

Socio-Legal NEWSLETTER No 54 SLSA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2008

SOCIO-LEGAL RESEARCH AND THE MoJ

In January 2007, the DCA Research Unit initiated a new process to identify 'approved suppliers' – organisations which would be allowed to tender for research funding. Judith Masson, of Bristol University, has been following developments and here she explains why she has serious concerns about the new arrangements.

According to the DCA website, the 'Department expects to commission projects in excess of £100,000 through our new call-off (framework) contract.' The need to do this has been allied to EU provisions, but it should be noted that no single approach was required for implementation and that other organisations, which commission far more research in money terms, have been able to continue to work with research relationships based on expertise.

The framework process was launched through a series of emails with repeatedly changing deadlines and a poorly functioning webpage. It has resulted in the exclusion of most of the university-based socio-legal researchers who have undertaken work for the DCA since it began funding research in the late 1990s. The list of approved suppliers is now dominated by management consultants and commercial research organisations – Price Waterhouse Coopers, Deloitte and BRMB. Not all universities have been excluded – Cardiff can bid for most categories of work and others (Salford, Warwick, UEA etc) for some.

What does this mean for socio-legal studies? One could take a sanguine view and say 'not much'. The Ministry of Justice (and its predecessor departments – the LCD and the DCA¹) have hardly been major players in funding socio-legal research. The Nuffield Foundation, the ESRC, the NSPCC and the LSC (particularly through the LSRU) and, in relation to the Children Act 1989, the Department of Health have all been far more important. There was a brief period in the late 1990s when the LCD had a research programme, announced its priorities and encouraged applications through presentations at the SLSA conference but that approach was largely replaced by commissioning specific projects from specific people. In October 2006, it looked as if the DCA would again seek to encourage socio-legal research. Shortly before embarking on the process to identify approved suppliers, it launched another research programme specifically noting that 'it would particularly welcome proposals involving researchers that have not contracted with DCA previously and those researchers in their early career with the appropriate skills' (para 7).² What work was funded as a result of that process and whether it will be repeated remains unclear. It is also unclear how extensive a research programme the MoJ will commission in the future given that it has taken on some of the functions of the Home Office (which itself now has a preferred 'supplier' network).

Being on a list of approved suppliers works well for commercial organisations by helping them to predict the risks of engaging in a particular (generic) area of work. Managers can decide the volume of work they will bid for from the organisations which have approved them and deploy their workforce accordingly. Universities operate very differently and will not benefit from it. Individuals, Principal Investigators (PIs), identify work for which they have the expertise and ▶p3

MANCHESTER 2008

Members of the conference team at Manchester University are looking forward to welcoming attendees at the SLSA's 2008 conference from 18–20 March. A draft programme is now available on the conference website.

Streams and keywords

There is an extensive list of streams and there are also sessions based on keywords. The streams are: administrative law; construction law; criminal justice; diversity and judging; education law; environmental law; European law; family and child law; gender, sexuality and law; human rights practice; information technology law and cyberspace; intellectual property; labour law; law and economics; law and literature; law, race, religion and human rights; legal education; maths, statistics and scientific legal methodologies; medical law and ethics; mental health and mental capacity; regulation, governance and corporate social responsibility; regulation, security and justice; sentencing and punishment; sexual offences and offending; socio-legal theory and method; sports law; transitional justice; and victims in international law.

The keywords are: governance; poverty and welfare; space – real and virtual; vulnerability; participation; identities; trust; histories; resistance; and change.

Extra sessions

In addition to the published sessions, following the success of our recent one-day conference, there is an extra session – What are textbooks for? – run by Professor Fiona Cownie of Keele University. Details will be included in the conference programme.

Also at Manchester, the Legal Empirical Research Support Network (LERSnet) will be officially launched. This initiative is being supported by the SLSA and the Nuffield Foundation. The idea for the network was conceived out of the findings of the Nuffield Inquiry into Empirical Research on Law. Its aims are: connecting people, bringing new people in; and creating a one-stop opportunity shop. More information about LERSnet will be circulated when available. Full details of the launch session will be included in the conference pack.

SLSA AGM 2008 and Executive Committee vacancies

The SLSA's AGM will be held at Manchester during the lunchtime session on Wednesday 19 March. Annual reports from officers will be submitted at the meeting and all members are warmly invited to attend. Some members of the Executive Committee are coming to the end of their terms of office and volunteers are needed to fill their places. To be considered for one of the vacancies, please visit the Executive Committee page on the SLSA website where there is information about nominations. If you have any queries about the work of the Executive Committee you are welcome to contact the SLSA chair or any other committee member. Full contact details are on the website and on page 2 of this newsletter.

Registration

There's still time to register. Go to www.slsa.ac.uk and follow the SLSA 2008 link.

**SLSA Executive Committee
2007-2008**

CHAIR

Sally Wheeler
School of Law, Queen's University Belfast
e s.wheeler@qub.ac.uk

VICE-CHAIR

Anthony Bradney
Department of Law, University of Keele
e a.bradney@law.keele.ac.uk

SECRETARY

Morag McDermont
University of Bristol
e morag.mcdermont@bristol.ac.uk

TREASURER

Daniel Monk
Birkbeck College
e d.monk@bbk.ac.uk

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Lisa Glennon
Queen's University Belfast
e l.glennon@qub.ac.uk

RECRUITMENT SECRETARY

Alison Dunn
University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne
e alison.dunn@newcastle.ac.uk

NEWSLETTER EDITOR AND WEBEDITOR

Marie Selwood
e marieselwood@btinternet.com

WEBMASTER

Nick Jackson
Kent University
e n.s.r.jackson@kent.ac.uk

KENT 2007 CONFERENCE ORGANISERS

Helen Carr
e h.p.carr@kent.ac.uk
Rosemary Hunter
e r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk
Donald McGillivray
e d.mcgillivray@kent.ac.uk

MANCHESTER 2008 CONFERENCE ORGANISER

Hannah Quirk
e hannah.quirk@manchester.ac.uk

SLSA EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Rosemary Auchmuty
University of Reading
e r.auchmuty@westminster.ac.uk

Anne Barlow
University of Exeter
e a.e.barlow@exeter.ac.uk

Fiona Beveridge
University of Liverpool
e f.c.beveridge@liverpool.ac.uk

Nicole Busby
University of Stirling
e n.e.busby@stir.ac.uk

Dave Cowan
University of Bristol
e d.s.cowan@bristol.ac.uk

Fiona Cownie
University of Keele
e f.cownie@law.keele.ac.uk

Robert Dingwall
University of Nottingham
e robert.dingwall@nottingham.ac.uk

Anne-Maree Farrell
University of Manchester
e a.m.farrell@manchester.ac.uk

Dermot Feenan
University of Ulster
e d.feenan@ulster.ac.uk

Jo Hunt
University of Cardiff
e huntj@cf.ac.uk

Caroline Hunter
Sheffield Hallam University
e c.m.hunter@shu.ac.uk

Bettina Lange
Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford
e bettina.lange@law.ox.ac.uk

Bronwen Morgan
University of Bristol
e b.morgan@bristol.ac.uk

Amanda Perry-Kessaris
Birkbeck College
e a.perry-kessaris@bbk.ac.uk

Mary Seneviratne
Nottingham Trent University
e mary.seneviratne@ntu.ac.uk

Helen Stalford
University of Liverpool
e stalford@liverpool.ac.uk

Julian Webb
University of Warwick
e julian.webb01@warwick.ac.uk

Newsletter contact details

Marie Selwood, Editor, *Socio-Legal Newsletter* ☒ 33 Baddlesmere Road, Whitstable, Kent CT5 2LB ☎ 01227 770189
e marieselwood@btinternet.com.

Next copy deadline: **27 May 2008**.
Next publication date: **30 June 2008**.

www.slsa.ac.uk

The SLSA website contains information about the SLSA and its activities. The bulletin board is updated almost daily and is for many people, the first port of call for information on events and other activities in the socio-legal community. Contact Marie Selwood
e marieselwood@btinternet.com.

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in articles in the *Socio-Legal Newsletter* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the SLSA.

... newsletter sponsors ... newsletter sponsors ...

Newsletter sponsorship

The *Socio-Legal Newsletter* is sponsored by a consortium of law schools interested in promoting socio-legal studies in the UK. We are delighted to welcome Exeter University Law School as our latest sponsor. If you think that your institution would like to become involved in this initiative, please contact SLSA chair Sally Wheeler
e s.wheeler@qub.ac.uk.



p1◀ which they would like to undertake, and then bid for it. (This is one reason why many academics were initially ideologically opposed to engaging with the preferred suppliers process at all, although collective resolve – if such it was – quickly crumbled.) Without a committed PI, there will be no bid from any university. Those in a position to be PIs have many calls on their time and are likely to put their efforts elsewhere, rather than to bid for research which does not link to their interests and expertise. Similarly, where a socio-legal researcher moves institution they are unlikely to be replaced with another who can play an identical role – the availability of specialist staff and the other demands on university law departments are such that appointment committees and vice chancellors have to take a much broader approach. Although it may make sense for the MoJ to reduce the number of organisations with which it contracts, the approved supplier approach is unlikely to serve it well. It will be able to draw on a much more limited pool of researchers because most of us will continue to work for universities which it has excluded. Moreover, this approach is likely to leave it without access to key individuals when they move to institutions which it has not approved and are not replaced. The possibility of MoJ funds is unlikely to convince an academic to remain at their current institution, nor vice chancellors to fund a specific post.

In terms of the future of the discipline and of research-based policy, the exclusion of university-based researchers from funding by the MoJ is very serious. The synergy between research and teaching is a key foundation in university education. Socio-legal studies owe much of their development to researchers who also teach. The study of some subjects in the legal curriculum has been transformed by socio-legal studies. Family law is a notable example – students learn how the law operates in practice not through decisions of the Court of Appeal but the research of Carol Smart, Liz Trinder, Mervyn Murch, Gwyn Davies, Joan Hunt etc (none of whom appear to be able to obtain contracts from the MoJ). Undergraduate teaching kindles enthusiasm in students leading them on to master's degrees and PhDs. A generation ago, doctorate study in law was rare and few legal academics had doctorates – now in many universities this is the norm and most PhDs include some socio-legal element. This development does not depend just on teachers who research but on a literature: not just research reports but conference papers, discursive articles and books. It seems unlikely that the commercial organisations will engage in activities which promote and develop socio-legal studies. Indeed they may not be very interested in whether their reports are published at all. It is clear from the websites of commercial research organisations and management consultants that the point of publication is not to inform a wide research community about an area of work but merely to indicate the range of projects undertaken in order to attract more business.

