

<p>Institution: University of Central Lancashire</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 20 Law</p>
<p>a. Overview</p> <p>At its launch in April 2000, the Lancashire Law School had an established research culture within which to grow and mature its provision of academic and professional legal education at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan). Evolving out of its previous incarnation as a Department of Legal Studies, the School has demonstrated a clear and sustained improvement in the quality of its research over two decades, establishing itself with a 3a rating in the 1996 RAE, progressing from 3a to 4 in 2001 and having a significant proportion of its work classed as of international standing in 2008. During the current period the School has made further progress in its mission to underpin the full range of academic and professional teaching activities with high quality research. The School has strengthened its policies and management systems to ensure that this upward research trajectory is maintained over the next five years.</p> <p>The developing strength and depth of the Law School's research culture is shown by the growth in the volume and quality of research outputs and the capture of research funding in the last twenty years. This improvement is due to a combination of increased funding from the University following each RAE, and the success of policies aimed at developing existing research capacity and quality as well as recruiting both established researchers and staff new to academia with clear research potential.</p>
<p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>The strategic aims for legal research set out at the time of the RAE 2008 have further evolved during this assessment period, shaped by the University's Medium Term Strategy for research, the changing HE environment, economic conditions and the developing strengths and research interests within the staff base. At the heart of this evolutionary process was the establishment by the University of research subject Schools of which Law was readily identified as an obvious centre of excellence. The Law School was recognised as the appropriate forum to take forward the existing research themes identified in the 2008 RAE plan while also capitalising on new and emerging areas arising from interdisciplinary, cross-School research initiatives. This all had the aim of maximising the quality, impact, reputation, public engagement, focus, scale and scope of legal research within a sustainable funding framework.</p> <p>The central goal of the Law School research plan is to produce world-class legal research by nurturing and developing research talent around the key research themes, whilst recognising areas of individual specialism and the diverse nature of research and knowledge dissemination. By securing increased funding for all levels of researchers, we have been able to focus key internal resources towards those individuals producing or projected to produce work at the higher end of the internationally significant or world leading quality.</p> <p>Specialist areas and key themes include, inter alia, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal law, security and justice and human rights. • Equality and diversity, crime and justice, including work on violence against minority groups, migration, transitional justice, cosmopolitan justice, youth justice approaches, criminal justice responses to women and inter-agency responses to racial violence. • International and European law and comparative approaches relating to maritime and ocean issues, commerce, international intellectual property rights, security issues, human rights, war crime trials, piracy and crimes at sea, environmental issues, energy and nuclear security. • Medical law and legal issues concerning bioethics and bio-safety. <p>A strategic aim for researchers working within these themes is to build on existing interdisciplinary international networks and continue to develop new international collaborations. Examples of the Law School's involvement within the assessment period in interdisciplinary international partnerships include the World Universities Network on International and Comparative Criminal Justice; associations with the University of Oslo and the Ministerio Publico, Brazil (Hudson); Prof Zou's invited keynote speeches at a series of International conferences in International Law; the hosting of an International Criminology Conference (Hudson, Codd); the AlcopopTV Culture project (Codd, Salter) with the University of Gothenburg. More recent initiatives shaping future research outputs within the themes of the School include the European Funded Hate Crime projects with</p>

University of Frankfurt (Salter, Puchalska, Cavadino, Taylor), Cyber bullying project (Salter, Turner), an international network of researchers and practitioners in the field of War Crimes Trials and terrorism (Turner, Salter) and international intellectual property, health and trade policy development (El Said, Shine, Serrano) funded by UN Development Fund, World Health Organisation and a consortium of Asian Pacific Banks. Emerging outputs from new and existing projects will help to shape the future research agenda and funding strategy.

