Institution: City University London



Unit of Assessment: 20 Law

a. Context

Impact arising from research at The City Law School (CLS) results from improving the legal knowledge, training and practices of lawyers; influencing judicial decisions; improving the administration of justice; influencing the policies and practices of government, international bodies and NGOs; and helping businesses understand the legal context affecting their activities. Beneficiaries therefore include practising lawyers, other professions, professional bodies, regulatory authorities, judges and the court system, businesses, policy-makers, NGOs and the media ('stakeholders').

Research is undertaken in CLS by individual researchers, sometimes collaborating on an *ad hoc* basis or within centres established for that purpose. CLS's approach to impact is premised on a recognition of the importance of knowledge transfer and public dissemination, drawing on the University's Framework for Achieving Impact from Research and Enterprise, as well as the School's historic connection with professional studies and its traditionally strong practitioner orientation. The recent appointment of senior researchers with substantial experience of producing research that has impact indicates the value placed on this experience and CLS's commitment to continuing to facilitate such impact.

b. Approach to impact

The School benefits from close contacts with practising lawyers in London. For many years CLS has provided professional courses, the Inns of Court School of Law having become part of the University and the School in 2001. Based in the heart of legal London, CLS has consequently earned a strong national and international reputation for excellence in legal professional skills training and was the founding provider of the Bar Professional Training Course. There are therefore many pathways for impact through CLS alumni.

(i) Developing skills for impact and facilitating an 'impact culture': Specific actions include the following. First, discussion takes place during the annual appraisal and as part of the staff mentoring scheme to identify the appraisee's stakeholders, how to engage with them and their research needs. Secondly, CLS's budget and expenses policy (covering, e.g., subscriptions for institutional membership of non-academic associations, non-academic periodicals and attendance at non-academic conferences) facilitates interaction with stakeholders and an understanding of their research needs. Thirdly, engagement/impact is taken into account in the annual appraisal process and recognised as an important element in the promotion process. Actual impact is recognised under the 'research' promotion criterion, while activities to develop impact are recognised under the 'external activities' criterion. Finally, future plans include the running of periodic CLS 'research impact' seminars, sharing ideas for maximising impact and presenting examples of success. These will complement similar seminars organised at University level.

(ii) Opportunities for research engagement with stakeholders: Since 2008, CLS has:

Established the *Evidence and Justice Forum*, the *Centre for Law, Justice and Journalism* and the *Institute for the Study of European Law*, each of which includes the active participation of stakeholders in research-related events. Such events have included a Colloquium on Young and Vulnerable Witnesses (2012); lectures on the protection of free speech (Eady J) and media regulation (Baroness Buscombe); a debate on the future of UK libel law; a symposium on Lord Lester's Defamation Bill; a joint initiative with the Centre for Freedom of the Media at the University of Sheffield on 'Impunity and the Rule of Law'; a collaborative workshop examining the case for self/co-regulation of on-demand services with the Institute of European Media Law and the Council of Europe Audiovisual Observatory (2011); a public lecture on the EU and human rights (Sir Konrad Schiemann); and a workshop on 'Football, Broadcasting and the Internal Market: Is a Common Audiovisual Space in Sight?'.

Hosted *ad hoc* **stakeholder** *events at which research outcomes are discussed*, e.g., the International Conference on Practising Law (2010); a public debate (in conjunction with the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary, University of London) entitled 'Is the "Fit and Proper Person" Test in Broadcasting Inadequate?' (2011); a public lecture on legal services reform; and a conference for practitioners on 'Current Issues in Housing Law' (2009).

Subscribed for corporate membership of stakeholder organisations (e.g., the International Chamber of Commerce) to facilitate researchers' engagement in their activities.

