

<b>Institution: University of Leeds</b>
<b>Unit of Assessment: 20 (Law)</b>
<p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>The School of Law (SoL) promotes a culture where research is highly valued and fully supported for staff at all levels and postgraduate researchers (PGRs). Research activities are organised under an overarching theme of Global Law and Justice. Whether studying global or local phenomena, the SoL has the ambition to produce insights with conceptual and practical implications of international significance to bring about safer, fairer and more inclusive societies based upon human rights and public interest principles. The SoL contributes to the international knowledge base in relevant disciplines by: producing high-quality outputs, undertaking transformative empirical, theoretical and doctrinal research; and maximizing impact with research users. Its major achievements over the assessment period have been facilitated by investment in its staff and a state of the art new Liberty Building (£12 million). They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the intensity of international research activity and networking;</li> <li>• Collaborating locally, nationally and globally with scholars from law, criminology and beyond;</li> <li>• Generating a sustained track-record of research income;</li> <li>• Increasing the quantity and quality of engagement with research users and the impact of its research for the benefit of society;</li> <li>• Attracting and nurturing top quality PGRs through its thriving doctoral programme.</li> </ul> <p>Research in the SoL is organised through its four established Centres. (1) The Centre for Business Law and Practice (CBLP) was founded in 1996 and brings together expertise in legal and business practice. (2) The Centre for Criminal Justice Studies (CCJS) founded in 1987 gathers together scholars with interests in crime, criminology and criminal justice. (3) The Centre for European Law and Legal Studies (CELLS) founded in 1993 brings together scholars working in European studies. (4) The Centre for International Governance (CfIG) founded in 2006 focuses on international governance, including public and private international law, human rights law and constitutional law.</p> <p><b>b. Research strategy</b></p> <p>The SoL's research and innovation strategy aims to facilitate excellent research throughout its activities and to maximise the impact of its research on society. During the assessment period, the SoL has promoted an environment which generates research of the highest quality, nurtures a new generation of researchers and promotes interdisciplinary collaborations. The SoL has fostered research collaboration, engagement and impact both within and beyond law and criminology through inter-institutional networks, strategic alliances and external funding. The SoL has internationalised its research activities, having adopted a strategic focus on <i>Global Law and Justice</i> as an umbrella theme and driver for development since RAE2008.</p> <p>The SoL's overarching strategy is to provide an excellent and dynamic research environment that underpins the sustainability of clusters of outstanding researchers and research of the highest quality. Major strategic investment in the SoL's infrastructure – the state of the art Liberty Building - signified a step-change in the intellectual as well as physical environment in which staff and PGR research is able to flourish. A series of 'Second Century' activities during 2011-2012 including lectures, seminars and visiting fellowships stimulated and energised the research environment taking forward the SoL's strategic priorities of internationalisation, collaboration, interdisciplinarity, team building, increasing external research funding, engagement with research users and fostering the next generation of researchers.</p> <p>The research strategy is driven by the Director of Research and Innovation (DoR&amp;I) working closely with the Head of School, Centre Directors and the Research Committee. Research matters are standing agenda items at Senior Management Team and School meetings and are frequently the focus of 'Away Days'. The SoL strategy is monitored, regularly reviewed and refined by the UoL annual Integrated Planning Exercise and Annual Research and Innovation Review processes.</p> <p><b>i) Enhancing internationalisation:</b> Since RAE2008, the SoL's research activity has encompassed greater engagement with global concerns and international academic agendas as evidenced in the research foci of the four Centres:</p> <p><u>CBLP</u> has focused on analysis of the global financial crisis and corporate governance (Galanis; Keay; Loughrey); international insolvency law (McCormack); cross-border dispute resolution</p>

## Environment template (REF5)

(Tang); and economic analysis of law (Halson and Zhou).

CCJS has integrated comparative and global perspectives on crime and criminal justice. Its members have been involved in systematic international analysis and knowledge transfer of criminal justice issues (Hucklesby), terrorism (Walker) and policing (Crawford); and links between crime, security and justice (Crawford and Karstedt). The CCJS has become an internationally recognised hub for large-scale comparative studies (Karstedt).

CELLS has expanded and strengthened its established position as a centre of excellence in EU law and legal studies by taking forward research agendas examining EU constitutionalism (Hendry and Schiek); economic and social integration (Schiek); EU equality and discrimination law (Lawson and Solanke); and the challenges of food security and climate change (Cardwell).

CfIG foci have been related to the globalisation of governance through law particularly in relation to freedom of expression and extreme speech (Cram); free speech and press regulation (Wragg); and constitutionalism beyond the state (Gerstenberg).

