

**Steve Fleetwood** left an engineering apprenticeship in Liverpool in the mid



1970s to devote more time to professional cycle racing. In 1987, however, with the loss of pace and the onset of grey hair, the cycling career had to give way. And it did, to what was to become a career in academia. A degree in social studies in John Moores University, Liverpool, was followed by an M Phil and a PhD in the Department of Economics in *Cambridge University*. He then went on to *De Montfort University* and *Lancaster University*, where he taught a mixture of economics, sociology and employment relations. In 2007 he moved to *University of the West of England* where he is now a professor of employment relations. His research interests

include the philosophy of science, especially critical realism and its applications in various areas of social science, Marxist political economy, HRM and employment relations. He is currently working, with Anthony Hesketh (Lancaster University) on a book entitled *The Performance of HR: Towards a New Meta Theory*, Cambridge University Press; and a book with Matthew Brannan (Keele University), provisionally entitled *Real Labour Markets: A Socio-economic Approach*. His major publications include: *Hayek's Political Economy, the Socio Economics of Order* (1995), Routledge (in 2006 this was translated into Japanese and entitled '*Hayek no poritexikaru ekonomi*', translators: Hara, N. Nishibe, M. Sasaki, K., Hosei University Press); two edited books with Stephen Ackroyd, *Realist Perspectives on Organisation and Management* (2000) Routledge and *Critical Realist Applications in Organisation and Management Studies*, (2004) Routledge; *Critical Realism and Marxism* (2002) with Andrew Brown and John Roberts, Routledge; and *Critical Realism in Economics: Development and Debate* (1999) Routledge. He has also published in: *Cambridge Journal of Economics; Capital & Class; International Journal of Human Resource Management; Labour; Journal of Critical Realism; Journal of Institutional Economics; Organization; Personnel Review, Review of Austrian Economics; Review of Political Economy and Review of Social Economy*.  
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