

<b>Institution:</b> University of Kent
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 18: Law
<p><b>1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</b></p> <p>Kent Law School (KLS) is an interdisciplinary centre of critical legal scholarship (in Canterbury and Brussels), with our collective endeavour predominantly focused on forms of social, economic, financial, political, and environmental justice. Our research ethos is rooted in collaboration and inclusivity, aiming to foster an enquiry-driven research environment, particularly attentive to issues of inequality. We engage in research in public regulation, gender and judging, the forging of conceptual and methodological pathways in the arts and humanities, critical and innovative historical readings, law and legality in everyday life, and empirical law reform and social policy research at the national, European, and international levels. Our submitted and emerging impact case studies (ICSs) similarly reflect social justice priorities, evidencing KLS as a leader in generating impact from research on social policy, gender equality, and with marginalised communities.</p> <p>Our research ethos is strengthened by a diverse range of Centres and Groups, including the KLS Centres for: Critical International Law (CECIL); European and Comparative Law; Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (formerly the AHRC Centre for Gender, Sexuality and Law); and the research group Social Critiques of Law (SoCriL). Our interdisciplinary curiosity has produced a network of University-wide research centres that were co-founded by KLS researchers and include the Centres for Critical Thought; Heritage; Interdisciplinary Spatial Studies; Interdisciplinary Studies of Reproduction; and Clio (Law and History Group). All are run collectively, resourced by KLS (and other Schools), and serve as intellectual hubs and meeting-places for academics, undergraduates, and postgraduates.</p> <p>A key strength is that research collaboration takes shape internally (e.g., the Centre for Heritage and CECIL together organised a roundtable series on Heritage and International Law) and seeds collaboration externally. For example, SoCriL and CECIL are founding partners of the multi-institutional International Economic Law Collective, established in 2019. Our scholars are leaders of numerous national/inter-continental initiatives, including new externally funded networks such as the UK-Japan SSH Connection (ESRC 2019-20), Legal Materiality (AHRC 2018-20), Law and the Human (AHRC 2019-21), Regulating Time (AHRC 2015-17), and Inclusionary Practices, UK, Brazil, Colombia (BA 2015-18).</p> <p>Collaborative and capacity-building work is a hallmark of our research practice and evidenced by the publication (since 2014) of 27 diverse collections co-edited by KLS staff. We contribute to the wider research base through leadership roles in over 20 national and international research networks and professional associations (s.4). Our collaborations extend beyond the academy to working with over 30 NGOs, governments, and arts organisations (s.4). Generating national and international impact and public engagement are a vital part of our work, as exemplified in our submitted and emerging ICSs (s.1[c]; 4). We also work collaboratively in the local Kent community, for example on: heritage with the Beane Museum in Canterbury; art and law lectures with Open School Margate; homelessness with Canterbury Housing Action; lectures at Friends Meeting House in Canterbury organised by CECIL; and through the research and practice of our outstanding Law Clinic.</p> <p>Research vitality during this REF period is further demonstrated by hosting more than 200 speakers, and organising over 260 conferences, conference streams, workshops, and Research Network meetings. We increased grant awards by over 230%, with 33 staff (a large majority of those entered) collectively winning over £4,000,000 (including a £1.2 million ESRC grant and a Philip Leverhulme Prize to start in 2021) from more than 20 different external funders. We are submitting eight prize-winning publications. In addition to these outward-facing achievements, we enriched our internal research environment in numerous ways detailed below.</p>

Our PGR community is an integral part of our interdisciplinary research environment (s.2). Success in developing and supporting PGR students since REF2014 is demonstrated by: more than doubling our PhD awards; significantly improving retention; and reducing completion times from an average of five years to under four. In 2018, we won the University's Prize for School Director of Graduate Studies for Alessandrini's 'work in creating a supportive, stimulating and inspirational research environment for doctoral students at the Law School'. We established a successful track record of ESRC and AHRC Doctoral studentships, and PhD students obtaining academic positions and publishing their work. Beyond KLS, we built wider research student capacity through, for example, new, externally funded PhD exchange partnerships with leading international law schools and our Paris Summer School in Critical Theory (see below). Beyond our own PGRs, we have contributed to PhD training in twelve countries across five continents.

Our sustained commitment to producing the highest-quality research is evidenced in KLS's 'Top 20' GPA performance in the last two REFs (as well as 7th in 'research power' in REF2014), and our placing 45th of law schools in the world in the *Times Higher World University Rankings 2021* as well as 8th in the UK for research quality in the *Times University Guide 2021*. We are equally committed to consistent, high-quality research-led teaching and support for students, as evidenced in our 2019 and 2020 'Top 20' performance in the *Guardian* and *Complete University Guide*, as well as 13th in the *Times/Sunday Times Good University Guide 2021*.

## Research and Impact Strategy

### a) 2014-20 review

Our major objectives as outlined in REF2014 were to: support intellectually ambitious research; increase external funding; further enhance KLS's international profile; develop and support our PGR community; strengthen and extend interdisciplinary and non-academic collaborations; embed a more systematic approach to maximising impact; and enhance infrastructure and administrative support. Various measures to achieve these objectives were undertaken (see below and ss.2, 3, 4).

#### *Supporting intellectually ambitious research*

We aim to support all colleagues to produce rigorous, original, and ambitious research. New initiatives to support this objective included book-in progress workshops, interdisciplinary methods workshops and festivals, writing cafés, and peer-to-peer knowledge transfer. Our strategy's success is evidenced by the quality of our entered outputs, including 15 substantive research monographs (from one-third of entered staff). Furthermore, since REF2014, ten submitted academics won external prizes and awards and five others won University Research Prizes.

#### *Increasing grant funding*

Since REF2014, we successfully increased: total grant income (by 230%), applications made for external funding (by 22%), and success rate by value (by 2%). The range of funders supporting staff has significantly diversified (by 25%) and includes three UKRI Research Councils, the EU, British Academy, Leverhulme, Wellcome, National Institute of Health Research, numerous other bodies and charities, as well as international funders such as the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Australian Research Council, Swedish Research Council, and National Science Foundation (s.4).

The spread of colleagues winning grants also increased by 23%. Strategies to achieve these results included: intensive peer review of draft applications; increasing range of targeted funders; applying for larger grants; holding regular funding events and encouraging colleagues to participate in funding training provided by the University; using our own and University internal funds to scope external opportunities; and providing one-to-one advice sessions for colleagues with the research director responsible for supporting funding applications.

*Developing and supporting our PGR community*

KLS PGR students are fundamental to the vitality of our research community. We have more than doubled the number of PhD awards since REF2014 (62 vs 30), as well as seeing a significant increase in retention (student withdrawals dropped from 37% at the start of the REF period to 18% average throughout it). Average completion time fell from five years to under four. Strategies to achieve these outcomes included piloting a 'writing-up' coaching scheme, reducing teaching loads for Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs), and strengthening the progress review process (s.2[b]). PGR students actively participate in research seminars, Visiting Scholar sessions, Centres and Groups, national and international conferences, and lead ad hoc discussion/reading groups (s.2[b]). We established three new, externally funded international PhD exchange partnerships with leading law schools: University of Minas Gerais (Brazil, British Academy), Melbourne Law School (Australia, Australian Research Council), and University of Los Andes (Colombia, Erasmus+), as well as our Summer School in Critical Theory held bi-annually at the Kent-Paris Institute. Multi-disciplinary postgraduate students from around the world (180 thus far) attend an intensive week's programme of research led by internationally renowned academics. In 2018, we founded the Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Network, a PhD-mobility collaboration between 9 national and international law schools; already, 61 students from 11 countries have benefited.

