

# Socio-Legal

## NEWSLETTER No 83

### SLSA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION AUTUMN/WINTER 2017

## MIKE ADLER TO RECEIVE 2017 SLSA ANNUAL PRIZE

*The SLSA Exec is delighted to announce that this year's Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community will be awarded to Professor Michael Adler.*

Mike is Emeritus Professor of Socio-Legal Studies in the School of Social and Political Science at the University of Edinburgh. His contributions to the development of socio-legal studies over the last 40 years have been both extensive and ground-breaking. His outstanding contributions have been particularly strongly felt in the areas of administrative justice and social welfare law. Mike has been an active member of the SLSA since its inception in 1990, previously hosting the conference and serving on the Exec. His contributions have spanned the full suite of socio-legal activities, including serving the community as co-editor of the *European Journal of Social Security*, as chair of the ESRC's Socio-Legal and Criminology Committee for a number of years, and as a member of the Scottish Committee of the Administrative Justice and Tribunals Council.

Perhaps Mike's greatest contributions to the socio-legal community have been through his unwavering support for and encouragement of doctoral researchers and early career scholars. As well as supervising many graduate students, and examining innumerable research degrees, Mike has mentored countless socio-legal scholars and helped them on the road to successful careers.

Despite retirement, Mike continues to be an active researcher and member of the socio-legal community. His current interests focus on the pressing socio-legal issues of benefit sanctions in social security, the impact of digitisation on dispute resolution, and the definition and enforcement of rights to a social minimum. Mike remains a highly valued and valuable member of the socio-legal community and has given outstanding service to our community throughout his career.

Mike will receive his prize at the SLSA annual dinner at our Bristol conference in 2018.

*Rosie Harding*

### SLSA Blog

The SLSA blog went live in summer 2016 and has proved a great success, attracting regular posts and a steady stream of visitors. The blogeditors welcome contributions. If you have an idea for a short article (maximum 1000 words) on a hot topic of interest to your SLSA colleagues and others, please email [e blogeditors@slsa.ac.uk](mailto:blogeditors@slsa.ac.uk). See [w http://slsablog.co.uk/blog](http://slsablog.co.uk/blog).

## SLSA

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## SLSA BRISTOL 2018

*From 27 to 29 March 2018, socio-legal scholars will be gathering in Bristol as guests of the University of Bristol Law School for the SLSA Annual Conference.*

Bristol is a vibrant multicultural city situated on the Avon and Frome rivers. Highlights for visitors include the Watershed, Walled City Walk, medieval Corn Street, the Museum and Art Gallery and the famous Clifton Suspension Bridge. The conference team has organised a fantastic line-up of additional activities alongside the main conference programme: a Street Art Tour, featuring the work of Banksy and other Bristol artists; a historic Suffragette Walk; and tours of the Wills Memorial Building and Brunel's iconic bridge.

There will be the usual packed conference programme with around 400 papers across 36 streams and seven current topics over the three days. The hub of the conference will be the Great Hall in the Wills Memorial Building with sessions running in rooms nearby. The Plenary Panel at the end of day one is entitled 'Socio-legal Studies at a Watershed? A Conversation' and features an impressive list of speakers to debate this topic. Introduced by Professor Joanne Conaghan, Head of the University of Bristol Law School, and chaired by Bristol's Professor Dave Cowan, the panel consists of: Cardiff University's Professor Ambreena Manji; Professor of Law, Gender and History at Bristol, Lois Bibbings; and Professor Carl Stychin, Dean of City Law School. The plenary is followed by a drinks reception in the Great Hall. Day two closes with the SLSA annual dinner and prize-giving which will take place in Bristol Museum.

For postgraduates, there will be a PGR session between 10am-12pm before the welcome lunch on 27 March 2018, this year centred around the theme of resilience in postgraduate research and academia. The bespoke workshop will be run by Lydia Bleasdale and Sarah Humphries (University of Leeds), who are researching into the practicalities of being 'resilient' in demanding working environments. Our popular poster competition is also back, plus our Networking Scheme (launched at Newcastle 2017) to facilitate relationships between early career and postgraduate researchers. Volunteers are needed for this, so if you are a final-year PhD, post-doc or new lecturer, contact our PG rep Jess Mant for further details: [e j.l.mant@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:e.j.l.mant@leeds.ac.uk).

Bristol is well-served by the transport network and accessible by rail, car, bus, coach and plane. The website features comprehensive details of all travel routes.

Accommodation is not included in the conference package, but the Bristol team has arranged preferential rates at several city hotels. These can be found on the website along with details of other providers offering a wide range of prices. There are also a number of childcare options available for those with children.

The call for papers is now open (see page 4) and delegates can take advantage of early bird registration until **19 January 2018**.

For further information and to book your place, visit the conference website: [w www.slsa2018.com](http://www.slsa2018.com). If you have any queries, please contact the conference organising team: [e slsa-2018@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:e slsa-2018@bristol.ac.uk).

We look forward to welcoming you in the spring.

*Devyani Prabhat and Janine Sargoni*

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2017–2018

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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 Rosie Harding  
e r.j.harding@bham.ac.uk.

Newsletter academic sponsors 2016–2019 are: Birkbeck; Cardiff Law School; Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford; Keele University; Kent University; Leeds Beckett University; the LSE; Newcastle University; Northumbria University Newcastle; QMUL; Queen's University Belfast; University College London; University of Birmingham; University of Exeter; University of Leeds; University of Leicester; University of Liverpool; University of Nottingham; University of Sheffield; University of Strathclyde; University of Sussex; University of Westminster; University of York; and Warwick Law School.

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



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## SLSA EXEC NEWS

Michael Thomson, University of Leeds, has stepped down from the Exec after just over three years' service. During his time on the Exec, his valuable contributions include membership of several subcommittees and lead liaison for the joint SLSA/LSA meeting in Mexico City this year.

The next Exec meeting will take place on **18 January 2018**. If you would like to propose an item for discussion, please contact the secretary Neil Graffin [e neil.graffin@open.ac.uk](mailto:neil.graffin@open.ac.uk). Minutes and papers from past meetings are available on the website: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/executive-committee#meet](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/executive-committee#meet).

## FUTURE SLSA EVENTS

### Annual conferences

As detailed on page 1, the next conference will take place in Bristol from **27–29 March 2018** (see page 4 for the call for papers). The following year, socio-legal scholars will meet again at Leeds University, **3–5 April 2019**.

### SLSA 2020 and 2021: call for expressions of interest

The SLSA Executive is seeking expressions of interest from universities wishing to host our annual conferences in 2020 and 2021. The conference runs for three days (lunchtime on day 1 to lunchtime on day 3) and usually takes place just before the Easter break each year, although alternative dates in early to mid-April will be considered. Please see the webpage for details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=305](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=305). Closing date: **15 December 2017**.

Socio-legal studies/sociologie du droit: methods, traditions, theories in France and the UK – call for contributions and registration

This one-day conference, organised by Emilie Cloatre (Kent University) and Olivier Leclerc (CNRS/Centre de Recherches Critiques sur le Droit) will take place at Kent University's Paris campus on **16 April 2018**. Contributions are invited from early career scholars (including PhD students). Closing date for submission of abstracts: **8 December 2017**. See website for full details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/conferences/one-day-conferences#Paris](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/conferences/one-day-conferences#Paris).

### LSAANZ 2018

The SLSA Exec is delighted to announce that the SLSA will be co-sponsoring the Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand (LSAANZ) Annual Conference in Sydney Australia, **12–15 December 2018**. Exec members Sharon Cowan and Jen Hendry are on the planning committee for this event. Further details will be published in due course – save the dates!

### SLSA Postgraduate Conference 2018

The 2018 Postgraduate Conference will take place at Queen's University Belfast from **4–5 January 2018**. Closing date for applications: **1 December 2018**. See website for full details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/conferences/postgraduate-conference#SLSAPG2018](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/conferences/postgraduate-conference#SLSAPG2018).

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### SLSA nominations of panel members for REF 2021

There is still time to express interest in nomination by the SLSA. The SLSA nominations process has a deadline of **5pm on Wednesday 29 November 2017**. See the website for details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=309](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=309).

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership fees were due on **1 July 2017**. The annual full membership fee is £40 (student rate £20). Members are requested to renew their subscriptions by standing order (please make sure that it is for the correct amount) or via bank transfer to the SLSA account. See the website for details: [w www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/join-slsa](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/join-slsa).

### Loss of membership benefits

Failure to update or upgrade your membership subscription will mean that you lose out on benefits (see box below), including receiving the newsletter and weekly ebuletin and eligibility for the SLSA's many funding schemes. If you have any queries about your membership status, you should contact the membership secretary: [e membershipslsa@gmail.com](mailto:membershipslsa@gmail.com).

## SLSA membership benefits

Benefits of SLSA membership include:

- three 16-page (minimum) newsletters per year;
  - personal profile in the SLSA online directory;
  - discounted one-day and SLSA Annual Conference fees;
  - weekly ebuletin;
  - eligibility for grants (research and fieldwork);
  - eligibility for funding schemes (Seminar Competition, Research Training Grants and Mentoring Awards);
  - eligibility for SLSA prizes;
  - members' priority in newsletter publications pages;
  - discounted student membership (with first year free);
  - free annual Postgraduate Conference;
  - student bursaries for SLSA Annual Conference;
  - discounts on selected books;
  - special membership category for retired members;
- ... and much more. Visit [w www.slsa.ac.uk](http://www.slsa.ac.uk) for details.

