Institution: UNIVERSITY OF EXETER



Unit of Assessment: LAW

a. Overview

Research in the Law School is characterized by pioneering and rigorous doctrinal, socio-legal and historical analysis. Expanding the boundaries of these methodological and intellectual domains, our research is also comparative and interdisciplinary in nature. Since 2006 Law has been based on two separate campuses, one at Streatham in Exeter itself, the other at Penryn in Cornwall. In 2010 the Law School was incorporated within a wider administrative unit, the College of Social Sciences and International Studies. The new structure means Law is embedded in a Social Sciences oriented group of disciplines, which in turn enables its researchers to benefit from the interdisciplinary context. Notwithstanding this administrative structure, partnerships and synergies are pursued with other disciplines both internally (Exeter) and externally (institutions within the UK and overseas). Law retains its own identity within the College and plans to increase its personnel and research capacity in the coming years. A strategic decision to amalgamate the two Law campuses from September 2013 will now provide a unified research unit, enabling synergies to flourish and early career researchers (ECRs) to be mentored more effectively. Research in the unit is carried out by individual scholars in discrete areas of law and within established and emerging research groups. Five core research strengths are presently the key priorities for strategic development, some of which have recognised College Centre status:

- Legal History (led by Professors Chantal Stebbings and Anthony Musson) spanning medieval to modern under the auspices of the *Bracton Centre for Legal History Research*.
- **Family Regulation and Society**: an intra-university research network led by Exeter (Professors Anne Barlow and Liz Trinder) partnered with Bath, Bristol and Cardiff.
- Science Culture and the Law (SCuLÉ): a research cluster led by Professor Charlotte Waelde engaging closely with the Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) strategic theme by focussing on intellectual property law, human rights, bioethics and information law.
- **Commercial and Corporate Law** (led by Professor Christian Witting) a recently formed research centre incorporating private and public law aspects in an international context.
- **European Law** building on our long-established *Centre for European Legal Studies* (led by Professor James Devenney).

In light of our recent appointments we now aspire to establishing additional research strengths in **International and Human Rights Law** (led by Professor Mike Schmitt) linking with the *Strategy and Security Institute* in the College of Social Sciences and International Studies and in **Environmental Law** (led by Professor Robert Lee) linking with the University's new £30m *Environment and Sustainability Institute* in Cornwall.

b. Research strategy

Research strategy and activity in the Law School is led by the Director of Research and supported by a dedicated Research Administrator, who provides active assistance for costing proposals, writing bids and managing contract agreements. At College-level, a dedicated post-award manager supports project and budget management, while an Assistant College Manager has high-level responsibility for budgeting and finance. The University's Research and Knowledge Transfer unit offers further support for large-grant bidding, such as ERC grants or RCUK Centre bids and, where appropriate, co-ordinates research strategy across Colleges such as in relation to Open Access or DTC applications. The University's legal team manages complex contract negotiations on grant awards. Overall academic responsibility for research in the College is led by an Associate Dean for Research and Knowledge Transfer.

Evaluation of RAE2008 and subsequent strategic aims

In our 2008 RAE submission we identified two strategic aims: (1) to expand from a strongly doctrinal research tradition to an interdisciplinary focused one and (2) to nurture and support the large number of ECRs appointed to the Penryn Campus. Our performance in RAE 2008 provided an opportunity to reappraise the Law School's direction. We adopted a more visionary approach and signalled a change in culture by reforming our structures, policies and processes in order to significantly improve the quality and quantity of research activity. We revised and expanded our strategy to pursue the following objectives:

• To identify, consolidate and support our research strengths through investment in the core Law community [see here and section c i]



- To adopt a pro-active and strategic approach towards securing grant income for legal and interdisciplinary projects to enable the research centres/groups to flourish [see section d/e]
- To develop impact and embed public engagement as integral to our research activities [REF 3a]
- To increase significantly the number of law postgraduate research students and improve completion rates [see section c ii]

This strategy entailed initially the identification of specific research strengths within Law (based on the international reputation and quality outputs of the research leaders, their achievement of significant funding and good opportunities for future funding) and the formation of core research groupings (which previously existed only informally) to foster critical discussion and promote new synergies, assist individual and collaborative research agendas and support and encourage participation of ECRs. The boundaries of the centres/groups are permeable and collaborative research across disciplines within Law is encouraged. The infrastructure for research allows for strong disciplinary autonomy and innovation, but also offers the benefits of shared policies and shared good practice across the College (for example, the development of a common peer review policy for grant applications) instilling confidence in their ability to research well. Through strategic investments, strong leadership and focused policy changes, we have made substantial progress in each of our objectives with tangible outcomes, as outlined below.