**ii) Fostering international collaboration and networks:** In 2008 the SoL explicitly identified intensified engagement in international networks and collaborations as one of its goals. The provision of study leave has facilitated this activity - 13 staff have held visiting fellowships in 27 overseas institutions. Several were awarded competitively and funded from sources including the British Academy, Worldwide Universities Network (WUN – a global network of 18 research-led universities) and the American Bar Association. The SoL's research fund [see section c] finances international and national conferences presentations. Since 2008, 17 staff have been invited to present keynote addresses at overseas international events, mostly on multiple occasions. Staff have been active in organising international symposia and workshops overseas e.g. Walker organised a symposium at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Oñati, Spain in 2011 (published as Mañer & Walker (2013) *Counter-Terrorism, Human Rights and the Rule of Law*).

These activities have been complemented by the organisation of international events in the SoL, e.g. CELLS hosted 2 conferences - on Multidimensional Equality Law (2009) and the EU and the Global Crisis (2011). Funding has been received through competitive bids to external bodies and by the School via the Strategic Development and Second Century Funds (see section c). Such events have resulted in edited collections, e.g. Schiek & Lawson (eds) (2011) *EU Non-Discrimination Law and Intersectionality* and Crawford & Hucklesby (eds) (2012) *Legitimacy and Compliance in Criminal Justice*.

Centres have broadened and deepened their activities as active partners and lead organisers in an increasing range of international research networks. These include the WUN International and Comparative Criminal Justice Network, *Groupe Européen de Recherches sur les Normativités (GERN)*, Centre for Excellence in Policing and Security (Australian Research Council), European Academic Network of Disability Experts (ANED), Economic and Social Rights Research Network (ESRAN-UKI), *Comite Européen de Droit Rural (CEDR)*, *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)*, Regulation Institutions Network (RegNet), Centre on Law and Globalization (American Bar Foundation) and five workgroups of the European Society of Criminology.

SoL funding has also been used to create and strengthen links with overseas institutions and scholars. During the REF period, 42 overseas scholars from 20 countries have taken up visiting fellowships in the School, contributing to its intellectual vitality.

**iii) Promoting interdisciplinarity:** Since RAE2008 the SoL has utilised its diverse knowledge and skills to enhance the quantity and quality of its interdisciplinary research (see also section d). It has successfully taken advantage of UoL initiatives for interdisciplinary collaboration and network building. The Leeds Social Science Institute (LSSI) works across the University to foster interdisciplinarity, international collaboration and impact inside and outside the UoL. The SoL plays a pivotal role in the multidisciplinary Security and Justice research group (Director: Crawford) which is part of the 'Building Sustainable Societies: Work, Care and Security' Transformation Fund – a collaborative, cross-disciplinary initiative supported by university investment of £1.1 million over 4 years (2011-15). The group is generating new interdisciplinary insights and analysis relating to security and justice. Staff are also active in the Centre for Disability Studies, Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies and Jean Monnet European Centre of Excellence.

**iv) Encouraging collaborative research teams:** the majority of staff collaborate regularly in a range of research activities within the School and the wider UoL including publishing, research bids

and grants, event organisation and PGR supervision. Centres facilitate collaboration across the UoL creating active interdisciplinary links with other Schools (notably Geography, Sociology & Social Policy, Politics & International Studies and the Business School). A sizeable team within CCJS, edit the leading peer-reviewed Journal, *Criminology and Criminal Justice* (official journal of the British Society of Criminology (BSC); a competitively awarded editorship).

**v) Capturing external funding:** The SoL's strong track record of external research income capture has continued over the assessment period resulting in high quality original outputs and a broad range of impact activities. The strategy has been to diversify funding sources, encourage a greater proportion of staff to apply for funding and to engage in larger consortium bids, facilitated by significant infrastructural investment by the SoL, Faculty and UoL (see section d).

**vi) Maximising user engagement and impact:** The SoL has a well-established tradition of promoting engagement and knowledge exchange with research users and of valuing applied research. During the assessment period, its impact activities (supported by SoL funds dedicated to impact) have been mainstreamed, broadening and deepening research user involvement throughout the research process and in its research culture. Staff involvement in externally facing University led hubs – notably the Professional Services and Social Care Sector Hubs - has facilitated and supported engagement with external partners (see REF3a and 3b).

