

Tuesday 17.45 to 19.00

Session 9

Asa Briggs (A2) Lecture Theatre

Plenary Lecture – **Professor Bruce M. S. Campbell** – Agriculture and national incomes in Europe, c.1300–1850

Chair: Professor John Chartres (past President, British Agricultural History Society)

Are rural societies and agriculturally based economies intrinsically poor? Has agricultural development typically had to await the advent of urbanisation and, in particular, the rise of the commercial metropolis? Is this why, from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, the agrarian economies of the North Sea Region begin to display greater dynamism than those of southern and eastern Europe? And if, for most of the last millennium, European economies have enjoyed higher levels of per capita GDP than those of Asia and Africa, is this primarily due to the forms of agriculture long practised in Europe? This lecture will consider these and other related questions within the framework provided by Historical National Income Analysis.

Professor Bruce M. S. Campbell is a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, an Academician of Social Sciences, and a Fellow of the British Academy. He is Professor of Medieval Economic History in the School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology at the Queen's University of Belfast.

Bruce's field of scholarship is the economic history of late-medieval Britain and Ireland, with particular reference to human–environment interactions during the fourteenth century, and trends in agricultural output and productivity from the thirteenth to nineteenth centuries.

Principal publications:

- 2010 'Nature as historical protagonist: environment and society in pre-industrial England', *Economic History Review* 63, no. 2: 281-314.
- 2009 *Land and people in late medieval England*, Variorum Collected Studies Series, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- 2008 B. M. S. Campbell, *Field systems and farming systems in late medieval England*, Variorum Collected Studies Series, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- 2007 *The medieval antecedents of English agricultural progress*, Variorum Collected Studies Series, Ashgate, Aldershot.
- 2007 *Three centuries of English crop yields, 1211-1491* [WWW document at <http://www.cropyields.ac.uk>]
- 2006 (with K. Bartley), *England on the eve of the Black Death: an atlas of lay lordship, land, and wealth, 1300-49*, Manchester University Press, Manchester.
- 2000 *English seigniorial agriculture 1250-1450*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

