

Socio-Legal NEWSLETTER No 73 SLSA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2014

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Around 300 delegates travelled to Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, this spring for our latest conference. And don't forget to put the dates in your diary for next year's visit to Warwick.

SLSA 2014

Over 300 delegates gathered in the beautiful early spring weather and were rewarded with a warm Scottish welcome and a vibrant and bustling conference. Highlights were a packed plenary on the hot topic of Scottish independence and the conference dinner and prize-giving in the Beach Ballroom on Aberdeen's beautiful seafront.

In our now regular 'streams-and-themes' format, there were 27 streams and three themes plus three special researcher development sessions and four author-meets-reader sessions featuring this year's SLSA prizewinners. Around 280 papers were presented over the three days.

Many thanks to organisers Sarah Christie, Margaret Downie and Lyndsay Bloice.

SLSA 2015

Preparations are well in hand for next year's conference at the University of Warwick which will take place from **31 March to 2 April 2015**. As always, the call for papers will be issued in the autumn. There is a large team of conference organisers represented on the Executive Committee by Jonathan Garton [e j.garton@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:j.garton@warwick.ac.uk) and Maebh Harding [e maebh.harding@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:maebh.harding@warwick.ac.uk).

ANNUAL PRIZE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIO-LEGAL COMMUNITY

This prize was launched in 2011 and in its first three years was awarded to Mavis Maclean, Phil Thomas and Roger Cotterrell. The winner receives £500 and lifetime membership of the association. SLSA members are invited to submit nominations for this year's prize. There are no specific criteria. Nominators should simply state in 100 words why the person they are nominating would be a worthy recipient of the prize. The prize is funded by a private sponsor. Visit the website to find out why our previous winners were chosen [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/prizewinners](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/prizewinners).

Nominations should be sent by email to SLSA secretary Chris Ashford [e chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk). Closing date: **5 September 2014**.

SLSA BOOK AND ARTICLE PRIZES 2015

Nominations are now open for next year's book and article prizes. There are four prizes:

- the Hart Socio-Legal Book Prize;
- the Socio-Legal Article Prize;
- the Hart Socio-Legal Prize for Early Career Academics;
- and the new Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize.

The closing date is Monday **6 October 2014**. Publications published in the 12 months up to 30 September 2014 are eligible.

In addition to the three prizes generously sponsored by Hart Publishing, we are delighted to announce a new prize for a book that makes a contribution to socio-legal theory or to socio-legal history. The same rules apply as for the other book prizes, but no book or author will be eligible to win the Theory and History Prize AND the Book Prize or Prize for Early Career Academics in the same year. The new prize is sponsored by a private benefactor.

The winners of all the book prizes will receive £250 and the winner of the article prize will receive £100. Winners will be invited to attend an author-meets-reader session at next year's annual conference.

Full details of all the prizes (including the full details of the new Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize) can be found on the SLSA website [w slsa.ac.uk](http://www.slsa.ac.uk) and follow the prizes links.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are due on 1 July 2014. Are you paying the correct fee into the right bank account?

The annual full membership fee is £40 (student rate £20). Some members are still paying the wrong rate or paying the correct rate into the wrong bank account. Please check that your standing order is for the correct amount and being paid to:

- **bank:** Co-operative Bank;
- **sort code:** 08-92-99;
- **account number:** 65209341;
- **account name:** Socio-Legal Studies Association.

Members who do not adjust their standing orders for the 2014–2015 membership year will eventually be removed from the directory and email list and their payment considered as a donation to the SLSA.

For members without a UK bank account and new members, there is now a PayPal facility available for online payments. Fees are due on **1 July** each year. Please visit [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/join-the-slsa](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/join-the-slsa).

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Next copy deadline: **20 October 2014**
Next publication date: **24 November 2014**

Disclaimer

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Newsletter sponsorship

The *Socio-Legal Newsletter* is sponsored by a consortium of law schools interested in promoting socio-legal studies in the UK. If your institution would like to become involved in this initiative, please contact SLSA chair Rosemary Hunter
e r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk.

Newsletter academic sponsors 2013—2016 are: Birkbeck; Cardiff Law School; Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford; University of Exeter; University of Kent; University of Liverpool; London School of Economics; Newcastle University; Northumbria University Newcastle; University of Nottingham; Queen's University Belfast; University of Sheffield; University of Strathclyde; University College London; University of Warwick; University of Westminster; and University of York.

The newsletter is also sponsored by the *Journal of Law and Society*.



SLSA EXEC NEWS

At the SLSA AGM in Aberdeen, six new members joined the Executive Committee. They are: Helen Carr, Kent; Dave Cowan, Bristol; Naomi Creutzfeld, Oxford; Francis King, Essex; Gethin Rees, Southampton; and Michael Thomson, Leeds. Maebh Harding, one of next year's Warwick conference organising team, has been co-opted to the committee. Full details of the Executive Committee and contact emails can be found on page 2 opposite.

Meetings

The next Executive Committee meeting will be on **18 September 2014**, venue to be confirmed.

SLSA members are invited to propose items for inclusion on the agenda of future meetings: email SLSA secretary, Chris Ashford [e chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk).

Minutes and papers from past meetings are available at [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/executive#meet](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/executive#meet).

SLSA ACADEMICIANS APPOINTED

Three more senior socio-legal academics have been appointed academicians by the Academy of Social Sciences. They are Professor Roger Cotterrell, Queen Mary University of London; Professor Carl Stychin, City University London; and Emeritus Professor Fran Wasoff, University of Edinburgh.

SLSA Guidance on Open Access

The SLSA Guidance on Open Access (OA) has now been finalised in accordance with the Higher Education Funding Council for England and Wales' policy for submission to the next Research Excellence Framework and has been published on the SLSA website.

It was launched at our 2014 annual conference and SLSA chair Rosemary Hunter's presentation from that session is also available on the website. Please visit [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/open-access#SLSA](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/open-access#SLSA) to download her Powerpoint presentation.

If you would like to arrange for a member of the SLSA's OA sub-committee to visit your institution to give a presentation on OA to your academic staff, please contact Rosemary Hunter [e r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk](mailto:r.c.hunter@kent.ac.uk).

Website and social media

The SLSA website contains comprehensive information about the SLSA and is also the home to the SLSA directory. The news section is updated weekly and updates are circulated to members via a weekly e-bulletin. To request the inclusion of a news item and for any queries, contact Marie Selwood [e marieselwood@btinternet.com](mailto:marieselwood@btinternet.com).

You can also follow the SLSA on social media. The SLSA's social media officer is Jen Hendry [e j.hendry@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:j.hendry@leeds.ac.uk).

- Website [w www.slsa.ac.uk](http://www.slsa.ac.uk)
- Twitter [w https://twitter.com/SLSA_UK](https://twitter.com/SLSA_UK)
- Facebook [w www.facebook.com/groups/55986957593](http://www.facebook.com/groups/55986957593)
- LinkedIn [w www.linkedin.com/groups/SocioLegal-Studies-Association-4797898](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/SocioLegal-Studies-Association-4797898)

MEET YOUR EXEC

Professor Chris Ashford joined the Executive Committee in 2010 and is currently SLSA secretary.

I never consciously chose socio-legal studies. When I arrived at university in 1998 it was the first year of tuition fees and I was the first in my family – like many of us – to have stayed on at school beyond 15 to study A levels and to go to university. My paternal great-grandfather had been a Lancashire clog-fighter and cottonmill worker and my paternal grandmother survived polio but spent time in service and in a Rossendale poor house. My paternal grandfather was a bus driver. My maternal family was largely a mystery for much of my life as my mother was adopted at an early age. My maternal grandparents – as I knew them – briefly ran a corner shop in the 1960s before becoming a clerk and 'home help'. They were the quintessential aspirational working-class family. As a teenager, I discovered that my biological grandmother was a sex worker and I later discovered that my aunts and uncles have – in many cases – strong connections with the care and criminal justice systems. My parents – a joiner and a secretary – instilled in me a belief in the transformative power of education.

Forgive the overly personal backstory, but it's crucial for understanding my approach to law and socio-legal studies. I also think we don't hear enough about who we – as law teachers and scholars – are. Law, for me, has never been about narrow black-letter law or doctrine. It's a living thing, (re)shaping our lives and telling us much about the society that we inhabit. Widening participation and an interest in legal education – the way we learn and the importance of that journey – is not merely a scholarly pursuit. My legal education research is probably best known for my work on apprenticeships and access and I now edit *The Law Teacher: The international journal of legal education*, (published by Routledge).

