

<b>Institution:</b> University of Warwick
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> C18 Law
<p><b>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</b></p> <p><b><u>Introduction</u></b></p> <p>Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017, Warwick Law School (WLS) continues to have an internationally acknowledged influence on interdisciplinary, global, and law-in-context research, having pioneered such scholarship since its inception. Our dynamic and inclusive research culture fosters excellence and diversity through scholarship that engages with a variety of approaches, disciplines and methodologies. Our innovative and critical research has made significant academic, policy and social impact internationally, nationally and within our local communities.</p> <p>WLS core research strengths are in International Law and Human Rights, Criminal Justice and Policing, International Economic Law and Regulation, Critical Theory and Legal Philosophy, and Gender and the Law. Six Research Centres are hosted or co-hosted by the School, alongside several less formal research clusters, all of which help shape weekly research seminars and reading groups, public lectures and an annual Law School Conference, bringing the whole research community – including our doctoral and post-doctoral scholars - together. The School's international approach brings a particular focus on research and partnerships engaging with the global south. WLS benefits from a successful visiting scholars' programme, which since 2014 has welcomed 55 academics and PGRs.</p> <p>In the current period, WLS has built on its improved research environment, which was recognised in REF 2014 as having facilitated a strong performance on outputs, to create an even more ambitious, supportive, vibrant and connected culture in which the law in context tradition can be renewed and revitalised for the present. It is a deeply collaborative research environment between colleagues and research students. It is also a challenging one, where we encourage colleagues to expose their work to, and embrace the constructive benefits of, critical peer interrogation.</p> <p>To support this, we have focussed on improving infrastructure, resource and mentoring. We have strengthened relationships with the national and international research community across disciplines so that our work is better informed by, and reaches, the widest academic audience and increased public and practitioner engagement with our work. We have contributed more substantially to the University's wider research environment and collaborated more significantly with scholars in other Warwick departments. In line with the University's strategy (see REF5a 2.9.4), our Research Centres - which have representation across the University – have further cemented their international reputations as leading hubs of critical and contextual legal scholarship.</p> <p><b><u>Strategic Goals for the 2014-21 REF Period</u></b></p> <p>In 2014 we said we would:</p> <p>Enhance our capacity for contextual, international and globally focused research by developing stronger relationships with external academic partners.</p> <p>Increase support to our existing Centres and develop at least one further Centre.</p>

Build on our tradition of law-in-context research through increased infrastructure and expertise on empirical methods, and improved mentoring of grant applications.

Integrate, support and mentor PGRs and ECRs more effectively, maximising our ability to develop and retain 'home grown' talent.

Develop stronger relationships with external non-academic partners to foster and develop channels for impact and knowledge exchange.

### **Achievement Against 2014-21 Strategic Goals**

#### **Developing external research relationships**

WLS has engaged the wider academic community more effectively, both nationally and internationally. We funded and hosted more than 50 international workshops and conferences and hosted the Socio-Legal Studies Association Annual Conference (2015), the Critical Legal Conference (2017), and the Socio-Legal Studies Association PGR Conference (2019). In the period, more than £100,000 was awarded from the School's internal Legal Research Institute ('LRI') budget to support workshops. In 2015, WLS hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> conference in the series on the Future of Adversarial and Inquisitorial Systems involving scholars from North America, China and Europe. In 2017, a workshop explored the new contours of policing under conditions of mass mobility and globalisation. In 2019, a capacity building and training workshop on human rights was held for officials and case-workers for the National Commission for Human Rights; WLS hosted the National Custody Forum, attended by police officers and researchers from across the UK; and the inaugural *International Economic Law Collective Conference* was held.

WLS colleagues have contributed significantly to activities to develop and nurture emerging scholars from the global south and building and consolidating relationships between global north and global south scholars. Colleagues have organised and facilitated workshops aimed at building research and writing capacities of global south scholars, both in the UK and abroad, in conjunction with external partners. Such initiatives have been driven by the aim to diversify and pluralise legal scholarship through providing capacity building and networking opportunities for global south scholars, building on WLS' ethos and strength in this area. **Carvalho, Munro and Norrie** were involved in the British Academy-funded Socio-Legal Journals Global South Initiative, a collaborative project involving several academic journals including Social and Legal Studies, Journal of Law and Society, Feminist Legal Studies, International Journal of Law in Context and Modern Law Review. The project held seven writing workshops in Nairobi, Accra, Bangalore, Recife and Delhi, designed to directly support early career academics and to open up these journals to global south scholarship. **Gayoye** and **Sekalala** were involved in the African Feminist Judgement Project writing workshops with Cardiff Law School. The project, involving academics, activists and members of the judiciary from seven African countries, was designed to rethink how judgments are written from the African continent resulting in a virtual legal clinic, funded by the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID). WLS has also initiated, through **Gayoye, Saeed and Tan**, an annual PhD Law, Development and Global Justice workshop series, with Cardiff and Kent Law Schools, aimed at developing research dissemination and networking opportunities among postgraduate researchers at the three law schools. **Tan** has convened a workshop on From Researcher to Author with Faculty of Law, University of Antwerp, as part of the Law and Development Research Network (LDRN), aimed at supporting publishing by early career researchers.

**Stewart's** series of linked projects a combination of external; Warwick (GCRF; ESRC IAA; LRI funding) *Transforming Gender Relations in an Ageing World* has involved sustained

collaboration since 2017 with partners from the Faculties of Law at the University of Nairobi and Mount Kenya University and leading international NGO, 'HelpAge International', to develop socio-legal research capacity in Africa in relation to ageing and age discrimination from a gender perspective as well as influencing African regional and international policy making on ageing.

**Stewart's** *A Fair Chance for Education: Gendered Pathways to Educational Success in Haryana* (Co Investigator Dr Emily Henderson, Warwick Education Studies) externally funded research (2017-2022) on access to HE for disadvantaged groups in Haryana, India, is built around participatory and collaborative approaches to global south research. The project's *research collaborative group* supports and builds capacity with early career researchers and key scholars in local universities in Haryana. These are supported by the project's *academic partners* in leading research institutions in India (National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi; Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai; and Ambedkar University New Delhi) and a project *research advisory group* consisting of leading academics and national education policy makers.

**Stevens & Hodgson** have partnered in research conferences and publications with Monash colleagues, and **Hodgson** is part of a long-standing collaboration between UNC, Bologna, Duke University, Basel and Warwick, generating joint conferences most years including several dedicated ECR sessions, and funded participation for WLS PGRs.

LRI funds have supported colleagues to present their work to a wide range of communities, and for visits to institutions at home and abroad. WLS colleagues have delivered high-profile lectures across the globe. These include **Ali's** public lectures at the Annual Conference on European Family Law at Hamburg and British Association of Islamic Studies; **Aliverti's** keynote at 'La Criminalización de la Inmigración en América Latina' Universidad Arturo Prat, Chile; **Munro's** Inaugural Criminal Justice Public Lecture at the University of Edinburgh and the Annual Shirley Smith Address in Wellington, New Zealand; **Wall's** Keynote at the Critical Legal Conference in Warsaw; **Norrie's** public lecture to the India Law Institute and at the National Law University Delhi; **Schwobel Patel's** keynote at the 'Gendercide, Genocide, and Resistance' conference at Gothenburg and public lecture at University of Würzburg; **Tadros'** inaugural lecture in Moral Philosophy and Practical Ethics at Oxford, Norton Lecture at University of Delaware, and Knowles Memorial Lecture at the University of Glasgow.