**vii) Fostering the next generation of researchers:** A lively and engaged PGR community is a critical component of the SoL's research culture and the provision of enhanced support for PGRs remains a strategic priority. Supervision has been rated highly by generations of PGRs. PGRs are fully integrated into the SoL's research activities and improved facilities, funding, support and networking opportunities have complemented UoL initiatives to further enhance the PGR experience (see section c).

**Research objectives and activities for the five years:** During the REF period, the SoL has benefited from major investments in physical infrastructure and staffing which were premised upon a medium and long-term strategic vision. In the next 5 years, the SoL will build upon the strong foundation of the recent past and continue to develop, enhance and diversify its research activities. At the same time, it will continue to monitor, review and reflect upon its performance and be responsive and flexible in the face of a changing research landscape.

The SoL strategy for the next five years is to: (i) strengthen its reputation as an internationally excellent centre for research across all its fields of activity and especially in key specialisations; (ii) further exploit the collaborative opportunities generated by its strengthened research base and international networks; (iii) continue to support staff in delivering world leading research, with a particular focus on staff development; (iv) maximise research income; (v) continue to increase the quality of PGRs and PGR provision; (vi) enhance engagement with non-academic research users with a view to maximising the potential benefits of its research; and (vii) invest in high quality academic appointments to build and maintain world class performance.

The strategy will be driven primarily through Centres which have adopted development plans aligned to these strategic objectives. The objectives are to be achieved by: (i) building research capacity in key areas; (ii) shaping research agendas through hosting international conferences, seminars and events, editing journals and books; (iii) creating and strengthening links with academic colleagues in cognate areas and other disciplines within and beyond the UoL; (iv) taking an active and strategic role in international and national research fora and networks; (v) strengthening and creating links with non-academic research users at local, national and international levels by fostering existing contacts; hosting events; producing briefing papers; working with Think Tanks, and collaborating on research projects; (vi) increasing the targeted use of traditional and social media; (vii) supporting and facilitating staff career development; and (viii) providing a supportive and stimulating environment for PGRs.

Centres have identified intellectual agendas in key areas including: banking and financial services, corporate law, competition law and economic analysis of law (CBLP); private and third sector involvement in criminal justice, connections between security and justice, and the interface between criminal justice and social policy (CCJS); discrimination law especially intersectionality, disability, gender and race, EU constitutionalism and food security (CELLS); and defamation, press freedom, free speech and the legal regulation of human bodies and relationships (CfIG). Access to justice is an emergent cross-Centre theme, relating to consumers (Tang), disability (Lawson) and

witnesses (Ellison), which is a focus of current externally funded research activity and future plans.

### c. People, including:

#### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

During the assessment period, the SoL staffing strategy has been directed at consolidating, strengthening and expanding existing research strength, promoting staff development and enhancing future leadership capacity.

**Appointments and promotions:** The SoL's strategy has been to appoint leading scholars and those on a trajectory to become future leaders who enhance its objectives. Investment and staff turnover have enabled 27 appointments to be made since 2008, strengthening all of the Centres and building interdisciplinary expertise. Staff are appointed on open-ended teaching and research contracts wherever possible. Staff on fixed-term contracts (only 1 in 2012/13) are kept abreast of career developments and vigorous efforts are made to retain them where appropriate. The UoA staff profile is relatively young with only 6 staff over the age of 55. The UoL has clear promotion criteria and procedures, a core element of which is research excellence. Promotion planning is an integral part of the Staff Review and Development Scheme (SRDS). Seven UoA staff have been promoted in the period including 4 female staff to Chairs (including 1 blind staff member).

The SoL has appointed several research fellows during the review period after competitive bids, specifically to advance its research agendas, including 3 RCUK academic research fellows (Cerioni, Galanis, Lewis), 2 UoL research fellows (Hadfield, Seddon) and 1 research fellow funded by the UoL Transformation Fund (Stott) (see section b). Four additional research fellows have worked closely with senior academic staff with leadership responsibilities thereby fostering leadership whilst retaining research productivity and opportunities for early career researchers (ECRs). The SoL has also had successful incoming (Lepore) and outgoing (Masselot, McCartney) Marie Curie Fellows. Research fellows are fully integrated into the SoL and supported to move into permanent academic posts e.g. Galanis and Lewis are lecturers at Leeds, Seddon is a professor at Manchester and Cerioni is a lecturer at the Università Politecnica delle Marche.

The SoL's success in attracting external research awards since 2008 resulted in research staff being employed on 17 different projects. Contract research staff have dedicated space in the new Liberty Building specifically designed for their needs, are mentored by senior staff and have access to state of the art facilities and services. Specialist guidance, advice and training are available to research staff and staff on fixed-term contracts. The UoL's Employment Policy for Research Staff specifically addresses standards in relation to this group and is implemented fully in the School via the mechanisms outlined above including formalised mentoring procedures.