Workload relief funding supports higher-level outputs around the key themes of the School's research activity as well as the preparation of applications for external funding to help expand the resources available to deliver the School's objectives. By fostering the existing research expertise in the Law School and drawing on expertise across the University, the School aims to develop and expand existing themes of international law and security into new research themes relevant to globalisation, such as nuclear law, law of sustainable development and law and climate change with researchers working in Nuclear Regulation and Applied Policy. Examples include proposed projects with industry and regional employers and stakeholders, such as the Nuclear Industry and local authorities. This is part of the longer term research strategy to identify key areas and themes of research and supporting collaborative legal research within and across Schools and with national and international partners.

A key aim of the School is to ensure the research continues to impact on the formulation of national and international policy, legislation and practice, informed by our work with regional, national and international, legal and criminal justice policy makers and practitioners. Examples of such impacts to date include Taylor's research relating to homicide, complicity and criminal law more generally which is incorporated into the daily work of trial and appellate courts across the UK and in other common law jurisdictions; citation of the works of Zou and Codd before the International Court of Justice and Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights, Hudson's influence on law-making in Brazil; Zou's role as consultant to the International Seabed Authority; and El Said's influence on IP and health related issues in developing countries and the School's assistance with the deliberations of the Law Commission on Hate Crime (Salter, Taylor and Cavadino). Also in mid-2012, UCLan Cyprus was established on a new purpose built campus close to Larnaca. This has its own law school and this has proved new international opportunities for research collaboration. Two of the UCLan Cyprus law staff (Kennet and Shaelou) are contracted to the UK Law School to provide an invaluable link between the campuses.

All academic staff in the Law School and the wider University engage with the research agenda through research and/or dissemination of knowledge to external stakeholders in line with the University's Medium Term Strategy. By enhancing the inclusive nature of the Schools research policy we are able to more widely disseminate the School's legal knowledge, expertise and research by informing pedagogy and impacting on communities, industry and employers through projects, pro bono activities and community engagement. New research programmes with external partners are facilitated by the University's Innovation and Enterprise (I&E) Unit who can assist in drafting contracts / letters of agreement, IP and Licensing issues.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The University requires all staff to be able to demonstrate, through appraisal, that they are active in research and / or engaged in knowledge transfer impacting externally. This policy ensures that individual progress with research outputs, funded projects, funding applications and internal and external collaboration forms a central part of law staff individual objectives which are set and measured through the annual appraisal process. Interim appraisals take place half way through the year. A tiered system of School-funded annual workload allowances to support higher level research is in place. These are negotiated and reviewed annually during appraisal and are approved by the School Management Group to ensure parity and equality of opportunity. While it is recognised that not all staff will develop an international or world leading research profile, the underpinning strategy ensures that staff have equal opportunity to develop their research profile and then targets the resources to support demonstrated potential for higher level research. It also ensures that the School is able to draw on the widest pool when identifying and nurturing emerging and existing talent.

Central strategic research funding is targeted to support potential and existing strength in research through a system of sabbaticals for individuals, which provide remission from teaching from a semester up to a year. Over the period of assessment several members of staff from the Law School have benefited from the sabbatical scheme over and above their School based workload allocation (for example Salter, Choong, Codd, Puchalska). The School has also benefited from central funding for its research themes (for example three years of funding for staff working in criminology and criminal justice). In addition to this, the Law School's extensive research informed engagement with external stakeholders through knowledge transfer activity is self-funding and sustainable.

New staff must hold PhDs except where recruited to teach on the professional practice programmes, for which a post graduate professional qualification is required. However staff recruited through the professional practice route are encouraged to contribute to the research programme and have equal opportunity to engage in higher level research (for example Shine, originally recruited from practice to teach on the Legal Practice Course). Such staff are also supported to gain PhDs through fee remission and workload relief (for example Twist, recruited from practice who completed her PhD by part time study in 2012, Serrano who completed in 2009.). Annual opportunities exist for internal staff to apply for promotion to Reader or Professor (recent successes at Readership level include Codd and El Said) assessed by the University Professorial and Readership Committee to ensure consistency and fairness. Where external funding has been secured for projects, research staff appointments are released to support the outputs and existing staff are given remission from other activities in line with the funding secured. It is anticipated that this will lead to a sustainable growth in research active staff, who are mentored by existing staff and project principal investigators to develop skills to secure on-going funding for research. Such mentoring also takes the form of production of joint research outputs (for example Salter with McGuire in relation to the Hate Crime project).

