

Dr John Gibney

Senior Fellow

The Department of Entrepreneurship & Local Economy

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About

Research Interests & Specialisms

- Knowledge and Innovation Leadership
- Leadership and Governance in City and Regional Development
- Knowledge Policy in the Sub-national Development Context

Qualifications

- BA (Hons) French Studies - School of Languages and Area Studies (SLAS), University of Portsmouth, UK.
- PGCertEd (Modern Languages: with EFL) – Faculty of Education, University of Birmingham, UK.
- PhD (Decision-making in European Regional Policy) – Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, University of Birmingham, UK.
- Robert Schuman Scholar (European Parliament, Luxembourg, 1982)
- FCIL – Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Linguists, London
- FeRSA – Fellow of the Regional Studies Association
- Member of the University Association of Contemporary European Studies (UACES)
- MIED - Member of the Institute of Economic Development

Biography

John joined the University of Birmingham following an influential career in European urban, regional and cross-border economic development. He has developed research, knowledge transfer and teaching (including Doctoral student supervision) across Business Studies and City and Regional Development Studies.

John has developed and led a number of economic development research and consultancy projects for European, national and local clients. Projects have included the European Commission FP6 ACRE research project that explored the development dynamics of 13 creative and knowledge city-regions in Europe; research into the cross-border leadership and governance of economic development in Europe; and the RISE research project (Regional Integrated Strategies in Europe) – a study of integrative territorial development across 4 EU regions for the European Spatial Planning Observatory (ESPON). More recently, John has developed a number of research initiatives that have made a distinctive contribution from Birmingham in debates about the role of leadership in city and regional development. He is currently researching, writing and teaching around the themes of trans-territorial knowledge leadership and Smart City leadership and governance.

He is a founder member and joint coordinator of the Regional Studies Association (RSA) international research network on "Leadership in Urban and Regional Development".

Teaching

John is co-director of the Business School Undergraduate module "The Fundamentals of Leadership" - and teaches across UG/PG economic development courses.

Working with a number of BBS Advisory Board members and other BBS business partners, John and BBS Doctoral research students Dan Hart and Vasilisa Takoeva, are currently developing a variety of new materials for UG business leadership teaching.

Postgraduate supervision

Since 2000, John has co-supervised six Doctoral research students through to the successful completion of their PhD projects. They have studied Regional Development Policy in Latin America; Universities and Regional Advantage in the Knowledge Economy; Comparative Industry Cluster Policy in England and France; the Geography of the Knowledge Driven Economy; Foreign Direct Investment and SME Embeddedness in Sri Lanka; the Impact of ICTs on SME Performance in Developing Economies.

Doctoral research in progress is exploring the performance of Servant Leadership in Times of Business Crisis; and comparative Asia-UK perspectives on the Leadership Journey in Higher Education.

Research

John is currently researching and writing around the themes of "trans-territorial knowledge leadership" in Europe and Smart City leadership and governance.

He is a founding member and joint coordinator of the Regional Studies Association (RSA) international research network on "Leadership in Urban and Regional Development". This inter-disciplinary research network is developing new spatially-contextualised perspectives on leadership in very complex and diverse sub-national environments around the world - and is helping to improve our understanding and explanation of the dynamics of leadership in these unique settings. The practice-oriented leadership learning from the combined R&D activities of the network is now informing a new generation of city and regional development leaders. For more details

Other activities

Recent conferences and workshops include:

Convenor - **Leadership in Urban and Regional Development: Debates and New Directions**. A joint Birmingham Business School and Regional Studies Association international research network seminar, Birmingham Business School, 5th and 6th February 2014. [Read the Bowden review. \(Documents/college-social-sciences/business/publications/rsa-report.pdf\)](#)

Leadership, Territoire et L'Economie de la Connaissance. For *le groupe franco-britannique de recherche sur l'aménagement et l'urbanisme*; Conference theme "Ville, université et projet métropolitain". University of Lille (at SKEMA), Lille, France. 3rd April 2012.

What Leadership for the European Knowledge Era? Europe 2020 Conference, University of Aston (UK) Centre for Europe (ACE), Birmingham June 2011.

