

**Graham Wallas Room, Old Building, LSE  
13:00 Lunch and Start**

(\*) Written report/papers attached

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| <p><b>Present</b><br/>CA, AB, KB, SB, SC, GD, MD, DF, LH, RH, JM, LM, VM, APK, J Sc, MS.</p>  |                                 |
| <p><b>Agenda item</b></p>   | <p><b>Action</b></p>            |
| <p><b>1. Apologies</b></p>  |                                 |
| <p>JS, AN, PE, SM, MO.</p>  |                                 |
| <p><b>2. Minutes of 19.05.11</b></p>  |                                 |
| <p>Approved.</p>  |                                 |
| <p><b>3.1 Chair</b></p>   |                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome to new Members Jane Scoular (J Sc), Kevin Brown (KB) and Sarah Blandy (SB).</li> <li>• Seminar on Impact to proceed tomorrow and will include the Chair and a number of other members from the REF sub-panel for law. Thanks for administrative assistance from the LSE Law Department and the British Academy for accommodation. There was an excellent response and the event is fully booked.</li> <li>• JM attended an ESRC roadshow and noted an emphasis on funding the analysis of existing data sets in preference to the collection of new data; and bigger, in preference to smaller, projects. PE noted similar themes when she attended an AHRC roadshow, consistent with a push to encourage some universities to focus on research and others not to; along with a failure to discuss the controversy surrounding the AHRC's commitment of funding to research on the Big Society.</li> <li>• NJ, MS, JM and RH drafted a specification for work to the website, chose the most promising of the expressions of interest received. Concluded an agreement for upgrade to the current version of the Joomla content management system, fixing of glitches and training of relevant Executive Committee members within 4 weeks. Next steps will be to consider moving to a hosting package with the same supplier; and adding e-commerce functionality.</li> <li>• LM and RH had a very productive site visit to DMU.</li> <li>• Profit sharing arrangements for joint Honolulu conference still unclear.</li> <li>• The SLSA's current inability to contribute financially to the creation of the World Consortium of Law and Society (WCLS) has been communicated. There is a possibility that the SLSA will be able to be a 'friend' rather than a 'member'.</li> <li>• LH attended a Campaign for Social Sciences</li> </ul> | <p><b>RH<br/>APK<br/>MS</b></p> |

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| <p>&lt;<a href="http://www.campaignforsocialscience.org.uk">http://www.campaignforsocialscience.org.uk</a>&gt; meeting in Cardiff. The 25 year old campaign is seeking examples of news stories generated by socio-legal research to demonstrate the importance of the social sciences. They point out that collecting such stories is increasingly important for researchers in light of the Impact regime.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to the Academy of Social Sciences for providing free subscription for the year in light of our financial constraints.</li> <li>• RH has continued the tradition of consulting and sharing ideas with the Society of Legal Scholars and other subject associations.</li> </ul> <p>AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In keeping with past practice, <i>Journal of Law and Society</i> has been invited to nominate a member of their Editorial Board to the SLSA Executive Committee to replace former Committee Member Joanne Hunt.</li> <li>• SLSA chair has been invited to attend the ESRC's annual meeting with learned societies. RH is unable to attend but will circulate the invitation to Executive Committee members and ask for a volunteer</li> <li>• In light of preference for large-scale funding mentioned above, SLSA will try to assist members who wish to find partners for funding applications. For example, Annual Conference calls can emphasise that panels, themes and streams might reveal potential funding co-applicants.</li> <li>• In a change to the decision of 19.05.11, to continue to hold three Executive Committee meetings per year, but to hold one on the Thursday afternoon at the end of the annual conference. Travel costs for Committee members would not be covered by the SLSA.</li> <li>• RH to continue to follow the progress of the WCLS and the possible role of the SLSA within it, and to discuss this with the new Scientific Director at Onati, Angela Melville, in due course. APK will look into the possibility of carrying the spirit of the WCLS forward by linking to the WCLS and other websites from the SLSA website.</li> <li>• MS to communicate with the Academy for Social Sciences press secretary, sending them our Newsletter, asking them for a contribution to the Newsletter.</li> </ul> |                  |
| <p><b>3.2. Treasurer*</b></p>   |                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The measures put in place at our last meeting and the receipt of very impressive returns from the Sussex conference mean that matters are much improved since our last meeting.</li> <li>• Many congratulations and thanks again to the Sussex team for running such a successful conference.</li> <li>• LM has spoken to Phil Thomas about providing electronic (rather than hard) copies of the Newsletter for subscribers to the <i>Journal of Law and Society</i> (JLS), which will save £1000 in transport costs to the SLSA.</li> </ul> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We should remain very cautious and take no major funding decisions until after the 2012 Annual Conference.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>LM</b></p> |
| <p><b>3.3. Membership *</b></p>   |                  |
| <p>Nothing to add to written report.</p>  |                  |