Two UoA staff have been awarded competitive personal research fellowships during the REF period which resulted in substantial monographs (McCormack<sup>1</sup> (Leverhulme) and Walker<sup>1</sup> (AHRC)) whilst others have published outputs from fellowships held prior to 2008 (Keay<sup>1</sup> (British Academy, 2006-7) and Lawson<sup>1</sup> (AHRC, 2007)). Research awards have also included staff 'buy out' facilitating concentration on particular research projects e.g. Crawford (Nuffield Foundation), Ellison (AHRC, ESRC), Hucklesby (Ministry of Justice) and Lawson (European Commission).

**Staff support and development:** Supporting and developing staff to become recognised research leaders is a key facet of the SoL's mission and significant resources have been invested in individual research careers. 40% of teaching and research contract staff's workload is allocated to research. Research time is protected - time dedicated to administrative roles is deducted from teaching hours only. Research activity is evaluated and supported through Annual Academic and Workload Review and SRDS. An Annual Research Plan Scheme identifies how the School can facilitate and support improvements in research performance and provides oral and written guidance to staff. Mentoring assists with implementing research plans and identifying training needs. Mechanisms are in place to peer review outputs and funding applications pre-submission to ensure quality thresholds and compliance with RCUK demand management agendas.

The SoL also supports individuals' research via: (i) a budget of £1500 pa for research related activities, including conference attendance to which staff apply; and (ii) study leave entitlement of one semester every seventh semester of service. Awards are made on competitive criteria including the quality and viability of research plans and are monitored to ensure compliance with UoL equality policies. During the period, 26 periods of study leave have been awarded.

Staff are encouraged to take full advantage of the extensive facilities in the UoL which include a full

programme of training and support provided by the LEAP training hub of the Staff Development Unit (SDDU). The UoL has a suite of bespoke leadership programmes for senior staff integrating training, mentoring, and action learning (from which 7 SoL staff have benefited in the period). The SoL complements UoL provision through tailored workshops and information provision via the intranet. Additional opportunities to enhance research skills are provided by the Faculty and LSSI.

**Early Career Researchers:** ECRs are nurtured through additional assistance. During a 2 year probationary period their teaching workloads are reduced by up to 25% and they are supported by senior colleagues acting as mentors. During this time, research plans are developed and performance reviewed. Training (at the UoL and beyond) is undertaken to hone research skills and develop research management expertise. ECRs in the UoA are Baker, Hendry and Yeomans. Notable achievements of ECRs include the award of British Sociological Association Sage Prize for Innovation and Excellence in *Sociology* (Yeomans). After probation, ECRs continue to be supported by a dedicated research mentor for 2 years. ECRs work alongside colleagues on the whole range of research activities and take a leading role in Centres' activities. For example, Yeomans (CCJS) co-organised an international conference in 2013, is Book Review Editor for *Criminology and Criminal Justice* and organises the CCJS 'Brown Bag' seminars and Hendry (CELLS) organised the visiting fellowship of Sadurski and coordinates the CELLS seminar series.

**Equality:** The UoL has clear equality policies which are embraced by the SoL. Equality is promoted in all SoL practices ensuring fairness in human resources processes and providing a safe environment for everyone. The ethos is underpinned by the presence of researchers who work on issues of equality and difference. Twelve UoA staff are female, including 6 Chairs, 4 are from minority ethnic groups and one is blind. Support for staff and PGRs with disabilities is provided by the UoL Equality Policy Unit and the Disabled Students' Assessment and Support Service. Several staff and PGRs receive support including specialist equipment, personnel and transcription services. The SoL's policy is to accommodate requests for flexible working whenever possible and 2 requests were accommodated in the assessment period. Part-time staff are fully integrated, and actively engaged, in the School. After extended leave, staff are familiarised with developments within the UoL, SoL and Centres. The UoL also uses phased return to work.

**Research Standards:** The integrity of research is assured by a UoL ethics policy supported by robust ethical review procedures (including audit to ensure compliance) with which all research involving human subjects is required to comply. The SoL has a named ethics representative to advise staff. Since 2010, two successive Chairs of the relevant UoL ethics committee have come from SoL. The UoL provides training and advice in research ethics for staff and PGRs.

## ii. Research students

A dynamic and integrated community of high quality PGRs undertaking research is an integral part of the SoL's research culture. PGRs' needs were carefully considered whilst planning the new building which provides them with bespoke facilities. The PGR Tutor has overall responsibility for research student matters and engages with a team of 4 PGR representatives.

