

Institution: KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

**Unit of Assessment: 18 LAW** 

# 1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

## **Context and Research Structure**

The Dickson Poon School of Law (School) is one of nine Faculties within King's College London. **The School has 74.3 FTE academic staff, 100 PhD students, over 900 undergraduate students on its law programmes and 1,370 postgraduate taught students.** The School has an excellent global research reputation, ranked 16th in the QS World University Rankings for Law and Legal Studies 2021. It is a large, diverse and inclusive Law school, which advances doctrinal, theoretical and sociolegal scholarship of the highest calibre, supporting research centres, funded research projects and impact activities.

Following a **substantial donation by Sir Dickson Poon in 2012**, the School was renamed. The donation was deployed to enable the School to recruit additional, high-quality academic staff, establish and cement the Transnational Law Institute (TLI) as a research and teaching centre, develop new teaching programmes and fund PhD and undergraduate scholarships. During the REF period, two Executive Deans (Caron, Douglas) led the School and soon we will be recruiting a new Executive Dean (Turk is currently Interim Dean).

The School features seven Centres - the Climate Law & Governance Centre (CLGC), Centre of Construction Law & Dispute Resolution, Centre for European Law (CEL), Centre for Medical Law & Ethics, Centre for Technology, Ethics & Law in Society (TELOS), TLI and Yeoh Tiong Lay Centre for Politics, Philosophy & Law (YTL). Alongside this, we have formed reading groups and research clusters in key areas including legal philosophy (KJuris), criminal law theory and application (KCrim), socio-legal studies, and private law. We bring all colleagues and PhD students together regularly in staff research seminars focused on methodological, intra and interdisciplinary research questions. The School Research Committee (SRC), chaired by the Vice-Dean Research, is responsible for developing, articulating and overseeing the delivery of the School's research priorities (including REF, impact, grants, the PhD programme, visiting researchers, research allowances and the establishment of research centres) and advancing new policies relating to research. The PhD Subcommittee reports to SRC and recommends policies and initiatives relating to all aspects of the PhD programme. The REF Strategy Group has led on REF preparations and comprises the Executive Dean, Vice-Dean Research, Research Professor, Associate Dean for Impact and representatives from SRC. We established a reading group comprising senior colleagues from within the School, representing different fields of expertise, to evaluate our REF publications.

# Research & Impact Strategy

Our strategic priorities for the past REF period were to: (a) enhance and sustain research quality; (b) foster distinctive transnational perspectives; (c) strengthen collaborative and interdisciplinary research; (d) secure diverse and sustainable funding streams; (e) further strengthen the doctoral programme and postdoctoral experience; and (f) enhance the impact of our research. We remain committed to these strategic priorities, which align with King's Strategic Vision 2029 and King's Academic Strategy for Research.

# (a) Enhance and sustain research quality

The School was rated as number 1 (based on GPA) in the UK in REF2014, with 84% of outputs rated 3-4 star. We have sought to maintain research quality through the following mechanisms:

 Resources. We have maintained a generous sabbatical policy, with colleagues eligible for six months' sabbatical leave every three years. An annual research allowance of GBP1,500 is provided for academic and research staff. Additional funding is available for research assistance in completing books or substantial articles, presenting works-in-progress at conferences and hosting research events. Seed funding is available for staff wishing to



develop funding applications or to establish research hubs or reading groups. We have actively promoted the **King's Undergraduate Research Fellow** scheme (see REF5a) and have recruited 81 Fellows through this since its commencement in 2014 (a total of 919 Fellows have been awarded across the nine Faculties at King's).

- Performance oversight and recognition. We agreed key performance indicators with the College that focus on increasing the percentage of journal article outputs and scholarly monographs within our total published outputs because we regard these as providing the best proxy indicators for research quality. We are submitting 35 monographs (21% of our return, if single weighted, 38% taking into account double-weighting), compared with 21 (16% of our return) in REF2014. We have engaged more concertedly with nominations for research prizes awarded for monographs and journal articles (see section 4). Sabbatical applications are carefully reviewed to ensure high quality projects will be undertaken (see section 2).
- Recruitment and career development. Strong research performance has been a key expectation of our new hires. Our reading group has evaluated candidates' published research to ensure 4 star quality for senior hires and 4 star potential for junior hires. New members of staff meet the Vice-Dean Research and Research Professor to discuss research plans and the allocation of a mentor (see section 2).
- King's Law Journal. We have improved the calibre and profile of our in-house journal by commissioning special issues that deal with important contemporary challenges, such as Brexit (2016), Democracy (2017), Capitalism (2018), Civil Liberties (2018), Environment and Sustainability (2019), the Political Constitution (2019), the Gig Economy (2020) and Covid-19 (2021). Our circulation has increased from 85 institutional subscriptions (2014) to 2,923 (2018). Our downloads have increased from 6,224 (2015) to 27,000 (2018). Several of our top downloaded articles come from academics at King's (Bowman, Davis, Grant, Wintemute).

#### In future, we will look to improve research mentoring and feedback on research by:

- shifting the focus of our reading group to evaluating works-in-progress, rather than post publication outputs, with a view to helping colleagues produce the highest quality work;
- ensuring that a wider range of colleagues (especially mentors) develop experience in calibrating standards of research excellence and can provide constructive feedback on draft publications;
- actively encouraging more colleagues to seek nomination to research funding review bodies (AHRC, ESRC, Leverhulme) to gain further experience of high-level research project review processes.

# (b) Foster distinctive transnational perspectives

The School has achieved a global reputation for expertise in transnational law through the establishment in 2014 of the TLI under the Directorship of Zumbansen and, from 2019, the Co-Directorship of Barritt, Ferraz and Zumbansen. The TLI is an interdisciplinary research, teaching and public engagement centre which builds bridges between public and private, domestic and international law and tackles problems in a wide range of fields, including corporate governance and commercial arbitration, human rights, refugee and immigration law, and modern slavery law.

The **TLI** has facilitated debate and dissemination of its research through regular reading labs, methods labs, colloquia and workshops, including the Human Rights, Development and Global Justice series convened by Pils, and Transnational Law Summit 'The New Human Condition: Creating Justice for Our Future' in 2018, which engaged with the themes of work, political engagement, migration and a sustainable life. Keynote speakers included Shirin Ebadi, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; and Susanne Baer, Justice at the Federal Constitutional Court, Germany.

**TLI has placed research-led teaching at its core**, establishing a new LLM specialism in Transnational Law in the 2014-15 academic year. Several of its modules address urgent transnational legal problems that coincide with colleagues' research expertise, eg climate change (Barritt, Bowman, Duvic-Paoli), post-conflict justice (Palmer), refugees and modern slavery



(Chandran, Juss, Kotiswaran), health justice (Ferraz), human rights (Ferraz, Pils) and corporate and global governance (Zumbansen). The LLM specialism has regularly attracted over 30 students per year and has been a pathway to 25 PhD students working on transnational law projects at the School.

In future, with a change in TLI Directorship, TLI will expand its work to include:

greater emphasis on areas of global health, development and the rule of law. For example,
 Ferraz has been jointly awarded UKRI funding to produce a compendium, database and final report featuring country-level legal responses to Covid-19.

# (c) Strengthen collaborative and interdisciplinary research

We have **fostered collaborative and interdisciplinary research** through our research centres, informal and formal College networking opportunities and research grants. We have particularly connected with philosophy, ethics, politics, geography, international relations, finance and business in our research.

# • Establishing interdisciplinary Research Centres

We have furthered our interdisciplinary ambitions by **establishing two new Research Centres**. The School founded the **Yeoh Tiong Lay Centre for Politics**, **Philosophy and Law in 2014**, following a GBP7,000,000 donation, and appointed its inaugural Director (Tasioulas). The YTL has fostered interdisciplinary research and holds regular 'Law & Justice' fora that consider contemporary challenges through philosophical, political and legal lenses (The Future of Europe (2017), Democracy and Citizen Participation (2018), Human Rights and Non-State Actors (2018), Technology and Manipulation (2019) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Law (2020)). These fora have built on Centre members' own research (Gingerich on the interrelationship of culture, equality and politics; Kletzer on technologies of decentralisation; Renzo on human rights, political authority, manipulation; Tasioulas on the ethics of robots and AI, and human rights and health; Vasanthakumar on exile political representation). The YTL also hosts an annual lecture and regular work-in-progress seminars with colleagues from the Departments of Philosophy, Political Economy and War Studies.

