

Winners of the Ashby Prizes

The editors of *Environment and Planning A* would like to announce that the Ashby Prizes for the most innovative papers published in the journal in the year 2003 have been awarded to Dr Elizabeth C Dunn for her paper “Trojan pig: paradoxes of food safety regulation” and to Professor Neil Wrigley, Dr Daniel Warm, and Dr Barrie Margetts for their paper “Deprivation, diet, and food-retail access: findings from the Leeds ‘food deserts’ study”. The editors extend their congratulations to them.



Dunn: I am an anthropologist and economic geographer who teaches at the University of Colorado at Boulder (USA). I specialize in the economic origins and effects of foodborne illness. My current work focuses on the effect of sanitary and phytosanitary standards on foodborne disease, labor regimes, and local economies in the USA and Eastern Europe. Along with the Centers for Disease Control, I have also been working on outbreaks of hyperendemic botulism in the former Soviet Union.

I received my PhD from Johns Hopkins University in 1998. My latest book, *Privatizing Poland: Baby Food, Big Business and the Remaking of the Polish Working Class* was published by Cornell University Press in 2004.

Wrigley: I am Professor of Geography at the University of Southampton and Editor of the *Journal of Economic Geography*. I have a PhD from the University of Cambridge, a DSc from the University of Bristol, and am an Academician of the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS). I held previous appointments at the University of Bristol, University of Wales, Cardiff, and edited *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* (1988–93).

I have (co)authored 140 journal articles/book chapters plus ten books. Over the past decade my work has focused on economic geography—in particular, issues relating to the firm, corporate finance, corporate strategy, and the economic landscape, with specific reference to the restructuring, regulation, and globalization of the retail industry. I have published *Reading Retail: A Geographical Perspective on Retailing and Consumption Spaces* (2002), and *Retailing, Consumption and Capital* (1996) with Michelle Lowe, plus many journal papers on: financial re-engineering, consolidation, and regulation in US retail during the post-LBO period; changing conditions of competition and regulation in UK retail; issues of retail development and finance; e-commerce; and the globalization of retail capital.



Over the past three years, the retail development/regulation aspects of my work have underpinned a large cross-disciplinary ESRC/Sainsbury-funded research project, *Food Deserts in British Cities*, which explores issues of food poverty, diet-related health inequalities, and food retail access in low-income neighbourhoods of British cities. I have led a team of geographers, public health nutritionists, and city and regional planners from the Universities of Southampton, Leeds, and Cardiff, and several academic journal papers and presentations to government and industry have

reported the findings and public policy implications of the work. The *Environment and Planning A* paper “Deprivation, diet, and food-retail access” reports the findings of one of the major components of the wider project—a large empirical before/after ‘intervention’ study of a 1000 residents of a low-income highly deprived area of Leeds. The study was a ‘natural experiment’ which examined the impact of the amelioration of the food-retail access problems of a group of those residents following the opening of a large full-range food store. The research was fraught with potential dangers—not least the difficulties of conducting large-scale/intensive social-survey-based research in such a highly deprived area. Fortunately we were able to navigate those dangers and our findings represent, we believe, a contribution to emerging policy debates in both the UK and USA on food poverty and the local food environment.

Warm: I am a Senior Research Specialist at the Health Development Agency (HDA). The HDA is a Special Health Authority and is the national authority in England responsible for supporting and enhancing efforts to improve health and reduce health



inequalities. It achieves this goal by gathering evidence of what works, advising on good practice and working with a range of partners at national, regional, and local levels. I am currently engaged in a wide range of health-related topics, including physical activity, nutrition, and smoking. My work focuses primarily on synthesising data from a range of sources, reviewing and highlighting areas of effectiveness (with particular reference to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups), highlighting conflicting evidence, as well as identifying gaps in the evidence base and providing

a steer for future policy and research commissioning. I am also a visiting lecturer in Public Health Nutrition at the Institute of Human Nutrition, University of Southampton, from where I gained my PhD and worked as a Research Fellow. I also hold a degree in Applied Biology from the University of East London, and an MMedSci from the University of Sheffield.

Margetts: I run the Public Health Nutrition group in the Institute of Human Nutrition, in the School of Medicine at the University of Southampton. I also hold a visiting chair in South Africa. Our research focuses on three broad themes around an overarching concern about the impact of food insecurity on health and well-being in Europe, India, and Africa. Specifically, we are engaged in research on how to develop and apply an evidence-based approach to public health action, and how to identify causes and solutions to nutrition-related health problems. The work published in *Environment and Planning A* was a key study aimed at understanding the factors that affect food consumption in a deprived area of the UK.