Co-convenor – the **Place Leadership** stream at the annual international Regional Studies Association conference, Newcastle (UK) April 2011.

Convenor - The Regional Studies Association international research network workshop on **Leadership in Urban and Regional Development: exploring the debates and challenges**, University of Birmingham, UK. 23rd/24th November 2010.

The Leadership of Luck: Planning and Spontaneity in the Local Innovation Process, a jointly developed presentation by Chris Collinge and John Gibney (delivered by Chris Collinge), Strategic Leadership for the Future Conference, Port Macquarie, NSW, Australia, October 2010.

Re-thinking Leadership for 21st Century European Cities and Regions. EC Commission University 'Open Days'. 8th European Week of Regions and Cities. 6th October 2010. Brussels.

Leadership and Place: A Research and Knowledge Transfer Agenda. The Regional Studies Association Annual Conference, Pécs, Hungary. May 24-25th 2010.

Mobilising the Power of Knowledge in Place: What does it mean for Leadership in the Further Education Sector? The Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS). 'Making an Impact through Leadership' Conference. Tate Modern Art Gallery. London. 26th March 2010.

Publications

Publications

Books

Collinge, C., **Gibney, J.**, Mabey, C., eds. (2011). *Leadership and Place*. Routledge: Abingdon.

Bentley, G., **Gibney, J.**, eds. (2000). *Regional Development Agencies and Business Change*. Ashgate: Aldershot.

Book Chapters

Gibney, J. (2012) Leadership of Place and the Dynamics of Knowledge. In: Sotarauta, M., Horlings, I. and Liddle, J., eds. *Leadership and Change in Sustainable Regional Development*. Routledge: London.

Bentley, G. and **Gibney, J.** (2000) Some Critical Issues for Regional Development Agencies in England. In: Bentley, G. and Gibney, J., eds. (2000). *Regional Development Agencies and Business Change*. Ashgate Publishing: Aldershot.

Mawson, J. and **Gibney, J.** (1985). English and Welsh Local Government and the European Community. In: Keating, M. and Jones, B. (eds.) *Regions in the European Community*, OUP: Oxford.

Mawson, J., Martins, M.R., **Gibney, J.** (1985). The Development of the European Community Regional Policy. In: Keating, M. and Jones, B., eds. *Regions in the European Community*, OUP: Oxford.

Articles and Editorials

Sotarauta, M., Beer, A., and **Gibney, J.** eds. (in progress) *Leadership in City and Regional Development*

Gibney, J. (in progress) *The Making of a Prosperous and Fair City-Region? A Leadership Perspective*.

Nicholds, A., **Gibney, J.**, Mabey, C., and Hart, D. (in progress) *Making Sense of Knowledge-oriented Leadership in England's Smart Cities*.

Gibney, J., Horlings, L., and Collinge, C. (in review) *Attempting Trans-Territorial Knowledge Leadership: An Ideal Type Approach*

Gibney, J. (2013) Don't Lose Sight of Context: A Commentary on Mobilising Cities and Regions, *Regional Studies & Regional Science (RSRS) Open Access Journal*. December.

Gibney, J. (2011). Knowledge in a 'Shared and Interdependent World': Implications for a Progressive Leadership of Cities and Regions, *European Planning Studies*. 19 (4), 613-627.

Collinge, C., **Gibney, J.**, Mabey, C., eds. (2010). *Leadership and Place*. A Special Issue of *Policy Studies*, 31 (4) pp. 365-522.

Collinge, C. and **Gibney, J.** (2010). Connecting Place, Policy and Leadership. In: Collinge, C., **Gibney, J.** and Mabey, C., eds. *Leadership and Place*. *Policy Studies*, 31 (4), 379-391.

Collinge, C. and **Gibney, J.** (2010). Place-making and the Limitations of Spatial Leadership: the case of the Øresund Cross-border Region. In: Collinge, C., **Gibney, J.** and Mabey, C., eds. *Leadership and Place*. *Policy Studies*, 31 (4), 475-489.