Initially established as a research hub, the Climate Law and Governance Centre was founded in 2019 to conduct interdisciplinary research into legal and governance approaches to climate change and sustainability. Members are drawn from Law and Geography. Research covers areas such as financial regulator activity, civil society movements, implementing transnational low-carbon energy policies, and the roles of courts in adjudicating climate change. The programme of activity includes labs and public lectures by visiting professors (eg Rajamani held a methods lab on multilateral climate negotiation and spoke on negotiations for the Paris Rulebook), workshops such as Climate Finance Law and a PhD-led reading group.

# College networking opportunities

We have forged links with colleagues across faculties through **informal mechanisms**, including organising 'speed dating' events (on AI and Regulation, Sustainability and Climate Governance), inviting speakers from other faculties to participate in our staff seminar series (Hubbard (Geography), Jabri (War Studies), McKeown (Digital Humanities)) and holding 'sandpit' meetings with colleagues from Informatics, Digital Humanities and Business in anticipation of funding calls (such as UKRI Trustworthy Autonomous Systems). We have utilised more **formal mechanisms**, in particular the **King's Together Fund scheme**, with 11 successful applications (see section 3).

## Research grants

We have **collaborated on interdisciplinary research grants**. For example, Craigie, Richardson, Stanton-Ife and Walsh as Co-Investigators on a successful Wellcome Collaborative Award 2016 (GBP4,000,000 total, GBP515,131 allocated to the School) with colleagues at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (IoPPN) on a project entitled Mental Health & Justice. This project works at the interface of psychology, philosophy, ethics and medical law; the School's team contributes substantially to a theme investigating how the legal capacity of persons with disabilities



can be best preserved through supported decision-making (for other interdisciplinary grants, see section 3).

# Visiting scholar programme

We have sought to promote collaboration through our visiting scholar programme. We have had over 70 visitors since 2014. Visitors typically stay for three to six months, have access to the university's library and online resources, and are offered desk space within Somerset House East Wing. They are expected to present a seminar. Visitors must be sponsored by an academic in the School whose research is connected to theirs and who will personally support the visitor whilst at King's. Visitors have come from across the globe (the top locations were Australia, Brazil, Italy, Japan, Spain and the USA). We redesigned the scheme to allow remote visiting during the pandemic.

#### In future, we will:

- appoint a new Chair and Director of YTL who will continue to strengthen our interdisciplinary research in law, philosophy and politics;
- strengthen TELOS by recruiting at least a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer/Reader in Digital Law;
- conduct a strategic review of our seven Centres to identify where collaboration may be expanded or deepened;
- strengthen our links with Informatics, Digital Humanities and Business through offering a joint PhD studentship in the area of AI and information regulation;
- expand our mentoring scheme to include mentoring by and for academics from other faculties:
- support Bowman and CLGC to lead on a collaborative research grant on Climate Finance with colleagues from Law, Geography and Business; and
- continue to offer a virtual visit to scholars who would otherwise be unable to visit the School.

#### (d) Secure diverse and sustainable funding streams

Our research grant strategy and successes are discussed in detail in section 3. Here we note that we have targeted and been awarded funding from a wider diversity of funding schemes than in 2014. We have doubled our funding applications, and research income reached a six-year high in 2019-20. We have **recruited a Research Professor** (Cooper) to be the academic lead on research grant development and bolstered our administrative support (see section 2). We have offered **extensive peer review** on applications, hosted regular grant workshops and our colleagues participated in the College Leading Researchers' Programme (Hestermeyer, Mumford, Webb).

In future, we will look to **increase our collaborative grant success** by working with centres, in particular CCLG, TELOS, TLI and YTL. We will incentivise grant capture by improving our workload buyout policy (specifically, allowing for teaching reduction even where teaching buyout is not part of the grant). We will increase our research administration capacity by adding a School Research Officer to assist with post-award support.

#### (e) Further strengthen the doctoral programme and postdoctoral experience

Since 2014, our main improvements to the PhD programme have been:

- a more coordinated, strategic approach to PhD admissions by setting up a School PhD admissions panel;
- ensuring all supervisors have completed PhD training or refresher training as a condition of taking on students;
- introducing a PhD Subcommittee that reports to the SRC to review and formulate PhD policies;
- refreshing our first-year doctoral programme to include exposure to key methods, research integrity and ethics, and supporting presentations and writing;
- introducing a Visiting Lecturer Development programme to enable our PhD students to teach core modules;



- providing an annual GBP500 research allowance to all PhD students; and
- offering fully-funded scholarships and a PhD Covid-19 hardship fund.

(See section 2 for further details).

Over the past REF period, we have increased our **postdoctoral researcher community from three to nine researchers**. Researchers are included in our mentoring programme and receive the same annual research allowance available to full-time academic staff (GBP1,500). We have a School postdoctoral representative who attends regular meetings organised by the College's Centre for Research Staff Development to represent the experiences and interests of that group.

# In future, we will:

- introduce research methods training to our LLM programme to facilitate student access to ESRC Masters + PhD and PhD studentships; and
- place greater emphasis on grant funding that allows for PhD studentships and postdoctoral research positions.
- (f) Enhance the impact of our research

We have strengthened our support for research impact within the School through the following mechanisms.

- Resources. We have put in place an Associate Dean for Impact along with a dedicated School Research Manager (Impact) to support impact activities. A School impact fund has supported colleagues with their external engagement activities. For example, it enabled Penades Fons to present his proposal for an instrument regulating international arbitration and cross-border insolvency at UNCITRAL (Working Group II Arbitration) in New York, 2019. As a result, he was appointed Chair of the committee for the creation of 'Guidelines on Insolvency and Arbitration' at the International Bar Association, which will be published in March 2021. We have obtained funding for four projects from the King's ESRC Impact Acceleration Account since 2014: Duvic-Paoli's workshop on the role of global energy governance for localised energy transitions, held at the Energy Charter Secretariat in Brussels; Katelouzou's Global Shareholder Stewardship Conference, held at King's in 2019 to facilitate discussion on the future of stewardship policy between academics, businesses and policy-makers; Malik's project on discrimination law in Viet Nam; and Tomlinson's work with the UK's House of Commons Justice Committee on the use of technology and online dispute resolution in public justice systems.
- Training and strengthening our impact literacy. Our Associate Dean for Impact and School Research Manager (Impact) have organised regular impact workshops with internal and external speakers, often attended by our two external critical friends (former Law Impact Assessors from REF2014). For example, two workshops were held in September 2018 and February 2019 and one at an 'away day' in 2018. Several staff have completed the Impact by Design module offered by King's Policy Institute, which has been an important source of knowledge and support when planning engagement activities with policymakers.
- Expanding our connections with the legal world. Our colleagues have been seconded to organisations that play a key role in the everyday working of the UK's legal system. From 1 February 2019 to 31 July 2020, Davis worked as the Brexit Editor in the House of Commons Library to transform its editorial strategy, and in April-May 2020 also had the role of Broadcast Support for the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. Lewis became a Law Commissioner in January 2020 for five years. Through our Distinguished Visitor Programme, we host former judges as Visiting and Honorary Professors, and Distinguished Visitors give regular lectures and seminars. Visitors include several distinguished former justices of the Supreme Court: Baroness Hale, Lord Judge, Lord Mance and Lord Phillips. Other judicial visitors include the former Chief Coroner, Sir Peter Thornton QC, who runs a lecture series for coroners and lawyers that forms part of our postgraduate taught curriculum and is offered to external professionals as executive education.



• Broadening our research audience. Effective communication with external audiences is a key pathway to impact. Academics in the School have taken advantage of media training offered by the College. We have engaged with social media, including by introducing a podcast series 'The Verdict: Law & Society', which is pitched for non-experts and aims to generate mass interest in contemporary legal issues, such as the EU's response to Covid-19, gender equality in the legal profession and the legal tech revolution. It has 88 podcasts, 317 followers, and over 31,000 plays.

# In future, we will increase our impact literacy and capability by:

- using our case study authors as impact mentors;
- providing impact induction workshops to early career researchers (ECRs) and PhD students;
- holding workshops on how to write for non-specialist audiences;
- holding workshops on how to use social media effectively to promote research; and
- more explicitly reviewing impact activities as part of our sabbatical and Performance Development Review (PDR) processes.

