners: Working together to navigate the learning journey, SOAS, London

141. Schucan Bird K, Pitman L, Smith H (June) ‘How diverse is your reading list? Addressing issues of representation in the sciences and social sciences.’ Connecting Higher Education: International perspectives on research-based education, UCL

142. Schucan Bird K, Pitman L (February) ‘How diverse is your curriculum? Examining the gender, ethnicity and geographical origins of authors on your reading list.’ UCL Arena Exchange Session, UCL

143. Stansfield C (July) ‘Designing search strategies for systematic reviews that use diffuse research literature’. NICE Joint Information Group, London

144. Stewart R (September) ‘Do evidence networks make a difference?’ Opening keynote address at Global Evidence Summit, Cape Town


146. Sutcliffe K (December) ‘An introduction to Qualitative Evidence Synthesis and its utility for understanding, designing and evaluating trials’. QUESTS Webinar Series, NUI Galway

147. Sutcliffe K and Brunton G (December) ‘Overviews of reviews: when they are appropriate, the challenges they pose and methods to address them.’ Center on Knowledge Translation for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (KTDRR), American Institutes for Research, Austin, Texas, USA


149. Thomas J, Stansfield C, O’Mara-Eves A, Shemilt I. (March) ‘Machine learning tools are now available for use in Cochrane reviews! Try them out and discuss how they should – and shouldn’t – be used’. Workshop: Cochrane UK & Ireland Symposium, Oxford

150. Twamley K and Schober P (April) ‘To share or not to share: a survey with expectant parents and partners in the UK on their parental leave plans.’ British Sociological Association Annual Conference, University of Manchester

Founding Director
Ann Oakley, Professor of Sociology and Social Policy

Director of Unit
Sandy Oliver, Professor of Public Policy

Assistant Director
James Thomas, Professor of Social Research and Policy

Research Staff
Priscilla Alderson, Professor of Childhood Studies (Professor Emerita)
Mukdarut Bangpan, Research Officer
Ginny Brunton, Senior Research Officer
Jeff Brunton, Research Officer
Kelly Dickson, Research Officer
Preethy D'Souza, Research Associate
David Gough, Professor of Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice
Kate Hinds, Research Officer
Meena Khatwa, Research Associate
Dylan Kneale, Research Officer
Aris Komporozos-Athanasiou, Lecturer in Social Theory and Social Policy
Irene Kwan, Research Officer
Sarah Lester, Research Officer
Chris Maidment, Research Associate (since April 2017)
Berry Mayall, Professor of Childhood Studies
Mark Newman, Reader in Evidence-Informed Policy and Practice in Education and Social Policy
Alison O’Mara-Eves, Senior Research Officer
Kirrily Pells, Lecturer in Childhood Studies
Rebecca Rees, Senior Lecturer in Evidence Informed Policy and Practice
Michelle Richardson, Research Officer
Carol Rivas, Senior Lecturer in Social Policy and Programme Evaluation (from June)
Rachel Rosen, Lecturer in Childhood
Mary Sawtell, Research Officer
Karen Schucan Bird, Research Officer
Jonathan Sharples, Professorial Research Associate
Ian Shemilt, Senior Lecturer in Economics and Evidence Synthesis Methodology
Claire Stansfield, Research Officer and Information Scientist
Ruth Stewart, Research Officer
Gillian Stokes, Research Officer
Katy Sutcliffe, Research Officer
Janice Tripney, Research Officer
Katherine Twamley, Senior Lecturer
Carol Vigurs, Research Officer
Meg Wiggins, Senior Research Officer

Professional Staff
Zak Ghouze, Software and Information Technology Officer (from March 2017)
Sergio Graziosi, Information Systems Officer
Philip James Rose, Unit Publications and Administrative Officer
Patrick O’Driscoll, Senior Research Software Developer

Postgraduate Researchers

Academic staff registered for PhD by publication
Ginny Brunton, Kelly Dickson, Rebecca Rees, Mary Sawtell, Antonia Simon, Claire Stansfield

Staff Associate
Sylvia Potter
This report should be cited as: