

Christopher L. Colvin

Queen's Business School, Queen's University Belfast
Riddel Hall, 185 Stranmillis Road, Belfast BT9 5EE, UK

Phone: +44 (0)28 9097 4735

Email: chris.colvin@qub.ac.uk

URL: <https://go.qub.ac.uk/chriscolvin>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8140-0115>

Professional Appointments

Reader in Economic History, Department of Economics, Queen's University Belfast (since 2023)

Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Queen's University Belfast (2019–2023)

Lecturer, Department of Economics, Queen's University Belfast (2012–2019)

Max Weber Fellow, European University Institute, Florence (2011–2012)

Academic Affiliations

Research Associate, Centre for Economics, Policy and History (since 2022)

Associate Fellow, Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University Belfast (since 2016)

Research Associate, Centre for Economic History, Queen's University Belfast (since 2012)

Visiting Positions

Centre for Economic and Social History François Simiand, Paris School of Economics (September–December 2026)

Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study, Amsterdam (February–June 2019 & July–August 2024)

Laboratory for the Study of Africa's Past, Stellenbosch University (March 2024)

Finance Section, Utrecht University School of Economics (March 2017)

Department of Economics, University of California, Davis (October–December 2014)

Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam (November 2012 & November 2013)

Education

PGCert Higher Education Teaching, Queen's University Belfast (2014)

PhD Economic History, London School of Economics and Political Science (2006–2011)

Visiting Student, Department of History and Art History, Utrecht University (October–December 2009)

Visiting Student, Department of Economics and Business, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (February–June 2008)

MSc Economic History (Research), *with distinction*, London School of Economics and Political Science (2005–2006)

BSc Economics, University of Bristol (2002–2005)

Professional Honours

Awarded Fellowship of the Royal Historical Society (December 2019)

Winner of the Economics Network's Best New Lecturer Award (September 2013)

Winner of the European Business History Association's PhD Dissertation Prize (August 2012)

Winner of the LSE Department of Economic History's Hunt Prize for Best MSc Dissertation (December 2006)

Completed Scholarship

Original Research Articles

'Why are corporations terminated? A century of evidence from the Netherlands' (with Abe de Jong, Philip T. Fliers & Florian Madertoner), *Business History*. [Published online: 18 July 2025]

'Scarring and selection in the Great Irish Famine' (with Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin), *The Economic History Review*, vol. 79, no. 1 (2026), pp. 189–220. [Published online: 24 March 2025]

'Age structure and age heaping: solving Ireland's post-Famine digit preference puzzle' (with Stuart Henderson & Eoin McLaughlin), *European Review of Economic History*, vol. 29, no. 1 (2025), pp. 28–48. [Published online: 3 September 2024]

'Going Dutch: monetary policy in the Netherlands during the interwar gold standard, 1925–1936' (with Philip T. Fliers), *Financial History Review*, vol. 29, no. 2 (2022), pp. 121–151. [Published online: 5 May 2022]

'Death, demography and the denominator: age-adjusted Influenza-18 mortality in Ireland' (with Eoin McLaughlin), *Economics & Human Biology*, vol. 41 (2021), article no. 100984. [Published online: 29 January 2021]

'The origins of the (cooperative) species: Raiffeisen banking in the Netherlands, 1898-1909' (with Stuart Henderson & John D. Turner), *European Review of Economic History*, vol. 24, no. 4 (2020), pp. 749–782. [Published online: 14 January 2020]

'Organizational determinants of bank resilience: explaining the performance of SME banks in the Dutch financial crisis of the 1920s', *Business History Review*, vol. 92, no. 4 (2018), pp. 661–690. [Published online: 7 March 2019]

'Banking on a religious divide: accounting for the success of the Netherlands' Raiffeisen cooperatives in the crisis of the 1920s', *The Journal of Economic History*, vol. 77, no. 3 (2017), pp. 866–918. [Published online: 21 August 2017]

'Women of an uncertain age: quantifying human capital accumulation in rural Ireland in the nineteenth century' (with Matthias Blum, Laura McAtackney & Eoin McLaughlin), *The Economic History Review*, vol. 70, no. 1 (2017), pp. 187–223. [Published online: 29 June 2016]

'Predicting the past: understanding the causes of bank distress in the Netherlands in the 1920s' (with Abe de Jong & Philip T. Fliers), *Explorations in Economic History*, vol. 55 (2015), pp. 97–121. [Published online: 16 September 2014]

'Raiffeisenism abroad: why did German cooperative banking fail in Ireland but prosper in the Netherlands?' (with Eoin McLaughlin), *The Economic History Review*, vol. 67, no. 2 (2014), pp. 492–516. [Published online: 14 October 2013]

'Interlocking directorates and conflicts of interest: the Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging, Müller & Co. and the Dutch financial crisis of the 1920s', *Business History*, vol. 56, no. 2 (2014), pp. 314–334. [Published online: 10 Jun 2013]

Essays and Review Articles

'Economic history and the future of pedagogy in economics' (with Graham Brownlow), *Advances in Economics Education*, vol. 4, no. 2 (2025), pp. 112–131. [Published online: 25 February 2026]

'What can we learn from historical pandemics? A systematic review of the literature' (with Àine Doran & Eoin McLaughlin), *Social Science & Medicine*, vol. 342 (2024), article no. 116534. [Published online: 26 December 2023]

'Detecting the function of finance through history: an essay in celebration of the work of Joost Jonker' (with Christiaan van Bochove & Oscar Gelderblom), *TSEG – The Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History*, vol. 18, no. 3 (2021), pp. 125–166. [Published online: 29 November 2021]

'Anthropometric history: revisiting what's in it for Ireland' (with Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin), *Irish Economic and Social History*, vol. 48 (2021), pp. 3–26. [Published online: 30 March 2020]

‘Applied history, applied economics, and economic history’ (with Paul Winfree), *Journal of Applied History*, vol. 1, no. 1 (2019), pp. 28–41. [Published online: 10 Dec 2019]

Brief Reports and Communications

‘Cohort component population estimates for Ireland, 1911–1920: a new county-level dataset for use in historical demography’ (with Eoin McLaughlin & Kyle J. J. Richmond), *Research Data Journal for the Humanities and Social Sciences*, vol. 7 (2022), pp. 1–18. [Published online: 11 May 2022]

‘Work ethic, social ethic, no ethic: measuring the economic values of modern Christians’ (with Matthew McCracken), *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, vol. 32, no. 5 (2017), pp. 1043–1053. [Published online: 30 August 2016]

‘De bankencrisis van de jaren twintig’ (with Abe de Jong & Philip T. Fliers), *Economisch Statistische Berichten*, vol. 99, no. 4689/4690 (2014), pp. 434–437. [Published online: 9 July 2014]

‘In antitrust we (do not) trust’, *Accounting Historians Journal*, vol. 39, no. 2 (2012), pp. 118–120. [Published online: December 2012]

‘What determines interbank competition? And why should we care?’, *Oxonomics*, vol. 4, no. 2 (2009), pp. 10–20. [Published online: 18 December 2009]

Edited Volumes

An Economist’s Guide to Economic History (edited with Matthias Blum), Palgrave Macmillan (2018).

Chapters in Edited Volumes

‘More talk, less chalk: communicating economics in the modern classroom’, in: *Making Economics Public: The Hows and Whys of Communicating Markets and Models*, pp. 65–75 (edited by Vicki Macknight & Fabien Medvecky, Routledge, 2023). [Economics Network preprint: April 2022.]

‘Whose self-interest? Social elites, religious competition, and the rise of Raiffeisen banks in the Netherlands’, in: *Social Aims of Finance: Rediscovering Varieties of Credit in Financial Archives*, pp. 155–180 (edited by Anna Cantaluppi et al., European Association for Banking and Financial History, 2020).

‘Culture and religion’, in: *An Economist’s Guide to Economic History*, pp. 223–229 (edited by Matthias Blum & Christopher L. Colvin, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

‘Industrial revolution and British exceptionalism’ (with Alexandra M. de Pleijt), in: *An Economist’s Guide to Economic History*, pp. 201–210 (edited by Matthias Blum & Christopher L. Colvin, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

‘Economics versus history’ (with Homer Wagenaar), in: *An Economist’s Guide to Economic History*, pp. 13–20 (edited by Matthias Blum & Christopher L. Colvin, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

‘Introduction, or why we started this project’ (with Matthias Blum), in: *An Economist’s Guide to Economic History*, pp. 1–10 (edited by Matthias Blum & Christopher L. Colvin, Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

‘The past, present and future of banking history’, in: *The Routledge Companion to Business History*, pp. 89–106 (edited by John F. Wilson, Steven Toms, Abe de Jong & Emily Buchnea, Routledge, 2017).

Book Reviews

Book review of: *The Legacy of the Global Financial Crisis* (edited by Youssef Cassis & Jean-Jacques van Helten, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023), reviewed in: *The Journal of Economic History*, vol. 84, no. 2 (2024), pp. 653–654.

Book review (with Homer Wagenaar) of: *Trials of Convergence: Prices, Markets and Industrialization in the Netherlands, 1800–1913* (by Arthur van Riel, Universiteit Utrecht, 2018), reviewed in: *TSEG – The Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History*, vol. 17, no. 3 (2020), pp. 179–182.

Book review of: *Een Nederlandse Overzeebank: De Nederlandsche Bank voor Zuid-Afrika, 1888–1969* (by Piet A. Geljon, Uitgeverij Boom, 2017), reviewed in: *TSEG – The Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History*, vol. 15, no. 2/3 (2018), pp. 170–172.

Book review of: *Financial Crises: Causes, Consequences, and Policy Responses* (edited by Stijn Claessens, M. Ayhan Kose, Luc Laeven & Fabian Valencia, International Monetary Fund, 2014), reviewed in: *The Economic History Review*, vol. 68, no. 2 (2015), pp. 766–767.

Book review of: *Men, Women, and Money: Perspectives on Gender, Wealth, and Investment 1850-1930* (edited by David R. Green, Alastair Owens, Josephine Maltby & Janette Rutterford, Oxford University Press, 2011), reviewed in: *Business History*, vol. 54, no. 4 (2012), pp. 642–643.

Datasets and Replication Packages

‘Replication package for: “Why are corporations terminated? A century of evidence from the Netherlands”’ (with Abe de Jong, Philip T. Fliers & Florian Madertoner), Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI (May 2025).

‘General prison registers for two Irish prisons, 1840–1910’ (with Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin), UK Data Service, University of Essex, SN 857702 (March 2025).

‘Cohort component population estimates for Ireland, 1911–1920’ (with Eoin McLaughlin & Kyle J. J. Richmond), UK Data Service, University of Essex, SN 854673 (June 2021, updated February 2022).

Current Scholarship

After the Union: Ireland Inside the World’s First Industrial Economy, 1801–1901 (with Eoin McLaughlin). [Book project, under contract with Cambridge University Press.]

‘Applied economic history as practical historicism: encouraging policymakers to reason with the past’ (with Andrew Dorman, David Jordan & Duncan Needham), QUCEH Working Paper Series, Paper No. 26-02 (January 2026).

‘Histories that matter: the case for applied economic history’ (with Johan Fourie), QUCEH Working Paper Series, Paper No. 26-01 (January 2026).

‘Financing innovation: the role of patent examination’ (with Stephen D. Billington & Christopher Coyle), CAGE Online Working Paper Series, Paper No. 767/2025 (September 2025).

‘Mind your language: explaining the retreat of the Irish language frontier’ (with Alan Fernihough, Eoin McLaughlin & Philip R. Neary). [Invitation to resubmit to *The Economic Journal*.]

‘Patently peculiar: patents and innovation in the United Kingdom of the Netherlands’ (with Homer Wagenaar) [Invitation to resubmit to *The Economic History Review*.]

Fellowships and Grants

External Competitive Funding

Digitisation Funding (to digitise UK company-level financial accounts, 1918–1948), part of the ESRC Centre for Competitive Advantage in the Global Economy (CAGE III), University of Warwick (approx. £250,000, 2025–2030)
Other co-investigators: Christopher Coyle, Philip Fliers & John Turner (PI)

Strand II Emerging Hubs of Excellence Grant, North-South Research Programme (with Trinity College Dublin, to establish a joint Centre for Economics, Policy and History, approx. €3.8 million), funded by Higher Education Authority, Government of Ireland (2022–2026)

Other co-investigators: Ronan Lyons, Gaia Narciso (PI), Marvin Suesse & John Turner

Personnel costs: predoc RAs, PhDs, postdocs, teaching buy-outs, policy officer, administrative support

Other costs: data acquisition, web infrastructure, workshops, outreach, CPD modules, travel, overheads

NIAS–KNAW Junior Fellowship (one semester teaching buy-out), funded by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (February–June 2019)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Early Stage Researcher Fellowship (to recruit one PhD student, 2018–2021)

Carnevali Small Research Grants Scheme (£3,500), funded by Economic History Society (2016)

Arthur H. Cole Grant-in-Aid of Research (US\$5,000), funded by Economic History Association (2012)

Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellowship, funded by European University Institute (2011–2012)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Early Stage Researcher Fellowship (to fund visit to Universitat Pompeu Fabra), part of the Economic History Initiative of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (February–June 2008)

+3 Doctoral Studentship, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (2007–2010)

Internal University Funding

Awarded two semesters of sabbatical research leave, QUB (Semester 1, 2026/27 & Semester 1, 2027/28)

Awarded two semesters of sabbatical research leave, QUB (Semesters 1 & 2, 2018/19)

Promising Academic International Programme (to fund institutional visit abroad), QUB (2014)

Challenge Investment Fund (to fund data digitisation), University of Edinburgh (2013)

Co-investigators: Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin (PI)

Professional Service

Academic Leadership

Member, Public Engagement Committee, Economic History Society (since November 2025)

Associate Director for Outreach and Engagement, Centre for Economics, Policy and History (since September 2022)

Co-Director, Centre for Economic History, QUB (since September 2021)

Associate, The Economics Network (since 2019)

Member, Advisory Group, *The Economy 2030 Inquiry*, led by the Resolution Foundation & the LSE Centre for Economic Performance, funded by the Nuffield Foundation (2020–2023)

Member, Executive Committee, Money Macro and Finance Society (2019–2022)

Member, Executive Board, European Historical Economics Society FRESH Meetings Initiative (2017–2022)

Member, Academic Council, European Association for Banking and Financial History (2016–2022)

Committee Member, Economic and Social History Society of Ireland (2013–2022)

University Administration

Member, Programme Design and Launch Committee, Integrated 4-year MEcon Programme, QUB (2025/26)

Pathway Coordinator, Economic and Social History Pathway, ESRC Northern Ireland and North East Doctoral Training Partnership (NINE DTP) (2019/20, 2021/22 & 2024/25)

Committee Member, Teaching and Learning Forum, Queen's Business School, QUB (2023/24)

Director of Research Engagement and Impact, Queen's Business School, QUB (September 2021 – August 2023)

Academic Lead, QUB Economics European Study Trip, Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe (May 2018)

Programme Director, BSc Economics (responsible for degree programme structure, academic content, student recruitment and student engagement), QUB (September 2017 – August 2018 & September 2019 – August 2021)

Elected Member of Academic Council, QUB (January–December 2017)

Postgraduate Research Coordinator (responsible for admissions and academic progression of PhD students), Queen's Business School, QUB (September 2015 – August 2017)

Library Liaison, Department of Economics, QUB (2014/15)

Website Officer (responsible for website redesign project), Queen's Business School, QUB (2013–2015)

Graduate Student Representative, Department of Economic History, LSE (2006–2008)

Editorial Service

Journal editor:

Associate Editor, *Business History* (since July 2024)

Editorial board member:

Economics Observatory (since 2020)

Humanities & Social Sciences Communications (2023–2024)

Business History (2020–2024)

Working paper series editor:

QUCEH Working Paper Series, QUB (since 2014)

EABH Papers, European Association for Banking and Financial History (2014–2019)

Refereeing Service

Funding bodies: Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK); Economic and Social Research Council (UK); Irish Research Council; Koninklijke Academie van Wetenschappen (the Netherlands); Leverhulme Trust; National Science Centre (Poland)

Publishers: Brill; Cambridge University Press; Palgrave Macmillan; Taylor and Francis

Journals: *Business History*; *Business History Review*; *De Economist*; *Economic History of Developing Regions*; *The Economic History Review*; *Economic Inquiry*; *Economics & Human Biology*; *Enterprise & Society*; *European Review of Economic History*; *Explorations in Economic History*; *Financial History Review*; *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications*; *International Review of Economics Education*; *Investigaciones de Historia Económica*; *Irish Economic and Social History*; *Irish Historical Studies*; *Journal of Applied Econometrics*; *Journal of British Studies*; *Journal of Co-operative Organization and Management*; *The Journal of Economic History*; *Research Data Journal for the Humanities and Social Sciences*; *Research Policy*; *Rivista di Storia Economica*; *Scandinavian Economic History Review*; *Social Forces*; *Social Science History*

Professional Membership

Association of Business Historians (UK); Economic History Association (US); Economic History Society (UK); Economic and Social History Society of Ireland; European Business History Association; European Historical Economics Society; Royal Economic Society

Seminar, Workshop and Conference Organisation

Co-organiser, *Economic History and Public Policy in Practice*, special panel session of the Economic History Society Annual Conference, London (April 2026)

Co-convenor, *Economics Seminar Series*, weekly departmental research and brownbag seminars across all fields of economics, QUB (2025–2026)

Co-organiser, *Clioconsilium: Drawing Lessons from Economic History to Shape Tomorrow's Public Policy*, panel session of the XX World Economic History Congress, Lund (July 2025)

Co-organiser, *Quantitative Business History Paper Development Workshop*, special session of the Association of Business Historians, held at QUB (June 2025)

Organiser, *PhD Workshop in Quantitative Economic History*, one-day workshop held at QUB, sponsored by the European Historical Economics Society (June 2025)

Organiser, *CEPH Workshop 2025*, two-day workshop held at QUB (June 2025)

Convenor, *QUCEH Seminar Series*, bi-weekly research seminar in economic history, QUB (2024–2025)

Programme Committee, *Monetary Unions in History*, one-day conference of the European Association for Banking and Financial History, held at the Bulgarian National Bank, Sofia (July 2022)

Co-organiser, *The Economics and History of Health Crises*, two-day workshop, held at Clifton House, Belfast (May 2022)

Organiser, *The Economics of Historical Pandemics*, special session of the Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, held online (April 2021)

Local Organiser, *Low Countries Financial History Workshop 2019*, one-day workshop, held at NIAS, Amsterdam (June 2019)

Local Organiser, *Economic History Society Annual Conference 2019*, three-day international conference, held at QUB (April 2019)

Organiser, *The Future of Economic History*, one-day book launch workshop, held at QUB (January 2019)

Local Co-organiser, *Economic and Social History Society of Ireland Annual Conference 2018*, two-day conference, held at QUB (November 2018)

Co-organiser, *Banks and Capital Markets: Engines of Growth or Societal Destabilizers?*, panel session of the XVIII World Economic History Congress, Boston (August 2018)

Local Organiser, *Belfast FRESH Meeting*, one-day workshop sponsored by the European Historical Economics Society, held at the Centre for Economic History, QUB (June 2017)

Organiser, *Historical Economics and the Economics of Religion*, one-day workshop, held at the Centre for Economic History, QUB (June 2015)

Co-organiser, *Long-Run Perspectives on Crime and Conflict*, two-day workshop sponsored by the Economic History Society, held at Crumlin Road Gaol, Belfast (September 2014)

Local Organiser, *EABH Financial History New Scholars Workshop*, one-day workshop sponsored by the European Association for Banking and Financial History, held at the Centre for Economic History, QUB (April 2014)

Organiser, *Innovation and Incentives in Business and Economic History*, one-day workshop, held at the Centre for Economic History, QUB (June 2013)

Co-organiser, *The Embeddedness of Markets Today: Returning to Karl Polanyi to think Development, Markets, and Financial Crises*, 6th Max Weber Programme Classics Revisited Conference, EUI (May 2012)

Co-organiser and Moderator, *Protecting Intellectual Property Rights or Creativity?*, multidisciplinary research workshop, EUI (November 2011)

Co-organiser, *Meet the Archivists*, research skills workshop sponsored by the UK Business Archives Council, held at Rothschild (2009) & HSBC (2010)

Convenor, *Cliometrics Group*, bi-weekly research seminar in quantitative economic history, LSE (2008–2010)

Academic Presentations

Seminars and Workshops

2026: Economics Seminar, University of Siena; Economic History Seminar, Lund University; Economics Pedagogy Seminar, University of Bristol

2025: Royal Irish Academy, Dublin; Finance Seminar, Heriot-Watt University; Economic and Social History Seminar, Utrecht University; Book Workshop, University of Antwerp; Teaching and Learning Forum, QUB; Symposium on Teaching with Historical Perspectives, Queen Mary University of London

2024: Policy Workshop, Laboratory of the Economics of Africa's Past, Stellenbosch University; Economic History Seminar, University of Antwerp; Economics Seminar, Belgian Competition Authority, Brussels

2023: Economics Seminar, Université de Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens; Workshop on Institutions, Individual Behaviour and Economic Outcomes, Alghero, Corsica; Economic History, Growth and Development Seminar, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

2022: Teaching and Learning Forum, QUB; Economic and Social History Seminar, University of Oxford; Centre for Economic History Seminar, QUB; Decolonising the Curriculum Workshop, Heriot-Watt University; Cooperatives for Sustainable Development Workshop, University of Hertfordshire

2021: CAGE Research Centre Webinar, University of Warwick; Analysts' Learning Series Webinar, UKRI

2020: History and Economics Workshop, University of Pennsylvania; Brown-Bag Seminar, Federal Reserve Board, Washington DC; Economics Webinar, QUB; Teaching and Learning Forum, QUB

2019: NIAS Seminar, Amsterdam; Economics Seminar, University College Cork; Low Countries Financial History Workshop, Amsterdam; Economic and Social History Seminar, Utrecht University; Economic History Seminar, LSE

2018: Irish Quantitative History Group Workshop, Trinity College Dublin; Institute of Irish Studies Seminar, QUB; Economic History Seminar, Universität Mannheim; Economics Seminar, Cardiff Business School; Teaching and Learning Seminar, Aston Business School

2017: Economic History of Firms and Industries Seminar, LSE; Economics Seminar, QUB; Low Countries Financial History Workshop, Utrecht

2016: Banking and Financial History Workshop, University of Stirling; Financial History Seminar, Utrecht University; Historical Financial and Banking Databases Workshop, Paris School of Economics; Centre for Economic History Seminar, QUB; Population and Health Research Group Seminar, University of St Andrews

2015: Economics Seminar, Heriot-Watt University; Economic and Social History Seminar, University of Oxford

2014: Economics Seminar, University of Bath; Economics Seminar, Cardiff Business School; Agricultural Economics Seminar, Technische Universität München; Economic History Brown-Bag Seminar, University of California, Davis

2013: Political Economy, Economic History and Religion Workshop, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin fuer Sozialforschung; Economic History Seminar, University of Groningen

2012: Agricultural Economics Seminar, Technische Universität München; Centre for Economic History Workshop, QUB; Economic History Seminar, Universität zu Köln; Economics and Finance Seminar, QUB; Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland Workshop, University College Dublin

2011: Cliometrics Group Seminar, LSE; Monetary History Group Seminar, The Rothschild Archive, London; Economic History Society Women's Committee Workshop, Oxford

2010: Business History Seminar, Erasmus University Rotterdam; Business History Unit Seminar, LSE; Business Economics Seminar, University of Antwerp; Financial History Seminar, University of Cambridge

2009: Economic History Workshop, Yale University; Economic History Workshop, Nuffield College, Oxford; Financial History Group Seminar, Utrecht University

Conferences

2026: Business History Conference, London; Economic History Society, London

2025: Economic History Society, Glasgow; Irish Economic Association, Belfast; Association of Business Historians, Belfast; World Economic History Congress, Lund; European Policy for Intellectual Property Association, Antwerp

2024: Royal Economic Society, Belfast; Economic History Society, Newcastle; European Policy for Intellectual Property Association, Pisa; Economic and Social History Society of Ireland, Belfast

2023: World Congress of Cliometrics, Dublin

2022: European Historical Economics Society, Groningen; World Economic History Congress, Paris

2021: European Social Science History Conference, online; Royal Economic Society, online

2019: Economic History Society, Belfast; European Historical Economics Society, Paris; Money, Macro and Finance Society, London; Developments in Economics Education Conference, Warwick

2018: Royal Economic Society, Brighton; European Association for Banking and Financial History, Turin; World Economic History Congress, Boston; Economic History Association, Montreal

2017: World Congress of Cliometrics, Strasbourg; European Historical Economics Society, Tübingen

2016: Economic and Social History Society of Ireland, Maynooth

2015: Economic History Society, Wolverhampton; European Historical Economics Society, Pisa

2014: Scottish Economic Society, Perth; Economic and Business History Society, Manchester

2013: European Historical Economics Society, London; Economic and Social History Society of Ireland, Galway

2012: Economic History Society, Oxford; FRESH Meeting, Pisa; European Business History Association, Paris

2011: Association for the Study of Religion, Economics and Culture, Washington DC; Association of Business Historians, Reading; European Historical Economics Society, Dublin; Social Science History Association, Boston

2010: Economic History Society, Durham; FRESH Meeting, Belfast; European Business History Association, Glasgow; European Rural History Organisation, Brighton; Economic History Association, Evanston

2009: World Economic History Congress, Utrecht

Research Supervision

Current PhD Students

David Weatherup (PhD Economics, QUB), *Shipping Productivity in Britain's Industrial Revolution*, as co-supervisor (with Michael Aldous), funded with ESRC +4 Studentship

Paudie McKee (PhD Economics, QUB), *The State Management Scheme, 1916–1971*, as assistant supervisor (supporting Daniel Borbely and David Jordan), funded with QBS Studentship

Yibin Liu (PhD Economics, QUB), *Banking Crises in Hong Kong, 1866–2010*, as co-supervisor (with John D. Turner), funded with CEPH Studentship

Malte Hinrichs (PhD Economics, QUB), *Renewable Energy in the Industrial Revolution*, as co-supervisor (with Alan Fernihough), funded with CEPH Studentship

Completed PhD Students

Pallavi Singh (PhD Management, QUB, February 2026), *Community within Corporations: Decolonisation and the Development of India's Corporate Economy, 1920s–1970s*, as second supervisor (primary supervisor: Michael Aldous), funded with QUB International Studentship

Kyle Richmond (PhD Economics, QUB, January 2026), *Competition, Market Structure, and Government Policy in Britain, 1945–1970*, as primary supervisor (second supervisors: Graham Brownlow & Stephen Billington), funded with ESRC 1+3 Studentship

Awards: Economic History Society New Researcher Prize 2025

Paul Winfree (PhD Economics, QUB, December 2023), *The Political Economy of Education and Propaganda in the US South after the Civil War*, as co-supervisor (with John D. Turner)

Current: Founder and CEO, Economic Policy Innovation Center, Washington DC

Homer Wagenaar (PhD Economics, QUB, July 2022), *Rules, Discretion and Industrialisation: The Patent System of the Netherlands, 1817–1869*, as primary supervisor (second supervisors: Norma Dawson & Christopher Coyle), funded with Marie Skłodowska-Curie COFUND Early Stage Researcher Fellowship

Placement: Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Groningen

Current: Senior Case Handler (Economist), Belgian Competition Authority, Brussels

Stephen Billington (PhD Economics, QUB, December 2019), *Patents, Machine Learning and War: Invention during the British Industrial Revolution*, as co-supervisor (with Christopher Coyle), funded with DfE Studentship

Placement: Lecturer in Economics, Ulster University, Belfast

Nikita Lychakov (PhD Finance, QUB, March 2018), *Industrialisation, Politics and Banking Instability in Late Imperial Russia*, as co-supervisor (with John D. Turner), funded with QUB International Studentship

Placement: Postdoctoral Fellow, Higher School of Economics, Moscow

Current: Research Fellow, Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO

Stuart Henderson (PhD Finance, QUB, October 2017), *Historical Reflections on Religion, Finance and Economic Development*, as co-supervisor (with John D. Turner & Alan Fernihough), funded with DfE Studentship

Placement: Assistant Lecturer in Economics and Finance, Dublin University of Technology

Current: Senior Lecturer in Financial Services, Ulster University, Belfast

PhD Examination

Michele Calabria (PhD Economics, University of Siena, February 2026), *Beyond Crises: A New Perspective on the Evolution of the Italian Banking Sector in the Long Run (1890–1973)* (as external examiner)

Tiarnán Heaney (PhD Economics, QUB, November 2025), *Essays in Irish Economic Development* (as internal examiner)

Amaury de Vicq (PhD Economic History, Utrecht University, January 2022), *Exploring the Dynamics of Small and Local Financial Institutions: The Case of the Netherlands, c. 1860–1940* (as external examiner)

Haicheng Jiang (PhD Economics, QUB, July 2021), *Essays on Historical Development in Africa* (as internal examiner)

David Jordan (PhD Economics, QUB, July 2020), *The Economics of Devolution: Evidence from Northern Ireland, 1920–1972* (as independent chair)

Research Assistant and Postdoc Supervision

Senalp Canlibel (Predoctoral Research Assistant, since September 2025), funded by HEA

Mark McManus (Predoctoral Research Assistant, since June 2025), funded by HEA

Lloyd Melusi Maphosa (Postdoctoral Research Fellow, since May 2023), funded by HEA

Paudie McKee (Predoctoral Research Assistant, September 2023 – August 2024), funded by HEA

Ruth Flanagan (part-time Research Impact Assistant, May 2022 – May 2024), funded by QUB

Andrew Ritchie (part-time Research Assistant, November 2022 – July 2023), funded by HEA

Teaching Experience*Undergraduate Teaching*

Economic History (level-3, module coordinator, QUB), 2013/14, 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18, 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26

Communicating Economics (level-1, module coordinator, QUB), 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22

Managerial Economics (level-2, module coordinator, QUB), 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17

Industrial Organisation (level-2, module coordinator, QUB), 2012/13, 2013/14, 2014/15

Undergraduate Economics Dissertation (level-3, module coordinator, QUB), 2013/14

Economics of Organisations (level-1, tutorial teacher, QUB), 2012/13

Postgraduate Teaching

The Global Economic Environment (MBA, module coordinator, QUB), 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/22

Topics in Economic History (MSc Economics, seminar organiser, QUB), 2015/16, 2016/17

Postgraduate Research Seminar (business school PhD programme, seminar organiser, QUB), 2015/16, 2016/17

Current Trends in Economic History (PhD History, seminar organiser, EU), 2011/12

Business in the Global Environment (MSc Management, tutorial teacher, LSE), 2009/10

Guest Lecturing, Summer School Teaching and Executive Education

Policymaking with History (coordinator, CPD workshop for civil service economists, Belfast), November 2024 & June 2025

Economics for a Changing World (recorded interview, level-3 economics module, Open University), November 2024

Ireland and the Industrial Revolution (guest lecture, History of the Irish Economy CPD, Trinity College Dublin Online Education), October–November 2024

Teaching and Policymaking with Economic History (Financial, Economic and Business History PhD Summer School, University of Groningen), June 2024

The Great Irish Famine (guest lecture, undergraduate economics programme, Stellenbosch University), March 2024

The New Banking History: A Guide for Beginners (Financial and Monetary History PhD Summer School, Carlos III de Madrid), July 2015

Industrial Policy and the Crisis (mini-course for English as a Second Language students, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), May 2012

Predoctoral Research Experience

Executive Officer, Office of Fair Trading, London (0.5FTE, June 2006 – September 2007)

Summer Intern, Office of Fair Trading, London (Summer 2005)

Public Engagement

Popular Science Communications

‘How changes in height show health effects of the Great Irish Famine’ (with Eoin McLaughlin), *RTÉ Brainstorm* (16 May 2025).

‘The age-heaping mystery: why so many people forgot their real age’ (with Stuart Henderson and Eoin McLaughlin), *RTÉ Brainstorm* (21 October 2024).

‘To heap or not to heap, that is the question’ (with Stuart Henderson and Eoin McLaughlin), *Positive Check*, European Historical Economics Society (14 August 2024).

‘Financing UK rail infrastructure: how does today compare with the past?’ (with Padraig McKee), *Economics Observatory* (12 March 2024).

‘What lessons can history teach us about food security?’ (with Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin), *RTÉ Brainstorm* (8 June 2022).

‘Famines: what 20th century food crises tell us about how to cope with the Ukraine fallout’ (with Matthias Blum & Eoin McLaughlin), *The Conversation* (31 March 2022).

‘Revisiting the demography of the 1918 influenza pandemic in Ireland’ (with Eoin McLaughlin), *History Ireland*, vol. 29, no. 5 (September/October 2021), pp. 38–41.

‘The Great Irish Famine: what are the lessons for policy-makers today?’ (with Àine Doran & Alan Fernihough), *Economics Observatory* (26 April 2021).

‘How to measure the demographic impact of a pandemic’ (with Eoin McLaughlin), *RTÉ Brainstorm* (19 June 2020).

‘Does the Spanish flu offer lessons in how to tackle a pandemic?’, *Economics Observatory* (24 May 2020).

‘How the US government seized all citizens’ gold in 1930s’ (with Philip T. Fliers), *The Conversation* (21 May 2020).

‘Coronavirus and Spanish flu: economic lessons to learn from the last truly global pandemic’ (with Eoin McLaughlin), *The Conversation* (11 March 2020).

‘Response to past crises shames post-Lehman dithering’ (with John D. Turner), *The Conversation* (13 September 2013).

‘Lessen van Nederlands vorige grote bankencrisis’ (with Abe de Jong & Philip T. Fliers), *Me Judice* (15 February 2013).