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| <b>3.4. Recruitment</b>  |  |
| <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MD to take over this role.</li> <li>• MD to follow up on one-day conference attendees</li> <li>• MD to pursue research students</li> <li>• MD, LH and JM to liaise to pursue post-graduate students, especially post-graduate conference attendees, using social networking systems such as Twitter and Facebook where possible.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>MD</b><br/><b>LH</b><br/><b>JM</b></p> |
| <b>3.5 Newsletter *</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anyone with contacts in marketing departments at publishers should contact MS so that she can approach them to buy inserts in the Newsletter.</li> </ul> <p>AREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MS to liaise with LM on print run in light of the transfer to electronic copies for JLS subscribers (see Agenda item 3.2).</li> <li>• MS to add Executive Committee box to the Newsletter to include meeting dates and requests for agenda items. APK to be listed as contact.</li> <li>• No change to policy of not charging for advertising new books and job vacancies in newsletter and e-bulletin and only accepting advertisements that are of interest and benefit to the SLSA members.</li> </ul>   | <p><b>MS</b></p>                             |
| <b>4.1.a. DMU 2012</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation rooms have been booked on adjacent floors, five minutes walking time.</li> <li>• Thanks to Visit Leicestershire who will manage accommodation, restaurant identification and maps at no cost to, and with no deposits from, SLSA; and will provide a 5 percent commission to SLSA on accommodation.</li> <li>• Seems impossible to find a cost-effective option for a conference dinner.</li> </ul> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary speaker to be a practitioner or policy maker, to be selected using the list of names discussed at the meeting as guide.</li> <li>• Two drinks and canapé sessions to be held, one with a South Asian theme if possible. No conference dinner.</li> <li>• Executive Committee table to be made available and highlighted in conference materials, special badges to identify Committee Members.</li> <li>• Consider tick box for first time conference goers on registration form, and special badges.</li> <li>• Call for themes and streams to go out ASAP in e-bulletin with a 4 week deadline. Contact to be listed as GD. Resulting proposals to be discussed by Executive Committee email list.</li> </ul> | <p><b>GD</b><br/><b>AN</b><br/><b>MS</b></p> |
| <b>4.1.b. York 2013</b>  |  |
| <p>CH has gone off the Executive Committee for a year and will return to do the 2013 conference.</p>   |  |