Gibney, J. and Collinge, C. (2009). Bridging Together Leadership, Place and Knowledge-based Economy: Developing the Research and Knowledge Transfer Agenda. In: Sirak, M., ed. *Understanding Regional Leadership: Regions*, Autumn. No. 275. The Regional Studies Association: Seaford. England.

Gibney, J., Burfitt, A., Murie, A. (2009). Knowledge-based Economy Policy and Related Educational Issues: the case of south Birmingham in the UK. In: Chapain, C., Collinge, C., Lee, P., eds. *Can We Plan the Creative Knowledge City?* *Built Environment*, 35 (2), 245-258.

Gibney, J., Copeland, S., Murie, A. (2009). Toward a 'New' Strategic Leadership of Place for the Knowledge-based Economy. *Leadership*, February. 5 (1), 5-23.

Burfitt, A., MacNeill, S., **Gibney, J.** (2007). The Dilemmas of Operationalizing Cluster Policy: The Medical Technology Cluster in the West Midlands. *European Planning*

MacNeill, S., Jeffery, C., **Gibney, J.** (2007). The Changing Dynamics of Regional Representation in Brussels: A Case Study of Birmingham and the West Midlands 1984-2004. *Regional Studies*, 41 (3), 403-414.

Studies and Reports

Explaining Leadership Variety in Smart Cities (ongoing 2013-2014) A joint research project between the Birmingham Business School (John Gibney and Dan Hart) and the University of Middlesex Business School, UK (Alyson Nicholds and Prof. Chris Mabey); [Download 'Smart Leadership for Smart Cities' \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/business/research/smart-cities-project.pdf\)](#) (PDF)

Regional Integrated Strategies in Europe. (2012) A study for the European Spatial Planning Observatory (ESPO), Luxembourg. [Download PDF \(http://www.espon.eu/export/sites/default/Documents/Projects/TargetedAnalyses/RISE/FinalReport/PDF_for_Intranet/RISE_Final_Report_Main_Report.pdf\)](#).

Gibney, J., Beer, A., Sotarauta, M., 2011. Report of the RSA Research Network on 'The Place of Leadership in Urban and Regional Development'. *Regions*, 282, Summer, pp. 31-33.

Musterd, S., Brown, J., Lutz, J., Gibney, J., Murie, A., eds., 2010. Making Creative -Knowledge Cities: A Guide for Policy Makers. A policy report for the European Commission. Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR), University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. [Download PDF \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/business/FINAL-Policy-Guide-Creative-Knowledge-Cities-v2cNovember-2010.pdf\)](#)

Brown, J., Lutz, J., Gibney, J., Barber, A., Chapain, C., Murie, A., Lee, P. 2010. Policies and strategies for the creative knowledge economy in Birmingham and the West Midlands: How to enhance the city's competitiveness, EC ACRE Project Report, 10.3, AMtserdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR), University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. ISBN: 978-94-90312-27-5.

Brown, J., Barber, A., Chapain, C.A., Gibney, J., Lutz, R.J., Murie, A.S. 2009. The Attractiveness of Birmingham and the West Midlands Region for the 'Creative Class': the views of high skilled employees, managers and trans-national migrants, EC ACRE FP6 Project Report, 8.3, University of Amsterdam, AMIDST, ISBN: 9789490312145.

Brown, J., Barber, A., Chapain, C.A., Lutz, R.J., Gibney, J., Murie, A.S. 2009. The Attractiveness of Birmingham and the West Midlands Region for the 'Creative Class': the views of high skilled employees, managers and trans-national migrants, EC ACRE FP6 Project Report, 8, University of Amsterdam, AMIDST, ISBN: 9789490312022

Brown, J., Barber, A., Chapain, C.A., Gibney, J., Murie, A.S. 2009. Attracting talent? Birmingham and the West Midlands Region as a destination for the highly skilled. The view of trans-national migrants, EC ACRE, 7.3, University of Amsterdam, AMIDST, 157 pages, ISBN: 9789490312022.

