Call for Papers — 9th International Critical Finance Studies Conference

The 9th annual international Critical Finance Studies conference will be held at the University of Leicester from the 3rd to 5th August 2017. The conference is part of an on-going project that seeks to engage with finance in critical and creative ways. Although critical attention is regularly devoted to finance, it usually takes the form of a call for transparency, regulation or restructuring. It also tends to centre on ‘high finance’ rather than processes of financialisation, a term coined by Randy Martin that has proven useful for past Critical Finance Studies discussions. Indeed in this conference we plan to honour Randy’s legacy, following his untimely death, by focusing our keynotes and panel discussions on consideration of the ongoing implications of his work.

Contributions that engage with the discourse of financialisation, perhaps in unexpected spheres or through historical examples, are especially welcome, as are new approaches to ‘high finance.’ We invite papers that critically discuss the workings of finance (for example: its material culture, labour practices, conceptual models, technologies, built environments, authorized or unauthorized forms, etc.) in novel ways. We are interested in engaging with the problematic divide between the way finance is simultaneously lauded as a wealth creator and idealised career path, but also critiqued by popular culture and protest movements. Especially welcome are papers that approach finance through avenues that have been so far underexplored such as: theology, philosophy, art, music, film, new media, television, literary aesthetics, and popular culture.

Possible topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Financialisation of daily life
- Finance and desire
- Financial publics, financial social imaginaries
- Finance and risk society
- Financial media and advertising
- Finance and exclusion
- Visualizing finance
- Gambling and finance
- Financial technologies
- Built environments of finance
- Stereotypes in financial discourses
- Finance and neoliberalism
- Philanthropy and finance
- Finance in popular culture
- Finance and gender, race, or religion
- Finance and discrimination
- Financial history for the present
- Banking: structures, procedures and cultures
- Money, credit and derivatives
- Finance and postsecularism
- Rethinking finance and critical theory
- Finance and utopia
- The poetics of finance
- Finance’s role in the somewhat surprising political events of 2016
- Communicating critical finance

Confirmed keynote contributors are Dick Bryan, Joyce Goggin and Bob Meister.

Please send proposals for panels as well as individual contributions (i.e. abstracts of up to 250 words or full papers if wished) to the conference organisers, John Morris (john.morris@ucl.ac.uk) and Simon Lilley (s.lilley@le.ac.uk) by 31st March 2017. As in previous years, we envisage a conference fee of around £100.