International visits have been supported, sometimes resulting in sustained research relationships. **McMahon** visited the Centre for Antitrust and Regulatory Studies, University of Warsaw in 2017; **Adelman** was Visiting Professor in Environmental Law, University of Pretoria, 2017, held a fellowship at the University of Rosario in Colombia in 2020 and was Research Associate at Nelson Mandela University South Africa from 2017; **Tadros** was Carter Visiting Professor of General Jurisprudence at Harvard Law School from July-December 2015; **McEldowney** was Visiting Professor at University of Paris v Renee Descartes from 2016-19; **Rogowski** was Visiting Professor in the Department of Economics, University of Modena in 2016 and Visiting Professor at the University of Florence in 2017; **Singh** was Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow at EUI Florence from May-August 2016 and Adjunct Professor at the University of Bologna (School of Management), 2019-2020.

Colleagues are encouraged to take on leadership roles to support legal scholarship. **Beale, Norrie** and **Tadros** are Fellows of the British Academy. **Hodgson** and **Munro** are Fellows of the Academy of Social Sciences. **Ali** is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and an Associate Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law. **Hodgson** is an elected Council member of Justice. **Garton, Harding** and **Munro** served on the Executive Committee of the Socio-Legal Studies

Association. **Singh** is an advisory panel member of the Research and Guidance Committee of International Association of Deposit Insurers. **Harding** was council member of the Irish Legal History Society. **Norrie** is President of the International Association for Critical Realism. **McEldowney** is a Fellow of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences. **Stevens** founded the Migration Section, SLS, and the Refugee/Migration Theme/ Stream, SLSA. **Sekalala** is a member of the Royal African Society. **Twigg-Flesner** is Fellow of the European Law Institute and Associate Academic Fellow of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple. **Wall** is Secretary of the Critical Legal Studies Association.

Many colleagues hold major editorial roles, through which they ensure the vibrancy of their sub-disciplines and support the scholarship development of colleagues. For example, General Editor, *Law and Humanities* (**Watt**); General Editor, *Journal of Banking Regulation and Financial Regulation International* (**Singh**); Associate Editor, *Journal of Applied Philosophy* (**Slavny**); Associate Editor, *Ethics* (**Tadros**); Managing Director, Counterpress (**Wall**); co-editor, *Elgar Series on Law, Development and Global Justice* (**Tan**); Coordinating Editor, *Social and Legal Studies* (**Munro**); Associate Editor, *Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law Journal* and Book Review Editor, *International Journal of Refugee Law* (**Stevens**); Editor, *London Review of International Law* (**Krever**). Even more colleagues are on editorial boards of significant journals and book series. Munro, in her role on the editorial board of the *Modern Law Review*, hosted a zoom event on getting published which was attended / watched by hundreds of female scholars, as well as helping to set up a Covid Response Postdoc scheme in 2020.

### Further supporting and developing our Research Centres

Our research centres are intense cites of research collaboration within WLS and across the University (see REF 5a 2.9.4), fostering national and international networks. Law School hosted centres receive protected funding from the LRI (£2000 pa pre-pandemic), and enjoy both increasing autonomy in their research activities, and greater support from Research Committee. Pre-existing Centres have flourished, facilitating pioneering, prominent and sustainable research activity. The creation and growth of new Centres reflects our research dynamism and responsiveness to emerging synergies and opportunities.

### Existing Research Centres at 2014

Four WLS Research Centres existed in 2014. Three - Centre for Human Rights in Practice (CHRIp) (Directors: **Harrison & Williams**); Criminal Justice Centre (CJC) (Directors: **Hodgson, Aliverti & Carvalho**); and Centre for Ethics, Law and Public Affairs (CELPA) (Director: **Slavny** until 2019, now Parr from Politics and International Studies) – were well established and have flourished. The fourth - the Centre for Law, Regulation and Governance of the Global Economy (GLOBE) (Directors: **Tan & Connelly**) - was in its infancy in 2014. It has been a standout success, grown hugely and is now recognised as an international centre of excellence, with 45 members across a range of disciplines, hosting more than 50 workshops, doctoral training sessions and public events, and welcoming 8 international visitors. It produced a series of influential Policy Briefs (edited by **Kokkinis**) and hosts the University's Research in Global Governance Network (RiGG-Net). It also spearheaded the 'IEL Collective', building research relationships across 12 UK and international law schools to provide the leading space for critically engaged thinking about international economic law and institutions.

CHRIp, which has 16 members (8 from WLS), is organised into seven thematic clusters. It brings scholars together to develop new research methods, undertaking applied human rights projects



with real world impact and promoting academic work to broader public audiences. The human rights education cluster has produced new methods of human rights teaching [**Harrison, Struthers & Williams**] that have influenced the national curriculum on social justice. It pioneered a national school engagement project, the 'Writing Wrongs Initiative', funded by the Sigrid Rausing Trust. Its model of engagement with disadvantaged school students was adopted by several other UK universities and partnered with the national Orwell Youth Prize. Collective work by the international economic governance cluster has developed new empirical research methodologies to assess the effectiveness of business and human rights initiatives which have been applied to human rights due diligence of corporations globally [**Harrison and Sekalala**]. The human rights performance of tea producers in Tanzania [**Pillon**] and the human rights performance of sustainable palm oil in Asia and Africa [**Harrison**]. The human rights and public spending cluster created and applied new methods for assessing the human rights impacts of public spending decisions [**Byrom and Eades**] (see section 4 for impact). CHRiP's flagship *Lacuna* magazine, with a readership of 155,000, provides a forum for law school academics to publish work engaging broader public audiences on current issues in law, policy and rights, publishing work from more than 50 colleagues and students in the school. From 2019, as an expansion of its previous research-led engagement with the city of Coventry, CHRiP has worked with a new 'Warwick Law in the Community' initiative directed by **Mulqueen** (see section 4 below for further details).

The CJC has 36 members (25 from WLS), and is one of the strongest and most dynamic communities of criminal justice scholars in the world. It boasts expertise in a range of methodologies on criminal justice, including philosophical, critical, and empirical approaches, and engages with a wide range of disciplines, including philosophy, sociology and psychology. Criminal justice research links with members of other departments have strengthened considerably. It also explores all aspects of the criminal justice system, from policing, to the criminal justice process, to substantive criminal law to punishment. The CJC convenes events involving external and WLS speakers who present in small groups and public lectures (eg. Dame Anne Owers; film screening on Miscarriages of Justice with contributions by Paddy Hill & Robert Brown) and has hosted 24 visiting scholars since 2014. Its many collaborations with third sector and criminal justice organisations include **Hodgson's** work with JUSTICE on its Council and as a Working Party member of "Understanding Courts"; evaluating the work of Prisoners' Penfriends, resulting in a significant expansion of their work across the prison estate; as an expert for EU impact assessments on legal aid directives (2016), pre-trial detention (2015-16) and the impact of Brexit (2018). **Munro's** collaboration with Rape Crisis Scotland and REFUGE; and recently the expert group on femicide convened by the Centre for Women's Justice. Three CJC members - **Aliverti, Hodgson & Munro** - are members of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner Academic Advisory Board. The CJC fosters public engagement with CJ matters, including **Carvalho** and Chamberlen's collaboration with RideOut and FaceUp Theatre in the theatrical workshop *The Chamber* (2018) and Chamberlen's 'Beyond Bars: Stories from Former Prisoners', an arts festival involving artistic performances from former prisoners in London (2017). In 2019 the CJC initiated an annual PGR conference - a 2-day workshop, with feedback provided by WLS colleagues, including the wider PGR community. Expertise and collaboration in criminology has been strengthened through meetings involving leading criminologists in sociology, such as Chamberlen and Wahidi, resulting in research events and co-authored publications. **Aliverti's** article (**Benevolent Policing? Vulnerability and the Moral Pains of Border Controls**) received the prestigious 2020 Radzinowics Prize, awarded by the British Journal of Criminology for the article that has made the greatest contribution to the development of criminology.

CELPA has become one of the most prominent, active and integrated centres in legal, political and moral philosophy globally. It has 33 members including 4 WLS staff, and several doctoral students who are supervised or co-supervised from WLS. CELPA holds weekly seminars, attended by around 30 people. WLS colleagues have frequently presented at these events. Around 30 scholars visit CELPA annually, including, for example, Tom Hurka (Toronto), Sophia Moreau (Toronto), Tommie Shelby (Harvard), Japa Pallikkathayil (Pittsburgh). Several daylong book manuscript workshops involve authors and internal and external speakers (e.g. Clare Chambers (Cambridge), David Estlund (Brown), Rainer Forst (Frankfurt), Alon Harel (Hebrew), John Oberdiek (Rutgers), Jonathan Quong (USC), Anna Stilz (Princeton), and **Tadros** (Warwick)). CELPA hosts a prominent annual graduate conference, with around 50 PGR attendees, including 30 presenters and two plenary speakers (e.g. Clare Chambers, Elizabeth Cripps, David Estlund, Jonathan Quong, Annie Stilz and Laura Valentini). Its informal academic community is extremely active, with annual dinners, lunches, informal reading groups and discussion groups. Members of CELPA regularly read the work of colleagues, and support funding applications. PGRs especially benefit from engaging with a wide range of members of the group.

### Two New Research Centres

Having committed in REF2014 to creating one new Research Centre, we have developed two.

The Centre for Operational Police Research (COPR) was established in 2014 (Directors: **Hodgson** and Wade from Psychology) to stimulate more targeted interdisciplinary research, partnerships and impact around policing. Members (including PGRs) span all faculties, researching topics including domestic abuse, stop and search, anti-radicalisation, cybersecurity and the detection of manipulated digital images, using behavioural science, legal, ethnographic and digital forensic methodologies. They work across a wide range of networks and organisations including the Turing Institute, Ministry of Defence, forensic services, Crown Prosecution Service and Interpol. Working with police forces, the College of Policing and Police & Crime Commissioners, COPR has hosted seminars and project launches (e.g. Forensic Property Marking and Public Confidence in Policing) as well as national and regional policing events (e.g. National Police Custody Forum; Society for Evidence Based Policing).

In 2019, the Centre for Critical Legal Studies (CCLS) was established (Directors: **Schwobel-Patel & Wall**). Re-imagining WLS's commitment to critical and contextual scholarship, with a membership committed to research on race, class, gender and their intersectionality, CCLS hosts weekly reading groups and regular seminars; it is launching CritTV, its own YouTube channel, which will livestream and curate programming nationally and internationally. It has a wide membership, drawn from colleagues across the University and beyond, working closely with a dynamic group of students, Critical Lawyers at Warwick (CLAW). Together they edit the *Critical Legal Pocketbook* (forthcoming, 2021). The 'radical mootings' project seeks to critique the reproduction of hierarchies in classical law school mootings competitions. The series of workshops, reading groups, and film screenings run jointly with CCLS and CLAW will culminate in a common mootings project with student groups from SOAS, the University of Kent, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, and Lund University. A collaborative multi-media project of documenting this project is underway. We envisage that the CCLS will grow and become a prominent part of WLS.

Our research centres do not operate in silos. Colleagues are typically active members of more than one Centre, and we have encouraged cross-collaboration - for example, the international conference on 'Security, Borders and International Development' co-hosted by GLOBE and CJC in 2019; events across both GLOBE and CHRiP organised by the IEL Collective; public lectures

on the Death Penalty organised jointly by CHRiP and CJC; shared seminar events – between CELPA, CCLS and CJC, which have included international participants such as Kim Ferzan (Virginia), Doug Husak (Rutgers) and George Pavlich (Ontario). CCLS and GLOBE had a common reading group theme in 2020, namely 'Empire', involving different disciplinary and critical traditions.

### **Greater infrastructure and expertise on empirical methods, and improved mentoring for grant applications**

WLS has strengthened its expertise on empirical methods, by developing internal talent and through strategic appointments. **Munro** was appointed to contribute her own empirical research and lead in the development of new empirical work. Our Head of School, **Sanders**, is also an experienced empirical researcher. Some of our most talented empirical researchers made significant strides in their work, securing promotions in the process (for example, **Aliverti**, **Sekalala** and **Tan**) with support from the School. We have also made more junior appointments, such as **Struthers**, and encouraged post-doctoral scholars, such as **Vabriescu**, to develop capacity.

Our processes to secure external funding have become more supportive and streamlined. We have strengthened infrastructure and mentoring in order to encourage and support high quality funding applications. We have also improved our performance in securing funded PGR scholarships via the ESRC DTP, and also in training the next generation of empirical socio-legal researchers.

Our main aim has not been financial, but to help colleagues advance their most significant research goals with resources and time. Since 2014, WLS has created a dedicated role – Director of Funding (held by **Aliverti** and **Munro**). Regular WLS workshops have been organised, themed around schemes/funders/career stages as well as drop-in sessions. A generous buy-out formula recognises the contribution of grant income, which adds funded buy-out to a 40% research allocation baseline; and a network of peer review circles comments on draft applications. WLS works closely with the University's R&IS Team who facilitate discussions around funding calls, offer additional feedback and mentoring, and assist with pre-award costing and post-award management. Since 2014, WLS has focussed particularly on fellowship applications at all levels. Highly competitive and prestigious fellowships – from Leverhulme, British Academy and ISRF - have been awarded to 14 colleagues (see below). We have submitted 31 RCUK applications totalling £3.2 million, and 36 successful applications to the ESRC IAA totalling £242,506. WLS colleagues have worked closely with governments and NGOs to access funding for research targeted at policy or practice impact – for example, **Munro** secured (with colleagues from IPSOS Mori and University of Glasgow) a £500,000 grant from the Scottish Government; **Stewart** has secured £24,000 from Help Age and £242,000 from the Fair Chance Foundation; **Hodgson** was UK partner on a 375,000 Euro grant from the EU Commission; **Harrison** secured funding from Sigrid Rausing to extend outreach work on human rights; and **Sekalala** secured funding from the World Health Organisation and the Wellcome Trust.

