## Institution: Anglia Ruskin University



# Unit of Assessment: Law (UoA 20)

#### a. Context

Our main impacts relate to the unit's land law, sports law, criminology and legal education research, and fall within the following areas:

- 1) Public policy, law and services at international, national and local levels. Beneficiaries include, for example, those public bodies concerned with planning and accommodation for Gypsies/Travellers;
- 2) Public and professional services. Beneficiaries include regulatory bodies benefitting from better practice informed by research, e.g. the International Court of Arbitration in Sport (Lausanne) from anti-doping research, and local authorities from better researched provision and community cohesion in Gypsy/Traveller accommodation.
- 3) Health and welfare. Beneficiaries include sportsmen, sports professionals and sport injury insurers from better-informed anti-doping measures.
- 4) Environment. Beneficiaries include those making provision for land use and heritage.

### b. Approach to impact

Anglia Ruskin University's Research and Scholarship Strategy emphasises 'the dissemination of our research to achieve impact – economically, culturally socially and on quality of life'. Reflecting this and policies at Faculty level, the unit has actively pursued opportunities to contribute to professional practice and policy and practice debates.

Commitment to research impact is recognized in processes and policies at unit, departmental, Faculty and University levels. Since 2008 academic staff have listed their impact activities in annual research surveys, and achieving impact from research is considered on applications for new appointments or promotion to reader/professor, and for all staff in ensuring workload balance. Institutional support includes time allowances, travel and other expenses for attendance at relevant events, publicity for book launches and engagement with key users. News of research impact activities is also celebrated in Bulletin (the University's in-house magazine), the Law School's newsletter, at departmental meetings and on our website.

Through the above inducements, Anglia Ruskin's Law and Criminology researchers have engaged in a variety of dissemination streams and impact activities:

- 1) **Offering research-based advice and consultancy for public and governmental bodies**. Examples include:
  - Mann's research on ageing male prisoners contributed to Age Concern's Older Offenders Project.
  - Lundrigan's male-on-male rape research, in partnership with the Serious Crime Analysis Section (SCAS) of the National Policing Improvement Agency (NPIA), has been of direct practical benefit to police officers investigating crimes.
  - Home's research and consultancy for local authorities on Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation Assessments is further detailed in Case Study 1.
  - Lewis' firearms control research led to a memorandum of understanding with the National Firearms Centre (part of the Royal Armouries).
  - O'Leary's anti-doping research recognised at the International Court of Arbitration in Sport.
- 2) Leadership and membership of networks of academic researchers and practitioners, disseminating research findings to improve practice Examples:
  - Law School Alumni network meetings, at which current research is presented to legal professionals.
  - Lundrigan's research contributes to the Male Sexual Victimisation Network, connecting



academics with victim support agencies such as NatCen, Survivors, and Mankind in order to develop a research and awareness-raising strategy to address this neglected crime.

 Moore has established the Cambridgeshire Violence Network which acts as a bridge between academics and practitioners addressing violence and victimisation. It involves Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership, Cambridgeshire Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership, Cambridgeshire County Council, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridgeshire Police Service and Cambridgeshire Regional College.

# 3) Speakers at practitioner events

Examples:

- Skinner's input as an expert on issues of privacy and surveillance to Cambridge Wireless (a
  network of companies interested in the commercial application of wireless technologies and
  relevant digital securities).
- Home's involvement in UN expert group meetings (fully detailed in Case Study 2).

### 4) Organising public events that engage constituencies outside academia.

Events organised by the Justice and Communities Research Unit since 2008 include the following: public *fora* on Human Rights and the Impact of Law Reforms (both joint with Citizens Advice); a series of open public lectures on criminal justice issues; symposia on Trust, Privacy and Security in a Digital Age and on Genetics, Culture and Ethnic Identity; and a public event (joint with Peterborough Community Relations Council) on Islamophobia.

5) **Contributing to public debate via the media** (local, national and international), with publicity and marketing support from the University.

