

# Newsletter

Issue 7, March 2015



**Heather Keating**  
Acting Head of School

of Sociology, Professor Jo Moran-Ellis, and a new Head of Politics, Professor Claire Annesley.

“There are more students in LPS than ever before, with over 1700 students studying undergraduate or postgraduate courses or undertaking postgraduate research, coming to Sussex from all parts of the world. This all makes for a wonderfully vibrant community.

“We have now had the results of the 2014 Research Excellence Framework: 72% of the research done by Politics was rated as ‘world leading’ or ‘internationally

## Head of School briefing

“LPS continues to grow with new faculty appointed in all three departments. Over the last year, these have included a new Head

excellent’ and was 13th in the rankings. In Law, 64% of the research was rated as ‘world leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’ and the department was rated 26th in the power ratings of Law schools. Sociology returned 100% of its faculty and 67% of its research was rated as ‘world leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’.

“LPS has at long last moved into its new home. The Freeman Building, with offices for faculty and administrators, teaching and study space, moot room and common rooms, provides a really excellent base in which we can work and study, and it is encouraging to see more and more of our students to work here between classes.

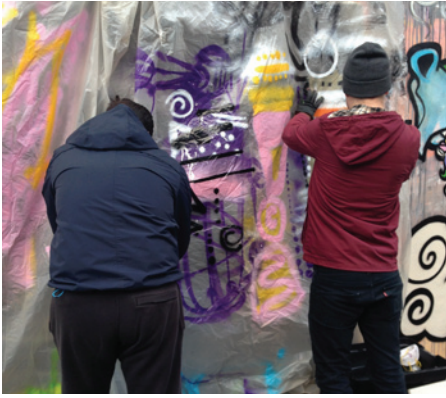
“Finally, I could not let this opportunity go without congratulating Professor Stephen Shute, former Head of LPS, upon his appointment as Pro-Vice Chancellor here at Sussex, to thank him for everything he has done since his appointment to LPS in 2009, to enable the School to grow and flourish, and to wish him well in his new role.”

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## Sussex Law students take part in StreetLaw project



This academic year, Sussex Law School (SLS) students have been taking part in a community-based project in collaboration

with a Brighton based art gallery.

StreetLaw Brighton – which is based on the StreetLaw concept established by a small group of Georgetown University Law students in 1972 – is a law in action based project aiming to involve Sussex students in research on a specific legal issue concerning a given community.

Six second- and third-year SLS students are taking part in the project this year, which is being run in collaboration with local gallery cooperative, Art Schism.

Focussing on law, art, therapy and criminal justice, students involved in the project interrogate a number of central questions, coming into contact with not just doctrinal

and desk-based legal research, but also practical and community-based concerns relating to law and everyday life.

The project is designed to enhance the legal experience of undergraduate Law students, assisting in their understanding of complex issues relating to therapy, rehabilitation, criminal justice, and the role of law in street and graffiti art.

Art Schism, on the other hand, receive up-to-date research and clinical legal advice on issues relating to ownership, copyright and relevant laws relating to galleries.

More information about StreetLaw Brighton can be found at <http://streetlawbrighton.wordpress.com>.

## Mooting success for Sussex Law students

Sussex Law students have continued to thrive in mooting competitions this year. Recent successes include:

- The Howlett Clarke Brighton and Sussex Moot in November, where Lorenzo Meusburger and Amelia Katz retained SLS' winning streak.
- Sussex Law School's Criminal Advocacy Competition in November, where Siân Beaven, Susana Silva Cardoso, Sebastian Cox and Ciaran King emerged as the winning team and will go on to represent Sussex in the OUP/Blackstone's National Criminal Advocacy Competition on 21 February.
- The DMH Stallard Negotiating Competition, which was won by Emily Coneys and Isabelle Le Gallez, who later took

part in the Regional State of the National Competition in Kingston-upon-Thames in February.

- The final of the Mayo Wynn Baxter Junior Mooting Competition, which was won by Elsie Powers and Kufre Medro on 26 February.
- The OUP/BPP Moot – Katherine Denkers and Mike Bishop are through to the third round, where they will face Greenwich, after previously knocking out Cambridge and Kent.
- The ESU-Essex Court Moot, where Shaneez Mithani and Brent Marks will face Aberystwyth in the third round.
- The UCD Thomas A Finlay Moot Court Intervarsity in Dublin, where Alice Lomas and Amelia Katz emerged as winners.