Main objectives for research in the next five years and monitoring of targets

Our main objective for the next five years is to sustain and increase world-leading research as evidenced by the quality and quantity of grants, publications, impact generation, PGR numbers, international partnerships and visiting researchers. Specifically we aim to:

- continue to invest in the recruitment of high-quality research staff to secure sustainability of the research environment and achieve a higher proportion of active researchers;
- prioritise and incentivise high quality scholarship by providing additional time allowance for staff with proven highly-rated research and/or major funding awards;
- exploit potential for international and cross-disciplinary collaboration through synergies within Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Exeter Science Exchange 'Bridging the Gaps' science-based initiatives, overseas partnerships and visiting fellowships;
- provide a systematic programme of support and development for ECRs to secure sustainability for the future;
- strengthen the intellectual climate and research experience of our doctoral students, drawing on the benefits of the ESRC DTC (and newly announced AHRC DTP) and extending the current opportunities available for PGR students;
- increase integration with University and College systems to promote greater quality and efficiency of research support for impact/funding generation and potential synergies.

These goals are monitored at several levels: (1) Law's Director of Research provides on-going support for and monitoring of them together with the Law Research Advisory Group, which comprises senior researchers; (2) the goals are incorporated in the College of Social Science and International Studies Strategic Research Plan which is discussed in the College Research Strategy Group (a body comprising all Directors of Research in the College enabling the sharing of good practice between disciplines and the development of a coherent vision for Social Science) and is formally monitored annually by the Associate Dean of Research and Knowledge Transfer; (3) the University holds an annual process of Research Output Monitoring, led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and attended by the Vice-Chancellor, which analyses research performance data at the level of both the Unit and the individual staff member. This has benefitted the Law School by providing strategic overview and targets to incentivise research performance.

New and developing initiatives

The restructuring of loose or informal research groups into more focused Research Centres and the advent of new senior appointments has led to more intellectually coherent and collaborative research groups, which are the hubs of research activity in Law, with tightly-organised groups of researchers working together to create capacity for multiple bidding, co-authorship, running Masters programmes, and recruiting PGR students to vibrant, close-knit research communities. The research and impact in these Centres/groups reflects the national and international reach of



our activity (see section e below). Our investment in new research posts has enabled us to build up a critical mass of researchers in International and Human Rights Law. Under the auspices of the College's Strategy and Security Institute, we aim to establish a Centre for International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law (led by Schmitt), providing an institutional framework for innovative yet practical research collaboration, as well as postgraduate teaching, in the field of international law and military operations. Our new appointments in Commercial and Corporate Law have brought the potential for research projects to be carried out within industry and major commercial law firms and have already attracted 16 new doctoral students and 2 post-doctoral researchers. The launch of the University's Environment and Sustainability Institute in April 2013, a new research unit which fosters interdisciplinary research into solutions to problems of environmental change, has created the opportunity for Lee to develop collaborative research in socio-legal issues relating to energy and the environment. Since August 2013 we are leading the development of a project on domestic sexual violence in partnership with National Law School of India University (Bangalore), William and Mary Law School (USA) and researchers from Bath, Bristol and Cardiff. From 2014 Waelde will be engaged with multiple European and UK partners in an ERC FP7 project entitled RICHES as well as undertaking research commissioned by the AHRC on the exploitation of copyright in relation to publicly funded arts and humanities research. We are also embracing the University's Humanities and Social Sciences Strategy for interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary collaboration with initiatives from pump priming funds by sub-theme leaders in Identities and Beliefs (Musson), Medical Humanities (Stebbings), Global Uncertainties (Schmitt), Science, Technology and Culture (Waelde), Environment and Sustainability (Lee) and Societal and Lifestyle Shifts (Barlow).

Priority Development Areas

(i) *Building a sustainable research culture*: ensuring the continued recruitment and retention of high-quality researchers at different career stages in order to build on our research strengths and achieve a platform for expanding Research Centres/groups and making ambitious grant bids.

