Kent Law School (KLS) is an interdisciplinary centre of critical research and teaching in law, predominantly focused on social, economic, political and environmental justice. We have a strong international reputation for socio-legal, critical, and feminist research. Our teaching methods have led at least two generations of socially-aware legal pedagogy in the UK, putting law into its wider context for undergraduates and postgraduates alike. Our law clinic combines practice-led, experiential teaching with the provision of valuable legal services to the local Kent community.

In this report we highlight our research contributions for 2017/18, providing some examples of how they have influenced others – academics, members of the public, non-academic professionals, artists, and government. A full record of our research activities for the year is available in the appendices.
Reflecting on 2017/18

I am very happy to introduce Kent Law School’s 2017-2018 research report. Kent Law School provides a warm, collegial environment in which academics from a range of legal backgrounds can study law’s effects in the wider world. Our approach is critical and innovative, with many of us working across traditional academic boundaries and forging research links with people and organisations outside of academia. It is a difficult job to represent the diversity of our research and impact collaborations in a short publication like this, but this report gives you an indication of our reflexive approach and the kind of work we do. I would like to thank Professor Amanda Perry-Kessaris for pulling the report together and Cathy Norman for her excellent on-going research support to the department. I hope you enjoy reading about our work.

Professor Emily Grabham
Co-director of Research
Kent Law School
How we change society

A spotlight on Dr Gavin Sullivan’s research on Contemporary Security Law and Practice

We have long taken seriously the need for sustained, reciprocal research relationships with people and organisations outside of academia. We benefit greatly from working closely with domestic and international collaborators who inspire, support, shape and, sometimes, directly commission, our research, as well as benefiting from it in a range of ways. Our collaborative approach has substantially enhanced the relevance, significance and reach of our work, ensuring that it influences law and policy-makers, judges and other legal practitioners, activists and NGOs, international organisations and higher education practitioners.

This year we choose to highlight the meaningful change produced by Dr Gavin Sullivan’s research around contemporary security law and practice. In the following paragraphs Gavin reflects on his experiences of working with the United Nations (UN) to address human rights abuses under the post-9/11 terrorist listing regime – how and why did he begin to engage with potential stakeholders/beneficiaries; what were the rewards and what would he do differently next time?

In 2010 I was working as a human rights lawyer for the European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights in Berlin, co-ordinating the Counter-terrorism and Human Rights programme. We were looking at the most egregious abuses of human rights after 9/11 and trying to provide redress to some victims. I was asked to write a report on what was a controversial but little-known aspect of the global war on terror: the changing nature of the UN Security Council and their use of security lists to target individual terrorism suspects on the basis of secret intelligence without access to due process. This was an issue that hadn’t been given much attention in the global war on terror – a lot of people were talking about Guantanamo Bay and torture in Abu Ghraib, but the use of administrative procedures by UN institutions had not been given much attention at all. So Ben Hayes, then working at State Watch, and I wrote Blacklisted – a report exposing the changing nature of the UN and the human rights abuses that came with this new terrorism listing regime.

As a result of that report, I was asked by a number of individuals who were themselves targeted on this security council terrorism list to help them come off this list. So I started acting for terrorism suspects – individuals who had been put on the list without access to due process or a fair trial. I’ve been doing that work pro-bono as part of the Transnational Listing Project since 2010.

In 2013-2014, tens of thousands of so-called ‘foreign terrorist fighters’ from all over the world were travelling to Syria and Iraq to fight with groups like ISIL and Al-Nusra Front. They were identified as a new security threat to which the international community did not know how to respond, and the Security Council passed a resolution introducing far-reaching measures for all states in the world to change their legal systems to combat the threat of foreign terrorist fighters, but to do so in a way that was compliant with fundamental rights. So I was asked to do some empirical research and to draft some best practice guidelines for states on how they could meet their human rights obligations whilst countering this threat of foreign terrorist fighters. My existing research came to the attention of an individual working inside the Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights in New York who invited me to apply to work for them as a consultant to produce an empirically-grounded public report with recommendations to states on how to achieve that balance.

