

Neil Lee

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Current positions

Professor of Economic Geography, London School of Economics, from Aug 2020 – present
Professor II, Inland University of Norway
Chair, Policy Committee of the Regional Studies Association (RSA)
Director, BSc in Geography with Economics, 2013 - present
Convenor, Cities, Jobs, and Economic Change theme, International Inequalities Institute
Research affiliate: Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), International Inequalities Institute (III), Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE), Centre for Responsible Banking and Finance (University of St Andrews), LSE Middle East Centre.

Academic

- 2007/11 **PhD Economic Geography, London School of Economics**
Papers on innovation, diversity and urban inequality
ESRC Quota Award for Advanced Quantitative Methods
Supervisor: Professor Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
Awarded without corrections, May 2011
- 2009 **Visiting Scholar, Technological Change Lab, Columbia University**
- 2006/7 **MSc Human Geography Research, London School of Economics**
Distinction
ESRC Quota Award for Advanced Quantitative Methods
- 2004/5 **MSc Local Economic Development, London School of Economics**
Distinction
School academic scholarship award
- 1999/02 **BSc Geography, University College London**
First class

Previous roles

Visiting Professor, Science Po Toulouse, 2019 - 2020
Director, MSc in Local Economic Development, 2014 - 2020
Associate Professor in Economic Geography, LSE, 2017-2020
Assistant Professor in Economic Geography, LSE, 2013-2017
Head of Socio-Economic Research Centre, The Work Foundation, 2010 - 2013

Research Fellow (seconded), Department of Economics, Lancaster University, 2011 – 2013
Senior Economist, The Work Foundation, 2005 - 2011
Project Co-ordinator, Unipal, Lebanon, 2003 - 2004
Research Assistant, Demos, Jan - April 2003

Prizes

- 2020 Best Paper Prize, Regional Studies
Promotion Teaching Prize, London School of Economics
- 2019 Understanding Society Best Paper Prize
- 2017 Major Review Teaching Prize, London School of Economics
RSA Best Referee Award, Regional Studies
- 2016 Highly Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards
- 2015 Highly Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards
- 2014 Commended, LSE Student Union Teaching Excellence Awards

Publications

Journal articles (refereed)

- Iddawela, Y., Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2021. Quality of sub-national government and economic development in Africa. *Journal of Development Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2021.1873286> [Ungated]
- Cowling, M., Brown, R. & Lee, N. 2021. The geography of business angel investments in the UK: Does local bias (still) matter? *Environment and Planning A*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20984484>, [Ungated]
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2020. Entrepreneurship and the fight against poverty in US cities. *Environment and Planning A*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20924422> [Ungated]
- Rodríguez-Pose, A. & Lee, N. 2020. Hipsters vs. Geeks? Creative workers, STEM and innovation in US cities. *Cities*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2020.102653> [Ungated]
- Casadei, P. & Lee, N. 2020. Global cities, creative industries and their representation on social media: A micro-data analysis of twitter data on the fashion industry *Environment and Planning A*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X20901585>
- Lee, N. & Clark, S. 2019. Do low-skilled workers gain from high-tech employment growth? High-technology multipliers, employment and wages in Britain. *Research Policy*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2019.05.012>
- Ughetto, E., Cowling, M. and Lee, N., 2019. Editorial: The financing of small business and new ventures. *Regional Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2019.1601174>
- Lee, N., 2019. Inclusive Growth in cities: a sympathetic critique. *Regional Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2018.1476753> [Winner: Regional Studies Best paper prize]