When I came out as a gay man in 1999, civil partnerships seemed impossible to imagine, section 28 was still in place, and there was still a different age of consent. My research on law and sexuality similarly derives from the personal, with my more recent work focusing on the homonormative, whilst my other work on public sex, sex work, and barebacking has often proven controversial. In all cases, I'm typically interested in the silences that surround law, in the marginalised and oppressed. I'm on the board of *Porn Studies* and I also edit the *International Journal of Gender, Sexuality and Law*, launching in 2015 as a free to access/publish in, web-based, open access journal.

The personal has had to be combined with a scholarly approach. Socio-legal is always how I've seen the world but, as I said at the start of this piece, I didn't consciously choose it. I was fortunate enough to have teachers who shaped my thinking. Fellow Executive Committee member Mark O'Brien was an invaluable mentor whom I'm privileged to now call a friend. Professor Phil Harris and his Law in Context book, *An Introduction to Law*, similarly enabled me to focus personal passions with an academic and socio-legal understanding of law.

I graduated in 2001 and I was fortunate enough to immediately work as a research assistant and later as an associate lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University. I spent two years leading legal education and training at Irwin Mitchell Solicitors before rejoining academia as a lecturer at Sunderland University in 2004. I went on to hold positions as a senior lecturer, principal lecturer and reader. In May 2013 I moved to Northumbria University to take up the post of professor of law and society. I'm planning future work on exploring LGBTQ academic identities and access to the profession, which also seeks to document the personal and professional stories of lives defined by socio-legal change.

BEST BUDDIES

In the lead-up to this year's conference, SLSA postgraduate rep, Charlotte Bendall, organised a buddy-up scheme for students. Postgraduates were offered the opportunity to meet with a more senior academic who was also attending the conference.

The aim was to enable them both to network and to discuss their research with senior academics within their field and to provide the ideal opportunity, outside of the sometimes intimidating conference setting, for postgraduates to make a connection with a scholar with whom they had been wanting to talk through their ideas.

Below, two of the postgraduates who took up the offer give feedback on the experience.

Edward Mitchell, School of Law, University of Sheffield

A new feature of the SLSA conference in 2014 was the buddy-up scheme which offered postgraduate students the chance to meet with a more senior academic at the conference. My PhD research in the School of Law at the University of Sheffield involves a case study of city-centre retail-led urban regeneration in Sheffield and the complex legal and administrative challenges faced by public authorities and private sector developers. The legal practices, materials and technologies activated in the process are often complex, multifunctional and produced out of competing interests but make a significant difference to the relationships at the heart of a regeneration project. I am interested in exploring whether an approach informed by the methodologies and theories developed by scholars working with actor-network theory (ANT) can help understand that complexity.

On that basis, I met with Emilie Cloatre as part of the buddy-up scheme. Emilie's recent (and award-winning) book, *Pills for the Poorest: An exploration of TRIPS and access to medication in sub-Saharan Africa* (2013 Palgrave Macmillan) examines access to medication in sub-Saharan Africa based on an approach informed by ANT. We met over lunch on the Thursday of the conference and had a long chat about my research, my approach and some of the ideas running through ANT. Emilie's book discusses the relevance of ANT to socio-legal research so it was great to hear her ideas. She also gave me some helpful tips for future reading.

From my point-of-view, the buddy-up scheme was a very positive opportunity. I am sure I would have had the chance to meet Emilie at the conference but the benefit of the buddy-up scheme was that we planned our meeting in advance. I went into the conference knowing we would have the time and space for a proper conversation. I recommend the buddy-up scheme to other postgraduates who are keen to meet with a particular academic.

Foteini Kyriakopoulou-Kollia, Newcastle Law School

As a third-year PhD student at Newcastle Law School, I decided to participate for the first time at this year's SLSA conference in order to present a part of my research and receive feedback from leading academics and other PhD students specialising in my field. In particular, my research interests lie in the areas of criminal law, criminology, criminal justice, domestic violence and feminist theories while my PhD thesis studies the response of the criminal justice system to intimate partner violence towards female victims from a feminist perspective. For this reason, while in Aberdeen I attended several high-quality sessions on criminal law and criminal justice and on gender, sexuality and law, which helped me to further improve my critical thinking and analytical skills.

Presenting in a conference with a specialised audience of leading academics could be challenging for postgraduate students; however, the friendly environment at the SLSA and my participation in the buddy-up scheme helped me to build my confidence in presenting and receive significant feedback. The scheme, offered this year for the first time, aimed to enhance the experience of postgraduate students by matching them with academics. My experience was highly beneficial since it gave me the opportunity to meet Louise Taylor, who is a senior lecturer at Nottingham Trent Law School. After my presentation, I had a friendly and fruitful meeting with her and she provided me with substantial feedback on how to disseminate my research and advised me on my future professional goals in academia. Moreover, she has encouraged me to contact her for further advice and offered to introduce me to a criminologist colleague.

The buddy-up scheme is a great networking opportunity for postgraduate students and I would recommend it without any hesitation to future participants. Thank you for this great experience and I hope that the scheme will continue to be part of the conference.

SLSA SEMINARS 2014

In a very strong field, five awards were made and the total pot of £5000 was allocated.

Overall winner: The Cultural Life of Death in Punishment – £3000

Date: 1 September 2014

Venue: Senate House, University of London

Applicants: Lizzie Seal and Evi Girling

Crimea: EU, human rights and public international law – £500

Date: 1 May 2014

Venue: Durham Law School

Applicants: Aoife O'Donoghue and Catherine Turner

Oxford Handbook of Roman Law and Society Conference – £500

Date: 12–15 June 2014

Venue: Edinburgh University

Applicant: Paul du Plessis

New Technologies, Developments in the Biosciences and the New Frontiers of Human Rights – £500

Date: 18 June 2014

Venue: Durham University

Applicant: Noa Vaisman

The Green Economy and Human Well-being: Integrating human development in environment-related economic policies: indicators and impact – £500

Date: November 2014 (to be confirmed)

Venue: University of the West of England, Frenchay Campus, Bristol

Applicants: Elena Blanco and Jona Razzaque

For more information, visit www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/seminar-competition#seminar2014.

The closing date for the next round of applications will be **12 December 2014**.

'THINKING BEYOND': LAW, GENDER AND SEXUALITY – SOURCES AND METHODS IN SOCIO-LEGAL RESEARCH

19 May 2014 saw the third training day jointly organised by the SLSA, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) and the British Library (BL) on sources and methods in socio-legal research. Jon Sims of the BL reports on a highly successful event.

The aim of these days has been to draw newcomers' attention to less well-known types of information sources and to practical and methodological issues involved in their analysis in socio-legal research, as well as to further develop understanding of information usage in socio-legal legal research.

On the day, four speakers from the London School of Economics (LSE), IALS and BL brought primary sources to our attention from beyond the staple black-letter diet, surfacing varied materials for their potential to inform law, gender and sexuality research. Offering ways of thinking critically, beyond dominant constructions of gender and sexuality in relation to law, eight established academic researchers, using examples of both traditional and highly original source materials, illustrated the assumption-challenging, sometimes radical potential of the relationships between varied disciplinary discourses, primary sources, methods and the researcher. For full programme details see <http://events.sas.ac.uk/events/view/15965>.

Collections surfaced for attention during the day included probate records, British Museum artefacts, the Hall Carpenter, Women's Library and Gender Studies collections at the LSE, the Sisterhood and After: Women's Liberation oral history collection and diverse other BL collections. Also at collection level, Elizabeth Dawson and Fiona Cownie illustrated, for example, the utility of formal administrative records and membership correspondence found in the archives at IALS for researching the language and construction of gender, or the history of women's admission to the Society of Public Teachers of Law.

Daniel Monk illustrated the biographical potency of wills and their potential to help us challenge assumptions about vertical genealogy and look beyond a comfortable cosmopolitan conception of the happy alternative family to messier legal constructions of queer kinship, while Rosie Harding illustrated the utility of individual examples of popular cultural expression to interrogate dominant discourse about law and same-sex relationships. Her examples included Stonewall's 'House of Lords #EqualMarriage Bingo' card's invitation to cliché-spot the parliamentary debate on the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill, and the Channel 4-hosted video 'Our Gay Wedding: The Musical', used to explore relationships between radical agendas and concepts of homonormativity.

The potential of primary source material, this time of visual and material artefacts, to catalyse innovative interrogation of established discourse also featured in the presentations of Dominic Janes and Amanda Perry-Kessaris. From the perspectives of cultural history and visual studies, Dominic scrutinised police photographs, exploring institutionally imbedded ways of seeing homosexuality archived in the photographic production choices, and their resonance with visually coded meaning produced by reflecting on contemporary painting. Amanda illustrated, through, for example, the 'suffragette-defaced penny' (British Museum, Room 68) or the social relationships embodied in a single t-shirt (<http://apps.npr.org/tshirt>), the power of artefacts, when

placed in 'historical and social contexts that render them "legal" phenomena', to offer fresh perspective on law and opportunities to consider 'moral subtext'.