From the perspective of a government department, which wishes to control information about the areas for which it has responsibility, this approach to publication by management consultants and commercial research organisations may be very attractive. Management consultants work strictly to the brief they are given and are unlikely to pursue intriguing (but perhaps embarrassing) lines of enquiry that inevitably attract the attention of academics. Moreover, if the research does not identify the success of a programme, it need not be published. Price Waterhouse Coopers is not going to be worried about the loss of an item for the RAE. The ministry's commitment to publication cannot be taken for granted; it took more than nine months for a recent report to be published during which time the researchers were not allowed to speak about their work. Under the new regime, there is no need for the ministry to be concerned about dissemination activities which are not 'on message' because commercial organisations will only

disseminate according to the contract. Nor is it necessary to take up civil service time monitoring publications beyond the research report. So the discipline's loss appears to be the department's gain – a point which the socio-legal research community will have to challenge if it is to survive.

Research-based policy in the law demands an understanding of the operation of legal processes and the current law. Many socio-legal researchers have obtained a deep understanding of their areas of study through engagement in their subject over long periods of time through a wide range of literatures and in different jurisdictions. The expertise they bring to research is therefore very different from that of organisations whose work follows the money not the issue. In commercial organisations which take on a wide range of work, neither the researchers nor their managers have expertise in many of the topics researched. They are therefore in a weak position when it comes to understanding practice and generating workable solutions. The Child Care Proceedings Review provides clear examples. Lack of knowledge of the law led the team to comment adversely about the high rate of transfers from the magistrates' to the county court in care proceedings in comparison with that for private law proceedings, apparently unaware that this is a result of the requirement to file in the magistrates' court. Similarly its proposals owed more to concepts such as segmentation than to an understanding of the legal process. If policy derived through research is found wanting, as seems likely where researchers lack real understanding, the loss will not only be to the ministry through failed initiatives, but to the social research community as a whole. Domination by researchers without expertise means a loss of recognition for the expertise of socio-legal researchers, and without recognition that expertise is likely to decline.

At the same time as the MoJ was making changes likely to damage socio-legal studies, both the Nuffield Foundation and the ESRC were recognising that more needed to be done to support and develop the discipline. It is somewhat ironic that a government department which has benefited from access to research and researchers developed through cooperation between these organisations and university researchers should adopt a policy which will undermine their efforts. The question that might be asked is how we as an academic community – through the SLSA – should act collectively to secure a partnership with the MoJ. Partnerships have to benefit both sides and the MoJ needs to recognise that working with individual academic experts and contracting with whichever institutions employ them will serve it better than relying on commercial organisations without commitment to the discipline. The benefit for the ministry lies not only in accessing expertise but also in securing a supply of researchers for the future. The academic community needs to ensure that grants from the MoJ can result in timely publications and open debates. Also that, even where research is funded by others, it is supported through transparent arrangements to access data, personnel etc and not by the Byzantine processes that have existed to date.

At a meeting, organised by Professor Martin Partington, with heads of research from the MoJ in December 2007 (report on page 4), there was some suggestion that the Ministry of Justice would, at least, consider reviewing its new arrangements for commissioning research. If a workable partnership is to be created, this review has to be done with the academic community. Any new process should be designed to support, not exclude, those based in universities. The SLSA needs to ensure that a review takes place and that the wider interests of the discipline are fully and strongly represented.

Notes

- 1 The DCA was replaced by the MoJ on 9 May 2007
 w www.justice.gov.uk.
- 2 w www.dca.gov.uk/research/2006/2006resprog.pdf

CHANGING THE RESEARCH LANDSCAPE

Sponsored by the Ministry of Justice and the Legal Empirical Research Support Network (LERSnet), a conference on the implications for empirical legal research of the creation of the new ministry took place on 18 December 2007. Martin Partington took part and here he briefly summarises the day.

Held at the Royal Statistical Society, the event attracted a large audience (in excess of 150) and provided the first opportunity for government research sponsors to meet the research community. Particularly noteworthy was that there was a good representation of participants from both the criminology and civil/family/administrative justice research communities. There was also good representation from those working in research outside the university sector.

The opening plenary was delivered by Paul Wiles, Government Chief Social Scientist and Chief Scientific Adviser to the Home Office. He noted that the creation of the Ministry of Justice and the transfer to it of a significant proportion of the Home Office's research capacity created an unprecedented opportunity to promote empirical research in law, not just in the areas of importance to the new ministry but across government. He emphasised the centrality of law in relation to all the main challenges facing modern government, whether environmental, health or the impacts of new technologies. Understanding how law works in the real world was essential to the successful delivery of public policy. He also stressed how important it was for the academic community to be bold and to be actively engaged in pressing its demands for the resources to build empirical research capacity.

The rest of the first half of the conference was devoted to presentations from three senior officials with research responsibilities: Tony Munton, Chloe Chitty and Osama Rahman. These covered: the Office for Criminal Justice reform; the National Offender Management Service; and the Economics and Statistics Division. Their focus, predictably, was on what they currently do. They showed how research activity is, these days, more closely integrated into policy development and delivery.

All three speakers also emphasised that there were major plans being developed for reshaping the new ministry. Thus, where research would end up in this new structure was not yet clear. (The Secretary of State made an announcement in Parliament on 29 January 2008 of the principal changes that would be put in place.)

The second half of the conference was devoted to a set of workshops exploring different facets of the relationship

between the ministry and the research community. A full report will be placed on the LERSnet website. Some of the main points to emerge were:

- expressions of extreme frustration about the way in which last year's 'approved supplier' exercise had been carried out (see Judith Masson's article on pages 1 & 3);
- recognition of the value of dialogue between those in government and the research community;
- calls for a more positive approach to requests for information from bona fide researchers;
- clearer protocols about the steps needed to be taken to achieve access for research purposes;
- more specifically, help to enable researchers to gain access to appropriate data for secondary analysis and to prevent waste of effort in gathering information already available;
- the need to explore realistic possibilities for amending what data is collected to facilitate relevant research;
- consideration of the appointment of a research liaison officer who could facilitate constructive dialogue between researchers and government;
- the upgrading of the existing Socio-Legal Research Users Forum to a Standing Conference or Advisory Council on Empirical Research;
- use of external funding to promote research into issues not of immediate policy concern to government, but also to foster partnerships between researchers and government and to promote capacity building;
- more conscious effort by both researchers and government to publicise the results of research;
- encouragement for researchers to come out of their disciplinary silos and explore the cross-cutting potential of, for example, seeing the links between criminal focused work and civil/administrative focused work.

There was considerable support for the idea of further opportunities for research meetings between policy makers and researchers. It was hoped that the new LERSnet website would provide an easy forum for improved communication.¹

Two final comments. Professor Bird stressed that, for positive collaboration to work, it was important for the research community to capture the imagination of policy makers. And, Professor Kritzer, commenting from a US perspective, reminded the audience of the fact that, possibly contrary to many people's beliefs, there was actually a huge amount of empirical research in law going on in the UK – in many respects more than in the US.

A preliminary follow-up meeting is being arranged for March 2008 and the outcome of that will be announced in due course on LERSnet.

Notes

¹ The LERSnet website is due to be launched at SLSA 2008. The URL is not yet confirmed but there will be a link via www.slsa.ac.uk.

SLSA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The full membership fee of only £30 provides members with all the following benefits.

- Our successful termly *Socio-Legal Newsletter*: members receive three 16-page newsletters per year and are invited to submit news and articles for publication.
- Discounted conference fees: members receive a discount on the conference fee equivalent to the membership fee.
- Access to the SLSA email network and bulletin board: the email network and bulletin board keep members informed of SLSA news and other items of interest.
- Eligibility for SLSA prizes: sponsored by Hart Publishing, the SLSA awards three annual prizes for outstanding publications in the field of socio-legal studies.

- Eligibility for SLSA grants: the SLSA awards £8000 per year to support socio-legal researchers.
- Eligibility for SLSA seminar competition: £5000 per year is allocated to support socio-legal seminars.
- SLSA research directory: the research directory is under development to be relaunched as an electronic resource on the SLSA website.
- Discounts on journal subscriptions
- Student benefits: free student membership for one year; £10 student fee thereafter; free postgraduate conference; eligibility for bursaries for the SLSA annual conference and other selected events.

For more information on membership and joining visit www.slsa.ac.uk.

SLSA SMALL GRANTS SCHEME

Now in its 9th year, the SLSA small grants scheme is designed to encourage socio-legal research initiatives in practical ways. Here, we are delighted to announce the winners of the 2007–08 round and welcome back three previous grantholders with their final reports. The fund is currently £8000 per year and individual grants can be up to a maximum of £1500. The deadline for the next round is **31 October 2008**.

The Research Grants Committee takes into consideration: the coherence and costing of the proposal and the applicant's likely contribution to socio-legal scholarship, including anticipated publications or enhancement of the prospect of future research grants from other grant-making bodies. Funding will not be provided for conference attendance or to subsidise postgraduate course fees. One-day conferences and seminars are supported by the SLSA under different arrangements – full details are on the website. Feedback will be given to unsuccessful applicants. No member will receive more than one grant per year. Executive Committee members are not eligible for the scheme.