*Strengthening and extending interdisciplinary and non-academic collaboration; enhance our international profile*

International and interdisciplinary collaborations are a significant aspect of our practice. New research networks involve international collaborations with demonstrable outcomes; for example: Albi's ERC-funded network resulted in the open-access, 29-country volume *National Constitutions in European & Global Governance* (2019, 234,000 downloads); Grabham's international Regulating Time network culminated in her co-edited volume *Law and Time* (2020); Jivraj's Decolonising Sexualities Network produced the landmark, open-access international collection *Decolonizing Sexualities* (2016); Kang and Kendall's AHRC-funded Legal Materialities Network culminated in an open-access special issue of *Law, Text, Culture* in 2020. Eslava and Parfitt's International Law & Politics, a Law & Society Association Collaborative Research Network launched in 2015 in partnership with Melbourne and Harvard Law Schools, now comprises more than 380 members from across the world. Our international profile is further enhanced by CI/partner participation in internationally funded projects, including Bellido and Kang (Sweden, ERC 2017), Eslava (Canada, SSHRC, 2017), Kendall (Canada, SSHRC, 2016 and USA, National Science Foundation, 2020), Payne (Canada, SSHRC, 2019), Rackley (Australia, ARC, 2017), Ramsay (Canada, SSHRC, 2018).

Non-academic collaborations are numerous. In addition to those detailed in our ICSs, non-academic partners include governments, UN agencies, legal professionals, NGOs, charities, and arts and social movement organisations (elaborated in s.4).

*Maximising impact, enhancing infrastructure*

See c) and 3b for details of how these objectives have been met.

**b) 2021-27: Objectives**

Building on the fundamentals of our successful strategies in 2014-20, we will respond to new challenges and take advantage of new opportunities to maintain and enhance our vibrant, inclusive, and outward-facing research culture.

*Ensure All Researchers Are Valued and Supported*

We aim to nourish a workplace culture that preserves space for academics to have a productive, scholarly life not overwhelmed by institutional demands; promoting an understanding of academia rooted in collaboration rather than competition; and that takes equality and diversity seriously, including by:

- Ensuring workload decisions and research strategies prioritise the time and energy required to produce intellectually ambitious research;
- Developing innovative approaches to supporting mental health at work;
- Creating bespoke strategies to address issues faced by mid-career academics;
- Soliciting staff feedback on work/life balance and taking necessary actions, particularly in the pandemic context.

#### *Produce High-Quality, Interdisciplinary Outputs*

We aim to capitalise on new opportunities to support intellectually ambitious, interdisciplinary research through:

- Pursuing collaborative scholarship on social and economic inequalities within our new interdisciplinary division for Law, Society and Social Justice (LSSJ);
- In September 2020, in collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University, the University launched the Kent and Medway Medical School, with a strong focus on interdisciplinary study and person-centred care. The Medical School offers an important new focus for health-related research within the University, and we aim to build on this in developing new interdisciplinary research collaborations;
- Developing interdisciplinary skills and ambition through a new range of targeted workshops, collaborations, and internal peer review processes made possible by the division for LSSJ.

#### *Diversify Public Engagement and Collaboration [on Impact see (c) below]*

We aim to increase staff capacity to communicate their research beyond academia, and to engage collaboratively with non-academics by:

- Playing a significant role in the new, publicly engaged Migration and Movement and Future Human University Signature Research Themes;
- Identifying relevant 'publics' at an early research stage and building strategic links;
- Nurturing synergies between the public engagement activities of academics and Kent Law Clinic;
- Engaging in peer knowledge transfer about 'how to collaborate' and nurture long-term partnerships, including learning from experts outside KLS in the division for LSSJ.

#### *Enhance the Experience of ECRs and PGRs*

We aim to enrich the research environment for all early career scholars and will:

- Develop existing and new international networks;
- Institute a series of masterclasses led by internal and external speakers;
- Provide further opportunities for training and career development;
- Enhance ECR and PGR media presence, in particular through training provided by the Centre for Journalism;
- Sustain and further develop research mentorship for ECRs through: workload management; probation and promotion support; skills-based workshops; involvement in PhD supervisory teams; involvement in School and research governance (see also 2[a]);
- Build on our success with the SeNSS (ESRC) postdoctoral scheme to explore developing a permanent postdoctoral scheme.

#### *Increase and Diversify External Funding*

We aim to increase the amount, range, and number of externally funded projects and will:

- Explore large collaborative bids arising from the synergies in LSSJ;
- Participate in new Signature Research Theme collaborative bids;
- Build on successful collaborative network funding to underpin large grant applications;

- Intensify our successful stepping-stone strategy in supporting colleagues to move from small to large grants, and from CI to PI status;
- Maintain all existing support for grant writing, application completion, costings, and post-award support (s.3).

#### *Develop Existing and New Research and Teaching Collaborations*

We aim to increase the synergies between research and teaching to:

- Develop research and funding collaborations between Category A and other academic colleagues;
- Develop and, where necessary, refresh UG-led research initiatives (i.e. Critical Legal Conference; summer student RA scheme; Dissertation modules; Undergraduate Research Project);
- Build PGT research aspirations through further training in research methods and interdisciplinary scholarship.

#### **c) Enabling the Achievement of Impact**

KLS was an early advocate of the need for sustained, reciprocal research relationships with partners beyond academia, and to engage them at an early stage of research. We work closely with 30+ domestic and international collaborators who not only benefit from but also inspire, support, shape, and directly commission our research. Our approach enhances the salience, significance, and reach of our work, ensuring that it benefits law- and policy-makers, judges and other legal practitioners, medical practitioners, activists and NGOs, international organisations, and higher education practitioners (s.4).

#### *Strategy*

Our impact strategy is driven by intellectual curiosity, collaboration, and ethical co-production. It is underpinned by the following principles:

- Impact can be planned, and can also arise organically through curiosity-driven research;
- Impact is facilitated through the establishment of networks and long-term relationships with potential research beneficiaries/co-producers;
- It is important to acknowledge and learn from the expertise of diverse collaborative partners and, where possible, to include them in the early stages of research, for example as co-investigators;
- The achievement of impact requires robust infrastructure, visible research, and nimble, tangible support.

Implementation mechanisms include: identifying and supporting potential research impact through regular 'impact audits' and providing tangible supports (workload reduction; seed funding) to promising projects; providing colleagues with an online impact toolkit; regular expertise-sharing events with our in-house Impact Experts team (which comprises appropriately experienced colleagues); embedding impact capacity-building in our PGR training; facilitating the publication of public-facing research findings (e.g. through working papers, blogs, social media, podcasts); with this work overseen by an academic Director of Public Engagement (an innovation in this REF period).

Our ICSs exemplify the approach above. For Horsey, Sheldon, and Carr/Kirton-Darling, impact arose organically from pre-existing capacity-building relationships with a wide range of partners, including NGOs, charities, local communities, and parliamentarians. Horsey and Carr/Kirton-Darling's impact involved non-academic co-producers of knowledge from the outset, including public engagement and knowledge exchange, as well as 'REF impact'. All three ICSs describe work that has the potential to benefit many thousands of individuals in terms of parenting, housing, and reproductive rights. Hunter's case study involves a targeted intervention in judicial thinking

about vulnerable parties and demonstrates the impact possible from commissioned research rooted in an existing body of scholarship and long-term networking building and public engagements. The direct beneficiaries are judges and policy-makers, and, indirectly, domestic abuse victims, litigants-in-person, and their children. All of our ICSs received tangible support from KLS and the University, including: significant workload reductions (10-20%); funding for events, research assistance, and open access publication (£45,000+); hands-on guidance from our REF Impact Lead; case study writing workshops; and full support from the KLS Media Officer and University Press and Research Offices.

