

**BSA study group annual report, June 2023**  
**Work Employment and Economic Life**

**Name:** WEEL

**Established:** 2004; relaunched 2010

**Number of members:**

421 subscribers to the Jiscmail list.

1,031 Twitter followers

**Income:** BSA office has updated income information.

**Aims:** Key aims of WEEL include:

- Exchange and develop ideas by attracting new and existing BSA members to the WEEL group and its activities.
- Encourage collaboration and lend support within a long tradition of British sociologists.
- Encourage research and publication around the sociology of work, employment and economic life.
- To become the ‘natural’ go-to forum for contacting other sociologists in the field, for advice, requests for information, and exchange of ideas, including regarding pedagogical issues.
- To support PGRs and ECRs in the sociology of work, employment and economic life.
- To develop a programme of events including building on the strength of the WEEL stream at the annual BSA conferences.
- To develop links with other BSA study groups and non-sociologists interested in the fields of work and employment.

**Review of the year:**

- The study group organised a stream plenary session at the BSA annual conference 2023. The theme of this session was: ‘Exploring the boundaries, place and role of the sociology of work.’ The session was held as an open discussion.

We also convened the WEEL stream at this conference.

- The co-conveners are in regular contact including scheduled Zoom meetings.
- WEEL has considerably increased its Twitter activities, and has thereby increased its followers as well as promoting the BSA

**Concluding remarks:**

The three conveners are currently in the process of handing over to three new conveners. The three new conveners were the only ones to make a commitment to the role, though we had another handful of people who expressed an interest and then withdrew. In the coming weeks we will be handing over officially, possibly with some overlap (Jill Timms may stay on for a few months, depending on whether the new conveners would find this useful), such that the preparations for the next BSA conference will be done by the new conveners.

**Convenor contact details:**

Jill Timms

[j.timms@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:j.timms@surrey.ac.uk)

07776 151062

Rachel Cohen

[Rachel.Cohen.1@city.ac.uk](mailto:Rachel.Cohen.1@city.ac.uk)

07932 646163

Jonathan Preminger

[premingej@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:premingej@cardiff.ac.uk)

07403 560730

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