From 2016 through to 2017 I was doing empirical research in at least three countries: Tunisia, England and France.
on how laws to counter foreign terrorist fighters were impacting adversely on human rights. I interviewed a number of people in Tunisia in particular, who had been subjected to secret house arrest procedures, tortured and arbitrarily detained, on the basis that they were suspected extremists. I interviewed members of governments who were setting up databases and got to see some of what the global war against violent extremism looked like in practice, and some of the human rights problems that were associated with that. I think perhaps that was the most rewarding experience of the work undertaken to date – to engage with some of those individuals, to hear their concerns, and to give them the opportunity to give those concerns a global voice through the work that I was doing for the UN. My research, after extensive editing by more than thirteen UN agencies, resulted in the publication in June 2018 of a UN report – *The Guidance to States on Human Rights Compliance Responses to the Threat Posed by Foreign Fighters* – which acts as a stand-alone guidance document for all states in the world, shaping how states develop their responses to the problem of foreign terrorist fighters.

There are a few lessons to be learnt from my story, particularly for anyone considering impact-related work with large international organisations like the UN. Firstly, it is very important to clarify and confirm the expectations of both sides of this kind of engagement at the very outset. The UN is used to engaging with consultants primarily through consultant contractual documents, and it’s very difficult to extrapolate from those kinds of legal texts about the impact of the work you’re doing for those large organisations. In particular, researchers should be clear from the beginning that as a researcher you need the impact that your work is generating to be verified. It can be hard to advocate for yourself as an academic, especially early career, but it is reasonable to negotiate these issues up front, even when you’re doing work for large organisations like the United Nations.

Secondly, don’t be naïve: do your due diligence research about the political environment in which you’re working. What became clear for me is that I really had under-researched the complex diplomatic environment in which this research would be carried out. As academics we are used to doing our research in a fairly un-fettered way. We may deal with revise and resubmit recommendations from academic journals and so on, but in general independence is integral to our academic integrity, and that’s part of the research that we do. But when you are working as a consultant for a large international organisation, the rules of the game slightly change. There are a whole range of political actors who weigh in and shape the findings of your research, and that is certainly what has happened in relation to my research. Some really substantial changes were made to my work that I would have individually objected to, had I been brought into that editing process. So, go in with your eyes wide open and be prepared to make compromises, or not, along the way.

Thirdly, document the impact of your work along the way. For example, I found that those who brought me into the UN were not in a position to provide verification when I needed it because they had left the relevant department or organisation. So don’t leave that to the end– ask people to send an email to acknowledge how your work came to their attention, and the importance of your research to their work. All of that helps to build up your evidence base and to show how your work is having an impact in the world.
How we communicate our research

A Spotlight on Dr Alan McKenna’s Research on Drones

‘Academics should engage with the media to demonstrate the valuable impact of higher education research and innovation to the public. The University’s Press Office works closely with its academic community to promote research and expertise via the media to as wide an audience as possible.’

Martin Herrema, University Press Officer

Academics at Kent Law School communicate their research in many ways, making creative use of social media, blogs, the University’s central News Centre, local and national press, as well as podcasts, radio and television outlets. As well as raising public awareness of specific research findings at Kent Law School, this activity helps raise the profile of socio-legal research at Kent more broadly.

We use a range of non-traditional methods for reaching audiences including tweeting, posting articles on LinkedIn, participating in news programmes on KMTV (a collaboration between the University of Kent and KM Media Group) and podcasting. Some use Kent Law School blogs such as CounterCurrents (for academics/PGR scholars), Clinical (for Law Clinic staff), and the Law School’s news blog offers opportunities for sharing research-related stories. Others also maintain their own blogs or contribute articles and opinion pieces to online outlets such as The Conversation when their research expertise can offer alternative perspectives on topical items of news.

A number of colleagues feature regularly in the national media. Here we highlight the contributions of one, Dr Alan McKenna, whose expertise was in high demand during 2017/18. Alan has undertaken a large number of media appearances discussing drone related stories. Many of these appearances have focused on his research into the public perceptions of drones, and the calls received by police forces across the country concerning drones.