Gibney, J., Yapp, C., Trickett, L., Collinge, C. 2009. The 'New' Place Shaping: The Implications for Leaders in the Further Education Sector, A study for the national Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS): LSIS: London. England.

Gibney, J., and Murie, A., eds., 2008. Towards a 'New' Leadership of Place for the Knowledge - based Economy, a study for the Academy for Sustainable Communities: Leeds. England. [Download PDF \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/business/Academy-for-Sustainable-Communities-Final-Lead-of-Place-KBE-2008.pdf\)](#).

Trickett, L., Murie, A., Gibney, J., eds., 2008. Leadership and Place, a report from a University of Birmingham Mini-Commission; CURS. University of Birmingham.

Brown, J., Barber, A., Chapain, C., Gibney, J., Lutz, J., Murie, A. 2008. Understanding the attractiveness of Birmingham and the West Midlands region for creative knowledge firms: the managers view. EC ACRE FP6 Project Report 6.3. AMIDSt. University of Amsterdam.

Brown, J., Chapain, C., Murie, A., Lutz, J., Gibney, J., Barber, A. 2008. Birmingham: Towards a creative knowledge economy? Understanding the attractiveness of the metropolitan region for creative knowledge workers. EC ACRE FP6 Project Report 5.3. AMIDSt. University of Amsterdam.

Brown, J., Chapain, C., Murie, A., Barber A., Gibney, J., Lutz, J. 2007. From city of a thousand trades to city of a thousand ideas: Birmingham in the West Midlands, ACRE EC FP6 Project Report 2.3. AMIDSt. University of Amsterdam.

Chapain, C., Gibney, J., and Hall, S., 2007. A Study Pôles de Compétitivité in France: the case of MINALOGIC in Grenoble, a report for the British Council, February; CURS. University of Birmingham.

Chapain, C., Collinge, C., Gibney, J., Tice, A. 2006. Digital Birmingham - Digital City by 2010, a study for Birmingham City Council and the Digital Birmingham Panel, May 2006. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Ferrari, E., Gibney, J., MacNeill, S., Tice, A. 2007. A Study of the Impact of the Central Technology Belt on South Birmingham: Housing, Education and Jobs, a study for Birmingham City Council. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Chapain, C., Collinge, C., Gibney, J., Lutz, J., Barber, A. 2006. A Study of the Growth Dynamics of the Creative Industries Cluster in Birmingham Eastside, an EU-funded study for Birmingham City Council. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Gibney, J., Murie, A. 2006. Evaluation of the West Midlands Regional Economic Strategy and its Delivery Mechanisms: The Housing Component. A report for GHK Consulting. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Gibney, J., MacNeill, S., Schierenbeck, C. 2004. West Midlands Medical Research Capabilities; A Scoping Exercise of NHS and HE capabilities, a study for Advantage West Midlands and the Midlands MEDICI Network; West Midlands research report 20; CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Gibney, J., MacNeill, S. 2004. Medicon Valley: the Role of Higher Education, a study for the West Midlands Higher Education Association (WMHEA) Phase 2, July 2004; CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, J., Gibney, J., Schierenbeck, C. 2003. Infrastructure and Public Sector Support for the Medical Technology Industry in Baden-Wurttemberg, Advantage West Midlands. West Midlands Research Report 19. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Gibney, J. 2003. West Midlands Higher Education Institutions and the Development of the Regional Medical Technology Cluster, a study for the West Midlands Higher Education Association (WMHEA) Phase 1, June 2003. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Bentley, G., Burfit, A., Collinge, C., Gibney, J., MacNeill, S. 2002. A Study of High Technology Industry in Leicestershire, a study for Leicestershire County Council, June 2002; CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, J., Collinge, C., Gibney, J., Sbrljanin, A. 2001. A Study of the Information and Communications Technology Industries in Birmingham and Solihull, Birmingham Business Link and Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Research Report 15. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Collinge, C., Gibney, J. 2001. The E-Commerce Revolution and Its Impact on Firms, Premises and Business Location in the West Midlands, a study for Chesterton Plc. West Midlands Research Report 14, February. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfit, A., Gibney, J. 2001. On Innovation in the Medical Devices and Supplies Industry: Competitiveness Issues for the West Midlands, a study for Advantage West

Burfitt, A., Collinge, C., Gibney, J. 2001. A Baseline Study of the ICT Industries in Birmingham and Solihull, a study for Birmingham Business Link and Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Research Report 15, May. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Hall, S., Gibney, J. 2000. A Comparative Study of Urban Regeneration Policy in Paris and the West Midlands, a report for the EU LEONARDO programme (prepared jointly with the University of Marne la Vallée, Paris), December 2000.