Each PGR is co-supervised by 2 academic staff who undertake compulsory training. PGRs attend a compulsory induction programme and produce training plans, via an on-line training needs analysis tool, which are monitored and reviewed regularly. PGRs receive a minimum of 10 formal supervisory meetings per year. Progress is monitored through the online Personal Development Review scheme, meeting reports from supervisory sessions, 6 monthly reviews and registration at training events. Students' progress is overseen by the Research Degrees Management Committee which also develops SoL policy relating to PGRs.

A key strategic priority for the SoL has been to increase the quantity and quality of its PGR community. Since 2008, 93 (85 fte) PGRs have registered in the SoL. In July 2013, 62 (55.5 fte) PGRs were registered in the SoL representing over a two-fold increase since 2007 (23.94 fte). In the same period, 39 degrees have been awarded: a rise from an average of 2.57 p.a. during the RAE period to 7.8 awards p.a. in the REF period. The SoL has an excellent record of PGR funding with 63 PGRs in receipt of funding since 2008, 8 of which were funded by the SoL/UoL. The largest increase has been in funded overseas PGRs: registrations have increased from an average of 1.4 registrations p.a. during the RAE period to 8 p.a. during the REF period. The SoL has been awarded a high number of competitive studentships including: 6 ESRC-funded studentships (one in collaboration with Geography) and 2 White Rose Network studentships. The SoL has a growing

number of students supervised jointly with other Schools within the UoL and other universities including White Rose Network/DTC students co-supervised with Sheffield and York and 2 studentships linked to a Marie Curie Initial Training Network (a total of 12 students registered outside of the School (all funded)). The SoL also encourages PGR collaborations with external organisations e.g. a studentship funded by a national charity (Circles UK) and an ESRC CASE studentship with Leeds Community Safety Partnership.

PGRs are fully integrated into the SoL and are encouraged to exploit the opportunities provided by its Centres *inter alia* research access and networking which arise from their affiliations to training networks, e.g. White Rose DTC, WUN Research Mobility Programme, GERN Summer Schools, IUS COMMUNE Research School (the Netherlands) and CNRS (France). PGRs attend Centre events, often assisting with the organisation and writing reports of proceedings which are published in Centres' Annual Reports or on the SoL website. Since 2008, the PGR experience has been enhanced by annual PGR conferences and 'Brown Bag' seminars, organised by Centres, enabling PGRs to present their work. PGRs are also supported to organise their own events.

PGRs are encouraged to present their work beyond the SoL and regularly give papers at international and national events. These, and other research activities, are funded by £750 per PGR provided by SoL, with the expectation that top-up funding will be sought. A number of PGRs (7) have published in refereed journals and edited collections during their candidature e.g. Dietz with Wallbank<sup>3</sup>. The SoL has an excellent record of fostering future academics: at least 9 PGRs who graduated in the assessment period have been appointed to lecturerships at UK universities.

SoL developments are complemented by the UoL and Faculty facilities and structures. The ESRC-funded Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) in Social Sciences was launched in 2011, building on and combining research and skills training at the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York. It provides excellent supervision, training and stimulating intellectual environments and PGR funding. The SoL delivers the socio-legal pathway and leads the multidisciplinary 'Security, Conflict and Justice' pathway giving all PGRs access to high quality training and supervision and opportunities to engage with staff and PGRs at the other institutions. The DTC quality assures the skills training and supervision experience. ECRs and staff also benefit from its enhanced research training.

Other initiatives include an annual UoL postgraduate conference at which the best of PGR's work is showcased. In 2012, a Law PGR was awarded a top three award in the UoL's '3 minute thesis' competition. Since 2011, a Faculty placement scheme has given PGRs the opportunity to work in environments outside of the UoL to increase their transferable skills and employability. CCJS has been actively involved in this initiative, setting up placements with local criminal justice agencies. Further support and training is provided by the Faculty Graduate School, the LEAP training hub and the Graduate Training and Support Centre which is part of SDDU. Looking to the future, the SoL will exploit opportunities for PGR funding through the newly awarded White Rose College of Arts and Humanities via Philosophy, Law and Theology 'Thought' cluster.

