

Institution: University of Manchester

Unit of Assessment: 20 (Law)

a. Overview

Since 2008, we have built on existing strengths and developed a vibrant, creative and intellectually diverse environment in which research of the very highest quality can flourish. Highlights include:

- The creation of ManReg to provide a focal point for regulation research previously located in several smaller groupings, building on a long tradition of regulatory scholarship at Manchester
- The emergence of the Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice (CCCJ) as a major internationally-recognised grouping with a critical mass of researchers and a portfolio of externally-funded research
- The consolidation of the Centre for Social Ethics and Policy (CSEP) as a world-leading centre of excellence in the field of bioethics and medical law
- Publishing 61 sole-authored books, 56 co-authored books and 36 edited collections
- Securing over £3.4 million in external research funding, a 40% rise compared to the period covered by RAE2008
- Supervising 78 PhD students to completion.

The Unit is now one of the largest and most diverse law schools in the UK, with nearly 70 academic staff. Intellectual focus and leadership is provided primarily through three research centres:

1. **ManReg: The Manchester Centre for Regulation & Governance**
2. **The Centre for Criminology & Criminal Justice (CCCJ)**
3. **The Centre for Social Ethics & Policy (CSEP).**

Approximately 70% of researchers in the UoA are affiliated to one or more of these three centres. A number of other smaller and more informal research groupings provide structure for the organisation and support of research activity outside the centres (e.g. groupings in public law, intellectual property and commercial law). Our strategy emphasises the importance of centres and groupings to provide support for early career researchers and PGR students. We have also considerably strengthened the management of PGR activity during the REF period, led by the PGR Director, to ensure that students are better supported and suitably integrated into the research environment.

b. Research strategy

Manchester 2020, the ambitious strategic plan of UoM, was published in November 2011. It has permeated all levels of the organization and drives strategic investment and planning at Faculty, School and Research Group level. The UoM research strategy has been adopted across the institution and shapes the research environment. The overarching institutional ambition is to produce world-class and world-leading research, commensurate with being one of the top 25 research universities in the world.

This institutional strategy sets the context for the Law UoA. The research strategy in RAE 2008 set out a number of objectives related to a central overarching aim of developing as an internationally-leading centre for research in the field. Our overall assessment of progress against four core strategic aims during the REF period is positive. *First*, we have seen progress on *research income*. Total research income awarded during the REF period has increased by 40% compared to the previous RAE period. *Second*, we have consolidated the size of the *PGR student* community and

worked towards enhancing the quality of students recruited and the timeliness of completions, through a more rigorously selective admission policy, enhanced supervision structures and improved systems for monitoring of progress. *Third, we have recruited excellent research-active staff*, in order to sustain research achievement. Key senior appointments during the period have included Professors **Gadd** (Criminology), **Holm** (Bioethics), **Howells** (Consumer Law), **Vogel** (Criminal Law), **d'Aspremont** (international law), **Scobbie** (international law), **Glover-Thomas** (medical law), **Lee** (law and development), **McMeel** (commercial law) and **Thornhill** (legal/political theory), as discussed below. The research environment has also benefited from the appointment of a wide range of research fellows, associates and assistants funded through external awards, as well as **Loftus** (criminology) on a prestigious University-funded Simon Research Fellowship and several Simon/Hallsworth visiting professors (see section e below). *Fourth, we have maintained and increased financial support for research*. The annual staff allowance for conference participation and research expenses was increased in 2012 from £750 to £1,250 per member of staff and the School of Law's Research Support Fund has made sums of up to £4,000 available to support international conference organisation expenses, pump-priming of project work and other research-related expenses. Available research time is maximised and protected through our workload allocation model which also includes formula-based credit for successful external research funding applications. The School has also provided additional support for staff through the creation in 2010 of posts of Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant (GRTA) as discussed below. Significant resources are also provided at Faculty and University level (see section d below).

Our intellectual agenda, as it has developed since 2008, now coalesces mainly around our three research centres – ManReg, CCCJ and CSEP – alongside enduring strengths in areas supported in informal groupings (e.g. public law, commercial law). ManReg was formed in 2011 out of three earlier and smaller groupings which had been initiated in the previous RAE period, as part of a strategy to rationalise our research structures and build centres with critical mass. Led initially by Williamson and **Griffiths**, and now by **Devaney** and **Abbot**, ManReg brings together over 20 researchers working in a diverse set of sectors (environmental protection, intellectual property, criminal justice, biotechnologies etc) with a shared focus on regulatory theory and frameworks. It builds on the long tradition of regulation scholarship at Manchester but is taking this into new fields and in new directions. ManReg has been developing strong links with world-leading regulation scholars (e.g. the RegNet group at the Australian National University, Jacint Jordana at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, David Vogel at Berkeley) in order to build a foundation for the future development of major international collaborative projects.