#### **Open Access**

We have consistently promoted the College's open access policy, emphasising the required use of PURE, our institutional repository. We have actively sought to disseminate our research via SSRN. We have 137 authors affiliated to the School registered on SSRN with a total of 995 papers uploaded and 344,589 downloads. We are ranked 9th in the SSRN Top 500 International Law Schools based on the last 12 months of activity (which involved 113 new paper uploads and 41,454 paper downloads). We also share our research via the Dickson Poon School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper Series (started in 2013 and featuring 1,041 papers and 390,676 downloads) and the TLI Think! Dickson Poon Transnational Law Institute Research Paper Series (started in 2015 and featuring 179 papers and 37,217 downloads).

#### **Research Integrity**

The School's Vice-Dean Research acts as a Research Integrity Champion, meets bimonthly with the College's Research Integrity Team (see REF 5a), and promotes awareness and transparency on best practice for research integrity. In line with the College's commitment to the Concordat for Research Integrity, the Champion is responsible for School-wide training and guidance in conjunction with our Research Integrity Advisors (Nelken, former Vice-Dean Research; Cooper, incoming Vice-Dean Research and Patrick, Faculty Research Manager). These individuals are recognised for their commitment to excellence in research and have extensive experience of empirical, theoretical, interdisciplinary and funded research, as well as significant involvement as assessors for funding bodies and publisher depositories including the Scopus/Elsevier Depository.

# 2. People

## **Staff Recruitment Policy**

The School submitted 33.88 (out of 55) FTEs to REF2014 and has 74.3 (Category A) FTEs in REF2021. Our growth has, in significant part, been enabled by donations from Sir Dickson Poon and the Yeoh Tiong Lay family. These donations, along with continuing investment from the College, have enabled us to build expertise in transnational law (Ferraz, Pils, Zumbansen); climate law and governance (Barritt, Bowman, Duvic-Paoli); and arbitration, negotiation and investment law (Caron, Grisel, Hestermeyer, Jeklic, Penades Fons), while strengthening our existing expertise in legal philosophy (Gingerich, Renzo, Tasioulas, Vasanthakumar), criminal law and justice (Gallo, Levanon, Mares, Quirk, Simester), family law (Douglas), public law (Cooper, Davis, Grant, McGaughey, Tomlinson), EU law (Tridimas), medical ethics (Craigie), private law (Hudson, Lee, Lifshitz, Lunney, Macmillan, McGrath) and commercial law (Daly, Durovic, Gurses, Jordanoska, Kalinitiri, A. Keller, Lu, Lunney, Saidov, Twombley, Zhang). Through strategic recruitment, we have sought to increase our interdisciplinary expertise, while playing to our existing strengths in doctrinal, theoretical and archival methods. In particular, we added a Research Professor post in 2017 (Cooper) with extensive interdisciplinary expertise to enhance support for academic staff with



aspirations to win research funding. We also appointed two **Practice Professors** (Chandran and Mostert), specialising in modern slavery law and intellectual property law respectively, to bolster our connections with legal practice and help create opportunities for our research to have impact.

We have made appointments at all levels, although the donations required appointments at senior (Reader and Professorial) levels. As a result of this and our successful promotions (discussed below), the School continues to have a large senior membership. Of the School's 74.3 FTEs, 47% are Professors, 17% Readers, 15% Senior Lecturers and 21% Lecturers (compared with 56% Professors, 6% Readers, 19% Senior Lecturers and 19% Lecturers in REF2014). We have been conscious of gender equality when it comes to recruitment and have increased our proportion of female FTEs from 41% in 2014 to 45% in 2020. Of our academics, 49% are from the UK; 29% of the remainder are from the EU and 21% from elsewhere.

Fixed-term contracts have primarily been used for postdoctoral researchers linked to funded research. Otherwise, there was one 2-year fixed-term Lectureship in Public Law (Tomlinson). Currently there are two 3-year fixed-term Professorships (Brownsword and Lunney). This is in line with the College policy to move away from fixed-term contracts wherever possible.

We have **significantly increased our professional services research support** since REF2014. We have moved from having a School Research Manager and Research Development Manager to a team that comprises:

- a School Research Manager, who handles grant costings, sign-off/approval, and submission via funder portals, along with award set-up and post-award support;
- a School Research Manager (Impact), who supports research impact at all stages from research conceptualisation to post-research measurement;
- a School Research Officer, focused on management of the PhD programme;
- a Research Development Manager, who raises staff awareness of funding programmes and strategic fit, comments on proposals, organises other grant development support measures alongside the Research Professor and keeps abreast of key funding agency priorities;
- a Faculty-level Research Manager, who oversees the entire Research team and provides strategic support for all aspects of the research culture to the Vice-Dean Research.

We will be adding another School Research Officer to the team to assist with post-award support.

#### **Staff Development Strategy**

The School supports the research development of staff using several mechanisms.

- Setting expectations and rewarding research success. We revised our Academic Performance Framework to make clear research expectations for every level of academic staff. Research targets are set for staff who are on probation and our annual PDR is measured against the Framework. Research performance is taken into account when the Academic Staff Committee (ASC) decides who to put forward for recognition pay (eg bonuses and discretionary increments).
- **Mentoring.** We have introduced a new mentoring programme, available to any academic staff, including postdoctoral researchers. Pairings are arranged according to expertise and preferences of the mentee and are discussed as part of a comprehensive induction with the Vice-Dean Research and Research Professor. Currently, 36 academic staff are mentored and the relationship focuses on all aspects of academic development, although there is invariably a significant emphasis on research and research trajectory. Specific research grant mentoring is offered by Cooper, Kotiswaran and Scott, who work with colleagues to develop a grant application strategy that spans several years (eg Bowman, Katelouzou).
- Sabbatical leave. Academic staff may apply for six months' sabbatical leave after six semesters of employment with the College or after six semesters have elapsed since their last sabbatical leave. A sub-committee comprising Vice-Dean Research and Vice-Dean Education review sabbatical applications to ensure the proposed research activities are



realistic, of demonstrable quality and, where appropriate, have considered the potential for impact or grant funding. Academic staff on fractional contracts are eligible for sabbatical under the same rules, with the committee taking their fractional status into account.

- Workload allocation. We have introduced a more fine-grained workload allocation model across research, teaching and administration that has enabled fairer and more transparent workload distribution and allowed us to ensure that 40% of academic time is devoted to research. We reduce the teaching load of early career researchers by 20% during their probationary period to ensure they have sufficient time for research. We ensure that postdoctoral researchers are offered a minimum of 10 days per year for their professional development. To encourage impact activities and research grant applications, we have introduced policies that credit time spent developing impact case studies and submitting grant applications in the workload allocation. Since March 2020, workloads have increased due to the pressures of delivering teaching during the pandemic. We are prioritising resources to enable staff to return to 130 teaching hours per year in 2021, including recruitment of visiting teaching staff.
- Training. We have organised several staff seminars on different research methods
  (archival, theoretical, empirical and socio-legal) and keyword concepts (eg responsibility,
  standards, trust and play). This has generated awareness and experimentation amongst our
  ECRs (Katelouzou undertaking statistical methods training, Barritt conducting interviews), as
  well as building interdisciplinary conversations with the departments of War Studies and
  Digital Humanities. As part of these seminars, we have hosted research grant workshops with
  a view to helping doctoral, postdoctoral and early to mid-career researchers apply for funding.
- **Promotion.** We believe our career development strategies have worked well as evidenced by our **considerable success in promotion rounds**. Since REF2014, we have had 13 colleagues promoted to Senior Lecturer (4 men, 9 women); 16 to Reader (9 men, 7 women); and 11 to Professor (6 men, 5 women). Of these promotion successes, 47.5% were men and 52.5% were women. To support applications for promotion, we hold information sessions. The ASC, together with a promotion mentor who is a member of the professoriate, provides detailed feedback on individual applications.

#### PhD students

We have 100 PhD students (86 FT and 14 PT), compared with 96 in REF2014, from a wide range of countries working on topics that span private law; financial, commercial and investment law; arbitration, competition, intellectual property and information law; public law; legal theory; modern slavery; criminology; and human rights law. Our research students draw on a mixture of methods – doctrinal, comparative, empirical, archival, socio-legal and theoretical. The cohort is supported by a School Research Officer, Associate Dean for Doctoral Studies and the PhD Subcommittee. As highlighted in section 1, we have made several improvements to the PhD programme.