‘A regular theme that I have discussed many times in the media is whether there is a need for greater drone regulation. It is important to be able to enforce existing regulation before considering whether there is any need for further regulation. Enforcement of existing regulations has been problematic as police forces have in recent years faced cuts to their resources and have to make judgement calls on what they will prioritise.’

Dr Alan McKenna

Collaboration
Most KLS academics engage in collaborations – co-producing research-related work with other academics and non-academics – and we benefit greatly from working closely with a wide range of collaborators both domestically and internationally. Our non-academic collaborators not only provide significant audiences for our research but, in many cases, inspire, support and, on occasion, directly commission it, shaping our research questions and having direct input into research design. This collaborative approach has greatly enhanced the salience, significance and reach of our work beyond academia which has had significant impact not just on the work of law-makers but also on other professional groups, activists, artists and NGOs.

In 2017/18 we choose to highlight collaborations that have helped shape new approaches to research at the intersections of law, arts and humanities.

**Fascism and anti-fascist resistance**

Dr Rose Parfitt is collaborating with a range of artists, museums and cultural centres in Mexico, Sweden, Australia and the UK as part of the Fascism and the International project, which she founded in 2017 with funding from the Australian Research Council and Melbourne Law School. Earlier this year Rose worked with Melbourne-based sound art collective Liquid Architecture, the art gallery West Space, the Italian Cultural Institute and others, to organise a series of public events which included a performance of ‘Futurist words in Freedom’ by Luciano Chessa, an internationally acclaimed composer, conductor, audiovisual and performance artist, and pianist.

Luciano has a longstanding interest in Futurism, an art movement closely associated with the early Fascist movement. Dr Parfitt invited him to speak about the relationship between Futurism and Fascism at her workshop entitled ‘Speeches Punctuated with Resounding Slaps: Law, Expansion, Hierarchy, Resistance’ at a contemporary art gallery in downtown Melbourne.

During an evening session of the workshop, which was open to the public, Luciano performed Futurist sound poetry and discussed the work and politics of Luigi Russolo, one of the pioneers of noise music. He also performed at Melbourne Town Hall (co-organised with Melbourne City Council) playing to an audience of 2,200 members of the public before embarking on a tour of Australia and New Zealand.
Architectural projects
Dr Thanos Zartaloudis’s architectural project, Mechanism of Suspension, combines his expertise in Greek and common law with the architectural design of a ‘coastal machine’ — a machine designed to expose the commercial exploitation of land and present alternative visions of land use. This project was competitively commissioned and exhibited at the Venice Biennale to represent the Greek State, as well as in the new Acropolis Museum in Athens.

More recently in his most extensive collaboration, Dr Zartaloudis has worked closely with Berlin based architect, author and philosopher Aristide Antonas on an ongoing project called Urban Protocols, which was published by DPR in Barcelona. The work has received many awards, including at the Thinking Space Competition, Croatia. This project invents a new series of protocols for the social use of public and private spaces.

Open School East
Professor Maria Drakopoulou and Dr Connal Parsley have been involved with Open School East, an arts space in Margate. As part of an initiative of Kent’s Centre for Critical Thought, they have delivered sessions on the relationship between the artist and political authority, and on the art of law, justice and technique. This initiative creates an interface between a leading local arts organisation and the interdisciplinary research in law, philosophy and critical thought being conducted at Kent Law School.

Through this project, early career artists and cultural practitioners – as well as community members – are introduced to current topics of pressing cultural concern and encouraged to reflect on the ways that contemporary legal scholarship – particularly work that is inspired by the arts and humanities – has responded to these topics. In such a way, Kent Law School research contributes directly to the formation and training of today’s arts practitioners, and increasing awareness about law and legal themes in the broader community.
Externally funded projects

Critical and socio-legal research of the kind conducted at KLS is relevant across the social sciences, natural sciences, arts and humanities. Colleagues have benefitted from grants from UK Research and Innovation councils, such as the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC); from international funders such as the European Research Council; from generalist charitable funders such as the Leverhulme Trust and British Academy; from law-specific funders such as the Socio-Legal Studies Association and the Society of Legal Scholars; and from specialist funders such as the Nuffield Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) for research on challenges faced by Official Development Assistance (ODA) countries.