(ii) *Investment in the next generation of researchers*: this will be achieved by providing a systematic programme of support for ECRs encouraging originality and intellectual rigour and making funding available for post-doctoral projects and postgraduate students to pursue research degrees. We have nurtured several ECRs (**McAuliffe, Hawkins**) who have successfully gained funding for future advanced research though European Research Council and ESRC awards.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The Law School (as part of the College of Social Sciences and International Studies) has a healthy staffing environment, having retained 40.7% of staff since RAE2008, but it has advocated that to build up and sustain an environment conducive to world class research it needs:

- to grow research capacity through (a) new academic appointments and (b) amalgamation of the two campuses;
- to support and encourage both established and early career staff;
- to ensure that the significant constraints in teaching imposed by accreditation by professional legal bodies are addressed constructively so as to permit excellence in research and teaching.

We have responded strategically to the premature death, retirement or departure of staff at both senior and junior level with investment in a core Law research community so that during the census period we have recruited 65.2% new staff: eleven lecturer posts have been filled, notably in European law, intellectual property, commercial law and international law, and since 2010 seven new appointments at professorial level, in commercial law, intellectual property law, evironmental law and international law have been made. Staff have been supported to obtain jobs elsewhere where it has suited their careers, thereby developing capacity for the national and international field. Former staff have achieved positions at law schools in Melbourne, Hong Kong, Groningen, London (SOAS), Durham, Bristol, Cardiff and Hull and currently hold chairs at Birmingham, Liverpool and Swansea. New staff are on long-term contracts and predominantly fall within Category A in order to assist in the growth of our research groupings. As a result of merging the separate Law campuses, former Penryn staff will benefit from the monitoring of research performance and opportunities for consultation that emerge from being at Streatham. It will also enable them to participate more fully in a research culture, which in turn will support the production of outputs that show an upward trajectory. It will also provide an opportunity for groups to share



expertise and good practice, encouraging and supporting each other within a shared intellectual forum, thereby bringing new energy into a field of research. Larger numbers of active researchers will bring coherence to the unit and a dynamism of their own, engendering more imaginative and considered funding applications and outputs. As a result of this move every colleague from Penryn who has not enjoyed the benefits of a subject-specific research community around him or her on a daily basis, will be encouraged to find a natural home in an established research Centre/group. Streatham academics are already benefitting from the introduction of fresh expertise and energy brought by the new appointments at senior level.

Law has invested in ECRs for capacity at Penryn and as a result of departures at Streatham. In order to ensure that they are supported, now and in the future, we are using a Personal Development Plan system, which sets out the individual expectations on academic staff and monitors their progress annually over a period of five years. The DoR again plays an important part in this process. We have also organized special sessions on grant applications appropriate for their career level and provided mentoring through Academic Leads and research group leaders. This level of mentoring has borne fruit in that **McAuliffe** gained a European Research Council Starter grant of £667K (2012) and **Hawkins** has been awarded an ESRC Future Leaders grant of £222K (2013). The upward trajectory of our ECRs is such that 2 will be returned in our REF submission.

We have encouraged middle-ranking staff to be more ambitious and proactive in their research by working with the DoR and their Academic Lead to develop a personal strategy and through implementation of rigorous pre-submission reading by senior colleagues. Equally, backed up by the College structure, we have tried to ensure that the best researchers are supported with time allowance in the workload. All research staff have regular individual meetings with the DoR and a review/mentor system is in place for all outputs and grant applications. In addition, two critical friends, previous RAE panel members, were appointed to work with the Law School in understanding quality judgments and have read and provided feedback on outputs at regular intervals. All staff now undertake an annual Personal Development Review during which research issues are raised. All research-active members of staff are eligible for study leave normally after a minimum of five years service; this is aligned to individual research aspirations and normally includes preparation for a significant grant application or an impact case study. Addo, Barlow, Devenney, McEwan, Musson, Niglia, Rolland, Trinder, Williams and Witting have taken University funded leave since 2008, which has been used to produce high quality outputs or yielded a funding application. Dupré has held a personal Leverhulme Research Fellowship. The high demands of teaching in an expanding Law School has required strategic use of Teaching Fellows on the core curriculum, but we have attempted to balance teaching and research through use of a workload model. We have regard to Equal Opportunities in that all researchers are entitled to research allowances irrespective of seniority and entitlement to study leave is not restricted to seniority. We have a cosmopolitan make-up of staff within the Law School and from 2008-13, in spite of departures and new arrivals, have maintained a near level equality in gender balance. The University joined the Athena Swan charter in June 2011 and received University Bronze Status in March 2012 in recognition of our achievements on progressing gender equality.

