# Bristol Poverty Institute
## University of Bristol

# Bristol Poverty Institute Showcase Event 2022
Thursday 30 June, 13:30-18:30, The Bristol Hotel, BS1 4QF

## Delegate Pack

# Programme

| Bristol Poverty Institute Showcase Programme | |
|---|---|
| *13:30-14:00* | ***Refreshments and Mingle*** |
| 14:00-14:10 | **Introduction**<br><br>Dr Lauren Winch, Manager of Bristol Poverty Institute |
| 14:10-14:20 | **Welcome**<br><br>Professor Agnes Nairn, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Global Engagement and Professor of Management |
| 14:20-15:00 | **Ending World Poverty**<br><br>Professor David Gordon, Director of Bristol Poverty Institute and Professor of Social Justice<br><br>Q&A Chair: Dr Lauren Winch |
| *15:00-15:30* | ***Refreshments Break and Posters*** |
| 15:30-16:10 | **Tackling the cost of living crisis for low-income UK households**<br><br>Ms Sara Davies, Senior Research Fellow in Geographical Sciences<br>Mr Jamie Evans, Senior Research Associate in Geographical Sciences<br><br>Q&A Chair: Professor David Gordon |
| 16:10-16:50 | **Decolonising Development: Academics, Practitioners and Collaboration**<br><br>Professor Eric Herring, Professor of World Politics<br><br>Q&A Chair: Professor David Gordon |
| 16:50-17:00 | **Closing remarks**<br><br>Professor Phil Taylor, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Enterprise and Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering |
| *17:00-18:30* | ***Drinks Reception and Networking Mingle*** |

# Bristol Poverty Institute

## Overview

The Bristol Poverty Institute (BPI) is dedicated to multi-disciplinary research on the causes, effects and measurement of poverty to inform effective policy and practice. We tackle poverty-relevant issues at all scales from the local to the global, and actively seek to co-produce our research with partners representing different disciplines, sectors, and nationalities.

The Bristol Poverty Institute is a Specialist Research Institute at the University of Bristol, working in partnership with NGOs, CSOs, governments and private sector bodies united by the common goal of SDG1: *To reduce poverty in all its forms everywhere*. We support researchers from across the University to develop and expand their internal and external networks, promote inter- and transdisciplinary approaches, showcase and promote their work, catalyse and support new routes for engagement and research, and link up with other opportunities across the University and beyond.
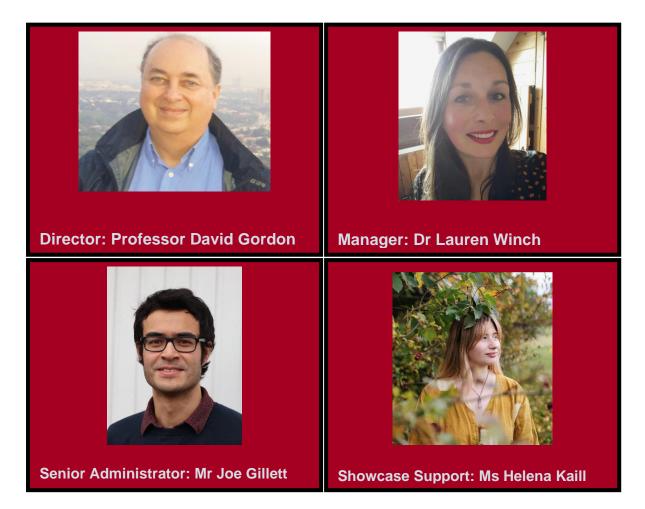
Our researchers work on a wide range of poverty-relevant issues from a range of disciplinary perspectives, with particular strengths and coalescence around the themes of child health and development, education, livelihoods and debt, and food and water, all of which contribute to the multidimensional nature of poverty. Through our work we aim to cement the University of Bristol's position as a global centre of research excellence on the causes, effects and measurements of poverty. This will increase our potential for impact on policy and practice, driven by our ultimate aim of reducing the extent, scale and severity of poverty around the globe.

