

**14 January 2021**

**Online**

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| **Present**  Rosie Harding (RH), Clare Willliams (CW), Colin Moore (CM), Vicky Adkins (VA), Marie Selwood (MS), Emilie Cloatre (EC), Simon Flacks (SF), Caroline Hunter (CH), Diamond Ashiagbor (DA), Jed Meers (JMe), Philip Bremner (PB), Jessica Mant (JMa), Chris Ashford (CA), Ed Kirton-Darling (EKD), Antonia Layard (AL),Tahir Abass (TA), Vanessa Munro (VM), Emma Milne (EM), Rebecca Moosavian (RM), John Harrington (JH), Huw Pritchard (HP), Daniel Bedford (CB), Flora Renz (FR), Emma Jones (EJ). |  |
| **1. Apologies**  Neil Graffin (NG), Emily Walsh, Smita Kheria (SK), Roxanna Dehaghani (RD) |  |
| **2. Approval of minutes**  September and November meetings approved. |  |
| **3. Officer Reports**  **3.1 Chair’s report (RH)**  RH: Welcome to Caroline Hunter and Jed Meers from York. Thanks to Emily Walsh for all her work – fabulous job planning Portsmouth, sorry not to be able to celebrate together. Many thanks to AL and EC who will be stepping down at the AGM as well, and RD, SK, FR & JMa all have to stand down but are eligible for re-election if they wish. EKD to also stand down and stand for re-election. Minimum 2 vacancies for Trustees – open call to go in newsletter/ebulletin.  RH: TA to stand down, big thank you to Tahir for all the work over the last 2.5 years. New PGR rep – to be advertised, is working having 2 PGR reps.  DA – at EDI meeting this am – we’d like to discuss renewing membership of the Board. Strongly encouraging when nominate/invite others, think about diversity of composition of the Board. In addition to having 2 PGR reps, would like to suggest a rep whose role it is to represent the large cohort of socio-legal researchers on precarious contracts.  RH – would be useful to have an officer report from the EDI committee in future – add to list of officer reports on standing agenda (NG). Further discussion below at 3.12.  RH: Academy of Social Sciences. Next meeting is next week with substantive discussion on EDI. Wondered if someone from EDI meeting would like to go – Tuesday 19th, 1pm via Zoom. Guest speaker – latest evidence in graduate employability post-covid. DA will go.  RH: Law Commission. Starting to develop their 14th programme of law reform; engaging with consultation. CM, EKD, RM, VA to join RH in supporting SLSA engagement with Law Commission.  RH: Nuffield Foundation. Looking to engage with SLSA in reviewing Justice funding programme. Someone else to join? VM.  RH: CIO Policies. Very nearly finished – need final version of privacy policy, CM to do and final version of Fundraising policy - RM. Thanks to all for all work on this.  RH: Annual return to Charity Commission – would like us to do individual officer reports for AGM earlier, get as much detail in February as possible so have time to pull it together into a full TAR for the AGM ahead of CC return. Officer reports by mid-February to RH, to cover first annual reporting period – reports to cover 14 November 2019 to 31 December 2020. AL to help.  **3.2 Vice-chair (AL)**  AL: Longlist on book prize, still working our way through it, short list will be confirmed in early February. Able to allocate by expertise. Well done to book prize committee for work on such a huge nomination list..  AL: Thank you to the Board for having me on for 3 years, getting more involved in local volunteering – may be back, always happy to help SLSA. RH – appreciate your work.  **3.3. Treasurer (VM)**  VM: Full accounts for Charity Commission – nearly ready to go to auditors for independent examination.  VM: Paypal – done by DB, can now pay via credit card. We have got some money in paypal – will need to go in and move out (VM to do). Will make a note to keep an eye on it and keep transferring it out.  CM - Paypal makes processing membership easier. CM to check all working fine with Nathan.  VM: Appointment of independent external auditor. Have to submit accounts to Charity Commission – requires independent external auditor; quote £3k. Have tried to locate another quote via SLS. If figures are going to come in at that ball park, want to know how happy with it. Need to get more quotes. £3k agreed in principle.  VM: Annual premium of charities insurance – renewal of charity insurance, if similar price agreed in principle.  **3.4. Membership & data protection (CM)**  CM: Nothing to add, except to congratulate TA and VA – increasing PGR membership. Membership is stable, interesting we’ve had an increase in retired memberships. 413 PG members is fantastic.  CM – can have a total number of entries of 1,500. Might be a cost incurred if need to increase that. JMe: worth checking to see what tiers are, it was a significant increase.  