ii. Research students

PGR activity is led at School-level by a Director of Doctoral Research; and at College-level there is a Graduate School administrative team, including a dedicated Doctoral Training Manager, an Assistant College Manager with responsibility for PGR provision, and a (academic) Director of Postgraduate Research. The College reports to Graduate Faculty Board led by a Dean for Postgraduate Research, who oversees doctoral provision from quality assurance processes, student satisfaction, and doctoral training centres/partnerships to strategic development of PGR provision. This includes oversight of the Researcher Development Programme, which offers university-wide courses (including online) for research students, post-doctoral research staff and ECRs. The Law School's doctoral programmes have continued to strengthen, both in numbers and in the quality of the doctoral experience since RAE 2008. Although Law has traditionally suffered from students seeking a vocational professional training rather than pursuing further academic study, we have sought to increase PGR capacity and alter submission expectations to ensure completion of doctoral programmes within the specified time limits. Our strategy has been:

- to award studentships and bursaries funded both internally and externally
- to develop and market new postgraduate research degrees



- to improve doctoral supervision capacity through new appointments at senior level and provide supervision training for early career staff
- to annually monitor all postgraduate research students through 'mini-viva' review system
- to prepare PGR students for an academic career through GTA opportunities, research presentations and involvement in the research culture of the Law School

The intellectual climate experienced by doctoral students has been improved and stimulated by the increased PGR intake. Indeed, since the beginning of the census period we have achieved a growth in PGR numbers of 181% moving from 10 in 2007/08 to 28.1 FTE in 2012/13. This is partly as a result of the new research degree programmes (MA by Research, Socio-legal MRes, PhD in Legal Practice) and recruitment of new senior staff. PGRs conduct their research in a wide range of legal disciplines, but are increasingly closely linked to our core research Centres/groups. The Bracton Centre for Legal History Research and the Family Regulation and Society Network have acted as beacons for recruiting high quality PhD students. BCLHR has had 8 doctoral students, including one ESRC funded, while a mark of the FRSN's success is the award of 3 ESRC studentships through the SWDTC in addition to several other College-funded doctoral students. The profile of senior academics such as McEwan and Waelde has ensured further recruitment of PGRs in the areas of Criminal Law and Intellectual Property Law respectively. The new chair appointments in Commercial and Corporate Law (Devenney, Lee, Merkin, Witting) have brought a contingent of PhD students with them to Exeter and continued recruitment is expected as a result of their international reputations and the formation of a Centre for Commercial and Corporate Law. This compliments the staffing strategies intended to invigorate the research environment. International and Human Rights Law continues to be a key interest for potential PhD researchers and its future profile will be boosted by the ability to provide supervision in a variety of areas.

Law has strategically used financial support through College/School studentships, the ESRC SWDTC and other funded schemes as incentives to attract more quality law applicants. In 2010, for example, Law secured 2 three-year ESF PhD studentships to study with Williams in Cornwall. We have also encouraged staff putting in for large funded projects (ERC and Research Council related) to include research studentships as integral to the application. Waelde's successful AHRC bid resulted in a 4-year funded PhD award starting in 2013. Recruitment of international students has been assisted by initiatives and understandings introduced with our partner universities (such as Chinese University of Politics and Law in China). We have addressed a legacy of poor completion rates (prior to 2009) through education of both students and supervisors and by trying to ensure that monitoring of their progress is enhanced. We endeavour to ascertain and remedy any difficulties at an early stage and provide additional sessions as well as auditing their skills needs and directing them to particular specialist courses (e.g. statistical method or medieval Latin). Advice and assistance is also provided on methodological issues and ethical matters relating to data collection. The SWDTC is also providing increased levels of study-skills support upon which we can draw and will be complemented in the future by the recently announced AHRC South West and Wales DTP block grant. Law's postgraduate presentation day(s) held each January attended by all our PGRs and their participation in the College Postgraduate Conference have in particular assisted in the sharing of research methodologies and critical appraisal of theses. Attendance of candidates for the PhD in Legal Practice (senior legal practitioners) has been especially useful to provide a practical viewpoint to academic points. We aim to prepare our PGR students for an academic career by offering GTA positions to provide teaching experience and by involving them within our seminar programmes. PGRs within the period have obtained post-doctoral fellowships and first lectureships both at Exeter and other institutions (e.g. Garland, Giddens, Bedford and Newbury-Jones). During the census period doctoral students have successfully published articles and chapters, single-authored and with their supervisors or other academic staff (e.g. Garland).