- Brown, R., Mawson, S. & Lee, N. 2019. Start-up factories, transnational entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial ecosystems: Unpacking the lure of the start-up accelerator programmes. *European Planning Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2019.1588858>
- Obschonka, M., Lee, N., Rodríguez-Pose, A., Eichstaedt, J. C. & Ebert, T. 2018 Big data methods, social media, and the psychology of entrepreneurial regions: capturing cross-county personality traits and their impact on entrepreneurship in the US. *Small Business Economics*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-019-00204-2>
- Brown, R. & Lee, N. 2019. Funding for UK high-growth SMEs since the Global Financial Crisis. *Journal of Business Research*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2019.02.001>
- Von Berlepsch, V, Rodríguez-Pose, A., & Lee, N. 2018. A woman's touch? Female migration and economic development in the United States. *Regional Studies*, 53 (1), 131-145. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2018.1463092>
- Obschonka, M., Stuetzer, M., Rentfrow, P. J., Lee, N., Potter, J. & Gosling, D. 2018 Fear, populism and the geopolitical landscape: On the effect of neurotic personality traits on regional voting behaviour in the 2016 Brexit and Trump votes. *Social Psychological & Personality Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550618755874>
- Lee, N. & Luca, D. 2018 The Big City Bias in Access to Finance: Evidence from firm perceptions in almost 100 countries. *Journal of Economic Geography*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbx047> [ungated]
- Lee, N., Morris, K. & Kemeny, T. 2018. Immobility and the Brexit vote. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 11 (1), 143-163. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rsx027> [Winner: Understanding Society Best Paper Prize]
- Lee, N., Green, A. & Sissons, P. 2018. Low-pay sectors, earnings mobility and economic policy in the UK. *Policy & Politics*, 46 (3), 347-369. <https://doi.org/10.1332/030557317X15072086455899>
- Ughetto, E., Cowling, M. & Lee, N. 2017. The innovation debt penalty: Cost of debt, loan default, and the effects of a public loan guarantee on high-tech firms. *Technological Forecasting & Social Change*, 127, 166 – 176. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.techfore.2017.06.016> [ungated]
- Sissons, P., Green, A. & Lee, N. 2017. Employment structure, growth sectors and household poverty in the United Kingdom. *Work, Employment and Society*, 32 (6), 1078-1098. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0950017017722939> [ungated]
- Lee, N. 2017. Psychology and the geography of innovation. *Economic Geography*, 93 (2), 106-130. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00130095.2016.1249845> [ungated]
- Lee, N. 2017. Powerhouse of cards? Understanding the Northern Powerhouse. *Regional Studies*, 51(3), 478-489. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2016.1196289>
- Lee, N. & Brown, R. 2017. Innovation, SMEs and the liability of distance: the demand and supply of bank funding in peripheral UK regions. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 17 (1), 233-260. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbw011> [ungated]

- Lee, N. & Sissons, P. 2016. Inclusive growth? Economic growth and poverty in British cities. *Environment and Planning A*, 48(11), 2317-2339. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0308518X16656000>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2016 Is there trickle-down from tech? Poverty, employment and the high-technology multiplier in US cities. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 106 (5), 1114-1134. <https://doi.org/10.1080/24694452.2016.1184081> [ungated]
- Lee, N., Sissons, P. & Jones, K. 2016. The geography of wage inequality in British cities. *Regional Studies*, 50 (10), 1714 – 1727. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2015.1053859> [Ungated]
- Lee, N., Cowling, M. and Sameen, H. 2015. Access to finance for innovative SMEs since the financial crisis. *Research Policy*, 44 (2), 370-380. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.respol.2014.09.008>[Ungated]
- Lee, N. 2015. Migrant and ethnic diversity, cities and innovation: Firm effects or city effects? *Journal of Economic Geography*, 15 (4), 769-796. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbu032>
- Lee, N. & Drever, E. 2014. Do SMEs in deprived areas find it harder to access finance? Evidence from the UK Small Business Survey. *Entrepreneurship and Regional Development*, 26 (3-4), 337-356. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08985626.2014.911966>
- Lee, N. 2014. What holds back high growth firms? Evidence from UK SMEs. *Small Business Economics*, 43 (1), 183-195. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11187-013-9525-5>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2014. Innovation in creative cities: Evidence from British small firms. *Industry & Innovation*, 21(6), 494-512. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13662716.2014.983748> [Ungated]
[Nominated for Industry & Innovation ‘Best Paper Award’, 2014]
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2013. Creativity, cities and innovation. *Environment and Planning A*, 46 (5): 1139 - 1159. <https://doi.org/10.1068/a46202>
- Cowling, M. & Lee, N. 2015. Do Rural Firms Perceive Different Problems? Geography, Sorting, and Barriers to Growth in UK SMEs. *Environment & Planning C: Government and Policy*, 33 (1), 25-42. <https://doi.org/10.1068/c12234b>
- Lee, N. 2013. The creative industries and urban economic growth in the UK. *Environment and Planning A*, 46 (2) 455-470. <https://doi.org/10.1068/a4472>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2013. Innovation and spatial inequality in Europe and the United States. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 13 (1), 1- 22. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jeg/lbs022>
- Nathan, M. & Lee, N. 2012. Cultural diversity, innovation and entrepreneurship: Firm-level evidence from London. *Economic Geography*. 89 (4), 367-394. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecge.12016>
- Lee, N. & Rodríguez-Pose, A. 2013. Original innovation, learnt innovation and cities: Evidence from UK SMEs. *Urban Studies*, 50 (9), 1742-1759. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098012470395>

