**CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER:**
**APRIL 2012**

Welcome to the Campaign for Social Science newsletter for April 2012. This e-bulletin will bring you up to date with the recent activity of the campaign, as well as including current matters of interest and advertising opportunities for your involvement with the campaign.

**A warm welcome to Shirley Ayres who has joined the Campaign for Social Science as the part time Campaign Officer. You can contact Shirley through s.ayres@acss.org.uk**

**The Case for a Chief Social Scientist**

Director of the Campaign Stephen Anderson and Professor Cary Cooper, the chair of council, recently featured in the Guardian as part of the Higher Education Network Blog, explaining the importance and need for a Chief Social Scientist within government.

This article outlines the importance of social science when making key policy decisions, and highlights the relevance of social science research when approaching some of society’s most pressing and costly issues.

You can read the full article [here](#).

**Recent Press Releases**

The Campaign releases regular Press Releases responding to important social science developments in the public arena and policy decisions.

On the 20th February, we commented on the decline in applications to study many social science subjects at a higher education level. Professor Tony Crook posed that the decline may be due to increased tuition fees, with students focusing on vocational studies to a more assured career. However, he pointed out that the study of social sciences develops a diverse range of skills that should not be overlooked and are highly valued by employers.

On the 1st March, we were quick to respond to the House of Lords recommendation of the appointment of a chief social scientist. We reasserted our position that social science permeates almost all policy decisions and remain positive that the appointment of a chief social scientist will hopefully be forthcoming.

On the 2nd April we commented on the results of a poll run in collaboration with Sage which found that “Despite Austerity Most of Us are Happy”. This coincided with a report from the Kingdom of Bhutan on “Happiness and Wellbeing” defining a new economic paradigm” presented at the United Nations Assembly.

**The Art of Political Influencing**

The Campaign is hosting “The Art of Political Influencing” a seminar for Learned Societies on the 21st May from 10.30 - 16.00 at the British Academy of Management. The seminar aims to help Learned Societies understand about the nature of political influence and how to engage in government consultations, Select Committees and inquiries. It will be a day-long event, and feature sessions explaining Select Committees, Consultation processes, and how social scientists can have an impact.
One free place is available for each Learned Society signed up to support the Campaign. There will be a charge of £50 for attendees from Learned Societies not currently supporting the Campaign and additional places for Campaign Supporters.

For more information, and to book tickets, please contact campaign@acss.org.uk

**The Annual Report 2011**

At the beginning of 2012, the Campaign published its first Annual Report. The Annual Report 2011 details the Campaign’s successes and achievements during its first year, and our intentions and aims for the future. It outlines the governance of the Campaign, its objectives, the critical success factors for the Campaign, the funding plan for the Campaign, and the highlights of 2011.

The Annual Report is available online or for hard copies please phone (020) 7330 0897 or e-mail campaign@acss.org.uk.

**Forthcoming Campaign Roadshows to be held at the Universities of Kent, Salford and Keele**

Continuing on from last year, the Campaign is holding roadshows around the country, with the aim of engaging the social science community nationwide. This year, we have held roadshows at the University of East Anglia in Norwich on the 15th March and the annual Political Studies Association conference in Belfast, Northern Ireland from 3rd -5th April 2012.

The next in the series of social science roadshows are to be held at the University of Kent on the 2nd May 2012. Further roadshows will be held at the University of Salford in September and at the University of Keele in October (dates to be confirmed).

**SAGE contribution provides major boost for the Campaign**

SAGE, the leading international publisher of social science research and long-time supporter of the Academy of Social Sciences, is one of the key supporters of the Campaign. Their most recent donation will help fund the new role of Campaign Officer, and demonstrates SAGE’s continued backing of the aims and work of the Campaign. [http://www.socialsciencespace.com/2012/04/campaign-for-social-science-promoting-the-social-sciences-to-the-public-media-and-parliament/](http://www.socialsciencespace.com/2012/04/campaign-for-social-science-promoting-the-social-sciences-to-the-public-media-and-parliament/)

This new investment will help the Campaign bring greater visibility and recognition for the social sciences with a dedicated Campaign Officer, which is necessary with the continuing increase in the reach of the Campaign and its growing influence. We would like to thank SAGE whole heartedly for their valuable support.

**SocialScienceSpace**

SocialScienceSpace, an online social network designed to bring social scientists together globally, is an online platform launched by SAGE. It features blogs with the most current thinking from key players in social science, a forum for discussions, a resource centre with free videos, reports and slides that support these discussions, as well as funding and job opportunity notices. The goal of SocialScienceSpace is to facilitate discussion about the value of social sciences with a wider community.

It is an excellent medium through which to connect with fellow social scientists globally, so please do not hesitate to get involved!
### New ways to interact with the Campaign!

This year, the Campaign will be much easier to reach, through various mediums. Please follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/@CfSocialScience) or ‘like’ us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) to be provided with up-to-date information about the Campaign, breaking news and summaries of our past and forthcoming events.

Please feel free to contact us about the Campaign and any comments or ideas you have. We welcome all feedback and look forward to hearing from you!

### Campaign Publications

You can order hard copies of all Campaign publications including any of the “Making the Case” booklets by phone (020) 7330 0897 or by e-mailing your order to [campaign@acss.org.uk](mailto:campaign@acss.org.uk). Copies of the “Making the Case” booklets can also be downloaded from the Academy [website](http://www.acss.org.uk).

### Please support the Campaign with EasyFundraising every time you shop online!

If you have a spare minute this week, please download the Easyfundraising toolbar onto any computer you use – once downloaded, it will donate money to the Campaign every time you shop online. It is a simple process, and it will not cost you anything extra; some companies even feature discounts or special offers for users of the Easyfundraising toolbar.

To support the Campaign, please register here - [Easyfundraising - Campaign for Social Science](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). If you have any concerns or worries, Easyfundraising are happy to address them here - [Easyfundraising FAQs](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/). There is no catch or consequence, and it is completely free to use. Please do not hesitate; help the Campaign reach our fundraising target!

### Supporters of the Campaign

Thanks to the generous support of our Learned Societies, SAGE, 21 Universities, and many individual donors the Campaign for Social Science has raised over £150,000 so far, with a further £150,000 pledged in the years 2013-2015. This money continues to be used to promote social science research and underline the importance of the work of the social sciences in informing political policy.

Our aim in 2012 is to raise another £125,000, which will be added to our 2011 total of £100,000. We must continue to raise increasing amounts every year in order to ensure the success of the Campaign - we have reached two fifths of our target this year, but we still need your support!

You can donate to the Campaign by following this link to the [Campaign website](http://www.acss.org.uk) and clicking on donate where there are various payment options, or else by emailing Joanna Kelly at [j.kelly@acss.org.uk](mailto:j.kelly@acss.org.uk) for a standing order form.

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The next issue of the e-bulletin will be in June 2012. Contributors should contact Joanna Kelly (j.kelly@acss.org.uk) and Shirley Ayres (s.ayres@acss.org.uk).