CCCJ emerged from a strategic decision to consolidate strength in criminology by the appointment of a new Chair (**Gadd**) who has successfully brought together the existing grouping of criminologists with other criminal law and justice scholars in the Unit. As with regulation research, there is a long tradition of criminology at Manchester but the arrival of fresh intellectual leadership and the creation of CCCJ has given this a renewed vitality and focus (e.g. 12 books published by members since 2010). Research activities cluster around four themes – drugs; violence and criminal networks; policing and security; criminal law and justice – each of which is producing significant outputs.

CSEP was established in 1986 and is an internationally-renowned centre for work on bioethics and medical law. Under the leadership of **Brazier** and **Holm**, it has continued to provide a fertile, stimulating and productive home for a diverse group of lawyers, philosophers and socio-legal scholars. It has strong links with the Institute for Science, Ethics & Innovation in the Faculty of Life Sciences and is investigating some of the major legal, policy and ethical challenges in the field, including new reproductive technologies, stem cell research, cloning, biobanks and assisted dying.

Looking forward, the need for a more strategic approach to the planning of our research was recognised during the REF period. The Unit's Research Committee was renamed the Research Strategy Group (RSG) to reflect this reorientation and the RSG, led by the Unit's Research Director, is now responsible for developing our research strategy, taking a long view of our strategic direction.

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Our strategy for the next five years, which is closely aligned with Faculty and University plans, will focus on research excellence and quality improvement. This will be delivered through the pursuit of six strategic aims, which build on our earlier strategy but will move it forward significantly.

1. *Improving all aspects of the quality of our research*
This includes enhancing the quality of publications we produce, our academic influence (as measured by citation rates) and our non-academic impact (see REF 3a Impact Template).
2. *Developing and investing in key research areas with internationally-excellent or world-leading potential.*
We will invest further in our areas of strength (e.g. crime, regulation, bioethics, public law), as well as identifying new areas to develop (e.g. international law – see below).
3. *Enhancing our external income generation.*
We aim to increase overall amounts of income, as well as to diversify funding sources and increase the proportion of staff involved in income generation, in order to augment the resources for our research. An internal Working Group conducted a review of this area in 2012 and we are now implementing the Group's recommendations (e.g. enhancing peer review of draft proposals, using School/Faculty/University resources to pump-prime activity).
4. *Ensuring research excellence drives our strategies, policies and practices for staff recruitment, probation, promotion and reward.*
We will continue to work on integrating the research excellence agenda into our entire approach to human resources.
5. *Building, servicing and maintaining an outstanding community of PGR students.*
We aim to continue to recruit high-quality students, to use the opportunities provided by being part of the largest ESRC DTC in England to improve the quality of training provision and to integrate PGR students further into our research culture.
6. *Providing a supportive and collegial environment for research excellence.*
We aim to build further our vibrant research culture and environment, by enhancing structures and arrangements to facilitate collaboration and intellectual exchange, and improving systems for supporting and mentoring researchers at different stages of career development.

A recent development in 2012/13 of strategic importance which will deliver visible outcomes in the next five years is investment in international law. The recruitment of three new Chairs (**Scobbie, Lee and d'Aspremont**) is intended to enable a step-change in our research activity in this area, building on the existing work of **Maogoto, Vogel, Reiff** and Hodu. **Lee** has also brought to Manchester the Law & Development Institute (LDI) that he founded and leads, which is an international network of scholars exploring the use of law for development. It is expected that this area of international law, global governance and international development will become our fourth central point of intellectual focus and leadership within the Unit over the next period. We have also recently consolidated our long-standing strength in commercial law through new appointments, notably **McMeel** to a Chair.