Examples of past small grant reports and summaries are available on the SLSA website plus full application details. www.slsa.ac.uk

Grantholders 2007–08

- Helen Baker, Liverpool University, £1450: Meeting the needs of teenage boys made homeless as a result of domestic violence
- Michelle Cowley, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford, £1411: The sword and shield or misplaced faith? How DNA evidence affects reasoning in criminal cases
- Sandra Brunnegger, LSE/Cambridge University, £1500: Culture and human rights in Colombia: negotiating indigenous law
- Jessica Guth, Bradford University, £1173.50: Understanding mobility and internationalisation in the discipline of law in the UK
- Jonathan Merritt, De Montfort University, £934: Future directions for the wider police family
- Karen Morgan, Bristol University, £765: The social and legal constructions of nonhuman animals
- Lisa Whitehouse, Hull University, £1485: A longitudinal analysis of the mortgage repossession process

THE EU AND THE GOVERNANCE OF FOOTBALL

Borja García, Department of Politics, International Relations and European Studies, Loughborough University

This SLSA small grant was sought to finance the completion of the empirical research for my doctoral thesis entitled 'The European Union and the Governance of Football'. Thanks to this grant I have been able to finalise the fieldwork for my PhD with a series of semi-structured elite interviews with representatives of football governing bodies and other stakeholders in the governance of the game. The major part of the work was carried out in February 2007 when I spent four weeks in Switzerland interviewing officials and undertaking archival research at UEFA's Documentation Centre in Nyon and the IOC's library in Lausanne. After that, a few further interviews were conducted in the UK. In addition, the SLSA grant also facilitated a final process of respondent validation, where six key interviewees were met with again over a period of 10 days in Brussels last November to reinforce the validity of the study's conclusions. In total, 20 interviews have been carried out covering a broad sample of football organisations and EU institutions: UEFA (11), national football associations (2), European professional football leagues (1), IOC (1), supporters' organisations (2), the European Commission (2) and the European Parliament (1).

This research was set to explain: (i) why and how football attracted the attention of European public authorities; and (ii) how football has reacted to the interventions of the European institutions. It is clear from the results of the empirical research that European institutions did not enter into football matters by their own volition. Instead, it was the application of European law to the commercial activities of football federations and clubs which brought the issue of football to the European agenda. EU institutions such as the ECJ or the European Commission were forced to open football dossiers as a result of their duties to adjudicate on freedom of movement or competition policy issues under the EU Treaty.

There is, however, a clear pattern of instrumentalisation of EU institutions and European law that make it difficult to use a traditional neo-functionalist explanation for this process. European institutions have been used as alternative

policy venues by stakeholders within the so-called football family to challenge the rules of governing bodies. For instance, in *Bosman*, a player challenged footballers' employment conditions. Or, in the *Charleroi* case, clubs again used EU law to challenge rules on the release of players for international duty. Football and the EU appear here as two parallel multi-level systems of governance that coexisted in peace for some time. However, in recent years both systems have clashed because actors within the football pyramid have instrumentalised the EU and European law to enforce the protection of their rights.

As a result, the traditional pyramid of football governance has been transformed. The top-down channel of authority from FIFA to UEFA, national FAs, clubs and players has been weakened and the legitimacy of governing bodies has been challenged by those in the lower levels of the pyramid (ie players and clubs). The pyramid is not disappearing, but it is being complemented by a horizontal dimension of governance networks. European football's governance now features a more active role by representatives from the leagues (EPFL), clubs (G-14 and European Club Forum) and players (FIFPro). Moreover, EU institutions and national governments have also taken a more active role in the definition of a policy towards sport in general and football in particular. EU institutions now need to be considered as a part of football's network of governance, creating links between both systems of governance (the EU and football) that might shape the future application of EU law to football. This horizontal dimension of multi-level governance in the regulation of professional football that departs from the traditional vertical model of multi-level governance could be a major focus for further research in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank the SLSA for awarding this small grant. The fieldwork undertaken thanks to this funding has been fundamental in writing up my PhD and bringing it to a conclusion.

people . . .

Professor **ROSEMARY AUCHMUTY** has moved from Westminster to take up a chair in the University of Reading School of Law.
e r.auchmuty@reading.ac.uk

CHRISTOPHER WATERS has moved to the Faculty of Law, University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada. e cwaters@uwindsor.ca
w www.uwindsor.ca/law/cwaters.

DERMOT FEENAN (Ulster) is Visiting Scholar on the Feminism and Legal Theory Project, Emory University, during April 2008.

STRUCTURES OF PROFESSIONAL FIRMS

Daniel Muzio and James Faulconbridge, Lancaster University

Context

A series of exogenous developments have led to an epochal shift in the organisation of law firms over the past century. Gone are the days when legal practice meant practice with a few others (usually family members). Today's solicitor operates in large sophisticated organisations, employing thousands of professionals in dozens of jurisdictions. Consequently, the study of professional occupations is increasingly tied to the study of professional organisations with the 'law firm' increasingly privileged as an object of research. Yet, the existing literature fails to raise let alone address a number of important research questions in relation to the variety of organisational forms adopted by law firms and, in particular, it fails to recognise the intricacy, subtlety and heterogeneity that characterises this arena. This is an important lacuna, as much contemporary legal activity takes place in complex organisations and the way in which these are structured has some very important implications for the professional experiences of the solicitors they employ and for the nature and quality of the services they offer to their clients and to society at large.

This gap in our existing knowledge provided the context for our study. Driven by a dearth of research beyond the almost exclusive focus on the realities of work and organisation in the largest and sexiest firms, our project examined four topics in relation to the English legal field:

- variations in the organisational characteristics of corporate law firms;
- factors driving divergent strategies;
- the differences in working conditions and cultures between organisational forms; and
- the consequences for the operation of the legal 'field'.

We began with an analysis of the Lawyer 100 database (www.thelawyer.com). This provides extensive quantitative analysis of the 100 firms with the highest turnover in the UK. An initial statistical analysis exploring correlations between key measures of a firm's activities and strategies – profitability and structural configurations (eg leverage; gender composition of partnership) and geographical strategies (number and location of offices) – proved inconclusive

and did not assist the production of any clear typologies.

We therefore explored this issue further through 21 interviews in eight law firms. The aim of which was to provide a cross-section of a range of firms in England with varying turnovers, profitability and geographical reach (within and without England). Interviews were conducted at various levels within the 'hierarchy' of each, usually including the senior/managing partner, an active partner in the corporate area and an associate/assistant solicitor. Interviews were used to clarify the strategy of a particular firm, its supporting organisational structures and managerial practices, and their implications for the everyday experiences and working conditions of different categories of solicitors. Notions of professional autonomy and discretion and the extent to which these were threatened by commercial priorities and managerial systems featured prominently.

Findings

1) Organisational characteristics

The existence of a number of distinct strategy-sets emerged from interviews. These included:

- commodity firms which focus on the bulk production of low-value-added services (commercial and personal);
- bespoke firms which focus on high-value transactional work for corporate clients and seeking to dominate profitable niches;
- globalisers who attempt to develop a global presence (by opening offices in key jurisdiction and financial centres) and to advise on high-value cross-border transactions for multinational corporate clients.

2) Factors driving divergent strategies

This section details our most significant findings. The link between strategy and structure was evidently important here. Strategies have to be underpinned by appropriate structural configuration and working practices. More specifically, commodity firms tend to use highly leveraged and extremely formalised labour processes that use high ratios of non-qualified staff and some junior professionals in place of partners. In this context, job descriptions and work processes are tightly defined and there is a reliance on technological standardisation and off-the-shelf solutions. Ultimately, this may resemble a bureaucratic mode of organisation. Bespoke firms tend to be partner-led and to give much more scope to professional autonomy and discretion. Hence, in classical organisational theory terms,

these firms adopt an organic design. Finally, globalisers echo the set-up of project-based organisations, as they rely on multidisciplinary teams of different professionals (in terms of expertise and level of experience) coordinated by a lead partner in a project management role. The geographic dimension is a significant part of strategy, however, even for the non-globalisers. Commodity work tends to be located in the provinces to exploit the lower cost-base. Bespoke work tends to be located in the City, due to access to clients and to the financial markets that drive these kind of transactions.

The heterogeneity in the way law firms combine the ideal-type strategies was clear from our interviews. Some practices combined different and often opposing strategies and structural set-ups, for instance, engaging in both commodity and bespoke work. As we know, the nature of this work requires very different structures and managerial practices. This raises important questions of integration as firms struggle to make sure that different parts of the firm can still work together as a coherent unit. Some firms were bypassing the challenge of integration and separating out their various activities in a move that could lead to the development of a 'holding model' of organisation. Geographical dynamics were particularly relevant here as commodity work was often located in the provinces and in many cases off-site (in client-owned premises), whilst bespoke work was centred in the City.

All of this is leading to innovation and the creation of new business forms. Law firms are increasingly considering business structures and practices common in commerce and industry but new in the professions. These include the development of:

- Embryonic holding companies, which include wholly and partially owned subsidiaries, often involved in activities outside the traditional remit of the legal profession. This increasingly entrepreneurial approach and process of diversification might be fuelled by the new regulatory framework which is emerging in relation to the Clementi Review. In this context, holding structures, a historical feature of British capitalism, may become increasingly attractive to the legal profession.
- Networked types of organisation: law firms have always used networks to build international capability – the classical example being best-friend networks relating law firms with a number of referents in other jurisdictions. These systems have acquired a more formal character, as there are systems to monitor referrals

SLSA ONE-DAY CONFERENCES

Past conference: Justice, Power and Law

On 10 December 2007 the SLSA held a one-day conference at Birkbeck entitled *Justice, Power and Law: In the Pursuit of Development*. The purpose of the conference was to act as an exploratory session in which to begin mapping the emerging scholarly landscape of twenty-first-century 'law and development'. The organisers were Bronwen Morgan (Bristol) and Amanda Perry-Kessaris (Birkbeck). The theme stressed justice and power, for the legitimacy of the transnational institutions that shape development policy, of struggles over natural resources, and of the private sector's role in generating the public interest are ever more to the forefront.

The issues at the heart of each of the three sessions have, over the last 15 years, become more and more legally embedded, whether through transnational regulation, international human rights, global administrative law, competing international treaty regimes or codes of conduct. The first session focused on the transnational institutional landscape, with papers on development, cultural self-

determination and the World Trade Organization; dispute resolution at African stock exchanges; and international knowledge governance and investment agreements (Fiona Macmillan, Birkbeck; June McLaughlin, Queen Mary; and Valentina Vadi, European University Institute respectively). The second session addressed struggles over natural resources with papers on land and power in Afghanistan; and the regulation of biodiversity (Patrick McAuslan, Birkbeck and Andreas Kotsakis, LSE). The third session focused on the tensions between private and public interests with papers on corporate social responsibility and fair trade (Sally Wheeler, QUB; Anne Stewart, Warwick).

