

<p>Institution: University of Southampton</p> <p>Unit of Assessment: 20 Law</p> <p>a. Context</p> <p>Research at Southampton Law School (SLS) has a global reach and has a significant impact on the substance and operation of the law. It is widely relied upon in courts in the UK and internationally, by practitioners through our writings, including contributions to standard reference works, and in CPD activity. Our work is drawn upon by policy makers and we are also directly engaged in policy processes, including the drafting of legislation. It is used by a wide range of practitioners, including in the telecoms and maritime industries, insurers, and health professionals. Although we co-ordinate activities through our research groupings, we also have examples of highly significant individual impact.</p> <p>We achieve this through knowledge transfer to practitioners, support for public debate, and active engagement with policy making. Knowledge transfer includes: targeted dissemination of our research to practitioner audiences (since 2008, 32 books and 100+ articles tailored to their needs), editorial responsibilities on practitioner journals and key reference works, continuing professional development courses (over 600 delegates have attended our own UK courses, and we have delivered over 40 bespoke courses for industry and overseas partners), and consultancy work (worth over £60k since 2008). We regularly collaborate with practitioners and include them in our research activity, sometimes leading to co-authored publications. Support for public debate has included lectures (31 held by SLS and 101 given by SLS staff elsewhere in the UK and abroad), media work, including over 80 blog posts (mostly as guest writers, although the Health Ethics and Law (HEAL) research group has its own blog to raise awareness and disseminate its work). Our policy engagement includes research reports on key policy issues, submissions to consultation processes (many of which are quoted in summaries and government responses), and chairing or membership of policy-making bodies.</p> <p>b. Approach to impact</p> <p>SLS seeks to maximise the impact of its work in the everyday work of lawyers and other professions who use the law. While there is direct evidence of this impact in citations in court and official reports, the reach and significance of our work to support practitioners (through writings and CPD provision) is greater. Similarly, while our work is specifically referenced in policy reports and we have played substantial roles in drafting specific legislation, the impact that members have as members of policy making groups is probably at least as influential. SLS has encouraged staff to take up such opportunities, and managed workloads to permit this.</p> <p>SLS encourages staff to monitor the use of their work in courts and to engage with practitioners who use it. Our research has been cited by judges in courts to the highest level in the UK (House of Lords (now Supreme Court), both criminal and civil divisions of the Court of Appeal, High Court) and also in jurisdictions across the world (Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, South Africa, Fiji, the West Indies, India, Samoa, Indonesia and Malaysia, Nigeria, and the USA).</p> <p>While we are proud of judicial recognition, the primary aim of our impact work is to inform the day-to-day work of lawyers, so that its reach extends to the majority of clients, rather than only those engaged in novel issues or highly contentious disputes that reach the courts. Members of SLS have been encouraged to write or take up editorial roles with standard reference works on which practitioners can rely in everyday practice. SLS has a pre-eminent global reputation in maritime and commercial law. Practitioner texts in this area include individual authors' work - <i>The Law on Financial Derivatives</i> (5th ed 2012, Hudson), <i>The Law and Regulation of Finance</i> (2nd Ed 2013, Hudson), <i>Maritime Fraud and Piracy</i> (2010, Todd), <i>The Law of Salvage</i> (8th edn, 2013, Rose), <i>Marine Insurance: Law and Practice</i> (2nd edn, 2012, Rose) - and collaborative projects, including <i>Southampton on Shipping Law</i> (2008), 2nd edition retitled <i>Maritime Law</i> (2011), and <i>The Rotterdam Rules: A Practical Annotation</i> (2009) produced collectively by the Institute of Maritime Law. In other areas, editorial roles include the looseleaf/electronic texts that are the first point of reference in lawyers' offices; <i>Butterworths Corporate Law Service</i> (Hannigan), <i>Buckley on the Companies Act</i> (Hannigan), <i>Palmer's Company Law</i> (Hudson), <i>Butterworths Family Law Service</i> (Montgomery), <i>Encyclopaedia of Information Technology Law</i> (Saxby), <i>Private Client Business</i> (Lee). During the REF period, SLS members were consultant editors to 9 volumes of Halsbury's Laws of England – the standard, internationally recognised, reference point for an authoritative account of English Law. The understanding and operation of the law is therefore routinely informed</p>
--

Impact template (REF3a)

by research from SLS.