In contrast to this focus on norm-challenging primary materials, Rosemary Hunter, using examples from feminist judgment projects, illustrated the power of quantitative and qualitative discourse analysis, judgment rewriting and editing, to shine critical light, bringing fresh perspective to traditional sources. After illustrating the way in which feminist analysis of power can be brought into legal research on sexuality, and entreating us to ask the 'beyond' questions in order to challenge assumptions and normative strongholds about gender, sexuality, race, class, communal identity, equality and law, Rosemary Auchmuty offered practical tips for operationalising her recommendations in literature search strategies. In some respects similarly, Richard Collier asked us to look for sources for the investigation of men, masculinities and law, beyond essentialist constructions of gender. He asked us to look, while remaining conscious of a rich heritage of perspectives on gender politics and its relationships with law, beyond dominant theoretical sources and approaches to the literatures and social contexts of transnational business arenas, regional and local cultures beyond the 'Anglosphere' and global north, to everyday interpersonal interactions and to individual movement through social spaces.

Drawing on the largely positive feedback and from the above reflection on the event, if it stands up to others' memories, the aims of the day were met. I would like to say a big thank you to all those who spoke, attended and made this hugely enjoyable and informative training day possible. Watch this space for further detail about possible outputs from this year. Suggestions for next year can be sent to jonathan.sims@bl.uk.

Exploring the comparative in socio-legal studies

Building on the successful SLSA conferences – 'Exploring the socio in socio-legal studies' (2010) and 'Exploring the legal in socio-legal studies' (2012) – this third SLSA 'Exploring' conference will be held at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford, on 15–16 December 2014.

As the field of socio-legal studies has expanded, comparative issues have come to the fore. The study of law in society is now often the study of 'laws in societies', as scholars grapple with the nature and role of different types of law in different types of society. Societies vary throughout the world, as much as laws do, and a fruitful way of exploring many socio-legal phenomena – one that captures nuance and subtlety – is to consider the subject-matter in comparative perspective.

The possibilities offered by socio-legal comparison go beyond matters of doctrine and substance. The variety of comparative approaches in socio-legal studies, the opportunities and challenges they present, the range of questions they can address, and the different methods they can employ deserve more sustained reflection.

The purpose of the conference is to map out the different questions that may be addressed through comparative socio-legal study, the different approaches that can be used to address them, and the ways in which they can enhance wider scholarship in both socio-legal and comparative legal studies.

Conference organisers are Fernanda Pirie, Naomi Creutzfeldt and Agnieszka Kubal. Please visit webpage for details: www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/events/one-day-conferences/exploring-the-comparative-in-socio-legal-studies.

SLSA GRANTS 2015

This year's application process is now open for research grants and PhD fieldwork scholarships, full details and advice can be found below followed by summaries of the forthcoming projects from the latest tranche of awardees.

The Research Grants Scheme has been running since 1999 and to date has funded 89 socio-legal research projects. The scheme aims to support work for which other funding sources would not be appropriate and to encourage socio-legal research initiatives in a practical way.

Applications for this year's round are now invited. Applications are considered only from those who are fully paid-up members (or registered as free student members) of the SLSA, wherever they live. Applications must be made using the Application Package available on the SLSA website. The Application Package is subject to change so please make sure that you download the latest version.

The deadline for applications is **31 October 2014**. Individual awards are up to a maximum of £2000. Decisions will be made no later than **31 January 2015**. The Research Grants Committee takes the following elements into consideration when judging applications:

- clarity of the aim(s) and objective(s) of the research; originality, innovativeness and importance of the research; methodology (including coherence with aim(s) and objective(s), practicability and, if applicable ethical considerations); budget; and potential impact;
- funding will not normally be provided for conference attendance or to subsidise postgraduate course fees;
- funding will not be provided via this scheme for one-day conferences or for seminar series;
- 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.

For more information and to help you decide whether your project is appropriate for an SLSA grant, visit the SLSA website where there are examples of project summaries, reports from past grantholders, a full list of previous grantholders and project titles and Dermot Feenan's instructive article on submitting your applications, first published in *SLN* 66:4-5.
w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/small-grants

Fieldwork funding for PhD students

In January 2013, in response to the number of applications from postgraduate students, the SLSA Executive agreed to create a PhD fieldwork grant, with separate selection criteria, under the general umbrella of the grants scheme. The scheme's aim in both cases is to support work for which other funding sources are not available and to encourage socio-legal research initiatives in a practical way.

Applications are now invited for the fieldwork scheme for the year 2015. Applications to the scheme are considered only from those who are fully paid-up members (or registered as free student members) of the SLSA, wherever they live. Funding will only be made available to students who have completed their first year of study by the time the grant is to be taken up. Applications must be made using the PhD Fieldwork Application Package available on the SLSA website where you will also find helpful tips on how to apply for this funding and examples of previous awards made under the general grant scheme. Closing date: **31 October 2014**.

If you have any queries about this scheme, please contact the chair of the Research Grants Committee, Jess Guth, e.j.guth@bradford.ac.uk.

Extending working life for older workers: an empirical legal analysis of age discrimination laws in the UK

Alysia Blackham, Cambridge University, £1500

As the workforce ages, there is an increasing need to focus on how older workers may be supported in employment and encouraged to remain in the workforce. To advance existing knowledge in this area, my PhD comprises an empirical, mixed-method study of the impact of age discrimination laws on the employment of older workers, employing qualitative, quantitative, doctrinal and comparative research methods.

The research phase funded by an SLSA PhD fieldwork grant involves explanatory organisational case studies of four workplaces (two in the UK and two in Finland) that have been identified as 'best practice' employers in relation to older workers. The case studies will examine the impact of age discrimination laws in an organisational context. In particular, they seek to address the following research questions:

- Why do organisations adopt positive or innovative approaches to the employment of older workers?
- How can law encourage or support positive change at the organisational level?

Each case study comprises semi-structured interviews with human resources directors, management (including middle managers), older workers and, where relevant, unions and members of equality committees, and a documentary review of corporate policies and other documents (including committee minutes, reports and proposals).

By adopting a comparative, mixed-method approach, my research contributes a more holistic and evidence-based

perspective to existing legal literature and policy discussions on older workers in employment. It also contributes important insights into the link between law and social change, and will illuminate how different national approaches to discrimination laws may result in substantive differences at the workplace level.

The developing role of victim participation in transitional justice systems: civil parties in the Extraordinary Chambers in the courts of Cambodia

Rachel Killean, Queen's University Belfast, £700

My PhD explores the concept of victim-centrism within international criminal justice systems. Adopting a victimological perspective, it examines the concept of 'victim' within the context of mass crime, and analyses the various interactions between international(ised) courts, victims of mass crime, and the society within which the court operates.

I have chosen to focus on the system of victim participation adopted in the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC), as it is an institution that has gone further than many along the path of victim involvement in international criminal proceedings. Due to a combination of factors, such as the influence of civil law on its laws of procedure and evidence, the growing international awareness of the rights of victims and judicial activism within the court itself, the ECCC has adopted a 'civil party' mechanism, whereby victims participate in the trial as parties, similarly (but not identically) to the prosecution and defence. The court therefore provides an excellent case study through which to consider the predicted, perceived and actual

effect that participation has on those who participate, those who don't and on the ECCC itself.

My methodology involves a series of semi-structured interviews with ECCC staff, NGO workers, victims who are participating in the court's proceedings and other members of the Cambodian population. I have conducted the first stage of my field work, which focused largely on ECCC staff and NGO workers, and am now planning the second stage, which will focus more on Cambodian civilians. I would be unable to do this work without financial assistance and am grateful to the SLSA for awarding me a travel grant, enabling me to return to Cambodia and continue my field research later this year.

The legitimisation of hydraulic fracturing regulation: power, prejudice and public participation

Joanne Hawkins, Bristol University, £1617.60

The topic of fracking, an extraction technique for unconventional oil and gas, has proved highly controversial in the UK and has been widely debated. However, such debate has focused on the issues and benefits associated with the technology and little attention has been given to the regulatory systems in place. This research aims to develop an understanding of the relationship between public perceptions of the legitimacy of hydraulic fracturing regulation and the participatory opportunities offered to those affected by such activities. In relation to shale gas and fracking such an understanding is of particular importance as at present the general attitude in the UK is that the current regulation for conventional oil and gas is sufficient to control the unconventional gas sector and fracking. How the current system is perceived by the general public and how, if necessary, this perception can be improved will be of crucial importance if the UK is to begin successful shale gas exploration and production on a larger scale. Findings from empirical research will be used to contribute to wider debates on the role of participation and legitimacy through exploring an environmental issue with significant local impacts. In order to do so the exploration of participatory opportunities will be split into two areas: the planning system controls and other regulation. In relation to the planning system controls, the research will look at participants' experiences and perceptions of participatory opportunities (relating to shale gas exploration sites) in their area. In relation to other regulation the research will look at whether there is a perception that the regulation lacks legitimacy, how this is generated/where information is coming from, and to what extent participation is perceived as a way of improving its legitimacy.