# Bristol Poverty Institute
## University of Bristol

**BPI Team**



**Director: Professor David Gordon**

**Manager: Dr Lauren Winch**

**Senior Administrator: Mr Joe Gillett**

**Showcase Support: Ms Helena Kaill**

## BPI Advisory Board

- **Professor Yoav Ben-Schlomo**, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology
- **Professor Sharon Collard**, Research Director of Personal Finance Research Centre and Professor of Personal Finance
- **Professor Esther Dermott**, Head of School for Policy Studies and Professor of Sociology
- **Professor Alan Emond**, Emeritus Professor of Child Health
- **Dr Tigist Grieve**, Vice Chancellor's Fellow in Education
- **Professor Guy Howard,** Global Challenges Research Chair in Environmental and Infrastructure Resilience and Professor of Engineering
- **Professor Leon Tikly**, Global Challenges Research Chair in Education, Director of the Centre for Comparative and International Research in Education, and Professor of Education

![Bristol Poverty Institute logo] **Bristol Poverty Institute**
**University of Bristol**

# Speaker biographies and abstracts

## Dr Lauren Winch: Introduction (14:00-14:10)

### Abstract
Dr Lauren Winch will provide a brief introduction to the event, including practicalities for the day and an overview of the programme.

### Speaker biography
Lauren is the Manager of the [Bristol Poverty Institute](#) (BPI) at the University of Bristol. She leads on strategic and operational management of all aspects of BPI activity including communication and engagement strategies, promoting and supporting interdisciplinary working within and beyond the University, designing and overseeing strategic activities, and delivering reporting and analysis. Through her work Lauren aims to cement the University of Bristol's position as a global centre of research excellence on the causes, effects, and measurements of poverty. This will increase its potential for impact on policy and practice, driven by the ultimate aim of reducing the extent and severity of poverty at all scales from the local to the global.

## Professor Agnes Nairn: Welcome (14:10-14:20)

### Abstract

Professor Agnes Nairn, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement, will welcome all attendees to the event and provide a brief introduction to the University of Bristol and our strengths in poverty-relevant research. She will also introduce the University's new Bristol Hub for Gambling Harms Research which she co-leads. Over the next five years this multidisciplinary Research Centre will seek to build greater understanding and evidence around the growing and diverse impact of gambling harms across Great Britain.

### Speaker biography

Our current Pro Vice-Chancellor Global Engagement, Professor Agnes Nairn was previously Chair of Marketing in the School of Management and International Director, Faculty of Social Science and Law. Previous to that she was Dean of Hult International Business School in London and Professor of Marketing at EMLyon Business School in France. She was recently appointed Distinguished International Visiting Faculty at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies in Mumbai.

Her academic positions were preceded by an eclectic career as English teacher in Sri Lanka, political pollster in USA, commercial tour operator and market research entrepreneur. Her research focuses broadly on the ethics and regulation of marketing to children.

![Bristol Poverty Institute logo] **Bristol Poverty Institute**
*University of Bristol*

## Professor David Gordon: Ending World Poverty (14:20-15:00)

### Abstract

In 2015, the governments of the world agreed to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce multidimensional poverty by half by 2030, while leaving no-one behind.  Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increasing numbers of poor people and increasing inequality - the poor are now poorer while the very rich have become much richer.

This talk will discuss how these trends can be reversed based upon the lessons from poverty research and the ways in which University of Bristol research can help to provide policy makers with the high quality scientific information they need to develop and monitor effective and efficient anti-poverty policies.

### Speaker biography

Professor David Gordon is Professor of Social Justice and the Director of the Bristol Poverty Institute at the University of Bristol, UK.   He is a member of the advisory board of the UNICEF Office of Research, a member of the International Network for Research on Inequalities in Child Health, a board member of the International Society for Child Indicators and was a fellow of the International Social Science Council's Comparative Research Programme on Poverty.

He has written and edited over a hundred books, papers and reports on poverty, health inequalities and social exclusion, social justice and social policy.  In 2006 and 2007, he was given the tremendous honour of addressing the General Assembly of the United Nations about child and youth poverty.  In 2018, he had the honour of being elected as a Fellow of the British Academy for his work on poverty research.

## Ms Sara Davies and Mr Jamie Evans: Tackling the cost of living crisis for low-income UK households (15:30-16:10)

### Abstract

Sara and Jamie will discuss the current cost of living crisis, in relation to a number of UK poverty-related projects that are working on. They will begin with an overview of findings from a survey measuring changes in the financial wellbeing of the UK population since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. The survey's sixth wave, which was conducted in May 2022, sheds light on the significant financial challenges facing different households due to the rising cost of living. They will then discuss their research on the 'poverty premium' - the extra costs that low-income households face when accessing essential services, such as energy and insurance. A better understanding of how those in poverty access goods and services, along with policies to reduce the poverty premium could play an important role in helping these households navigate the current cost of living crisis.