c. People, including:

i. Staffing strategy and staff development

The Unit is committed to the recruitment and retention of staff who are 'excellent' in the sense of producing research of the highest quality and, in the case of early career researchers, who have the potential to do so. There has been some staff turnover during the REF period with several retirements including four high ranking professors – Birds (Law), Russell Dobash (Criminology), Rebecca Dobash (Criminology), and Ogus (Regulation) – while several other research-excellent senior staff have moved to posts elsewhere (e.g. Avgouleas to Edinburgh, Lucy to Durham). Other early career scholars have been able to move on to significant promotions (e.g. Coggan and Gurnham to Readerships at Southampton, Schammo to a Readership at Durham). As described in section b above, the Unit has recruited a significant number of research leaders right across areas of expertise to invigorate the research environment. There have also been three internal

promotions to chairs during the REF period: Avgouleas (left for Edinburgh in 2012); **Thomas** (Chair in Public Law) and **Seddon** (Chair in Criminology). **Seddon's** promotion reflects the growing strength of regulation research within ManReg and the emergence of CCCJ as a major centre, whilst **Thomas'** promotion has confirmed long-standing strength at Manchester in the broad area of Public Law. As noted above, the recent recruitment of three Chairs in the area of international law (**Scobbie**, **d'Aspremont** and **Lee**) will further enhance research leadership in the Unit.

The Unit sets a rigorous minimum post-appointment publications requirement for early career researchers (two peer reviewed publications of at least international standard by the end of the probation period). The UoM website for ECRs offers additional guidance to working in higher education and was the winner of the Times Higher Education 2011 Award for Outstanding Support for early Career Researchers. For the purposes of promotion, staff, including part-time staff, are guided towards the relevant promotion threshold in relation to research by their line manager at the point in the annual cycle when university criteria are circulated and through the annual individual Performance & Development Review (PDR) process. All staff interested in seeking promotion are encouraged to seek guidance from a senior colleague. For early career researchers, support through mentoring by a nominated senior colleague with related research interests is complemented by a reduced teaching load (beginning with a 25% reduction in year 1, tapering down in years 2 and 3) and only minimal administrative duties in the first year. Staff are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from research leaders in their field(s) of research with regard to the preparation of work for publication and on publication strategy. Internal peer review is mandatory for research funding applications and strongly encouraged for outputs prepared for publication.

Researchers compete for externally funded or sponsored fellowships, in their own right or linked to university sabbatical leave (for examples of success, see next paragraph). Such leave is available – subject to the presentation of a programme of research linked to suitable potential outputs – for a period of one semester after each six semesters of service. All staff are potentially eligible, including part-time staff and those still on probationary appointments. During the REF period, 58 staff have had at least one semester of research leave.

Researchers' development has been enhanced through success in fellowships and visiting appointments over the REF period. **Harris** was awarded a one year Leverhulme Research Fellowship from 2012-13 for research on the Complexity in the Law and Structure of Welfare, which will complement the work into rules and rule-making by **Thomas** and others in the Public Law research group. He was also a visiting professor at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and Comparative Law in Munich in July 2009. **Giglio** held a Leverhulme Study Abroad Fellowship for twelve months in 2009-10. The School was also successful in having one of its nominated external candidates, Bethan **Loftus** from Oxford University, appointed to a highly competitive University of Manchester ECR Simon Fellowship for three years to undertake research into the policing of international borders, which will contribute to the work of both CCCJ and ManReg. Quirk, a member of CCCJ, held a Fordham fellowship in the USA in 2012 which enabled her to develop a project on lay participation in criminal justice. **Reiff** held a funded fellowship at the Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University in 2008-09 and this period aided the preparation of his book on *Exploitation and Economic Justice in the Liberal Capitalist State*. Coggon held a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship from 2007-2010 (and has since moved to a Readership at Southampton). **Seddon** was a visiting exchange scholar in spring 2011 at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government where he undertook research on integrating social capital and nodal governance perspectives, which will contribute to his work within ManReg and CCCJ.

For research staff, the University has developed a Concordat Implementation Plan to ensure full support for the Concordat and has received the HR Excellence in Research Award from the European Commission in recognition of this work. The University participated in the Careers Research Online Survey 2011 to find out the views of research staff and has incorporated the results into the Concordat Implementation Plan, especially through improving research staff representation on University committees.

We have a strong commitment to staff equality and development. This is supported by Faculty and University policies and resources. The UoM Equality and Diversity Office has networks for all groups of staff representing key equality strands. The University guarantees interviews to job applicants with disabilities through its 'two ticks' scheme and offers significant support to colleagues with disabilities. Manchester has a significant LGBT community which is reflected in UoM staff and PhD student populations.