A full list of funding obtained in 2017/18 can be found in the appendices. Here we highlight one project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and one funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

**The Legal Materiality Network**

Dr Hyo Yoon Kang and Dr Sara Kendall were awarded an AHRC Networking grant of more than £35,000 to establish an international Legal Materiality Research Network that will help bring together a community of interdisciplinary scholars with a shared focus on studying and thinking about the relationship between law and legal materials.

Law is commonly viewed as a field of texts. Much legal scholarship focuses on rules, decisions, and judgments, emphasising the central role of drafting legislation and interpretive practices. Yet this does not capture the other ways that law works – not only as a text-based profession, but also as a form of power that operates over bodies and across spaces. The practice of law is increasingly mediated through software and statistical analyses, such as in the case of transnational surveillance networks and digital databases. How is the substance of law changing in relation to new technologies and legal forms? How can legal scholarship benefit from thinking about law’s materiality together with developments in other academic disciplines? Dr Kang and Dr Kendall’s Legal Materiality Research Network is concerned with formulating new approaches to understanding law’s changing materiality, from textuality to diverse matters and media.

The network includes a broad range of members: from emerging junior scholars and research students to world-leading scholars who have studied the specificity of legal techniques and objects and have engaged deeply with questions of materiality and interpretation. Their disciplinary homes are in fields as diverse as anthropology, English literature, legal studies, media studies, politics, political theory, rhetoric, science and technology studies and sociology. The network also includes artists who are concerned with the force of law and its physical and virtual manifestations.

It builds on previous workshops and conversations that have explored the relationship between law, materiality, matters, different media and textuality over the past couple of years, and was launched in January 2018 with a symposium entitled ‘Articulating Law’s Matters’ at the Warburg Institute in London.
PRIVacy-aware personal data management and Value Enhancement for Leisure Travellers (PriVELT)

Lisa Dickson is part of a team that successfully obtained funding as part of a large grant from the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) to work on privacy and personal data protection for travellers. The 3 year project will be undertaken by a team composed of scholars at Kent, Surrey and Warwick working across five academic disciplines (Computer Science, Tourism and Hospitality Management, Psychology, Business, Law) for an overall budget of roughly £1.4 million. The team is led by Professor Shujun Li of Kent Interdisciplinary Research Centre in Cyber Security (KirCCS) at the University of Kent. It is part of 11 granted projects following EPSRC’s 2017 call on Trust, Identity, Privacy and Security in the Digital Economy 2.0.

This project – named ‘PriVELT’ – applies the “privacy by design” approach, focusing on how travellers can make informed decisions to whom their information is available (e.g. hotel, local authorities, insurance company), how much information they share (granularity), and for how long (e.g. the duration of an overseas trip). Lisa will be considering current and future data protection and privacy protection laws of the UK, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and relevant laws in other jurisdictions especially countries in which we will conduct our field studies such as China and how they can be taken into account through a privacy by design framework.

From the Archive

Ten years ago Professor Sally Sheldon completed a project entitled Exploring Key Concepts in Feminist Legal Theory: Gender, Sexuality, Family and State. The project was funded by a British Academy Networking grant, with matched funding provided by Emory University. It resulted in five highly successful workshops, which brought scholars from the UK and US into dialogue regarding the way in which feminists in each jurisdiction use concepts of the state, race, the family, governance and citizenship.
Events

Every year KLS hosts a wide range of events, some small and intimate, some large scale, some specialist and some general. A full list of events held in 2017/18 can be found in the Appendix. Here we highlight a specialist event dedicated to equity and trusts, a more general student-led event and a week-long series of in-house events around research methods.