## SLSA contact details

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Next copy deadline: 29 January 2018  
 Next publication date: 5 March 2018

### SLSA admin

The SLSA has a dedicated email address for applications for and queries about all prizes, competitions and funding schemes.  
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## Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in articles in the *Socio-Legal Newsletter* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the SLSA.

## SLSA 2018

### Call for papers and posters

The call for papers for SLSA 2018 is now open. Abstracts of no more than 300 words are invited for the streams and current topics listed below. The full call text is available at [www.slsa2018.com/current-topics](http://www.slsa2018.com/current-topics). The deadline for submission to the streams and current topics is **6pm on 8 January 2018**. If you have any questions about the suitability of your paper, please contact the relevant convenor(s) (in some cases an email address is given only for the primary contact). The deadline for submission of poster abstracts is: **2 February 2018**.

### Streams

#### Access to justice in context

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#### Exploring legal borderlands

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#### Law's empire, empire's law: justice, law and colonialism

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#### Apologies and the past

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**Law and music**

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**Grenfell Tower and the law of the high rise**

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Dave Cowan

Ed Kirton-Darling e ek276@kent.ac.uk

**Protest and regulation in the context of social and environmental justice**

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Bronwen Morgan e b.morgan@unsw.edu.au

**Sexual relationships: deception, consent and protecting autonomy**

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**Socio-legal perspectives on Brexit**

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**The persistent reality of forced migration**

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**Posters**

An abstract of your poster (up to 300 words) should be sent to e slsa-2018@bristol.ac.uk with the email subject 'Poster abstracts' by **6pm on 2 February 2018**. The researcher should bring the poster to registration between 10:00–13:30 on Tuesday **27 March 2018**.

**SLSA GRANT REPORTS**

*The SLSA offers two types of grants: Research Grants and PhD Fieldwork Grants. Here three research grantholders and one PhD researcher report on their completed projects.*

**Cross-border sharing of rail and air transportation concerns across Europe**

**Richard Hyde, University of Nottingham, and Ashley Savage, University of Liverpool, £1292**

The authors have been engaged in research on the domestic sharing of information by regulators for several years. Experiences based on the UK context identify that regulators can, at times, share information on an ad hoc informal basis as well as utilising official policies and practices. By chance, when the authors utilised freedom of information requests as a methodology, a request aimed at capturing data on sharing between UK regulators and enforcement agencies also identified that UK regulators were sharing concerns with regulators outside of the UK, but were not necessarily tracking or monitoring the outcomes of concerns. The response identified a rich seam of potential research, but it also presented challenges. We both knew that we could identify the various sources of law and that we could probably find the various agreements in place and some of the policy documents, but above all we really needed to find a way to obtain data on the informal sharing that we knew was going on. We decided to use semi-structured interviews and we applied for an SLSA Research Grant to assist in this study.

The project focuses on the sharing of safety concerns with a particular focus on cross-border air and rail transportation. The aim of the co-authored project was to first determine what agreements are in place for the cross-border sharing of safety concerns on an EU-wide and bilateral basis. The second aim was to determine what systems, EU-wide and/or bilateral, were in place to facilitate the sharing of safety concerns and whether these were being used. The third aim was to determine the levels of informal information transportation. We conducted interviews with several regulators at a European and domestic level.

We have been able to identify that regulation of air transportation is arguably in a more mature state than rail transportation. The rail sector is faced with particular challenges. Whilst air transportation has chosen English as its common operating language, the rail sector has not. This makes information-sharing and the implementation of EU-wide initiatives difficult. Language also impacts on technical understanding because, in rail, different words may be used for different parts or mechanical processes. The rail industry is also particularly fragmented. There are so many stakeholders – from the rail operators, train staff, train yards, safety authorities,

government etc – that it is difficult to obtain buy-in for a sector-wide safety reporting system which operates effectively cross-border. The EU Agency for Railways has worked to introduce an online safety reporting system, with multiple languages to better facilitate information-sharing. Whilst these challenges (many cultural) will take time to overcome, safety authorities in European countries have been actively engaging in informal information-sharing between themselves, forging relationships and sharing best practice. Informal sharing, whilst arguably not the most optimal solution, is working to reduce risk.

**Judicial review in the lower criminal courts: a workgroup analysis**

**Richard Young, Birmingham Law School, £1600**

Drawing on workgroup theory (Eisenstein and Jacob, 'Felony Justice', 1977), the present study explored whether firms of defence lawyers refrain from bringing judicial review (JR) so as to avoid damaging ongoing relations within their local court. A fruitful way to examine workgroups is to focus on challenges to its boundaries, as this is when usually unspoken norms (the 'feel for the game' in Bourdieu's terms) may come to the surface. This study accordingly focused on defence solicitors who had actually pursued JR against the decisions of the lower criminal courts to the point of obtaining a reported High Court decision.

A search of Westlaw and BAILII identified 45 firms that met the inclusion criteria. All were contacted and 20 agreed to participate in the study by granting an interview with someone with direct knowledge of the JR in question. Some of these interviewees suggested other solicitors whom they thought were active in this field, so a secondary 'snowball' sample was generated comprising 11 further firms, resulting in four further interviews. In total, 56 firms were contacted and interviews were secured with a solicitor from 24 of these (a success rate of 43%).

As one would expect from workgroup theory, some of the interviewees reported instances of district judges and magistrates (or their clerks) retaliating against defence solicitors who had 'dared' to challenge the court's decision through JR. This retaliation ranged from a relatively mild, but still embarrassing, rebuke in open court, right up to the lodging of an allegation with the Legal Services Board that the solicitor had made a fraudulent legal aid application. A more striking finding, however, was the huge diversity of defence firms in the sample and their very different attitudes to JR.

For example, one cluster of firms depended on legal aid to fund 90 per cent or more of their criminal work, whereas another cluster of firms did no legal aid work at all. Those working in 'legal aid firms' typically appeared in just a few magistrates' courts and were sensitive to the problems of challenging the decisions made by judicial members of their local court's workgroup. While they said they were committed to using JR, the circumstances in which they thought this might

be appropriate seemed limited to 'outrageous decisions'. Moreover, they asserted that competitor legal aid firms made little or no use of JR. By contrast, those working in 'private client' firms appeared all over the country, did not perceive themselves as part of any court-based workgroup and had no hesitation in using JR whenever this might advance the interests of their clients. The implication is that illegality and unfairness by the lower criminal courts is routinely challenged by solicitors acting on behalf of the wealthy and routinely overlooked by those representing the poor.

The reasons for reluctance to use JR stretch beyond differential attachment to court workgroups, of course, and further analysis is revealing the importance of, for example, legal education and training, the structure of a firm and funding arrangements. One article in preparation will examine the issues through the workgroup lens and a second will focus on broader issues pertaining to defence solicitors' use of JR.

## Access to welfare benefits for EU/EEA Roma migrants in the UK after the 2014 benefit reforms

**Egle Dagilyte, Anglia Ruskin University, £1724**

This project is a pilot study designed to collect initial evidence – via interviews/focus groups with EU/EEA Roma migrants and an online survey of NGOs that advise them – on the effect of the recent legal changes to the welfare benefits regime on migrants' lives, as well as to assess whether the practical application of these changes by the UK authorities may breach the EU free movement law. This research fills the gap in information about EU/EEA Roma migrants' experiences in claiming the income-based jobseeker's allowance (JSA) and housing benefit before and after the legal changes to welfare benefits in 2014.

The findings from the focus groups indicate a worrying picture of EU/EEA Roma migrants' rights post-reforms, in the run-up to the Brexit vote.

- 1 There is no clarity as to the advance list of documents which EU/EEA Roma migrants need to produce for the assessment of their right to reside; this often causes delays and results in the abandoning of many welfare benefits applications.
- 2 There is a lack of clear guidance on what constitutes compelling evidence for the purpose of the 'genuine prospect of work' test.
- 3 The UK 'right to reside' test is applied by authorities without taking into account particular personal circumstances, for example: the derived rights as a family member of a worker; non-certified permanent residence of longer than five years; involuntary loss of employment in the past; or delay to apply for income-based JSA after losing a job.
- 4 The UK 'habitual residence test', which arguably contradicts the EU Court of Justice cases of *Antonissen* and *Swaddling*, continues to be seen as incompatible with the EU free movement law.
- 5 If income-based JSA is refused, there is a real risk of expulsion after six months' residence for jobseekers and their families, which is likely to be contrary to EU law (depending on whether a detailed individual assessment of all circumstances is made).
- 6 The absence of the statement of reasons in letters rejecting welfare benefit claims means that claimants are unable to challenge these decisions before courts, which prevents access to justice.
- 7 The removal of housing benefit affected some families in difficulty, eg where the breadwinner became ill.
- 8 The removal of interpretation services at Jobcentre Plus increases the social schism between the English-speaking

local population and EU/EEA migrants who can communicate among themselves in a number of Eastern European languages (Polish, Russian, Slovak). This inhibits social cohesion and integration in the UK.

