

# Preface

*At the age of six I wanted to be a cook. At seven I wanted to be Napoleon.  
And my ambition has been growing ever since.*

*Salvador Dali*

Dear Reader,

This summer *Rerum Causae* is celebrating its sixth year and while we have no culinary ambitions we are extremely proud to present what students at the London School of Economics have produced over the last year.

In this volume, we want to give you a tour of the department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method. First, Ben Lange will give you an insight into current research in the philosophy of science by discussing Nancy Cartwright's probabilistic theory of causation. Jerod Coker then argues that past injustices to not demand reparation which together with Rachael Quah's rebuttal of affirmative action forms a strong case for the need for philosophy in public policy decisions. Rikke Sommer's essay on the moral duties of global corporations too has implications that range beyond the scope of theoretical business ethics into the real world practical management of such firms. James Mee then takes us to a hotly debated topic in the philosophy of economics: the trade of organs. We end with Ava Mayer and a topic that has occupied philosophy of law for hundreds of years: the justification of differential punishment for successful and

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unsuccessful criminal attempts.

We have had a fantastic response this year and the quality and diversity of essays reflect that philosophy at LSE is buzzing, intense, modern and close to the real world. It enjoys a strong tradition and enthusiasm. We hope you will feel some of that in this edition of *Rerum Causae*.

**The Editing Committee**