

## **BSA Realism Study Group Annual Report (2014)**

**Name:** BSA Realism Study Group

**Number of members:** Total: 86 people on contacts email list    BSA : Not known    Non BSA: Not known

**Income:** £0

**Expenditure:** £0

**Balance:** £0

### **Aims:**

The study group aims to:

- bring together colleagues from a variety of disciplines to consider the relevance of realist social theory to their work and methods.
- review and develop realist social theory.
- encourage realist social research into substantive areas of social enquiry.
- review and develop realist methodological principles and their application to empirical research.

### **Review of the year:**

At the BSA Conference 2014 the Realism Study Group organised a Theory Stream Plenary where Professor Margaret Archer spoke on 'Morphogenesis Unbound: Critical Realism and Changing Society' which was very popular. There was also a Realism and Social Research session within the Theory stream at the 2014 conference with 5 speakers.

We will continue to work with the Theory study group to include a session on realism in the Theory stream at the BSA conference. Unfortunately neither convenor is able to attend the 2015 BSA Conference due to lack of institutional funds at their respective universities to support conference attendance.

The Realism Study Group continues to hold occasional events to provide a forum for sociologists with an interest in realism to meet and discuss current issues. This year we are planning to hold a joint session with the BSA Bourdieu study group to develop further theoretical analysis and understanding between Bourdieu and realism in debates around structure and agency, social constructionism, power, the nature of knowledge claims and critique.

**Convenors** Tom Brock, Manchester Metropolitan University  
Michelle Farr, University of Bath

### **Concluding remarks:**

The BSA Realism group continues to attract new members and looks forward to the forthcoming year.

### **Convenor contact details:**

To join our mailing list, please email us at [bsarealism@hotmail.com](mailto:bsarealism@hotmail.com)

Also visit us at <http://criticalrealism.org/>

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