Through **CPD courses** we not only disseminate our research but also maintain a dialogue with practitioners and ensure that our work is informed by their experience and needs. Our flagship provision - the annual Institute of Maritime Law (IML) three week long intensive course (now in its 40th year) - is the only comprehensive residential course available on maritime law in the UK. It has an international reputation for quality and world-class expertise. It has attracted 272 delegates during the REF period. Additionally, the IML programme has included on average eight courses a year. The content is adapted to meet the needs of practitioners and developed in discussion with them. Bespoke courses are delivered around the world. 2012 saw two courses for a large P&I Club in Rotterdam; practitioner CPD in Singapore, Australia, Switzerland; and a series of half-day seminars for a leading London law firm. Members of the *Insurance Law Research Group* (ILRG) present at practitioner conferences (e.g. Montevideo, Istanbul, Rome, Australia), directly to markets (Lloyd's, Bermuda, Shanghai, Beijing, South Africa) and provide in-house seminars for law firms, insurance companies and brokers (England, Holland, Singapore, China, Hong Kong). A two-day intensive course on English insurance law was provided for Raets P&I, a marine insurer, in the Netherlands in June 2013 for its underwriting team and claims handlers. Individual members of the School are in high demand for CPD due to their personal reputation; Hannigan has provided courses for the Department of Business, Companies House, and the Insolvency Service. Lee is part of a group providing tax training to HM Treasury and HMRC.

We actively engage with **law reform** to improve the law in the UK and abroad. Research has had a direct impact on specific legal reform proposals but has also been drawn on in more general ways to inform policy initiatives. Some has been commissioned specifically to contribute to policy formation; including Hannigan's work on the Companies Act 2006, commissioned by the BIS and reporting in 2010, which was the first primary research into the impact of this major legislation. Although not specifically commissioned, the Law Commission has cited work from SLS in many documents in support of proposals in the area of insurance law, and also in 'Unfitness to Plead', CP197 (2010), p 175 (Telford). Professor Hilton Staniland has **drafted maritime legislation** in South Africa, Namibia, the Philippines and Albania. Working with the University's PublicPolicy@Southampton team, the ILRG convened a Parliamentary Symposium on the future availability of flood insurance, with an accompanying social marketing campaign using Blogs and Twitter to raise awareness and promote debate.

SLS has encouraged staff to **contribute to consultation processes**, whether in the UK or internationally, where their research is relevant both individually and collectively. HEAL's responses have been specifically quoted in the reports of responses to consultations by both NGOs and government, including during the preparations for the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Presentations to bodies formulating policy include ALDE (Liberal) Group in the European Parliament, European Group on Ethics, Law Commission, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Nigerian Universities Commission, and the Nuffield Council on Bioethics.

Many members of SLS sit on **bodies that develop policy** or engage in ensuring the proper operation of law and policy. These include the European Model Company Act Group and the Company Law Committee of England and Wales, International Code of Ethics for Occupational Health Professionals, Committee on the Ethics of Pandemic Influenza and Human Genomics Strategy Group, Secured Transactions Law Reform Project. Staniland advises the United Nations International Transport Workers' Federation and is a member of the Advisory Board of Seafarers' Rights International. Montgomery chaired the Human Genetics Commission from 2009-12 and is the current chair of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics and the Health Research Authority. Hudson is advisor to commissioners on the Parliamentary Commission on Banking Standards 2012-13. We have been involved in drafting guidance for professionals on their legal and ethical responsibilities in relation to withholding and withdrawing life sustaining treatment, and genetic testing of children.

