

RGS-IBG Annual International Conference 2014

Geographies of co-production

Session proposal form

Please fill in all the details below and return to AC2014@rgs.org by **Friday 21 February 2014**

Session Summary	
Session Title: Please enter session title as it should appear in the conference programme. If you have multiple timeslots with sub-titles, only enter the main title of the session here.	Practice Theory and “Hybrid” Development-Economic Geography Research: Emerging Insights from North and South
Session sponsor (if applicable) Please enter the name(s) of any Research Group(s) or other organisations sponsoring this session, to be recorded in the conference programme.	EGRG has agreed to sponsor and there is potential for co-sponsorship from DARG (approval pending and dependent on time-table concerns)
Session Abstract: Please enter session abstract as it should appear in the online programme.	Building off of foundational work by, among others, Bourdieu, Goffman, de Certeau, and Schatzki, practice theory and practice-oriented epistemological approaches have been taken up and advanced by relational and other economic geographers in recent years. At the same time, there is a push by some in the development and economic geography communities to overcome the often false/arbitrary binaries between North/South and Economic/Development research, conceptual frameworks, and theoretical contributions. This session aims to interact with these emerging research areas through papers that deploy a practice-oriented conceptual and/or epistemological approach to the study of “hybrid” development-economic geographies in the North and South. The papers examine a diverse range of financial, livelihood, entrepreneurial, industrial, and socio-technical practices and in contexts which include London, India, and Tanzania. Through these presentations, papers, and follow-up discussions the goal is to critically assess the substance and direction of practice-oriented and “hybrid” research in economic and development geography.
Keywords: Please enter keywords separated by a semi colon (;). Maximum of five keywords allowed	Socio-spatial practice; economic-development geographies; finance; entrepreneurship; industrial change

Session Convenors		
Session Convenor Name	Affiliation	Email address
James T. Murphy	Clark University	jammurphy@clarku.edu
Andrew Jones	City University London	Andrew.Jones.3@city.ac.uk

Session Requirements	
Number of timeslots required Session timeslots are 1hr 40minutes long.	1
Type of session proposed e.g. papers, papers with discussant, posters, panel discussion, workshop... The session organisers welcome innovative session formats.	4 papers plus 1 discussant
Special audio visual requirements A laptop with audio speakers, data projector and screen will be provided in each room.	None
Expected audience Please provide an estimate of audience size. This will help to allocate rooms.	40
Any other special requests to be considered e.g. mobility requirements, room request, timetabling request. We cannot guarantee to honour all requests.	None

Session 1 title and chair		
Session 1 Title Please enter the title as it should appear in the conference programme. Sessions with multiple timeslots should be numbered.	Practice Theory and “Hybrid” Development-Economic Geography Research: Emerging Insights from North and South	
Session Chair name	Affiliation	Email address
James T. Murphy	Clark University	jammurphy@clarku.edu

Session presentation details			
Presentation 1 Title:	Everyday practices of Islamic philanthropy: recentering anaemic economic geographies of financial resilience		
Presentation 1 Abstract	<p>The 'global' financial crisis has prompted geographers to search for 'alternative', more socially sustainable models of economic growth, whilst also further exposing the epistemic limits of Economic Geography as a sub-discipline that remains narrowly focused on Anglo-American economies. The majority of geographical analyses have largely failed to learn from Southern knowledges, practices and outcomes of crisis recovery and resilience. Instead they perpetuate an ongoing intellectual 'anaemia' in Economic Geography centred on the advanced capitalist heartland / western 'core'. As part of a growing agenda to challenge this distinctively narrow economic geography of Economic Geography and to theorise economic geographies of practice (Jones and Murphy 2011), this paper explores: (i) the everyday practices, sources, and motivations amongst individuals and households that underpin resilient patterns of Islamic charitable giving and mutual support amongst East London's Somali community in the aftermath of the financial crisis; and (ii) the ways in which these diverse economic practices of philanthropy and charitable-giving - simultaneously rooted within, between and across the Global South and Global North – open up new possibilities to 'theorise back' on geographical conceptions of financial resilience.</p>		
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Al James	Queen Mary University of London	a.james@qmul.ac.uk	Y
Kavita Datta	Queen Mary University of London	k.datta@qmul.ac.uk	N
Jane Pollard	Newcastle University	jane.pollard@ncl.ac.uk	N
Presentation 2 Title:	Migrant Enterprise Geographies: Examining the Socio-Spatial Practices of Polish and Ghanaian Enterprise Owners in London		
Presentation 2 Abstract	<p>Over the last two decades, as migration processes have increasingly transcended national borders in a globalising world society-economy, geographers have highlighted the utility of more relational, multiscalar, and practice-orientated approaches to theorising and researching migration geographies. While geographers have unpacked migrants' socio-economic practices in relation to their <i>employment</i> activities and experiences, there is a relative dearth of geographical research on migrants' socio-spatial practices in relation to their <i>self-employment</i> and <i>enterprise</i> activities and experiences. This has left key gaps in our knowledge of <i>migrant enterprise</i> geographies, which require further and immediate attention given that enterprise practices represent a fundamental socio-economic livelihood strategy among growing numbers of Global South/North connected migrants. Within this context, my paper focuses on the socio-spatial practices of Polish and Ghanaian migrant enterprise owners in London to highlight: (i) the ways in which their enterprise practices are stretched across multiscalar and relational spaces in Poland, Ghana, London, and other North/South places; (ii) the significance of these socio-spatial practices for thinking about new ways of facilitating and supporting migrant enterprise development across space and over time and; (iii) the significance of these socio-spatial practices to the continued reinforcement of an interdisciplinary geographical research agenda in Human Geography.</p>		
Author name	Author affiliation	Author email address	Presenter?
Joshua Phillips	Queen Mary University of London	j.phillips@qmul.ac.uk	Y