- The DM Harrish Memorial Government Law College International Moot Competition in Mumbai, India, where Colin Smith, Elena Favaro Viana and Sachini Gamage have won through to the second round.

Sussex Law students have also entered into a number of other competitions, including the World Human Rights Moot Competition based in Pretoria, South Africa.

As well as launching the pilot of the Southern Regional Mooting League this year, the University has also hosted a number of competitions, including the Regional Criminal Law Moot and DMH Stallard Moot, both of which took place in March 2015.

## Prize paper for Politics lecturer Olli Hellman

There was success for Olli Hellman when it was revealed in January 2015 that he was the winner of the Standing Group on Organised Crime (SGOC) Best Paper Award.

The award recognises 'outstanding' contribution to the study of organised crime, terrorism or corruption as an academic or professional endeavour.

Olli received the award after presenting his paper, *Political Corruption in the Developing World: The Effect of Colonial Rule and Decolonisation*, at the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference in September 2014.

The paper explores the link between colonialism and corruption using Qualitative Comparative Analysis (csQCA) and compares a number of postcolonial policies in

Latin America and East Asia.

It argues that the extent of colonialism, the structure of the colonial economy and the level of violence in the struggle for independence are three factors that shape whether political corruption adopts a centralised or decentralised organisational structure – and Olli's analysis suggests that the former is easier to combat than the latter.

The ECPR explained that Olli's paper makes an important contribution to the study of the institutionalisation of political corruption.

They wrote: "The distinctions are important for understanding essential qualitative differences when reforming post-colonial political systems and developing more efficient anti-corruption tools for different forms of political corruption."

## INHS blog competition

Congratulations to the winners of the recent International Network for Hate Studies (INHS) blog competition.

Three 'outstanding' comments were selected for publication from submissions for the Hate Crime and Law module.

The winning pieces were *Is racism on the rise in the UK?* by George Brockman, *What's happening? Hatred in 140 characters or less* by Stephanie Carbone and *Are the Law Commission's recommendations not to extend the Public Order Act 1986 to cover disability and transgender sensible?* by Beatrice Webster.

The winning pieces, which have been published on the INHS website, are available to view at <http://www.internationalhatestudies.com>.

## Recent events and presentations

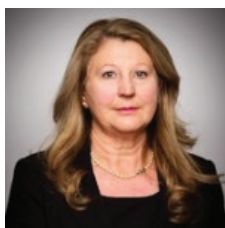


In October 2014, LPS — in partnership with the Centre for Gender Studies and the International Network for Hate Studies — hosted a workshop, *Prejudice and Discrimination: Causes and Responses*.

The workshop included five separate sessions on the social psychology of prejudice (Professor Robert Brown), restorative responses to hate crime (Dr Mark Walters), interpreting human rights

and equality legislation (Dr Elizabeth Craig), an exploration of racial bias in the criminal justice system (Professor Stephen Shute).

For the event, the University welcomed 16 legal jurists from the Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud of Norway, as well as 25 further delegates, among them LPS students, academics and a representative from Sussex Police.



In October 2014, Erika Szyszczak, Professor of Law, was invited by the Turkish Competition Commission to give a presentation on Article 102 of

the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which is used along with Article 106 of the same Treaty to control dominant positions enjoyed by state monopolies.

Professor Szyszczak was also asked to make a similar presentation in Munster, Germany, to judges from the Netherlands, Germany and Romania as part of the TACIS programme of training the European judiciary on the application of EU law in national courts.

The presentations are part of Professor

Szyszczak's research project on the Transformation of the Market and the State.

In November, Professor Szyszczak was invited to speak by the Italian Presidency of the EU in Milan on the EU State Aid Modernisation Programme. She was also invited to present her work, *The NHS: Nationalising Healthcare Services*, at Pompeu Fabre University in Barcelona and the University of Leeds.

Also in November, Professor Szyszczak was invited to present a paper on State Aid for Infrastructure and Nuclear Energy at the Annual ERA State Aid Conference in Trier, Germany. Her paper will be published in 2015.