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

During the REF census period Law has adopted a pro-active approach to achieving funded income and attracted almost £2.4 million in external awards. We have ensured that staff have understood the changing parameters of research funding and have incentivized securing research income through alterations in our model for allocation of research time. The tables reflect the fact that we have built a culture of successful funding applications. The total value of awards during the first three years of the assessment period was £830,106, while in the last two years the total awarded almost doubled at £1,542,655.52. We have encouraged all researchers to aim to secure external funding and the figures show that the success rate per number of applications made has increased



over the period from 28.27% in 2009 to 34.70%% in 2013. The success rate by value has increased sharply, from 9.7% in 2009 to 35.16% in 2012. Given the fact that sources of funding are dwindling or becoming increasingly more competitive, colleagues have been encouraged to be more strategic in their applications. Our internal mentoring and peer review of applications prior to submission has been beneficial in providing early identification of problems and generating critical engagement to help to shape bids. The number of applications made (50 in the first half of the period to 37 in the second) and number of awards achieved (15 in the first half, to 18 in the second) has therefore narrowed over the period, but the average size of applications has increased, as staff have built on success and become more ambitious (£59,199 to £391,377). More significantly, the average value of awards has grown (from £8,622 to £213,781). Indeed, the size of individual awards to McAuliffe (£667K), Barlow (£263K), Waelde (£217K) and Musson (£178K) demonstrate the upward trajectory we have achieved. It is noticeable that the research centres/groups have been at the forefront of successful grant bids with the FRSN achieving £951,122, the BLHCR gaining £322,624 and SCuLE, £262,306. Colleagues have applied to a range of funding bodies, both national and international, gaining £682,211 (29%) from EU sources and £233,672 (25%) from RCUK. A significant amount (£676,542 - 29%) has come from UK Based Charities such as the Nuffield Foundation (Barlow), the Wellcome Trust (Stebbings), and the Leverhulme Trust (Musson). Trinder, researching policy initiatives, has obtained contract funding from the Ministry of Justice and Department of Education, while Human Rights researcher, Addo, has been funded by the UN and Swedish Government. In addition to staff success in obtaining British Academy grants to initiate small projects (Rolland, Stebbings, McEwan, Niglia, Tettenborn, Skinner), some of which have been worked up into larger bids, funding for setting up research seminars and networks was awarded to McAuliffe (ESRC) and Barlow (Leverhulme). In accord with a new strategy for research bids discussed at College level, over the next five years the Law School intends to exploit the research centres/groups for generating larger funding bids through international and cross-discipline collaborative projects. We will encourage key researchers with a track record of funding to be even more ambitious and will provide the necessary support for these applications with study leave or allowance within the workload model.

Location within the College of Social Sciences has brought significant changes in the infrastructure and facilities (both physical and organisational) available to the Law School. We have benefitted from the Law Library's relocation within the new £48 million Forum Building and there has been increased spending on electronic research materials. The PGR work-space and computer facilities within the Amory Building (Streatham) were significantly enhanced as part of a re-organisation of space and redirecting of priorities recognising our increased level of doctoral students. In addition to bookable rooms for research discussion groups (such as the Gender and Justice Reading Group) and mini-colloquia, new office accommodation for staff was developed in the space vacated by the Law Library. The College has also invested in administrative support for research bidding and we now have a high-level professional team alerting colleagues to relevant research opportunities, supporting bid development, undertaking project costing and managing IPR or contract issues. All research staff are allocated a personal research budget each year (which stood at £800 in 2008 and was increased to £1000 in 2011) with the opportunity to apply for College and RKT funding (up to £100,000) to pursue pilot projects or user engagement strategies.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

Interdisciplinary Research

Developing interdisciplinary research is one of the strategic priorities of the Law School for the coming years (see section b), but our key research centres/groups have already fostered collaborative and interdisciplinary research that has had considerable impact on the discipline. Legal history research within the *BCLHR* entails clear and active links with other units in the university and beyond: **Musson** with medieval history, art and architecture; **Stebbings** with medical history and tax. Her Wellcome funded project on the tax dimension to the development of the medical profession also chimes with the University HASS strategy. **Musson** and **Harrington** have received discretionary funding from the ADR's fund for developing a legal historical and sociolinguistic project. Similarly, the *FRSN* (linked with Bath, Bristol and Cardiff) stands as a beacon for collaborative research within the socio-legal field. The directors see positive future links with scientific partners such as Professor John Dupre and his team in EGENIS. *SCuLE* through **Waelde** is involved in collaborative projects such as SCRIPT (an AHRC funded Centre based at the University of Edinburgh researching into Intellectual Property and Technology Law) and part of