The Law School is committed to replacing research active staff who leave the University whilst seeking to grow its research capability in a sustainable way through the appointment of early career researchers to newly created posts (Scullion being a recent example). At the same time, in order to ensure equality of opportunity and to retain its research talent, the Law School supports applications by existing staff for reduction in hours on a temporary or permanent basis where they wish to combine their academic careers with other responsibilities to enable them to continue to engage in research (for example Serrano, Shine).

This is firmly backed by the university, which is committed to supporting and implementing the principles of the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers, which sets out the expectations and responsibilities of researchers, their managers, employers and funders. It aims to increase the attractiveness and sustainability of research careers in the UK and to improve the quantity, quality and impact of research for the benefit of UK society and the economy. Following this, the university implemented a staff development programme called the Research Leaders Development Programme in 2010. In August 2011, UCLan received formal confirmation from the European Commission that it had been successful in gaining the European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award.

Through the Law School's research mentoring system, research meetings and annual appraisals, research active staff identify and develop their research plans with clear negotiated targets across a defined timescale. These plans include the level and potential source of funding required to deliver the expected outputs. Through regular meetings of the research group, research mentors and through appraisals, achievement of targets and progress is monitored. There are regular reviews of the quality and impact of the specific outputs of the School and of its broader activities by the Professors within the UoA to ensure the targets remain achievable. Support for and training in bidding and project management forms part of the staff development activities of the School and engagement in this is monitored through appraisal and through achievement of the School's income targets. Senior researchers are encouraged to work with emerging researchers around the key themes to ensure sufficient critical mass and appropriate level of experience within teams to

maximise grant capture.

The Law School provides financial support for staff to deliver papers at legal and inter-disciplinary conferences held across the world. More experienced researchers help more junior researchers to target the most prestigious publishers and journals feasible. Researchers are mentored in order to provide support to improve research outputs before publication. An assessment of the quality of outputs is made on an annual basis. A balance of journal and monograph outputs is discussed with individual researchers as part of discussion of their plans, taking into account the distinctive aspects of impact of journals and monographs within the discipline of law. A number of law staff have been supported during the Assessment period to enable them to engage in longer periods (in excess of three months) of research study leave abroad (for example El Said in Qatar, Salter in China, Zou in Canada, Serrano in Fiji). Several Law Staff have been appointed to positions in recognition of their research work and professional standing, for example Taylor, Honorary Secretary of the Society of Legal Scholars and Chair of its Research sub-Committee, Zou Member of the Economic and Social Research Council Peer Review College, Codd, Associate Research Fellow at IALS, Visiting Research Fellow at Birmingham University.

ii. Research students

There have been 10 PhD completions during the period 2008-2013. Postgraduate students, whether registered for PhD, M Phil or LL.M (by research), are an essential part of the Law School research environment. The Law School has developed a supportive strategy for the recruitment and supervision of postgraduate research students. This has been achieved in part by expanding the range of expertise and skills available to supervise research and by encouraging progression. Areas of study in which there are particular strengths include legal theory, jurisprudence, European Union law, diversity, crime and justice, ICT Law, international human rights, comparative European human rights, international law and security, legal reasoning, criminal law and criminal justice studies, international criminal law, international environmental law, maritime law and intellectual property. Students are supervised by teams of two or three, with one acting as "Director of Studies" (DoS). This practice allows us to develop the supervisory skills of less experienced research staff by including them on teams along with more experienced colleagues, and has resulted in a number of previously inexperienced academics now becoming qualified to supervise as DoS. The completion of colleagues' own research degrees (for example Twist, Nir, Serrano) has widened the pool of available and appropriately qualified supervisors. The establishment by the University of an overseas campus through UCLan Cyprus has led to some joint appointments (Kennet and Shaelou) who represent a further widening of the range of supervisory expertise.