The online survey of NGO advice workers supported the above findings and showed that the UK authorities dealing with welfare benefit claims, in general, are not familiar with issues of Roma culture which may impact on how claims are made or expectations of application processes and eligibility for welfare benefits. This is especially true in relation to the applicants' written and digital literacy, English language ability and the expectation to keep up with the ever-changing rules on welfare benefit entitlements, distribution and the required paperwork to submit a claim. NGO advice workers also highlighted the lack of public welfare officers' empathy with EU/EEA Roma applicants and the poor trust and cooperation of the UK Roma community with local authorities. With Roma welfare claims being scrutinised more closely than other EU citizens' claims, especially if submitted by Romanian nationals, one advice worker went as far as to describe the UK welfare benefits administration system as 'institutionally racist', while another highlighted the continuing 'stigma of being a Roma'.

Looking at the above evidence, the 2014 welfare changes convey the idea that EU/EEA Roma citizens are 'the unwanted', which may influence decisions to migrate back to home countries and face discrimination there, despite the fact that this may have been the reason for some of them seeking asylum in the UK 19 years ago. The impact assessment of the 2013–2014 welfare benefit reform has either not been properly carried out by the government, or is patchy and even contradictory across the different measures, showing that policies are not backed up by substantive evidence, but driven by a political populist agenda. In the digital age of 'fake news', such attitudes of public authorities are extremely problematic and, unfortunately, are further highlighted by some of the non-evidenced claims made in the lead-up to the Brexit vote, coupled with the rise of hate crime in the months that followed it.

The research findings have been published in the *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law* (2015, 37:4) and in *The Conversation* (21 June 2016), with papers presented at the Social Policy Association 2016 Annual Conference, the Gypsy Lore Society Annual Meeting and Conference on Gypsy/Romani Studies in 2016 and the SLSA 2017 Annual Conference.

The researchers, Dr Egle Dagilyte and Professor Margaret Greenfields, would like to thank the SLSA and Professor Alison Chambers (Pro Vice Chancellor's Fund, Faculty of Society and Health, Buckinghamshire New University) for financial support for this project. We are also grateful to the participants to this research and Roma Community Care and the Roma Support Group, which so helpfully assisted with engaging EU/EEA Roma migrants.

### ***Social and Legal Studies 27(1)***

- Articulations of aboriginal title, indigenous rights, and living customary law in South Africa – Daniel Huizenga
- Hegel's hipsters: claiming ownership in the contemporary city – Amelia Thorpe
- The limits of procedural discretion: unequal treatment and vulnerability in Britain's asylum appeals – Nick Gill, Rebecca Rotter, Andrew Burrige and Jennifer Allsopp
- The social organization of access to justice for youth in 'unsafe' urban neighbourhoods – Naomi Nichols
- From offender rehabilitation to the aesthetic of the victim – Yoav Mehozay

## Conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence against men and transitional justice in Northern Uganda

Philipp Schulz, Transitional Justice Institute, Ulster University, £2000

Conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence against men occurs more frequently than commonly assumed, yet it remains consistently under-reported and under-studied. This holds particularly true for the intersections between sexual and gender-based forms of violence against men and transitional justice processes, which to date have only been insufficiently explored throughout existing research. Only a handful of studies have thus far engaged with the question of justice in response to male-directed wartime sexual violence, characterised by a lack of empirical data and thin conceptions of justice. In particular, male survivors' views and perspectives on post-conflict and transitional justice remain almost entirely neglected by existing studies, hence constituting a lacuna in the literature that this study seeks to address. Against this backdrop, my doctoral dissertation has sought to examine how male survivors of sexual violence, specifically in post-conflict Northern Uganda, conceptualise justice, and how and to what extent transitional justice processes, in Uganda as elsewhere globally, address male sexual harms and respond to male survivors' lived realities and experiences. The study thereby constitutes the first-ever systematic empirical examination of justice in response to sexual violence against men in a transitional setting from a survivor's perspective, thereby significantly contributing to the emerging literature on the gendered dimensions and manifestations of post-conflict attempts to deal with the legacies of the past, specifically through a masculinities lens.

Towards this end, the dissertation draws on original primary and qualitative field research findings, derived from seven months of empirical research in Northern Uganda, conducted in May 2015 and between January and July 2016, and financially supported by the SLSA. The data underpinning the study specifically derive from four workshop discussions, guided by a participatory action research (PAR) methodological approach, with 46 male survivors of sexual violence who are members of survivors' support groups. The findings are complemented by an additional 79 key informant interviews, two focus group discussions with 11 male elders, and ethnographic participant reflection and participation. The research was conducted in collaboration with the Refugee Law Project (RLP) at the School of Law at Makerere University in Uganda, and thus situated as part of an ongoing and sustainable process of engaging with male survivors of sexual violence, as part of RLP's seminal work in this area, in an ethically sensitive manner. The SLSA funding supported the research financially, and enabled my travels to and within the field site, as well as my institutional affiliation as a research associate with RLP, which was instrumental for the conduct of the research, and in particular to address and circumvent some of the ethical dimensions of conducting this sensitive research with populations of survivors in vulnerable situations.

In brief, the findings underpinning the study show that in Northern Uganda, as elsewhere globally, a vacuum of gender-sensitive and harm-responsive justice for male survivors of sexual violence prevails, conditioned by the masculine yet hetero-normative values and assumptions dominating many justice conceptions and transitional justice processes globally. While transitional justice is often for, by and about men, it nevertheless leaves male sexual and gendered harms, which fall outside the hetero-normative frames of these processes, unaccounted for. My findings show that such is certainly the case in Northern Uganda, where numerous transitional justice

instruments co-exist alongside one another, all of which are characterised by extensive gendered blind-spots which neglect male sexual harms and thus do not imply the potential to deliver justice in response to sexual violence against men. Situated within this vacuum of official measures and processes, justice for male survivors of sexual violence in Northern Uganda takes place on the micro-level, amongst the war-affected populations and survivors themselves and outside the purview of the state. In particular, the male survivors of sexual violence who participated in my study attain a sense of justice on their own terms through their membership of and participation in survivors' groups, which enables them to address the sexual and gendered harms resulting from their violations and to seek recognition of their thus far silenced, marginalised and ignored experiences.

Conducting this empirically heavy research did not only reveal numerous interesting findings with important empirical, conceptual and theoretical implications for existing research on conflict-related sexual violence and transitional justice processes, but also grew to mean a lot to me personally. Having an opportunity to spend a prolonged period of time in the field enabled me to develop close relationships and, indeed, friendships with many of my interlocutors and research participants, which I carry with me beyond the scope of the research, and which have had and continue to have an impact not only on my academic endeavours but also on my personal life. Towards this end, I am immensely grateful to the SLSA for supporting my research and for believing in its potential and importance from the very beginning, since the first months of forming this project.

### *Journal of Law and Society (Winter 2017)*

#### Articles

'On the perimeter of the lawful': enduring illegality in the Irish family planning movement, 1972–1985 – Emilie Cloatre and Mairead Enright

Bodily integrity, embodiment and the regulation of parental choice – Marie Fox and Michael Thomson

Family (law) assemblages: new modes of being (legal) – Frederik Swennen and Mariano Croce

The effects of changes to legal aid on lawyers' professional identity and behaviour in summary criminal cases: a case study – Lucy Welsh

Starting out on a judicial career: gender diversity and the appointment of recorders, circuit judges and deputy High Court judges, 1996–2016 – Michael Blackwell

Overseeing criminal justice – the supervisory role of the Public Prosecution Service in China – Yu Mou

Renegotiating social citizenship in the age of devolution – Mark Simpson

Power relations in employment disputes – Emily Rose and Nicole Busby

#### Book reviews

Lizzie Barmes, *Bullying and Behavioural Conflict at Work* – Alan Bogg

Sue Westwood, *Ageing, Gender and Sexuality* – Craig Lund  
Sally Engle Merry, *The Seductions of Quantification* – Katie Cruz

Lauren Benton and Lisa Ford, *Rage for Order: The British Empire and the Origins of International Law 1800–1850* – Upendra Baxi

John Harrington, *Towards a Rhetoric of Medical Law* – Bob Jessop

Ian Kumeakawa, *The First Serious Optimist: AC Pigou and the Birth of Welfare Economics* – David Campbell

## SLSA ANNUAL SEMINAR COMPETITION

*This year's Seminar Competition is now open for applications. The total prize fund is a maximum of £10,000.*

The money can be used to support the delivery of an individual seminar or short conference, or a series of events. There are no restrictions on subject matter, provided that applicants can show relevance to the socio-legal community. Applicants must be SLSA members. Applications will not be considered where the amount of support required is less than £500, or where the event is targeted at staff or students of a single institution. The fund has so far supported 25 highly successful events.

If you are considering an application, please ensure that your proposal accords with the published guidance, downloadable from the SLSA website [www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/funding-schemes/seminar-competition](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/funding-schemes/seminar-competition). If you have any queries, please contact the subcommittee chair John Harrington [e harringtonj3@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:harringtonj3@cardiff.ac.uk). Closing date: **11 December 2017**.

Reports of two recent SLSA seminars held this year follow.

### Devolved nations and international law

*Yvonne McDermott Rees and Hayley Roberts report on their seminar at Bangor University on 16 June 2017.*

This SLSA-funded seminar examined the complex relationship between devolved nations and the central UK government in the realm of international law. While the UK is party to international treaties, devolution means that it will often fall to devolved governments to implement those international legal obligations, and this can lead to divergences in practice.