Excavating the organ trade: an Egyptian case study

Sean Columb, Queen's University Belfast, £1100

Egypt is widely considered to be a 'hotspot' of organ-trafficking (Shimazono, 2007).^{*} Moreover, political instability, a deteriorating economic situation, divergent social and cultural norms and the fact that Egypt is a popular tourist destination make it an ideal location to test various assumptions about the organ trade. Undertaking fieldwork in Cairo, this study will examine how various stakeholders (NGOs, medical professionals, organ-sellers etc) represent and conceptualise the organ trade and how the organ 'trafficking' discourse has come to influence the way evidence is collected, cases are recorded, statistics are generated and resources are allocated towards more punitive measures. The study will attempt to assess the needs of populations targeted for their organs (in this instance

asylum-seekers and refugees), demonstrating how co-opting this issue into the human-trafficking framework without considering the structural conditions (migration patterns, healthcare privatisation, insufficient labour frameworks etc) that facilitate the organ trade is an inadequate response to a complex social problem. Efforts in response to this issue need to concentrate on disrupting the power asymmetries that define the poor bargaining position of organ-sellers, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation. A singular emphasis on crime control is unlikely to achieve this. Using empirical data gathered through interviews and case analysis, the objectives are to:

- 1 empirically test/confirm whether the experiences of organ-sellers correlate with the legal elements of organ-trafficking as defined under Article 3(1) of the UN Trafficking Protocol;
- 2 argue that formulaic criminal responses are inadequate – demonstrating the difficulties of collecting criminal evidence and imposing sanctions;
- 3 highlight the need to shift critical attention towards the transplant industry and the role it plays in producing demand for illegally sourced organs;
- 4 identify some of the risk factors (e.g. unclean water, unsafe working conditions, deteriorating public health sector, unregulated use of pesticides etc) that sustain demand for kidney transplantation – a medical intervention out of reach of the majority of people.

^{*} Y Shimazono (2007) 'The state of the international organ trade: a provisional picture based on integration of available information' *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* 85(12): 955–962

Social citizenship in the devolutionary state: the case of lone parents in Northern Ireland

Mark Simpson, University of Ulster, £780

Regardless of its outcome, the referendum on Scottish independence is likely to represent a constitutional moment equivalent to devolution in 1998.

This opportunity for renegotiation of the division of competences between tiers of government coincides with welfare reforms that have generated considerable hostility among elected representatives at devolved level. While this appears to be driving demand for regional control of policy in Scotland, the experience of Northern Ireland shows that formal devolution of competence does not necessarily enable policy divergence. This PhD considers the extent to which substantive devolved control is feasible and has potential to result in better outcomes for citizens.

The standard of living the UK government has committed itself to ensure for all citizens is set out in the Child Poverty Act 2010, ratified human rights agreements and equality legislation. The circumstances of lone parents – a group vulnerable to poverty, strongly affected by increased conditionality in the welfare state since 1997 and at the intersection of protected categories in the equality legislation – in one devolved region facilitates consideration of whether the state achieves the standards it sets itself.

The phase of research to be supported by the SLSA grant will consist of interviews with politicians and civil servants with a role in a relevant field of policy (finance, constitutional issues, equality, social protection) in Northern Ireland and Scotland. The views of interviewees will be crucial in determining the extent to which political elites in devolved regions view control of social security as desirable, how policy might diverge from that of the UK government following devolution and whether this can better ensure lone parents' standard of living corresponds with the ideal established.

Inclusive justice? A comparative examination of the participatory nature of Special Educational Needs Tribunals in Northern Ireland and Wales

Orla Drummond, University of Ulster, £1095

The overall aim of this research is to examine the domestic implementation of the obligations generated by Article 12(2) UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in Special Educational Needs (SEN) Tribunals in Northern Ireland and Wales, namely that children have the opportunity to be heard in any judicial or administrative proceeding affecting them, and in parallel to productively interrogate ideas of 'meaningful participation'. The research uses a comparative approach, examining the different approaches to child participation in SEN Tribunals in Northern Ireland and Wales with the aim of identifying areas of efficient and progressive practice that will illuminate the theoretical focus on children's participation in resolving special educational needs disputes, taking account of the potential for progressing solutions raised by constitutional devolution. The investigative starting point will be set at the devolution of each jurisdiction and will examine the policy setting, comparative legal approaches and ongoing development of a child rights agenda at a time of political change in education and tribunal policy in Northern Ireland and Wales. The decision to examine these two distinct regions comparatively stems from their differing approaches to child participation in the SEN Tribunal process. Wales, for example, is currently piloting an innovative right of appeal for children in Carmarthenshire and Wrexham, which will subsequently become applicable to the whole country, while Northern Ireland retains the traditional parental right to appeal only, despite ongoing proposals for the reform of appeal rights on special educational needs provision.

There will be two main approaches to the gathering of qualitative data, namely focus groups and semi-structured interviews. Focus groups will be employed as a method to collect and understand the perspectives of children and young people considered to have disabilities. Whilst this will provide the opportunity for an expert group to relay its opinions on general issues surrounding rights and legal process, a number of interviews will be undertaken with those who have first-hand experience of the tribunal process. The identified key stakeholders within the process include families with experience of the process, local education authorities, tribunal staff, tribunal judiciary and government departments. The interviews will aim to elicit relevant opinions, knowledge, experience and perspectives regarding the tribunal process and the possible enhancement of child participation. The SLSA fieldwork grant provides the funds to enable essential data collection in Wales.

The final thesis aims to develop a substantive theoretical foundation to frame the qualitative research and to marry this with a grounded approach to empirical research to provide meaningful engagement with the voice of the child in resolving special educational needs disputes.

Gender and judicial appointments in Ireland: a survey of male judges

Dermot Feenan, School of Law, Portsmouth University, £1774

This research project examines the subject of gender and judicial appointments in Ireland, using a pilot empirical survey of a representative sample of male judges in that jurisdiction to provide a control cohort for separate but complementary research, already funded by the Society of Legal Scholars, on female judges in Ireland. The objectives will be to analyse the interviews with male judges with reference also to statistical data and other relevant sources on women's representation in

the judiciary in Ireland, and elsewhere where appropriate, with a view to extending and deepening existing scholarship and public debate on gender and judicial appointments.

The research is original and innovative because there is no survey-based research of male and female judges' views on gender and judicial appointments in Ireland, in contrast to a growing body of scholarly research on gender and judicial appointments in other jurisdictions. There has, too, been relatively little concern raised within Ireland about this low representation and the particular issues which arise from the distinctive nature of the judicial appointments process in Ireland – which may militate against women's progression.

The research seeks to extend the scholarly literature on gender and judicial appointments by applying some of the methods and questions which I used in research on gender and judicial appointments in Northern Ireland and which generated analysis of, for example, how to understand disadvantage partly through an epistemology of ignorance. The survey will use semi-structured interviews exploring a wide range of issues including: experience of and views on the appointments process; confidence in applying; and experience of gender discrimination. Given the distinctive features of the appointments process in Ireland, a number of questions will explore views on, for example, the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board and the relevance of political background in judicial appointments.

The research is also committed, where appropriate, to redress any apparent disadvantage or discrimination against women in appointment to judicial office by reporting any policy implications arising from the research.

Dual reports of domestic abuse made to the police in Scotland: a pilot research study

Oona Brooks, University of Glasgow, £1741.41

This pilot research project will use police data to examine 'dual reports' of domestic abuse made to the police in Scotland. Dual reporting of domestic abuse occurs where both partners are reported simultaneously as the perpetrator and the victim of domestic abuse. Such reports present a particular challenge to police responses to domestic abuse since they provide the police with potentially conflicting accounts from the two parties involved. These challenges may be heightened where children are also known to be present. However, there is a paucity of research evidence about this issue; while some research has examined dual-perpetration of domestic abuse in England over time (Hester 2009; 2013), no research has specifically addressed dual-report incidents that occur simultaneously, or dual reporting within a Scottish context. It is currently unclear, for example, whether dual reports are being made in the context of retaliatory violence, the actual dual perpetration of domestic abuse, or as a 'counter allegation' which forms part of a perpetrator's strategy to deflect legal proceedings. Hence, the importance of a more detailed and contextual understanding of these incidents.