- Hutton, W. & Lee, N. 2012. The City and the cities: Finance, ownership and the geography of recession. *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*. 5 (3): 325-337 [Editors' choice] <https://doi.org/10.1093/cjres/rss018>
- Lee, N. 2012. Grim down south? The determinants of unemployment in British cities in the 2008-2009 recession. *Regional Studies*, 48(11), 1761-1778. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2012.709609>
- Lee, N. & Cowling, M. 2012. Place, sorting effects and SMEs in deprived areas: Different problems or different firms? *International Small Business Journal*, 31 (8), 914-937. <https://doi.org/10.1177%2F0266242612445402>
- Lee, N. & Drever, E. 2012. Creative industries, creative occupations and innovation in London. *European Planning Studies*, 21(12), 1977-1997. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2012.722969>
- Lee, N. 2011. Are innovative regions more unequal? Evidence from Europe. *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*, 29 (1), 2 – 23. [Editors' choice] <https://doi.org/10.1068/c1046r>
- Lee, N. 2011. Ethnic diversity and employment growth in English cities. *Urban Studies*, 48 (2), 407–425. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098010363500>
- Policy Reports (selected)*
- Arntzen, S., Wilcox, Z., Lee, N., Hadfield, C. & Rae, J. 2019. [Real world innovation testbeds](#). NESTA, London.
- Brown, R. & Lee, N. 2018 [Financial instruments for regional development](#). OECD, Paris.
- Pike, A., Lee, N., MacKinnon, D., Kempton, L. and Iddawela, Y., 2017. [Job creation for inclusive growth in cities](#). York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- Lee, N. & Clarke, S. 2017 [A rising tide lifts all boats? Advanced industries and their impact upon living standards](#). Resolution Foundation, London.
- Lee, N., Sissons, P., Hughes, C., Green, A., Adam, D., Atfield, G. and Rodriguez-Pose, A. 2014. [Cities, growth and poverty: A review of the evidence](#). Joseph Rowntree Foundation, York.
- Lee, N., Jones, A. & Morris, K. 2009. *Recession and Recovery: How cities can respond to the recession*. London: The Work Foundation / OECD.
- Brinkley, I. & Lee, N. 2007. *The Knowledge Economy in Europe*. London: The Work Foundation.
- Jones, A., Coats, D., Williams, L., Lee, N. & O'Keefe, A. 2006. *Enabling Cities in the Knowledge Economy*. London: Department for Communities and Local Government.

External teaching

Science-Po Toulouse, Master in Science Politique
University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education
University of Oxford, Department of Economics