In December, Professor Szyszczak gave a presentation on these issues to the Sussex Centre on Innovation and Energy Demand.

On 15 October 2014, Aleks Szczerbiak, Professor of Politics and Contemporary European Studies, delivered his professorial lecture, *A Model for Democratic Transition and European Integration? Why Poland Matters*.

If you missed it, Aleks' lecture is available to view online at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/newsandevents/sussexlectures/2014>.

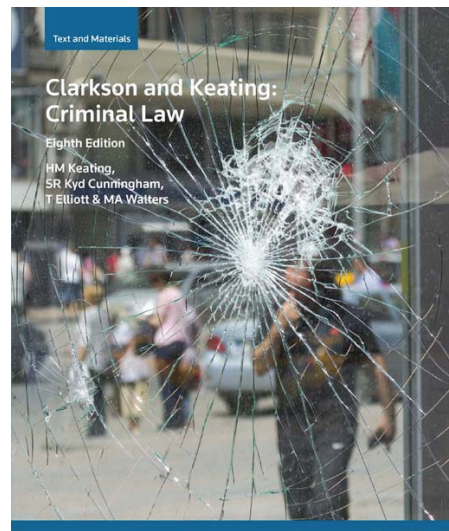


## Publications

Congratulations to Gerard Delanty, who was awarded the 'Best Article of 2013-14' prize by the Australian Sociological Association for his piece titled *The Prospects of Cosmopolitanism and the Possibility of Global Justice*. as well as Catherine Will, who has recently been elected onto the editorial board of *Sociology of Health and Illness*.

• Danvers, E. and Gagnon, J. (2014) Is 'student engagement' just a mirage? The case for student activism. *Student Engagement and Experience Journal*, 3 (2)

• Delanty, G. (2014) *The Prospects of Cosmopolitanism and the Possibility of Global Justice*. *Journal of Sociology*, 50 (2)



• Keating, H., Cunningham, S. K., Walters, M. A., Elliot, T. (2014) *Criminal Law: Text and Materials* (8th ed.) Sweet & Maxwell.

• O'Connell, C. (2014) Litigating Reproductive Health Rights in the Inter-American System: What Does A Winning Case Look Like? *Health and Human Rights Journal*, 16 (2)

• Szyszczak, E. (2014) 'Article 36: Access to Services of General Interest' in: Peers, S., et al. (eds). *The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: A Commentary*. Hart.

• Walters, M. (2014) 'Repairing the harms of hate crime: a restorative justice approach' in: Hall, N., Corb, A., Giannasi, P., Grieve, J. (eds). *The Routledge International Handbook on Hate Crime*. Routledge.

• Will, C. and Weiner, K. (2014) Sustained multiplicity in everyday cholesterol reduction: repertoires and practices in talk about 'healthy living'. *Sociology of Health and Illness*, 36 (2)

## Research projects and funding successes



Congratulations to Gerard Delanty, whose Social Platform project on Cultural Heritage and European Identities will be funded by the Horizon 2020 programme within the call Reflective Society

2012. The two-year project will begin in 2015.

Meanwhile, Dr Verona Ní Drisceoil has been awarded £750 from the British Association for Canadian Studies to help finance a research trip to Canada in 2015.

As part of this trip Verona will visit and work with Professor John Edwards (St Francis Xavier University) and Professor Cardinal (University of Ottawa). The primary purpose of the trip is to develop a chapter for a research monograph on Language and the Limits of Law.

Verona has also been awarded €300 from the Fulbright Alumni Engagement Fund (Ireland) to help host a round table discussion deliberating upon reform of the

Official Languages Act 2003 Ireland).

The heads of a Bill entitled the Office Languages (Amendment) Bill 2014 have been approved with the final drafting of the Bill now underway and awaiting consideration by Dáil Éireann (Irish Parliament). This round table discussion will provide an important opportunity to discuss the Bill and to consider more broadly the role of the law in the protection and promotion of the Irish language.

Elsewhere, the Centre for Gender Studies has recently been awarded a grant of £1500 from the University of Sussex's Research Opportunities Fund to develop a research network around genders, sexualities and crime.