The seminar analysed the impact of devolution on the UK's international legal practices, and the influence of international law over the UK's devolved administrations. It examined the level of consultation that the UK government enters into with devolved administrations before signing treaties (or withdrawing from treaties, as is pertinent in the context of Brexit), and during the monitoring processes for international human rights treaties. It also explored how international law feeds into devolved legislation, and impacts on such issues as independence and secession.

The socio-legal research seminar brought together socio-legal perspectives from Wales, England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and a number of papers examined comparative angles, including the system of federalism in Belgium and the status of the Faroe Islands as an autonomous country within the kingdom of Denmark. Topics discussed included: international human rights obligations and devolution; Brexit, devolution, and international law; secession and independence; and devolution and private international law.

Distinguished speakers included: Mick Antoniw AM, Counsel General for Wales; Huw Irranca-Davies AM, chair of the Welsh Assembly's Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee; Felicity Belton, University of Glasgow; Dr David Crikemans, University of Antwerp; Dr Jo Hunt, Dr Huw Pritchard, and Dr Rachel Minto, Cardiff University; Dr Jacques Hartmann, University of Dundee; Dr Hayley Roberts, Dr Tara Smith and Elizabeth Strange, Bangor University; Dr Simon Hoffman and Dr Yvonne McDermott Rees, Swansea University; Dr Emma Roberts, University of Chester; and Emma McIlveen, Bar of Northern Ireland.

We are currently putting together a book proposal for an edited volume on this topic. We are very grateful to the SLSA for funding this seminar.

### The voluntary sector in criminal justice: a seminar to set the research agenda

*Philippa Tomczak, University of Sheffield, summarises her two-day event at the Centre for Criminological Research held 5–6 June 2017.*

At this international, multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral seminar Dr Philippa Tomczak (Leverhulme Trust Early Career Research Fellow, author of *The Penal Voluntary Sector*) launched the new voluntary sector in criminal justice research network for academics, practitioners and policymakers. This network fills an important gap in scholarship and infrastructure because, although the criminal justice voluntary/charitable sector is more topical than ever, it has not received academic attention anywhere in the world commensurate with its importance.

The generous SLSA funding, topped up by University of Sheffield School of Law funding, enabled the participation of three US speakers who enhanced the range of presentations and provided further international context: Professor Michael Hallett, University of North Florida; Dr Emma Hughes, California State University, Fresno; and Professor Tobi Jacobi, Colorado State University.

Dr Hughes opened the conference with her paper 'The states we're in: reflections on voluntary sector engagement in US prisons'. She highlighted the sheer scale of imprisonment in the USA and provided a Californian case study of regional variations in voluntary sector programme provision, highlighting benefits and limitations and the importance of gatekeepers. Professor Hallett's presentation on 'Bad faith: charity, privatisation, and religious volunteerism in American corrections' illustrated the extent to which American prisons are reliant on faith-based programmes and questioned the constitutionality of such programmes, with a fascinating case study of Angola prison in Louisiana. Professor Jacobi presented 'Volunteer training and self-care in a US jail writing programme', which provided an insightful account of the need for ongoing training and self-care of and amongst prison volunteers, who are vulnerable to burn-out due to the risky nature of their work with people experiencing trauma. Delegates were delighted to receive copies of the *Speak Out* journal from Tobi, which publishes inmate creative writing.

Organisers also secured British Academy funding. Philippa is part of the British Academy Rising Star Engagement Award Scheme. This award supported a separate but complimentary element of the seminar, facilitating the attendance of 10 early career researchers and further UK and European keynote speakers. A substantial number of practitioner delegates were also welcomed. Each panel included a presentation from a practitioner and there was also a workshop session where participants were divided into small groups for a targeted discussion of their specific research needs, with questions provided to stimulate discussion. One key point emerging from these discussions was the burden of evidence faced by 'innovative' voluntary sector projects to prove their contribution.

All feedback rated the event overall as good or excellent.

Future activities for the network include:

- developing our website and online repository of resources;
- presenting four thematic panels on the criminal justice voluntary sector at the American Society of Criminology annual conference (Philadelphia, November 2017);
- developing a special issue of a peer-reviewed academic journal;
- and holding a second seminar at the British Academy, London, in early January 2018.

Anyone wishing to join the network should feel free to contact Philippa Tomczak by emailing [e p.j.tomczak@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:p.j.tomczak@sheffield.ac.uk). Academics, practitioners and policymakers are most welcome.



## REFLECTIONS ON AN EXHIBITION

Agata Fijalkowski recently curated an exhibition of photographs of the Albanian writer and political dissident Musine Kokalari (1917–1983) for the National Science and Media Museum in Bradford (12 September–15 October 2017). A short 'arty' film of Musine making her court statement at her 1946 trial accompanied the display. The exhibition and film are the results from a wider project about visual law, 'The Power of Images'.



Musine Kokalari, 1937–1939, courtesy of Linda Kokalari/Musine Kokalari Institute

I first came across Musine's image during a research trip to Albania in 2012 when I visited an exhibition on 'The Genocide of the Intellectual' at the National Historical Museum in Tirana. The image continued to haunt me during subsequent research visits to the country in 2013 and 2015. It appeared in other initiatives concerning the Albanian communist past.

It was during the last two trips that I learned of her identity and life account when, one day, while working at the national archives, I stumbled upon her 1946 trial transcript. Musine's story is certainly one of the most poignant of the twentieth century, as this brief biography demonstrates.

Musine Kokalari was born on 10 February 1917 to a progressive family. She embarked on university studies in literature in Rome and was active in anti-fascist and anti-communist movements.

The communist authorities kept the family under close surveillance. Musine was involved in the Democratic Coalition, a political movement that supported the postponement of elections and campaigned for multi-party elections, hoping that representatives (from the UK and US) would monitor them. Unfortunately, all 37 members of the Coalition were arrested and deemed traitors of the Albanian nation.

In 1946, Musine stood before the military court in Tirana. Her stoic stance is illustrated in the haunting photograph that was taken by the Albanian Telegraphic Agency. In defiance she wore a mourning veil in memory of her executed brothers.

Musine served 16 years of a 20-year sentence. She spent a further period of exile in northern Albania. In 1983, she passed away from cancer, two years before the decline of the Albanian dictatorship. It is timely, in Musine's centenary year, to reflect on her legacy.

Under the Socialist Party leadership, the Albanian authorities have attempted to address the communist past, including its crimes, through a variety of measures. In addition to setting up a historical commission and a museum of the history of surveillance in the country, in 2015 the Parliament passed a law permitting individuals to access their secret police or *Sigurimi* files. In 2017 the Kokalari family was presented with the file that the secret police kept on Musine. The 2015 measure is the first effort towards transparency since the Nafiz Bezhani Verification Committee from 1997–1998 that investigated sections of the civil service for collaboration. Victims of human rights violations, like the Kokalari family, may now have the chance for closure. But what does closure mean? And what role do images (and film) play?

The photograph seems to reactivate its object in the particular situation. For the viewer Musine's image captures an

important experience with the law, which comprises many layers. In 1946, Musine's image was that of a traitor, featured on the front page of the main newspaper two days running. Today, Musine's photograph has been appropriated by various actors, including, for example, museum curators, film directors, those engaged in memorialising victims of the Enver Hoxha regime – becoming a part of several parallel narratives about realising justice and remembering the communist past. With so little information available about what happened to those, like Musine, caught up in the regime's web of terror, art forms can serve as a forum to document crimes, highlight the roles of justice and help to overcome law's limitations. While Musine did submit a statement to the court, she was never allowed to speak at any length during her trial. My film is an adapted script of what she would have said. As we unpack what is being captured by a specific art form, we see how investigations into historical justice raise questions about ownership and who/what is controlling the master narrative of the past. Our experience becomes both affective and self-reflexive – a critical question that lends itself further to exploration within the socio-legal framework.

The film will be online soon. Watch this space [www.imdb.com/title/tt7460732/?ref\\_=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt7460732/?ref_=fn_al_tt_1): *An Unsung Hero: Musine Kokalari* (2017).

Agata Fijalkowski e a.fijalkowski@lancaster.ac.uk



Musine Kokalari at her 1946 trial © Albanian Telegraphic Agency

TIRANA, NËPËR 1946  
1951 GJYQI I SAKIT (SHKICASTIT) E SHOKË, MUSINE  
KOKALARI PËRPARA TRUPIT GJYKOR.

### people . . .

GITANJALI GILL has been promoted to professor of environmental law at Northumbria University, Newcastle.

In September 2017, DEVYANI PRABHAT, University of Bristol, received the Society of Legal Scholars' Birks Book Prize for *Unleashing the Force of Law: Legal mobilization, national security, and basic freedoms* (2017) Palgrave Macmillan. The runner-up was ALYSIA BLACKHAM, University of Melbourne, for *Extending Working Life for Older Workers: Age discrimination law, policy and practice* (2016) Hart.

Former SLSA chair Professor SALLY WHEELER will be leaving Queen's University Belfast to take up the post of dean of the College of Law at ANU, Australia, in January 2018.

On 13 October 2017, the Academy of Social Sciences appointed 69 new fellows. Five of them are members of the SLSA.

