

**Exploring Economics: Career Pathways and Insights
Inspirational Talks for Future Economists**

22nd April 5-7pm

University of Sussex, Jubilee 144 GTS Lecture Theatre

Curious about the career paths open to economists? Join us at our upcoming event where experienced professional women economists from different sectors will offer insights into the diverse opportunities available in the private, public sector, and in academia.

The primary objective of this event is to inspire, empower and motivate economics students, especially under-represented female students, to explore diverse career paths and career opportunities in academia, public and private sectors within the field of economics and pursue a career in those sectors. This event will feature a series of dynamic talks led by distinguished speakers from diverse backgrounds, spanning both public and private sectors, in addition to academia. These inspirational talks will provide attendees with invaluable insights into the unique opportunities and challenges within each sector shared by industry professionals. Our ultimate goal is to inspire, motivate, and empower students with the knowledge and perspectives necessary for success in their careers. By fostering a sense of community, we strive to contribute actively to closing the persistent gaps among under-represented groups in the economics profession.

This event is sponsored by the University of Sussex and is organised in collaboration with the Royal Economic Society UK Women in Economics Network (UK WEN) [Women in Economics Network \(UK WEN\) - Royal Economic Society \(res.org.uk\)](https://www.res.org.uk/women-in-economics-network).

Registration:

Schedule

5.00-5.10pm	Welcome and Introduction	Almudena Sevilla (LSE and Chair UK WEN) and Sambit Bhattacharyya (University of Sussex)
5.10-5.25pm	Careers in the private and public sectors	Hannah Slaughter (Resolution Foundation)
5.25-5.40pm	Careers in consulting	Cristina Rosemberg (Technopolis UK)
5.40-6.00pm	<i>Refreshments and networking</i>	
6.00-6.15pm	Careers in the public sector	Brenda Dorpalen (Environment Agency)
6.15-6.30pm	Careers in academia	Selma Walther (University of Sussex) and Maria Psyllou (University of Birmingham)
6.30-6.50pm	Panel Q&A	
6.50-7.00pm	Summary and final remarks	Selma Walther (University of Sussex)

Speaker biographies:



Almudena Sevilla (LSE and Chair UK WEN)

Almudena Sevilla is a Professor of Economics and Public Policy at LSE and a recipient of an ERC grant. Her research focuses on the areas of gender economics and human capital and is published in top economics journals. She has held positions at leading institutions such as University College London, the University of Oxford, and the US Congress. She received her Ph.D. from Brown University in 2004. Almudena is president-elect of the Society of the Economics of the Household, and Chair of the RES UK Women in Economics Network.

[Almudena Sevilla – London School of Economics and Political Science](#)



Sambit Bhattacharyya (Head of Economics department, University of Sussex)

Sambit Bhattacharyya is a Professor of Economics and Head of Department of Economics at University of Sussex. His research interests are in the areas of development economics, macroeconomics, and economic history. His latest book is 'A History of Global Capitalism: Feuding Elites and Imperial Expansion'. He also published widely and advised numerous PhD Dissertations in the abovementioned areas. He is an Associate Editor of the Review of Development Economics. For a full list of downloadable papers, see his personal page using the following link: <https://sites.google.com/site/sambitbha/>.

[Sambit Bhattacharyya – University of Sussex](#)



Hannah Slaughter (Resolution Foundation)

Hannah is a senior economist at the Resolution Foundation, an independent think-tank focused on improving the living standards of those on low-to-middle incomes. Her research focuses on the labour market, including low pay, working conditions and employment rights. Before joining the Foundation in September 2019, Hannah spent three years as an economist in the civil service working on a variety of social and economic policy issues including employment and skills, health, and trade. She has an economics degree from the University of Bristol and spent a year studying abroad at the Toulouse School of Economics.



Cristina Rosemberg (Technopolis UK)

Cristina Rosemberg is a Director (Managing Partner) at Technopolis UK, a policy consulting firm. An economist by training, she has more than 17 years of experience in providing evidence for better policymaking across a wide range of policy areas including economic development, research and innovation policy, and the creative industries. She has conducted studies for and provided advice to government agencies in the UK, Ireland Norway, Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as international bodies such as European Commission, the Inter-American Bank and the World Bank. She is active in supporting capability development across government and has trained 200+ policy experts on Monitoring and Evaluation of public interventions, for the UK Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy Department, in partnership with University College London. She has recently been appointed by Cabinet as a member of the Evaluation Trial and Advice Panel (2023-2025) to provide expert advice to all UK government departments. Cristina is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



Brenda Dorpalen (Environment Agency)

Brenda Dorpalen is Principal Economist at the Environment Agency, leading the economic team working on regulatory economics applied to the environment. She is an experienced economist specialised in non-market valuation techniques applied to intangibles (the environment, culture, and heritage) and their integration in cost-benefit analysis and economic assessments. She is an invited Master Thesis Supervisor at UCL and an invited lecturer at postgraduate courses on the economics of sustainability and development at UCL and ITCLC. She has published articles in academic journals. She has an international work experience (UK, Spain, and Argentina), developed in the public sector (Environment Agency and Historic England), the private sector (Frontier Economics and Supervielle Bank), and at an international organization (ECLAC-UN). She holds a master's degree from the University of Paris VII-Sorbonne Paris City, and another one from the University of Turin. Her undergraduate degree is in Economics at the University of Buenos Aires.



Selma Walther (University of Sussex)

Selma Walther is a senior lecturer in the Department of Economics, University of Sussex, a Research Associate at the Institute for Fiscal Studies, and a Research Fellow at IZA. Her research focuses on family economics and gender economics, and has been published in top journals in Economics. She holds a BA Hons, MPhil and PhD from the University of Cambridge. She has previously held positions at the Universities of Oxford and Warwick.

[Selma Walther – University of Sussex](#)



Maria Psyllou (University of Birmingham)

Maria Psyllou is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Birmingham. She has also held a position at the Queen Mary University of London. Her research focuses on the economics of education. She is passionate about increasing diversity and empowering women in economics. She leads the Inspire Initiative at the RES UK Women in Economics Network (UK WEN) dedicated to inspiring young women and empowering early career women in economics. She is a mentor at the Women in Economics Initiative (WiE) and Aurora Advance HE. Maria is co-founder and co-lead of the Birmingham Economics Education Seminars (BEES), developing cross-institutional economics of education research. A Discover Economics Academic Champion, she leads numerous school outreach initiatives, targeting young women and students from disadvantaged backgrounds, aiming to reduce the gender imbalance in economics studies.

[Maria Psyllou - University of Birmingham](#)