- Recruitment. Since 2017-18, we have introduced a School-level centralised Admissions Panel to review applications and interview reports, to ensure that we are maintaining a high-quality threshold, have sufficient supervisory expertise and resilience, are giving opportunities to early and mid-career researchers to supervise, and have oversight of the diversity of offers according to gender, nationality, topic and full-time/part-time status. This has led to a greater spread of PhD supervision across the School and maintained a breadth of research areas. We have admitted, on average, 20 students per academic year during this REF period and, for equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) reasons, have reversed our REF2014 policy of only permitting full-time registration.
- Studentships. The Dickson Poon donation enabled us to provide five generous PhD studentships per year from 2014-15 to 2016-17. Since that funding ceased, the School has funded general and EU law studentships. It has also sought to maximise its success with the King's PGR International Scholarship scheme and external funders, such as the ESRC, AHRC and the China-Scholarship Council. During this REF period the School awarded 24 fully-funded scholarships: 15 Dickson Poon scholarships; 3 Anthony Guest scholarships; 2 King's Law School scholarships; and 4 Centre of European Law studentships. The School



also awarded 14 bursaries of GBP5,000. **We have obtained**: 8 China-Scholarship Council scholarships; 3 King's International PGR scholarships; 1 King's PGR International fee-only scholarships; 3 Developing Country Commonwealth Scholarships; 8 ESRC Studentships (Bryan, Ekman, Hamilton, Kopel, Mai, Marks, Webster, Wendebourg); 5 Turkish Embassy Scheme studentships; 2 Chilean CONICYT studentships; 8 Modern Law Review scholarships (Barritt, Choudhury, Kouris, Leung, Lo Coco, Lopez-Rodriguez, Minas, Ridi); and a MLR Covid-19 postdoctoral fellowship (Gill-Leslie). To improve our ability to obtain ESRC PhD funding, we are working with our ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership (LISS DTP) to introduce a research methods component to our LLM so that we can qualify for 1+3 and +3 studentships. We aim to introduce this by autumn 2023.

- Research funds. All PhD students receive an annual research allowance of GBP500.
  They can also apply for additional funds to support fieldwork or delivery of papers at conferences or skills training that is not available via the School or College. The School funds the annual PhD conference hosted by the Graduate Legal Research Society. Our PhD students organise and curate this conference and some of them also present their research. We have established a School Covid-19 PhD hardship fund (in addition to the College's fund) for PhD students to support housing and maintenance needs; 10 students have benefited.
- Research methods. All first year PhD students participate in a compulsory methods
  programme. As well as covering key research methods, we have introduced sessions on
  research risk and integrity, and on presentation and writing tips. During Covid-19, we have
  successfully delivered this online. The School promotes the skills and training that is available
  through the LISS-DTP and the Centre for Doctoral Studies.
- Monitoring and support mechanisms. Student progress is formally reviewed twice a year, with self-assessment by the student, assessment by the supervisory team and review by the Associate Dean for Doctoral Studies. Students must also pass an upgrade after 12-18 months on the programme. We have introduced a thorough research risk and ethical approval process that must be completed prior to the upgrade. Monthly meetings are held between the Vice-Dean Research, Associate Dean for Doctoral Studies and School Research Officer to review cases where progress issues have been flagged. All supervisors have completed PhD supervisor training and refresher training offered by the College (Centre for Doctoral Studies). The quality of support for our PhD students is evidenced by 108 completions over the last REF period. During Covid-19, we have maintained close contact with our PhD community, aware of the potential impact of the pandemic on their progress and have addressed the cases of those worst-affected by proactively requesting interruptions and exemptions at College level.
- Space. PhD students have access to two large rooms with hot desking spaces, one specifically for silent study, with 25 desks and computers. There is a separate office for writing up students who have assigned desks. Students have access to two kitchens in Somerset House East Wing, a common lounge area shared with all the law students and two conference rooms that are regularly used for PhD seminars and training. All students have access to lockers, printers and photocopiers and can book meeting rooms. During Covid-19, we created a rota system to ensure safe provision of work space on campus and access to computing equipment or physical library resources to students who needed such support.
- Skills and career development. We host induction events to connect new PhD students to their peers. We hold annual seminars on the upgrade process, the process of writing up, and preparing for the viva, as well as a careers event. Mock vivas are now standard practice to prepare students. We run a PhD internships programme, which has funded 17 internships for up to 12 weeks in civil society organisations including: Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies, Amnesty International, Equal Rights Trust, Global Legal Action Network, International Civil Aviation Organization (UN Agency), Rand Europe and Rights Watch (UK). We created a Visiting Lecturer Development Programme to provide opportunities for PhD students to gain teaching experience in core modules. The Programme allows PhD students to audit core LLB modules, provides modest remuneration for this auditing and guarantees an



interview for a Visiting Tutor post within that module. This is particularly beneficial to PhD students who do not come from an English law or common law background. 53 students have completed the programme and we have continued it during Covid-19 through online attendance. We have employed, on average, 15 PhD students per year as Visiting Tutors. According to our **careers data**, at least 67% of our PhD graduates have gone on to employment in education and 15% to work in public administration, while 9% have moved back into professional practice. **In response to Covid-19** and its impact on the job market, we have extended six-month visiting researcher status to PhD students who have completed after March 2020 so that they continue to have an institutional home.

# **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

- EDI structures. The School is conscious of EDI when framing and supporting its research culture. We have an EDI Committee, chaired by the Executive Dean. The Vice-Dean Research or their nominee sits on this committee. The EDI Committee led on our Athena Swan Bronze application, which was awarded in 2018 and is leading on our Race Town Hall event in April 2021. SRC membership includes an EDI representative, representative levels of membership from all career stages and an even gender split. All recruitment panels comprise colleagues who have completed unconscious bias training and there is at least one (frequently senior) female academic on the panel. The Chair of the EDI Committee also sits on the ASC, which reviews PDRs and recommends performance-related recognition pay. To counteract the tendency of some academic staff to delay promotion application, the ASC identifies candidates for promotion from their annual review of PDRs and the Vice-Dean Academic Staff has in-depth conversations with all academics considered suitable for promotion. Extensive feedback and support are provided on the application itself (discussed above).
- Support for carers. Our academics have access to a College-level Parents' & Carers' Fund, which provides financial support of up to GBP10,000. This is generally used to finance teaching buy-out or research and administrative support for a fixed period to allow fundholders to progress key research outputs. This was used to support Samet, Scotford and Zhang, enabling them to complete major publications. Given the limited and competitive nature of this fund, in June 2018 the School's EDI Committee agreed a School-specific Parenting Sabbatical Process for staff. This entitles staff taking parental leave (in excess of three months) to a one semester sabbatical when they return, free from teaching and administrative duties, to allow for a transition back to research and other responsibilities. This entitlement is in addition to staff members' regular sabbatical leave. Thus far, six staff have benefited (Gallo, Katelouzou, Jordanoska, Malik, Palmer, Stefan) and two others (Barritt, Craigie) will soon do so. We believe this additional sabbatical has enabled returning staff to apply for grants (Katelouzou, Jordanoska, Palmer), develop impact (Stefan) and publish outputs (Katelouzou, Palmer). In reducing the current sabbatical backlog for 2021-22 caused by Covid-19, we have prioritised granting sabbaticals to ECRs and those with caring responsibilities.
- Part-time staff. Of our 74.3 FTEs, we have 13 staff (5.3 FTEs) who are part-time; 2 are female and 11 are male. 10 are Professors and of the 3 non-professors, Herstein (0.25) has been promoted to Senior Lecturer and then Reader, and Stanton-Ife (0.5) has been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Reader during the REF period. The majority (98.4%) of our FTEs are permanent, rather than fixed-term, staff.
- Flexible working. We have a compassionate system of flexible working arrangements for staff with caring commitments or long-term health issues, with flexible working both informally and formally facilitated. At least 3 FTEs (Davis, Stanton-Ife, Zumbansen) have benefited from the formal arrangements. Our informal methods relate mainly to scheduling, reducing marking burdens and maximising the research-led teaching that academics undertake. For PhD students with caring responsibilities or ill-health, we have a transparent and supportive process for requesting interruptions. Where interruptions are not possible for international students due to visa restrictions, we have supported requests for extensions. For PhD students with disabilities, we have worked closely with them, the central EDI team



and counselling services to ensure that appropriate infrastructure and pastoral support are provided.