RH: CM, liaise with DB and VM, ideally remove lapsed members from the database to remain below cap. Need to keep CRM database as clean as possible – keep separate from membership records for charity commission purposes. Action needed around membership database cap – action for RH, DB, VM, CM.  **3.5. Recruitment (RM)**  RM: recruitment flyer to go out with Cardiff conference, speak about how online platform might provide other opportunities for recruitment.  **3.6. Newsletter and Web Editor (MS)**  MS: in addition to usual report. Online PDF – 2k hits on that page. Could have adverts in just online PDF instead of inserts (only now get from Hart). Could be an A4 PDF. MS and PB to work on it and bring to the next meeting.  MS: Current issue – noting from VM report that probably stick with reduced pages and printing costs. Publication date – 1/3/21, copy deadline – 25 Jan.  **3.7. PG Student Representative (TA/VA)**  VA – really happy recruitment drive worked, will keep it up. PGR activities going to plan.  DA – how was conference? RH – PG conference worked very well online. VA – good number turned up, lots of engagement. TA – very good feedback.  All – consider running PG conference online again in 2022.  **3.8. Webmaster (DB)**  Have got Paypal payment system up and running, nothing to add.  **3.9. International liaison (SK)**  RH: email from Linda Mulcahy, will meet with her to discuss promoting SLSA at LSA. Everything is progressing with Lisbon 2022.  **3.10. Social Media (JMa)**  JMa: Nothing to add. PGR conference fully subscribed in just a few days. Lots of engagement on Twitter. Have done a publishing series – including tweets in Welsh.  **3.11. Publisher’s liaison (PB)**  PB: Quite a few response from publishers who are thinking about supporting conference, will have final numbers in mid-February. Have had a new sponsor based in Berlin.  **3.12. EDI**  DA: Had an EDI subcommittee meeting this am. Issues: membership database/information collection, membership survey, responses to BLM, conference preparation, Board membership/recruitment. See below.  DA: **Membership database** – issue: have got quote from CRM, how going to ask new members about (kind of data ESRC collect about PGR students): sexual orientation, disability, race, age, contractual status/how precarious are you. £300 to add to membership database. Agreed. DA to speak to VM and DB to arrange. Once included, DA, DB, CM to liaise – email all members once database updated – ask everyone to log on and update information.  DA: **membership survey**: have already begun background work – membership survey, running it through Essex, 30 questions for ethical approval but will narrow down questions. Want to see who members are and ask how well the SLSA is representing them and enabling them to develop as a scholar. British Sociological Association have done similar work but we will not be looking at areas people are working on as they have done.  Agreed to run survey in the summer term.  DA: **Responses to BLM**: lots of institutions coming out with statements in aftermath of murder of George Floyd – we have been collating them, and also collating decolonising the curriculum materials. Want to not reinvent the wheel, but say as a learned society, we believe that in terms of teaching, curriculum development ec, here is best practice – others involved in teaching can see. Already had a blog post, have had information from others. Inviting people whose work we have seen/find exciting, ask if can host a summary of what they have done on the SLSA website.  DA, JMa, MS, DB – liaise about where best to host it.  Could be more interactive – video, SLSA Youtube channel.  MS: page in newsletter asking for people to come forward. DA to draft a para.  DA: **Conference** - want to ensure conference is as accessible as possible (platform needs to be accessible to screen readers etc)  DA: **Board membership**:   * When looking to renew Board, conscious of diversity of Board; * Specific officer for those on precarious contracts.   Discussion of different titles. Agreed Precarious Rep. Encourage wide range of trustees to stand for election. Elect to role at May Board meeting.  DA: also inviting people to join EDI sub-committee. CW, FR, SF to join.  SF to come back with proposal for May meeting relating to podcast. | MS  NG  DA  CM, EKD, RM, VA, RH  RH, VM  CM  RM  ALL OFFICERS, AL  AL  VM  VM  CM  CM/DB to lead  RM  MS, PB  MS  DA, VM, DB, CM  EDI committee  DA, JMa, MS, DB  SF |