### **Support and mentoring provided to PGRs and ECRs**

#### **Support for the PGR community**

WLS is committed to developing the next generation of scholars, fostering capacity to advance its law in context and internationalist agenda. A stronger PGR community was developed and sustained during this REF period, drawing scholars from across the world to work with WLS staff.

We have supported a diverse and active PGR community on a scale capable of meaningful integration into the School, with effective and robust feedback provided at all stages of development.

WLS currently hosts 66 PGRs, providing scholarships for up to 2 PhD students per annum. Automatic funding available to PGR students has increased from £500 to £750, with the LRI providing additional resource. We have introduced – alongside pre-existing end of 1<sup>st</sup> year upgrades - interim year reviews to provide constructive feedback beyond formal supervision. WLS organises workshops across all years on writing, careers, fellowships, vivas, upgrades, research techniques, publishing, and teaching. A ‘buddy system’ has been set up to integrate the PGR community across year groups. Finalists also have mock vivas. In addition to a first and second supervisor, two dedicated PGR mentors work alongside the Director of PGRs [**Ali, Garton and Schwobel-Patel** in this period] to offer additional support, which has been recognised as ‘best practise’ by the University.

Completion rates are amongst the highest in the University, and student satisfaction is strong. In 2016 WLS formed West Midlands Doctoral Network which enhances PGRs’ professional development through networking events, conferences, workshops and career events. A new system to enhance skills of PGRs – SkillsForge – was introduced, supported by the Doctoral College. PGRs regularly attend research seminars, act as discussants, and have priority in question and answer sessions. CELPA, CJC and GLOBE offer annual PGR conferences and workshops with participants benefitting from feedback by WLS staff. Furthermore, our annual WLS conference showcases work by colleagues and PGRs on shared panels. In January 2019, WLS hosted the SLISA PGR conference. In February 2021, a PGR conference will take place, which has been organised by a PGR organising committee where PGR students will have the opportunity to present their work. WLS runs an annual PGR supervisors’ workshop where colleagues exchange good practice. It has a hardship fund that is available to provide assistance with, amongst other things, unexpected childcare costs for PGRs with caring responsibilities. We have secured several Institute of Advanced Study fellowships (see REF5a 2.9.2) for excellent PhD candidates, several of whom have since secured academic careers.

### **Support for Early Career Researchers**

Mechanisms for mentoring and offering feedback to ECRs have improved. WLS hosts periodic work-in-progress workshops for all colleagues, but especially ECRs. The vast majority of colleagues request and benefit from peer review. Colleagues on probation are automatically provided with a mentor, and a reduced teaching and administrative load to facilitate research development.

We prioritise ECRs for LRI support, who received £133k during this period. This priority was written into our research strategy as part of our pandemic response, to reflect the disproportionate impact on ECRs. We have increased transparency around promotions and ECRs regularly exceed probation goals and secure promotion. Colleagues on teaching-focused contracts are eligible to transition to teaching and research contracts, and we support them in achieving this.

### **Wider Research Support.**

We have formalised additional structures for support to all colleagues. Alongside existing mentoring and probation structures, the Research Progression Group (whose members are also responsible for internal REF policy and preparation) contacts colleagues on a termly basis to offer



to discuss plans and publication strategy, and /or read work in progress. Many colleagues have taken up this opportunity. This support has been enhanced during the pandemic recognising the risk of isolation, and the deterioration of research networks. Such support is constructive and engaging rather than disciplinary, and colleagues appreciate that the aim is to assist them to develop their most ambitious, creative and important work.

### **Support for engagement beyond the academy**

Our commitment to engage with non-academic stakeholders is evidenced by the support structures and resources we devote to this. The Director of Impact, a newly created role within WLS (**Harrison 2014-Sept 2020; now Sharpe**), has worked with colleagues to support knowledge exchange, public engagement and impact. Regular seminars enhance skills in e.g. writing for non-academic audiences and building networks beyond the academy. Colleagues can obtain up to 200 hours of credit for impact activity, and a dedicated WLS 'impact fund' (up to £1,000 per person) is available to support impact. Since 2014, 23 WLS colleagues have been supported to make successful applications for Faculty impact funding via both ESRC IAA and internal university schemes (totalling £274,506). Support and mentoring for impact is provided through WLS's Research Centres - for example, CHRiP's Lacuna Magazine encourages WLS colleagues and students to produce articles published alongside those written by journalists, legal professionals and activists; and GLOBE initiated a highly successful policy brief series using external networks cultivated by senior colleagues to showcase work of ECRs (see section 4).

### **Research Governance**

Research structures support staff more effectively, identify research opportunities and collaborative partnerships, and ensure that research is properly resourced. Research Committee (RC), Director of Research (DoR), Director of Impact (DoI), Director of Funding (DoF), and Director of PGR (DPGR) oversee these activities. Those responsible for research seminars, public lectures, and visiting scholars are also members of research committee, as well as the research administrator and a PGR representative. The Head of School (HoS), who is also a member, actively fosters an inclusive research environment. RC is chaired by the DoR, who is also Deputy Head of School. RC meets termly to oversee research strategy, the activities of Centres and Clusters, and the allocation of resources.

WLS's Research Executive (Directors of Research, Funding & Impact) meet on a regular basis to review strategy and implementation, and to raise proposals for consideration by RC. RC reports on a termly basis to the School Staff Meeting. RC is supported by two permanent members of the WLS Professional Services Team, organising events, administering finances, assisting with grant applications, publicising research outputs, and facilitating impact activities. The University's Research and Impact Services (R&IS) team has dedicated points of contact for WLS colleagues, assisting us in the development and administration of grant applications; as well as a dedicated Impact Manager and Impact Co-ordinator for the Faculty of Social Sciences.

### **Moving Forward: Strategic Priorities for REF Period 2021-2026**

WLS reviews its research strategy periodically. Our key priorities remain around collegial support and utilising our Centres to promote a strong, diverse, connected and ambitious research culture. We have identified 3 additional targets for the next REF period:

**Strengthening research in commercial and company law.** We have recently appointed **Johnston** with interests in law-in-context company law to develop our ambitious and active Cluster on commercial law.

**Increasing our reputation as a hub for work on law, gender and sexuality.** We will bolster our increased capacity in this area, enhancing the external presence and profile of our existing Gender & Law Cluster. Recent appointments including **Sharpe** and **Natile** support that.

**Embedding engagement between Centres and non-academic audiences.** Amongst other things, we will establish affiliate member status for third sector and other stakeholders, to develop more sustainable and longer-term relationships to secure impact.

## 2. People

### Staffing Strategy: Appointments and Promotions

WLS attracts scholars doing world class research or with clear potential to do so, and who nourish our vibrant and collegiate community engaged in contextual, methodologically diverse and socially significant legal research. During appointments, we adopt an intense reading process involving colleagues at all career stages to assess candidates' research.