Presentation 3 Title:	South-South and South-North globalization: diverging socio-spatial practices of Indian pharmaceutical firms		
Presentation 3 Abstract	<p>This paper assesses the diverging practices currently employed by Indian pharmaceutical firms in negotiating entry barriers, quality controls, innovation, upgrading and accessing export markets. The Indian pharmaceutical industry is currently the third largest in the world in volume terms, known for its low-cost supply of generic medicines. Various globalizing pressures, opportunities and strategies have emerged, including World Trade Organization patent rules, as well as new opportunities in growing markets within the global South. Extensive primary interview evidence is used to demonstrate divergent business practices between smaller and medium sized enterprises primarily South-South oriented and those firms which are expanding in the heavily regulated markets in the global North. The case has significant health implications arising out of the prospects for continued supply of low-cost medicines within the global South. Considered more broadly, the study demonstrates the value of “hybrid” research projects that link processes of industrial/economic change to wider development outcomes such as those related to public health and societal wellbeing.</p>		
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Rory Horner	University of Manchester	rory.horner@manchester.ac.uk	Y
James T. Murphy	Clark University	jammurphy@clarku.edu	N
Presentation 4 Title:	Practice bundles, socio-technical regimes, and the evolution of markets and industries: A case study from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania		
Presentation 4 Abstract	<p>This paper links Schatzki’s abstract notion of practice bundles to sociotechnical systems research from science and technology and transition studies. In doing so, the goal is to advance a conceptual framework and epistemological strategy for the study of socioeconomic development; one that focuses on the socio-spatial practices that constitute markets and industries and which are drivers and indicators of change and innovation. Markets and industries are conceptualized here as socio-technical regimes – multi-scalar assemblages of institutional, spatial, relational, and technological elements that are established, modified, and reproduced through the everyday practices of firms, consumers, states, and related actors. These practices are situated within, and enabled, constrained, and guided by wider structural forces such as geopolitical relations, economic policies, and societal value systems and their divergent and context-specific manifestations create discontinuities between market “segments” that cannot simply be overcome through conventional processes of upgrading and capital accumulation. The paper develops this conceptual framework and then applies it to an empirical analysis of Tanzania’s wood products sector; markets and industrial regimes that often appear “informal” but which are, in practice, constituted by well-defined and understood regularities that dictate roles, routines, conventions, and market-access possibilities. The findings show how discontinuities between market segments are constituted in the wood products sector and why even low-end Tanzanian manufacturers are unable increasingly to compete against imports from Asia. The goal is not to simply highlight these deficiencies but to demonstrate how and why a practice-oriented conceptual/epistemological approach can help us to better understand the place-specific factors and power relations that limit the prospects for more distributive and empowering forms of socioeconomic development in Africa and beyond.</p>		
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Presentation 5 Title:	Discussant for the papers		
Presentation 5 Abstract	Discussant		
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Andrew Jones	City University London	Andrew.Jones.3@city.ac.uk	Discussant