The conference attracted a lively mix of delegates, including students, faculty, and non-academics, indicating a strong and widespread enthusiasm for the themes. The SLSA intends to follow up with a larger event in 2008. In the meantime, we encourage those interested in this field to join the SLSA if they have not already done so, and participate in the SLSA annual conference where similar themes will be explored. There is also a wealth of material from this one-day event on the SLSA website including, audio downloads and Powerpoint presentations. www.slsa.ac.uk

Amanda Perry-Kessaris

Forthcoming conference: Socio-Legal Studies and the Humanities

Date: Wednesday 5 November 2008

Venue: Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, London

Keynote Speaker: Melanie L Williams, Professor of Literary Jurisprudence, School of Law, Exeter University, author of *Secrets and Laws – Collected essays: true tales of law, ethics and literature* (2005) UCL Press

First call for papers

Closing date for call: **1 July 2008**

In 2006 the SLSA adopted a new strap-line intended to sum up the spirit of the association: 'Where law meets the social sciences and humanities.' This one-day conference will provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information specifically on the relationship between the fields of humanities and socio-legal studies.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words should be emailed by **1 July 2008** to the academic coordinator, Dermot Feenan, University of Ulster, School of Law, at: d.feenan@ulster.ac.uk

Any enquiries about the event should be directed to Dermot Feenan by email as above or on **t** +44 (0)28 9036 6374.

between partners and structures to facilitate the development of cross-network capabilities. In parallel there is also evidence of the development of national networks. These are rather different as members are, at least potentially, competitors in the same market. These structures link small regional providers to a larger more sophisticated practice. The system works thanks to non-poaching agreements striking a balance between competition and cooperation.

- Outsourcing practices are increasingly noticeable in law firms, especially in those engaged in commodity-type work.
- Off-shoring is also more common. The logical extension of this would be the transfer of legal work to cheaper jurisdictions, thus mimicking some of the dynamics at play in traditional areas such as manufacturing.

3) Differences in conditions and cultures

Diverse strategies and structures spell some very distinct human consequences for the professionals involved. In commodity work professionals are

granted less autonomy and are expected to follow rules and established practices. Partners act as managers who supervise non-qualified staff and are responsible for the meeting of targets and the fulfilment of service-level agreements. In bespoke and globalising firms, lawyers are granted higher levels of autonomy and discretion and act (despite some processes of formalisation and managerialisation and the increasing recourse to team work) in a more traditional role. In globalising firms there are clear work-life balance issues as the work of lawyers is tied to the unforgiving rhythms of the financial markets. Besides strategy, it was commented how the work experiences and quality of life of junior solicitors was also affected by the location and size of their firm.

4) The consequences for legal 'field'

Our main finding in this regard relates to the importance of the diversity of the English legal field. Each type of firm appears to be fulfilling a vital role in the provision of legal services. There simply isn't space for everyone to be a top 10 globally orientated firm, or for everyone

to offer expensive, partner-delivered bespoke services. The commodity firms (and those that sit midway between the 'top' and 'bottom' of the market) are, therefore, vital to meeting the needs of those who cannot afford or do not need the most sophisticated services. As a result, the 'regions' outside London are now providing vital corporate services that drive the English economy. These commodity services cannot be purchased in London but are critical for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Outputs

These findings have been presented at the Law and Society Association annual conference in Berlin whilst a further paper on issues of financialisation will be delivered at the Royal Geographical Society (with Institute of British Geographers) Annual Conference in London in late August 2008. These presentations will be developed in papers for peer-reviewed journals in sociology and law. This project was always intended to act as a feasibility study for other, larger initiatives and an ESRC bid is currently under preparation.

SLSA joins the Academy of Social Sciences

At the January meeting of the SLSA Executive Committee, it was decided that the SLSA should join the Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS) (formerly the Academy of Learned Societies for the Social Sciences). The academy's mission is to 'promote social sciences in the United Kingdom for the public benefit'. Membership of AcSS consists of learned societies and elected academicians. Its objectives are:

- to promote excellence in and encourage the advancement of the social sciences in the UK through research, education and service to the community;
- to support its constituent learned societies and to encourage collaboration to promote interdisciplinary approaches to social science;
- to represent, in conjunction with the constituent learned societies, the interests of the social sciences in the UK;
- to comment as appropriate on national needs and priorities in the social sciences;
- to encourage international co-operation in the advancement of the social sciences;
- to disseminate information about the social sciences and what they contribute to society, to the general public and to educational institutions;
- to recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions of individual social scientists.

www.acss.org.uk

Funding for European studies events

The University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES) provides funding of up to £1000 to support events. These can be conferences, study groups or workshops. Conferences are intended to be relatively large events and interdisciplinary proposals which encourage the participation of younger academics and postgraduate students are particularly welcome. Workshops are intended to support the establishment of new networks of researchers and, like conferences, should be inclusive and interdisciplinary. Study groups are intended to provide an opportunity for a longer period of collaborative research activity, focusing on a specific project with a clearly defined output. They should encourage the participation of younger and new academics and graduate students. Whilst all bids for study groups will be considered, applicants who have already run successful UACES workshops are particularly encouraged to apply.

Proposals are welcome on any aspect of European studies in particular: external relations with India, China or Russia; future enlargements; justice and home affairs; institutional and constitutional reform; environmental policy; energy security; climate change. The closing dates for this year are 6 June and 3 October 2008. www.uaces.org

Researching child and family welfare

This is a three-day course for researchers, students, policy-makers and practitioners with an interest in current child and family welfare research issues providing an opportunity to reflect on current key issues in child welfare research. It will take place at the School for Policy Studies, Bristol, from 30 April to 2 May 2008.

Sessions on the course will be led by UK child and family welfare experts including Elaine Farmer, Marianne Hester, Julie Selwyn, John Carpenter and David Berridge. The course fee is £500 (limited places available at £250).

To register and for further details contact Melanie Turner: e melanie.turner@bristol.ac.uk t 0117 954 6720 f 0117 954 5564.

Kent Law Clinic receives awards

At the end of 2007, Kent Law Clinic received two major national awards. In November, it was announced as the winner of a Queen's Anniversary Prize. These are awarded, within the honours system, for exceptional contributions by institutions in the higher and further education sectors to the wider community. The Kent Law Clinic award is for 'enriching the academic study of law through a casework service to the community'.

The Kent Law Clinic also won the *Times Higher Education Supplement* (THES) Award 2007 for providing an 'outstanding contribution to the local community'. The THES awards are held annually and are designed to recognise excellence in higher education throughout the UK. The clinic's casework covers employment, housing, contract, welfare benefits and family and a second branch was recently opened at Kent University's Medway site. www.kent.ac.uk/law/clinic

UK food supply in the 21st Century

The ESRC Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society (BRASS) at Cardiff University is partnering Chatham House to deliver a research project entitled: 'The UK food supply in the 21st century: the new dynamic'. The project uses scenario modelling to examine the effects of global trends in food supply. Studying in detail the networks that supply two staples, milk and wheat, to the UK market, it reviews pressures on existing supply chains and the longer term sustainability of present modes of production and delivery. The pressure on resources (such as land, water and energy) that follow rising incomes, together with rising population and changing diet, create significant global uncertainties. Food supply arrangements and policies may be likely to undergo significant structural changes and the models employed look to assess a variety of possible futures.

The project is very timely as its inception in the summer of 2007 coincided with steep rises in prices of the products chosen for study. It has attracted government support (from DEFRA and the Welsh Assembly Government) as well as sponsorship from producers, processors, insurers and the waste industry. The role of BRASS is to offer insights from its food regulation programme and to advise on issues of global governance. The team has already presented to a Cabinet Office Strategy Unit seminar and an interim report is available summarising key-player interview material that helped shape the scenarios. A project conference will be held at the end of June and the final report issued shortly thereafter. Further details are available from Professor Robert Lee of BRASS e leerg@cardiff.ac.uk.

Robert Lee

Journal of Law and Society 35:2

Whose justice? Rethinking transitional justice from the bottom up - Patricia Lundy & Mark McGovern

Of rights and rhetoric: discourses of degradation and exploitation in the context of sex trafficking - Vanessa Munro

Second-chance punitivism and the contractual governance of crime and incivility: new labour, old Hobbes - Simon Mackenzie

Shadow writing and participant observation: a study of criminal justice social workers and sentencing - Simon Halliday, Nicola Burns, Neil Hutton, Fergus McNeill & Cyrus Tata

In addition, an extra issue in summer 2008, edited by Martin Partington and co-funded by JLS, Wiley-Blackwell, the ESRC and the Nuffield Foundation, will focus on issues raised in the Nuffield Inquiry Report (2006).

Liverpool Law School secures ESRC Capacity Building Grant

The newly established European Law and Policy Research Group, based in the Liverpool Law School, has secured its first ESRC grant for a project entitled Building Capacity in Empirical Socio-Legal Research. The 26-month project, which started in January 2008, is the first ever grant from the ESRC's Researcher Development Initiative to be awarded in law.

Headed by Professors Louise Ackers and Fiona Beveridge and post-doctoral research fellow Keleigh Coldron, the project draws together socio-legal researchers and academics from six universities - Manchester, Sheffield, Loughborough, Nottingham Trent, Bradford and Leeds - to deliver a series of workshops aimed at encouraging and sustaining capacity in empirical socio-legal research. The recent Nuffield Foundation Inquiry into the state of empirical research in law concluded that 'the lack of skills, together with the time and cost involved in empirical legal research as compared with doctrinal or purely theoretical and philosophical work, deters those with an interest

in empirical questions from engaging in empirical legal research' (Genn, et al. (2006) *Law in the Real World*, Nuffield Foundation, 32). The project responds to these barriers through developing and delivering a training scheme to a cohort of researchers - including PhD students, early-career researchers and mid-career academics from across the social sciences - and provides follow-up mentoring over the six workshops as these participants apply the training in their own research.

Specific workshops will focus on: (1) 'showcasing' empirical socio-legal research; (2) imagining and demystifying empirical socio-legal research; (3) methods and resources to support empirical legal research; (4) managing empirical socio-legal research - time, money and management; (5) engaging with stakeholders and the media; and (6) using empirical socio-legal research to inform teaching and doctoral supervision.

The first workshop is scheduled to take place in June 2008 in Manchester. Further details will be made available over the coming months through the project website and the Liverpool team will be at the SLSA annual conference in Manchester.
 www.liverpool.ac.uk/law/elprg **Keleigh Coldron**

New developments at the CSLS Oxford

The Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at Oxford University has entered a new exciting phase having recently expanded through the addition of two permanent university posts and four research fellowships.