Examples:

- Lundrigan featured in a recent Channel 5 documentary Killers Behind Bars (first broadcast 21/3/14) as an expert on the spatial dimensions of serial killers offending behaviour.
- Serby interviewed by BBC Radio Essex about his match fixing research (reach metric=75,000).
- Home interviewed about his Gypsy research in connection with the forced eviction at Dale Farm (fully detailed in Case Study 1).

6) **Contributing to governance of local Third Sector organisations**. Examples:

- Skinner is a trustee of Cambridge Citizens Advice, leading on their social policy work.
- Colleen Moore is a trustee of Cambridge Women's Resource Centre.
- Graham Humby is a member of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries' disciplinary pool (sitting on tribunal panels) and professional oversight board.

#### 7) Links with publishers and editorial boards. Examples:

- Long-standing sports law association with the Sports Law Centre at the Asser Institute Centre for International and European Law (The Hague, Netherlands).
- Home's African land law research led through publisher launch events to contact with banks and mortgage providers in South Africa (further detailed in Case Study 2).

# c. Strategy and plans

Our strategy and plans are congruent with a university-wide formalisation of our long-standing investment and involvement in impact, public engagement and outreach. At the institutional level an Impact Working Group of the Research Committee has been established to further embed impact in the research environment, establish systems to record and track evidence of impact, advise on staff development needs, monitor best practice in the sector, ensuring it is shared across the institution, and implement the Concordat for Engaging the Public with Research. The University is a signatory to the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement Manifesto, reflecting our commitment to engaging the public with our research.

Our UoA will build on and extend our range of impact activities, and will ring-fence conference and

## Impact template (REF3a)



research funding for impact purposes. An important strategy is to capitalise on existing partnerships, forging stronger links with key stakeholders. This strategy is reflected in several initiatives, all of which build on our collective and individual research strengths and extend these beyond the academy, using our networks to facilitate high impact events. The unit will work to build on its successes during the present REF period, especially:

- Research-based consultancy for public and governmental bodies
- Networks of academic researchers and practitioners
- Public events organised by the Justice and Communities Research Unit
- Governance of local Third Sector organisations
- Engaging visiting research fellows (Payne, Welch) in research impact in specific areas of sports and land
- Research impact of enlarged reach and significance transnationally within Europe through the Cross-border Crime Colloquium (research of Markovska, Serby and Sallavaci).
- Research impact continuing as part of individual appraisal.
- Expansion of PhD and Professional Doctorate programmes will facilitate the spread of our research to relevant key users. For instance PhD research on Islamic charitable trust land is already being presented to international professional bodies and networks.

Additionally two emerging areas within Anglia Ruskin's five new research institutes offer potential for research impact in coming years, as follows:

- The Postgraduate Medical Institute wishes to strengthen knowledge of law and medical ethics for medical practitioners and psychiatrists, with research contributing to planned future Masters' course provision. Sallavaci has research strengths in this area, particularly DNA in forensic evidence. A Visiting Professor at the Institute, Samuel Stein, is also a Visiting Fellow in the Law School; he is both a barrister and doctor, practicing as a Consultant in Child, Adolescent and Family Psychiatry, with a particular interest in vulnerable witness and special measures in court/tribunal proceedings. His professional interests offer scope for further research with staff members. Sallavaci and Stein are recent appointments with potential to contribute significant research impact in the future.
- Cultures of the Digital Economy (CODE) is a research institute located within the Faculty, raising research opportunities on legal aspects of image rights and intellectual property.

### d. Relationship to case studies

The two case studies, both from our land research area, exemplify our approach to impact:

- Case Study 1 (The Gypsy 'problem') illustrates strong research impact upon public policy, law and services at various levels (central, regional and local), upon practitioners and professional services through training/consultancy activities, as well as public engagement through media interviews and coverage (local, regional, national and international).
- Case Study 2 ('I'll fight you for it') illustrates a similar pattern of impact, both within the UK (through participation in the Government Foresight Land Use Futures Project) and internationally. The international engagement involves aid agencies of global reach, including UNDP, UN-Habitat, and the World Bank, and specifically in Africa through agencies such as the Thabo Mbeki Foundation and Pan-African Parliament.