Our future impact strategy will aim to: provide colleagues with systematic impact training with a view to developing personal 'impact agendas' (to include consideration of potential collaborators/co-producers/beneficiaries); explicitly include a consideration of impact potential in hiring strategies; increase online access to research events; and further develop non-academic outlets for sharing research findings.

#### **d) Supporting Interdisciplinary Research**

For KLS, 'interdisciplinarity' signifies a normative aspiration to work with a range of methods and literatures reflecting upon and contributing to conversations about law and legality across disciplinary boundaries. We hope to make a leading contribution to interrogating what legal scholarship and methodology is and can be. Our scholars draw from a range of other disciplines, including Anthropology, Architecture, Critical Race Studies, Feminist Theory, Geography, History, Literary and Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Political Economy, Psychology and Psychiatry, Science and Technology Studies, Social Policy and Social Welfare, and Visual Culture. Our PGR programme is home to interdisciplinary training and projects (see above and s.2) and our interdisciplinary commitment is evidenced by our membership of both ESRC and AHRC Doctoral Training Partnerships. Our Brussels academics are situated in BSIS, an interdisciplinary School of International Studies. In autumn 2020, a new Divisional partnership was established between KLS, Kent's prestigious School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, and the Centre for Journalism; together we are actively exploring new research structures and pathways.

Diverse interdisciplinarity are evidenced throughout the submitted publications, for example in the number of refereed articles published in non-law journals, including: *Globalizations*; *Historic Environment*; *History of Science*; *Housing Studies*; *Antipode*; *New Political Science*; *Feminist Theory*; *Theory, Culture, Society*; *Journal of Industrial Relations*; *Citizenship Studies*; *The Translator*; *Economy & Society*; *International Critical Thought*; *Radical Philosophy*; *Politics and Space*; and by the range of funders supporting our projects over this REF period, including the ERC, ESRC, AHRC, EPSRC, Wellcome Trust, Science History Institute, Academy of Medical Sciences, British Academy, Leverhulme, National Institute of Health Research, and numerous international and smaller funders (see s.3[a]).

National and international interdisciplinary initiatives include: the 2015 launch of our Paris Summer School in Critical Theory; training academics in Ecuador in interdisciplinary research methods; the Women's Legal Landmarks project, involving 80 academics from five Humanities and Social Science disciplines; and, in 2018, an internal workshop entitled *At the Crossroads of Social Sciences and Humanities: Interdisciplinary Methods and Approaches*, where colleagues spoke about their methodological journeys, including using archives, visual arts, clay models, and interviews. In 2019, we presented it at the SLSA annual conference. As a result of the session's success, the organiser was invited to produce an edited book based on these contributions (*Interdisciplinarity: Methodological Challenges and the Body of Law*, Palgrave Macmillan 2022).

We also train scholars in interdisciplinary methods; for example, through a week-long Interdisciplinary Research Methods Festival (2017) featuring sessions with internal and guest speakers on media training, writing a funding bid, using archives, participant action research, and a roundtable on archival methods in critical legal research. In 2017, we launched the international Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Network for PhD students and ECRs, a partnership with nine

universities across four continents. In spring 2020, we organised a special series of external speakers on interdisciplinary methods, unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19.

#### **e) Progression Towards Open Access Beyond REF2021**

The Open Access agenda aligns with many of the key values of KLS's research and impact strategies, including inclusivity and ethical, co-produced research. All researchers, regardless of contract type or career stage, deposit their work (to the extent possible) in the Kent Academic Repository to facilitate the widest sharing of their research. The University's Office for Scholarly Communication (OSC) provides training for creating open materials and dissemination planning. In 2011, researchers at Kent Law School founded, with University sponsorship, the diamond Open Access journal *feminists@law* (with over 500,000 views of articles and multi-media content in this REF period). The editorial board currently includes eight KLS staff who encourage submissions from around the world, and have contributed through editorials, publishing networks, and the OSC to wider Open Access debates and consultations.

We have also worked to ensure that research outputs in a wider range of formats are available openly: in addition to all the Open Access publications available in the Kent Academic Repository, dozens of theses are available for full text download. We published open books aimed at practitioners, academics, and European legal actors (Albi, 234,000 downloads; Sheldon, 5,000+ downloads), and two 'pay what you can' edited collections for activists (Jivraj, 600+ downloads). The University has supported our OA publications with over £10,000 of funding.

We continue to make our research available in non-academic formats to reach a wider audience, including through research reports and social media. Our academics are involved in the review of the University's intellectual property policies to ensure that they are in line with the principles required by funders and the PlanS initiative.

#### **f) Supporting Research Integrity**

A commitment to research integrity is integral to KLS scholarship. We observe the University's Code of Ethical Practice, and Kent is compliant with the Concordat to Support Research Integrity. At School level, we have disseminated the principles of the Concordat and held bespoke Ethics workshops for colleagues. The SLSA's Statement of Principles of Ethical Research Practice also guides our researchers. KLS's Research Ethics Chair reports to Research Committee and sits on the Research Ethics Advisory Group, which is itself overseen by the University's Research Ethics and Governance Committee. As many KLS academics work with diverse stakeholders, our research reflects a normative commitment to engage with those communities in a respectful, non-exploitative way; impact case studies evidence the success of our practice.

## **2. People**

### **a) Staffing Strategy and Development**

Our Category A staffing strategy is driven by our desire to hire strong researchers contributing to theoretical, conceptual, and empirical innovation. Appointments exemplify our distinctive 'social justice' character, including a commitment to diversity and equality in hirings. We have made 17 Category A new appointments since 2014 (all permanent positions), including six professors. While these were mainly replacement posts, there is a small increase in FTE returned in this REF compared to last (45.2 vs 43.6). These appointments enhance our notable strengths in feminist law reform (Hunter, McCandless, Rackley, Renz), critical international law (Eslava, Kendall, Parfitt), economic, labour, and financial law (Ashiagbor, Hayes, Zokaityte), and legal history and theory (McVeigh, Zartaloudis). New areas of research strength have emerged; for example, in intellectual property (Bellido, Kang, Pottage), global security law (Sullivan), and public inquiries and legal process (Kirton-Darling).

While 20 Category A colleagues have retired or moved jobs since REF2014, we have successfully renewed ourselves, and strengthened our strong interdisciplinary and international profile, with

new colleagues originally from Australia, Canada, Colombia, England, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Scotland, Spain, and the USA. We have six more female professors than we did in REF2014 (14 vs eight).

While we are returning three post-2016 ECRs, we have appointed eight ECRs over this REF period (five of whom have already been promoted). Most appointments since 2016 have been to Chairs, responding to senior staff retirement or lateral moves. We will be prioritising ECR hirings in the coming years. Moreover, this REF period witnessed the emergence of significant early career capacity-building through: employing several Research Associates on Research Council and Wellcome-funded projects; successfully winning three ESRC Postdoctoral Fellowships; and trialling a pilot postdoctoral scheme, with two researchers appointed from 2015-17.

All 47 (45.2 FTE) of our Category A staff are on permanent contracts. Mainly due to a deliberate strategy of regularising precarious contracts during this REF period, we also have 17 permanent (FT and PT) non-REF-eligible colleagues (most of whom were previously hourly paid lecturers). There are also six lawyers working in Kent Law Clinic. We have several non-research colleagues on full- and part-time fixed-term contracts (including semi-retirees and grant replacement staff), a number of hourly paid lecturers (all but one PGRs), and 9 Graduate Teaching Assistants (29 GTAs over whole REF period). Regardless of contractual status, non-Category A colleagues contribute to the research culture detailed in this narrative; for example, through: participation in events; scholarship activities; international collaborations; and grant acquisition.

In terms of staff development, all academic staff (including RAs and postdocs) are offered 'Reflect/Plan/Develop' (appraisal/mentoring) meetings with a senior or peer colleague to discuss short- and long-term planning, including challenges they may be facing. Probationers receive bespoke mentoring from a senior colleague for the length of their probationary period. We implemented the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers by developing our own KLS guidelines (see below). All research-active colleagues also participate in annual individual research planning meetings with the Directors of Research. Training sessions (for example, on PhD supervision; media; writing funding applications) are provided for all academic staff (s.3) and KLS provides generous funding for individual and group research activities (s.4). In 2018, we introduced further research culture development through an internal Research Speed Dating event. It attracted over 30 colleagues, including from professional services, and involved making our research more visible to each other. In 2019-20, we inaugurated a Funded Research Support Group for colleagues holding external grants, and our Inspirational Concepts series, where colleagues discuss foundational ideas motivating their research. Specific supports for achieving impact are detailed above (s.1[c]).

Our ECRs are supported through: a 25-50% teaching reduction in their first two years; a dedicated member of the Research Team with ECR responsibility; invitations to join PhD supervisory teams; and strong support for career progression, with specialised promotion support (see below). The University offers ECRs numerous training events through the Graduate and Researcher College (formerly, the Graduate School) and Research and Innovation Services. Postdoctoral colleagues are provided with a mentor, and we implemented our own Policy on Research Associates and Postdoctoral Researchers that provides guidance to staff drafting funding applications regarding how support for RAs can be built into a project, and outlines what RAs can expect in terms of KLS support once they arrive. The success of our ECR development initiatives is in part demonstrated by four ECRs publishing major monographs in this REF period and by their success in achieving promotion (see below).

All academic staff are entitled to apply for one term's study leave in seven (as per University policy). All eligible Category A staff who applied received at least one period of study leave during this REF period.

Recognition for research and impact activities is primarily achieved through the promotion process. Of the eight new Category A lecturers hired during this REF period, five have been promoted, including three to Reader. Two of three new Senior Lecturer appointments are now



Readers. KLS addresses promotion in appraisal meetings, and through a separate promotion support process lasting several months. A senior Professor chairs the KLS Promotions Panel advising/assisting potential applicants in the summer preceding the annual promotions round. The Panel meets twice during the Autumn Term to provide feedback on application drafts to improve the prospects of promotion success. Applicants with strong impact are assisted to convey this as part of their case for promotion. In 2018, we created an internal site where colleagues can access advice and copies of successful applications. Since 2014, KLS has successfully put forward for promotion 11 men and 17 women.

We further recognize outstanding research by successfully nominating colleagues for external prizes (e.g. Philip Leverhulme Prize, Grabham 2020; eight SLSA prizes in this REF period, Carr, Eslava [2], Grabham [2], Hayes, Hunter, Perry-Kessarais), and, working through professional associations, for membership of the Academy of Social Sciences and membership of the REF Panel. The University rewards excellence in research and impact through its Faculty Research Prizes, three of which have been won by current or past KLS scholars since 2014.

## **b) Research Students**

KLS has a vibrant PGR community of approximately 55 scholars who participate in the research and governance life of the School. We supported them during this REF period through a range of measures detailed below. Our Postgraduate Directors team expanded to four colleagues responsible for: Programme Oversight; Admissions and Scholarships; Progress Reviews; PGR Study Group; and the Research Methods module. The team is supported by a fifth colleague with particular responsibility for GTA liaison (expanded to support all PGR students who teach), and a Professional Services colleague dedicated to the PhD Programme. From 2014-20, we focused attention on three aspects of our postgraduate research programme to: better orient recruitment to our research strengths; enhance the experience of our students; and improve our completion rates. We succeeded on all these fronts.

### *Recruitment*

We encourage PGR applications from Home, EU, and international students in areas of research strength within KLS. Admission to the PGR programme is based on a strong academic record and the quality of the research proposal. We work to maximise access to available scholarships for all eligible applicants. In assessing the quality of applications and shortlisting for scholarships, we value interdisciplinarity and do not exclude those without a primary Law degree. PhD registrations have fallen slightly since the last REF, as we have increased selectivity. In turn, our completion and retention rates have substantially improved (see below).

Our main PhD cohort in Canterbury has become more diverse since 2014, with (as of 2020 cohort) over 50% from BAME backgrounds (35% in 2014), 17% with declared mental health or physical disabilities (4% in 2014), and 37% 'widening participation' students (27% in 2014). Our gender profile at both campuses remains majority female.

KLS belongs to the ESRC South-East Doctoral Training Partnership (SeNSS) and, since the last REF, the new AHRC Consortium for Arts and Humanities in South-East England Doctoral Partnership (CHASE). During this REF period, we have received nine studentships from these bodies, as well as 29 University/KLS Graduate Teaching Assistantships, and 2 Larry Grant Scholarships (for LLM-R in Social Justice). We received SeNSS funding for three post-doctoral fellowships. Students have additionally won Commonwealth, University Alumni, and MLR Scholarships. Students proposed for scholarships receive intensive support in preparing their applications. The Co-Director for Admissions/Scholarships participates actively in University and doctoral partnership review and selection processes, drawing on their experience from those processes for the benefit of KLS students. We do not offer professional doctorates.

*Student support linked to progress and completion*

Our success in developing and supporting PGR students is demonstrated by a doubling of PhD awards (62 vs 30), a significant improvement in retention (withdrawals reducing from 37% at the start of the REF period to 18% average throughout), and moving from an average of five years to completion to four (3.93).

We substantially improved research student support, including: ensuring a teaching-free third year for GTAs; piloting a three-year Coaching Scheme for students writing up; a member of academic staff as a dedicated GTA/PGR Teaching Support; sessions dedicated to explaining the progress review process (see below) and why it is important; walk-in pastoral care hours offered by the PGR team lead; and increasing opportunities for social interaction amongst students. Our students have created a 'well-being' group that meets termly and makes recommendations to KLS and the University. We continue to provide access to dedicated conference funds (£500 per annum) and 'extra' discretionary funding to support external training, and in-house workshops on careers and publishing.

New training initiatives include an ESRC-compliant training course focusing on research design and methodologies, and using this course to identify students who need particular support. Several of our students benefitted from undertaking the MA in Social Research Methods in the School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Research, as part of an ESRC 1+3 scholarship. We also provide: more intensive weekly study group training focusing on a mix of conceptual readings; research skills seminars; 'encounters' with KLS staff and visiting scholars; and work-in-progress presentations. The University Graduate and Researcher College (formerly the Graduate School) has developed comprehensive training provision available to all our research students (s.3). SeNSS and CHASE students can also access the training provided by these consortia.

Further new support includes:

- Dedicated PGR space consisting of a new common room and study room;
- Funding PGR attendance at our Summer School in Paris and at Science Po's Summer School;
- Facilitating annual conferences and research groups organised by PGRs and PGTs in Canterbury and Brussels;
- Ensuring GTA representatives sit on our Education Committee;
- Reorganising the Staff-Student Liaison Committee into the Student Voice Committee to better reflect the needs of different groups of PGRs (i.e. GTAs; HPLs; all PGRs);
- Establishing a PGR Visiting Fellow Scheme attracting approximately ten international/EU students thus far;
- Supporting students to apply for and win prizes (e.g. Silver Award from International Insolvency Institute 2018; Modern Law Review Scholarships 2019, 2020).

