

<p>Institution: University of Central Lancashire</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 20 - Law</p>
<p>a. Context</p> <p>The unit of assessment is located in a Law School which has always regarded as highly important the transferability and accessibility of its scholarly activity and research to the world outside academia, to the professions, to the public sector, to industry and to policy makers. As the only Law School in the City of Preston, and being strategically placed at the rail and motorway communications hub of the County of Lancashire, the School has taken seriously its role as a provider of legal expertise to the regional community as was illustrated by its adoption of the title Lancashire Law School at the turn of the millennium. In the previous decade it had supplemented its undergraduate programmes with a number of taught Masters programmes and by a Legal Practice Course, at the same time gradually building up the number of research students. These developments broadened the staffing base and enabled it to fulfil its regional role not only in providing a full range of award-bearing legal courses to the region in accessible FT, day or PT evening modes but also to offer consultancy services and CPD to a range of local businesses, practitioners and public sector organisations. Notwithstanding the commitment to its important regional role, the School has always also sought to have an impact at national and international levels and has recognised the need for its research activity to be credible, and to have impact, at those levels.</p> <p>A good recent example of this is the major project, in partnership with the University of Gothenburg, and the Goethe University Frankfurt, “When Law and Hate Collide” which the Law School has been responsible for leading, funded by the Daphne III Programme of the European Union. The Daphne III programme is very much impact oriented and its specific objective is to contribute to the prevention of, and the fight against all forms of, violence occurring in the public or the private domain, including sexual exploitation and trafficking of human beings. It aims to take preventive measures and provide support and protection for victims and groups at risk. The project website; (http://www.uclan.ac.uk/research/environment/projects/when_law_and_hate_collide.php) demonstrates the wide variety of outputs from the project, ranging from initiatives raising awareness of hate crime issues in schools and with the general public, to recommendations to policy makers at national and European level in terms of to what extent there should be a minimum standard of protection against Hate Crime and if so, how far reaching should this be. The full report has only recently gone to the European Commission but already the Law School’s activities in this area are reflected by the fact that three of the ten individuals specifically acknowledged by the Law Commission for their early advice (in para 1.42 of Consultation Paper No 213, June 2013, <i>Hate Crime: The Case for Extending the Existing Offences</i>), are Professors in the Law School at UCLan (Salter, Cavadino and Taylor)</p> <p>The work of the late Professor Barbara Hudson also remains a good example of impact achieved both at a regional and an international level and of the range of beneficiaries and audiences of the unit’s research. At the regional level, having previously undertaken commissioned work for Lancashire Probation Service on “Race issues in pre-sentence reports and risk assessments” which was subsequently adopted on a national basis, she produced the research design for Cumbria Criminal Justice Advisory Group (2007-8) “Monitoring responses to racially correlated crime”. At the international level, she was commissioned to work annually for the Ministerio Publico in the state of Parana, Brazil on ‘Democratic professionalism’: an ethos for the Ministerio Publico’, undertook a review of current international developments in social control and their implications for human rights, for the International Council for Human Rights Policy, Geneva (2009) and undertook work on criminalisation and migration, for the International Council for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Montreal (2010). Similarly Salter’s work on genocide impacts both at the regional and international levels. For example, his work has involved him, through the Jewish Studies Centre at the Imperial War Museum Manchester, in regional activities commemorating the holocaust. In the International arena he is part of the European Research Council funded project, <i>Corpses of Mass Violence and Genocide</i>”.</p>
<p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>The unit’s policy has been not only to maintain its contacts with professional and user groups, such as local and regional law societies and other professional organisations, which it had previously built up but also to enhance its relationships and build fresh partnerships internationally (e.g.</p>

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through European funded projects such as that relating to Hate Crime described above) in order to expand the range of impacts it is likely to achieve. It has also sought to continue to provide support to researchers working in relevant areas, or writing for journals or adopting other forms of dissemination which are likely to result in research outcomes becoming accessible and useful to potential users. Thus **EI Said** has been seconded to enable him to spend a substantial proportion of his time in the Middle East. His publications and conference and workshop presentations have been commissioned by the WHO, UNDP and WIPO and have been influential with governments, NGO's and other agencies in the development of policies concerning the impact of intellectual property rules on development, public health, and access to medicines (including, for example, a paper produced for the Commission on HIV and the Law). Similarly, **Serrano** has been seconded for the bulk of her contract for the three years 2010- 2013 to lead a project funded by a consortium of international banks in the South Pacific. Her research focused on the European Union's external relations with ACP countries, especially in the context of proposed Economic Partnership Agreements between the EU and the Small Island States of the South Pacific. In particular, she has been engaged in policy debates concerning indirect transfer of European values and standards through the development, security and economic policies of the European Union and through the EU's role as a legal and economic actor in international relations. **Zou**, as a consultant to the International Seabed Authority, has been an invited speaker on the International Law of the Sea and on China Sea issues at numerous influential international conferences involving government officials and policy makers. He has developed an International Network, the East Asia Peace programme. In September, 2013, he organized a conference with the support of the government of Mauritius, dealing with responses to piracy, a very real issue for the policy makers and government representatives from the range of different nations who attended. The Law School has a vibrant link with the University of Mauritius where the UCLan LLM program is jointly run with the University. The School has also been invited by the DPP's office in Mauritius to work with it *inter alia* on the implementation of the recent reforms on the law relating to wrongful convictions and double jeopardy, both of which issues have recently been reformed in Mauritius in ways influenced by the English legal experience. Research underpinning academic journal articles has also led to, and been informed by, papers given to practitioners as part of the Law School's CPD programmes, as is illustrated and acknowledged in **Taylor's** article on the Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 (see REF2) and the acknowledgement at the outset of that article to the Association of North West Law Societies. This was a topic generating considerable interest outside the legal profession as to how it was likely to impact on companies and other organisations, large or small, as is illustrated by an invited talk on the Act given to the Regional Group of the Institute of Chemical Engineers. The current European funded hate crime project, in relation to which **Salter** has taken the lead role, is one which is likely to result in considerable and wide ranging impact once the publications and other outputs are fully disseminated.