Public debate is important to a healthy society in many of the areas in which SLS contributes. The School has hosted regular series of public lectures from prominent figures. These include the Donald O'May Lecture on Maritime Law, given in 2012 by Lord Phillips and the ICJR lecture, given in 2011 by the head of the Association of Chief Police Officers, Sir Hugh Orde. Ganz Lecturers on Public Law during the REF period included David Howarth MP, the Ombudsman (Ann Abraham), and Carnwath LJ. New developments during the REF period included the LEAG annual lecture and the University of Southampton Innocence Project. The latter's guest lecturers include Ray Krone (US Death Row exoneree) and Paul Blackburn (25 years wrongfully imprisoned, UK) and it has

Impact template (REF3a)

organised youth theatre events in conjunction with a play, 'Someone to Blame', to all-age public audiences. A partnership between LEAG and solicitors' firm Hickman & Rose was inaugurated by Robert Francis QC, who discussed his inquiry into the NHS failures in Mid-Staffordshire with an audience of senior NHS practitioners and managers, as well as members of the University.

SLS encourages staff to do appropriate **media interviews**, and to use blogs and twitter to disseminate work, supported by central University training and advice. Serdy's BBC radio commentaries considered Argentinian restrictions on ships flying the Falklands flag and sexual offences on ships in international waters. Shaw covered maritime matters for both radio and television. Media interviews from HEAL members included the Today Programme, Radio Five Live, Times (front page), Sky and BBC TV News as well as local TV and Radio. This research group blogs and tweets to raise awareness of developments in the field. Telford's twitter feed has circa 800 followers, including legal and criminal justice professionals, policy makers, think tankers, pressure groups, and journalists, as well as academics. Bates has contributed to the UKHumanRightsBlog and Coggon to the British Medical Journal blog. With less technology, Ben-Dor addressed local philosophical societies and convened a symposium on law and art in the Tate Modern, Biggs participated in a public euthanasia debate in Brighton Pavilion, and Montgomery lectured at Portsmouth Anglican Cathedral.

c. Strategy and plans

Southampton Law School's impact strategy is built on creating an environment in which academic and practitioner activity is intertwined. We involve practitioners in the work and life of the School through employability programmes for students, lectures, seminars, research workshops, and visiting appointments - IML (Shaw, Dunt, Pilley); ILAWS, (Aldhouse, former Deputy Information Commissioner). We will continue to encourage staff to engage in external activities within the University's consultancy policy (which allows for 30 days of such work).

Impact is a specific strategic priority for the IML, ILRG and HEAL research groups while the primary focus of the Institute for Law and the Web (ILAWS) is upon international law reform. The former will continue to bring together academic members of the School and practitioners, including through courses, seminars and public lectures. This will ensure that research is informed by the policy context and needs of practitioners and will continue to lead to targeted, professionally relevant, training courses for both UK and international practitioners (legal, ship owning companies and insurers). HEAL's interdisciplinary network will bring academics, policy makers, opinion formers and local practitioners (legal and health) together to discuss issues and research priorities. HEAL will systematically survey consultations where its research can be applied in responses. Members whose contacts place them in a position of influence will draw upon colleagues' expertise to test out ideas. HEAL will disseminate ideas arising from internal discussion via its blog.

We will enhance our involvement with the University's interdisciplinary collaborations: Strategic Research Groups (Digital Economy, Ageing and Life-Long Health, Health Technologies, Population Health) and Centres of Excellence (Cyber Security, the Marine and Maritime Institute). Individual impact activity will be facilitated by improved workload management and secondment arrangements. Mentoring and personal performance and development reviews will explicitly cover impact in objectives and development needs. We will draw on institutional support at University and Faculty level, including PublicPolicy@Southampton, funds for enterprise or CPD, and grant applications which lead to impact from research. We will devise a system to systematically record evidence of impact so as to enable us to identify the most effective mechanisms.

d. Relationship to case studies

Case studies have been selected to demonstrate different patterns of research impact. The Third-Party Insurance case study shows how a gap identified by research led directly to law reform through lobbying and support for Parliament in drafting new provisions. This is a specific but significant example drawn from within the broader work of the ILRG. The Multi-Modal Transport (Rotterdam Rules) case study illustrates the collaborative work of the IML through a research programme that has generated a comprehensive body of research and practitioner-focused writings. It shows how this was developed to support legal and industry activity, with extensive dissemination and CPD activity on a global scale (also illustrated in the Third Party Insurance case study). The third case study (Health Ethics and Law) demonstrates how a group of SLS researchers has developed a distinctive approach to a subject area and ensured that it has had a wide and significant impact on professional guidance, policy and public debate.