- WILLIAM BOWRING is professor of law at Birkbeck, University of London. He is a leading expert in the UK on legal and human rights issues in Russia, both in practice and in theory.
- DAVINA COOPER is professor of law and political theory at Kent University. She is internationally known for her work on the British state's relationship to sexuality.
- ALAN PATERSON is professor of law at the University of Strathclyde. He is a leading international expert on appellate judges and the pre-eminent authority on the UK House of Lords and Supreme Court.
- ANDREW SANDERS is professor of criminal law and criminology at the University of Sussex. He is an eminent criminologist and a leading authority on prosecutions.
- MATTHEW WEAIT is professor of law and society at the University of Portsmouth. He is a pioneering interdisciplinary socio-legal scholar in the field of criminal law relating to HIV transmission and exposure and to people living with HIV and AIDS.

## Sexual violence against older people

Many people over 60 in the UK are victims of sexual violence. However, until 2015 the data on recorded sexual offences involving older victims was not available due to an age-cap of 59 on the Crime Survey for England and Wales. This was one of the primary reasons for my doctoral research (funded by the ESRC) at Durham University to examine the extent, nature and consequences of sexual violence against older people in the UK.

Using freedom of information requests, data was collected from all police forces in England, Wales and Northern Ireland on recorded rape and sexual assault by penetration offences (ss 1 and 2 of the Sexual Offences Act 2003) involving a victim aged 60 and over, recorded from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2013. Qualitative interviews were also conducted with practitioners working in sexual violence and age-related organisations. Additionally, interviews were also conducted with three women who had been raped since the age of 60.

Despite pervasive stereotypes of what constitutes a 'real rape' – a young woman attacked by a stranger – the research revealed that older people are victims too, although proportionately less than those in younger age groups. Similar to younger age groups, the majority of victims were female and perpetrators were male. However, the study found interesting and unique characteristics of offences involving older victims: those over 60 are more likely to be raped by an acquaintance, either in their own home or a care home, and the vast majority were raped or sexually assaulted by someone much younger than them.

Interviews uncovered a range of consequences for older victims and found that age can create specific challenges for accessing support, reporting to the police and engaging with services. Age and age-related health conditions can also exacerbate the physical and psychological impacts of rape, and rape can worsen existing health problems. The lack of awareness of older people as victims and the absence of both research and policy in this area created challenges for older victims accessing support, but also left a void in terms of training and guidance for practitioners working with them; for example, performing forensic medical examinations with victims who lack capacity for consent, or where the victim has physical conditions preventing them getting on the examination bed, or restricted mobility making it difficult to open their legs to be examined. These challenges and needs presented real concerns for practitioners, particularly as there is a lack of best practice or clear guidance for how to manage and respond to them.

The research led to a number of media engagements, the development of guides for practitioners and survivors (in partnership with Age UK Teesside, Age UK Gateshead and Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland)\* and a number of training workshops for practitioners have also been conducted across the North East. Furthermore, influenced in part by the research, the Office for National Statistics trialled the collection of data on sexual violence for the over-60s in its autumn 2016 Crime Survey for England and Wales and has since confirmed that the age-cap will be increased from 59 to 74 going forward.

In recognition of the research outcomes, I was extremely proud to be a finalist for Outstanding Early Career Impact in the ESRC Celebrating Impact Prize 2017.

Follow @Hannah\_Bows on Twitter to find out more about my current project examining homicide of older people.

Hannah Bows [e hannah.bows@durham.ac.uk](mailto:hannah.bows@durham.ac.uk)

\* H Bows and N Westmarland (2016) *Anyone Can Be a Victim of Rape: Guide for Practitioners*, Durham University with Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland, Age UK Teesside and Age UK Gateshead [w www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/PractitionerGuide2.pdf](http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/PractitionerGuide2.pdf); and H Bows (2017) *Sexual Violence in Later Life: Information for Survivors, Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland* [w www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/RCTN\\_SVInLaterLife.pdf](http://www.dur.ac.uk/resources/criva/RCTN_SVInLaterLife.pdf)

## Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society

The Van Vollenhoven Institute (VVI) is the law-and-society hub of Leiden Law School in The Netherlands. The VVI brings together scholars with different disciplinary backgrounds – including law, anthropology, history, public administration and sociology – to address questions pertaining to law in action.

The institute has considerable experience in the Global South, but has recently broadened its scope. It now also focuses firmly on socio-legal questions emerging inside the Global North. The VVI also fuses insights from the Global North and South to shed light on transnational processes occurring in an increasing globalising world.

In addition to being a top research institute, the VVI also offers socio-legal courses. Furthermore, it is currently developing a unique master's programme (MSc) in law and society. And, lastly, it constructs tailor-made professional courses for academics and practitioners upon request.

Key research areas are: migration; citizenship; displacement; legal pluralism; security; conflict; transitional justice; and legal mobilisation.

The VVI is led by three chairs: Professor Adriaan Bedner (law and society in Indonesia); Professor Jan Michiel Otto (law and development); and Professor Maartje van der Woude (law and society). For inquiries about the VVI or about the possibility of visiting or to give a lecture in the VVI Leiden Socio-Legal Series, please email [e vollenhoven@law.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:vollenhoven@law.leidenuniv.nl).

Maartje van der Woude

## Centre of Law and Society, Cardiff

The Centre of Law and Society (CLS) was launched in June 2016 with an opening conference, *Main Currents in Contemporary Sociology of Law*, with speakers including Tony Bradney, Davina Cooper, Roger Cotterrell, Dave Cowan, Fiona Cownie, Mavis Maclean, Kieran McEvoy, Linda Mulcahy, David Sugarman, Phil Thomas, William Twining and Sally Wheeler. Papers from the conference were published in a Special Supplement of the *Journal of Law and Society* in November 2017.

Since its launch, the CLS has organised and co-organised a number of events during 2016 and 2017 and its wide profile now covers areas of global justice, gender and law, security, crime and justice and EU legal studies in context, as well as general and theoretical issues of socio-legal studies. CLS activities include public lectures for academic and non-academic communities, international academic conferences and seminars as well as PhD conferences and workshops.

Research materials and outputs are regularly shared on CLS social media and the Socio-Legal Conversations series on Youtube includes contributions from Martha Fineman, Gunther Teubner and other distinguished socio-legal scholars. The CLS also co-organised the second PhD socio-legal residential masterclass at Gregynog Hall, Tregynon, Wales, in June 2017. Early career scholars have utilised the CLS fellowship scheme and joined the CLS in the last 12 months to conduct and share their research.

Following annual public lectures by David Nelken and James T Gathii in 2017, the CLS will be hosting a number of events in its Law and Global Justice and Crime and Security research streams and other activities and hopes to welcome scholars from other universities and academic institutions in the UK and worldwide.

For further details, see [w www.cardiff.ac.uk/research/explore/research-units/centre-of-law-and-society](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/research/explore/research-units/centre-of-law-and-society).

Professor Jiří Příbáň, CLS Director, Cardiff University  
[e priban@cf.ac.uk](mailto:priban@cf.ac.uk)

## LERN: what can it do for you?

The Legal Education Research Network (LERN) has been around since 1993, initially as a specialist group within the Association of Law Teachers (ALT), but now supported by a range of organisations, especially the Society for Legal Scholars (SLS) and Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, plus contributions from the Law Publishers and the Higher Education Authority, among others.

Its role is a very simple one – that of providing advice, support, facilities and events for those interested in researching legal education in all its forms. We have strong international links and further information about who we are and what we do can be found on our website: [www.ials.sas.ac.uk/lern](http://www.ials.sas.ac.uk/lern). Our main focus is on workshops, which often deal with developing research skills and related topics, such as managing projects, promoting findings and effective dissemination of work. In support of this, we are fortunate to be able to draw on our highly experienced experts in legal education research, many of whom are members of our Steering Group.

We know that research into legal education is demanding and that researchers can feel isolated. We provide support regarding the education system more generally but also a mentoring scheme – TEAM LERN. As well as workshops and the like we fund small projects on legal education, where the financial support comes from ALT and SLS. Grantees are allocated a mentor and have the opportunity to ‘showcase’ their project at a major LERN event held each December. LERN also acts as a publisher and has on its website overviews of completed projects, plus full reports of others.

LERN has links with many learned societies, including those researching education more generally. Increasingly, LERN runs events on a collaborative basis with societies, law schools and other bodies, our most recent being in September 2017 with the Open University.

Membership of LERN is free and open to all. If you haven't already attended one of our events, please do so – you will find enthusiastic, supportive colleagues.

*Patricia Leighton, Co-director, LERN*

## Invitation to Socio-legal modelling workshop

Applications are invited for participants to attend a workshop devoted to reframing your current socio-legal research project using design-based strategies, and in so doing to improve your abilities to explain (ask: how?), to generate (ask: why?) and to speculate (ask: what if?) in relation to it. In this one day hands-on workshop participants will make three types of models (modular, found and bespoke) about their own research project and experience the risks and rewards – in terms of communication, agility and openness – of making their research visible and tangible in a communal setting.

This event will take place on **9 March 2018** at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS), London. Closing date for applications: **1 December 2017**. Places are funded by Kent Law School and IALS. See website for details: <https://econosociolegal.wordpress.com/2017/10/19/works-hop-making-sociolegal-research-visible-and-tangible>.