WLS has expanded by over 50% of research active staff in this period. We have cemented pre-existing research strengths, whilst fostering a diversity of approaches to global, law-in-context scholarship. We have maintained a balanced profile across career stages, promoting from within, making strategic external appointments at senior level and attracting the best ECR talent from the sector.

Since 2014, five Chairs have joined WLS as external appointments: **Munro**, **Twigg-Flesner**, **Sanders**, **Johnston** and **Sharpe** (who joined after the census date). All have excellent research records and leadership experience. **Munro's** appointment flows from a strategic commitment in REF 2014 to strengthen leadership in empirical methods and grant capture. **Twigg-Flesner's** appointment supports growing research ambitions in commercial law, further enhanced by **Johnston**. **Sanders** joined as an experienced Head of School, who – as a WLS alumnus – fully appreciates our law-in-context ethos. **Sharpe** strengthens our reputation in critical legal theory, gender, and criminal justice.

17 research-active colleagues currently with us joined WLS since the last REF at non-professorial levels, 8 Assistant Professor; 9 Associate Professor/Reader. We have appointed and retained ambitious and promising early and mid-career scholars to enhance our contextualist, theoretical and internationalist ethos (**Carvalho**, **Connelly**, **Harding**, **Kokkinis**, **Krever**, **Lammasniemi**, **Mills**, **Mulqueen**, **Saeed**, **Schwobel-Patel**, **Sekalala**, **Slavny**, **Struthers**, **Vitale**, **Walker**, **Zivkovic** and **Wall**). Four of these had also been WLS postdocs or PGRs, reflecting our commitment to a strong career trajectory for WLS talent.

In tandem with revised processes at University level, WLS made probation and promotion processes more transparent (see REF5a 3.3) and encouraged applications more proactively. WLS's Senior Management Exec (SME) annually review all colleagues potentially eligible for promotion, and support (including feedback on applications) is offered. The Chair of WLS's EDI committee sits on SME, as does the DoR, and both are involved in appointments and promotions. As noted above, our processes are deeply informed by our commitment to ED&I.

Positive results have followed. In the staff survey prior to WLS's successful Athena Swan submission in 2018, more than ¾ of colleagues (on an equal basis with respect to gender) indicated there were 'some or many things to celebrate' about our promotion processes. One respondent noted: "The process seems to be working well. Promotions have been quite successful in recent years and women are being encouraged to apply earlier for promotion. Colleagues are generous with their time and advice in assisting with the promotion process." Many colleagues have secured promotion. Almost everyone appointed at Assistant Professor since 2014 has been promoted to Associate Professor by the end of their normal probation period (**Aliverti, Castellano, Carvalho, Connelly, Mills, Slavny, Kokkinis, Kuo, Harding, Farrand, and Sekalala**). 7 colleagues have been promoted to Reader (**Aliverti, Harrison, Stevens, Wakefield, Adelman, Tan and Wall**) 4 to Professor (**Stewart, Garton, Harrison and Stevens**) and 3 colleagues secured 2 promotions (**Aliverti, Harrison and Stevens**) in this period.

### **Supporting Colleagues' Research Growth**

New members of staff receive an induction, including a discussion with the DoR and research professional services team. WLS promotes a wide range of research networks to assist colleagues in their scholarship, including substantial mentoring and feedback opportunities. As noted above, the Research Progression Group (RPG) (comprised of 9 colleagues across a range of subject specialisms – 5 men and 4 women) prepares the REF submission and meets with colleagues on a regular basis to discuss research plans and career progression, and to read and comment on work in progress. The DoR runs regular events including workshops on writing and publishing, managing a research team and mid-career research progression. Research strategy is discussed at the Law School Conference to ensure that everyone is involved.

These initiatives have been well-received. In respect of more formal mechanisms, such as PDRs, the staff survey conducted prior to our Athena Swan submission indicated that 74% of WLS colleagues felt we had some or many things to celebrate about support received. And in respect of more tailored, responsive interventions, this unsolicited feedback from a colleague following a 2018 event for ECRs on 'Sustaining a Research Career' is a useful illustration – "I just wanted to thank you once again for the session yesterday and most importantly for sharing your experiences. It can seem from my perspective that establishing an academic career is an uphill struggle... [but it helps to learn from] the career path of other academics such as yourself who manage to establish excellent careers."

Strong connections between WLS and the Institute of Advance Studies (see REF5a, 2.9.2) benefit many colleagues. The IAS hosts scholars for extended stays at the University of Warwick. Since 2014, WLS has secured 2 WIRL-COFUND postdoctoral fellows who are fully integrated into WLS Research Centres (**Wilson and Vrabiescu**). Five international visiting fellows have participated in WLS workshops and Centre / Cluster events (Kim Ferzan (Virginia), Moses Mulumba (NGO Activist), Mark Drumbl (Washington and Lee University), George Pavlich (Alberta) and Kirsty Duncanson (La Trobe)). WLS staff develop and implement the University's research strategy (see REF5a 2). **Hodgson**, is Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and University lead on Coventry City of Culture, GRPs and interdisciplinarity, research communications and co-lead on GCRF; since 2014, **Harrison** and **Stewart** have been Academic Leads of the University's Global Governance and International Development 'Global Research Priorities' (GRPs) (Warwick's flagship interdisciplinary research networks (see REF5a 2.9.1)). **Stewart** is currently a member of the University's International Strategy Advisory Group and plays a key role in a new University GRP on Productivity and the Futures of Work; **Tan** is a Fellow of the University's Institute for Global Sustainable Development and co-leads the Interdisciplinary Research in Global

Governance Network; **Munro** served on the University's Humanities & Social Science Ethics Committee.

### **Training and Supervision of PGR Students**

A carefully crafted programme aimed at supporting research and career development supports our PGR students. All first year doctoral candidates attend a year-long Theory and Methods Course. Warwick's ESRC Doctoral Training Centre support qualitative and quantitative methods, as well as social theory. WLS funds all PGRs in undertaking these DTC modules (for University support of PGR students, see REF5a 3.8).

WLS holds several workshops for PGRs on, for example, effective writing, careers and fellowships, vivas, upgrades, research techniques, publishing, and teaching methods. PGRs regularly present their research at staff seminars and to other members of the PGR community, especially prior to their upgrade and viva. PGRs routinely present at the WLS annual conference. Some also organise conferences independently or as a group, while others assist in the running of WLS Research Centres and Clusters. The 2019 SLSA PGR conference was held at Warwick, with strong attendance from WLS PGRs; the CJC and CELPA run annual PGR conferences and several PGRs take part every year in the ECR section of the Warwick/UNC/Bologna/Basel collaboration led by **Hodgson**; and as part of the Law & Development Network, Warwick-Cardiff Law Schools collaborated to host a PGR conference in June 2017. WLS has also joined a newly formed West Midlands Legal Doctoral Network, which provides informal networking opportunities and workshops for PGRs in law across 6 regional universities. In addition to all of this, WLS has a dedicated fund available to doctoral candidates, designed to support them in activities such as transcription, conference registrations, and proofreading theses before submission.

