

**Rm. L67 SOAS Main Building
12:30 Lunch 13:00 Start**

(*) Written report/papers attached

<p>Present CA, AB, PE, DF, RH, JM, LM, VM, AN, MO, APK, MS</p>	
<p>Agenda item</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>1. Apologies</p>	
<p>SC, MD, JH (on leave), NJ, SM (on leave), PR, JS. Absent LH.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of 20.01.11</p>	
<p>Approved.</p>	
<p>4. Welcome of new Chair</p>	
<p>Rosemary Hunter was warmly congratulated and welcomed to her new role as Chair of the Association.</p>	
<p>5. Selection of new Vice Chair</p>	
<p>Anne Barlow was nominated, selected and welcomed as the new Vice Chair of the Association.</p>	
<p>6.1 Chair</p>	
<p>Proposed an SLSA event directed towards having an input into the development of the REF Law sub-panel impact criteria. The development process will take place between late July 2011, when the overall REF impact criteria are announced, and the end of September.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite CHULS and SLS to join • Pursue possibility of Hugh Collins hosting at LSE • Invite one sub-panel member to speak and all to attend • Look through SLSA Newsletter for pieces by various people on impact • Date to be set and summary to be provided to MS by June 10 in time for Newsletter. <p>AB noted uncertainty regarding the timelines for impact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RH to clarify and write to Gillian Douglas about SLSA concerns if necessary. <p>Asked for volunteers to attend ESRC and AHRC events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JM to attend ESRC, RH to circulate AHRC event to wider Executive. <p>Tobias Kelly of Edinburgh University approached Sally Wheeler asking if SLSA</p>	<p>RH JM</p>

<p>would like to host a collection of socio-legal syllabi he is making as part of an ESRC research fellowship.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time commitment and potential liability for content made this unattractive. • RH to invite him to have a link on SLSA website to his own. 	
<p>6.2. Treasurer*</p>	
<p>Revised accounts submitted to take account of information made available since the Annual General Meeting of 13.04.11.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed information was supplied by Lloyds Oxford branch at which SLSA holds its oldest account. Persistent communication problems have led to the decision to close the account down as soon as possible and consolidate all SLSA business at the Cooperative. <p>We must face the fact that the Association is in a state of financial crisis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have paltry reserves, Newsletter sponsorship is likely to be harder to secure in future, we persistently risk spending more than we earn and we are vulnerable to bankruptcy if we have one unsuccessful conference. • The personal cost and stress to the Treasure arising from the financial situation cannot continue. • Problems of late payment from UWE last year have hopefully been averted by proactive communication by the Treasurer with Sussex. • Additional funds will be coming in from the increase in membership fees, a bulk payment for two years of membership for all staff at a particular law school, the LSA Honolulu conference and so on, but that will not be enough to allow us to build up healthy reserves. It is necessary to both reduce costs and find new sources of revenue. <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LM to ask Phil Thomas to accept electronic only Newsletter for <i>Journal of Law and Society</i> subscribers, saving £1000 pa cost of shipping copies to the JLS printer in Singapore. • Focus on one day events to raise funds (see Agenda Item 7.1.) • Seminar competition suspended • Be prepared to downsize or suspend small grants in September following Sussex payment. • May meeting to be scheduled between Office Holders and Conference organisers only, with others to be invited if necessary. • Consider asking for greater proportion of conference takings in future. • When current Newsletter sponsorships run out, consider asking a publisher to print the Newsletter or moving to electronic only distribution 	<p>LM</p>
<p>6.3. Membership</p>	
<p>See report submitted to the AGM 13.04.11 for an up to date summary of issues. Will be deleting no-payers shortly. JM and LM agreeing wording of email on implementation of fee increase in July. To include standing order form with email and in next Newsletter.</p>	<p>JM LM</p>

6.5 Newsletter *	
RH is securing intended text of Sussex 2011 plenary speeches on Sally Wheeler and Dave Cowan to pass to MS for publication in Newsletter.	RH MS
6.5. Website *	
<p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS and LM to prepare a note costing future updates to content of the Website. MS to approach conference stream leaders to volunteer to adopt an associated research page on the Website. CA volunteered accordingly. <p>Technical issues affecting website are fundamental and serious. There is no current technical support for the website. In addition to the issues raised in the written report, it is unclear whether the site is being backed up regularly. Any risk to the site is also a risk to the membership database.</p> <p>AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RH to liaise with Sally Wheeler to establish where we are. AB to pursue personal contact who may be able to assess the situation. 	MS LM CA RH AB
7.1.a. Sussex 2011 *	
Many congratulations and thanks to the organisers of the conference, various aspects of which were described as smooth, outstanding, delicious and excellent. RH to organise an enduring expression of the Committee's gratitude.	RH
7.1.b. RGU 2012*	
<p>SC deeply regretted that a last minute emergency prevented her from attending the meeting.</p> <p>There was discussion of the serious possibility that RGU's recent de-recognition of the UCU might result in the UCU grey listing RGU, and UCU members refusing to attend the SLSA conference.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RH is to investigate the possible ramifications and solutions. Depending on RH's findings, LM and RH may conduct a site visit of RGU. <p>There was discussion about the visibility of the Executive Committee at conferences. AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee members to be giving distinctive name badges Committee table to be placed in a good location near the reception with early thought given to the placement of the banner. Committee members to actively seek out attendees who would welcome the opportunity to network. MS to find text of call for themes from last year and circulate for approval for inclusion in Newsletter. 	SC RH LM MS