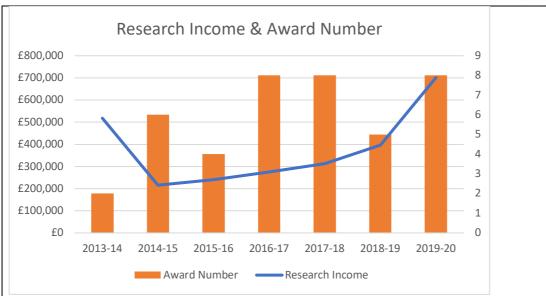
- Working practices and wellbeing. Our staff research seminars are held within the standard 9-5 working day and our timetabling ensures that all staff have one day per week free from teaching and administrative commitments to dedicate to their research. We have five colleagues who have completed the College Mental Health First Aid training course. These 'first aiders' are available to any staff wishing to discuss their mental health and they also signpost to other support and resources staff might access. Our last School 'away day' was devoted to staff well-being and we recently formulated measures to support academic staff during the pandemic by focusing on only essential administrative tasks, adjusting marking deadlines and ensuring that the PDR process captured any challenges faced during the pandemic.
- REF output portfolio. We have run regular EDI checks on our evaluations from the reading group. These showed no gender or ethnicity disparities. In making our final output selection, we decided on the basis of quality (as per the College's REF Code of Practice) and then reviewed EDI characteristics. We found that our mean and median scores were consistent across gender and ethnicity, and with only a minor deviation across career level. The bulk of our output portfolio comes from our professoriate (60%), the remainder being evenly split across Lecturer/Senior Lecturer/Reader levels. However, this is consistent with 47% of our FTEs being at Professorial level. We found the output inclusion to be consistent with our gender and ethnic representation, given that 47% of our returned outputs are from women who comprise 45% of our FTEs, and 7% of our outputs came from BAME staff who comprise 7.5% of our FTEs.

#### 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

With regards to income generation in this REF period, our expanded research team has focused on two of the key strategic priorities mentioned in section 1: strengthening collaborative and interdisciplinary research within the School; and securing diverse and sustainable funding streams. In relation to the latter, the goal was also to support a larger range of applicants across the career spectrum, to create more capacity and experience with research income generation across all staff.

# Research income generation

The departure of a major grant holder in 2013-14, and the resultant impact on our research income, necessitated a period of income growth and implementation of the diversification strategies mentioned above. At present, the results of these strategies are promising. Between 2013-14 and 2019-20, annual applications rose from 11 to 21.6 and awards increased from 2 to 8. **Research income reached a six-year high in 2019-20** (GBP701,051).



Awarded funding has ranged from prestigious fellowships well-suited to 'lone scholar' research to large project grants for multidisciplinary, challenge-based team projects; in several cases, the momentum generated by a small, seed funding win has supported larger successes with external schemes. Some examples of our funding successes are given below to illustrate the progress that we have made with interdisciplinary research, diversification of funding sources, and School involvement in large, challenge-driven grants. Much of this income has supported impact with non-academic stakeholders, who have both benefited from the research conducted and, in some cases, helped to co-create it.

# (a) Interdisciplinarity

Throughout this REF period, the majority of our large funding successes have been for interdisciplinary work, conducted both at the individual level and in collaborative partnerships.

- Transnational law. Kotiswaran, a senior member of the TLI, was awarded a Philip Leverhulme Prize (2014, GBP100,000), a GCRF Networking grant (2016, GBP164,244) and an ERC Consolidator grant (2017, GBP1,643,035) for research that spans the sociology of work and law, feminist legal theory and postcolonial theory, with a focus on rape, slavery, trafficking, sex work and the boundaries of formal and informal labour. As an advisory board member of the International Labour Organisation's Work in Freedom (WIF) Programme, Kotiswaran has had significant non-academic impact because of this funded research, which has been instrumental in shaping a new service-delivery approach for the WIF Programme and informing public debate around the 2018 Anti-Trafficking Bill in India (ICS02\_ModernSlavery).
- Gender and the law. Our designated Research Professor (Cooper) uses interdisciplinary socio-legal methods to explore the conceptual imagination and radical forms of state and non-state governance. She won an ESRC project grant (2017, GBP724,000) to study reforms to legal gender status, centring on the legal and social implications in Britain of abolishing the registration of legal sex. A special issue of the refereed law journal, feminists@law, was dedicated to this research in 2020. Through this project, Cooper was invited to participate in Office for National Statistics discussions on the sex question for the UK's 2021 census. As well as being a law reform project to explore viable future law, it also provides a reflexive study of the challenges and potential of conducting a feminist legislative research project in which speculative future law provides a focus for reflecting critically and conceptually on gender and its relationship to law.
- Climate law and governance. Members of the newly established CLGC have utilised internal College seed funding, which specifically supports interdisciplinary and collaborative research, as a springboard to further funding and collaboration. A 2017 King's Together award held by Centre Director (Bowman) with colleagues in Geography and King's Business



School began a project on climate finance that was ultimately awarded a 2018 **British Academy Small Grant**, allowing for continued engagement with non-academic stakeholders in international organisations such as the UN Environment Programme, central banks and the private sector to create a Climate Finance Legal Options Toolkit. Bowman subsequently won a **Leverhulme Research Fellowship** in 2020 to pursue further research in this area. The CLGC has secured funding from the **King's Australia Partnership seed fund** to work more intensively with colleagues at the Australian National University on the responses of institutional investors to climate change. CLGC Deputy Director (Duvic-Paoli) was awarded a **Research Chair by the Sorbonne University-Paris Institute for Advanced Study (IEA Paris)** on 'Major Societal Changes' in 2019 to facilitate her research on democracy and energy transition law. In 2020 she secured a **Slingshot Fund award**, part of King's **ESRC Impact Acceleration Account** funding, to run a workshop with the International Energy Charter in Brussels on governing energy transition. The CLGC has also been very successful with funding for its early career researchers; three current PhD students affiliated with CLGC hold ESRC doctoral studentships.

# (b) Increasing diversity of funding sources and applicants

Our research team has aimed throughout this REF period to increase the range of funding schemes applied for. Part of this commitment includes ensuring that academics are made aware of funding schemes of relevance to their career stage.

- Fellowships. Fellowships remain an important mechanism for providing academics with concentrated time to pursue research projects at early, middle and advanced stages and are beneficial to those conducting doctrinal as well as more interdisciplinary or empirical forms of research. Our research team has increased staff awareness of the variety of fellowships available through monthly e-newsletters, direct communication and targeted workshops. During the latter half of this REF period, the School had some notable fellowship successes, including British Academy Mid-Career Fellowship wins in 2017 (Hestermeyer) and 2018 (Schillig) respectively; and two Leverhulme Research Fellowships (Bowman and Renzo) and a BA/Leverhulme Senior Research Fellowship (Player) in 2019. Our research team has also supported applications for early career fellowships, including those offered by the EC Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions, ESRC, British Academy and the Leverhulme Trust.
- Nuffield/BA. As noted above, transnational law continues to be an area of strength. We have diversified the funding schemes supporting such research, and research by several staff members in this area has had considerable non-academic impact. Webb was awarded a Nuffield Foundation grant (2015, GBP68,696) on the right to a fair trial under international law and a British Academy Tackling the UK's International Challenges award (2018, GBP91,710) focused on preventing modern slavery through enhanced monitoring of export credit and labour brokerage. Webb produced, as part of the outcomes of the BA award, a policy paper with legal recommendations that was launched at the UN Headquarters in New York to representatives of States, international organisations and civil society organisations. The paper provided grounding for an important, and ultimately successful, legal challenge to the right of diplomatic immunity in cases of modern slavery (see ICS02\_ModernSlavery).
- BA/GCRF. Palmer's British Academy/GCRF Education & Learning in Crises grant (2019, GBP359,484) is her second from this funder, which supports her long-term research focus on sensitive issues of community cohesion, governance and transitional justice in Rwanda. The grant is supporting the social science community in Rwanda to evaluate the design and delivery of a high school national curriculum of peace and values education. Thorough evaluation of this curriculum delivery will assist in determining whether it could also be used in the Central African Republic, which has recently been experiencing high levels of societal violence. Palmer was also awarded a BA Writing Workshop grant (2018, GBP19,950) to run a workshop supporting the professional development of early career Rwandan scholars, who are severely underrepresented in published international academic debates on law and post-conflict reconstruction of their country (see section 4).