Equity & Trusts Research Network Symposium: Power, Property and the Law of Trusts Revisited: Roger Cotterrell’s Contribution to Critical Trusts Scholarship

In October 2017 Dr Hayley Gibson and Nick Piška hosted a two-day symposium revisiting themes and critical perspectives in Roger Cotterrell’s work on trusts. The symposium, sponsored by the SLSA and KLS’s Social Critique of Law research group, was one of a number of events and critical interventions undertaken through the Equity & Trusts Research Network (www.kent.ac.uk/law/research/centres-and-groups/equity.html).

Participants were invited to reflect on the role of power in trusts law; trust law’s contributions to social, economic and political inequality; and on the theoretical resources for a critique of trust law and practice.

The first day of the symposium, held at the Friends Meeting House in Canterbury, began with a panel on settlors, trust industry and the limits of trust. The second panel turned to theoretical frameworks for a critique of the trust. The final panel on the first day concerned historical perspectives on trusts.

The second day of the symposium was held in the Dickens Room of the Pilgrims Hospices Conference Centre in Canterbury. The day opened with a panel on Cotterrell’s conception of moral distance and trust. The second panel concerned trusts and the family context. The final panel turned to the role of the state in trusts law, including a presentation from the Tax Justice Network.

The symposium provided many insights from different theoretical perspectives and jurisdictional contexts. Papers from the symposium are to be published in a collection with Counter Press in April 2019, with an Afterword from Roger Cotterrell, which will be the only collection of critical scholarship wholly devoted to trusts law in all its varying contexts. Nick Piška and Hayley Gibson hope the collection will kick-start renewed interest in critical trusts scholarship.

Nick Piška
Senior Lecturer in Law

Dr Hayley Gibson
Lecturer in Law
Kent Critical Student Law Conference 2018: Law and Metamorphosis

The Kent Student Critical Law Society (KCLS) hosted their annual student conference on 17 March 2018. The day-long conference featured keynote lectures by Professor Sally Sheldon (discussing history and developments in abortion law) Professor Wade Mansell (on the history of critical legal scholarship) and Sheona York, Kent Law Clinic (discussing the efficacy of human rights from the perspective of an immigration lawyer). There were seventeen conference panellists at both undergraduate and postgraduate level, from a number of universities in the UK (Kent, Oxford Brookes, York, Sussex, SOAS, Birkbeck, Bath) and in Europe (Science Po, Amsterdam, Bologna). The streams covered a diverse range of topics, including Law and Philosophy, Human Rights, Law and AI, Gender, Sexuality and Law, Law and Social Change and International Law. The organising committee was comprised of undergraduate student members of the KCLS, who demonstrated remarkable organisational and management skill in arranging and coordinating the conference.

The committee’s critical vision reflected the critical ethos of the law school, and was manifested in the choice of panel subjects, the decisions the committee made to be inclusive of interdisciplinary perspectives, and the choice made this year to engage with critical practitioners in the Law Clinic. The conference was a remarkable success, and feedback from student attendees was very positive. All of this was due to the commendable efforts and professionalism of the undergraduate organising committee.

Kent Law School Methods Festival

Kent Law School held a week long Methods Festival in October 2017, organised by Professor Emily Grabham (Director of Research) and the KLS Research Support team (Cathy Norman and Sian Robertson). A series of workshops, training and events were held in order to help demystify research methods in the social sciences. These included an ‘Introduction to Historical Social Research’ event led by Dr Simon Trafford from the Institute of Historical Research, a Historical Methods roundtable featuring Professor Marie-Andree Jacob (Keele) with colleagues from KLS, a Participatory Action Research workshop featuring Dr Umul Eret (Open University) and an event explaining funding for legal research, in which Professor Diamond Ashiagbor gave advice from an ESRC reviewer’s perspective. Also included in the week was a media training workshop led by the company Inside Edge, in which academics learnt about how to present their research to a wide audience through the medium of radio and television.
Research centres and research groups

KLS hosts or co-hosts six Research Centres: the Centre for Race, Equality and Gender Justice; the Centre for European and Comparative Law; the Centre for Critical International Law; the Centre for Critical Thought; the Centre for Heritage at Kent; and the Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies. It also hosts or co-hosts four Research Groups: Social Critiques and Law; Equity and Trusts Research Network; Clio: A Law and History Research Group; and Research Group on Philosophy, Political Theology and Law, each of which serves as a hub for a unique set of cross-disciplinary themes.