an AHRC funded 'Beyond Text' network working with dancers and coreographers, addressing whether experiential, experimental forms of music and dance are beyond copyright text. Similarly engaging with the sciences **Griffin** is examining the effect of intellectual property laws upon digital technology and **Hawkins** has conducted research for the Wellcome Trust with colleagues at HeLEX (Centre for Health Law and Emerging Technologies at Oxford).

Engagement with Users

Law promotes user engagement in its research for the benefit of both academia and the public. Notable are **Merkin**, who is a consultant on the reform of insurance law for the English and Scottish Law Commissions; **McEwan**, the EU invited speaker on 'The Evidence of Vulnerable Victims and their Standing in Criminal Proceedings' at the Czech Ministry of Justice, Prague (2009) and **Schmitt**, who enjoys a continuing role as Project Director, the Tallinn Manual on the International Law Applicable to Cyber War (NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence). *FLSN* have been working with user organizations such the Ministry of Justice, One Plus One and Resolution. **Lee** has been technical author of a BSI Publicly Accredited Standard (PAS 137) on the regulation of nanomaterials which provides a guide to British Industry. He has also been Special Adviser to the Sustainability and Environment Committee of the Welsh Assembly on the creation of a new environmental regulator, Natural Resources, Wales (NRW).

International Collaboration

As part of our internationalization strategy we have increased our international collaboration in research. **Rolland** is working on projects with colleagues at the Universities of Rennes and Montesquieu, Bordeaux in France; **McEwan** is General Editor of the International Journal of Evidence and Proof (Vathek) working with colleagues from the USA, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Germany and Switzerland. Since 2012 **Barlow** and **Trinder** have been members of the Leverhulme International Network on New Families: New Governance with research partners in Europe, USA and Australia. **McAuliffe** is working on projects involving language issues at universities in China and Hong Kong. A tri-lateral funding bid with the National Law School of India University, Bangalore and William and Mary Law School, USA for a project on domestic violence is currently being developed led by **Musson** (for Exeter) with colleagues in Bath, Bristol and Cardiff.

Contribution to Research Dissemination and Development

The research environment has been stimulated by important international conferences and research symposia. For example, the 19th British Legal History Conference, the first international conference to examine in depth the fundamental approaches, methodologies and sources of legal history research (Making Legal History, CUP, 2012) and an international symposium on 'Pluralism and European Private Law' organised by CELS and sponsored by Modern Law Review yielding an edited volume (Hart, 2011). We host a regular series of major public lectures: the Bracton (given by Lord Clarke, Justice of the Supreme Court (2010) and the Attorney General, Dominic Grieve QC in 2012) and Lasok lectures (presented in 2011 by First Advocate General of the European Court of Justice, Professor Paolo Mengozzi). The inaugural Dodderidge legal history lecture was given in 2009 by Professor David Sugarman. In 2012 Exeter hosted one of the prestigious Hamlyn lectures presented by former Justice Minister, Jack Straw QC. Visiting speakers have also contributed to our fortnightly Research Seminar series. Law staff have received visiting fellowships thereby directly promoting dissemination of research findings to academics in external institutions: for example Dupré visited the Universities of Sienna (Jan 2008), Akureyri (Iceland) (April 2008) and the Faculty of Law, Paris La Sorbonne (May 2009); and Sari held a Visiting Fellowship at the Lightfoot Centre, University of Cambridge (2009-10). Stebbings was Professeur Invité, University of Rennes, France 2009-13. Similarly, we have welcomed researchers from other institutions as visiting scholars. Each visitor's research is intended to enhance that of the Law School and they give at least one research seminar. We have hosted scholars from China, including Professor Dai Desheng from Nanjing University of Finance and Economics (2011), complementing our current expertise in legal aspects of globalisation. From Jan-April 2012 legal and constitutional historian Dr Bill Davies (American University, Washington DC) joined the BCLHR as a Leverhulme Visiting Professor and we hosted as the University's International Visiting Fellows in March 2012 legal historian Dr V.S. Elizabeth from the National Law School of India University, Bangalore and in July 2013 human rights lawyer Professor Angela Banks (William and Mary Law School, USA).