In the 2013 UoM staff survey (71% return rate), 94% of respondents said that the University is a good place to work, 92% feel proud to work at the University, and 91% agree that facilities for research are good. This places UoM highest of the 28 HEIs surveyed by Capita. Results were also very positive within the UoA, with 88% feeling the University was 'a good place to work', 90% understanding its core goals and 95% agreeing with the goal of supporting world-leading research.

The Unit has robust mechanisms in place to maintain research quality and integrity. All research involving human subjects – by both staff and students – is required to go through a process of ethical approval. Review and approval takes place at either Unit or University level, depending on the complexity of issues. All researchers are required to be aware of, and adhere to, its rules, policies and guidelines, any legal requirements and any standards set out by relevant learned societies and funding bodies. Researchers are required to comply with the Unit's general procedures for assessing, monitoring and managing risk. In relation to authorship, the Unit's practice is that all outputs have co-authors in alphabetical order, unless the team agrees to depart from this on the basis of differential contributions. This applies to all authors, including PGR students.

ii. Research students

Our research culture is enriched by a large and active postgraduate community whose members are important contributors in our collective intellectual life. We awarded 78 PhDs in the REF period and are currently supervising around 100 PhD students. Students contribute to our research culture in many ways, including active involvement in research centres and groups, participation in seminars and workshops and involvement in other research events.

Substantial efforts have been made to increase intake quality for PhD students. We have raised required entry grades and we also scrutinise research proposals more rigorously during the application process. We have benefited from several RCUK studentships during the period and, more recently, the institution's prestigious President's Doctoral Scholar Award. PGR work is accorded the highest importance in the Unit. The Unit provides a high quality research environment and excellent supervision and training for students. Training in research skills and professional development for the Unit's PGR students has expanded substantially in range and quality over the REF period. There is an extensive range of introductory and advanced empirical research methods training MRes course units in the Unit, across the Faculty of Humanities, and cross-institution (Manchester, Liverpool, Lancaster) in the ESRC North West Doctoral Training College (NWDTC), available not only to ESRC 'Security, Conflict and Justice' pathway 1+3 students but also to the increasing numbers of our students whose research incorporates an empirical dimension.

Additionally, a menu of in-School training is distributed across all three years of the full-time PhD period and comprises 14 seminars per year, with increasing levels of organisation/presentation for PGR students who are more advanced in their studies, also providing them with professional development experience relevant to academic careers. This is complemented by a truly extensive and high quality level of Faculty provision through the 'methods@manchester' and 'artsmethods@manchester' programmes incorporating research methods and professional development training sessions, numbering approximately 150 day/half day teaching sessions over the year. Students can access these training sessions at any time as their training needs evolve. This ongoing availability of training is highly valued by our students over the traditional model in which it is 'front loaded' into the PhD programme. Our institutional provision has been awarded the Times Higher Education Award for 'Outstanding Support for Early Career Researchers'.

The Unit places a very strong emphasis on effective supervision, and has clear expectations for

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both staff and students (re: quality and quantity milestones) to see students ready to submit on time, preferably by the end of the third year. We are aiming at continual improvement in our (already rising) four-year completion rate. Progress is regularly monitored via the Manchester Doctoral College's online 'eprog' system for recording of progression milestones and outcomes of reviews and all students are subject each year to mid-year and annual reviews undertaken by a panel of staff. Students are expected to present their work and are encouraged to do so at the Unit's annual PGR Conference, which supervisors and other academic staff also attend. The Unit also provides funding for students to attend national and international conferences to present their work: increased to £580 in 2012 from £300 per student annually, with more available on application. It is the norm for students to have done this at least once during their studies; many present regularly. Some students have been following the Unit's 'Structured' PhD in Bioethics and Medical Jurisprudence using a thesis structure that builds on 3-4 published papers. Some publications involve co-authorship with supervisors. This is the only PhD of its kind in the UK. We are currently piloting the 'Alternative Format' PhD which would provide the students who follow it the opportunity to complete a doctorate with high quality publications, hitting the jobs market in an advantageous position.