### Speaker biographies

**Sara Davies** is a Senior Research Fellow at the Personal Finance Research Centre (University of Bristol), conducting social research on household finance policy. Her research focuses on improving understanding of poverty, financial exclusion, over indebtedness and vulnerability, mainly from the consumer's perspective. Recent projects include a review of borrowing behaviour, understanding the role of bursaries in widening participation, and calculating the poverty premium.

**Jamie Evans** is a quantitative social researcher at the Personal Finance Research Centre, focusing on a range of subjects related to financial wellbeing and debt. His research has explored the role of financial services firms and debt advice providers in supporting the most vulnerable consumers (such as those living with mental health conditions, disability or high-risk gambling behaviours). His work considers how access to financial services and sources of financial support or advice can be made more inclusive, especially in an increasingly digital world in which some people may benefit but others may be left behind. Prior to joining PFRC in 2015, Jamie worked as a Research Assistant at the Community Development Foundation, part of the Community Investment Coalition, which campaigns for fair and affordable access to financial services for all. While at PFRC, in 2020 he completed a Parliamentary Academic Fellowship at the House of Commons Library, where he produced briefing papers for MPs on issues related to personal finance and financial services.



*Sara Davies*



*Jamie Evans*

**Bristol Poverty Institute**

**University of Bristol**

## Professor Eric Herring: Decolonising Development: Academics, Practitioners and Collaboration (16:10-16:50)

### Abstract

The presentation explores how academics and practitioners can collaborate to decolonise development. It does so by drawing on Herring's experience as Co-Director of the Somali First initiative to promote Somali-led development in Somalia/Somaliland (Somaliland unilaterally declared independence from Somalia in 1991: it is has been autonomous since then but is internationally unrecognised). The initiative has been run by Somali social enterprise Transparency Solutions and the University of Bristol since 2014. Due to the difficulties of operating there, it tends to be bypassed by development partnerships in favour of already better off countries, which leaves it even further behind. The presentation argues that underpinning the initiative with commitments to sustainable development as a global issue and to locally led, simple, complicated and complex change has been vital to ensuring that it contributes to decolonising development in Somalia/Somaliland. It argues further that the decolonisation of development in this case has been advanced through long term partnership grounded in a shared purpose and complementary capacities; maximisation of funding for and control of funding by Somali entities; decentring English and centring Somali linguistic diversity; promoting a locally led approach; and employing co-production. It concludes that scaling up or transfer of the approach set out in the presentation would involve reinterpretation to suit the context to be an effective contribution to decolonising development. The arguments made will be illustrated through examples of diverse and numerous projects undertaken as part of the initiative. Somalia/Somaliland is one of the poorest countries in the world.

### Speaker biography

Eric is Professor of World Politics in the School of Politics, Sociology and International Relations at the University of Bristol; Co-Director with Somali social enterprise Transparency Solutions of the Somali First initiative to promote Somali-led development; and Co-Investigator of the UKRI GCRF large Network Plus grant Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures (ES/T002646/1).

## Professor Phil Taylor: Closing remarks (16:50-17:00)

### Abstract
Professor Phil Taylor, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Enterprise, will provide closing remarks for the event, reflecting on the topics presented, themes discussed, and future directions

### Speaker biography
Professor Taylor, who was appointed as Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise in July 2020, is responsible for shaping Bristol's research and enterprise activity, ensuring it meets the University's strategic ambition to be a world-leading research-intensive university making a positive contribution to the key global challenges facing society. He is also responsible for engaging with a wide range of organisations - from funders to corporates and charities - regionally, nationally and internationally, and enhancing an already high-performing research environment at Bristol. Professor Taylor was appointed as a sub-panel member for REF2021 and, since 2020, has been a member of EPSRC Science, Engineering and Technology Board.

Professor Taylor was the Director, and then Co-Director, of the £20m EPSRC National Centre for Energy Systems Integration (CESI) which ended May 2022. Currently, he is the Leader of the £10m EPSRC Supergen Energy Networks Hub, which brings together industrial and academic partners (including five UK universities) with other energy network stakeholders to gain a deeper understanding of the interactions and interdependencies of energy networks, and researches the challenges of technology, policy, data, markets and risk for energy networks.