Whereas during the previous RAE period, most supervised projects were in the field of criminology, public law and international criminal law, the widening of school research expertise and hence supervisory capacity has permitted research degree supervision for additional topics. These new areas of supervision include transnational banking and finance law (supervised by Shine); IP issues in relation to ambush marketing concerning the 2012 London Olympics and also unlawful music downloading (supervised by El Said,); social and personal care legislative changes (Salter); the legal role of medical examiners (Choong); human rights issues in counter-terrorism law and institutional practice (Turner); international maritime and security law (Zou) and tortious compensation for injured military personnel (Nir).

All full-time research students are provided with their own desk in a shared office with their peers with access to individual networked computer and printing. Our lively schedule of research seminars and workshops with outside speakers and contributions from UCLan staff provides a forum for stimulating research ideas and discussion between staff and postgraduate students. The Law School also finances social events for research students combined with guest speakers to bring the students together and to avoid isolation. Research students may apply for financial support to participate in national and international conferences and to publish their research outputs (for example Laverick presented a paper at the National Postgraduate Conference on Maritime Law in London and also at an international conference organised by Zou in Preston in Spring 2012; Furness, an LL.M by research student, presented a poster at the 2013 SLS conference in Edinburgh; Yin presented a paper at the November 2012 "UNCLOS at 30"

Environment template (REF5)

conference in Qingdao, China and Taylor (Alan) presented a paper at the Piracy conference in Mauritius in September 2013).

Where appropriate, research students have the opportunity to undertake suitably chosen part-time teaching duties, including within their own particular areas of specialism, to broaden their academic experience. In line with our development strategy, the Law School attracts and recruits students from diverse backgrounds, including new graduates from the Law School, professionally established mature students, international students attracted by our subject expertise, and others who are returning to academia following career breaks. The University operates an annual process for awarding bursaries for PhD projects and the Law School secured three such bursaries to support new PhD students in the 2012 round.

Under the auspices of the University's Research and Innovation Office, a comprehensive training programme for research students (and for staff) is provided which has recently been awarded the Vitae Excellence in Research Training award and associated kitemark. All full time and part time students are required to attend a comprehensive induction day, eight of which are run each year close to the point of student intake (quarterly). This introduces them to the key players and a process related to their research degree, and is backed up by literature including Student Handbooks, Vitae research relevant publications, and a host of information on the facilities available for their support. Additionally, all full time students are required to attend a compulsory two-week block, the Graduate Research Skills programme, at the outset of their study. This is a validated programme, provided centrally and contains around £1700 worth of training. It contains vital information on skills including Communication and Presentation; Reflective Practice; Project Management; Academic Writing; Team-working; and Coaching. Part time students can elect to come to parts of this course, but if they are unable to do so, the University has invested close to £80k through the purchase of the on-line Research Masters Programme from Epigeum. The suite of programmes enables progressive learning from research student to senior research academic via a combination of face-to-face, e-learn and web-based training.

Each year the Research Student Registry hosts the now very popular Research Student Conference over a three-day period. It showcases individual research student's research by oral and poster presentations with awards for outstanding work supported by prizes from the Research and Innovation Office and this is an initiative which law research students have fully participated in and benefitted from.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

Significant advances have been achieved in the sustainability of research of the Law School during this assessment period with success in bidding for external funding to lead major projects in collaboration with international partners. This success has arisen out of a sustained strategy to put together interdisciplinary project teams to identify and bid for funding opportunities, supported in the process by the University's central Funding, Development & Support (FDS) unit which is part of the Research and Innovation Office.