Encouraged staff to present their research outcomes at external events including non-

Impact template (REF3a)



academic stakeholders nationally and internationally: BOON gave keynote addresses on competence for the Legal Services Board event in support of the Legal Education and Training Review (2012) and for a seminar on 'Professional Ethics and In-House Lawyers' at Middle Temple (2013). With ABEL (UCLA School of Law, USA) he gave a public lecture on lawyer discipline at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) (2012). CHUAH chaired the IALS Public Lecture on 'European Private Law at the Crossroads' given by Dr Heidemann (2012); gave the keynote address at the Second Latin American International Commercial Law Research Seminar Series (2012) on 'Maritime Contracts - the Rotterdam Rules and Lessons for Emerging Economies'; gave a public lecture on maritime law in Hong Kong at the invitation of City University Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Centre for Maritime and Transportation Law (2013); and serves as Executive Director of the London Universities Maritime Law and Policy Group (LUMLP), a network of academic and non-academic shipping law experts which organises events to discuss research outcomes. KEANE presented on 'The Use at Trial of Scientific Findings relating to Human Memory' at a conference of policy-makers in Beijing (2009). At the invitation of the Rapporteur of the Internal Market Committee, KUNZLIK presented an analysis of key issues in procurement law at a Procurement Policy Forum at the European Parliament (2011). He gave the keynote address at a session of the EcoProcura Conference, Malmo, Sweden (2012); and participated, at the invitation of the British judges of the Court of Justice of the European Union, in their annual seminar on developments in European law (2009). RILEY briefed British and German Foreign Offices on the implications of opening proceedings against Gazprom by the European Commission (2012, 2013); debated Gazprom at CEPS, Brussels (2013) and with Prof Konoplyanik of Gubkin Oil and Gas University at Chatham House (2013). WOODS presented on 'Freedom of Expression and the Internet' at an Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe meeting, Poland (2009) at the invitation of the EU Presidency and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency.

Encouraged staff to provide research-based consultancy, technical assistance and evidence. BOON's consultancy report for the Law Society on introducing legal ethics to the undergraduate curriculum was presented at a public event in 2012 and has been adopted as the Society's current position on the issue. He also produced a report for the Solicitors' Regulatory Authority on continuing professional development for solicitors. CHUAH was consulted by the Ministry of Justice (2010) and the Association of British Insurers (2011) on a response to the EU Green Paper on the European Contract Law. He was also the international consultant for Seafarers' Rights International. COLLINS presented responses to calls for consultation from the World Bank (2011) and the Department of Trade and Investment (2011). KEANE was international consultant to the project to propose reforms to China's law of evidence, carried out by the Centre for Criminal Procedure Reform, Renmin University, China and funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (2013). KOUTRAKOS was consultant to the Swedish Institute for European Policy Studies on the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union in a project advising the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. KUNZLIK was international expert commentator for the Swedish Government's Public Procurement Inquiry (2012). His work 'Green Procurement under the New Regime' was translated into local languages and published by the EU's Public Procurement Programme for Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPPP) Phase II. RILEY provided market and regulatory analyses of the Nordstream project (2008) and of the Nabucco and Southstream pipeline projects (2009), both at the invitation of European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee. WOODS gave evidence to the House of Lords Select Committee on Communications on News and Media Ownership (2008) and chaired the workshop on the Transposition of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive organised by the Council of Europe Audiovisual Observatory and the Institute of European Media Law (2011).

Encouraged staff to provide research-based training courses for stakeholders. KOUTRAKOS provided continuing professional development training to Swiss civil servants and diplomats on the EU's external relations. TEMKIN delivered research-related training regarding sexual offences to barristers, members of the judiciary, the Crown Prosecution Service and the forensic medical profession.