Comment and Opinion Articles

‘Covid-19: how Northern Ireland has fared better than the Republic of Ireland’ (with Eoin McLaughlin), *The Irish Times* (16 September 2020).

‘Why economists need economic history’, *QPol* (16 May 2019).

‘Why did Northern Ireland vote to remain?’ (with Edward Mills), *QPol* (18 July 2016).

‘Expanding Heathrow: bad for competition and bad for passengers’ (with Edward Mills), *QPol* (1 July 2015).

‘A conflict of interest in CCEA’s dual role in education?’ (with Niall Boyd), *Sluggie O’Toole* (31 October 2013).

‘Don’t send Royal Mail to highest bidder’, *The Guardian* (4 November 2009).

‘Splitting banks up is not the answer’, *The Guardian* (20 June 2009).

‘The Goodwin farce makes the law an ass’, *The Guardian* (7 April 2009).

‘Peston’s run’, *The Guardian* (28 February 2009).

‘Savers: stop moaning’, *The Guardian* (9 February 2009).

‘Just watch the GDP’, *The Guardian* (24 January 2009).

‘Gold in them thar banks?’, *The Guardian* (29 December 2008).

‘Will the VAT cut work?’, *The Guardian* (11 December 2008).

‘Our chance for a working regulatory regime’, *The Guardian* (15 November 2008).

‘The rocket scientists’ crash landing’, *The Guardian* (21 October 2008).

‘The price of stability’, *The Guardian* (18 October 2008).

‘The Great Depression looms again’, *The Guardian* (13 October 2008).

Public Events and Outreach Activities

‘Where should you patent an invention?’, interview by Andrew Dorman & Lloyd Maphosa for *Everything Economic History*, CEPH Podcast (6 February 2026)

‘Your vote matters’, contribution to panel discussion, ESRC Festival of Social Sciences, Lyric Theatre, Belfast (7 November 2024).

‘Economic history and economic policy’, contribution to panel discussion, special plenary session, Royal Economic Society 2024 Annual Conference, Belfast (26 March 2024).

‘What economic history does the next UK government need to know?’, contribution to panel discussion, Imagine! Festival of Ideas and Politics, Belfast (22 March 2024).

‘Talking economics: Brunel’s vision for 2050’, contribution to panel discussion, Festival of Economics, Bristol (16 November 2023).

‘I told you so’: How economics can use past disasters to improve the future’, contribution to panel discussion, ESRC Festival of Social Sciences, Belfast (2 November 2023).

‘Why economic history?’, interview by Séan Kenny for *The Economic History Podcast* (15 December 2020).

‘Precedents in an unprecedented world: insights for pandemic era leaders’, contribution to panel discussion webinar, The Long Run Institute, QUB (2 June 2020).

‘Three reasons why economic history matters’, contribution to panel discussion, *Economic History and the Future of Economics*, SPUI25, Amsterdam (18 September 2019).

‘The power of historical thinking in economics’, interview for: Palgrave Macmillan Author Podcast (23 May 2019).

‘The future of economic history’ (with Matthias Blum), Econ Films video for: *VoxEU.org*, CEPR (17 May 2019).

‘Brexit’s past and Brexits past’, contribution to panel discussion, *Brexit: An Analysis of a Political Accident*, SPUI25, Amsterdam (29 March 2019).

‘Prisons’, interview by Barry Sheppard about nineteenth-century Irish prisoners on the *History Now* talk show, broadcast on the Northern Visions TV channel (11 November 2018).

‘Nineteenth-century prison records’, public lecture, *Pushing the Boundaries Lecture Series*, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast (2 October 2015).

Media Interviews

Interviewed about research on the Great Irish Famine published in *The Economic History Review*: Good Morning Northern Ireland, UTV (TV news bulletin, 6 August 2025); News At One, RTÉ Radio 1 (live, 6 August 2025); *The Irish Independent* (6 August 2025); *Belfast News Letter* (6 August 2025).

Interviewed about lessons from the Great Irish Famine for understanding global food security: 10 Things To Know About, RTÉ TV (documentary, broadcast 18 November 2024).

Interviewed about economic history and policymaking: How Economic History Can Benefit People Today And Generations To Come, LEAP Stellenbosch (documentary short, released 29 October 2024).

Interviewed about Bank of England interest rate decision: BBC Radio Humberside (live, 5 August 2022).

Provided independent commentary on a campaign to create a mutual bank in Northern Ireland: Good Morning Ulster, BBC Radio Ulster (live, 11 January 2022).

Interviewed about lessons from the 1920s to understand economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic: The Anthill podcast, *The Conversation* (17 June 2020).

Interviewed about lessons from the Spanish flu pandemic for understanding the course of the Covid-19 pandemic: BBC World News TV channel (live, 23 March 2020); Partly Political Broadcast podcast by Tiernan Douieb (24 March 2020); In Business, BBC Radio 4 (23 April 2020); Pandemic 1918, BBC Radio 4 (15, 22 & 29 May 2020).

Last updated: February 2026