PGR students have dedicated desk space to use during the first three years of their studies and staff-style individual webpages. They are also provided with their own University badged business cards when they register, helping them to feel integrated into the Unit. PGR students' integration into the Unit's research life also includes participation in the activities of the research groupings (as noted above) and cross-School work-in-progress and research seminars. Some more advanced students have been involved in grant applications and co-authored publications with staff.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities*Research funding*

The UoA commitment to external research funding, its strategic aim of increasing the number and range of grants and the overall amount of income, and its strategies to achieve this aim were outlined above in section b. The UoA has attracted external funding for a number of important research projects during the current REF period, totalling £3.4 million which represents a significant increase since the previous RAE period. In addition to a large number of smaller grants, the following sizeable awards (£90,000+) have been secured:

- **M Brazier** was awarded a grant of £854,567 by the AHRC for research into The Impact of the Criminal Process on Health Care Ethics and Practice, in which the co-researchers were Ost (Lancaster), **Bennett** (Manchester), Sanders (Manchester and latterly Birmingham), and Farrell (Manchester and now Monash).
- **M Brazier, Devaney** and Quirk were awarded a follow-on funding grant by the AHRC in respect of the above project: £113,332.
- **Gadd** was awarded an ESRC grant of £385,000 (including funding for a linked studentship) for a project entitled Boys to Men which he conducted with Dr Fox (Keele) and Prof Butler (Bath). Most of the award came to Manchester, along with the research associate.
- **Harris** was the co-researcher with Riddell (Edinburgh) in a project funded by the ESRC (RES 062-23-0803) into Dispute Resolution and Additional Support Needs in England and Scotland. Of the total grant of £310,000, 50% was allocated to Manchester. **Harris** also attracted a small element - £1,200 – of the follow-on funding grant awarded by ESRC in respect of this project.
- **Seddon** and Smith (along with Sanders, Birmingham) were commissioned by Greater Manchester Police to do research into Disproportionality in Professional Standards. Total: £101,000 (of which at least 75% was allocated to Manchester).
- **Thomas** was awarded a grant of £96,000 by the Nuffield Foundation for research into Administrative Justice and Asylum Appeals.
- **Seddon** was awarded £110,000 by the ESRC for a study of the contractual governance of drug users in treatment.

These projects have generated a range of high quality research outputs, including:

- **Thomas'** book *Administrative Justice and Asylum Appeals* (Hart Publishing, 2011), which won the Society of Legal Scholars Peter Birks prize for outstanding legal scholarship in 2011.
- **M Brazier's** book on *Doctors in the Dock* (co-written with Suzanne Ost), published by Cambridge University Press in 2013.
- **Harris'** book (with Sheila Riddell) on *Resolving Disputes about Educational Provision* (Ashgate, 2011).

Significant impact activities have also followed on from these major funded studies, notably work by **Harris, Thomas, Brazier** and Smith, which is described in the Unit's impact case studies. **Gadd's** study is also starting to lead to important social and policy impact.

Research infrastructure and facilities

The Unit's Director of Research (currently **Seddon**, previously **Harris** and **Gibbons**) chairs its Research Committee, which has overall oversight of research activity across the UoA. In 2012, the Committee was re-named the Research Strategy Group to reflect a re-orientation towards long-term strategic thinking and planning. Research support is provided by a Research Support Service Hub at Faculty level. It provides pre- and post-award support for securing and project managing research awards (communicating funding opportunities, providing project costings, administering peer review of applications, supporting the organisation of research seminars and other events) and works closely with the Director of Research to support successful development and implementation of research strategic aims. The Research Director also co-ordinates the peer review process for external funding applications and is a member of the Faculty of Humanities Research Strategy Committee. The Faculty Committee oversees the annual review of research centres, to maintain and support excellent standards in research activity and research-based impact generation. The Unit participates fully in the university's ethical approval process and has several members on the University's Research Ethics Committee (including chairing one of the committees: **Holm**). All researchers have individual offices equipped with efficient PCs and printers and full access to the wide range of electronic and other resources available via the University library (see below).

Resources available to support staff research include the services of a number of Graduate Research & Teaching Assistants (noted above), who, in addition to doing some teaching (30 hours in total) are employed to provide a total of 140 hours of research support each to staff on request, with up to 30 hours of support per single request. As noted in section b above, all staff have automatic access to £1250 each year to fund travel/accommodation associated with conference/seminar/workshop attendance. They can also apply to the Unit's Research Support Fund for discretionary amounts, both to supplement the automatic travel allowance and also to pay for research assistance and other research-related expenditure. The Faculty of Humanities Strategic Investment Fund (SIRF) provides funding of up to £15k to develop large external research funding applications and several staff members have benefited from this (e.g. **Williams, Lee, King**). Pump-priming funding of up to £50k per interdisciplinary bid is also available via the University of Manchester Research Institute, created in 2012 to take forward the *Manchester 2020* vision of establishing UoM as a major centre for inter-disciplinary research. Smith was awarded £46k in 2012/13 to work with colleagues in Pharmacy and Medicine on a proposal for research on ethnic disproportionality in the professions. Aldridge benefitted from a University 'Investing in Success' award to visit research centres in Spain, Canada and the USA to build a collaborative research network on drug markets, complementing funding from SIRF used to develop a large research proposal on online drug sales.

