Socio-Legal Studies and the Humanities

A One-Day Conference

Hosted by the Socio-Legal Studies Association, with the support of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

9.15am-4.50pm, Wednesday,
5 November 2008

Institute of 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, Lives and Literature (2005), and Empty Justice: One Hundred Years of Law, Literature and Philosophy (2002).

Aim
The Socio-Legal Studies Association recently adopted a new strap-line to sum up the spirit of the Association: 'Where law meets the social sciences and humanities'. This conference will provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information specifically on the relationship between the humanities and socio-legal studies. The field of humanities (including literature, history, cultural studies, and the arts), which use methods that are largely analytic, critical and speculative – rather than the mainly empirical approaches associated with the sciences – offers opportunities for productive engagement with socio-legal studies.

The Association conceives of socio-legal studies as embracing ‘disciplines and subjects concerned with law as a social institution, with the social effects of law, legal processes, institutions and services and with the influence of social, political and economic factors in the law and legal institutions’ (Socio-Legal Studies Association, First Re-Statement of Research Ethics, para. 1.2.1). The aim of this conference is to address these elements of socio-legal studies with particular reference to the humanities, and to break away from what Douzinas and Nead call “the excessive logonomocentrism” of modern literary jurisprudence.

Academic Coordinator
Dermot Feenan, University of Ulster, School of Law

PROGRAMME

9.15am-9.45am REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS
(Conference Room)

9.45am-11.00am WELCOME & KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Professor Melanie L. Williams
Exeter University, School of Law
Law and the Humanities: A Question of Integrity

11.00am-11.15am MORNING REFRESHMENTS
(Conference Room)

11.15am-12.45pm PARALLEL SESSIONS

PARALLEL SESSION 1
Chair: Dr. Maureen Spencer, Middlesex University

Mark Coen
M. Litt. Candidate, Trinity College Dublin
The Past as a Judicial Country: Reported Judgements and Social History

Robin Lister
University of Bradford
Estates, Identity and the Novel: From Real Property to Personal Attributes in the Narratives of Tom Jones and Middlemarch

Professor Penny Booth
Staffordshire University Law School
Moll Flanders and Married Bliss: A Study of the Literature and Context of Marriage Law in Daniel Defoe’s Moll Flanders

PARALLEL SESSION 2
Chair: Dermot Feenan, University of Ulster

Dr. Stefan Machura
Bangor University, School of Social Sciences
Law and Cinema Movement

Professor Kate Nace Day and Professor Russell G. Murphy
Suffolk University Law School
Just Trying to be Human in This Place: Storytelling and Film in Legal Education in the United States

Dr. Penny English
Anglia Law School
Indiana Jones and the Looted Cultural Property

12.45pm-1.30pm BUFFET LUNCH
(Conference Room)

1.30pm-3.00pm PARALLEL SESSIONS

PARALLEL SESSION 3
Chair: Professor Kate Nace Day, Suffolk Law School

Dr. Judith Rowbotham
Nottingham Trent University
Law, Literature and History: What Kind of Trinity?

Dr. Lorie Charlesworth
Liverpool John Moores University
On the Contemporary Relevance of Historico-Socio-Legal Research: The Humanities in Juristic Scholarship

Dr. Stuart Weinstein and Dr. Charles Wild
University of Hertfordshire, School of Law
Theodor Adorno on Poetry After Auschwitz: Does Carl Schmitt Make the Study of Jurisprudence Barbaric?
PARALLEL SESSION 4
Chair: Professor Melanie L. Williams, Exeter University

Gary Watt
University of Warwick, School of Law
Law, Society and the Humanities: What Connexion Can There Be?

Dr. Meg Arnot
Roehampton University, School of Arts
Images of Motherhood: Achieving Justice in Nineteenth-century Infanticide Cases

Roger Welch
Portsmouth Law School, University of Portsmouth
Judicial Language and Restricting the Right to Strike: An Historical Perspective

3.00pm-3.15pm    AFTERNOON REFRESHMENTS
(Conference Room)

3.15pm-4.45pm    PARALLEL SESSIONS

PARALLEL SESSION 5
Chair: Professor Penny Booth, Staffordshire Law School

Megan Wachspress
Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, Berkeley
Historical and Anthropological Perspectives on Colonial Sovereignty

Professor Eric Heinze
Queen Mary, University of London, School of Law
Empire, Nation, Oppression: Multiculturalism and Nationalism in Shakespeare’s Cymbeline

Dr. Eugene McNamee
University of Ulster, School of Law
The Parker Project and the Agreement to Disagree

PARALLEL SESSION 6
Chair: Dr. Meg Arnot, Roehampton University

Dr. Wouter de Been
Postdoctoral Researcher, VU University, Amsterdam
Legal Language as a Social Work of Art

Alecia Simmonds
Ph.D. Candidate, University of Sydney & Visiting Scholar, Birkbeck College, University of London
Rousseau’s Empire of Love and Law

Alexandrine Guyard-Nedelec
Ph.D. Candidate University Paris Diderot, & Visiting Scholar, Queen Mary, University of London
Outsider or Insider in the Field of Socio-Legal Studies?

4.45pm-4.50pm    CLOSE

Abstracts
Abstracts for the conference are available via a link to the conference webpage on the Association’s homepage, at: http://www.slsa.ac.uk.

Room Locations for Sessions
Room locations for the Parallel Sessions will be allocated at the conference.

Publishers
Hart Publishing will have a book and journal display at the conference and is pleased to offer 20% discount from all titles displayed.

Cambridge University Press will have a display at the conference.

The conference also notes the support of SAGE Publications and Routledge-Cavendish.
Venue
The Institute of Advanced Legal Studies is located in Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London.

Details of ways of getting to the Institute can be found at:
http://ials.sas.ac.uk/about/GettingToIALS.htm

Accommodation
Any accommodation must be booked by each delegate separately.

Two accommodations close to the venue are:

The Goodenough Club, Mecklenburgh Square, London (http://club.goodenough.ac.uk) – which is less than a mile from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Single room: £95. Twin/ double: £130 (subject to change). Both rates include VAT, breakfast and internet access. To book, e-mail: reservations@goodenough.ac.uk or tel. 44 (20) 7769 4727.

The Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, London (http://www.imperialhotels.co.uk/imperial1_hotel.aspx) – which is 200 yards from the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Twin room: £102 (subject to change), includes VAT and English breakfast. To book, e-mail: info@imperialhotels.co.uk or tel. 44 (20) 7278 7871 (or ending -2/ -3).

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