Oversight of PhD student progress is through compulsory, formal annual reviews conducted by KLS PGR Directors and monthly database reporting (by student and supervisor), all overseen by the Graduate and Researcher College. Formal reviews include a Year 2 Presentation Day held in June, designed to celebrate our research student community and to share their research topics with the wider KLS audience. Both our Year 1 Research Methods module and Years 1/2 Study Group (compulsory for Year 1) provide additional opportunities to assess student progress.

Supervision takes place through teams with an experienced Supervisory Chair, is spread as evenly as possible across the School according to research expertise and experience, and credited in workload allocation.

In 2016, the Periodic Review of KLS's PGR programme concluded that 'the general support provided to research students was excellent' (PPR, 2016) and also 'commended the School's approach to treating its PGR students as academics in the making and developing their research

skills, including a research portfolio, presentation skills, and delivering conference papers and writing publications' (PPR, 2016). In 2018, Alessandrini won the University Prize for School Director of Graduate Studies for her 'work in creating a supportive, stimulating and inspirational research environment for doctoral students at the Law School'.

### c) Equality and Diversity

Equality and diversity involves the fair treatment of individuals, and is also about the positioning of a UoA within a wider social context of intersecting inequalities. We take both aspects seriously, and include in our discussion below both our commitment to the fair treatment of individuals, as evidenced through our 2019 Athena SWAN Bronze Award (Silver application in preparation) and our appointment of an academic as KLS Director of EDI, and to wider concerns of inequality at local, regional, and international levels, including through our scholarship.

In terms of gender, women held many leadership roles during this REF period, including Head of School (three times and for entire REF period), Deputy Head of School, Director of Education, Co-Directors of Research, Postgraduate Research and Graduate Studies, REF Coordinator and Impact Lead, and Chief Examiner. Over this REF period, 17 women and 11 men were promoted. Apart from this focus on individuals, our commitment to feminist scholarship and gender justice is evidenced in our: publications; Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice (SeRGJ); founding and hosting of the journal *feminists@law*; and in our wider collaborations with scholars, activists, and artists (s.4). KLS is also led by scholars who identify as gay, lesbian, queer, or non-binary, and/or are submitting work in the field of sexuality. KLS leadership roles held by such scholars include most of those listed above. Notable publications in gender and sexuality include submitted work by: Cain; Cloatre; Drakopoulou; Grabham; Hayes; Horsey; Hunter; Kendall; McCandless; Rackley; Renz; and Sheldon; as well as former colleagues Cooper and Fudge.

We currently have a number of colleagues from BAME backgrounds, including a Black female Professorial Head of School for most of this REF period (now Director of the Division of Law, Society and Social Justice). We recognise that achieving progress on issues of race and ethnicity is an ongoing process within both KLS and the University. We tackle this in a range of ways, including through having instigated a University-wide 'decolonising the curriculum' project led by Jivraj and SeRGJ. Although this work focuses on the undergraduate student experience, it sparked the formation of a BAME Staff Network, and is part of a national and international movement to 'decolonise the university'. In summer 2020, KLS was actively involved in supporting Black Lives Matter student protests, including through social media. Eslava, Haslam, Oduntan, and Parfitt's submitted monographs are notable examples of how KLS supports scholarship on race and colonialism, as are Jivraj's co-edited, Open Access collections (s1[e]). In 2020, we also launched our KLS Next Generation Doctoral Scholarships, one of which will be reserved for a UK-based candidate of Black or mixed-Black heritage.

We are confident that KLS is supportive of scholars with diverse national origins (Category A staff origins include 19 countries from five continents). Much of our scholarship is concerned with the historical and contemporary exclusion of marginalised peoples from modes of international justice (Ashiagbor, Eslava, Haslam, Kendall, Oduntan, Parfitt, Parsley, Sullivan), including refugees and non-nationals (Arai, York). Our award-winning Law Clinic is a national leader in defending the rights of refugees with two posts dedicated to asylum/immigration law and advocacy. We are also keen to progress practice in relation to religion, and in particular to how it interrelates with race/ethnicity. Our EDI Director (amongst others) will be advancing this area of work in the next REF period.

In terms of disability, we observe the University's policies towards colleagues with disabilities, and go further in the area of mental health. The KLS Mental Health Policy outlines a range of measures to support colleagues with mental health issues, and to pursue a stronger approach to mental health support within the University. The REF Coordinator and Head of School attended MIND training workshops on mental health in the workplace, and we now have an academic with a 'Well-Being' portfolio who works closely with Occupational Health to support colleagues with health

issues. We do not operate a culture of 'presenteeism' in KLS, so that research-active colleagues and those with caring responsibilities and health issues are able to work remotely as far as we can accommodate within University constraints. Our commitment to combating disability discrimination is further evidenced by successfully nominating three leading disability rights campaigners for Honorary Degrees in Law in 2019. Cain's ongoing work with psychiatrists at the Institute of Psychiatry (Maudsley Hospital) exemplifies how academics can bring experiential and legal knowledge about mental health into collaborative endeavours across disciplines.

In terms of age discrimination, KLS provides all ages and career stages with access to the same opportunities and support. ECRs are encouraged to play a role in School governance at every level, and we have made a concerted effort to ensure they join PhD supervision teams. We operate a vigorous system to support their promotion (s.2[a]). As colleagues approach the end of their careers, they are offered fractional contracts before fully retiring. Once retired, many colleagues remain affiliated with KLS as emeriti. We are conscious that mid-career-scholars can experience particular kinds of challenges, and hope to address these more directly in the future (s.1[b]).

All colleagues have access to the University's study leave provision (1 term in 7), and parental leave support. We also have our own KLS Return from Leave Policy, offering support (workload reductions) to colleagues returning from various forms of leave. Maternity/paternity and sickness leave count as qualifying service when calculating study leave entitlement. Supportive policies for carers include timetabling and other adjustments and, during COVID-19, a KLS 'no detriment' policy that we successfully lobbied the University as a whole to adopt.

In terms of career pathways for fixed- and part-time staff, the only fixed-term research contracts offered in this REF period were for RAs funded by external sources and postdoctoral fellows. All part-time staff are entitled to the same supports as full-time staff (pro-rata). KLS is committed to the elimination of zero hours contracts, and over this REF period we facilitated 7 non-Category A staff moving from hourly to permanent contracts. All non-Category A permanent staff can apply for study leave, may choose to be active in our Centres and Groups, and can access research funding (one such colleague is a CI on a major grant (approx. £1.4 million) awarded to the School of Computing by the EPSRC in 2018).

Our approach to staff satisfaction is to create, to the extent possible, an open, inclusive, fair, democratic workplace. Workloads are allocated on a transparent model that includes credit for a range of activities, including leadership roles and PGR supervision. All Category A staff receive approximately one-third of workload credits for research. Participation in School governance is open to all through open committee meetings and non-professorial staff representation (including on the Promotion Panel). We encourage research-active colleagues to work in their areas of enthusiasm and facilitate colleagues teaching in their research areas to the extent possible. We hope to identify early on colleagues that may be struggling (i.e. through the appraisal process and other mechanisms), and provide support. See 2(b) for our approach to doctoral student welfare.

