

The Question Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of 4 new members of staff :

- Graham Hughes: Content Manager
- Laura Hyman: Research Officer
- Zoe Tenger: Administrator
- Jenny Rains: Document Processing Assistant and SLS Administrator

Professor Martin Bulmer will continue to direct the resource along with Dr Patrick Sturgis as Deputy Director and Mrs Julie Lamb as Qb Manager.



**Mission Statement:**

The Question Bank provides, via the www, a resource for the UK social science community covering issues about professional social survey data collection; social measurement using surveys; and information about design of survey questionnaires. Qb aims to play a role in bridging the gap between academics and professional survey agencies.

**Qb Updates:**

**Surveys:**

The following surveys have been added/updated in the past 3 months:

- [British Household Panel Survey 2002, 2003, 2004](#)
- [British Social Attitudes Survey 2003](#)
- [English House Condition Survey 2001](#)
- [English Longitudinal Study of Ageing 2002](#)
- [Families and Children Study 2003 \(Wave 5\)](#)
- [General Household Survey 2002, 2003](#)
- [National Travel Survey 2002, 2003, 2004](#)
- [Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey 2002, 2003, 2004](#)

**Topics:**

We have now added survey information to each [topic page](#). Work is underway to provide a link from the main topics under each of the 21 topic areas back to a questionnaire to enable researchers to find questions on topics more easily.

Each [topic page](#) also now contains links to various [ESDS](#) resources.

We will be continuing to improve this area over the next year.

**Research:**

Over the next 34 months we will be researching the effect of the [Data Documentation Initiative](#) on data users, including attending the DDI Expert Alliance in Michigan.

We will also explore how we can represent CAPI questionnaires more intelligibly on the web, and provide further information on CAI methods for Qb users.

We are working closely with the [Economic and Social Data Service](#) to achieve these aims.

**Qb Plans 2005 - 2008:**

The Question Bank has been established with [ESRC](#) funding to provide the UK social science research community with a valuable resource enabling them to be informed about professional social survey data collection, develop their ideas about social measurement and to assist in the design of questionnaires. This forms the basis of the strategy for the 34 month funding period, November 2005—August 2008.

The following tasks are to be accomplished by Qb during this funding period:

- Updating the content of the Qb
- Enhancing information about the substantive areas covered in the Qb
- Strengthening the coverage of key variables: more work on key concepts and their measurement
- The documentation and rendering more intelligible of [Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing \(CAPI\)](#)
- Limited European coverage including translation and enhancing international networks
- Metadata: providing the academic perspective in the [Data Documentation Initiative \(DDI\)](#)

**Question Bank Events 2006**

The Qb will be presenting, as part of the [ESRC Social Science Week](#), 'A Seminar on the use of the ESRC Question Bank and other online Survey Resources for Social Research' at the University of Surrey on Monday 13 March, 2-3.30pm:  
<http://qb.soc.surrey.ac.uk/docs/socialscienceweek.htm>

**Contact the team**

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The Qb will be presenting at all of the 2006 Survey Link Workshops detailed in the table below and at the Oxford Research Methods Festival 17– 20 July 2006:

**You can now join our mailing list:**

<http://listserv.surrey.ac.uk> and subscribe to: [qbpublicity@list.surrey.ac.uk](mailto:qbpublicity@list.surrey.ac.uk)

If you are interested in holding a seminar on the work of the Qb for students or researchers please contact us. Please contact the Qb office if you would like any Qb publicity material for seminars and conferences.

**The ESRC Survey Link Scheme**

The Survey Link Scheme supported by the Training and Development Board of the ESRC exists to give academic social scientists the opportunity to acquaint themselves with professional social survey research, carried out by the Office for National Statistics [ONS], the National Centre for Social Research [NatCen] and various market research companies. It thus provides a bridge between the academic and the practical worlds in which professional survey research is carried out. The one day workshop provides a briefing on a particular survey. The day includes an introduction to survey interviewing in the field, an introduction to CAPI and guidance through the CAPI questionnaire of a particular survey by professional staff from the agency carrying out the fieldwork. These workshops are held at various locations throughout the UK.

**2006 Workshop Dates**

Date	Venue	Survey Involved
28 Mar 06	University of Surrey	British Household Panel Survey
8 May 06	Northumbria University	ONS: General Household Survey
29 Jun 06	Bristol University	Millenium Cohort Study
21 July 06	University of Oxford	ONS: Family Resources Survey
22 Sept 06	University of York	ONS: Expenditure and Food Survey
20 Oct 06	University of Manchester	NatCen: Families and Children Study
23 Nov06	Queens University, Belfast	Northern Ireland Life and Times Survey

Participants of the SLS workshop held at University of Manchester 2005



Application details can be found on the web site: <http://qb.soc.surrey.ac.uk/sls.htm>  
Or contact us on: Tel/Fax: +44(0)1483 682796 Email: [sls@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:sls@surrey.ac.uk).