In addition to being a Visiting Professor at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, Professor Taylor is also a non-executive director of Northern Powergrid, an electrical distribution company, which provides power to eight million customers in the North East and Yorkshire. Professor Taylor also serves on the Board of Trustees of the national fuel poverty charity, National Energy Action (NEA), which works to ensure that everyone in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is warm and safe at home.

# Posters

There will be three research posters available for attendees to view during the refreshment breaks, and some of the contributors will also be available to provide more information on the research projects themselves. Our posters are:

**'Poverty-free Model Village'- A pilot project addressing multidimensional poverty in rural Bangladesh**
**Dr Rabeya Khatoon**

A village free from poverty is an unthinkable reality in the context of a poverty-stricken developing country like Bangladesh. This poster will introduce research on a pilot project of action research with targeted initiatives to reduce poverty measured by the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) with close monitoring of the interventions. The broad objective of the project is to bring households above the poverty line and for this to be a sustainable status for them. This poster presents some preliminary findings from this project, undertaken by Rabeya Khatoon from the University of Bristol in partnership with the Government of Bangladesh.

**(il)licit livelihoods in Africa: Drug policy and reproduction of poverty**
**Dr Gernot Klantschnig, Dr Clemence Rusenga and Dr Lala Ireland**

Drug policies in Africa are rarely devised and studied from a development lens. In their current form, drug policies tend to prevent small operators from making a livelihood, often targeting those who are involved in subsistence activities around cannabis farming and the sale of tramadol. As a result, state policies play a key role in the reproduction of poverty in Africa. This poster highlights the counterproductive impacts and tensions arising from the implementation of drug policies as well as the narrative of small-scale operators contesting these interventions. It illustrates the impact on local communities and highlights the quintessential development issues that are often neglected when implementing measures associated to the global war on drugs.

**Researching with communities at the margins: Exploring lived experiences of social, digital and cultural participation with minoritized older adults**
**Dr Alice Willatt, Dr Stuart Gray, and Dr Helen Manchester**

This poster will share some of the findings and participatory methods we have used on the UKRI funded project, [Connecting Through Culture as We Age](#), which brings together researchers from the fields of Education, Computer Sciences, Health Sciences and the Arts. The project tackles the complex problem of how to increase participation in social and cultural life as we age, which has been shown to make a vital contribution to raising quality of life. It responds to inequalities related to the accessibility and content of arts and cultural provision, including digital exclusion, addressing the fundamental issue that participation drops dramatically in older populations who are disabled and/or racially and socio-economically minoritized.

# Additional links and resources

## Bristol Poverty Institute links
- Twitter: @bristolpoverty
- Website: https://www.bristol.ac.uk/poverty-institute/
- SharePoint (University of Bristol only): https://uob.sharepoint.com/sites/bpi
- BPI webinar recordings: http://www.bristol.ac.uk/poverty-institute/key-resources/bpi-webinars/

## Links from the speakers:
### Professor Agnes Nairn
- Gambling Harms Research Hub:
  https://www.bristol.ac.uk/news/2022/may/gambling-harms-research-centre.html

### Professor David Gordon
- Global Coalition to End Child Poverty:
  http://www.endchildhoodpoverty.org/
- Interviews with Global Challenges Symposium participants:
  http://www.bristol.ac.uk/poverty-institute/events/2018/building-global-partnerships-for-global-challenges-symposium.html
- Breadline Britain video:
  https://player.vimeo.com/video/89527578?width=500&height=281&iframe=true
- Videos on the definition of poverty:
  https://www.poverty.ac.uk/definitions-poverty

### Sara Davies and Jamie Evans
- Coronavirus Financial Impact Tracker:
  https://www.bristol.ac.uk/geography/research/pfrc/themes/capability-behaviours-wellbeing/covid-19-tracker/#d.en.532858
- Research on reducing the 'Poverty Premium':
  https://www.bristol.ac.uk/geography/research/pfrc/themes/financial-exclusion-poverty/poverty-premium/
- Research on the local 'Poverty Premium'
  https://www.bristol.ac.uk/geography/research/pfrc/themes/financial-exclusion-poverty/local-poverty-premium/

### Professor Eric Herring
- Somali First video:
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxiLWI-d_y8
- Transparency Solutions research and publications:
  https://transparencysolutions.com/research
- Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures network page:
  https://tesf.network/
- Transforming Education for Sustainable Futures video:
  https://youtu.be/lMKGQA-C-Ks