*Diamond Ashiagbor and Amanda Perry-Kessar*

## Law Commission academic placements

The Law Commission is open to suggestions from academics and PhD students for an attachment to undertake a defined piece of work that would add value to a Law Commission project. Payment is not available, but reasonable travel expenses would be covered. Further details are available on the website [www.lawcom.gov.uk/placements-and-internships](http://www.lawcom.gov.uk/placements-and-internships).

## JLS news

The *Journal of Law and Society* (JLS) is growing in page size. For some years the JLS volume page budget has been 674. As of 2017 the page budget rises to 736 – so you can anticipate a ‘bumper Xmas issue’. We are also introducing ‘Early View’ of accepted papers. And, finally, we are making some changes to the way we publish special issues. Next year (2018) will be the last year in which a special issue will be published as the first hard copy issue of the year, but we can promise you a very fine signing-off, edited by Professor Bronwen Morgan (see below). Our practice henceforward will be periodically to produce electronic issues around a particular theme called ‘Special Supplements’ in addition to the four standard issues which will continue to be produced both electronically and in hard copy. These electronic Special Supplements will be made available on free access for two months immediately after publication.

The first such JLS Special Supplement, edited by Professor Jiří Příbáň, entitled *Main Currents in Contemporary Sociology of Law*, was published online in November 2017. See <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jols.v44.S1/issuetoc>.

*Phil Thomas, JLS Editor*

### *Journal of Law and Society* (March 2018)

**Special issue: Law for a new economy – Enterprise, sharing, regulation**

**Guest editor: Bronwen Morgan**

Introduction – Bronwen Morgan and Amelia Thorpe

#### **I Enterprise**

Embedding society in the firm – Nina Boeger

Redefining the corporation for a sustainable new economy – Beate Sjøfjell

Corporate enterprise as commonwealth – Stephen Healy

Telling stories beautifully: hybrid legal forms in the new economy – Bronwen Morgan

#### **II Sharing**

‘BorrowMyDoggy.Com’: rethinking peer to peer exchange for genuine sharing – Devyani Prabhat

‘This land is yours’: ownership and agency in the sharing city – Amelia Thorpe

The regulation of equity crowdfunding in the sharing economy – Marina Nehme

#### **III Regulation**

An ecological approach to regulatory studies? – Christine Parker and Fiona Haines

The role of regulation in creating alternative imaginings – Morag McDermont

### *Social and Legal Studies* 26(6)

**Special issue: Twenty-five years of *Social and Legal Studies***

**Guest editors: Alison Diduck and Sally Sheldon**

Regulation: managing the antinomies of economic vice and virtue – Sol Picciotto

The limits of socio-legal radicalism: *Social & Legal Studies* and third world scholarship – John Harrington and Ambreena Manji

‘In this interregnum’: dialectical themes in the critique of criminal justice – Henrique Carvalho and Alan Norrie

Looking back, looking forward: feminist legal scholarship in *Social & Legal Studies* – Susan B Boyd and Debra Parkes

Esthetics and methods in the study of sexual rights – Jonathan Goldberg-Hiller

## WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH IN THE LEGAL COMMUNITY: MAKING THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN LEGAL PRACTICE AND LAW SCHOOLS

*Richard Collier has recently been awarded a Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship to undertake the project 'Wellbeing, Law and Society: Politics, Policy and Practice – A Socio-Legal Study' and is a member of the Legal Professions Wellbeing Taskforce. Here Richard explores some recent developments around wellbeing and mental health at the interface of the discipline of law, legal professional practice and legal education and training, and considers why this has become an issue of growing concern within the legal community.*

### Introduction

On 10 October 2017, World Mental Health Day, a conference, 'Making Mental Health Matter', took place in London to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the charity Lawcare. Drawing together organisations from across the legal community, the event reflected the growing interest within the legal profession and legal academy alike in the issue of wellbeing and mental health; an interest encapsulated in the establishment in 2016 of the Legal Professions Wellbeing Taskforce. This taskforce brings together representatives from legal professional and educational establishments and seeks to connect different parts of the legal community, including university law schools, in tackling problems in this area, to identify opportunities for joint working and support coordination and collaboration across the sector.

### Why now? A context for the legal community's 'wellbeing turn'

Considerable evidence suggests interest in wellbeing, defined broadly and encompassing questions of both physical and mental health, has moved centre stage, in the UK and internationally, within debates about economic, cultural and political change. In public policy, the UK is one of several countries whose governments have sought to instrumentally measure the subjective wellbeing of their population. In higher education, we have seen a heightened focus on wellbeing and mental health in institutional research-funding priorities; and in the sphere of public health there is not so much a steady drip but a seeming torrent of studies highlighting the sheer scale of mental health problems across the UK population. In May 2017, during Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW), for example, it was reported that one in six of the UK workforce currently experiences mental health problems; and 70 million work days are lost in the UK each year due to mental illness which is now the leading cause of sickness and absence from work (Mental Health Foundation 2017). Noting that more than four in ten people say they have experienced depression, this suggests that many people are, in the theme of MHAW 2017, *surviving but not thriving*.

Other aspects of the wellbeing turn set recent debates in the legal community within this broader context. Wellbeing raises questions about the responsibilities of employers in promoting positive wellbeing and resilience in the workplace. This has been a key driver within law in making the business case for taking the wellbeing and mental health of employees seriously. A concern with the financial dimensions of having a disproportionately high health and safety spend on psychological conditions, and potential reputational damage of failing to act in this area, has led to an array of initiatives and campaigns urging the legal community to 'get its act together' (eg the Tristan Jepson Foundation in Australia and the Legal Professions Wellbeing Taskforce).

### What is the legal profession's 'wellbeing problem'?

How did we get here? A growing body of international research suggests significant problems exist around wellbeing for many legal professionals. In the UK, research studies and datasets – be it from the Law Society via health-and-wellbeing surveys, annual Lawcare data or the recent research reports on *Wellbeing at the Bar* (2015) and a study by the Junior Lawyers Division (2017) – highlight a common theme; that wellbeing and mental health is of heightened concern within the legal community. More specifically, it is argued, there is something about the practices and cultures of law that can exacerbate problems in this area. Some studies point to a higher incidence of depressive symptoms amongst lawyers and law students compared with other professions; the high propensity of legal professionals, and City workers especially, to use alcohol or other drugs to reduce or manage symptomatology associated with poor wellbeing; and, crucially, the 'stigma issue' in law, a theme that cuts across recent initiatives in the sector and the subject of the 2017 Green Ribbon 'This is Me in the City' campaign, focused on creating a visible movement of support to end stigma, encourage people to share their stories and create inclusive workplace cultures.

What, however, is the underlying problem? Underscoring the debate we find recurring concerns; for example, about poor work-life balance and pressures associated with a need for frequent long hours in the law; the low decision latitude and lack of workplace autonomy for many practitioners; and, in particular, how the combination of a high pressure, demanding working environment and the dominant structure, organisation, allocation and form of the billing of legal work has, within the context of an increasingly hyper-competitive profession, heightened pressure on lawyers in ways that have implications for experiences of social connectedness, subjective wellbeing and understandings of professional commitment. The response has been multi-dimensional, encompassing attempts to promote improved wellbeing and mental/physical health awareness amongst lawyers; to encourage greater support for those staff who do face difficulties; and to challenge working cultures and conditions that are deleterious to lawyer health.

On the ground, meanwhile, beyond the formation of the 2016 Taskforce and work of Lawcare as an advisory and support service, both the Law Society and Solicitors Regulation Authority are seeking to increase awareness, develop the research base and work with other organisations in the mental health sector. At the Bar, the 2015 *Wellbeing at the Bar* report has been followed by a dedicated Mental Health and Wellbeing at the Bar website, the establishment of a Wellness for Law Forum and, in June 2017, a conference 'Rewiring the Law'. In law firms, we are seeing the introduction of wellbeing programmes encompassing attempts to encourage lawyers to speak out, tackle stigma and share experience; the development of 'healthy body at work' initiatives and turn towards mindfulness programmes; and a focus on enhanced communication, reaching out to other organisations exemplified by the work of law firms in the City Mental Health Alliance and a June 2017 'Graduate Wellbeing in the City' conference. Finally, there is a growing recognition of the importance of the role law firm partners and leaders have in delivering this agenda and demonstrating behaviours that show genuine interest in and care for the people in teams.

### The law student wellness agenda

What, however, of university law schools? The discussion about law student wellness taking place across many university law schools at present, reflected in sessions at recent SLSA and Society of Legal Scholars conferences, must be set in a broader context; specifically, growing evidence of the problems that exist around the mental health status of post-secondary students. In September 2017, for example, a survey of 58 UK higher

education providers found that the number of first-year students who disclose a mental illness when arriving at university has risen almost fivefold in the past decade as more young women, especially, seek help for mental health conditions (Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) 2017); that universities across the sector are being overwhelmed by the demands for counselling and other help; and that more resources should be made available. A host of other studies confirm this picture and suggest the prevalence and severity of mental health problems is getting worse (see, for example, the work of Student Minds and the Higher Education Policy Institute report *The Invisible Problem? Improving Students' Mental Health*). Against this backdrop, in December 2016 Universities UK announced a new strategic programme aimed at 'embedding' mental health and wellbeing of students and staff in higher education.