Two WLS academics are dedicated PGR Mentors, working alongside the Director of PGR and supervisors, to provide guidance on curricular and extra-curricular matters. Several WLS academic members (**Bisping, McMahon**) served as Academic and Professional Pathway (APP) mentors for PGR students and have been appointed Associate Fellows of the Higher Education Academy. PGRs develop skills through providing research assistance to faculty and often work with mentors and supervisors on interview skills and improving their CVs. We hold mock vivas and mock interviews for PGRs, and support applications for research awards, post-doctoral placements, and jobs. PGRs regularly contribute to an interdisciplinary journal on Law, Social Justice and Global Development, and write for or edit Lacuna, the CHRiP magazine. Many PGRs provide part-time teaching in WLS, with regular training and feedback. Hours are carefully controlled to protect research time. They are also trained on pedagogy and student engagement, and supported by a dedicated GTA liaison amongst WLS staff (**Slavny**).

We offer permanently assigned workspaces and computing facilities to final year candidates, and bookable open spaces, computers and free printing for all PGRs. Workspaces of PGRs have been more effectively integrated in the Law School, for example, by sharing kitchen space and research rooms. The PGR community has monthly social gatherings, and regular meetings with the DPGR and two PGR mentors. PGRs are encouraged to attend all faculty research events. Since 2018, WLS's DPGR has held an annual supervisors' away day to enable colleagues to learn about new procedures and share best practice. Colleagues are encouraged to engage constructively with PhD proposals at an early stage and support students to obtain scholarships through the Warwick Chancellor's Scholarship (4) as well as ESRC DTP (7) and AHRC Midlands 4 Cities schemes, resulting in a number of successes. Interdisciplinary supervision is very common.



Our track record of securing PGRs employment is excellent. Five members of staff appointed to T&R contracts in this REF period were previously WLS doctoral students (**Saeed, Sekalala, Slavny, Struthers, Zbyszewska**). Many other PGRs secured appointments in research intensive law schools, e.g. Cornford (Edinburgh), Harwood (Essex), Pimm-Smith (Exeter), Dodsworth (Exeter), Azinge (Lincoln), Adebola (Aberdeen), Cortes Neito (Del Rosario, Columbia), Arias-Barrera (Externado, Columbia), Soubise (Liverpool), Chintapanti (JGLS, Delhi), Mäihäniemi (Helsinki), Motsi (Birmingham), Ombija (Cambridge), Lander & Enonchong (de Montfort), Omoijigade (Birmingham), Malala (Birmingham City), and Mou (SOAS). Mou won the Peter Birks prize for the monograph based on her Warwick thesis.

### **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

A commitment to ED&I is integral to the WLS ethos and we are now one of the most diverse Russell Group Law Schools in the country, in terms of staff and students. We have worked hard to mainstream ED&I considerations into the organisational culture of WLS, and create a space in which members of traditionally under-represented groups flourish. Though the COVID pandemic has hampered implementation of some of our recent plans. Equality and diversity is a standing item in all committee meetings, including staff meeting, and relevant committees are asked to consider ED&I data and agree actions where needed, reporting progress and concerns to our dedicated ED&I Committee, the chair of which sits on the School's Strategy Committee.

We were successfully awarded a Bronze Athena Swan during this REF cycle and we have made diversity and unconscious bias training mandatory for all colleagues. All staff involved in recruitment or sitting on appointments committee are also asked to take a course in 'Recruitment & Selection' and asked to review the recruitment information on the HR webpages. We ensure a good gender and ethnicity balance for interview panels. During the promotions round, staff are invited to Academic Promotion sessions, hosted by the Provost, and the HoS is proactive in holding 1:1 meetings with staff who may be ready for promotion. Records of promotions according to gender and grade are kept, and the HoS shares this information with the Executive Committee after each promotion round.

Staff are able to make requests in respect of teaching timetable and meeting schedules based on caring responsibilities, and as the demands of those responsibilities have increased during the pandemic, the HoS - in collaboration with the Chair of ED&I Committee - has worked closely with colleagues to provide additional support. WLS developed a 'Research Under Covid' strategy which responded to the additional needs of colleagues with caring responsibilities, as well as others disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. We bolstered mentoring and networking to address isolation, and prioritized funding for RA and marking support for such colleagues. We have also ensured appropriate recognition of the impact of Covid in respect of promotion and probation profiles, and will take it into account in assessing Study Leave applications (see REF5a 3.2).

WLS staff who have taken parental/adoption leave have dedicated return to work meetings with the HoS to discuss their support needs, including in relation to research. They also benefit from the University's Academic Returner Fellowship Scheme, which provides funding to cover teaching and administrative duties for a period matching the duration of their leave. This has given returning colleagues valuable time to reinvigorate their research, and mitigated the risk of disruption to their career trajectory. 6 colleagues have made use of this scheme in this period. Feedback indicates that these arrangements are highly valued. As one colleague remarked in the staff survey prepared ahead of our Athena Swan submission, the scheme "provides an excellent opportunity to re-engage with research after a period of absence."

All communications and events from the University's ED&I Team are circulated to WLS colleagues, and there are 5 noticeboards across WLS dedicated to EDI issues and events. WLS currently has 4 accredited LGBTQI+ supporters, and in 2019 a Women Academics in Law network was established to support female colleagues and provide an informal space for raising EDI issues or concerns.

We have made significant (and deliberate) improvements over the current cycle to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion in REF preparation and processes. In REF 2014, all submissions were reviewed by an internal panel comprised of 4 men and 1 woman, and an external panel comprised of 16 men and 11 women. 12 women (80%) and 19 men (76%) were entered for REF 2014. For REF 2021, we have ensured greater balance in both panels from the outset - the WLS internal panel, the RPG, comprises 4 women and 5 men, and the external panel had 16 men and 14 women. In final stages of our preparation, we also worked with an additional two externals, both women, to assess our overall submission. We had significant BAME representation in the RPG (including the Chair and two further members) and one of our two final externals was BAME. We conducted ED&I data analysis of the proposed REF submission at key stages, involving regular meetings with the Chair of the EDI committee (**Sekalala**). Within the current submission, our 20 female colleagues put forward less outputs per head for consideration than their 30 male counterparts, which has resulted in a greater representation of men's work overall, but women's rate for inclusion of the pieces submitted was higher – 53% versus 43%. Key members of the Research Executive attended EDI training focused specifically on REF, provided by the University. Colleagues with potential mitigating circumstances during the REF period were afforded a variety of ways to disclose this, on a confidential and supportive basis, to the Research Executive.

### 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

#### **Research Income & Infrastructure**

As noted above, a dedicated DoF role has been created to support external funding applications (**Munro** and **Aliverti**). Together with the School's Research Administrator (**Paterson**), the DoF organises regular workshops for PGRS and colleagues, themed to schemes/funders/career stages, alongside flexible drop-in sessions to discuss early ideas. A fortnightly WLS research newsletter is circulated with funding information, news and upcoming events. WLS has developed an online funding calendar which allows colleagues to search by their research needs/career stage. WLS has a generous buy-out formula that recognises the contribution of grant income and a network of internal peer reviewers has been established in this REF period to comment on draft applications. These WLS peer review mechanisms sit alongside the cross-disciplinary Faculty network of peer reviewers. WLS are supported in these activities by the University's R&IS Team, who review funding bids, coordinate faculty peer review and organise workshops on specific funding schemes.