A full list of KLS research centres and groups can be found in the Appendix. Here we choose to highlight the work of the Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies (KISS) and The Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL).

Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies (KISS)

The central aims of Kent Interdisciplinary Centre for Spatial Studies (KISS) are to consolidate high-quality, innovative and interdisciplinary world-leading individual and collaborative research in spatial studies conceived widely and critically; to expand the present range of interdisciplinary collaborative research at Kent by encouraging sharing of expertise around spatial analysis and spatial studies across disciplines and to support research funding applications and projects providing strong interdisciplinary expertise in spatial studies at the University of Kent. KISS also aims to provide in-house training on theories and methods for spatial research, launch and support new interdisciplinary PhD programme(s) and new ‘wild’ modules on spatial studies and enhance employability skills of UG and PG students. It also engages in outreach work such as supporting contract research bids to governmental and other agencies, strengthening the University’s links with local/regional institutions and facilitating impact-oriented outreach activities.

In November 2017 the annual KISS lecture was given by Professor Adrian Lahoud (Dean of the School of Architecture at the Royal College of Art) and was entitled Architecture’s Anthropology. An Introduction to Geographic Informations Systems training event was held from May to November in 2017. GIS is increasingly being used in many disciplines to help solve a wide range of “real world” problems.
problems and advance the current state of research by exploring the spatial properties of events and processes. The overall aim of this training session was to provide an applied introduction to the use of GIS.

The KISS Annual Workshop entitled Researching and Teaching Spatially was held in July 2018 at the University of Kent. KLS Contributors included Mia Tamarin discussing Water commodification as conflict pacification: the case of Palestine – Israel, Gian Giacomo Fusco on Law, Space and Discipline: The case of the Ghetto, Helen Carr on Thinking Grenfell Tower Through Space And Time, Thanos Zartaloudis discussing The Archipelago of Protocols and a Roundtable on Our Research as a Space of Critical Study and Resistance with David Ayers & Thanos Zartaloudis.

Lectures throughout the year have included Dr Platon Issaias of the Royal College of Art on ‘From asset to debt and dispossession, or why the Troika cares about two-bedroom flats in Athens’ (February 2017); Professor Helen Carr and Laura Binger of the University of Kent on ‘Taking Responsibility after Grenfell’ (December 2017) and independent writer and filmmaker Iain Sinclair on ‘The Last London’ (March 2018).

KISS have also hosted film screenings including Generation Revolution by Cassie Quarless and Usayd Unis (July 2018).

The Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL)

The Centre for Critical International Law draws on the strengths of the teaching and research at Kent to promote the study of international law. Amongst its aims are to promote individual and collaborative research by staff and postgraduate students, both within KLS and in collaboration with other academics and academic institutions; to coordinate and develop new teaching methods and resources, including the creation of a library of visual resources, in order to facilitate innovative teaching in international law and international relations; to encourage visiting scholars interested in critical international law to participate in the activities of the Centre and to build upon the guest lecture programme, which brings in academics and practitioners working critically on international law.

CeCIL hosts weekly speaker nights, which this year began with a riveting talk on ‘Immunities and Global Governance’ by human rights and international criminal law barrister Paul Clark of Garden Court Chambers (October 2017). It is CeCIL’s tradition to begin each year with a talk by a practitioner and, given Paul’s record of human rights and international criminal law litigation in a manner informed by the broad insights of Critical Legal Studies, he exemplifies the notion that ‘critical international law’ is in no way limited to abstract theories. In drawing upon his broad range of insights and experiences, Paul offered a fascinating perspective on the interconnected functions of state-actor immunity as it is currently evolving in both domestic and international legal orders. Other lectures included Nesam MacMillan of The University of Melbourne on ‘The Ideal of International Criminal Justice: Subjectivity, Geography, Ethics’ and Maïa Pal of Oxford Brookes University on ‘Jurisdictional Accumulation: Towards Non-Eurocentric Histories of Early Modern European Empires’. The CeCIL Annual Lecture was given by Professor Anne Orford of the University of Melbourne on ‘Surplus Population and the History of International Law’ (November 2017).