The grant provided by the SLSA has funded research assistance to facilitate analysis of dual report incidents using quantitative data extracted from a police database. This analysis is being undertaken with a view to gaining an understanding of the nature and extent of dual-reporting incidents, including the police response to them. The main aim of the pilot study, however, is to scope both the opportunities and research activity required for a larger research project, including the possibility of identifying a sample of cases for in-depth qualitative analysis.

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 Hester, M (2013) 'Who does what to whom? Gender and domestic violence perpetrators in English police records' *EJC* 10(5): 623-37

Exploring the possibility of being 'X': lessons from Australia's legal construction of intersex

Fae Garland and Mitchell Travis, University of Exeter, £1875

This project has been inspired by ongoing collaboration between the researchers and IntersexUK. It aims to explore how recent legal changes to Australian gender policy have affected intersex individuals with the view to contributing to both theories of gender and UK policy. In order to fulfil this aim we intend to:

- review the current overlapping legal constructions of 'intersex' within the Australian context;
- explore how intersex individuals view and are responding to these constructions of intersex;
- gauge how far individual experiences of these legal constructions of intersex challenge and/or reaffirm current theories of gender and legal policy;
- and consider what lessons UK policy can learn from the Australian approach and the direction of further research needed in the UK context.

The project seeks to put intersex voices at the forefront of legal developments in this area adopting a bottom-up approach to both policy and gender theory. This grant will enable us to conduct telephone interviews with a selection of intersex participants as well as advocacy groups working in this area such as OII Australia and Gender Agenda. Australia has been chosen as a site of study due to its inclusive attitude towards intersexuality in regards to passports, birth certificates and sex discrimination law. This opt-in model stands in contrast to contemporary European models (such as Germany) where it is mandatory for children born with ambiguous genitalia to be defined as intersex. Together, these sources of law present fertile ground for a contextual discussion of the construction of intersex and can help inform debates in the UK which currently does not legally recognise intersexuality.

Judicial communication in the English youth court: expressing sentencing explanations towards violent offenders approaching the custody threshold

Max Lowenstein, Bournemouth University, £758

This small pilot project will qualitatively investigate English youth sentencing explanations from those who produce them, i.e. district judges and magistrates. Informed by the latest Ministry of Justice statistical trends, this research considers the sentence explanations given to violent young offenders at the custody cusp. Such sentencing explanations and the way they are communicated (expressed) matters because they can promote offender understanding of the sentence and help to prevent future re-offending (Home Office 2001). Furthermore, they form part of the statutory duty to give reasons for and explain the effect of a sentence passed in court (s 174 Criminal Justice Act 2003). This research will consider judicial expression through interviews with 20 youth court judges (10 district judges/10 magistrates) in the London region where custody use for violence is high and the south-west region where it is low. Indicative shared judicial perceptions (norms) regarding their sentencing explanation experiences will be provided in the following way:

- 1 the source(s) which inform sentence explanations;
- 2 the promotion of engagement via the expression (words/actions) of sentence explanations in order to reduce re-offending;
- 3 the reasons for sentence explanations based upon human behaviours, language simplification and moral education (Weijers 2004).

The importance of continued judicial training on courtroom communication and the gathering of qualitative feedback matters because it helps to promote effective sentence explanations and provides an understanding of court culture change over time (Allen et al 2000). This research can help to provide an up-to-date indication as to whether the cost of training youth judges to understand effective communication has been effective or not. Furthermore, it can help to indicate how youth court culture is currently responding to the Youth Justice Board focus in 2013–2014 of reducing re-offending, ensuring proportionate and effective punishment and expanding restorative justice (Youth Justice Board 2013).

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Social and Legal Studies 23(3)

The hate threshold; emotion, causation and difference in the construction of prejudice motivated crime – Gail Mason

Activism and legitimation in Israel's jurisprudence of occupation – Nimer Sultany

Indigenous rights as tactics of neoliberal governance: practices of expertise in the United Nations – Marjo Lindroth

Holding on to legalism: the politics of Russian litigation on torture and discrimination before the European Court of Human Rights – Freek van der Vet

Making headway?: Regulatory compliance in the shipping industry – Helen Sampson, David Walters, Philip James and Emma Wadsworth

Dialogue and debate

'World trade after neoliberalism'

Review article

The destiny of a great power: Russian Messianism and the quest for a balance of power in international law and relations – Victor Kattan

St Mary's University launches new Centre for Law and Culture

It is a well-worn opening observation to make to new law students that law permeates our lives. From buying groceries, to insuring a car, to owning or renting a house, to our treatment at work, to the threat of criminal violence – law regulates our duties, rights and conduct. Yet it is true that the world(s) we inhabit, the societies and cultures we live in, are shaped not only by our individual and collective conduct but also by the ways law, and the values it may embody, influence, promote and limit that conduct. Our cultural values of equality and fairness, for example, are regulated under, amongst other things, the Equality Act 2010, which protects us all from arbitrary discrimination in almost all areas of life. Law is ingrained in our society; it is part of our culture. In today's complex world of diversity, difference, multiculturalism and pluralism, in our late modern struggle for meaning, engagement between the study of law and the study of culture is deeply apt.

Tapping into precisely this intersection, St Mary's University has launched a new legal research centre: the Centre for Law and Culture (CLC). The CLC will be a hub for fostering and actively promoting research and scholarly activity in law, enriching legal studies through engagement with the breadth and depth of culture. The scope of the centre is expansive and inclusive: the legal dimension encompasses any examination or exploration into law, be it legal theory, legal philosophy or legal studies relating to any area of law, such as law and religion, moral philosophy, criminology, legal history, gender and sexuality, jurisprudence, legal ethics, socio-legal studies and social or political theory. Culture, meanwhile, includes those myriad aesthetic or creative cultural products (things like art, literature, film, television and graphic fiction), as well as the diverse aspects of wider society and culture within which law operates, such as history, professional legal culture, popular culture, subcultures, or multiculturalism. The watchword of CLC will be interdisciplinarity: the engaging and blending of multiple perspectives towards the complex problems of justice in our human world.

On 11 June 2014, Lady Hale gave an inaugural lecture to officially launch the centre. From her unique perspective as the first and only female justice of the Supreme Court, she discussed the issue of women in the judiciary. Throughout the coming academic year, the centre will be hosting a number of academic events, including a conference in September focusing on issues of gender and visibility in law, and two series of public lectures across the year: one showcasing the broad topic of law and culture, the other looking at women in the history of law and the legal profession. Through these kinds of events, the centre will both encourage and give a public platform for academics exploring the complex interactions of law and culture.

For more details about the CLC, including upcoming events, see www.smuc.ac.uk/law-and-culture.

Judith Bourne and Thomas Giddens

people . . .

JULIAN SIDOLI DEL CENO has been promoted from senior lecturer to reader in property law and dispute resolution at Birmingham City University. [e julian.sidolidelceno@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:julian.sidolidelceno@bcu.ac.uk)

DR GITA GILL, Northumbria University, has been promoted to reader in law. [e gita.gill@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:gita.gill@northumbria.ac.uk)

DR LOUISE MALLINDER, Transitional Justice Institute (University of Ulster), has been elected vice-chair of the Transitional Justice and Rule of Law Interest Group of the American Society of International Law and has been appointed to the Arts and Humanities Research Council Peer Review College. [e l.mallinder@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:l.mallinder@ulster.ac.uk)

Festschrift for Roger Cotterrell

A festschrift to celebrate Roger Cotterrell's career as a researcher and teacher will be published by Ashgate in September. The 320-page book, edited by Richard Nobles and David Schiff and titled *Law, Society and Community*, will be launched at a reception in the Department of Law at Queen Mary University of London on **19 September 2014**. For further information contact [e lawevents@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:lawevents@qmul.ac.uk).

The Interdisciplinary Network for Social Protest Research

Protest movements are ubiquitous across history and space. Historically, social movements (the waves of protest against the Vietnam War, the black movement against racial discrimination in the US, the suffragette movements – but also the fascist and national-socialist movements) have fundamentally altered history. Today, it is hardly possible to open a newspaper, or watch the news without encountering a protest erupting around the globe. Moreover, small protest movements form in our neighbourhoods and in our streets. The frequency of protest movements has pushed some commentators to label this century the century of social movements (Snow et al 2004).*

Such movements have enormous social significance as vehicles for social change and represent one way through which power relations among groups are altered. They can also be the site of violence and repression. Protest is a place where public order, freedom of expression, personal rights and social security clash in unexpected ways.

It is therefore not surprising that social movements and protest also have a strong scientific significance. Traditionally, social sciences and humanities are highly engaged in developing knowledge around movements, social protest and social change. From a theoretical point of view, social movements are at the intersection of agency and structure, individual and society, culture and organizations, legality and norms. Indeed, social movement studies is one of the broader areas in social science, and a central subject matter in a vast range of disciplines. However, theory and research remain largely segregated into different disciplinary silos, limiting the utility of the insights and evidence they produce.