The University of Manchester Library is a designated National Research Library and offers, among other things, more than 4 million printed books and manuscripts and access to an unparalleled range of electronic resources including over 40,000 e-journals, more than 500,000 electronic books

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and a complete range of research databases. Through Manchester e-scholar it offers researchers a premium resource to both deposit and disseminate their research outputs, including allowing open access.

The University is further investing in the Unit through a planned £20 million relocation designed to provide a new, dedicated building for the Law School from 2016 onwards. The interior layout is being designed to ensure that it is fully tailored to our particular research needs, including those of our PGR community.

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base

International collaborations

The members of the UoA have a wide range of international collaborations to their name including membership of numerous international academic associations and networks. They also contribute to diverse international panels of experts and policy forums, involving the voluntary sector and user groups. Individuals' participation in various collaborations includes:

- **Howells** was President of the International Association of Consumer Law, 2009-11 and a participant in the CoPECL network (Common Principles of European Contract Law), the only law-focused network of excellence funded by the European Commission.
- **Holm** was President of the European Society for the Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care 2008-10. He also participated in a number of EU funded projects with a range of international partners. Projects include EURETHNET, TECHNOLIFE and GLEUBE. He holds a permanent visiting Chair at the University of Oslo.
- **Gadd** is part of an international research grouping on Responses to Interpersonal Violence, funded by the Swedish research council comprising social work, psychological, psychotherapy, and criminological academics from the UK, Sweden, Norway, South Africa and Canada.
- **Maogoto** is a member of both the Space Law Committee and the International Criminal Court Committee of the International Law Association.
- **Hodu** is a member of the Roster of WTO Non-Governmental Panellists eligible to be appointed by the Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO. He has been nominated for membership of the WTO's appellate body.
- **Aldridge, Shute and Medina** are members of the Eurogang Network, a working group of the European Society for Criminology.
- **Smith** is a member of an international panel of reviewers for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.
- **Lovdahl Gormsen** has undertaken work with the Centre for European Studies in Economic Law (CESEL) at the University of Copenhagen on the European administrative system.
- **Harris** is a member of an international research group comprising scholars from the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany examining aspects of social security law and policy, including funded projects on private actors and incapacity for work. Three published books comprising collected papers (two in the current REF period) have resulted.
- **Lee** currently heads the Law & Development Institute, an international network of scholars, students, government agencies and NGOs, which aims to promote world-class research on law and development and to facilitate the implementation of development projects.

International links were also enhanced by the increasing numbers of academic visitors to the Unit. For example, during the REF period, we welcomed Prof Peter Grabosky (ANU), Prof Okko Behrends (Göttingen), Prof Robin Robinson (Massachusetts), and Prof Jacint Jordana (Universitat Pompeu Fabra) all as Visiting Simon/Hallsworth Professors; Prof Luis Arechederra (Navarra); Prof Pablo Lerner (School of Law & Business, Israel); Dr Alejandro Gonzalez-Varas Ibanez (Zaragoza); Prof Beatriz González Moreno (Vigo and Legal Advisor to the Galician Ombudsman); Dr. Jill

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Murray (La Trobe University, Australia); Prof Xuejun Sheng (South-West University of Political Science & Law, Chongqin); Prof Wang Sufen (Liaoning, China); Prof E. Eichenhofer (Jena); Dr Juan Antonio Cruz Parcero (Universidad Nacional de Educaion a Distancia, Madrid); Dr Guiseppe Testa (IFOM-IEO Milan); Dr Salvador Pérez Álvarez (UNED); Dr Yanmei Wang (Ji Lin University, China); Dr Asher Flynn (Monash) and Dr Cinara Nahra (Rio Grande do Norte).