- BA Small Grants. The British Academy's Small Grant scheme has helped early career researchers to launch ongoing research that could be suitable for larger funding opportunities. For example, Jordanoska won this funding to investigate the financial crime risks faced by UK FinTechs and their responses in preventing and mitigating these risks using empirical research methods.
- Bespoke schemes. The timeliness of our research has facilitated successful funding applications to more bespoke schemes run by non-academic stakeholders. For example, P. Keller secured GBP56,999 (2019) from the Information Commission Officer's grant programme to address how consumer data autonomy and privacy rights can be more effectively developed and sustained as Adtech finds alternatives to third party cookies. The research will provide recommendations to the Information Commission Officer as an independent body upholding information rights and data privacy in the UK on how the UK may be affected by changes in the Adtech industry in its most influential countries, China and the USA.
- Covid-19 research. Our staff quickly capitalised on the launch of new funding schemes as a result of Covid-19 to address the legal implications of the pandemic. MacMillan obtained funding from the King's Together Fund to investigate the impact of Covid-19 on English contract law. Katelouzou won her second BA Small Grant to focus on shareholder stewardship issues during the pandemic. Most recently, Ferraz won special UKRI Covid-19 funding to work with a University College London colleague to study and compile an open access compendium of legislative changes as a result of the pandemic (2020, value to School, GBP85,816).

# (c) Participation in large, challenge-driven grants

We have taken advantage of the range of large, multidisciplinary funding opportunities to address the implications of the expanded use and technical possibilities of Al and machine data. Valuable opportunities for academic staff to contribute to challenge-driven grants have emerged and grown, particularly through expanded connections with the King's Informatics department. For example:

- Nelken and Tasioulas are Co-Investigators on an EPSRC Cross-Disciplinarity and Co-Creation in ICT Research grant (2017, GBP817,224 total, GBP62,131 to School) with colleagues from Informatics and Digital Humanities to discover and address various forms of actual and potential digital discrimination arising from increased use of AI.
- Yeung supported colleagues in Informatics on a successful EPSRC TIPS2 award (2017, GBP1,265,823 total, GBP93,907 to School) entitled THuMP: Trust in Human Machine Partnerships. This project is now supported by P. Keller and investigates the privacy and confidentiality implications of provenance data.
- In 2020, Aplin was a listed Co-Investigator on a successful UKRI Trustworthy Autonomous Systems National Hub award, a circa GBP12,000,000 consortium of Southampton, King's & Nottingham (value to School, GBP46,416). Our involvement with this Hub will provide increased opportunities to work on cross-faculty and inter-institutional research projects; the Hub itself will offer a variety of small funding schemes.
- Durovic, Co-Director of TELOS, is a Co-Investigator on a recently funded GBP8,600,000
   UKRI National Research Centre on Privacy, Harm Reduction and Adversarial Influence
   Online, as is YTL's Interim Director, Renzo (2020), GBP123,482 value to School).

# Organisational Infrastructure to Support Research Income Growth

## (a) Bespoke training programmes

• School level. The Research Development Manager and Research Professor run earlystage development sessions on a 1:2:1 basis for any member of staff interested in
developing a funding application. 'Develop with peers' sessions allow us to support and learn
from one another, and mock interviews and panel reviews are offered. The School-level
research seminar series (see section 1) runs across three terms each year to complement
more specialised sessions run by individual centres and groups. These monthly seminars



cover both intellectual and practical topics, allowing our research team to offer advice on funding schemes and applications in a group setting. Recent examples include a session on appropriate fellowship schemes for particular projects or career stages, and one on understanding full economic costing. The School runs a research grant **mentorship programme** specifically focused on research development for funding applications. Staff at any career stage can request mentoring sessions with Cooper, Kotiswaran or Scott; all of these senior staff members have strong funding track records and experience as assessors for funders including: AHRC, British Academy, ERC, ESRC, Leverhulme Trust and Wellcome.

College level. The King's Leading Researcher Programme (since 2016, mentioned in section 1) brings together cohorts of Reader and Professor-level staff who are planning large external funding applications for skills training and mentorship. All three Law School staff who have completed this competitive training programme have gone on to submit project grant applications. In 2021, Stefan is enrolled on this programme. The College is also launching an Emerging Researcher Programme designed to support Lecturer and Senior Lecturer staff in a similar format. Katelouzou has been selected for this programme.

# (b) College-level funding

We have utilised **College-level initiatives to seed fund interdisciplinary research collaborations** between Law and other Faculties at King's. In the seven rounds of funding offered by the **King's Together Fund, we have succeeded with 11 applications**, including for projects on 'Building a Climate Finance Legal Options Toolkit' (Law/Geography); Big Data for Better Regulation or Better Regulation for Big Data? An Exploratory Analysis of Algorithmic Regulation in British Government (Law/Geography/Informatics); Mapping Digital Humanitarianism: Confronting Opportunities and Challenges (Law/Geography); Mental Health and Justice – Developing a Ten-Year Strategy (IoPPN/Law); and Legal Regimes, Labour Rights and Export Processing Zones in South Asia: Strategies Towards Inclusive Industrial Development (Law/Geography/Political Economy). This scheme seed funded what became the successful Mental Health & Justice project (Wellcome) with colleagues from the IoPPN (see section 1).

## **Equality & Diversity in Research Funding**

- Gender equality. We have a strong track record of gender equality with regards funding acquisition; in REF2014 Green and Scott won an ESRC project grant and Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator award respectively, each valued at over GBP800,000, the largest grants during that period. Throughout this REF period, our female academic staff have continued to be very active in submitting grants and are regularly winning funding, evidenced in the early parts of this section. Women Principal Investigators (PIs) again hold our two largest research grants (Cooper, Kotiswaran). Of 135 funding applications submitted during this REF period, 71 were submitted by female PIs (or involved a woman from the School as part of a King's mixed faculty team). This represents 53% of all grants submitted, while women currently make up 45% of the faculty. Notably, in this REF period, women across the career spectrum have won funding (eg Jordanoska, Katelouzou and Palmer as Lecturers/Senior Lecturers; Bowman, Cooper, Kotiswaran and Webb as Readers/Professors). Our parenting sabbatical leave (see section 2) and research grant mentoring have enabled several of these successes.
- Diversity of applicants. During this REF period, 97 funding applications involved staff at
  Reader or Professor level; 38 were submitted by staff from early career stage through to
  Senior Lecturers. Our research team has been committed to broadening applications across
  the career spectrum for the last 2-3 years and is currently working closely with a cohort of five
  ECRs to develop projects for schemes particularly designed for their career level including:
  ESRC New Investigator grants, AHRC's new Research, Development & Engagement
  Fellowships and the BA Wolfson Fellowships, as well as AHRC's grant scheme for early
  career stage. Continued access to European funding also allows for use of the ERC's
  Starting Grants scheme.



# Infrastructure and Facilities to Support Research Income Generation

Most of our staff are based in Somerset House East Wing on the Strand campus, with office space to house growing staff numbers now extending into the adjacent King's Building. Shared offices for academic staff facilitate collegial interaction. All our academic staff have access to the full range of legal and criminological databases, journals and e-resources, as well as physical legal sources, housed in the nearby Maughan Library. King's Library Services support our academics by managing, curating and disseminating their scholarly publications and research data, in line with funder policies and the REF Open Access policy. They oversee the School's PURE institutional portal and deliver inperson and online training sessions on Open Access publishing, research data management, the use of PURE and REF compliance. The Maughan Library hosts over 1,250 networked reader places, carrels and group working areas, and holds more than 750,000 items including books, journals, CDs, records, DVDs and theses.