#### **d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

**Research income and funding:** The capture of external income is central to the SoL's strategy of producing excellent research with enduring impact. Since 2008, the SoL has built on its track record of external funding primarily by embedding income generation into its research culture. This strategy has led to increases in the number of applications submitted, staff who have applied for, and been awarded, research grants and the range of funders. The total value of research income in the REF period was in excess of £1.7m with 24 staff members contributing this sum. This represents an increase in average research income on the RAE period (up to 341k p.a. between 2008/13 from 243k p.a. between 2001/7). The SoL received over £292k from research councils including AHRC, British Academy, and the ESRC including Ellison's ESRC-funded study 'Special measures in rape trials' (£79,132.89). Over £446k was received from UK charities including Nuffield and Joseph Rowntree Foundations and Leverhulme Trust e.g. Crawford's study on 'The impact of Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions on young people' (Nuffield: £197,391) as well as from service providers such as Circles UK. Significantly, European grants have increased (up from £535k in RAE 2008 to in excess of £870k in REF2014) in line with the SoL's internationalisation strategy and the pursuit of larger grants in consortium bids e.g. Lawson's project on 'Securing access to justice for children with disabilities' (€1.5m). Externally funded projects have resulted in leading publications e.g. Crawford<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Ellison<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Hucklesby<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Lawson<sup>1,4</sup> and impact [CS1,2,3].

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SoL strategy has been to encourage and enable all staff to apply for external funds and it, along with the UoL and Faculty services, provides a high level of support to staff at both pre-award and post-award stages. The implementation of a coordinated range of measures has driven the SoL strategy during the assessment period including:

**Planning:** Centre Directors are responsible for developing research strategies to secure external income which are regularly reviewed and updated. Annual research plans require staff and reviewers to focus on external income generation (see section c).

**Staff resources:** A full-time Research Support Administrator based in the SoL provides expertise and support in the application process and post-award grant management. Alongside the DoR&I, she publicises funding sources and provides targeted guidance to staff. The Faculty Research Support team (7.5 fte) works closely with the SoL providing pre-application and post-award assistance. These services are complemented by the UoL Research and Innovation Service (RIS) which provides expertise in transfer, impact and consultancy and specialist teams to support larger and longer awards and European funding bids, the latter of which has facilitated the increase in SoL research income from such sources.

**Clear procedures:** New procedures have been implemented to facilitate a smooth and rigorous internal application process e.g. pre-application forms ensure timely practical support is provided and a new on-line pre- and post-award research support system (KRISTAL) was launched in 2013.

**Peer-review and mentoring:** Funding applications are subject to robust internal peer review to ensure that only the highest quality applications are submitted supporting the demand management agendas of the Research Councils. Mentoring is provided to applicants.

**Time allocation:** Planned external funding applications are taken into account when awarding study leave. Staff time costed into research grant budgets is included in workload calculations.

**Training:** Training in all aspects of applying for and managing research projects is available from: a dedicated hub within SDDU; RIS and Faculty workshops; and the LSSI.

**Infrastructure and facilities:** Since 2008, the SoL has benefited from significant financial investment (£12 million) which funded its move into the purpose-built Liberty Building in 2010. This new building provides bespoke teaching and research facilities including dedicated space for visitors, researchers and PGRs. To signify an intellectual as well as physical step change in the SoL activities, £50k was made available to fund international conferences, visiting fellows and impact events during 2011-12. This complemented existing School funding to Centres: the Strategic Development Fund (£20-25k) provides annual funding to develop and promote Centre activities and a core grant (£3k) primarily used to host seminar series, organise events and publish annual reports. Higher Education Innovation Funding (HEIF5) has also been actively exploited to fund PGR placements and to organise activities linked to the impact agenda.

The SoL website publicises and archives details of events etc. Social media (Blogs, Twitter and Facebook) is used to broadcast SoL activities. The SoL/UoL intranet, alongside e-mail, provides information on policies, procedures, opportunities and events and training materials.

Wider UoL facilities that provide support for research activities are considerable. UoL's Library is one of the major UK academic libraries. Subject librarians proactively develop the law collection and provide specialist support and staff/PGR training. In the REF period, the law budget has remained substantial (£201.5k 2012-13) with above inflation increases (6.5% in 2012-13). Since 2008, significant investments have been made in electronic media which is available securely on and off-campus. There are extensive IT facilities across the UoL. Staff and PGRs are able to access their electronic files and an extensive range of IT packages used for research (SPSS, Nvivo) remotely. Encryption software to store confidential data and facilities and equipment for use with innovative research methodologies are routinely available.

#### **e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base**

The SoL has sought to shape the disciplines of law and criminology by extending its presence in national and international research arenas since 2008. Its strategy has included expanding and deepening involvement in collaborative work, networks, event organisation, international activities, editorial work, learned societies and professional associations and PGR activities.