Key priorities in this period have been to support success in prestigious research fellowships, enabling colleagues to undertake innovative and ambitious projects, and to build funding relationships with governmental and third sector sources, that will facilitate impact. Despite a challenging external funding environment, WLS's research income has grown steadily over the REF period, as has the diversity and volume of applications from colleagues across a wide range of career stages. We have performed well in respect of prestigious fellowships in particular – securing 10 Research Fellowships from the Leverhulme Trust [Adelman, Lammasniemi, Norrie, Stevens, Stewart, Tadros, Watt, Wilson] while Aliverti and Munro held Philip Leverhulme Prizes.

Wall and Carvalho have secured ISRF fellowships, and Aliverti and Hoxhaj have secured British Academy Rising Star Engagement Awards. In total we have applied for £17.5 million, and received around £2.2 million in funding since 2014, with £1.4 million generated by external grants from a wide range of funders including ESRC, AHRC, Leverhulme Trust, Law Commission, SLSA, SLS, Help Age International, European Commission, World Health Organisation, Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, Sigrid Rausing Trust, Wellcome Trust, Scottish Government and the Research Council of Norway.

WLS staff are able to apply for, and have very often successfully secured, University funding (e.g. through IAS, HEIF, IGSD, GCRF, ESRC IAA, Warwick-Monash Alliance and GRP funding schemes) or Faculty of Social Sciences funding (for pump-priming Research Development and impact). We have successfully submitted over 60 applications, and secured over £470k in university funding. This has supported some of our most important research networks and capacity building projects, such as those outlined in Section 1.

### **Support for Research: Beyond Centres**

Though Centres are core to the success of our research environment, as outlined above, we are committed to supporting research that does not fit within those Centres. In some cases, where there is sufficient research strength across the school, this has sparked the development of new Centres, such as CCLS. In others, Clusters have developed and expanded to provide support. WLS currently has 9 clusters. These are more flexible than Centres, with a primarily internal focus, designed to provide informal support for research exchange and mentoring. Each has a designated lead, and is supported by a ring-fenced WLS budget to facilitate activities (£500 pa with additional LRI funds available). Weekly research seminars are School-wide events that showcase research from Warwick and beyond. During the pandemic, lunchtime seminars are online. More recently, the focus has moved to showcasing books published, mostly by WLS colleagues, with PGRs acting as discussants. The lunchtime seminars are well-attended by staff and research students.

WLS is committed to the provision of generous research support at the individual level. For most of the REF period, each colleague received £1,200 annual research allowance, to be used flexibly to attend conferences or purchase materials. A further £1,500 pa per person was available by application to the School's LRI (administered by the Research Committee), to fund conference attendance where a member of staff is organiser or presenter. Staff are able to employ students for up to 100 hours of research assistance pa, and can be awarded up to £5,000 for hosting conferences or £1,000 for workshops. LRI schemes also award up to £1,500 to develop research networks and up to £1,000 for colleagues' impact activities. As an overall package, this provides extremely generous support that balances universal availability with oversight and advice. In 2018/19, for example, the LRI awarded £69k, spread across research support, student assistance, impact activities, developing research networks and support for organising conferences.

## **4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy and society**

WLS has supported its staff to create collaborations, networks and partnerships that have had significant impact both internationally and within the UK.

Internationally, WLS has a particular focus on research which engages with the Global South. **Tan, Natile** and **Harrison** are founding members (and Warwick Law School is a founding

institutional partner) of [The IEL Collective](#), a community of international economic law scholars, activists and practitioners aimed at diversifying and pluralising the scholarship and practice of international economic law. It was supported by £8500 of LRI funds as well as ESRC IAA funding. The Collective has been involved in a number of research and policy impact collaborations since their inception. Other WLS colleagues have been involved in this network, including **Bejarano**, **Connelly**, **Sekalala** and **Tassis**, putting Warwick scholars at the centre of a scholarly network including academics from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, India, Kenya, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland and the USA. A database of experts (supported by £2,700 from the Warwick Impact Fund), showcases the work of these scholars to governmental, trade union and civil society actors working on international economic law issues all over the world.

Building on these networks, **Connelly** and **Tan** (supported by a Warwick Institute for Global Sustainable Development (IGSD) fellowship grant) have worked with the Jubilee Debt Campaign UK and Oxfam GB to propose legislation in the UK that will have the effect of suspending debt owed to private creditors of low-income countries. **Castellano's** research (supported by £46,640 of LRI and ESRC IAA funding) has been central to the development of international legal instruments of both the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) and the World Bank for reforming secured transactions law to promote inclusive access to credit. This is of critical importance in developing markets and for micro, small and medium sized enterprises (MSMEs). Supported by £3,800 of LRI and ESRC funding, **Singh** has created networks and provided guidance to various 'small host states' within the European and Central Asia (ECA) region about current banking reforms and the extent to which they actually resolve some of the challenges experienced during the global financial crisis.

We have been particularly involved in a number of projects around the [impact of COVID-19](#), including [Informality in Times of COVID-19](#) (part of Ruptures 21), a collaboration between Warwick Law School, Kent Law School, Essex Centre for Human Rights and University of Rosario in Colombia and a project on [COVID-19 and Sovereign Debt](#), a collaboration between WLS and Durham Law School.

**Tan** is also principal investigator of the New Frontiers in International Development Finance (NeF DeF), bringing together and policy thinking on how the shifting landscape of international development finance impacts on law, regulation and governance. WLS is also a founding member of the Law and Development Research Network.

Work by **Harrison** resulted in reform of Trade and Sustainable Development Chapters of EU trade agreements which are the central policy instrument for the protection of workers and the environment through EU trade policy. Supported by £7,156.00 from the Warwick Impact Fund, he has set up a Brussels-based group ('DAGs for change') to foster long-term ngo-academic collaboration over trade and sustainable development issues and worked with Client Earth to propose radical alternatives to addressing environmental issues in the EU's trade agreement with Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay. **McMahon** is a member of the *Comparative Competition Law* project, which produces comparative work on competition law across the globe, drawing on the work of international experts.

**Sekalala** is one of the 15 members of the Global Health Law Consortium, which produces publicly and scientifically engaged research to alleviate health inequities globally. Work has included articles in the Lancet, American Journal of Public Health and the British Medical Journal. **Sekalala** is also part of two international working groups: one advises the British Medical Association on health and human rights 'in the new world (dis)order' whose work will be discussed at the British



Medical Assembly in 2021. The other - the Maastricht Working Group – considers human rights issues for future generations including the right to health and digital rights.

In 2020, **Sekalala** worked with an international interdisciplinary team of researchers, supported by £7,700 of funding from the LRI and ESRC IAA. She undertook a comparative analysis of lockdown laws, clarified states' human rights obligations when using new digital tools for public health surveillance; and created innovative methods of modelling to illustrate how states could achieve more equitable outcomes based on intersectional characteristics instead of existing models that rely primarily on age.