The total funding obtained by the Law School from external sources outside the university in the current REF period is in excess of **£2 million**. Recent examples of success include major funding obtained from the DG Justice Daphne III stream of the European Commission for a project entitled "When Law and Hate Collide" (JUST/2009/DAP3/AG/1221,) consisting of 460K Euros over a two year period. The School was the lead bidder for the project which also involved European partners at the University of Gothenburg and the Goethe University Frankfurt. A number of major conferences and workshops both in Brussels and the UK have been held in pursuance of this project, have been further disseminated by internet and have attracted widespread interest including from the Law Commission who themselves have started a project recently on hate crime. Another significant project entitled "AlcopopTV Culture: Media, Young People, Violence and Alcohol Use" (JUST/2009/DAP3/AG/1251) in partnership with the University of Gothenburg received 193K Euro funding from the European Commission (Codd, Salter). A bid drawing on expertise from the Law and Business Schools was funded by the DG for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion to the sum of 163K Euros on the subject of "Combating Cyber-bullying in the workplace". This success is likely to be sustained as is illustrated by the fact that, for example, El Said is a member of a team headed by Professor Thomas Pogge (Yale) in a 2 million Euros bid to

the European Research Council (Advanced Grant) which was notified as successful in August 2013 and which will fund most of El Said's time for the next three years.

Individual research staff within this UoA have also received funding for their research and knowledge transfer activities. Examples include the late Professor Hudson who obtained financial support from Brazil and Norway to conduct collaborative research projects and international conferences. She was also participating in a University of Oslo research project on security and the rule of law funded by the Norwegian Research Council. Professor Salter who has been funded by the European Research Council funded project on Corpses of Mass Violence. Professor Zou has maintained a wide range of links with international research partners (Canada, China, South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Sweden, and USA) and receives financial support to reimburse his airfares, accommodation etc. for the purpose of attending international conferences and/or giving keynote speeches. El Said has been funded by the WHO, UNDP and other NGO's to develop and publish under its auspices policy guides on determination of IP rights of pharmaceutical companies in developing economies while Codd, Choong and Serrano, amongst others, have attracted external funding to give presentations at conferences and symposia overseas.

The University has in place an extensive research area network across all academic disciplines supported by the Research and Innovation Office (headed by the University Director of Research) which reports to the Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee. This committee is chaired by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and is a major sub-committee of the University's Academic Board. Law has its own Director of Research (Taylor) and there is a Lead for Research Students (Salter) plus Research Degrees Tutors (Rosebury and Puchalska). The School's Research Committee provides a forum for new and active researchers to discuss issues, share ideas, encourage new research and funding bids and discuss School research policy and strategy. There is also a University Research Ethics Committee for Social Sciences and Humanities (which has been chaired by Codd).

The Law School also has a regular programme of research seminars and workshops and arranges national and international conferences. These take a variety of forms:

1. Sessions primarily for postgraduate research students to disseminate their research. Here research students meet with more experienced researchers and supervisors with an invited audience to discuss current challenges, give presentations of their preliminary findings and share ideas regarding future plans, strategies and research methodologies. Additionally, the University organises an annual Research Student Conference at which all University research students are required to present.
2. Research seminars led by invited guests from outside UCLan, presenting and discussing research findings, plans and issues in subjects which intersect with the research interests of Law School staff and students. Invited speakers have included Professor Michelle Everson (Birkbeck, University of London); Richard Ireland (Aberystwyth); Professor Bill Bowring (Birkbeck, University of London); Professor Yao Huang (Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China, Professor George Mair (Liverpool John Moores), Jon Shute (Manchester University). More recently the University has established a Distinguished visitor fund to facilitate visits by leading academics from overseas and the Law School has received funding for visits from Professors Katja Aas (Oslo) René van Swaaningen (Erasmus University Rotterdam) Sanquiang Qu (Peking University) and Phil Scraton (Queens Belfast).
3. Seminars led by members of the Law School staff about their own research and publications, open to academic staff, research students and where appropriate to undergraduates on relevant modules.
4. The Law School has arranged a number of international conferences at its home campus, across the UK and internationally. Examples include Securing Maritime Peace in East Asia, The Role of International Law (2012) with expert speakers from Asia, Americas and Europe held at Preston Campus; Globalising Bioethics held in Manchester with ten international expert speakers (2011); Disability, Responses and Policies on Hate Crime, Brussels (2011); When Law and Hate Collide, Brussels (Jan 2013).