**Collaboration:** Increasing the number and range of research collaborations with academic and non-academic partners locally, nationally and internationally has been a key strategic objective.

**International collaborations:** The SoL has an increasing number of active collaborative research links with overseas higher education institutions in line with its internationalisation agenda. These have facilitated funded networks e.g. Hendry 'Spaces of Indigenous Justice' with Arizona, Melbourne and Sydney Universities; and joint editorships of special issues e.g. Hucklesby and Sarre (South Australia); and collections e.g. Walker and Weaver (2013). Staff also regularly publish with international collaborators e.g. Gerstenberg<sup>1</sup> (Sabel, Columbia); Keay (Zhang, City University of Hong Kong); McCormack (Hargovan, New South Wales) and work with international colleagues on research projects e.g. Halson and Bunge (University of Buenos Aires) British Academy funded; Lawson has worked on 4 EU Commission funded projects with partners from Galway and Maastricht; Tang is working with YoungPing Xiao (Wuhun) and Zhengxim Ho (CUPL) on a conflict of laws project funded by Chinese Planning Committee; and EU Action projects e.g. COST action IS1106 project 'Offender Supervision in Europe' (Hucklesby) and CRIMPREV FP6, resulting in an edited collection (Crawford (ed) (2009) *Crime Prevention Policies in Comparative Perspective*).

**Interdisciplinary collaborations:** strong collaborative interdisciplinary links have resulted in externally funded research projects and joint publications. For example, Ellison and Wheatcroft's (Psychology, Liverpool) AHRC funded project examining witness preparation (*Behavioural Sciences in Law* 2012: 30(6)) and Lawson's<sup>4</sup> research and impact activities with Priestley (Sociology and Social Policy, Leeds) and ANED [Case Study (CS)3].

**Strategic collaborations:** The SoL has fully exploited and developed the strategic collaborative opportunities provided by WUN (e.g. International and Comparative Criminal Justice Network and Research Mobility scheme), the White Rose Consortium (funded studentships) and the N8 Partnership of universities.

**Collaborations with non-academic partners:** Doctrinal and empirical research activities are facilitated by, and contribute to, partnerships with key stakeholders including the legal professions and criminal justice agencies at local, national and international levels. Stakeholders are closely involved in research activities from inception, e.g. the CBLP and CCJS Advisory Boards (see section b) facilitate research for staff and PGRs. Research is often co-produced in partnership with stakeholders who fund research [CS2] and make 'in kind' contributions such as providing access to people and data. Centres regularly collaborate with research users to organise events e.g. in 2013 CCJS co-organised a national conference on Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) with the West Yorkshire PCCs office and BSC and CBLP ran a conference 'My Word is my bond: regulating integrity in the City' in partnership with Allen & Overy LLP.

**Contribution to the discipline and research base:** The SoL takes seriously its role in shaping the disciplines of law and criminology and the research base more generally aiming to provide a distinctive contribution to intellectual agendas and enquiry. Centres have played an active role in this endeavour providing a focus for, and facilitating, individual activities, which are exemplified below.

**CBLP:** has contributed to the understanding of legal, ethical and regulatory challenges facing commercial lawyers (Loughrey<sup>1,2,4</sup>); has devised new models for framing analysis of the objectives of public companies (Keay<sup>1</sup>) and international insolvency (McCormack<sup>1,2,4</sup>); has improved understanding of the impact of legislation on minority shareholders power (Keay<sup>2</sup> and Loughrey<sup>3,4</sup>); and has incorporated international and comparative perspectives into its analysis of cross-border disputes (Tang<sup>1,3,4</sup>) and insolvency (McCormack<sup>3</sup>).

**CCJS:** has shaped the analysis of emerging fields within criminology e.g. anti-social behaviour (Crawford<sup>1,2,3</sup>), counter-terrorism (Walker<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>), electronic monitoring (Hucklesby<sup>1,2,3</sup>) and state crime (Karstedt<sup>3</sup>); formulated innovative methodological approaches to criminological and criminal justice issues (Ellison<sup>1,2,4</sup> and Karstedt<sup>3</sup>); applied historical analysis to contemporary issues e.g. the development of alcohol regulation (Yeomans<sup>1</sup>); and, promoted international and comparative perspectives on criminological issues (Hucklesby<sup>4</sup> (bail) and Karstedt<sup>3</sup> (international crime)).

**CELLS:** has made a distinctive contribution to EU and international equality law (Lawson<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Schiek<sup>2</sup>, Solanke<sup>3</sup>) and established a new model of socially embedded constitutionalism (Schiek<sup>1,3</sup>).

