

Professor Carol Dezateux

Director, MRC Centre of Epidemiology for Child Health – University College London, UK



Research Description

Carol trained in paediatrics at the Alder Hey Hospital, Liverpool and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, and in epidemiology as a Wellcome Trust Research Training Fellow in Clinical Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the Institute of Child Health. She is now Professor of Paediatric Epidemiology, Director of the Medical Research Council [MRC] Centre of Epidemiology for Child Health and head of the Population Health Sciences theme at the UCL Institute of Child Health. Her research addresses early life influences on child health and the effectiveness of screening and other clinical and public health strategies to improve the health of children. She has led initiatives to ensure the wider research use of newborn biobanks in the UK, the collection of biomarkers and biomedical data within the UK Millennium Cohort Study and the enhancement of these data using record linkage. Currently she co-directs the UK Newborn Screening Programme Centre, is Chair of the MRC Training and Careers Group and member of the MRC Strategy Board. She represents the Academy of Medical Sciences on the National Information Governance Board (NIGB) and is a member of the MRC Ethics Regulation and Public Involvement Committee and the Ethics and Confidentiality Committee of the NIGB. She is a member of the British Paediatric Surveillance Unit Executive Committee and Management Board. She was made a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2006 and was awarded a CBE for services to science in 2010.

Research Interests

Newborn screening; obesity and physical activity in childhood; airway and lung development.

Professor Bren Neale

Director, Timescapes ESRC Qualitative Longitudinal Study



Bren Neale is Director of the Timescapes ESRC Qualitative Longitudinal (QL) study and holds an ESRC fellowship to develop QL research methods. She also directs the Young Lives and Times project, designed to 'walk alongside' a varied sample of young people over a decade as their lives unfold. Within the Timescapes study, she is developing an innovative model for archiving and re-using QL research data, based on the principle of data sharing.

Research Interests

Childhood, family life, personal relationships, life course transitions and intergenerational dynamics.

Her current areas of research are family dynamics across the life course, post divorce families and scaling up QL research. A key aim is to make a difference in the real world through collaborations with policy partners.

PhD Supervision

She supervises students that are affiliated to the Timescapes study, and are researching personal lives and relationships using QL methods, with a commitment to both depositing and re-working data in the Timescapes archive.

Professor Karl Ulrich Mayer

Yale University



Karl Ulrich Mayer is Professor at Yale University, Chair of the Department of Sociology and Co-Director of the [Center for Research on Inequalities and the Life Course](#) (CIQLE) and Professor at the Institution for Social and Policy Studies (ISPS). Before coming to Yale in 2003, he spent more than twenty years as Director at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development in Berlin, Head of the Center for Sociology and the Study of the Life Course and Co-Director of the Berlin Aging Study. He now is Director Emeritus of the Max-Planck-Institute in Berlin. He received his training in Sociology, Philosophy and German Literature at the University of Tübingen, Gonzaga University (BA, 1966), Fordham University (M.A., 1967), the University of Konstanz (Dr., 1973), and the University of Mannheim (Habilitation, 1977). He held positions at the Universities of Frankfurt/Main and Mannheim and as Director of the German National Survey Research Center (ZUMA). From 1993 to 1999 he served as member and Vice-Chair of the German National Science Council. Dr. Mayer is a member of the European Academy of Sciences, the German Academy of Natural Sciences (Leopoldina) and of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy, a Founding Member of the European Academy of Sociology, a Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the recipient of the Distinguished Scholar Award from the American Sociological Association Section on Aging and the Life Course in 1999. In 2004 he was awarded the Fellowship of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Dr. Mayer's research is in the areas of social stratification and mobility, sociology of the life course, social demography, occupational structures and labor market processes, and methods of survey research.