Interdisciplinary research

The UoA has a strong inter-disciplinary focus. It includes researchers from a range of disciplinary backgrounds in addition to law, including economics, sociology, criminology and philosophy. Staff publish in a wide range of journals, participate in diverse conferences and engage in multiple-disciplinary collaborations. Examples of the latter include:

- Aldridge worked with two members of the School of Medicine and a colleague in Sheffield in a project funded by a Nuffield Foundation grant of £51,000 under the Changing Adolescence: Social Trends and Adolescent Mental Health Initiative.
- **Harris'** ESRC-funded research on Dispute Resolution with Sheila Riddell a Professor of Inclusion and Diversity at the University of Edinburgh.
- **Gibbons** has worked on an ESRC project and has co-authored a book with Peter Humphreys of the University's School of Social Sciences.
- Odell-West has worked on several projects involving law, ethics and philosophy experts e.g. the ESRC-funded European Law and New Health Technologies project.
- **Hebenton** is a member of the University's Centre for Chinese Studies.
- **Seddon** works with colleagues in the Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences on MRC-funded research on problem drug users. He is also on the steering committee of the University's Addictions Research Network which is an interdisciplinary network of around 50 scholars co-ordinated by the Institute of Health Sciences and which also includes external members from local NHS partner trusts, Local Authorities and the voluntary sector.
- Smith has benefited from £46k pump-priming funding from the UoM Research Institute to work with researchers in Pharmacy and Medicine.

Staff in the Unit also participate in themed University-wide cross-disciplinary networks, such as policy@manchester and cities@manchester which support interdisciplinary collaboration and externally-facing engagement and knowledge exchange.

Seminar series and conferences

Researchers in the Unit have participated in a wide range of international conferences and seminars, including giving keynote addresses. They have also assisted in the organisation of a significant number of international and national events during the REF period. For example:

- Quirk was the organiser of the Socio-Legal Studies Association Annual Conference in Manchester in 2008.
- **Howells** organised a European conference in 2009 on modernising and harmonising consumer contract law.
- Spencer was the organiser of the 2012 Cross Border Crime Colloquium attended by many international scholars.
- **Harris** co-organised a national conference on Dispute Resolution and Special Educational Needs at the University, to report the findings of his ESRC research, involving senior academic and judicial figures, the Administrative Justice and Tribunals Council, academics and voluntary sector bodies.
- **M Brazier** organised several seminars and two international conferences in connection with her AHRC project (above), attracting a range of international delegates and speakers.

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- **Stephen** organised the 2010 International Society for New Institutional Economics Conference at Stirling, addressed by both of the 2010 Nobel Laureates in Economics.
- **Holm** was Chair of the Programme Committee for the 2012 world congress of the International Association of Bioethics in Rotterdam.
- **Thomas** organised a roundtable seminar at the Nuffield Foundation, held under the joint auspices of the Nuffield Foundation and the International Association of Refugee Law Judges, the first time that such an event involving judges, government agencies and others has taken place to discuss UK and EU asylum issues.
- **Devaney** co-organised a major conference on Regulating Health Technologies at the Royal Society of Medicine in with leading experts from the field of healthcare law. She co-edited the resulting special editions of *Medical Law Review* and *Law, Innovation and Technology*.

Journal editorships and advisory roles

The specialist expertise of many of the UoA members is reflected in the wide range of academic journal editorships and editorial board memberships held by them:

- **Brazier** was the Editor-in-Chief of the *Medical Law Review* until June 2011.
- **Gibbons** is a founding editor of the *Journal of Media Law*.
- **Holm** was joint Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Medical Ethics* until 2011.
- **Holm** is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Clinical Ethics*. He is also associate editor of *Health Care Analysis*.
- **Harris** is the General Editor of the *Journal of Social Security Law and Education Law* and is on the editorial boards of *Diritto dell'economia*; *Education, Citizenship and Social Justice*; *Education and the Law*; *International Journal of Educational Reform*; *International Journal of the Legal Profession*; and the *Liverpool Law Review*.
- **Howells** was the Editor of the *International Journal of Law and Management* until 2010 and of the *Yearbook of Consumer Law* from 2006-09 and he is on the advisory board of the *Nottingham Law Journal*. He also edits the 'Markets and Law' series for Ashgate.
- Kearns is an assistant editor of *Art, Antiquity and Law*.
- Keyword was an assistant editor of the *Medical Law Review* until 2010.
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- **Gadd** and **Seddon** are on the editorial board of the *British Journal of Criminology*.
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- **Abbot** is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Environmental Law* and is also the journal's book reviews editor.
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