CeCIL also ran an International Law Skills and Employability Programme including an Essay Writing Workshop and sessions on CVs and How to Find and Apply for Jobs and a Careers in International Law Forum.
Postgraduate research students at KLS both contribute to and benefit from our vibrant research community, a supportive environment and many opportunities to engage critically with academic research and contemporary issues. Each year we celebrate as some of those students complete their studies. Here we highlight the diversity of next steps that some of those students chose to take.

Dr Margo Bernelin’s thesis was entitled ‘The Regulation of Biomedical Research in France and in the United Kingdom: A Comparative Study of the Concept of Legitimacy / Les sources du droit de la recherche biomédicale en France et au Royaume-Uni, étude comparative du concept de légitimité’. She went on to hold a post-doctoral post at University of Nantes on the topic of legal challenges associated with ‘precision’ medicine.

Dr Enkelejda Koka, whose thesis was entitled ‘Irregular Migration by Sea: A Critical Analysis of EU and EU Member State Extraterritorial Practice in the Light of International Law’, continues her role as Head of the Department at the Faculty of Law and Social Sciences at the University of New York Tirana, Albania

Dr Starla Hargita was a co-tutelle student with UTS Sydney. Her thesis was titled ‘Disruptive Time: Parental Leave, Flexible Work and Superannuation in Australia’. She continued with her position as Lecturer in Law at Australian Catholic University.

Dr Marta Almeida, whose thesis was entitled ‘The Concept of Law as Ordinary Language Philosophy’ is Research and Evaluation Manager in the Partnership Development Office at the University of Kent.

Dr Joanne Pearman, whose thesis was entitled ‘Bastards, Baby Farmers, and Social Control in Victorian Britain’ moved on to become Governance Manager for East Kent Housing

Dr Matthew Howard, whose thesis was entitled ‘The law in Anzac Day: an exploration of the commemorative narrative and its implication in the enactment of community’ went on to become a lecturer in law at the Open University.

Dr Salahudin Hidayat Shariff, whose thesis was entitled ‘The application of the ‘best interests of the child’ principle as a criterion for fulfilling Malaysia’s Convention on the Rights of the Child obligations: a comparative study between Malaysia’s Child Act 2001 and the English Children’s Act 1989 including the common law and Shari’ah law applications in the respective jurisdictions’, is Head of Human Rights and International Organisations at the Attorney General’s Chambers of Malaysia.

Dr Ali Al-Rashedi, whose thesis was entitled ‘In the context of both International law and the application of Islamic Sharia Law, how effective have Kuwait and the Kuwaiti legal system been in addressing, preventing and combating human trafficking?’, moved on to join the Faculty of Law at Kuwait University.

‘KLS was a fantastic environment in which I could develop my research and I owe my approach to my own academic career to the attitude of and generosity within the law school to postgraduate research’

Dr Matthew Howard
Visitors

KLS attracts a range of widely-relevant visitors each year through its Visiting Scholars programme. A full list of visitors for 2017/18 can be found in the Appendix. Here we highlight two.

Cressida Heyes

The Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality hosted Cressida Heyes, Professor of Political Science and Philosophy at the University of Alberta, Edmonton in May 2018. Professor Heyes is a former Canada Research Chair in Philosophy of Gender and Sexuality (2007-2017) whose work explores theory and theories of embodiment including feminist explorations of cosmetic surgery. While at the Centre Professor Heyes discussed common research interests with PGR students and colleagues and worked on a book, *Anaesthetics of Existence: Essays on Experience in its Absence*, which examines how bodily needs and practices are worked into governance of the self and governance of the polity.