Dr Alison Phipps has also been awarded a grant of £600 from the Impact Acceleration

Fund to develop a workshop on 'lad cultures' and sexual violence in Higher Education, for university staff and managers throughout the UK.



## Upcoming events

- On 18 March 2015 (4-5.30pm, Freeman F22), Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos, Professor of Law and Theory at Westminster Law School, will present *Surfaces of Spatial Justice* as part of the Law School Research Seminar Series.

- On 25 March 2015 (4-5.30pm, Freeman F22) Ros Kellaway, Visiting Research Fellow in Law at Sussex Law School, will present *Avoidance of Corporate Income Tax by Multinational Corporations Considered as a Human Rights Violation* as part of the Sussex Law School Research Seminar Series.

- On 27 March 2015 (12.30-2.30pm, Freeman F41) Catherine Will presents *Accessing Conferences* as part of the ongoing Sociology PhD Seminar Series.

- On 31 March 2015, the Spaces of Evidence Network will be holding the early career research seminar, *Evidence in Action: New Perspectives on Evidence Production in Contemporary Society*. The seminar will provide PhD and early career researchers with a platform to present and discuss their research into influential evidence discourses in contemporary society.

- On 1 April 2015 (4-5.30pm, Freeman

F22) Sabrina Gilani will present *Theorising the Relationship between Distance and Difference: Analysing the Application of Law to Aboriginal Spaces and Places in Canada and Australia* as part of the Sussex Law School Research Seminar Series.

- On 1 April 2015 (1-2.30pm, Freeman Centre Moot Room), Hanif Qadir will visit the University to deliver a seminar, *Violent extremism – a former foreign fighter's journey: the reality, its causes, consequences, challenges and prevention*, as part of the ongoing Sociology Seminar Series.

More information can be found at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/sociology/newsandevents/seminars>.

- On 27 April 2015 (1-3pm, Freeman F41) Gerard Delanty presents *Getting Published* as part of the ongoing Sociology PhD Seminar Series.

- On 8 and 9 May 2015, the University of Sussex will host the two-day *Researching Sex and Sexualities* conference.

It aims to open new conversations about doing research and being a researcher on sexual practices, lives and subjectivities.

More information can be found at <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lps/internal/newsand-events/events?id=28671>.

## Changes to LPS staff

Following Stephen Shute's departure, Heather Keating has stepped in as Acting Head of School until an appointment is made.

During this interim period, Richard Vogler will also serve as Acting Head of Law.

LPS has also welcomed a number of new staff since the last edition of the newsletter.

New members of Politics faculty include Professor Claire Annesley, who joins the University of Sussex as Head of Politics, as well as Dr Liz David-Barrett.

In Law, LPS welcomes Dr Alex Conte, Dr Sabrina Gilani, Dr Maria Moscatia, Dr Colin King, Mr Philip Bremner and Ms Kamala Dawar.

Professor Karen Lowton, Dr Suraj Lakhani and Dr Raphael Schlembach have also joined the Sociology department.

In Professional Services, LPS has welcomed Kate Hamilton-Border (School Project Officer), James Dowling (Politics Coordinator), Sally Parsons (Head of School Coordinator) and Eleanor Griggs (Information Coordinator).

## SU Student Awards



Students from all three departments in LPS have received

nominations in this year's Students' Union Student Awards, due to take place at the AMEX on 17 April 2015.

Law students received three nominations: George Folarin for Sports Personality of the Year, Claus Wenzler for The Globe Staff Member of the Year, and Access Law for Best New Society.

Politics students received two: Calumn Fowlie-Hill for SU Volunteer of the Year (Buddy Scheme) and Jack Williams for Outstanding Contribution to Student Media.

Sociology students also received two: Marion Briquet for SU Volunteer of the Year (Buddy Scheme) and Sophie Hayward for East Slope Bar Staff Member of the Year.

We will report on the outcome of the awards in the next issue of the newsletter.

## LPS baby boys

Congratulations to Laura Arnold and Michael Kearney, both of whom have recently welcomed new baby boys.

Laura and James Arnold welcomed baby Samuel, weighing an impressive 11lb 8oz.

Meanwhile, Michael and Louise Kearney welcomed baby Riada, weighing 7lb.