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| <b>4.1.c. RGU 2014</b>   |  |
| Industrial dispute may be heading towards resolution.  |  |
| <b>4.2. Postgraduate Conference</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sally Wheeler continues to organise this on behalf of the SLSA.</li> <li>• Not possible to hold it in Worcester due to accommodation constraints.</li> <li>• To be held in Belfast January 12-13 2012.</li> <li>• Ethics, early career academics, and some issues from past years will feature.</li> <li>• Budget of £5000 will cover all costs to students except their travel.</li> </ul>   |  |
| <b>4.3.a-c 'Funding' 'Doing' 'Teaching' One Day conferences*</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All to be held at Nuffield, with LSE rooms as backup due to Nuffield restrictions on reserving in advance.</li> <li>• Registration: discount for booking for all three, member fee to be sufficiently reduced to encourage non-members to join the SLSA.</li> <li>• Costs: lunch, speaker travel. Nuffield to cover coffee and tea, accommodation free.</li> <li>• To be advertised in Winter Newsletter (and earlier if possible).</li> <li>• LM-MS to liaise to post information necessary to allow universities to make payments to SLSA on website.</li> <li>• 'Doing' to be held March 2012. Presenters confirmed, programme complete.</li> <li>• 'Funding' to be held in May/June 2012. To include sessions with academics who have experience of making and/or deciding on applications; to cover introduction to the funding landscape and experiences with all the key funders.</li> <li>• 'Teaching' to be held in October 2012 including topics such as international perspectives, being the only socio-legal scholar in one's school, and a, student perspective.</li> </ul> | <b>APK</b><br><b>LM</b><br><b>RH</b><br><b>AB</b><br><b>PE</b><br><b>CA</b><br><b>MS</b> |
| <b>4.3.d. Exploring the 'Legal' in 'Socio-Legal'*</b>  |  |
| <p>Proposal received from Dave Cowan<br/> AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The conference is approved in principle.</li> <li>• There should be only one international speaker, unless sponsorship is obtained.</li> <li>• Suggest that it be held at LSE rather than IALS, with no charge for accommodation.</li> <li>• The date must not clash with any other SLSA event.</li> <li>• LM to liaise with Dave Cowan to make revisions and re-circulate the proposal by email to the Executive.</li> </ul>  | <b>LM</b>  |

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| <b>4.4. LSA Honolulu 2012*</b>   |  |
| Members to be invited in the e-bulletin to let APK to know if they are attending the Honolulu conference, especially if they would be interested in chairing a session.  | <b>MS<br/>APK</b>                            |
| <b>5.1. Book prize</b>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calls for nominations to remind nominators that they must be fully paid up to current rate of membership.</li> </ul> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subcommittee to judge book prize.</li> <li>• VM, CA, JM, SB to be members, RH to be coordinator.</li> <li>• Nominators who have paid £30 rather than £40 annual membership at the relevant date to be given a period of grace to pay the extra £10; otherwise their nomination will not be considered.</li> </ul>                             | <b>JM<br/>RH<br/>VM<br/>CA<br/>SB<br/>MS</b> |
| <b>5.2. Article prize</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calls for nominations to remind nominators that they must be fully paid up to current rate of membership.</li> <li>• Same rule as above for nominators who have paid only £30 annual membership</li> <li>• Article prize to be judged by whole Executive Committee, AB to be coordinator.</li> </ul>  | <b>AB</b>                                    |
| <b>5.3. Contributions to the socio-legal community*</b>  |  |
| <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APK to circulate text in support of each nominee.</li> <li>• Members of the Executive to vote for one name.</li> <li>• Names of the nominees and the votes to be treated as confidential.</li> </ul>  | <b>APK</b>                                   |
| <b>5.4. Small grants</b>   |  |
| <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same rule as above for applicants who have paid only £30 annual membership</li> <li>• Stage1: Applications to be assessed by the sub-committee to determine and rank those considered worthy of funding.</li> <li>• Stage 2: Decisions on how many to fund to be made by the Executive on financial grounds at January meeting. Total possible small grants fund not to be publicised.</li> <li>• MD and KB to join sub-committee (LM, APK to continue as members, DF to continue to coordinate)</li> </ul> | <b>DF<br/>LM<br/>APK<br/>MD<br/>KB</b>       |
| <b>6. Nomination of fellows to Academy of Social Sciences</b>  |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As an institutional member the SLSA is entitled to nominate up to 10 people each year to the Academy <a href="http://www.acss.org.uk">http://www.acss.org.uk</a>.</li> <li>• Must describe selection process and involve SLSA membership.</li> <li>• Nomination is by proforma (including a rationale) as well CV and consent</li> </ul>  | <b>MS<br/>RH<br/>J Sc<br/>AB</b>             |