**CFIG:** has promoted innovative understandings of the relationship between EU legal frameworks, the ECHR and domestic legal orders (Gerstenberg<sup>1,3</sup>) and has pioneered socio-legal analysis of genital cutting of minors which has been recognised by the award of the Socio-Legal Studies

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Association (SLSA) article prize in 2013 (Thomson's<sup>1,2,3</sup>).

Organisation of events: the SoL shapes intellectual research agendas particularly through organising events which deepen and extend knowledge, attracting leading scholars and facilitating debate between participants and beyond via websites and publications. Over 160 events have been organised in the SoL since 2008 attracting high profile speakers e.g. Chakrabati (Liberty), Hepple (Cambridge), Micklitz (European University Institute), O'Brien (New South Wales), Stamer (DPP) and Tyler (Yale). Centres also have active seminar and conference programmes and annual lectures (often SoL funded), augmented by events awarded competitive external funding e.g. 2 ESRC research seminar series, a Jean Monnet *ad personam* Chair seminar series and *Journal of Law and Society* and *Modern Law Review* seminars. The SoL hosted a 2012 Hamlyn lecture.

International expertise: SoL academics are recognised as international experts in their fields helping to maintain research quality. They are members of ESRC/AHRC peer review colleges (Crawford, Ellison, Hucklesby and Keay) and reviewers and assessors for European and international research councils (Crawford, Gerstenberg, Karstedt, Keay and Schiek), government departments, NGOs, grant-making trusts and foundations, journals in the UK and overseas and publishers. Staff regularly make submissions to government inquires and their expertise has been utilised by research users, including government and inter-governmental committees, independent commissions, and statutory, private and third sector organisations, to bolster evidence-based decision-making e.g. staff have been invited to give evidence to the Independent Commission on the Future of Policing (2012/13, Crawford), the European Commission on European Contract Law for Consumers and Businesses (2010, McCormack), the Joint Committee of Houses of Parliament on the Defamation Bill (2011, Mullis) and to the Law Commission on review of Contempt of Court Act (2012, Cram). Staff are advisors to governments and other agencies/institutions e.g. Walker is Special Advisor to the Independent Reviewer of the Terrorism Legislation.

Editorial work: the SoL has shaped and challenged the disciplines of law and criminology through its editorial work. A team from CCJS has edited *Criminology and Criminal Justice* since 2010 improving the standing of the journal (increasing its impact factor). The team has pushed the boundaries of criminology by engaging with contemporary societal issues such as the 'Big Society' and globalisation, commissioning special issues on novel areas (e.g. technologies of surveillance and negotiated orders) and actively encouraging contributions from outside the discipline and the UK. Staff are regularly invited to guest edit special issues on legal, socio-legal and criminological topics (e.g. Karstedt *European Journal of Criminology*, 2012: 9(5)). Collections edited by staff have brought together international experts to examine global issues such as the financial crisis, e.g. Loughrey (2012) *Directors' Duties and Shareholder Litigation in the Wake of the Financial Crisis*, and challenge perceived wisdom, e.g. Schiek *et al* (2011) *European Economic and Social Constitutionalism after the Treaty of Lisbon*. Keay is Commonwealth editor of *Gore-Browne on Companies*. 20 UoA staff have been members of 41 Editorial Boards of leading academic journals during the assessment period including: *British Journal of Criminology*, *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* and *Chinese Journal of Comparative Law*.

Learned societies and professional associations: staff contribute significantly to learned societies and professional associations e.g. Solanke and Wragg are academic fellows of the Inner Temple, Hendry and Hucklesby are executive committee members of the SLSA and BSC respectively, Hucklesby is founder and Chair of the BSC Women, Crime and Criminal Justice Network, Cardwell is the European Representative for Union Mondiale des Agraristes Universitaires and Crawford is UoL lead for social sciences in the N8 Partnership.

Enhancing the PGR experiences: the SoL staff are actively engaged in developing the next generation of researchers through their involvement in PGR training activities and events (in addition to those in section b) e.g. Schiek organises a Jean Monnet seminar series; Lawson is a member of a Marie Curie Initial Training Network and Crawford is a member of the White Rose DTC Steering Group and Academic Quality Committee.

In conclusion, the SoL has created a research culture and environment which strives for ever greater excellence in all aspects of its research whilst remaining flexible to adapt to the rapidly changing research landscape. Its current strategy provides an ambitious, financially-sustainable road map to extend its international and interdisciplinary presence in law and criminology within and beyond the academy.