Assisted researchers to make public comment arising from their research. The University's Press Office maintains close links with press and broadcasters, identifying opportunities for researchers to write short articles or letters or to broadcast comment. An external consultant provides basic media training, including training in the use of social media. Examples of the resulting media engagement include the following: CHUAH and ROGERS gave interviews on



shipping matters to *Fairplay* and *Lloyd's List*. COLLINS commented on the international legal implications of the Hosni Mubarak trial for *CNN International News*. KUNZLIK contributed letters on procurement law to *The Guardian* and *Financial Times*. RILEY provided opinion editorials including, 'Do Companies Have Human Rights?' (*Wall Street J.*, 28/07/2009); 'Russia's Courts of Last Resort' (*NY Times*, 04/08/2011); 'A British Constitution Could Resolve Cameron's EU Problem' (*FT*, 03/07/13); and 'Gazprom on the Ropes' (*NY Times*, 11/10/2013). He was adviser and participant to the BBC Radio 4 In Business programme on Gazprom, 20th January 2013. WOODS commented on the *Murphy* ruling concerning the broadcast of football matches using a foreign decoder for *The Times: Law Central Blog* (2011); and WOODS and BONADIO were quoted in 'Blowing the Whistle on Broadcasting Live Football on Television', *The Times* (2011).

(iii) **Specific initiatives**: Specific initiatives to help disseminate CLS research to stakeholders include: publication of *In Law,* a magazine aimed at stakeholders profiling CLS researchers and their stakeholder engagement; and extensive *pro bono* activity through which CLS's research-informed experience can impact upon the lives of users, including an Enterprise Clinic and clinics operated in partnership with the National Centre for Domestic Violence McKenzie Friends, the Free Representation Unit, Amnesty International, the Blackfriars Settlement Clinic, the Environmental Law Association, the Islington People's Rights and the Golden Lane Legal Advice Clinic, the Liberty Letter Writing Clinic and Street Law. Our public dissemination of research benefits from the University hosting The Conversation UK (http://theconversation.com/uk), where UK academics write about their research for a lay audience.

c. Strategy and plans

CLS is reviewing and refining its approach to impact in consultation with its staff following the introduction of the University Framework for Achieving Impact from Research and Enterprise in 2013. The above-mentioned activities, together with new initiatives, will be incorporated into a specific research impact strategy which will be reviewed and refined on a continuing basis. Development of the impact strategy is the responsibility of the Associate Dean for Research (assisted by the Research Committee and its REF Strategy Sub-Committee). Under the Associate Dean's leadership and after an appropriate process of engagement and consultation with staff, the strategy will continue to be integrated into the School's overarching Annual Plan. Specific initiatives being explored include: training for staff and PhD students on public engagement, engagement evaluation and writing for impact; identifying strategies for integrating considerations of impact and engagement into the research process; formulating a more structured approach to contributing or responding to consultation exercises; and further developing and refining the criteria for recognising contributions to impact in decisions on promotion.

d. Relationship to case studies

The three impact case studies reflect different ways in which CLS has facilitated and encouraged research that has impact. As regards the study 'Research in the Law of Evidence', KEANE is the convenor of the CLS Evidence and Justice Forum within which he has been able to test his ideas in discussion with members of the judiciary and other stakeholders. In addition, he was supported in developing the impact of his work by being funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to visit China to meet and advise members of the Centre for Criminal Procedure Reform and several judges from the Supreme People's Court and from the Intermediate People's Courts of various provinces. The study 'Research into Impunity and the Rule of Law' reflects the impact of a project involving the University's Interdisciplinary Centre for Law, Justice and Journalism, CLS was instrumental in establishing the Centre and its researchers WOODS and DRAGHICI co-authored the legal report from which the impact arose. A Working Conference on the safety and protection of journalists hosted by the Centre in June 2011 and DRAGHICI's attendance, funded by CLS, at a meeting at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in September 2011 brought the report to the attention of several important stakeholders. The study 'Immigration Detention Law and Policy' emerged from the research of an individual researcher WILSHER over the period 2004-12 during which he was supported by provision of two periods of sabbatical leave. The work was also informed by WILSHER's practical experience as an immigration judge, a role to which CLS consented pursuant to the University's Consultancy Policy. CLS's encouragement of staff engagement to respond to calls for consultation and act as expert consultants is reflected in the fact that the research which underlay the study benefited from thinking emerging from consultancy engagement with the Turkish Ministry of Interior, the Equal Rights Trust and Bail for Immigration Detainees.