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

King's Vision 2029 sets a goal for the College to be recognised as 'a civic university at the heart of London'. Our location facilitates close links with our main research users and subjects: Parliament, the government and the legal profession. Our researchers have given expert evidence to Parliament over 30 times in the past REF period on topics ranging from Brexit to criminal justice, have close academic connections with the Inns of Court and lead judicial training. Our international community of scholars and students means that our research collaborations and connections are global as well as local. We have assisted at least 20 governments with our research expertise. Our researchers' advice is sought by regulatory bodies, businesses, think tanks, political parties and trade unions across the world. We also proactively seek out non-governmental organisations, charities and other organisations with the capacity to make change if supported with strategic legal advice. Staff offer their expertise as directors of research-related charities (including JUSTICE, The Sentencing Academy, StopWatch and Transform Justice). These external connections make our researchers more informed about the needs and knowledge gaps of key actors, leading to more relevant, nuanced research that also has the potential for greater impact.

**Below are illustrative examples** of our collaborations, contributions to the research base, impact, key research users and beneficiaries, engagement with diverse communities, responsiveness to national and international priorities and contributions to the discipline.

# **Collaborations and Contributions to the Research Base**

#### (a) Centre for European Law

The CEL was established in 1974 and is the oldest centre of its kind in the UK. It has sought to serve the wider community, especially governments, international organisations and the practising profession. Its members help shape EU law and policy, and many of its alumni hold prominent positions throughout Europe. CEL collaborates in the newly established **Jean Monnet Centre for Europe in the World at King's College London**, with Biondi on the Steering Committee. The President of CEL is Jacobs, a former Advocate General to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU). Vajda, the UK's judge at the CJEU from 2012 until January 2020, has been appointed as a visiting professor. Stefan received European Commission funding to create a **Soft Law Research Network (SoLaR)** to analyse how soft law is used by national administrations when implementing EU policies. As a School, we are committed to maintaining our close links with our European colleagues and partner agencies in the wake of Brexit, eg by regularly participating in the Law Deans meetings of the Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities.

## (b) Developing social science research capacity in Rwanda

Palmer's research informed the establishment of the Research Policy and Higher Education (RPHE) programme inside the **Aegis Trust** (a UK charity based in Rwanda with a specific focus on peace education). The RPHE aims to bolster the social science research environment in Rwanda. Palmer is one of three international advisors involved in the RPHE's peer-to-peer mentoring programme of 44



Rwandan researchers who hold positions in non-governmental organisations, government departments and higher education institutions. The researchers have been mentored through an entire research project, from the inception phase through fieldwork, analysis and writing. This has been coupled with 13 training workshops, two short courses on transitional justice held in Rwanda, two national conferences, four Research for Policy workshops hosted in Rwanda, and an international impact conference and roundtable hosted in London by King's. It received the King's Award for the 'Research Project of the Year' in 2015.

# Sustained Relationships with our Key Research Users: Parliament, the Legal Profession and the Courts

Blackburn has given constitutional advice to governments for decades. He was appointed to the **UK Magna Carta Trust**'s committee established to conduct the 800th anniversary commemorations (2015). He acted as consultant on Crown affairs for the **Cabinet Office and Treasury Solicitor** (2014-15). The Cabinet Office sought his independent expert opinion through a period of unique constitutional uncertainty (2017-20). He served as Special Counsel to the **House of Commons Political and Constitutional Reform Committee** (2010-15) during its inquiry into a written UK constitution.

Our academics have developed close links with the courts, offering training for the **Judicial College** and influencing guidelines on medical manslaughter issued by the Sentencing Council (Quirk). **Our staff edit key treatises used by legal practitioners**, eg Chitty on Contract (Lomnicka); Crown Court Compendium (Quirk); Halsbury's Laws (Blackburn); Modern Equity (Lee); and Oppenheimer's International Law: United Nations (Webb). **Senior courts have relied on our research** in multiple jurisdictions, eg Court of Justice of the European Union (Tridimas); Hong Kong Final Court of Appeal (Simester); Court of Appeal of England and Wales, and Singapore Court of Appeal (Aplin, Lee); UK Supreme Court (Tridimas, Wintemute); and the Supreme Court of Canada (Lewis, Lee).

Quirk and Lee have academic fellowships with the **Honourable Society of the Inner Temple.** This competitive scheme aims to support their research and build a stronger relationship between the Bar, judiciary and legal academia. **Several of our academic staff practise law**, eg Juss is a Deputy Judge of the Upper Tribunal hearing immigration and asylum cases; Caron was a Judge at the Iran-US Claims Tribunal; Chandran is a leading human rights barrister and her involvement in many leading cases has added a new dimension to the developing expertise in modern slavery within the School; Mostert works as Legal Counsel at Bird & Bird advising on intellectual property law; Nazzini is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; and Tridimas regularly appears in the CJEU and Supreme Court on matters of European law.

# **Contributions to the Economy**

King's has a substantial cluster of academics whose research relates to how markets operate, financial and corporate regulation, and trade in tangible and intangible goods.

The Greek government appointed Kalintiri in 2020 to help implement a directive on competition enforcement. Jones prepared a specialist report on competition law in 2014 for the UK's (then) Department for Business, Innovation & Skills. The US Federal Trade Commission appointed Nazzini to sit on the drafting working group for the revision and amendment of the Recommended Practices for Merger Notification Procedures. Townley has provided expert advice to multiple competition authorities (including China, Pakistan and the UK) and the International Competition Network. Ewing's research has contributed to how labour markets are shaped, in particular achieving justice in the UK for blacklisted construction workers and formulating proposals for collective bargaining that were endorsed by the Trades Union Congress and Labour Party.

Our researchers have worked with the **European Commission** on state aid (Biondi), financial services (Turk) and creating a fair tax system (Mumford's EU H2020 FairTax project, 2015-2019, GBP128,494). They have also worked with **the European Central Bank** (Turk) and **Consob**, the **Italian financial markets regulator** (Katelouzou). Tridimas is a member of the **General Council of the Hellenic Financial Stability Fund**, which oversees the way Greece spends the money given to it by the European Stability Mechanism following the financial crisis. Biondi was a member of the Italian Government Committee for the reform of EU General Block Exemption Regulation on State



aid to airports and ports. Katelouzou's work on the amended Shareholder Rights Directive played a critical role in the way the **Greek government** transposed the amended directive. Jordanoska is a member of the **FinTech Financial Crime Exchange**, a global network of FinTechs that collaborate on best practices in financial crime prevention.

Saidov was Rapporteur to the **Advisory Council of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods** (CISG) on its Opinion No. 19, 'Standards and Conformity of the Goods under Article 35 CISG', adopted in 2018, which will assist courts and arbitrators with the uniform interpretation of the Convention. Mostert's expertise in intellectual property rights' enforcement led to him conduct studies for the **World Intellectual Property Organisation** (WIPO) that inform policy debates in WIPO Member States and advising the City of London's Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit. Hudson has built on her extensive empirical research on copyright exceptions to **develop guidelines** for educational institutions in relation to online use of teaching materials during the Covid-19 pandemic.

# Responsiveness to National and International Priorities: Brexit and the EU

Our researchers responded swiftly to the legal challenges thrown up by Brexit. They worked with UK and EU policymakers to help formulate policy, and they assisted the media to help inform the public and politicians about a complex and unprecedented situation. Biondi, Hestermeyer, Tridimas and Turk gave evidence before numerous **Parliamentary Committees**. Hestermeyer was appointed as specialist adviser to the **EU Select Committee of the House of Lords** to help it develop a scrutiny system for international trade agreements. Lee submitted written evidence to the EU Justice Sub-Committee Inquiry into Brexit: enforcement and dispute resolution. At the EU level, Biondi was Legal Advisor for the **Italian Senate** on the impact of Brexit on EU-Italian citizens and business. Tridimas took part in the Brexit negotiations on behalf of the **Government of Cyprus** drafting the Protocol on the British Sovereign Bases in Cyprus.

# Interdisciplinary and International Research

#### (a) Health policy

We are an international leader in research in the field of medical law and ethics. We established the UK's first Centre of Medical Law and Ethics in the late 1970s, which has close links with IoPPN. We are also actively engaged in improving policy development, regulation and clinical practice. Brownsword was Chair of the **Ethics and Governance Council of UK Biobank** (2011-15) and is a member of the **UK National Screening Committee** (within Public Health England) that advises ministers and the **NHS** about all aspects of population screening. It comprises researchers, medical staff, lay members, policy researchers, health economists, NHS managers and ethicists. Lewis was appointed to the **UK Donation Ethics Committee** (2010-16), a team of doctors, lawyers, nurses, ethicists and 'lay' members. She is an invited member of the Working Group on Deceased Donation of the **European Platform on Ethical, Legal and Psychological Issues in Transplantation**, and helped to draft European guidance on the ethical, legal and psychosocial aspects of organ donation after circulatory death.