c. Strategy and plans

The range and diversity of impacts and the multifarious ways in which impact may be created mean that the best strategy is one of encouragement and facilitation of excellent research, coupled with a readiness to support whatever mechanisms are best suited in the individual case to enabling that research to be disseminated to, accessed by, or applied by relevant user groups. The university has a central Innovation and Enterprise service for supporting links with potential users of research whether it be *via* consultancy or training or conference organisation and the law school itself maintains links with users through the local law societies, local and regional authorities, racial equality councils and other similar organisations. Where staff develop opportunities to further the impact of their research, appropriate support is given, whether it be in the more basic forms of time allowance (or travelling expenses if not available externally) for engagement with user groups at workshops or conferences either in this country or abroad, or in the form of secondment where the opportunity involves more substantial periods of time as in the case of **EI Said** and **Serrano** as discussed above. The Law School is also seeking to increase the number of Knowledge Transfer Partnerships in which it is engaged in order to facilitate the uptake of its research by those to whom it is relevant and beneficial. An example of this (with the Howgill Family Trust) is given in the final section of this template. Part of the strategy to ensure that research undertaken by the Law School is successful, in terms of impact, has been to increase the amount of external funding from organisations who will be directly interested in the outcomes of such research and the Law School

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has been very successful in doing this in the period under review (see REF4b). To facilitate the successful identification and development of bidding for external research income, the Law School has been well supported by the University's central Funding, Development & Support (FDS) unit. In the initial stages of a grant development, FDS is available to help shape the proposal and identify and negotiate with appropriate partners and/ or end users. Support is also received from FDS to help identify sources of funding to facilitate the promotion and implementation of research findings. FDS undertakes the full costing of research bid proposals. FDS operates a critical-friend system to support the academic teams to facilitate contracts and projects being completed, on time and to budget with the contracted outputs and deliverables. The Law School has thus been able to deliver the contracted outcomes of five separate major EU funded projects during the period under review of which the Hate Crime project described above was simply the largest and most recent.

d. Relationship to case studies

The case studies are consistent with the strategy outlined above in that both result from academic research initially carried out simply with a view to expanding the understanding and coherence of a field of study (whether it be criminal law, criminal justice or human rights) which then proved useful to different user groups. The Law School's strategy then ensures that the individuals concerned are given the time and encouragement to develop their work whether it be through funded secondment or through time and expenses for activities, such as attending stakeholder workshops, giving papers at relevant conferences or user group meetings, or participation in funded projects or knowledge transfer partnerships. **Codd's** work on prisoners families and its impact at the national and international level is dealt with in one of the case studies but her engagement with the practical issues affecting marginalised members of society is further illustrated by her having been the chair, for a number of years, of a local charity dealing with drug abusers, the Thomas project, in which she is able to make use her expertise gained in her research work. Her expertise and understanding of how research can impact on practice is also reflected in her recent appointment as one of the two lay advisers on the Strategic Management Board of the Lancashire Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA). In another recent development, in collaboration with the UCLan Applied Policy Science Unit (of which the Dean of the Law School is vice chair) the Law School has developed a knowledge transfer partnership with the Howgill Family Trust in West Cumbria. This collaborative project involving UCLan and the Howgill Family Centre is designed to lead to the development of a new model of family interventions which encourages and empowers professionals to support children and their families proactively. The first symposium under the auspices of this partnership took place in March 2013 under the heading "Child Poverty, Family Support and Resilience Pathways in Communities". A wide range of speakers, who brought their research expertise to a targeted audience of professionals, practitioners and policy makers, included **Codd**, who gave a paper entitled "Children, poverty, resilience and criminal justice" and also **Scullion**, speaking on "Proactive intervention: incorporating a children's rights approach". Further symposia are planned and other partnerships are in the course of development such as one with Inspira Cumbria, with a symposium at the end of October 2013. Each partnership has attracted funding in excess of £100,000. Similarly, **Taylor**, the subject of the other case study, is encouraged and enabled by the Law School to continue the various strands of his research activities including that part of his work which involves working with and influencing law reform agencies. He has been actively engaged in the European-funded project on hate crime led by **Salter** and contributed to the project a paper analysing the use of the aggravated offences introduced in the CDA 1998, the future of which offences lies at the heart of the questions being considered by the English Law Commission. Both he and Salter participated in the by-invitation symposium in September 2013 held by the Law Commission in London as part of their consultation exercise, following publication in June of the Consultation Paper on Hate Crime, which was organised to bring together "individuals invited because of their expertise and interest in these issues". The various funded projects, partnerships and secondments, examples of which are given in the previous paragraphs and which have been undertaken in the recent past by other members of the Law School, as part of its strategy for facilitating impact, will mean that School's research, undertaken by a diverse range of staff, will continue to have significant impacts in the coming years.