Access to legal research facilities has been enhanced on campus and the School financially

supports staff that need to travel for field work and research. The centrally-run law library is managed by the Law Librarian in conjunction with the Law School management team in accordance with agreed strategies for development and maintenance of the law collection. Supplementing the hard copy resources, significant investment in e-resources for legal research (such as Heinonline, Oxford Scholarship online etc) ensures the long term currency and sustainability of the law collection. In addition to the regular annual library budget, additional library resources are available to support research as, for example with the successful bid for £20,000 (Zou, 2010) for the purchase of books on international law. Research active staff have individual offices in the School and there are two resource rooms within the Law School which are open to staff as well as research students. The excellent IT infrastructure and seamless access externally via UCLan Global means that research staff have access to all the online and electronic resources of the Law School and the University wherever they happen to be in the world just as though they are sitting at their own PC in their office. The School's facilities also include two much admired and realistic Moot Court rooms with sophisticated electronic facilities which are used not only for mooting but for other legal research activities including research seminars, presentations and workshops.

e. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

The Law School maintains extensive academic and professional links within and outside the UK. Staff are increasingly involved in research of international import, with colleagues forging links with individual academics and universities overseas. Senior and established researchers such as, Zou, Salter, Taylor Codd, El Said, and Serrano maintain extensive links of this kind. Zou has numerous links with researchers in Canada, China, Singapore, Taiwan, Sweden, and USA and his international collaborations have resulted in two co-edited books: *Maritime Security in the South China Sea* (2009, with China counterpart) and *Conflict Management and Dispute Settlement in East Asia* (2011, with Swedish counterpart). El-Said undertakes study for the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and the World Health Organization (WHO) on intellectual property protection, access to medicines and HIV/Aids in the Gulf region and his monograph "Public health related TRIPS-plus provisions in bilateral trade agreements" is a policy guide for negotiators and implementers in the WHO Eastern Mediterranean region (2010).

Contribution to the discipline is reflected during the period in editorship or membership of editorial boards of academic journals including: *Punishment & Society: The International Journal of Penology* (Cavadino, Hudson); *British Journal of Criminology* and *Canadian Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice* (Hudson); *Journal of Civil Liberties* (Salter); *Ocean Development and International Law*, *International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law*, *Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy*, the *Polar Journal*, and *Chinese Journal of International Law* (Zou). Research staff act as peer reviewers for research funding bodies such as ESRC, Hong Kong Research Grant Council, publishers such as CUP, OUP, Brill, Routledge, Ashgate, and for a wide range of journals. Research staff are also actively engaged with the public, contributing influential articles to newspapers and electronic media as well as being interviewed by TV, radio and other major media organisations including Radio Australia, China News Net, Bloomberg and, of course, the BBC.

Contributions of the Law School are also evidenced by citations before national and international courts including the House of Lords, Supreme Court and Court of Appeal (Taylor), the International Court of Justice (Zou) and the European Court of Human Rights (Codd), and governments including the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, Congress of the United States of America (Zou), and the UK Ministry of Justice (Taylor, Cavadino). Interdisciplinary research is promoted within the Law School. Evidence can be found in the activities of e.g. Zou and Codd as ESRC Peer Reviewers and with Zou's role as Research Associate with the East Asian Peace Research Programme at Uppsala University in Sweden and as Academic Advisor to the National Institute for South China Sea Studies. Taylor has been Hon Secretary of the Society of Legal Scholars since 2011, which involves him in a wide range of activities supportive of the discipline.