It is because of this observation that we have founded and launched the Interdisciplinary Network for Social Protest Research (INSPR) ([w www.inspr.eu](http://www.inspr.eu)). INSPR aims to link scholars interested in social protest and movements across fields and areas. It aims to become a central hub of interdisciplinary information on social protest and social movements and to host information about current research, conferences, travel grants, collaboration opportunities and publications. We organise regular events and meetings open to an interdisciplinary audience.

INSPR is linked to a publication, *Contention: The Multidisciplinary Journal of Social Protest* ([w www.contentionjournal.org](http://www.contentionjournal.org)). The principal purpose of *Contention* is to offer a multidisciplinary forum to scholars from different fields and to bridge the fragmented scientific discourse across different analytical frameworks.

INSPR would welcome a stronger presence of social-legal scholars in the hope that mutual exchange and fertilisation will positively affect the way in which we do science on and for social movements. If you wish to share information about an event, a publication, conferences or research job, please send an email to info@inspr.eu. To sign up to our mailing list, please follow this link [w http://inspr.eu/signup](http://inspr.eu/signup).

The INSPR Board

* D Snow, S A Soule and H Kriesi (2004) 'Mapping the terrain' in D Snow, S A Soule and H Kriesi (eds), *The Blackwell Companion to Social Movements*, Blackwell

National Green Tribunal, India

Dr Gita Gill of Northumbria University has been awarded a British Academy small research grant. The project, entitled 'The National Green Tribunal, India: A Reform for Environmental Justice' explores the genesis, operation and effectiveness of the newly formed National Green Tribunal (NGT), India, that offers access to environmental justice: a key procedural component providing just and equitable outcomes for sustainable development. The project focuses on NGT as one element of a reformist approach to environmental governance and explores its working and effectiveness. The NGT initiative has wider international relevance as it is a case study of a growing judicial development in one of the most powerful emerging nations. The Indian judiciary is considered as a 'best practice' example having responded to environmental challenges in innovative ways. e gita.gill@northumbria.ac.uk

Gita Gill

Journal of Law and Society

Reviewers

The *Journal of Law and Society (JLS)* is seeking to expand its bank of reviewers and invites interested persons who would like to externally review submitted articles to the *JLS* to send contact details and areas of academic interest and expertise. Please send details to the editor e thomaspa@cardiff.ac.uk.

Special issue 2016

The *JLS* also invites expressions of interest concerning the guest editorship of the *JLS* special issue (spring 2016). Readers are invited to contact the editor with their proposals. Send a list of authors, agreed and those yet to be confirmed, and working titles of each contribution. Prepare one page explaining the purpose and range of the collection. The material must be 'socio-legal', fit the character of the *JLS* and have current relevance and appeal to the journal's international and diverse readership. The special issue must also be both thematic and coherent. The issue is 75,000 words, inclusive of footnotes, and carries between eight to ten papers. The deadline for completed copy is November 2015. The *JLS* may provide funds to support a meeting for the authors. The issue will also appear simultaneously as a book published by Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford. A decision on the 2016 publication will be taken in September 2014 thereby allowing the editor one year to produce the copy.

The special issue for 2015 is entitled 'An unauthorised guide to legal life-writing: marginalised subjects and sources' and is edited by Linda Mulcahy (London School of Economics) and David Sugarman (Lancaster University). e thomaspa@cardiff.ac.uk

Philip Thomas, *JLS* editor

World Consortium of Law and Society launched

The World Consortium of Law and Society (WCLS) was officially launched at the Onati Institute 25th-anniversary event in May 2014. The WCLS aims to be an international federation of associations of scholars working in the field of law and society and of institutions undertaking research, teaching and training in this broad field. The WCLS aims to integrate diverse activities of law and society organisations worldwide by offering services beyond those conventionally undertaken by national or local associations. It aims to unite the competences of scholars throughout the world, by providing information and support, fostering collaboration and facilitating networking. w <http://lawandsocietyworld.org>

Questioning knowledge practices in the legal regulation of droughts

Two innovative socio-legal research projects – funded through a grant of £588,000 from the Natural Environment Research Council – will analyse how legal rules for the management of water resources can contribute to the sustainable supply of water and, in particular, how droughts can be prevented and managed. Climate change is associated with increasingly severe weather events, such as flooding and droughts. The south-east of the UK, for instance, experienced serious drought conditions in 2010–2012. Legal rules for managing water resources established in the 1990s under key legislation such as the Water Resources Act 1991 and the Water Industry Act 1991 seem no longer appropriate for dealing with a rapidly changing environment.

In cooperation with regulators and abstractors the research will examine legal decision-making in relation to key regulatory tools for preventing and managing droughts, such as the drafting of statutory and voluntary drought plans by water companies and the Environment Agency as well as the variation and revocation of licences for the abstraction of water from the environment. A central purpose of the projects is to understand how various, sometimes controversial, knowledge practices lead to the adoption of specific drought management options. Both from a historical and contemporary perspective the projects will therefore examine how, for instance, strategic environmental assessments and cost-benefit analysis inform legal ways of thinking about and managing droughts. The three and four-year projects are being carried out by a team based in the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at Oxford University, comprising Associate Professor Bettina Lange, Dr Christopher Decker and Dr Christina Cook.

Bettina Lange

Longitude Prize: AcSS call for social science input

The Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS) is calling for a social science input to this government-funded competition. See the AcSS website for details w <http://acss.org.uk/news/longitude-prize-social-science-input-needed>. **Note:** voting closes on 25 June 2014.

Journal of Law and Society (Summer 2014)

Articles

Interpreting the politics of the judiciary: the British senior judicial tradition and the pre-emptive turn in criminal justice – Harry Annison

What is the use of a human right to development? Legal pluralism, 'participation' and a tentative rehabilitation – Joseph Markus

Relational human rights: shed-DNA and the identification of the 'living disappeared' in Argentina – Noa Vaisman

A fresh look at stock market short-termism – Marc Moore and Edward Walker-Arnott

Financial advice, differentiated consumers and the regulation of equity release transactions – Lorna Fox O'Mahony and Louise Overton

Review article

Dermot Feenan, *Exploring the 'Socio' of Socio-Legal Studies* – Alan Hunt

Book reviews

Martha Nussbaum, *Political Emotions: Why Love Matters for Justice* – by Andras Sajo

Conor Gearty, *Liberty and Security* – Christos Boukalas

Religion, Law and Society (2014) Russell Sandberg, Cambridge University Press £65 204pp

Issues concerning religion in the public sphere are rarely far from the headlines. As a result, scholars have paid increasing attention to religion, generally staying within the confines of their own disciplines. To date there has been little contact between lawyers and sociologists. *Religion, Law and Society* explores whether, how and why law and religion should interact with the sociology of religion. It examines sociological and legal materials concerning religion in order to find out what lawyers and sociologists can learn from each other.

Administrating Victimization: The politics of anti-social behaviour and hate crime policy (2014) Marian Duggan and Vicky Heap, Palgrave Macmillan £45 136pp

The study of victims and victimization has evolved to produce more information about the effects and impacts of crime, as well as victims' experiences of engagement with the criminal justice system. This book analyses the socio-political context in which particular groups of victims have been prioritised by UK policy-makers in the past two decades as requiring enhanced or targeted services. Focusing on anti-social behaviour and hate crime, it explores how separating victims according to victimization type allows for a targeted approach which benefits some and disadvantages others. It assesses the extent to which certain forms of victimization, or demarcated groups of victims, have been used by governments to further punitive political agendas under the guise of being 'victim-focused' or 'victim-led'.

Sex Trafficking: A private law response (2013) Tsachi Keren-Paz, Routledge £75 278pp

This book examines existing and potential causes of action against sex-traffickers, clients and the state and argues for fair and effective private law remedies. Combining a theoretical inquiry about the borders of liability in torts and restitution with a political commitment to protecting the interests of victims of sex-trafficking, this book offers a comparative doctrinal and socio-legal analysis of private law remedies, their justification and their effectiveness.

Emotions, Crime and Justice (2014) Susanne Karstedt, Ian Loader and Heather Strang (eds), Hart £55 394pp

This volume brings together leading criminologists and sociologists from across the world in a much needed conversation about how to recalibrate reason and emotion in crime and justice today. The contributions range from the micro-analysis of emotions in violent encounters to the paradoxes and tensions that arise from the emotionalisation of criminal justice in the public sphere. They explore the emotional labour of workers in police and penal institutions, the justice experiences of victims and offenders and the role of vengeance, forgiveness and regret in the aftermath of violence and conflict resolution. The result is a set of original essays which offer a fresh and timely perspective on problems of crime and justice in contemporary liberal democracies.