Dr Fernanda Pirie has been appointed to the lectureship in socio-legal studies. She is a legal anthropologist who is conducting work on conflict resolution and informal legal process in Tibet. She is also carrying out a major research project about the role of the English Bar in the production of justice. The lectureship in law and regulation was taken up by Dr Bettina Lange, a socio-legal researcher with a particular interest in environmental regulation. She is currently working on a project on the invocation of emotion discourses in the legal regulation of genetically modified organisms. She is also involved in research which examines the contribution of policy learning to the convergence of education policies in the EU.

Two Katzenbach research fellows have also started work at the centre. Dr Michelle Cowley is a cognitive psychologist who investigates, through experimental and statistical analysis, how people reason about evidence. One of her research projects examines whether child protection policies such as Megan's Law can serve the balance between protecting potential victims and protecting potential innocent defendants who have a prior conviction. Dr David Erdos, a political scientist, examines the

origins and impacts of Bill of Rights instruments especially in the Westminster world (the UK, Canada, New Zealand and Australia). In addition, he is also developing a new project which looks more broadly at the nature of constitutional reform not only in the area of legal rights but also in ethno-national relations and the electoral and parliamentary arena.

Dr Yik Chin Chan has joined the Centre as the new Shell research fellow in comparative media law and policy. She works on media regulation and policy in Confucian and post-Communist societies with particular reference to China and Russia. Her current research project examines the role of law and civil rights movements in media governance in China.

Finally, Dr Phil Clark, a political scientist, has joined as the new research fellow in courts and public policy. He has set up the Oxford Transitional Justice Research Group which is currently involved in two projects. The first is an analysis of the potential of truth-telling and reparations - through documentation of victims' stories - to contribute to accountability and reconciliation in the current peace process in Uganda. The Oxford Transitional Justice Research Group is also involved in an analysis of transitional justice options for the Burmese government in exile.

These appointments add to the centre's reputation as a truly transdisciplinary research group with researchers from psychology, law, politics, sociology, media studies and anthropology working on socio-legal projects. **Bettina Lange**

Forthcoming funding opportunities

Nuffield Foundation

The Social Science Small Grants Scheme funds social science research expenses up to £7,500 (£12,000 in exceptional circumstances). There is no closing date. The Child Protection and Family Justice Programme, the Access to Justice Programme and the Open Door Programme all have deadlines for outline applications of 28 March, with final applications due by 16 May 2008. www.nuffieldfoundation.org

AHRC

For research grants (standard route, early career and speculative), the next closing date is 29 November 2008. For the Research Leave Scheme the closing date is extremely close: 6 March 2008. The AHRC has recently announced that, following a review of its programmes, the September 2008 round of the Research Leave Scheme will be cancelled. The scheme will run in 2009 with a March closing date to be announced.

ESRC

The Standard Grants Scheme (up to £100,000) and Small Grants Schemes (£15,000) are run on an open dates scheme allowing applications to be made at any time.

The ESRC also runs a number of annual competitions with calls and deadlines coming up over the next few months. For Large Grants (up to £5 m), the next call will be in July 2008 with a closing date in October. For First Grants (up to £400,000) - which aim to assist new researchers and academics at the start of their careers gain experience of managing and leading research projects - the next call will be in October 2008 with a closing date in January 2009. The next round of Professorial Fellowships (covering salary costs and research assistance) will be announced in September 2008 with a deadline for applications in November. The Research Seminars fund (up to £15,000 for a seminar group) will issue a call in October 2008 with a closing date in January 2009. The annual Research Centre Competition will issue its next call in June 2008. www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk

Corporate social responsibility, global citizenship and the law

In June 2007, the University of Bristol School of Law offered funds to support the attendance of three students at the Preliminary Public Hearing of the Permanent People's Tribunal on oil and gas exploitation by British Petroleum in Colombia.¹

This took place on 23 June 2007 at Strathclyde University, Glasgow. The bursaries aimed to provide an opportunity for students interested in global citizenship, struggles over natural resources, and social justice to develop an appreciation of the potential for socio-legal research in this area. One of the explicit purposes of the award was to foster interest in socio-legal studies in students at the earliest possible stage. Awards were made to Gareth Sims (then an undergraduate LLB, UWE) and Hope Krukru (then an LLM in International Law with International Relations, Kent). Before travelling to Strathclyde, the students read two assigned articles on the relationship between law and global citizenship and carried out an online exercise responding to web-based materials on global citizenship (developed by the University of Southampton Politics On-line Learning and Citizenship Skills project). After the Preliminary Public Hearing (the pre-hearing) and the conference that preceded it, they wrote a 1000-word report that integrated the three activities. The following is an edited version of material from their reports. *Bronwen Morgan*

The conference and pre-hearing

The conference ('It's the oil stupid') and pre-hearing took place as a direct response to an appeal from social movements in Colombia. Its results were forwarded to the Permanent People's Tribunal on Oil in Colombia in Bogotá (2-4 August 2007). The pre-hearing was convened by the Colombia Solidarity Campaign working in partnership with Scottish Education and Action for Development, Spinwatch, Platform and Espacio Bristol Colombia.

The conference opened with a plenary session, 'Corporate crime, environment and communities'. Andy Higginbottom (Secretary, Columbia Solidarity Campaign) spoke on 'British multinationals and the political economy of oil'. This was followed by discussion of 'peak oil' and trade unions in the North Sea, emphasising the need for control of multinationals that exploit and market natural resources, and stressing the global impact of the exploitation of oil. The session revealed some telling economic facts about the oil industry. Twenty per cent of the world's population consumes 80 per cent of its oil. Moreover, the economies of oil-producing regions often do not benefit from their own resources whilst the economies of Western nations reap rewards through multinational corporations. UK oil corporations are the most profitable companies in Colombia and the British economy is heavily reliant on the huge profits that they make: the top three UK oil and gas corporations made £43 bn in pre-tax profits in 2005. Concerns about workers' health and safety in the industry were raised and a recent explosion at a BP oil refinery in Texas came under scrutiny. In another case, it was alleged that a refinery in Colombia used only the cheapest inexperienced contractors and its employees were given bonuses for not having accidents with the result that accidents went unreported.

The first session ended with a film depicting the environmental impact of oil exploitation in Brazil, particularly on the water supply. A comparison was made with some oil-producing areas in Scotland where it has been shown that emissions and smells from oil activities cause respiratory problems especially among children.

At the pre-hearing, testimonies were given by five witnesses, two based in the UK, and three in Colombia. Edgar Mojica (Human Rights Commission of Colombian Oilworkers

Union) testified that the contract regime has been subject to neo-liberal reforms, replacing contracts of association with new concession contracts, allowing multinationals to take a much-increased share of oil income. He said that these arrangements return Colombia to the subordinate relationship with oil corporations that existed at the beginning of the twentieth century. Michael Gillard (journalist) provided evidence on BP's controversial arrival in Casanare, showing his World in Action documentary *BP's Secret Soldiers* (broadcast on British television in 1997) which reported on BP's private security force in Columbia. Shubhaa Srinivasa (Leigh, Day & Co Solicitors) testified on behalf of farmers from the Zaragoza and Segovia districts of Antioquia who are claiming damages a BP subsidiary under UK jurisdiction from because of their doubts about the effectiveness of the judicial system in Colombia. Adleso Gallo (Social Organisations of Arauca) claimed that the corporate exploitation of oil has had deeply negative impacts on the social fabric in Arauca department. Social structures, which had for over 40 years supported a co-operative and environmentally sustainable way of life based on the principle of regional equilibrium, had been disrupted with the arrival of oil corporations in the 1980s. Manuel Vega (Social Organisation for Community Training and Capacity Building) argued that the demise of social organisations opposed to the oil companies' activities resulted from a strategy aimed at maximising the corporations' returns on investment and demonstrated a lack of corporate responsibility towards the local inhabitants.

Based on the above testimonies, participants deliberated on whether the alleged violations had taken place and whether the multinationals bear direct or indirect responsibility. A draft declaration was agreed upon and signed by participants and the testimonies given were sent to the full hearing in August 2007.

The conference and pre-hearing highlighted the problems associated with oil exploration by multinational corporations. The presence of foreign oil companies in Colombia has worked to the detriment of the environment, the economy, workers, local communities and the country at large. This is not an isolated example of the adverse effects large corporations can have on local communities when they move into an area to exploit a certain resource. Unfortunately, there is no effective global mechanism in place to police the behaviour of these companies. There is now a growth of social movements in the Third World forming alliances with interested parties in the West to try and transform the political space. These movements are attempting to link up not only with communities with similar problems, but also with human rights groups and academic institutions among others with a view to building a global consensus against corporate social irresponsibility.

Hope Krukru and Gareth Sims

Notes

- ¹ Further information is available at www.tni.org and www.intercontinentalcry.org.

Social and Legal Studies 17(2)

- Intersectional race and gender analyses: why legal processes just don't get it - Dr Elena Marchetti
- Risk in action: the practical effects of the youth management assessment - Dale Ballucci
- Border control and the limits of the sovereign state - Mary Bosworth
- Democracy captured by its imaginary: the transition as memory and discourses of constitutionalism in Spain - Vincent Druille
- Towards a fiscal sociology of tax credits and the fathers' rights movement - Ann Mumford
- Demystifying deaths in police custody: challenging state talk - Simon Pemberton

books . . .

Non-State Actors and Terrorism: Applying the law of state responsibility and the due diligence principle (2007) Robert P Barnidge Jr, Cambridge University Press £45hb In our post-11-September world, challenges to international peace and security emanate from non-state actors as never before. This book examines how international law assesses, and on what grounds and through which mechanisms, how a state can bear responsibility for its actions or omissions with regard to its international legal obligations to act with due diligence in confronting non-state actors who engage in terrorism. It explores whether a comprehensive definition of terrorism exists and considers the due diligence principle's development during the last century. It examines how the principle operates in the counterterrorism context by analysing international and regional treaties and Security Council Resolutions. It addresses numerous theoretical issues that the due diligence principle raises, particularly in the counterterrorism context. Also examined are the relationship between human rights and counterterrorism in the fight against terrorism.