Finally, our preparations for REF2021 were as open and inclusive as possible: staff unanimously approved a proposed output selection process; we held several 'all staff' meetings to explain and update the process and collect feedback; and added 'REF update/discussion' as a standing item to School meeting agendas. The REF Coordinator met with every colleague submitted to discuss publication selection and take feedback on the process, and a similar exercise will be undertaken following submission. The selection of outputs for submission was based on: assessment by a reading group of senior professors in KLS (4 men; 6 women); moderation/calibration conducted by the REF Coordinator; and the use of a small number of external assessors where a colleague made that request or where the REF Coordinator determined an external view would be helpful. Reading group members worked to the same criteria (expanded from REF guidance) and colleagues could request feedback (anonymised) on their work if they wished. Where outputs were assessed to reach the same REF grade, choices for inclusion/exclusion took into account EDI concerns. ECRs (appointed as new lecturers since REF2014) are responsible for 20 (of 98) outputs, and women for 60. Fifteen colleagues submitted approved Individual Staff Circumstances declarations (all have at least one output entered) and we followed up to support any continuing

needs. The Impact Lead worked closely with submitted ICSs. Our four ICSs (three women/one man) were selected early on in the process (taking account of EDI concerns) and nurtured over the course of several years.

The University provided all colleagues involved in REF selection with EDI training. In addition, the REF Coordinator provided staff with written guidance about REF assessment, led a session on 'Lessons from REF readers' for future guidance, and gave feedback on numerous drafts of colleagues' works-in-progress. The KLS REF Strategy Group of six professors (five women, one man) approved the final REF submission, and provided advice to the REF Coordinator. Our goal throughout the preparation process was to use the REF as a catalyst for sustainable, transparent, and consensual research developments.

### 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

#### a) Research Income and Funding Strategy

We see research funding as an input, not an output, with a full range of support offered to applications that emerge organically from colleagues' existing research interests. This approach (rather than one based on targets) has proved successful as grant income increased by 230% since REF2014. While increases from national and European research councils account for most of this, we also successfully diversified our income sources as detailed below. External funding awarded (2014-20) amounts to over £4,000,000 and was won by 33 individual staff. We increased the numbers of colleagues applying for external funding from 40 (REF2014) to 56 (REF2021), and the range of funders applied to by 25%.

External major (£25,000+) grant awards 2014-20: ESRC (£1,195,134 Sullivan); ESRC (£579,717 Cooper/Grabham/Renz); AHRC (£36,413 Drakopoulou/Parsley; £35,882 Kang/Kendall; £287,737 Sheldon; £31,734 Grabham); ERC (£123,843 portion Bellido/Kang); Wellcome (£675,647 Cloatre; Hayes £71,204); European Commission, Marie Curie Fellowship (£130,500 Croce); Academy of Medical Sciences (£24,938 Carr); British Academy (£129,925 Alessandrini; £26,350 Williams); MacArthur Foundation (£37,267 Oduntan), Nantes Institute for Advanced Study (£29,636 Fudge); Swedish Research Council (£63,279 Fudge); Leverhulme (£100,000 Philip Leverhulme Prize, Grabham); £32,883 Perry-Kessarais; £49,580, Kendall; £80,686 Rackley); National Institute of Health Research (£36,188 Sheldon). Together, this funding has already resulted in numerous scholarly publications, hundreds of academic and public engagement activities, and potential future ICSs. We also received three ESRC/SeNSS postdoctoral fellowships (£284,119).

External grants awarded between £5,000 and £25,000: AHRC (£12,616 Bellido); CREATE (£20,000 Bellido); Australian Research Council (£10,689 Fudge, £9,890 Rackley); EPSRC (£14,762 Dickson as proportion); Christensen Fund (£7,172 Howarth); MacArthur Foundation (£8,000 Oduntan); Society of Legal Scholars (£11,000 Rackley); MYRIA (£15,914 Schepel); British Academy (£9,236 Sullivan), Wellcome (£8,907 Sheldon).

Smaller grants have been won from the SLSA (Casey, Cloatre, Cooper, Jivraj, Perry-Kessarais, Parfitt, Piska), Science History Institute (Bellido), the National Museum of Play (Bellido), University of Technology, Sydney (Sheldon), Social and Legal Studies (Cooper, Rackley), Society of Legal Scholars (Haslam/Jivraj; Perry-Kessarais). As per our 'stepping stone' strategy, some of these colleagues then successfully applied for major grants (i.e. Bellido; Sullivan).

Additionally, KLS received a total of £202,000 in innovation project funding from collaborators and commissioners, including the Government of Wales, the Ministry of Justice, Unbound Philanthropy, the Samuel Sebba Charitable Trust, and the Migration Foundation.

In addition to total funding of over £4,200,000 from the above external sources, KLS provided £80,000+ research funding to 39 academic staff, and a number successfully bid to University research and impact support funds for a total of £120,000. We can trace a direct link between this internal seed funding and the achievement of external grants (for example, Kang and Kendall;

Sullivan; Jivraj). These successes demonstrate the effectiveness of our funding strategy discussed above and in s.1.

KLS academics are also formal collaborators on several new internationally funded projects totalling over £1,000,000: Australian Research Council (AUS\$432,000 McVeigh; \$204,500 Parfitt; \$336,999 Rackley); National Science Foundation (US\$299,999 Kendall); Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada (CDN\$83,000 Eslava; \$74,903 and \$161,858 Kendall; \$172,836 Payne; \$49,191 Ramsay).

### **b) Organisational, Operational and Scholarly Infrastructure and Facilities**

KLS research at both our Canterbury and our Brussels campuses is overseen by a team of three Co-Directors (CDRs), including a colleague responsible for supporting funding applications. In addition to leading on research development, the CDRs annually review colleagues' publications, plans, and impact activities. Research is also discussed during annual appraisal (s.2), and was supported by a KLS Research Office staffed by two full-time colleagues (Grade 7 and 5): a Research Manager who supported all research funding applications and REF preparation, and a Research Support Coordinator who primarily supported post-award grants and events. Canterbury colleagues had two in-house IT support colleagues and a dedicated Law Librarian, and Brussels colleagues were additionally supported by a research administrator based there. All colleagues have access to the longstanding KLS *lawlinks* portal. The KLS Publicity Officer and the University's Press & Public Relations Officer support external research dissemination.

Our organisational infrastructure continuously improved over this REF period. Notable developments resulting in the successes noted above are:

- Investments in internal funding mechanisms, including the creation of a REF fund (£10,000 per annum) to support a range of activities, including impact) and new detailed 'how to' guidance on applying for funding;
- A dedicated CDR to galvanise colleagues to generate research income and to provide grant support, including: funding drop-in sessions; training workshops, including on collaborative funding; KLS-bespoke writing cafés; a new funding support group for grant-holders;
- A workload-credited position of Impact Lead, to support existing ICSs and to actively promote sustainable impact in KLS;
- A new Director of Public Engagement academic portfolio;
- Other investments in impact include University Impact Funding (£40,000+ received by KLS staff) and workload allocation recognition for those who undertake significant impact-related activities. We support attendance at national impact training events by both our Impact Lead and ICS Leads.
- Ensuring our REF Coordinator actively works with colleagues to strengthen their outputs (e.g. reading drafts) and organises relevant training events.

Academic colleagues were supported with £2,000 per annum in personal research allowance, as well as enjoying access, by application, to our Research Initiative Fund (£25,000 per annum). Colleagues are provided with workload allocations to pursue grant applications. Our KLS-based and co-hosted Research Centres receive funding and the impact of this funding can be seen in the range of activities and outputs in s.1.

As noted in s.1, we fund an annual seminar series where 90+ external colleagues presented over this REF period, as well as focusing on the work of our own researchers. Our Centres, Groups, and informal networks run regular events throughout the year, many of them interdisciplinary. Our Visiting Scholar Scheme is currently funded with £6,000 per annum, and we also supported an ambitious 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary lecture series in Brussels.

New facilities include the £6 million Wigoder Building, housing a state-of-the-art moot court room where many staff seminars, workshops, and conference plenaries are held, and a new

common/computer room for postgraduate students. Also new to this REF period is our use of the Kent-Paris Institute (partnered with Columbia University) to host our Paris Summer School in Critical Theory and other activities.