**Stevens'** research has played a major role in amplifying migratory voices and highlighting the overlooked claims of migrants. In partnership with scholars across disciplines and countries, the project *Crossing the Mediterranean Sea by Boat*, and subsequent 100+ page report together with several journal articles (funded by ESRC Urgent Call Grant, 2015-2019) forefronted the testimonies of refugees and migrants themselves. Stevens' work on refugees in the Middle East (*Refugee Protection in the Middle East*- funded by Leverhulme Trust 2017-2019) has been ground-breaking in exploring the under-analysed issue of non-Palestinian refugees in the region, leading to further collaborative and multi-disciplinary projects (*Refugees and the Arab Middle East* – funded by Norwegian Research Council 2019-2023). **Stevens'** research has held policy-makers to account for the human costs of policies and informed the advocacy work of a wide variety of international organisations and NGOs including the UN Refugee Agency; European Commission Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development and Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs; UK Department for International Development and All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Science and Policy; and the International Organisation for Migration.

In the area of education, **Ali** has produced a rich and varied body of research which fundamentally reconceptualises traditional approaches to teaching Islamic Law. Drawing on this work and supported by £6,255 from the ESRC IAA, she has worked with the Higher Education Commission in Pakistan to develop a new policy framework and curriculum which has transformed Pakistan's undergraduate law programmes in all of the country's public and private sector universities. **Ali's** work has also been instrumental in reforming the teaching of Islamic Law in Nigeria, Germany, Austria and the UK. Funded by the Fair Chance Foundation and the ESRC IAA, **Stewart** is undertaking a five-year study (2017-22) of gendered access to higher education in Haryana India, in collaboration with the Centre for Education Studies at Warwick and various partners in India including the National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration. The project identifies various ways in which Higher Education (HE) institutions and local and national government can improve access to higher education from a gender perspective. Its empirical findings are being used to develop an outreach toolkit for HE institutions, and briefing papers to assist national HE policymakers to implement the findings within the 2020 Indian education policy framework

In the field of human rights, **Saeed** created a partnership between the School and the National Commission for Human Rights Pakistan (NCHR- P) to build capacity in human rights investigation and reporting. As NCHR-P is the country's national human rights monitoring organisation, this partnership has significant impact on identification and action in relation to human rights issues in Pakistan. **Stewart** has worked to improve the rights of older people in the plural legal systems of Eastern and Southern Africa. In partnership with HelpAge International, she has developed proposals for appropriate and effective legal and rights frameworks to protect older peoples' rights in African contexts. **Williams** is one of the principal members and sole legal scholar in the Critical Military Studies group. This is a transdisciplinary community of scholars and activists exploring, and seeking to challenge, military power and its deployment in contexts such as Iraq and

Afghanistan. It has held various events where his research on war crimes, and how to respond to them, has been showcased to NGOs and legal practitioners. **Schwobel Patel** is on the Management Committee of the British stream of the 'Global Atrocity Justice Constellations'.

Within the UK, WLS' most important contribution has been in relation to building research collaborations, networks and partnerships which address the problems faced by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. **Munro**, for example, has worked closely with REFUGE, supported by £7,250 funding from ESRC IAA, to complete pioneering work on the scale of suicidality amongst victims of domestic abuse. As a result of this work, she has been made a member of the Centre for Women's Justice Femicide Working Group. **Munro** has also worked with Rape Crisis Scotland to produce research on complainers' experiences of a not proven verdict in Scottish criminal cases. **Munro** has: given oral evidence to the Scottish Justice Committee which was described as 'persuasive' in respect of supporting new legislation that compels judges to give guidance to jurors in rape cases; advised the Scottish Government – again prior to legislative reform supported by her evidence - on the impact of the use of video-recorded testimony on juror attitudes; and was co-investigator on a landmark study on jury decision-making which was conducted for the Scottish Government, who are currently conducting a series of stakeholder consultations based on its findings to consider potential legal reforms.

WLS has also supported significant work to research issues faced by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in its own locality. Collaborative research between CHRiP (**Harrison, Stewart, Stephenson**) and Coventry Women's Voices in Coventry identified various problems created by welfare benefit reform and public spending cuts, and the importance of effective legal representation for addressing those issues. Two CHRiP ESRC funded collaborative PhD studentships (**Byrom 2012-17, and Eades 2014-2018**) with Central England Law Centre (CELC) and Coventry City Council produced research which identified new approaches to supporting individuals in the city who had been most severely affected by austerity. Building on this, WLS is funding a five year strategic LinC partnership (2019-24 £546,000) with CELC (directed by **Mulqueen**) and has also been awarded £6,000 by the Warwick Innovation Fund Award to fund student internships in the summer of 2021. one of their full-time solicitors, working alongside **Mulqueen** (70% buyout) to co-produce knowledge and intervene on social justice issues within the local community, with substantial participation from students and colleagues, legal practitioners and a wide range of community/civic partners. These include Grapevine, British Red Cross, Coventry Independent Advice Service and Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group. This collaborative research between academics, students, practitioners and community/civic partners is aimed at protecting and promoting the rights of the most vulnerable people in the city and beyond. As a result it is producing interventions to directly affect outcomes for the local community including welfare benefit recipients, asylum seekers and disabled people. In relation to City of Culture, Warwick LinC is also convening one of the streams under the Sanctuary theme organised by Warwick Institute of Engagement.

Supported by LRI, Warwick Impact Fund and ESRC IAA funding (£44,000), **Aliverti** has undertaken research into arrangements at police stations in the West Midlands and Greater Manchester to deal with foreign national arrestees. Her investigations into growing cooperation between immigration enforcement and the police have led to the development of a general strategy at force level to establish clear guidelines and principles on interagency cooperation. Meanwhile, **Hodgson** has conducted research in tandem with West Mercia and Warwickshire police into the impact of forensic property marking on public confidence in and victim satisfaction with policing, with the aim of establishing best practice and effective targeting of police resource. The Prisoner Penfriends research, with a launch event at the House of Lords, attended by the

Home office was conducted by **Hodgson** and **Horne** to support welfare of prisoners. **Probert's** research on the law of marriage and subsequent collaboration with the Law Commission has led to proposals for change to the law of marriage and a government commitment to simplifying current laws and improving protections for vulnerable women when marriages break down.

WLS has established strong connections between our research and the student experience, engaging students in legal research and encouraging student social activism. As mentioned above, **Mulqueen** leads Warwick LinC and the strategic partnership with CELC which has students at its heart. **Ali** is deeply involved in curriculum reform for students on Islamic law across jurisdictions. **Harrison, Mulqueen** and **Wall** established Critical Lawyers at Warwick to build connections between academics and students on critical legal scholarship, including the development of a Critical Lawyers Handbook, featuring short pieces from world leading critical scholars, focusing on critical pedagogy. **Munro** – as part of the Scottish Feminist Judgments Project – and supported by £10,500 of ESRC IAA funding, toured Scottish Law Schools to run 6 half-day workshops on feminist judging with undergraduate students, and hosted similar events for students at Leeds, Birmingham and Warwick (the latter workshop and art exhibition as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science 2020). A 'teaching feminist judgments' online resource has been produced as a result, supporting academics to run equivalent workshops at their own institutions.