Regulating Technologies (2008 forthcoming) Roger Brownsword and Karen Yeung (eds), Hart Publishing, £22.50/€33.75 288pp While it is a truism that emerging technologies present both opportunities for and challenges to their host communities, the legal community has only recently begun to consider their significance. On the one hand, emerging information, bio, nano, and neurotechnologies challenge policy-makers who aspire to put in place a regulatory environment that is legitimate, effective, and sustainable; on the other hand, these same technologies offer new opportunities as potentially powerful regulatory instruments. In this unique volume, a team of leading international scholars address many of the key difficulties surrounding the regulation of emerging technological targets as well as the implications of adopting technology as a regulatory tool.

The Ethics and Conduct of Lawyers in the United Kingdom (2008 forthcoming) Andrew Boon and Jennifer Levin, Hart Publishing £32/€48 536pp This is the second edition of a path-breaking text which successfully maps the complex regulatory environment in which the legal profession in England and Wales operates in the twenty-first century. In it the authors offer a critical overview of how the professional ethic of lawyers has been constructed and where its sources of ideals, organisation, power and culture are located. It also examines the professional governance structures which operate today, in particular how regulation, discipline and education interact, and with what success. Detailed chapters examine the duties owed to clients (conflicts of interest, confidentiality, fees and costs, diligence) and to others (for instance the profession and society) and the notion of public service is critically examined. A final part of the book looks at dispute settlement (litigation, negotiation, advocacy and alternative dispute settlement).

The Criminal Law of Genocide: International, comparative and contextual aspects (2007) Ralph Henham and Paul Behrens (eds), Ashgate £55hb 300pp This collection of essays presents a contextual view of genocide. The authors, who are academic authorities and criminal law practitioners in the field, explore the legal treatment, but also the social and political concepts and historical dimensions of the crime. They also suggest alternative justice solutions to the phenomenon of genocide. Divided into five parts, the first section offers a historical perspective of genocide. The second consists of case studies examining recent atrocities. The third section examines differences between legal and social concepts of genocide. Part four discusses the treatment of genocide in courts and tribunals throughout the world. The final section covers alternatives to trial justice and questions of prevention and sentencing.

Environmental Law and Economics: Vol 1 Private law and property rights; & Vol 2 Pollution, property and public law (2007) David Campbell and Robert Lee (eds), Ashgate £320 1300pp The regulation of environmental pollution has long been a serious subject of study for scholars of economic analysis of law. This two-volume collection explores central issues in the relationship between these two topics. It includes material on private law and property rights, presenting a critique of market failure and asking questions about the role of tort law remedies in regulating the environment. It is concerned not only with the remedies as such, but also with the impact of the common law in shaping the behaviour of actors in the market. It then moves on to issues of public law and interventions in market arrangements, looking at events of market failure, the idea of pollution as an externality, modes of regulation and instances of regulatory failure. These volumes contain the classic law and economics literature relating to environmental regulation, creating an indispensable source of reference.

The Yearbook of Consumer Law 2008 (2007) Christian Twigg-Flesner, Deborah Parry, Geraint Howells and Annette Nordhausen, Ashgate £85hb 488pp This book provides a valuable outlet for high quality scholarly work which tracks developments in the consumer law field with a domestic, regional and international dimension. It presents a range of peer-reviewed scholarly articles, analytical in approach and focusing on specific areas of consumer law such as sales, credit and safety, as well as more general issues such as consumer law theory. The book also includes a section dedicated to significant developments during the period covered, such as key legislative developments or important court decisions. It provides an essential resource for all those, academic and practitioner, working in the areas of consumer law and policy.

Conceiving Life: Reproductive politics and the law in contemporary Italy (2007) Patrick Hanafin, Ashgate £55 124pp This volume examines the evolution of reproductive law in Italy from the 'far west' of the 1980s and 1990s through to one of the most potentially restrictive systems in Europe. The book employs an array of sociological, philosophical and legal material in order to discover why such a repressive piece of legislation has been produced at the end of a period of substantial change in the dynamic of gender relations in Italy. The book also discusses Italian policy within the wider European policy framework.

Ethics, Law and Society, Vol 3 (2007) Jennifer Gunning and Soren Holm (eds), Ashgate £65 334pp The third volume in a series exploring key issues in ethics, law and society, published in association with the Cardiff Centre for Ethics, Law and Society. This work presents a selection of papers and commentaries on topics in bioethics, ethics and society, and business and professional ethics. Multidisciplinary in approach, the work will be a valuable resource for all those concerned with contemporary ethical issues.

The Jurisdiction of Medical Law (2007) Kenneth Veitch, Ashgate, £55 174pp This book offers a critical analysis of some of the guiding principles and assumptions that have been central to the development and identity of medical law. Focusing on several key cases in the field - including the Dianne Pretty and Conjoined Twins cases - the book scrutinises the notions of autonomy and human rights, and explores the relationship between medical law and moral conflict. It also asks what role, if any, the courts might play in stimulating public debate about the ethics of controversial developments in medicine and biomedical science. This innovative book will be of interest to academics and students working in the areas of medical law, legal theory, bioethics and medical ethics. It will also appeal to those within the medical and health care professions seeking a critical analysis of the development and operation of medical law.

International Law Reports, Vol 131 (2008) Elihu Lauterpacht, C J Greenwood (eds) with A G Oppenheimer and Karen Lee, Cambridge University Press, £130 *The International Law Reports* is the only publication in the world wholly devoted to the regular and systematic reporting in English of decisions of international courts and arbitrators as well as judgments of national courts. Volume 131 reports on, amongst others, refugee cases from Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom, the UK House of Lords decision in *Roma Rights*, and the UK House of Lords decision in *Quark* and the related European Court of Human Rights decision.

Communities, Identities and Crime (2008) Basia Spalek, Policy Press £60hb/£22.99pb 284pp This book provides a critical exploration of the importance of social identities when considering crime, victimisation and criminal justice and offers a refreshing perspective on the most significant developments in relation to equality and diversity issues that feature in policies and practices of criminal justice agencies.

. . . journals . . .

The *Journal of Contemporary European Research* (JCER) has published a special issue on 'Sport and the European Union' in collaboration with the Association for the Study of Sport and the European Union (Sport&EU) guest edited by David Allen and Borja García. Articles and items of interest are available at www.jcer.net. For more information on Sport&EU visit www.sportandeu.com

The *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* (ICLQ) publishes papers on public and private international law and also comparative law. It has maintained its pre-eminence as one of the earliest and most important journals of its kind, encompassing human rights and European law and is now being published by Cambridge University Press. The journal encourages innovative and original articles that explore the interconnectedness between the legal subject areas, moving across the boundaries that divide the law in a way that provides vital analysis at a time when formal distinctions, in scholarship and between jurisdictions, are becoming less relevant. The ICLQ attracts scholarship of the highest standard from around the world. The 'Shorter Articles, Comments, and Notes' and 'Current Developments' sections enable the discussion of highly topical legal issues. <http://journals.cambridge.org/iclq>

Neighbourhood - The International Journal of Neighbourhood Renewal was launched on 30 January 2008 at the 'Regeneration is 30' conference in Liverpool. It will focus upon the promotion of effective neighbourhood renewal strategies and seeks to publish articles and book reviews that focus upon sharing good practice in neighbourhood renewal and promoting good research and evaluation in the field. The first issue will be published in September 2008 and a call for papers is now being made. If you wish to submit a paper or subscribe to the journal, visit www.ijnr.co.uk.

Online journals and papers

The Electronic Law Journals Project at Warwick publishes three free-to-access peer-reviewed journals: *Entertainment and Sports Law*; *Law, Social Justice and Global Development*, and the *Journal of Information Law and Technology*. They can all be accessed via www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/law/elj . . . The *Web Journal of Current Legal Issues* focuses on judicial decisions, law reform, legislation, legal research, policy related socio-legal research, legal information, IT and practice. <http://webjcli.ncl.ac.uk> . . . *ConWEB* invites submissions for webpapers on 'Constitutionalism and governance beyond the state'. *ConWEB* publishes work in progress on international relations theory and international law. Editors: Jutta Brunnee and Antje Wiener [e jutta.brunnee@utoronto.ca](mailto:jutta.brunnee@utoronto.ca) [e a.wiener@bath.ac.uk](mailto:a.wiener@bath.ac.uk). Full details are at: www.bath.ac.uk/esml/conWEB.

. . . and MoJ reports

MoJ reports are available for download as free pdfs from the publications area of the MoJ website www.justice.gov.uk. DCA reports are also still available from the same source.

Twisting Arms: Court referred and court linked mediation under judicial pressure (2007) Hazel Genn et al, Research Report 1/07 This report evaluates a) a quasi-compulsory mediation programme and b) a voluntary mediation scheme. The results describe the uptake of mediation, user experiences, and the potential of mediation to offer savings to the justice system.

The 'Go-Between': Evaluation of intermediary pathfinder projects (2007) Joyce Plotnikoff and Richard Woolfson, Research Summary 1 This research summarises an evaluation of the implementation of the intermediary special measure in six pathfinder areas. The results describe the implementation of the scheme including recruitment of intermediaries, appointments, outcomes of cases where intermediaries were used, emerging benefits and challenges and recommendations for the scheme.

Evaluation of Young Witness Support: Examining the impact on witnesses and the criminal justice system (2007) Joyce Plotnikoff and Richard Woolfson, Research Summary 2 This research summarises an evaluation of six specialist young witness schemes. The results describe the extent to which the schemes add value for young witnesses, their carers and the criminal justice system and identifies good practice.

Diversity and fairness in the jury system (2007) Cheryl Thomas with Nigel Balmer, Research Report 2/07 This report examines whether the juror-summoning process discriminates against black and minority ethnic groups, whether jurors serving at Crown Courts are representative of the local population in terms of ethnicity, age, gender, employment, income and religion, and whether a defendant's ethnicity affects the decision-making of racially mixed juries.

Restorative Justice: The views of victims and offenders - the third report from the evaluation of three schemes (2007) Joanna Shapland, Anne Atkinson, Helen Atkinson, Becca Chapman, James Dignan, Marie Howes, Jennifer Johnstone, Gwen Robinson, and Angela Scorsby, Research Report 3/07 This is the third report from the study of three Restorative Justice (RJ) schemes. The schemes ran RJ services predominately with adults at different points in the criminal justice system involving a range of offences.