| **4. Conferences**  **4.1.a. Cardiff conference (RD/HP)**  530 abstracts from 43 countries. 29 posters, 21 accepted, 18 from PGRs. Registrations, 78 so far.  AGM facilities  RH: all we need is a slot on the conference programme, to remind people who are at the conference that the AGM is taking place. Put in link to Zoom meeting. AGM will be run independently, not through the conference platform.  Prize award ceremony  20 minutes, speech by lifetime achievement award winner. RH and HP to discuss.  Archiving  HP: At the end of the conference, will have hundreds of recorded sessions, not anticipating doing anything with streams. Hoping can release plenaries publicly – on Youtube. Don’t have capacity to deal with recordings after conference, also privacy issues. Will be available on the platform for 30 days afterwards. Agreed.  Closing registration  HP: Could have it open throughout the conference, is a gap between Cardiff and the platform. Anticipating closing on Sunday or Monday. MS – can send a Monday e-bulletin to remind people. MS and HP to liaise.  Closing conference days  Come back to a general room. Want space for it. Agreed.  Rejected papers  HP: likely to have to reject a few, people have put in timings we can’t accommodate: eg people who can only do between 8pm and 8am. Should we have an option of recorded videos which are not part of a set? Agreed to offer poster slots in these circumstances.  VA: poster competition for PGRs. Judged on PGR activity day. HP and VA to have a discussion about posters and timing.  HP wanted to thank PB and MS for work on sponsors.  MS: space I can be? HP will put it on the agenda for Monday.  **4.1.b. York (RH)**  JMe: got the dates: 6-8 April 2022. Face to face, signed contract.  **4.1.c Future Conferences (AL)**  AL: Ulster: they are still interested, but nothing more.  RH: If not willing to commit, could do another call this summer. Ask them to commit.  DB – Portsmouth would be interested to host in future.  **4.2 Postgraduate conference (SK)**  Many thanks to all involved, great success. 100 registered, 50 turned up. Well done. Think run digitally in 2022.  FR: great for accessibility, not actually a terrible thing.  Agree run digitally 2022.  For agenda in May – running PGR conference, who will do it and consider open call for speakers.  **4.3 One Day Conferences (RH)**  Would like to see proposals for one-day conferences of benefit to our community. Could be rebuilding post pandemic, decolonising, accessibility in socio-legal academia and research.  All board members to think about how to reseed, support community.  To be discussed again at May Board meeting | HP  HP, RH  MS, HP  HP  HP, VA  HP  AL/RH  NG  ALL  NG |
| **5. Prizes and Competitions**  **5.1. Book prizes (AL)**  AL: shortlist end of Jan/early Feb.  **5.2 Article prizes (RH)**  RH: longlist in report. Could go with aggregate score or highest number of 4s. Person who was 6th had more 4s.  Agreed: Shortlist are top 3 on the list: Stalford and Hollingsworth, McEvoy, Wheeler.  RH: wait until have all shortlisted information before can release. Waiting for book prizes.  **5.3. Grants (EC)**  EC/RH: Conflict of interest question – issue, 2 applications with highest aggregate marks effectively only have two scorers against them. Two options – go with the scores, or can add readers. RH: preference to do the latter. EC: only need one more scorer. Someone not on the committee with no connection to Kent: AL.  Can be more flexibility on budget if necessary. Final decision offline via email, but may need input from Board. Agreed.  **5.4. Seminars (FR)**  FR: 6 applications to this year’s competition.  FR: query about request for childcare: we haven’t funded it in the past. CM: accessibility; about making sure our activities are available to everyone. JH: in principle we should be open to it, need to make a strong case for it. Have seen it with GCRF applications where people had to travel. Agreed in principle. | RH  AL  EC/AL/RH  FR |
| **6 Law Commission 14th Programme (RH)** – dealt with above |  |
| **7. Paypal account** – dealt with above |  |
| **8. AOB**  8.1 Acceptable use policy: approved. EKD to liaise with MS – put online.  8.2. CM: Suspension due to parental leave request – going on maternity leave, want to suspend for the period of maternity. Would like a proposal for the May meeting about how we deal with requests for suspension of membership. EDI committee issue to consider. Are you still eligible for prizes, do you get the newsletter, do you get a refund and can rejoin?  8.3 EM: Awards videos: ones attached to prizes and ones which are promotional. Prize for contribution – longer video. Prizes - 1 minute video, why it won, then 10-15 conversation. Want to celebrate the win, and share research. Grant scheme and seminar competition – 90 second videos. Less about promoting the prize, more about promoting the prizes and grants we give out. Winners go out quickly, others get released periodically. Use it to promote the SLSA.  Book reviews – SF to do Kate Seear, VM to do Scoular article, EKD to do Insa Koch, Kate Bedford – volunteer needed.  EM: anyone with editing skills? DB to help.  MS: Gender pay gap –SLSA seminar which could be made accessible. Agreed they are welcome to put it online and SLSA will advertise. | EKD, MS  EDI Committee  EM  SF, VM, EKD, & volunteer needed  DB |