



The David Hume Institute

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NEWS RELEASE

Seminar Series 2005

6.00pm 20 June 2005

The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh

“Does Public Sector Wage Setting Constrain Devolution?”

speaker:

Professor David Bell, University of Stirling

Chair: Professor Gavin McCrone, CB, Vice-President, The Royal Society of Edinburgh

Sponsored by



The Economic and Social Research Council

Professor Brian Main, Director of The David Hume Institute said “The Institute is grateful to the ESRC for sponsorship of this seminar and we are delighted to welcome Professor David Bell to give this talk.

Scotland has an extremely large public sector and there is a growing concern that its dominance is not in the long-run interest of the Scottish economy. But what do we know about the public sector and, in particular, working conditions in the public sector? Professor David Bell and Professor Bob Elliott have been analysing public sector labour markets in Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland as part of the ESRC's Devolution Programme, with a view to seeing how responsive they are to local labour market conditions.

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In this talk, Professor David Bell will share some of the findings from this research. In particular, he will discuss which groups of workers fare relatively well in the public sector and who do badly and what the findings may mean for the quality and availability of public sector workers”.

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David Bell is Professor of Economics, Head of Economics Department, University of Stirling and Co-Director of ScotEcon.

1974-75	Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of St. Andrews
1975-83	Research Fellow, Fraser of Allander Institute, University of Strathclyde
1983-85	Senior Research Fellow, Macroeconomic Modelling Bureau, University of Warwick
1985-89	Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, University of Glasgow
1989-90	Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Economy, University of Glasgow
1990-02	Professor of Economics, University of Stirling

Research Interests:

Microeconometrics, Panel Data, Earnings, Hours of Work, Changes in the Labour Market, Economics of Sport, The Scottish Economy

Consultant to: World Bank, European Commission, Department of Employment, Department of Education, Employment and Technology (Australia), Scottish Development Agency, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Office, Central Statistical Office, Central Region, Royal Bank of Scotland, Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, International Labor Organization.

Notes to Editors:

The views that will be expressed by the speaker are his own and do not commit the ¹Trustees or Officers of the Institute in any way.

Issued by:

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