The Living Together Campaign: An investigation of its impact on legally aware cohabitants (2007) Anne Barlow, Carole Burgoyne and Janet Smithson, Research Report 5/07 This is a report of a short study done in January and September 2006, to assess the attitudes and behaviour of a group of legally aware cohabitants, former cohabitants and intending cohabitants who had accessed the Living Together Campaign's website on the legal position of cohabiting couples.

Twelve Months Later: Does advice help? The impact of debt advice - advice agency clients study (2007) Kim Williams and Anna Sansom, Research Report 6/07 This report details the findings of a longitudinal study of (not-for-profit) advice agency debt advice clients. It covers the impact of debt advice on clients' finances, health and well-being six and 12 months after receiving advice.

The Longer-term Outcomes of In-court Conciliation (2007) Liz Trinder and Joanne Kellett, Research Report 15/07 This report explores the longer-term outcomes of in-court conciliation (or alternative dispute resolution) in child contact cases. The study examines the impact on re-litigation, contact patterns, co-parenting, contact problems and adult and child well-being two years after the original intervention. The study is based on telephone interviews with 117 parents. This report follows an earlier study by the same authors, published in 2006, reporting on the short-term outcomes of in-court conciliation.

- **ASSOCIATION FOR LEGAL AND SOCIAL PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE: 'GLOBAL JUSTICE'**

University of Nottingham: 27-29 March 2008

Panels will include: human rights; global ethics; and cosmopolitanism and nationalism. Enquiries e alsp08@nottingham.ac.uk. Book online at w www.alsp08.co.uk.

- **RE-DESCRIBING THE SACRED/SECULAR DIVIDE: THE LEGAL STORY**

University at Buffalo, SUNY: 27-29 March 2008

This event will examine contemporary relations between law and religion in society and culture. Topics will include the nature of modern religion under the rule of law, the impact of secularisation on religion and its relation to law, and the affect of legal regulation of religion on the experience of religious practices, places, and objects. w <http://law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter/events.htm>. Events co-ordinator: Ellen Kausner e ekausner@buffalo.edu.

- **MPSA CONFERENCE**

Chicago Palmer House Hilton: 3-6 April 2008

The Midwest Political Science Association has 65 different sections including all the standard political science subfields, as well as several sections on policy and public administration, six area studies sections (eg Canadian Politics, European Politics) and several sections on political theory. There is also an interdisciplinary flavour to some of the sections, including Politics and History, Politics and Religion, Political Anthropology, Economic Policy and Political Sociology. w www.indiana.edu/~mpsa/conference.

- **INNOVATIONS IN JUSTICE RESEARCH**

21 April 2008, 11am-4pm: Cardiff University,

Target audience: social scientists, criminologists, socio-legal researchers interested in the justice system. This seminar aims to foster debate between empirical researchers from law and social science. Speakers: Prof Simon Halliday; Prof Avrom Sherr; Prof Richard Moorhead; Prof Alan Paterson; Dr Gordon Harold; Prof Pascoe Pleasence; and Dr Nigel Balmer. For details and registration contact Antoinette Samuel e samuelam@cardiff.ac.uk

- **PRIVATE LAWYERS AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST: THE EVOLVING ROLE OF PRO BONO IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

University at Buffalo, SUNY: 25-26 April 2008

Conference Organiser: Robert Granfield (Sociology, University at Buffalo, SUNY). The legal profession's commitment to the expansion of pro bono has achieved significant gains in recent years. This workshop will explore the evolving role of pro bono, the relationship between pro bono ideals and pro bono in practice, and the opportunities and limitations of pro bono in expanding access to justice. w <http://law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter/probono07.htm>. Events co-ordinator: Ellen Kausner e ekausner@buffalo.edu

- **UCC POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

1 May 2008: Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University College Cork

A one-day international conference for postgraduate research scholars whose work pertains to criminal justice and human rights. In addition to exploring topics specific to the scholarship of criminal justice or human rights, the conference aims to consider the intersections of both fields. Keynote speaker: Professor Michael O'Flaherty (Nottingham University). Streams include: discourses of rights and crime; new directions in human rights enforcement; human rights, criminal justice and the war on terror; transitional justice; and ECHR and domestic law. Enquires e a.d.odonovan@student.ucc.ie. Details at w www.ucc.ie/en/ccjhr/events.

- **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998: 10 YEARS ON**

7-8 May 2008: University of Leeds

The Centre for Criminal Justice Studies at the University of Leeds is hosting a two-day conference in celebration of its 21st anniversary. The conference will consider the impact of the Crime and Disorder Act, 10 years after its introduction. The conference incorporates two themed days which will focus on Community Safety (7 May) and Youth Justice (8 May). For booking and further details contact the Conference Office t 0113 343 5037 w www.law.leeds.ac.uk/crimjust.

- **JOINT ANNUAL MEETING: CANADIAN LSA AND US LSA**

29 May-1 June 2008: Montreal, Canada

The theme for this meeting – 'Les Territoires du Droit: Placing Law' – signals that law is rooted in places – from families and villages to the global economy – and that law has the power to place and displace people in space, time, and relationships. w www.lawandsociety.org

- **SPCI 2008: Call for papers**

2-4 June 2008: Cairo, Egypt

Computer Crime Research Center, the International Association of Cybercrime Prevention in France and the High Tech Crime Institute in the US invites participation in the first international conference on Security, Privacy and Confidentiality Issues in Cyberlaw (SPCI 2008). This is an opportunity for academics and consultants to exchange ideas and discuss recent topics focusing on cyberlaw. The working languages of the conference are English, French and Arabic. For further information and sponsorship please contact: Judge Dr Mohamed Chawki e mohamed_chawki@hotmail.com. Deadline for abstracts is 1 May 2008 and for full papers 15 May 2008. w www.crime-research.org/events

- **LEGAL SERVICES RESEARCH CENTRE CONFERENCE**

18-20 June 2008: Royal Naval Academy, Greenwich

The theme of this international conference is 'Reaching further: new approaches to the delivery of legal services'. The conference will provide a platform for the interchange of ideas between researchers and policy-makers working in access to justice and related social science and social policy fields. Programme and registration information can be found at w www.lsrc.org.uk/conferences.htm.

- **AHRC COLLABORATIVE DOCTORAL TRAINING PROJECT: LEGAL RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES IN EU AND INTERNATIONAL LAW**

27-28 June 2008: University of Sheffield

This workshop offers opportunities to reflect on the various approaches to legal research projects in EU and international law, to become more familiar and comfortable with various theoretical or methodological strands in those disciplines, to present work and get feedback from academic staff, and to expand networks. Priority will be given to students in one of the partner institutions (QUB, Birmingham, Durham, Glasgow, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Sheffield). For further information and to register please contact Lucy Anderson e l.anderson@sheffield.ac.uk or Tamara Hervey e t.hervey@sheffield.ac.uk.

- **7th INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR THE SEMIOTICS OF LAW: Call for papers**

Université du Littoral, Côte d'Opale (France): 1-4 July 2008

Co-organisers: Sophie Cacciaguidi-Fahy and Anne Wagner. Theme: 'The promise of legal semiotics'. This event aims to investigate the work of those who have theorised law and semiotics in ways that have helped to change and improve our understanding of the law, its institutions, traditions and processes; and to further the growth of the study of semiotics in the law. It is hoped that this roundtable will provide opportunities to reflect on the key concepts of the past, so as to understand better what the future holds for the study of law and semiotics. w www.univ-littoral.fr/irsl2008

- **RETHINKING RAPE LAW: AKAYESU 10 YEARS ON**

2-3 July 2008: Durham University

On the 10th anniversary of the *Akayesu* judgment of the Rwandan Criminal Tribunal, internationally renowned for its expansive definition of rape based on coercive circumstances, this international conference will examine rape law from national, international and European perspectives. Of interest to academics, lawyers, policy-makers and activists, the conference will review the conceptual foundations of rape law, debate strategies for reform, consider developments in countries reviewing rape laws and assess the role of women judges, lawyers and activists in securing lasting change. Plenary speakers include: Judge Navanethem Pillay of the ICC, Professor Catharine MacKinnon, Professor Karen Engle, Professor Liz Kelly and Jessica Neuwirth of Equality Now. Organiser Clare McGlynn e clare.mcglynn@durham.ac.uk. Online registration w www.dur.ac.uk/law/research/groups/glad/activities/reformrape

● **CHARTER 88 AND CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM: A 20th ANNIVERSARY RETROSPECTIVE**

3-4 July 2008: Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford

2008 marks the 20th anniversary of the launching of the influential and ground-breaking constitutional reform pressure group, Charter 88. To mark this event Oxford's Centre for Socio-Legal Studies is convening an anniversary conference. Paper proposals are now invited focusing on Charter 88's history and legacy and role in the genesis and structuring of constitutional reform and debate. Broader themes are also welcome. Please send proposals or requests for further information to David Erdos e david.erdos@csls.ox.ac.uk. Proposals, including a 200-word abstract, should be submitted using the paper proposal application available at the conference's website w www.law.ox.ac.uk/charter88conference. The final deadline for paper proposals is 31 March 2008.

● **RCSL ANNUAL MEETING: LAW AND JUSTICE IN A RISK SOCIETY**

Milan and Como, Italy: 9-12 July 2008

The 2008 annual meeting of the Research Committee on Sociology of Law will be hosted jointly by the University of Milano, the University of Milano-Bicocca, the University of Como-Insubria and Milan's Centro Nazionale di Prevenzione e Difesa Sociale. The theme will be 'Law and justice in the risk society'. Besides panels organised by the RCSL Working Groups, the following workshops will take place: ecology; commons; European integration; market economies, enterprises and work; health and assistance; identities and religion; media and the internet; legal systems and their risks; war, terrorism and social control; law and family; law and biomedical technologies; law and anthropology. Individual contributions on socio-legal topics are also welcome for ad hoc sessions of research in progress.

w http://users.unimi.it/RCSL2008

● **RICS: LEGAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: Call for papers**

4-5 September 2008: Dublin

The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) invites papers on legal topics affecting the professional work of chartered surveyors for presentation at its annual legal research symposium. Abstracts of 300 words are required by Friday 4 April 2008, with final papers due by Friday 4 July 2008. Please see the symposium website for details w www.cobra2008.com. Further information is available from Paul Chynoweth, the symposium chair, at e p.chynoweth@salford.ac.uk.