The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: A commentary (2014) Steve Peers, Tamara Hervey, Jeff Kenner and Angela Ward (eds), Hart £225/€292.50 1936pp

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU enshrines the key political, social and economic rights of EU citizens and residents in EU law. This commentary provides an authoritative but succinct statement of how the charter impacts upon EU, domestic and international law. Following an article-by-article approach, each commentator offers an expert view of how each article is either already being interpreted in the courts, or is likely to be interpreted. Each commentary is referenced to case law and augmented with further reading. Six introductory chapters explain the charter's institutional anchorage, relationship to the Fundamental Rights Agency, interaction with international human rights law, enforcement mechanisms, extraterritorial scope and the all-important 'Explanations'.

EU Environmental Law, Governance and Decision-Making (2014) Maria Lee, Hart £25/€32.50 300pp

This book examines a number of areas of substantive EU environmental law, focusing on the striking preoccupation of EU environmental law with the structure of decision-making. It highlights the observation that environmental protection and environmental decision-making depend intimately on both detailed, specialised information about the physical state of the world, and on political judgments about values and priorities. It also explores the elaborate mechanisms that attempt to bring these distinctive decision-making resources into EU environmental law in areas including industrial pollution, chemicals regulation, environmental assessment and climate change.

The Development of International Human Rights Law (2014) David Weissbrodt, Fionnuala D Ní Aoláin and Mary Rumse, Ashgate £175 556pp

The essays selected for this volume, written by some of the world's most respected experts on human rights, encompass the development of human rights law from its philosophical underpinnings and address many of its current controversies. The collected essays explore the drafting of major human rights instruments, including the political challenges that shaped those instruments; examine the interrelationship of various claimed rights; and identify factors producing compliance with – and violation of – human rights law. Other contributions analyse the role of non-governmental organisations in achieving better human rights protections as well as the danger of claiming too many rights, and the tension between rights and security.

Applying an International Human Rights Framework to State Budget Allocations (2014) Rory O'Connell, Aoife Nolan, Colin Harvey, Mira Dutschke and Eoin Rooney, Routledge £80 2014pp

Human rights-based budget analysis projects have emerged at a time when the UN has asserted the indivisibility of all human rights and attention is increasingly focused on the role of non-judicial bodies in promoting and protecting human rights. This book seeks to develop the human rights framework for such budget analyses, by exploring the international law obligations of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in relation to budgetary processes. The book outlines international experiences and comparative practice in relation to economic and social rights budget analysis and budgeting.

Gender Politics in Transitional Justice (2013) Catherine O'Rourke, Routledge £75 276pp

What role do transitional justice processes play in determining the gender outcomes of transitions from conflict and authoritarianism? What is the impact of transitional justice processes on the human rights of women in states emerging from political violence? This book argues that human rights outcomes for women are determined in the space between international law and local gender politics. It draws on feminist political science to reveal the key gender dynamics that shape the strategies of local women's movements in their engagement with transitional justice, and the ultimate success of those strategies, termed 'the local fit'. Also drawing on feminist doctrinal scholarship in international law, 'the international frame' examines the role of international law in defining harms against women in transitional justice and in determining the 'from' and 'to' of transitions from conflict and authoritarianism.

Journals

Law, Crime and History special issue on 'Teaching and learning in crime and criminal justice history'

The subject matter crosses law, history, criminology and sociology extensively and the special issue features contributions covering course design, assessment and classroom-learning activities. The issue can be found at this link: www.pbs.plymouth.ac.uk/solon/hjournal2014Vo4.html.

- **FINANCIAL MARKETS: IMPOSSIBLE TO GOVERN?**
26 June 2014: Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London
w www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events/124425.html
- **COMPARATIVE URBAN LAW CONFERENCE**
30 June 2014: Loyola Hall, University of London
Please contact Annie Decker e adecker2@law.fordham.edu.
- **THE LAW, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COLLOQUIUM: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE**
30 June 2014: University of Warwick
w www2.warwick.ac.uk/research/priorities/internationaldevelopment/events/upcoming/lgdinterdisciplinarydialogue
- **EUROPE, SEX AND GENDER**
30 June–1 July 2014: University of Surrey, Guildford
w www.surrey.ac.uk/politics/news/events/2014/cronem_annual_conference_2014.htm
- **LATIN AMERICAN CONSTITUTIONALISM: BETWEEN LAW AND POLITICS**
2 July 2014: University of Glasgow
w www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=213241
- **FORENSIC RESEARCH AND TEACHING CONFERENCE**
2–4 July 2014: Northumbria University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Theme: 'Interfaces: law and science'. w www.numyspace.co.uk/~unn_mlif1/school_of_law/forrest/index.html
- **NORTH EAST PGR LAW FORUM**
7 July: Newcastle University
w www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/conferences/PGRLawForumConference.htm
- **LAW AND THE VISUAL: TRANSITIONS AND TRANSFORMATION**
7–8 July 2014: Australian National University, Canberra, Australia
w <http://hrc.anu.edu.au/2014HRCAnnualTheme>
- **ESRC RESEARCH METHODS FESTIVAL**
8–10 July 2014: St Catherine's College, Oxford
w www.ncrm.ac.uk/RMF2014/home.php
- **INTERNATIONAL LEGAL ETHICS CONFERENCE VI**
10–12 July 2014: City Law School, London
Theme: 'Legal ethics at a time of regulatory change'. w www.city.ac.uk/international-legal-ethics-conference/call-for-papers
- **BRITISH SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE**
10–12 July 2014 (preceded by postgraduate conference on 9 July): University of Liverpool
w www.liv.ac.uk/law-and-social-justice/conferences/bsc
- **VISUALISING LAW AND GENDER: CALL**
3–4 September 2014: St Mary's University, Twickenham, London
Call closes: 30 June 2014. w www.smuc.ac.uk/law-and-culture/conferences
- **POSTGRADUATE BIOETHICS CONFERENCE 2014**
4–5 September 2014: University of Southampton
w <http://humanitiesandhealth.wordpress.com/2014/04/23/call-for-abstracts-8th-postgraduate-bioethics-conference-2014-september-4-5th-university-of-southampton>
- **CRITICAL LEGAL CONFERENCE: CALL**
4–6 September 2014: University of Sussex, Brighton
Theme: 'Power, capital, chaos'. Call for papers closes: 30 June 2014.
w www.sussex.ac.uk/law/newsandevents/clc
- **THE POLITICS AND LAW OF DOCTOR WHO**
5 September 2014: University of Westminster
w www.westminster.ac.uk/law-society-popular-culture
- **SOCIETY OF LEGAL SCHOLARS ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
9–12 September 2014: University of Nottingham
Theme: 'Judging in the 21st century'.
w www1.legalscholars.ac.uk/2013/01/10/sls-annual-conference-2014
- **APPROACHES TO INEQUALITIES: PERSPECTIVES FROM HIGHER EDUCATION**
11 September 2014: Sunley Conference Centre, University of Northampton
w www.northampton.ac.uk/events/conference-approaches-to-inequalities-perspectives-from-higher-education
- **CAMBRIDGE CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC LAW: PROCESS AND SUBSTANCE**
15–17 September 2014: Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge
w www.publiclawconference.law.cam.ac.uk
- **SEX WORK AND HUMAN RIGHTS: LESSONS FROM CANADA FOR THE UK**
17–18 September 2014: University of Durham
Call to be circulated soon. Contact Laura Graham with queries e laura.graham@durham.ac.uk.
- **WOMEN IN WAR AND AT WAR**
18–19 September 2014: University of Warwick
Organised by Warwick, Aberystwyth and Open universities.
w <http://ilg2.org/2014/01/11/call-for-papers-women-in-war-and-at-war-conference-2014>
- **UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA INTERNATIONAL CONSUMER LAW CONFERENCE**
25–26 September 2014: University of Pretoria, South Africa
w <http://web.up.ac.za/default.asp?ipkCategoryId=22724>
- **'LEFT' IN THE DARK? POSTCOLONIAL CONVERSATIONS ON LAW, NEOLIBERALISM AND QUEER-FEMINIST FUTURES**
15–18 October 2014: Jindal Global Law School, India
w <http://jgu.edu.in/leftinthedark2014>
- **THE GREEN ECONOMY AND HUMAN WELL-BEING: INTEGRATING HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN ENVIRONMENT-RELATED ECONOMIC POLICIES: INDICATORS AND IMPACT**
November 2014 (date to be confirmed): University of the West of England, Frenchay Campus, Bristol
This is an SLSA-supported event. w www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2014summer/The_Green_Economy_and_Human_Well.docx
- **FORBIDDEN ACCESS: CENSORING BOOKS AND ARCHIVES**
6–7 November 2014: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London
w <http://events.sas.ac.uk/support-research/events/view/16265>
- **LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND: PUBLIC AND/OR PRIVATE**
3–5 December 2014: University of Queensland, Brisbane
The Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand conference. w www.law.uq.edu.au/lsc
- **WOMEN: FROM OBJECTS TO BECOMING SUBJECTS — POLITICAL POWER, LEGAL DISCOURSE AND PROFESSIONAL EQUALITY: CALL FOR PAPERS**
16–17 January 2015: Université Toulouse 1-Capitole
Call closes: 20 September 2014. w www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2014spring/Call%20for%20papers%20Jan%202015-%20final.pdf
- **SYNESTHETIC LEGALITIES: SENSORY DIMENSIONS OF LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE, HAWAII: CALL**
29 April–2 May 2015: University of Hawai'i Hilo
Call closes: 1 December 2014. w www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2014spring/CFP%20IRSL%20Hilo%202015-1.pdf
- **15TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE WORLD SOCIETY OF VICTIMOLOGY**
5–9 July 2015: Perth, Western Australia
w www.aic.gov.au/events/aic%20upcoming%20events/2015/wsv.html
- **FROM SODOMY LAWS TO SAME-SEX MARRIAGE: COUPLING, QUESTIONS OF 'NATURE', AND THE STATE, 1786–2015: CALL**
24–25 September 2015: Birkbeck, University of London
Keynote speaker: Professor Robert Aldrich, University of Sydney. Call closes: 14 September 2014.
w <http://sodomylawssamesexmarriage.wordpress.com>