7.2. Postgraduate Conference	
<p>LM, Sally Wheeler, Dave Cowan, Fiona Cownie and Anthony Bradney have agreed to take turns to host the conference in the event that others are not interested in doing so.</p> <p>Sally Wheeler will be arranging it this year (liaising with LM) to be held immediately before the start of term in January.</p> <p>AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSA prize-winners could be invited to the conference to speak about being an early career academic. • Sally Wheeler's idea of mentoring should be discussed in depth in future, with input from postgraduate representative. 	LM
7.3. One day conferences	
<p>In light of discussion under Agenda Item 6.2. it was AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a set of 3 one day events on Doing, Teaching and Funding empirical research. • AB to approach Sharon Witherspoon at Nuffield for financial and/or accommodation support, in light of its report on the state of empirical legal research, and with a commitment to spend the proceeds on the Postgraduate conference. <p>Interest in involvement in such seminars was expressed by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VM on Funding • PE on Teaching (helps to fill UKCLE gap) • LM and APK (unspecified). 	AB VM LM PE APK
7.4. LSA Honolulu 2012*	
RH to establish from Sally Wheeler what the arrangements are for sharing the profits from the conference.	RH
8.1. Book prize	
Confirmed that only submissions in electronic form will be accepted. RH will accept submissions, but the role of coordinator will need to be assumed by another Exec member – to be determined at next meeting	
8.2. Article prize	
Likewise, a new coordinator will be needed to replace RH – to be determined at the next meeting.	
8.3. Contributions to the socio-legal community*	
<p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideally, winner to be introduced by Chair at prizegiving session at annual conference, and winner then to present Article and Book prizes. • MS to draft and circulate announcement of new award for Newsletter • Call for nominations of 100 words from SLSA general membership to be issued in Newsletter and e-bulletin, in time to decide on winner at September meeting. 	MS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifetime membership to winner. 	
8.4. Small grants	
A new member of the small grants committee will be needed to replace RH – to be decided at next meeting.	
8.5. Seminar	
NB had been chairing seminar committee but has stepped down from Exec. No need for a replacement at this stage due to suspension of competition for 2012 (6.2 above)	
9. Elections and reform of Executive Committee*	
<p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide at January meeting who is going off and how many we need to come on. • Invitation in newsletter for members to express interest. • Ask for nominations at the AGM. • If there are more nominations than positions move immediately to a vote (by show of hands or secret ballot). <p>Noted that postgraduate representative had only attended part of one meeting and should be contacted by RH and APK to see if she is still interested in being involved.</p> <p>Discussion at AGM of 13.05.11 suggested perception that Committee members are not accessible to the membership. AGREED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RH, JM and new PG representative to be first to appear in 'meet your Executive Committee' slot in Newsletter. • Upcoming Executive Committee meetings to be announced, and agenda items requested, in e-bulletin and/or Newsletter. 	<p>MS RH JM APK</p>
10. World Consortium for Law and Society*	
<p>AGREED APK is to report to Sol Picciotto that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLSA supports the aspirations of the WCLS and would like to be a Founder Supporter. • The combined effects of the financial constraints faced by the SLSA, and the risk that the proposed website will duplicate resources on the SLSA website, the Association cannot offer financial support at this time. • Instead, members of the Executive are willing to offer their services, for example as advisers to new or aspiring associations; by making video recordings of specialist SLSA events to be screened on the WCLS website and so on. 	APK
11. Publishers web pages for SLSA members	
<p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AN to forward contact details to MS to liaise with publishers if no objections received by 23.05.11. 	

12. Meeting dates	
Thursday September 15 th 2011 at LSE Wednesday January 18 th 2012 at SOAS.	
13. Any other business	
VM queried whether new ESRC demand management plans had particular implications for socio-legal work. Consensus formed in discussion that this is unlikely.	