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| <p>of nominee.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Call to be issued in e-bulletin asking for 500 words in support of the nominee, and including a link to the relevant pages of the ASA. Deadline set to end of October (nominations due 9 December).</li> <li>• To be decided by sub-committee, JS and AB to be members, RH to coordinate.</li> </ul>   |   |
| <p><b>7. REF consultation on criteria and working methods*</b></p>   |   |
| <p>The paper drafted by RH was discussed. The following questions were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whether it is necessary for ‘users’ to agree with research in order for it to have ‘impact’ or whether a ‘user’ noting disagreement with a piece of research would also count?</li> <li>• How can the gulf between knowing or suspecting that a piece of research has been consulted by a user and proving that the research was the cause of change be bridged?</li> </ul> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working group to be created with APK, AB, VM, CA as members and RH to coordinate.</li> <li>• Response to consultation to be submitted by 05.10.11</li> <li>• Co-authored pieces should be assessed within the usual criteria-- that is, if the contribution of an author is thought to be limited, that author should receive a low rating for it--no matter whether the authors are in the same or different institutions. To render co-authorship within the same institution risky, as the present criteria do, is to undermine the emphasis increasingly placed by funders on research centres, research groups and capacity building (see Agenda Item 3.1 above).</li> <li>• More guidance should be provided on when outputs will qualify for double weighting; and the only risk attached to an application for double weighting should be a low rating, not rejection.</li> <li>• HEFCE must redraft its policy on the effect of personal circumstances, including maternity, leave taking care to avoid discrimination against any group.</li> </ul> | <p><b>APK</b><br/><b>AB</b><br/><b>CA</b><br/><b>RH</b><br/><b>VM</b></p> |
| <p><b>8. SLSA-Irish network</b></p>  |   |
| <p>Michael Doherty at Dublin City University has been in touch to explore possible collaborations between the SLSA and a socio-legal scholars’ network in the Republic of Ireland.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLSA is keen to support socio-legal networks and scholars in the Republic.</li> <li>• RH to invite Michael Doherty to attend the 18.01.12 or DMU conference meeting of the Executive to explore the potential for collaboration.</li> <li>• SLSA members in Ireland should be encouraged to nominate Executive Committee members and make proposals for one day conferences to be held in the Republic.</li> <li>• Offer to place information about Irish network activities on the SLSA website; invite to write something for the Newsletter and to propose a</li> </ul>   | <p><b>RH</b></p>  |

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| theme for the conference.   |                                |
| <b>9. Journal tie-ins</b>   |                                |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some SLSA members have indicated that they would like SLSA membership to include a hard copy journal.</li> <li>The decision has been taken in the past that SLSA will not affiliate with a journal because it does not wish to choose between multiple equally worthy options, or be beholden to an editorial board, or to establish a new journal.</li> </ul> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is important to keep in touch with what members want.</li> <li>A survey of member opinions on what the SLSA does, and should, offer will be conducted in the run up to the annual meeting so that any problems can be addressed at the conference. To be placed on agenda for January Executive Committee meeting.</li> </ul> |                                |
| <b>10. Recruiting undergraduate and institutional members</b>   |                                |
| Held over to the next meeting due to time constraints.  |                                |
| <b>11. Any other business</b>   |                                |
| <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SLSA to promote British Library event 'Archives, Records and Repositories for Socio-Legal Research' to be held at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies on November 4, 2011. SLSA logo to be included on programme and event to be advertised in e-bulletin.</li> <li>Suggested that it not be limited to doctoral students and Early Career Academics.</li> <li>LM to liaise.</li> </ul>  | <p><b>LM</b><br/><b>MS</b></p> |