

School of Law and Politics

Research Centre Annual Report 2014-15

Please complete and submit to the School Research Officer at LAWPL-Research@cf.ac.uk by **date**.

Name of Research Centre:	Centre of Law and Society
Please give a brief description of the Research Centre's strategic aims and research interests for the academic year 2014-15:	n/a
Please give a brief description of the Research Centre's activities for the academic year 2014-15:	n/a
Please detail how the 2014-15 budget was	n/a

<p>spent (if applicable):</p>	
<p>Please give a brief description of the Research Centre's strategic aims and research interests for the academic year 2015-16:</p>	<p>The Centre's self-reflection as an intellectual and institutional hub connecting the Journal of Law and Society and the LAWPL and thus be especially driven by the following aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. dissemination of the Journal of Law and Society's outstanding scholarship and academic culture among the LAWPL colleagues in particular and the Cardiff University's academic community in general; 2. strengthening the LAWPL's role as a leading national and international academic and research institution in socio-legal studies and sociology of law which has always been strongly supported and enhanced by the Journal of Law and Society; 3. national and international collaboration with other socio-legal research centres and institutions, especially the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law of the International Sociological Association and the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Onati, the Basque Country; 4. promotion of socio-legal research and knowledge at Cardiff University, especially by organizing postgraduate research groups and early career workshops and teaching programmes/summer schools related to the sociological and socio-legal methodology and research skills; 5. support of the LAWPL's general research culture by facilitating contacts between the LAWPL's staff members interested in socio-legal and

	<p>multidisciplinary legal studies and, furthermore, by collaboration with the LAWPL's other research centres and groups;</p> <p>6. establishment of the Centre's website archiving and disseminating socio-legal material including lectures, conversations, conferences, workshops and panel discussions organized by the Centre.</p>
<p>Please give a brief description of the Research Centre's intended activities for the academic year 2015-16:</p>	<p>The plan of activities for spring/summer 2016</p> <p>1. The Centre of Law and Society Launch Event</p> <p>The event's public lecture is to be delivered by Zygmunt Bauman on <i>Insecure Times, Insecure Laws</i>.</p> <p>Date: 3rd March 2016.</p> <p>2. The PhD and junior staff seminar on the meaning and importance of the sociological and social theoretical perspective of law.</p> <p>This seminar will be delivered by Zygmunt Bauman the day following his public lecture in Cardiff.</p> <p>Date: 4th March 2016</p> <p>3. The conference <i>Main Currents in the Contemporary Sociology of Law: the state of the sociology of law and socio-legal studies in the UK and the JLS's contribution to it.</i></p> <p>Date: 9th and 10th June 2016.</p> <p>Place: Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University</p> <p>Participants (who confirmed their attendance as of 5th January 2016):</p> <p>Tony Bradney and Fiona Cownie (Keele University), Davina Cooper (University of Kent), Dave Cowan (Bristol University), Roger Cotterrell (QMW), Kieran McEvoy (Queen's University</p>

Belfast), Mavis Maclean (Oxford University), Linda Mulcahy (LSE), David Nelken (King's College London), David Sugarman (Lancaster University), Phil Thomas (JLS), William Twining (UCL), Sally Wheeler (Queen's University Belfast)

4. In spring/summer 2016, the Centre is going to organise a series of workshops and **seminars focusing on socio-legal methodology**, especially empirical methods.
5. The launch of monthly meetings of the **Socio-Legal Reading Group** (formerly known as SKUNK)
6. Post-Colonial Perspectives on Sovereignty and Constitutionalism Theme

This theme will be developed in collaboration with the CLS by the Post-Colonial African Studies Research Group (PCAS) within the Cardiff School of Law and Politics. The theme will address the nature of transnational law; the influence of the colonial and post-colonial trajectories of states upon the development of international law; and the emergence of global constitutionalism. The events set out will bring two internationally renowned scholars working in legal and political theory to Cardiff to participate in high-profile events focussed on their work.

Events within the theme:

I. Situating the Global Constitution: Perspectives from Contemporary Africa

This two-day event will take the form of a lecture and colloquium. It will be centred on the ongoing work on the emerging global constitution by Professor Chris Thornhill, University of Manchester.

II. What Future for Third World Approaches to International

	<p>Law?</p> <p>The Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA) Annual Lecture will be delivered this year by Professor James Gathii of Loyola University, Chicago. A Kenyan national Gathii is a leading figure in Third World Approaches to International Law (TWAIL) and a renowned scholar on international trade and African constitutionalism.</p>
<p>Please detail how the Centre intends to spend its 2015-16 budget:</p>	<p>The public lecture/the PhD seminar: 2000GBP</p> <p>The Main Currents Conference: 6000GBP</p> <p>The methodology seminars: 2500GBP</p> <p>The post-colonial perspectives events: 3,250GBP</p> <p>The Socio-Legal Reading Group: 250GBP</p>
<p>List of current Research Centre Members:</p>	<p>The Centre's Committee members:</p> <p>Stewart Field</p> <p>Lydia Hayes</p> <p>Ambreena Manji</p> <p>Jiri Priban</p> <p>Roseanne Russell</p> <p>Membership is still fluid but app. 30 LAWPL staff members</p>