In relation to law schools specifically, however, a now rich international literature on the topic of law student wellness reveals several themes; the argument, for example, that the pressure of fees and cultural changes in universities associated with the marketisation of the sector have heightened the pressures on students, and those on vocational courses in particular; questions about whether there is a correlation between aspects of the conventional undergraduate LLB degree and future life problems, leading to discussion about how the degree might better embrace concern with students' wellbeing and resilience (a debate particularly developed in the context of Australian legal education); and, at an organisational level, how law schools and universities might better support students, be proactive rather than reactive, given the rapidly rising number of referrals across the sector to wellbeing support. Thus, several UK law schools, such as my own, now have dedicated wellbeing and mental health weeks specifically aimed at law students.

And (legal) academics?

Running alongside this debate, however, is another body of literature concerned with university academics themselves. The transformation in UK universities regarding processes associated with the marketisation of higher education has been the subject of a vast interdisciplinary and international scholarship. One strand of this work is concerned to explore changes that have had significant impact on multifarious aspects of academic working structures, cultures and practices. This development has itself prompted a sub-field of scholarship within socio-legal studies. In summary, an intensification of processes of metricisation, audit and new models of performance management, it is suggested, have resulted in an academy marked by what Burrows (2012) has referred to as new 'structures of feeling': a development that, in turn, is having implications for wellbeing and mental health reflected in recent discussions in the sector of the 'hidden injuries' of the 'neo-liberal university' (Gill 2009); the rise of the 'anxious university' (Berg et al 2016); and the subjective consequences of inhabiting an increasingly competitive 'accelerated' academy. A rapidly growing body of work is seeking to explore within specific disciplinary settings mental and emotional distress and wellbeing in the contemporary academy (eg Peake and Mullings 2016).

The contours of this debate are beyond this article. In seeking to connect up developments across the legal community, however, at issue is not simply a matter of, say, the impact of 24/7 workplace cultures and practices or intensification of workplace demands. Digging deeper, underscoring this wellbeing debate in law are questions about shifts that have taken place regarding the values associated with the increasingly fragmented, and contested, nature of legal professionalism itself; about the gendered nature of normative ideas around commitment, care and emotion in the academy; how career advancement and mobility of legal professionals remains inflected with assumptions about the intersections of gender and

'who does the caring' of the young and the elderly; and about how issues of wellbeing and mental health are themselves bound up with concerns about, for example, workplace sexism, pay disparities and increased structural divisions within the sector.

In such a context, closer engagement with wellbeing and mental health agendas brings to light concerns that cannot be confined to the context of, say, corporate law firms or legal practice. They are enmeshed with the changing cultures, demands and the pressures facing the legal profession in a more general sense that, in the context of an increasingly marketised academy, include the debates now taking place within university law schools and socio-legal studies.

Contact: e [richard.collier@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:richard.collier@newcastle.ac.uk).

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- Mental Health Foundation (2017) *Surviving or Thriving: The state of the UK's mental health* w [www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/surviving-or-thriving-state-uks-mental-health](http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/surviving-or-thriving-state-uks-mental-health)
- Peake, L and Mullings, B (2016) 'Critical reflections on mental and emotional distress in the academy' 15(2) *ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies* 253

### SLSA Mentoring Awards

Applications are invited for these awards aimed at supporting travel and accommodation for SLSA members who wish to visit and spend up to a week working with a chosen mentor. Applicants must be paid-up members of the SLSA who are not currently undertaking a PhD.

Full details are available at w [www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/mentoring](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/mentoring).

Enquiries about this scheme should be directed to e [admin@slsa.ac.uk](mailto:admin@slsa.ac.uk).

There are three annual deadlines for this scheme: **1 October, 1 February and 1 June.**

### SLSA Research Training Grants

Applications are invited for these grants aimed at supporting training in social science research methods and the use of data analysis software (eg SPSS and NVivo) for SLSA members who do not possess but wish to acquire these skills and do not have access to sources of institutional support to do so. The grants will cover the cost of attendance at a relevant training course offered by an established provider. See, for example, the courses offered by the National Research Methods Training Centre at the University of Southampton w [www.ncrm.ac.uk](http://www.ncrm.ac.uk).

Eligible applicants will be members of the SLSA who are early or mid-career researchers and not currently undertaking a PhD. Full details are available at w [www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/slsa-research-training-grants](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/index.php/prizes-grants-and-seminars/slsa-research-training-grants).

There are three annual deadlines for this scheme: **1 October, 1 February and 1 June.**

*Duties to Care: Dementia, relationality and law* (2017) Rosie Harding, Cambridge University Press £75 224pp

The world of dementia care can be a difficult one for carers to navigate, posing new challenges at every stage from diagnosis to end of life. In her ground-breaking investigation, rooted in original empirical data, Rosie Harding explores the regulatory and legal dimensions of caring for a person with dementia. By exploring carers' experiences of dementia care, she critiques the limitations of current approaches to health and social care regulation. This socio-legal work is a new contribution to the study of feminist care ethics, relationality and vulnerability theory. *Duties to Care* argues that, by understanding the relational contexts that shape everyday experiences of regulatory structures, we will better understand where law is operating to support carers, and where it adds to the difficulties they experience. Ultimately, the challenges that dementia poses will be addressed only if we find solutions that take account of the relationality of life, dementia and law.

*Social Security Systems Based on Dignity and Respect* (2017) Mark Simpson, Gráinne McKeever and Ann Marie Gray, Equality and Human Rights Commission Scotland 110pp

The Scotland Act 2016 devolves new social security powers to the Scottish Parliament. Although its new powers are limited, the Scottish government has given an ambitious set of commitments for a devolved system. 'Respect for the dignity of individuals' is at the heart of this vision. Social security is recognised in international human rights law as being crucial to the protection of human dignity. While human dignity is a core concept in human rights law, it is a poorly defined one and respect has no legal definition. The Equality and Human Rights Commission contracted Ulster University to look at how social security systems in other countries encompass dignity and respect. This report is the result of the research. It is free to download at [www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/social-security-systems-based-dignity-and-respect](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/social-security-systems-based-dignity-and-respect).

*Strategic Litigation Impacts: Indigenous peoples' land rights* (2017) Open Society Justice Initiative, Open Society Foundation 104pp

The world is increasingly encroaching on indigenous peoples' traditional lands. The right to land provides the basis for access to food, housing and development, but, for indigenous peoples, traditional lands are more than this. They represent essential ties to ancestors, culture and languages. Losing their land means losing their way of life. In recent years, indigenous groups have increasingly turned to the courts as non-litigation tactics such as protests have failed to protect their lands from seizure and their communities from eviction. This study examines how indigenous communities and their advocates are using litigation to defend their rights and win compensation. See [www.opensocietyfoundations.org/reports/strategic-litigation-impacts-indigenous-peoples-land-rights](http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/reports/strategic-litigation-impacts-indigenous-peoples-land-rights).

*Medicine, the Penal System and Sexual Crimes in England, 1919–1960s: Diagnosing deviance* (2017) Janet Weston, Bloomsbury Academic £84.99 216pp

Sexual crime, past and present, is rarely far from the headlines. How these crimes are punished, policed and understood has changed considerably over the last century. From hormone injections to cognitive behavioural therapy, medical and psychological approaches to sexual offenders have proliferated. This book sets out the history of such theories and treatments in England. It traces the evolution of medical interest in the mental state of those convicted of sexual crime in the early twentieth century, and the absence of interest in offences against children, prostitution, and rape. Using a range of material, including medical and criminological texts, trial proceedings, government reports, newspapers, and autobiographies and memoirs, it examines changing medico-legal practices and changing attitudes towards sex and health.

*Constitution in Crisis: The new Putney debates* (2017) DJ Galligan (ed), FLJS £10.99 192pp

The debates that began at St Mary's Church, Putney, on 28 October 1647 pioneered the liberal, democratic settlement in England: a written constitution, universal suffrage, freedom of conscience and equality before the law. Four centuries later, the 2016 Brexit referendum raised fundamental questions concerning the constitution of the UK. Following the Supreme Court ruling that the government, under a centuries-old royal prerogative, does not have the power to trigger Article 50 to leave the EU, MPs have claimed that we are entering a full-blown constitutional crisis. The parallels between 1647 and 2017 are striking. This volume brings together some of the greatest public intellectuals of their generation to debate the crisis at the heart of today's politics, including prominent Brexit critic, and Master of the New College of the Humanities, London, AC Grayling. An abridged extract, featuring Grayling's chapter, is available at [www.politics.co.uk/comment-analysis/2017/10/16/why-the-uk-needs-a-written-constitution](http://www.politics.co.uk/comment-analysis/2017/10/16/why-the-uk-needs-a-written-constitution). The book can be ordered at a special discounted price from [www.fljs.org/Constitution-in-Crisis](http://www.fljs.org/Constitution-in-Crisis).

Global Queer Politics book series

Book proposals are invited for the Global Queer Politics book series, co-edited by Jordi Díez, Sonia Corrêa, David Paternotte and Matthew Waites. Proposals for both authored and edited books are being sought. Human rights and international or transnational socio-legal issues are among the central areas of interest. If you have an idea or questions, please email Matthew Waites [e matthew.waites@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:matthew.waites@glasgow.ac.uk), or any of the series editors. See [www.palgrave.com/br/series/15246](http://www.palgrave.com/br/series/15246).