Notable examples of improved University infrastructure include the development of the Graduate and Researcher College's Grants Factory; and the ECR network, with strong contributions from KLS staff to each; and a major Library renovation (£27 million) (see Institutional Statement).

### c) Addressing E&D Issues in Terms of Access to Infrastructure

We operate a proactive approach to identifying infrastructural needs for all colleagues. All staff have an opportunity to raise such issues in annual research audit and appraisal meetings. We make infrastructural and practical adjustments (e.g. software, furniture, facilities, travel) for colleagues with disabilities. As noted in s.2, we have our own 'return from leave' policy. Working from home during COVID-19 poses unique infrastructural challenges that we address through regular audits of IT and equipment.

### d) Impact Infrastructure

See (b) above and s.1(c).

### e) Cross-HEI or Collaborative Use of Research Infrastructure and Benefits-in-Kind

We share research infrastructures with a range of collaborators (s.4), including national and international HEIs, museums, galleries, and architectural practices. Benefits-in-kind from various hosts, collaborators, and ICS partners are numerous and include: space; time; expenses; access to information/resources. Examples of ongoing benefits-in-kind partnerships include our work with: University of Minas Gerais; University of Los Andes; Melbourne Law School; Mexico Museum of Modern Art; Shelter; Beaney Museum; and the many institutions where staff have held Visiting Fellowships (s.4).

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

As a key aspect of our research strategy, KLS supports a wide range of collaborative activities, and all our internal funding mechanisms are available to colleagues seeking to pursue them. Most submitted staff work with diverse collaborators and contribute to wider national and international research activities.

**Academic Collaborations** are integral to our research, and most KLS scholars work collaboratively with other academics. Our external funding awards involve local, national, and international collaborations, and several colleagues are partners in projects funded in other countries (see s.3[a]). Collaborations involve networks and activities with colleagues at a range of national and international HEIs, discussed further below under 'Wider Contributions'.

**Non-Academic Collaborations and Public Engagement** are increasingly important to our work. Submitted ICSs are exemplars of impact-generating collaboration with partners outside academia; here we select a few other significant projects that are taking place in collaboration with non-academics, including NGOs, arts organisations, governmental partners, students, and universities:

- **Decolonising the University:** Jivraj's nationally recognised research leadership in the area led to her establishing a major curriculum project at Kent involving dozens of students and resulting in a Manifesto presented to University leaders challenging perceptions of the 'BAME attainment gap'. Its success resulted in the award of two 2019 University prizes to the project – as well as the award of external funding, numerous invitations to Jivraj to share her expertise at universities across the country, an edited collection, and a special issue of *The Law Teacher* (2020). We hope to include this work as an ICS in the next REF.

- **Fascism and the International:** In conjunction with working on her submitted monograph, Parfitt established the 'Fascism and the International' project in 2016. She collaborates with artists, museums and cultural centres, including Mexico's Museum of Modern Art, the Swedish art centre Konstepidermin, the Melbourne-based sound art collective Liquid Architecture, and the Italian Cultural Institute in London, to organise numerous public events, including a performance of Futurist 'Words in Freedom' by Luciano Chessa, an internationally acclaimed composer and musicologist.
- **Transnational Listing Project:** Following on from his submitted monograph, Sullivan's research on transnational 'anti-terrorist listing' has been a catalyst for work with lawyers in London and Rome to provide representation to individuals targeted by security lists. He was also contracted by UNHCR to produce recommendations on how best to counter threats posed by foreign fighters in a way that is human rights compliant. His recommendations resulted in UNHCR 'best practice' guidelines for all member states. In late 2020, Sullivan was awarded an ESRC Future Leaders grant for £1,200,000 for a project entitled *Infra-Legalities: Global Security Infrastructures, Artificial Intelligence and International Law*.
- **Refugees and Asylum:** York and Warren's research has impacted on national practitioner and judicial understandings of asylum and immigration law; their 2014 Report and article on Children as Failed Asylum Seekers is referenced in *Rhuppiah v SS Home Department* [2018] UKSC 58, and resulted in their delivering training on asylum-seeking children to foster carers for Kent Social Services. York advises the Home Office and Kent County Council on asylum matters, contributed to recommendations made in the 'Windrush Lessons Learned' review (2020), and most recently is active defending migrant rights during COVID-19.

New collaborations resulting from the pandemic include Hayes with UNISON and GMB on care workers, Alessandrini and Eslava's multi-partner project on labour precarity in Colombia, and Piska/Carr with Canterbury Housing Advice on evictions and homelessness.

In addition to our ICSs and these exemplars, KLS staff work closely with a number of other third sector organisations, including: the Runnymede Trust, Psychologists for Social Change, Inclusive Mosque, JUSTICE and Women's Aid, Quaker Homeless Trust, BPAS, and the Abortion Support Network. Our research has also informed the activities of national, devolved, and international governmental departments and bodies, including: Welsh Government; Ministry of Justice; Judicial College of England and Wales; UK Association of Women Judges; Council of Europe; Children's Rights Ombudsman (Ireland); Cabinet Office, Victoria, Australia; Financial Crimes Committee and Federal House of Representatives, Nigeria; United Nations.

Public engagement is also facilitated by our use of conventional and social media. During this REF period, our research expertise was profiled in a wide variety of national and international media outlets. Several colleagues are frequent contributors to *The Conversation*. We host three research-related blogs/newsletters, many of our funded projects also have their own outward-facing public sites and blogs, and we regularly organise webinars with legal professionals and third sector organisations. A public engagement highlight is our collaborative activities with national and international arts organisations; notable examples include: Drakopoulou and Parsley's lecture series with Open School East (Margate) on 'the artist and political authority'; Parfitt's collaborations (see above); Vigneron's heritage work with the Beaney Museum (Canterbury); and Zartaloudis's collaborations with architects and designers leading to award-winning and publicly exhibited collaborations in Venice, Berlin, and Athens.

#### *Responsiveness to Policy Priorities*

Our outputs, ICSs, law clinic work and research collaborations show our responsiveness to numerous national and international priorities, including: criminal justice; economic inequality; environmental degradation; labour rights and standards; mental health; homelessness; health and reproductive rights; international conflict and human rights; democracy and political accountability; gender justice; indigenous rights; and refugees and asylum.



### Further Contributions to the Research Base, Economy, and Society

Three areas in particular demonstrate our contribution to shaping the broader research base over this REF period:

#### *Theoretical, Conceptual, and Methodological Innovation*

In addition to our monographs on 'time' (Grabham), 'nomos' (Zartaloudis), and 'legal reasoning' (Samuel), as well as the body of conceptual work produced by our intellectual property scholars (Bellido, Kang, Pottage), colleagues have played an active role in bringing researchers together to build new theoretical, conceptual, and methodological pathways, nationally and internationally. Notable (co)edited collections include: Bellido's *Landmark Cases in Intellectual Property Law* (Hart, 2017); Grabham's *Law & Time* (Routledge, 2019); Glanert's *Comparative Legal Reasoning* (Wiley, 2018) and *Law's Hermeneutics* (Routledge, 2017); Jivraj's *Decolonizing Sexualities* (2017) and *Towards Decolonising the University* (2020); Kang and Kendall's 'Materialities', *Law, Text, Culture* (2020); Parsley and Piska's 'Legal critiques and social justice', *Griffith Law Review* (2019); Piska and Gibson's *Critical Trusts Law* (Counterpress, 2019); and Zartaloudis's *Law and Philosophical Theory* (Rowmann, 2018) and *Land Law & Urban Policy in Context* (Routledge, 2017). KLS staff are also founders of several conceptually innovative networks over the REF period, detailed in s.1.