Burfitt, A., Collinge, C., Gibney, J. 2000. A Study of ICT Industry Inward Investment and Sustainability in Telford, a study for the European Commission (prepared jointly with the University of Leipzig), December 2000. The 'mother' project Modelling Sustainable Development in the European Information Society (1998-2000) was funded under the EU Environment and Climate Programme. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Opportunity West Midlands; Understanding Business Change in the Regional Economy. A 2nd report for the West Midlands Development Agency. 1999; CURS. (Published by the West Midlands Development Agency WMDA).

Opportunity West Midlands; Understanding Change and Development in the Regional Economy. A Report for the West Midlands Development Agency. West Midlands Research Report 7. December 1998. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Industry Change and Development in the Pharmaceutical, Medical Equipment and Supplies Sectors; 1998 Sector Update. A report for the West Midlands Development Agency. West Midlands Research Report 9. October 1999. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Mawson, J., Hall, S., Gibney, J., and Bentley, G., eds., June 1996. The English Regional Associations of Local Authorities; The 1995/96 European Work Programme. A Report for the English Regional Associations. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Mawson, J., and Gibney, J. 1983. Enquiry into the Revision of the European Regional Development Fund. Memorandum of Evidence to the House of Lords, Sub-Committee A. Session 1983-84. 23rd Report. pp. 43-69. November. HMSO: London.

Mawson, J., Gibney, J., and Miller, D. 1983. The West Midlands and the EEC. Working Paper 4, Social Sciences Research Council Inner City in Context research project. West Midlands Study. November. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Confidential/Restricted Reports

Collinge, C., and Gibney, J. (2013) "Building a Locally Functioning Integrating Leadership and Governance (ILG) for EU Territorial Investment 2014-2020". A briefing for Birmingham City Council.

Gibney, J., and Macneill, S., 2011. "Re-thinking Greater Birmingham in Europe". A strategic briefing for the University of Birmingham.

Collinge, C., Gibney, J., Liu, X., Macneill, S., 2009. Capturing the Potential of the Knowledge-based Economy for Birmingham: An Initial Assessment of the Potential for Collaboration between Birmingham City Council and Local Universities. A report for Birmingham City Council. June. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Collinge, C., Gibney, J., 2009. Networking and Cross-Border Cooperation in the Development of the Øresund Life Sciences Cluster. A report for Birmingham City Council. May. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfitt, A., Gibney, J., Murie, A. 2007. A Study of Social and Economic Futures for Edgbaston. A report for Calthorpe Estates. Autumn. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfitt, A., Gibney, J., MacNeill, S., Murie, A., Tice, A. 2007. A Study of the Socio-Economic Impact of the University of Birmingham, a report for the University of Birmingham (in association with GHK Consulting). June. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Collinge, C., Gibney, J., 2007. The Hydrogen Energy Project Market Scoping and Continuing Performance Evaluation Framework. Reports for the West Midlands Energy Futures Programme (Advantage West Midlands, the University of Birmingham and the University of Warwick) (in association with GHK International). Autumn. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Chapain, C., Collinge, C., Gibney, J. 2007. Mapping the Data Environment for Digital Birmingham, a report for Digital Birmingham. CURS. University of Birmingham.

Burfitt, A., Gibney, J., Macneill, S. 2003. The Relocation of Defence Medical Training (MT2B) to Birmingham. A Preliminary Assessment of the Implications for the Development of the Local Medical Technology Cluster, a study for Birmingham City Council, June 2003. CURS. University of Birmingham.