## Publications news from IALS

New 'open access' book imprint from IALS

OBserving Law – the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) Open Book Service for Law – is being developed as part of the School of Advanced Study's Humanities Digital Library open access book-publishing initiative.

The aim of the IALS Open Book Service for Law is to provide a showcase for the vibrant state of legal scholarship, by publishing the best monographic works in law. The imprint embraces the full scope of legal scholarship, from doctrinal analysis to theoretical exploration and empirical study, and also welcomes interdisciplinary approaches. The aim is to publish innovative and intellectually stimulating work which will widen knowledge and understanding, and play a major role in policy, practice and legal education. Submissions will be accepted from individual authors and editors, both within and external to the University of London, and a publishing service will also be provided to learned societies and organisations.

For further details, see [www.http://ials.sas.ac.uk/digital/humanities-digital-library/observing-law-ials-open-book-service-law](http://ials.sas.ac.uk/digital/humanities-digital-library/observing-law-ials-open-book-service-law).

The IALS PhD Thesis Book Prize

The IALS is also pleased to announce its PhD Thesis Book Prize, the winner of which is awarded a publishing contract for their doctoral thesis to be published as an 'open access' monograph. The competition for the IALS PhD Thesis Prize is an exciting opportunity for researchers whose doctoral thesis has been awarded in the preceding two years.

The closing date for submissions is **16 February 2018**. For further details of the submission process and the proposal form, see [www.http://ials.sas.ac.uk/digital/humanities-digital-library/observing-law-ials-open-book-service-law/ials-phd-thesis-book](http://ials.sas.ac.uk/digital/humanities-digital-library/observing-law-ials-open-book-service-law/ials-phd-thesis-book).

*Diamond Ashiagbor*

● HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD: EUROPEAN LAW AND RISK REGULATION

4 December 2017: University of Parma, Italy

Please see website for details. [www.esil-sedi.eu/node/1903](http://www.esil-sedi.eu/node/1903)

● THE CASE FOR A WRITTEN CONSTITUTION

6 December 2017: Wolfson College, Oxford

Keynote speaker: Professor AC Grayling. Please see website for details. [www.fljs.org/written-constitution](http://www.fljs.org/written-constitution)

● CRIMMIGRATION LAW AT A CROSSROADS: PROMISES AND PITFALLS AFTER TRUMP AND BREXIT

7 December 2017: Queen Mary University of London

Speaker: Professor Juliet Stumpf of Lewis and Clark Law School. Annual Lecture of the Criminal Justice Centre. Please see website for details. [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/annual-lecture-of-the-criminal-justice-centre-with-professor-juliet-stumpf-tickets-36772330029](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/annual-lecture-of-the-criminal-justice-centre-with-professor-juliet-stumpf-tickets-36772330029)

● CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO HEALTH

11 December 2017: Centre for Cultures of Reproduction, Technologies and Health, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex

Please see website for details.

[www.sussex.ac.uk/broadcast/read/41759](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/broadcast/read/41759)

● LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGION: FLASHPOINTS

11 December 2017: Centre for Conflict, Rights and Justice, Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Trent University

Please see website for details. [www.ntu.ac.uk/about-us/events/events/2017/12/law,-human-rights-and-religion-flashpoints](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/about-us/events/events/2017/12/law,-human-rights-and-religion-flashpoints)

● WESTMINSTER BRIEFING: NARROWING THE GAP IN HIGHER EDUCATION OUTCOMES

14 December 2017: Central London

Please see webpage for details. <http://dmail1.westminster-briefing.com/q/17VpkvndqXbhup1FzBPgm/wv>

● BOARDS OF DIRECTORS: COMPOSITION AND PROCESS

15–16 January 2018: Centre for Business Law and Practice, University of Leeds

Registration now open. Please see website for details.

<http://2018-leeds.icgl.org.au/day-1-program>

● FLAGS, IDENTITY, MEMORY: CRITIQUING THE PUBLIC NARRATIVE THROUGH COLOR: CALL FOR PAPERS

7–9 February 2018: Université de Lille, France

This is a preliminary conference in advance of the publication of a reference book of the same name. Call closes: **2 January 2018**. Please see webpage for details. [www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2017autumn/Flags\\_Identity\\_Memory.docx](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2017autumn/Flags_Identity_Memory.docx)

● UK–US EARLY CAREER RESEARCH COLLABORATION WORKSHOP: APPLICATIONS INVITED

10–11 February 2018: 136 Irving Street, Cambridge MA, USA

Organised by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the British Academy and the American Philosophical Society. Applications are invited from early career scholars. Closing date: **6 December 2017**. Please see webpage for details. <http://blogs.bournemouth.ac.uk/research/2017/10/30/call-for-applications-uk-us-early-career-research-collaboration-workshop>

● BOUNDARIES, CONFLICTS AND ALLIANCES: INTERACTIONS BETWEEN INTERNATIONAL, TRANSNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW

1–2 March 2018: Osgood Hall Law School, Toronto, Canada

This is the conference of the Toronto Group for the Study of International, Transnational and Comparative Law. Please see website for details. <https://torontogroup.wordpress.com>

● HOW TO GET A PHD IN LAW: SUPERVISION, RESEARCH ETHICS AND PREPARING YOURSELF FOR UPGRADE AND VIVAS

2 March 2018: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Please see website for details. [www.sas.ac.uk/events/event/13843](http://www.sas.ac.uk/events/event/13843)

● KLS—IALS WORKSHOP: MAKING SOCIOLEGAL RESEARCH VISIBLE AND TANGIBLE

9 March 2018: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Places are funded by Kent Law School and the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies and there is a limited bursary fund. Closing date for applications: **1 December 2017**. Please see website for details.

<https://economicsociolegal.wordpress.com/2017/10/19/workshop-making-sociolegal-research-visible-and-tangible>

● REDESIGNING JUSTICE: PROMOTING CIVIL RIGHTS, TRUST AND FAIRNESS — CALL FOR PAPERS

21–22 March 2018: Keble College, Oxford

Organised by the Howard League for Penal Reform. Call closes:

**4 December 2017**. Please see website for details.

<http://howardleague.org/events/redesigning-justice-promoting-civil-rights-trust-and-fairness>

● MODERN STUDIES IN PROPERTY LAW

10 April 2018: UCL Laws, Bentham House, London

Please see website for details. [www.laws.ucl.ac.uk/event/mspl2018](http://www.laws.ucl.ac.uk/event/mspl2018)

● MODERN STUDIES IN PROPERTY LAW POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2018: CALL FOR PAPERS

12 April 2018: Faculty of Law, University College London

Call closes: **1 December 2017**. Please see website for details.

[www.laws.ucl.ac.uk/event/mspl2018](http://www.laws.ucl.ac.uk/event/mspl2018)

● TRUST, RISK, INFORMATION AND THE LAW: CALL FOR PAPERS

25 April 2018: Holiday Inn, Winchester

Call closes: **26 January 2018**. Please see website for details.

<https://journals.winchesteruniversitypress.org/index.php/jirpp/pages/view/TRIL>

● HOW TO GET A PHD IN LAW: RESEARCHING, DISSEMINATING AND PUBLISHING IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

11 May 2018: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Please see website for details. [www.sas.ac.uk/events/event/13844](http://www.sas.ac.uk/events/event/13844)

● 19TH INTERNATIONAL ROUNDTABLE FOR THE SEMIOTICS OF LAW: CALL FOR PAPERS

23–25 May 2018: Örebro University, Sweden

Closing date: **1 December 2017**. Please see website for details.

<http://static.springer.com/sgw/documents/1604443/application/pdf/Call+for+Papers++SELA++Law+and+Arts.pdf>

● JOINT MEETING OF THE LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION AND CANADIAN LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION

7–10 June 2018: Toronto, Canada

Please see website for details.

[www.lawandsociety.org/Toronto2018/toronto2018.html](http://www.lawandsociety.org/Toronto2018/toronto2018.html)

● WG HART LEGAL WORKSHOP 2018: BUILDING A 21ST-CENTURY BILL OF RIGHTS: CALL FOR PAPERS

11–12 June 2018: Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Closing date: **31 December 2017**. Please see website for details of call and confirmed speakers. [www.hartworkshop2018.com](http://www.hartworkshop2018.com)

● ELDER LAW AND ITS DISCONTENTS

18–19 June 2018: Tel Aviv University, Israel

Please see webpage for details. [www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2017spring/Call\\_for\\_Papers\\_Elder\\_Law.pdf](http://www.slsa.ac.uk/images/2017spring/Call_for_Papers_Elder_Law.pdf)

● NATIONAL CENTRE FOR RESEARCH METHODS: RESEARCH METHODS FESTIVAL 2018

3–5 July 2018: University of Bath

Please see webpage for details.

[www.ncrm.ac.uk/RMF2018/home.php](http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/RMF2018/home.php)

● RCSL AND ISA JOINT MEETING: LAW AND CITIZENSHIP BEYOND THE STATE: CALL FOR PAPERS AND SESSION PROPOSALS

10–13 September 2018: Lisbon, Portugal

Call closes: **15 December 2017**. Please see website for details.

[www.rcsl-sdj-lisbon2018.com](http://www.rcsl-sdj-lisbon2018.com)