

## **BSA study group annual report, May 2024**

### **Work Employment and Economic Life**

**Name:** WEEL

**Established:** 2004; relaunched 2010

**Number of members:**

452 subscribers to the Jiscmail list.

1,085 Twitter followers

**Account balance:** £366.50

**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 convened and chaired the majority of the WEEL streams at the BSA virtual annual conference 2024. The theme of this session was: ‘Crisis, Continuity and Change.’
- The co-conveners are in regular contact including scheduled Zoom meetings.
- We have set up a WEEL Reading Group to engage and motivate study group members in regular discussion of related scholarly articles, to share ideas and to network and explore potential collaborations. There was a strong response from WEEL group members to the invitation, with 65 members subscribing to the Reading Group.
- WEEL are in the process of taking over the X (formerly Twitter) account to increase its followers as well as to promote the BSA and establish links with other BSA study groups.

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**Concluding remarks:**

We thank the previous three conveners for their commitment and smooth handover over to the new conveners. We also wish to acknowledge the commitment of one of the new conveners, Dr Gavin MacLean, who stepped down at the end of April 2024 due to other pressing responsibilities.

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