● **FROM THE UTOPIANISM OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO THE PRIMACY OF THE POLITICAL: Call for papers**

9-10 September 2008: The Law School, Lancaster University

An important fault-line within contemporary social-legal and critical legal studies turns on the relationship between rights and the political. Nowhere is this antagonism more obvious than where parties to a dispute become reified into the fixed, ontological categories of friend/enemy and geopolitical conflicts fall into the dichotomy of empire and resistance. At an empirical level, experience has provided evidence of law's propensity to mediate and ameliorate these apparent dichotomies. The implication of this experience is to offer a more nuanced account of the relationship between rights and the political. This conference offers the opportunity to explore and engage with these theoretical and empirical developments by focusing on the many questions present in recent literature, cases and events. For further details or to submit an abstract (max 250 words) contact e d.seymour@lancaster.ac.uk. Closing date: 30 June 2008.

● **THE LOCAL RELEVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

16-18 October 2008 University of Antwerp, Belgium

Organised by the University of Antwerp and the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (Venice). Further details about the UCSIA conference and conference workshops are at w www.ucsia.org.

● **INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LAW SEMINAR SERIES**

Spring Term 2008: School of Medicine, Birmingham Law School

- **12 March:** Dr Liz Wicks, (Birmingham Law School) - Medical law as a subset of human rights law: why? how? . . . and so what?
- **7 May:** Dr Caroline Jones (School of Law, University of Southampton) - If two heads are better than one, what might 500-plus achieve? Exploring the routes from consultation to informing public policy
- **4 June:** Dr Stephen Smith (Birmingham Law School) - Valuing life
- **26 June:** Professor Jean McHale (Faculty of Law, University of Leicester) - Medical research and adults lacking mental capacity: is the Mental Capacity Act 2005 fit for purpose?

Details from Emer McKernan t 0121 414 6285

e e.mckernan@bham.ac.uk w www.iml.bham.ac.uk

● **ESRC EVENTS**

March 2008

- **12 March 2008** – Global uncertainties: In today's world many global uncertainties confront people, societies and governments. The first of two debates will consider the impact of wide-ranging challenges such as terrorism, conflict, competition for the world's resources, health, poverty and environmental degradation. The second debate considers information, risk and financial crime. Here experts will explore the varied and changing relationships between information security, financial crime and risk regulation. Venue: Royal United Institute for Defence and Security Studies (RUSI), Whitehall, London Further information: e esrc@vistaevents.co.uk
- **31 March 2008** – Behavioural change and water efficiency: This seminar will examine water use and water efficiency from a sociological and economic perspective. For further information: w www.esrc.ac.uk/policyseminar.

● **UKCLE E-LEARNING SEMINAR SERIES 2007/08**

The aim of this series is to provide four one-day seminars delivering stimulating and challenging presentations and encouraging dialogue on four key themes. The focus is on emerging technologies and how e-learning can be embedded and integrated within the law curriculum. The seminars are free-standing with discounts for attendance at more than one. The first two have already taken place. The two remaining seminar themes are: mobile learning (Glasgow Caledonian University, 26 March 2008); and simulation learning (Warwick, 18 September 2008). Selected papers will be available as a peer-reviewed publication shortly after the last seminar. w www.ukcle.ac.uk.

● **WESTMINSTER INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THEORY CENTRE EVENTS**

Admission free, spaces limited. RSVP e valazarov@yahoo.com

- Wednesday 5 March 2008, 6-8pm, Portland Hall, The Law School, 4-12 Little Titchfield Street: China Mieville (Birkbeck) – A Marxist critique of international law
- Wednesday 12 March 2008, 6-8pm, Fyvie Hall, 309 Regent Street: William Rasch (Indiana University) and Chantal Mouffe (Centre for the Study of Democracy, Westminster) – Schmitt and international law
- Friday 14 March 2008, 1-3pm, Room 2.14, The Law School, 4-12 Little Titchfield Street: William Rasch (Indiana University) – Luhmann and International Law
- Friday 20 June 2008, New Cavendish Campus: in conjunction with the Westminster Arab Media Centre – Journalism testing legal boundaries: media laws and the reporting of Arab news

● **IALS EVENTS, LONDON**

- **24 April 2008**, Prof Fletcher Baldwin, University of Florida – The US Patriot Act: the human and financial cost of compliance
- **7 May 2008**, Rebecca Probert, University of Warwick – Moral marriage, mistresses and Mayhew: cohabitation and law in nineteenth-century England

MANCHESTER
1824

The University
of Manchester

SLSA Conference

18-20 March
2008

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Hosted by The University of Manchester
For further information visit www.slsa.ac.uk

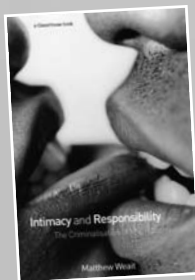
New GlassHouse books from Routledge-Cavendish

15%

SLSA MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT ON SELECTED LAW & SOCIETY BOOKS*

To place your order, please e-mail david.armstrong@informa.com, quoting ref. SLSA-0208

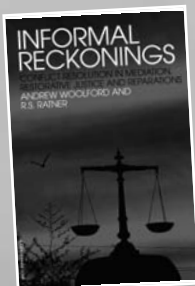
Sign up to the Routledge-Cavendish Law and Society e-Newsletter at www.tandf.co.uk/eupdates



Intimacy and Responsibility **The Criminalisation of HIV Transmission** Matthew Weait

In this book Matthew Weait provides a critical analysis of the response of the English criminal courts to those who have been convicted of transmitting HIV during sex.

December 2007
Pb: 978-1-904385-70-7: ~~£25.99~~ £21.99*



Informal Reckonings **Conflict Resolution in Mediation, Restorative Justice, and Reparations** Andrew Woolford and R.S. Ratner

Informal Reckonings is a critical examination of mediation, restorative justice and reparations and how they reinforce yet potentially transform the formal justice system.

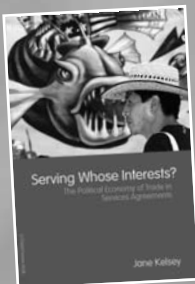
December 2007
Pb: 978-1-904385-86-8: ~~£19.99~~ £16.99*



Prostitution, Politics and Policy Roger Matthews

Prostitution has become an extremely topical issue in recent years and attention has focused both on the situation of female prostitutes and the adequacy of existing forms of regulation. *Prostitution, Politics & Policy* brings together the main debates and issues associated with prostitution to examine the range of policy options that are available.

January 2008
Pb: 978-0-415-45917-4: ~~£24.99~~ £20.99*



Serving Whose Interests? **The Political Economy of Trade in Service Agreements** Jane Kelsey

The product of extensive research by an internationally renowned expert in the area, yet written in an accessible manner, *Serving Whose Interests?* examines and draws out the tensions and contradictions of the political economy of trade in services agreements through a combination of theoretical analysis and a series of truly global case studies.

March 2008
Pb: 978-0-415-44822-2: ~~£24.99~~ £20.99*

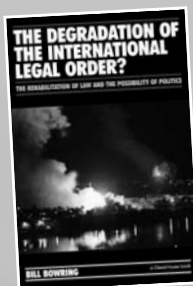
LAW AND SOCIETY BOOK PROPOSAL?

We're always eager to hear about your writing plans. Our commissioning editor, **Colin Perrin**, can be contacted by e-mail at colin.perrin@informa.com

UPCOMING CONFERENCES THIS SPRING...

The Routledge-Cavendish team will be at the **SLSA Annual Conference** (March 18-20, University of Manchester) and the **Law and Society Association meeting in Montreal** (May 29 - June 1) - we hope to see you there!

* Prices shown inclusive of 15% discount. Offer not valid on library and bookshop orders. Shipping charges apply for orders shipped outside the UK. All titles shown are also available in hardback and e-Book editions. Please e-mail david.armstrong@informa.com for more information.



The Degradation of the International Legal Order? **The Rehabilitation of Law and the Possibility of Politics** Bill Bowring

Using critical philosophy and political methodology, this sophisticated and incisive book provides a detailed diagnosis of the present impasse of international law and relations, particularly since the Iraq invasion and occupation.

February 2008
Pb: 978-1-904385-36-3: ~~£27.99~~ £23.99*



Child Sexual Abuse **Media Representation and Government Reactions** Julia Davidson

Topical and critical in style, this book provides readers with an evaluation of the development of policy and legislative measures to control sex offenders in the UK.

Contemporary Issues in Public Policy
March 2008
Pb: 978-1-904385-68-4: ~~£22.99~~ £19.50*

SERIES SPOTLIGHT: Discourses of Law

Series edied by **Peter Goodrich, Michel Rosenfeld** and **Arthur Jacobson**, all at the Cardozo School of Law, New York, USA

Exploring the boundaries of legal thought, this exciting series opens up new perspectives on the relation between law and other disciplines.

Law, Orientalism and Postcolonialism: The Jurisdiction of the Lotus-Eaters Piyel Haldar

Focusing on the 'problem' of pleasure, this book seeks to uncover the organizing principles by which the legal subject was colonised. Through the encounter with the Orient and with the fantasy of its excess, Haldar concludes, the relationship between the subject and the law was transformed, and must be re-assessed.

December 2007: Pb: 978-0-415-96224-7: ~~£21.99~~ £18.50*

Endowed: Regulating the Male Sexed Body Michael Thomson

Spanning topics such as male circumcision and the regulation of state access to Viagra, this book uncovers recurring motifs that define masculinity and the male body in the legal imagination between masculinity and social organization.

September 2007: Pb: 978-0-415-95061-9: ~~£18.99~~ £16.00*

Nietzsche and Legal Theory: Half-Written Laws

Edited by **Peter Goodrich** and **Mariana Valverde**

This anthology is designed to provide legal and socio-legal scholars with a sense of the very wide range of projects and questions in whose pursuit Nietzsche's work can be useful.

2005: Pb: 978-0-415-95080-0: ~~£21.99~~ £18.50*

Coming Soon

Identity of the Constitutional Subject

Summer 2008: Pb: 978-0-415-94974-3: ~~£16.99~~ £14.50*



Routledge·Cavendish
Taylor & Francis Group

www.routledgecavendish.com - www.informaworld.com