STREAMS AND THEMES

Following a highly successful three days in Aberdeen this year, we invited stream and theme organisers to report back on their experiences of SLSA 2014 and future plans.

Banking and finance

Following a successful SLSA 2014 conference hosted by Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen, it is anticipated that the banking and finance stream will replicate this year's achievements at the 2015 conference. This year's delegates and speakers came from a wide range of research backgrounds, with themes including: the financial crisis; compliance; corporate governance and the global monetary market. A number of excellent institutions were represented with speakers from Bournemouth, Glasgow, Sheffield, Nottingham, Surrey, Newcastle, Edinburgh Napier, Lincoln and University College London. The range of themes and participant institutions ensured lively debates after presentations and guaranteed exploratory discussion of topics. With post-presentation mooting involving discourse on contentious subjects such as personality testing for bankers and corruption in Malaysia, it can be concluded that banking and finance law is anything but boring!

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Mary Alice Young e mary.young@uwe.ac.uk

Gender, sexuality and law

Alex Dymock has joined Chris Ashford as co-convenor of the gender, sexuality and law stream. The stream once again met at the 2014 conference with papers engaging with a broad range of aspects of gender, sexuality and law research.

The stream seeks to draw together socio-legal scholarship from across the globe, featuring theme scholars from a range of disciplines relating to the broad theme of gender, sexuality and law. Past papers have considered sexuality and education law, queer theory, same-sex marriage, gender and parenthood, trans identities, sex work, domestic violence, public sex, sexuality and the media, religion and sexuality, international comparisons, and theories of gender. Alex and Chris are keen to hear from SLSA members about activities to engage with over the coming year.

Alex Dymock e a.dymock@pgr.reading.ac.uk and
Chris Ashford e chris.ashford@northumbria.ac.uk

Art, culture and heritage

In this year's sessions, presenters explored how the law and ethics deal with the problems posed in preserving, caring for and determining rights to heritage buildings and other property.

Davina Jacoki examined the nature, tradition and significance of street art, focusing on 5Pointz in New York and the relationship between art and communities. Andrea Ragusa discussed the evolution of the concept of cultural heritage in the post-war era in response to the Hague Convention 1954 and the Franceschini Parliamentary Commission 1964–1966, and the work of the Italian Ministry for Cultural and Environmental Heritage. Charlotte Woodhead analysed the work of the Spoliation Advisory Panel in determining title to cultural objects plundered during the Nazi era and drew critical comparisons with the early development of equity as applied in the UK Chancery Court. Sophie Vigneron considered the restitution of the human remains of Saartje Baartman to South Africa in 2002, and Mokamokai to New Zealand in 2010, debating whether France had a fair, transparent and effective mechanism to deal with restitution requests of human remains. Shea Esterling explored the limits to restitution of cultural property in the context of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Alessandro Chechi analysed the extent of state sovereignty over World Heritage Sites focusing in particular on

the case of the Temple of Preah Vihear (*Cambodia v Thailand*) considered by the International Court of Justice in 2013.

Janet Ulph discussed the rationale underpinning museum codes of ethics to assist an understanding of where law and ethics may divide on issues such as governance, disposal and acquisitions. Finally, Christa Roodt considered the cross-border trade of objects of cultural, historical, ethnological and artistic value, calling for a global campaign to combat the illicit trade in cultural property and for the highest standards of due diligence.

Janet Ulph e janet.ulph@le.ac.uk and
Charlotte Woodhead e c.c.woodhead@warwick.ac.uk

Administrative justice

The administrative justice stream was the most well attended it has been for some years, perhaps reflecting the lack of coverage of such issues at other mainstream public law conferences.

The stream showcased 22 papers over seven sessions of intensive and sometimes quite heated debate. Separate sessions were held on the core redress mechanisms of the sector: the courts, tribunals and the complaints branch. Two additional sessions included papers that covered other aspects of administrative justice, such as whistle-blowing, inquests and consultation processes. The stream had a healthy comparative element, demonstrated by two themed sessions on social rights, organised by Professor Michael Adler. The quality and the coherence of the papers in the social rights sessions led to active discussion of working up these papers into a published collection in the near term. Given the success of the social rights sessions, ideas are welcomed for similar initiatives for the 2015 conference. Submissions for articles in the administrative justice area are welcomed for publication in the *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law* which contains a quarterly section on 'Ombudsman, tribunals and administrative justice'.

Richard Kirkham e r.m.kirkham@sheffield.ac.uk

Labour law

The opening paper dealt with whether equality law, which is conservative in its approach to gender, could realistically protect against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender reassignment, particularly in dealing with issues of dress or physical appearance. The second paper concerned zero-hour contracts, identifying the social groups and industries most affected and considering whether Equality Act s 71 could protect this vulnerable group. The third was a critical look at the UK system of equality law and proposed that the application of Luhmann's systems theory could provide a satisfactory vehicle for understanding the tensions operating within the system.

The first paper in session two dealt with collective consultation rules in redundancy and changes prompted by EU developments challenging the way the numerical basis for entitlement to consultation rights in the UK is calculated. The second considered legal rules dealing with mental health at work and how Luhmann's system theory can inform future reforms (the most contentious paper inspiring discussion and several questions). The third dealt with the legal status and legal treatment of interns, identifying areas for reform or clarification of their employment rights based on research in Scotland.

In the final session, the first paper compared the UK and France, identifying how the alignment of labour law in different member states would be difficult because of historical and current differences. The second paper looked at the approach of Quaker companies to employment rights and the impact of *Parke v Daily News* on current thinking on redundancy rights. The last paper dealt with the development of labour law and the welfare protective regime in Latin American countries, highlighting social and constitutional obstacles to reform.

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Sam Middlemiss e s.middlemiss@rgu.ac.uk

SLSA Annual Conference 2015

School of Law, University of Warwick

March 31—April 2, 2015



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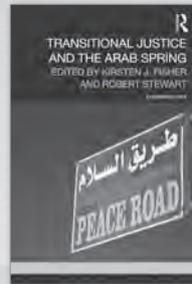
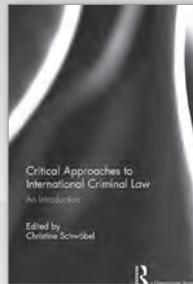
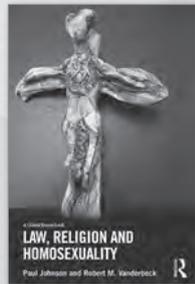
For more information please contact the organisers Jonathan Garton (j.garton@warwick.ac.uk) and Maebh Harding (maebh.harding@warwick.ac.uk).

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The Art of Post-Dictatorship

Ethics and Aesthetics in Transitional Argentina
Vikki Bell

Through the example of Argentina, this book examines the involvement of visual artists and art-activists in a variety of commemorative projects and campaigns demanding the criminal prosecution of persons initially granted amnesty. It brings together art, politics and law to examine the positioning of this generation in the country's past and future.

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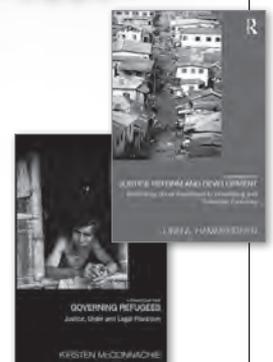
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