#### *Social Policy and Feminist Law Reform*

In addition to the submitted monographs on ownership (Carr), caring labour (Hayes), family justice (Hunter), debt policy (Ramsay), and financial literacy (Zokaityte), colleagues have played a leading role in social policy and feminist law reform through (co)edited collections, for example: Carr's *Law & the Precarious Home* (Hart, 2018); Horsey, *Revisiting the Regulation of Human Fertilisation and Embryology* (Routledge, 2015); Hunter, *Feminist Judgments of Aotearoa New Zealand* (Hart, 2017), and *Australian Feminist Judgments* (Hart, 2014); McCandless's *Northern/Irish Feminist Judgments* (Hart, 2017); Rackley's *Women's Legal Landmarks* (2019), and through their founding roles in networks such as: Carr's Home, City, World; and Hunter, Rackley and McCandless's collaborations on various feminist judgment projects in more than twelve countries around the world. Horsey, Hunter, and Sheldon's ICS activities also make an important contribution here as does Grabham and Renz's CI collaboration on the ESRC-funded project (based at KCL) 'The Future of Legal Gender' and their 2020 co-edited special issue of *feminists@law*.

#### *Critical International and Economic Law*

In addition to the seven submitted monographs on critical international and economic law (Alessandrini, Eslava, Haslam, Oduntun, Parfitt, Ramsay, Sullivan), KLS colleagues have shaped this field through (co)edited collections such as: Ashiagbor's *Re-imagining Labour Law for Development* (Hart, 2019); Eslava's *Bandung, Global History & International Law* (CUP, 2017), 'Imperial Locations', *Leiden J of IL* (2018), and 'History, Anthropology and Archive of International Law', *Leiden J of IL* (2017); Kendall's *Contested Justice: Politics and Practice of the International Court* (CUP, 2015); and through founding research networks, i.e. Ashiagbor's Informal Work in the Global North and South and Labour Law RN; Eslava and Parfitt's International Law and Politics (LSA); Grief's Airspace Tribunal Network; and Oduntun's Air and Space, and World Anti-Corruption networks. Our research centres CECIL and SoCril are founding members of the multi-institutional international Economic Law Collective (2019).

In addition to the three areas above, other leading wider contributions include: Albi's co-edited, open access *National Constitutions in Europe and Global Governance* (2019), bringing together leading scholars of constitutional law from twenty-nine European countries to revisit the role of national constitutions in Europe (over 200,000 downloads, earning Albi the 'Contribution of the Year' Award, Estonian Academy of Sciences Constitutional Law Foundation 2020); Casey's co-edited *Changing Landscapes of Food Governance* (2015), an innovative collection focused on public/private debates in regulatory theory; Glanert's co-edited *Law's Hermeneutics* (2017), a

significant interdisciplinary intervention in the field of legal translation; and Vigneron's co-edited 'Critical Perspectives on the Management of World Heritage Properties', a special issue of the multi-disciplinary journal *Historic Environment* (2016).

### **Professional Association/Organizational Leadership**

These include: SLSA, Former Chair (Hunter); SLSA Board (Ashiagbor; Cloatre; Kirton-Darling; Perry-Kessarar; Renz); Onati Institute Governing Board (Hunter); Law and Global Justice Centre Advisory Board (Ashiagbor); Industrial Law Society Executive Committee (Ashiagbor); Organising Committee, Assoc. Law, Culture, Humanities (Kang and Kendall); International Society for Research on Art and Cultural Heritage Law Board (Vigneron); British and Irish Legal Institute Trustee (Ashiagbor); Wales TUC, GMB Union, Institute of Employment Rights (Hayes); Law, Literature and Humanities Association (Aus), Former President (McVeigh); International Association for History/Theory of Intellectual Property, Executive Committee (Bellido).

### **Journal Editorial and Advisory Boards**

These include: *Economy and Society* (Pottage); *Feminist Legal Studies* (Ashiagbor; Grabham; McCandless; Renz); *feminists@law* (Alessandrini; Drakopoulou; Gibson; Haslam; Hayes; Hunter; McCandless; Parfitt; Rackley; Renz; Williams); *European LJ* (Schepel, Co-Editor-in-Chief); *Journal of Immigration, Nationality and Asylum Law* (York); *Child and Family Law Quarterly*, *Nordic Journal of Law and Society*, *International Journal of Discrimination and the Law*, *Law, Culture, Humanities*, *Australian Feminist LJ* (Hunter); *Art/Law Journal* (Parsley); *Current Legal Problems* (Ashiagbor); *Japanese Yearbook of International Law* (Arai); *Journal of Consumer Law and Journal of European Consumer and Market Law* (Ramsay); *Journal of Medical Law and Ethics* (Horsey, McCandless); *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law* (Perry-Kessarar); *Law and Critique* (Alessandrini); *International Journal of Law in Context*, *Social and Legal Studies*; *Reproductive Biomedicine and Society* (Sheldon); *Latin American LJ* (Eslava); *Law and History* (Bellido); *Nigerian Yearbook of International Law* (Oduntun, GE); *Birkbeck Law Review* (Bellido); *Droit et Société* (Cloatre); *Journal of Italian Philosophy* (Parsley); *Leiden Journal of International Law* (Kendall, GE); *Yearbook of Polish European Studies* (Albi); *Humanity* (Eslava, Kendall); *Journal of Social Welfare and Family Law* (Carr); *Journal of Law and Society* (Hayes); *Law, Text, Culture* (McVeigh); *London Review of International Law* (Ashiagbor, Kendall).

### **Book Series General Editorships and Advisory Boards**

These include: Ashiagbor and Hunter, GEs of *IALS Open Book Service for Law*; Sheldon, *Law in Context* (CUP); Hayes, *Transforming Legal Histories* (Routledge); McVeigh, *Critical Studies in Law, Literature and Humanities* (EUP); Herman, *Diverse Voices* (Bristol UP); Hunter, GE of *Onati International Series in Law & Society* (Hart) and *Edward Elgar Research Handbook on Law & Society*, *Palgrave Socio-Legal Studies*; Parsley, *Advances in Critical Thought* (Anthem); Williams and Piska, GEs of *Kent Critical Law* (Bloomsbury); Zartaloudis, GE of *Encounters in Law & Philosophy* (EUP).

### **Peer Review Colleges and Grant Committees**

A majority of submitted colleagues participate on grants committees, peer review colleges, etc., including: Australian Research Council; AHRC; Research Council for Culture and Society, Academy of Finland; ERC; EU H2020; ESRC; FWO (Netherlands); Irish Research Council; COST; Wellcome; British Academy GCRF; British Council.

### **Notable International Fellowships**

These include: University of Geneva (Arai); Osgoode Hall Law School (Ashiagbor); Institute for International Law and the Humanities, Melbourne (Ashiagbor, Eslava, Parfitt, Parsley); United Nations University Institute (Ashiagbor); Flinders University (Sheldon); UTS Sydney (Hunter, Sheldon); New York University (Bellido); University of New South Wales (Bellido); Brown Foundation Menebes and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (Glanert); RMIT Australia (Hayes); Hong

**Unit-level environment template (REF5b)**

Kong University (McVeigh, Williams); Scuola Normale Superiore Pisa (Parsley); LUISS Guido Carli Law School, Rome (Schepel); University of Torino (Schepel).

**International Invited Talks, etc.**

KLS scholars gave many invited talks across five continents over this REF period. All submitted colleagues have also acted as reviewers/assessors for journals and/or publishers, and most have engaged in conference, workshop, and conference stream organising. A number of submitted colleagues also contributed to the sustainability of the discipline by teaching and training PhD students in 12 countries across five continents.