## (b) Climate law and the environment

CLGC engages with governments, industry and non-governmental organisations around the world to inform decision-making to address climate and sustainability issues. The Centre contributes to **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** (IPCC) assessment reports, which provide state of the art knowledge on climate change and are a key evidence source for international climate negotiations. Duvic-Paoli is contributing to the Third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment. In 2018-19, she provided expert advice to negotiators at the **Global Pact for the Environment** negotiations, on the adoption of the first comprehensive treaty on environmental protection. She has supported civil society organizations, such as **Legal Response International**, a charity providing legal support to negotiators from climate-vulnerable developing countries during international climate negotiations.



Bowman led the King's/United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) partnership on Legal Readiness for Climate Finance. The partnership brings together private and public sectors, and legal and financial experts, around the world for knowledge exchange and problem-solving about how to mobilise finance to address climate change and transition to a low-carbon economy. As a result, Standard Chartered Bank partnered with UNEP to increase private sector engagement in Kenya; reports of Bowman's work have been translated into Arabic and French by UNEP and referenced by Legal Response International to assist Environment Ministers and Treasuries in Africa.

Ferraz and Wenar drafted legislation introduced in the **Brazilian Senate**, which would make it illegal to import oil from authoritarian or failed states. McGaughey co-created a model 'Green Recovery Act 2020' with the Common Wealth think tank.

# **Engagement with Diverse Communities and the Public through Research**

As well as Parliaments and international institutions, our work also relates to the experiences of marginalised groups such as women prisoners (Player) and LGB individuals and rights groups (Wintemute, ICS06\_LGB Rights). Bowling is the leading authority on policing and BAME communities (in particular in relation to stop and search). Pils is legal advisor at the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, an international cross-party group of legislators working towards reform on how democratic countries approach China. Tasioulas is a consultant on human rights to the World Bank.

Our researchers engage actively with the media assisting journalists and the public in understanding complex contemporary issues. **The BBC** consulted Garciandia and Webb for a 2018 documentary on modern slavery. Lee has commented on the UK Supreme Court to the *Washington Post*. During the Brexit negotiations, Hestermeyer worked with **key journalists** to help them understand the complexities of scrutinising trade deals post-Brexit and was interviewed regularly to explain the process. He also built a significant public following on **Twitter**. McGaughey appeared several times on BBC radio regarding the prorogation controversy and regularly comments on labour law via blogposts, Twitter and *The Guardian*.

Our researchers provide expert commentary on news and discussion programmes: Kotiswaran appeared on the **BBC's** *The Big Questions* discussing modern slavery; Lewis comments on international debates around assisted dying; Quirk frequently comments on topical criminal justice and sentencing stories on national radio and television. Our researchers have also sought to engage the public more broadly, by offering a free online course on the **Modern Judiciary** that has attracted over 9,000 participants since its launch in 2020 (Lee), and by appearing at cultural events such as the **Edinburgh Fringe Festival**, **Manchester Literature Festival** and **Manchester Irish Festival** (Quirk, 2017 about miscarriages of justice); **Cambridge Festival of Ideas** (Pils, 2019 on power politics in China) and the **ESRC Festival of Social Science** (Cooper, 2019 about the future of legal gender). Webb is co-host of the international law podcast **EJIL: The Podcast**, which averages 4,000 downloads per episode. We have **used artistic tools to promote and inform our research** (Zucca's Shakespeare & the Law event at Middle Temple, 2016 and Cooper's participation in the 2020 GENDERS: Shaping and Breaking the Binary exhibition at King's Science Gallery).

## **Contributions to the Discipline**

Our researchers have been recognised as making significant contributions to law and related academic disciplines through awards, honours and prizes, leadership positions in professional societies, stewardship of journals and book series, and collaborations with researchers from other institutions through visiting posts.

#### • Awards and honours

Biondi was awarded the **Knight of the Order of the Star of Italy** (2017) for exceptional academic merit and for his longstanding support of the Italian embassy. Our staff have received the highest academic accolades of **fellowships from learned societies**, such as the Australian Academy of Law (Lunney, 2018); British Academy (Douglas, 2017); Academy of Social Sciences (Douglas, 2016; Cooper, 2017; Zumbansen, 2018); Raz and Simester have received **Honorary Doctorates** from The Hebrew University Jerusalem (2014) and Uppsala University (2018) respectively. Raz was awarded the 2018 **Tang Prize** in Rule of



Law from Taiwan.

Our academics have received several **awards from the legal profession**, in recognition of the contribution of their research to the practice of law. Verdirame was appointed Queens Counsel (2019); Blackburn (2016), Lomnicka (2020) and Whish (2014) were appointed Queen's Counsel honoris causa; Douglas was appointed as Honorary Bencher at Gray's Inn (2019); Lomnicka was appointed as Bencher at Middle Temple (2014).

#### Prizes

Our academics have received numerous prizes for their writing: the Antitrust Writing Awards (Zhang, 2014; Jones, 2015 and 2017); French National Centre for Scientific Research, Bronze Medal (Grisel, 2018); the Gregory Kavka/University of California, Irvine Prize in Political Philosophy (Renzo, 2019); the Intergenerational Justice Prize (Mumford, 2020); the International and Comparative Law Quarterly Annual Prize (Webb, 2019); the Modern Law Review Wedderburn Prize (Levanon, 2020); the Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference Best Paper Prize (Douglas, 2015); and the 2020 Smit-Lowenfeld Prize and the 2017 Trandafir International Business Writing Competition (Louizou). McGrath's monograph was selected as one of the nine 2019 Legal Books of the Year by the Neue Juristische Wochenschrift, and Mumford's *Fiscal Sociology at the Centenary* has been nominated for the SLSA Theory & History Prize 2021.

## Key leadership roles

Our academics have held **leadership roles in academic societies**: MacMillan has been Vice-President of the Society of Legal Scholars (and will succeed as President in 2021, with King's hosting the annual conference the following year) and Lee was Subject Sections Secretary (2017-2020). Hestermeyer was Co-Executive Vice-President of the Society of International Economic Law (2014-2017). Renzo is Secretary of the Society for Applied Philosophy. Nelken is part of the International Scopus Board/Elsevier. Lunney is Junior Vice-President and Council member of the Francis Forbes Society for Australian Legal History. Our staff are also heavily involved in the **refereeing of research council grants** and have sat on the project advisory groups of several ESRC (Cooper, Blackburn, Douglas), Nuffield Foundation (Brownsword, Douglas) and Wellcome (Scott) projects.

## Editorships

Our staff edit, or have edited, numerous leading book series and journals. These include: the Oxford Law Handbooks Online in Law (Kotiswaran, former Senior Editor); Routledge book series, Social Justice (Cooper, founding and co-editor); Elgar Studies in Law and Regulation (Brownsword, general editor); European Monographs, Kluwer Law International (Biondi, general editor); Hart Studies on Judging and the Courts (Lee, co-editor); Child and Family Law Quarterly (Douglas, Gilmore); Criminal Law and Philosophy (Renzo, Simester); International Journal of Law in Context (Nelken); Jerusalem Review of Legal Studies (Herstein, co-editor); Journal of Applied Philosophy (Tasioulas); Journal of European Tort Law (McGrath); Journal of International Dispute Settlement (Schultz, editor-in-chief); Journal of Law and Society (Mumford); Journal of Medical Ethics (Scott); King's Law Journal (Ewing, general editor); Law, Innovation and Technology (Brownsword, general editor); Legal Studies (Douglas, Quirk); Legal Theory (Raz); Modern Law Review (Aplin); Oxford Journal of Legal Studies (Simester); and Theoretical Criminology (Bowling).

# Visiting positions

Our academics have forged connections with more than 100 national and international research institutions, including visiting positions at Freie Universität Berlin, University of Paris II, Columbia University, Harvard University, Hebrew University, New York University, National University of Singapore, University of Chicago, University of Melbourne and University of New South Wales. Other academics have held prestigious Academic Fellowships at the Centre for Maritime Law, National University of Singapore (Saidov); University of Notre Dame (Lauriat, Tasioulas); and the European Centre for Tort and Insurance (McGrath).