Noelia Igareda Gonzalez

Professor Noelia Igareda Gonzalez of Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona visited KLS from September to November 2017 as part of a research project on surrogacy financed by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness. At KLS she studied the English legislation and practice on surrogacy as a potential model for a future legislation on surrogacy in Spain. Whilst here she participated in a conference on surrogacy organised by Dr Kirsty Horsey.
Publications

Every year KLS researchers produce publications in a wide range of formats including articles, monographs, edited collections, journal special issues, blog posts and policy briefs. A full list of publications from 2017/18 can be found in the Appendix. Here we highlight those publications that were awarded SLSA prizes.

In 2017, three KLS colleagues were shortlisted for SLSA research prizes, an award that recognises outstanding socio-legal scholarship. When announcing the shortlist, the SLSA confirmed it was unprecedented for the work of three academics from one institution to be recognised in this way.

Emily Grabham was awarded the Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) Socio-Legal History and Theory Prize for her monograph Brewing Legal Times: Things, Form and the Enactment of Law (University of Toronto Press, 2016). Helen Carr was awarded the SLSA Socio-Legal Article Prize for her book chapter ‘Legal technology in an age of austerity: documentation, “functional” incontinence and the problem of dignity’ in Dave Cowan and Dan Wincott (eds), Exploring the Legal in Socio-Legal Studies (Palgrave, 2016). Donatella Alessandrini was shortlisted for the Hart-Socio-Legal Book Prize for her chapter ‘Legal History and Theory Prize for her book chapter ‘Legal technology in an age of austerity: documentation, “functional” incontinence and the problem of dignity’ in Dave Cowan and Dan Wincott (eds), Exploring the Legal in Socio-Legal Studies (Palgrave, 2016). Donatella Alessandrini was shortlisted for the Hart-Socio-Legal Book Prize for her book chapter ‘Legal technology in an age of austerity: documentation, “functional” incontinence and the problem of dignity’ in Dave Cowan and Dan Wincott (eds), Exploring the Legal in Socio-Legal Studies (Palgrave, 2016).

Professor Carr has research interests in housing, social welfare and public law and is interested in the regulation of the poor especially the homeless, the asylum seeker, the anti-social and those in need of care. She is currently completing a book on homelessness with Professor Caroline Hunter. Professor Carr teaches property law to undergraduate students at Kent Law School and is a Judge with the First Tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) where lessees can appeal against service charges, tenants can challenge rents and landlords can appeal against regulatory action taken against them by local authorities. Earlier in 2017, Professor Carr published a book chapter arguing that by understanding the caring relationships between homeless people and their pets we could reframe how we think about them. Published as ‘Caring at the Borders of the Human: Companion animals and the homeless’, the chapter was included in the book ReValuing Care in Theory, Law and Policy (Routledge, 2016), edited by Rosie Harding, Ruth Fletcher and Chris Beasley.

Professor Grabham’s research areas include labour law, interdisciplinary perspectives on labour and value, and feminist legal theory. She is particularly interested in interdisciplinary approaches to legal analysis, drawing on methods and perspectives from legal anthropology, feminist theory, science and technology studies, and critical legal theory. Together with Dr Siân Beynon Jones from the University of York, Dr Grabham coordinated the interdisciplinary network ‘Regulating Time: New Perspectives on Regulation, Law and Temporalities’. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), this network investigated how law and regulation are shaped by dominant concepts of time.

Professor Alessandrini has research interests in the areas of critical development studies, trade theory and practice, and feminist political economy. Her previous book Developing Countries and the Multilateral Trade Regime: The Failure and Promise of the WTO’s Development Mission (Hart, 2010) explores the way in which ‘development’ has functioned within the multilateral trade regime since de-colonisation.

Head of Kent Law School Professor Toni Williams said at the time of the awards: ‘It is wonderful to see that a prestigious scholarly association such as the SLSA recognizes the original, rigorous and highly significant critical and socio-legal research that Kent Law School fosters and values. We are passionate about our research and are proud to be ranked 8th in the UK for research intensity according to the most recent Research Excellence Framework 2014. Our aim has always been, and continues to be, to produce theoretically informed work that makes a difference to society and to our students.’

Appendix

Below is a record of KLS research activities 01.08.17 to 31.08.18.

Publications


Payne, Sebastian (2018) *The Supreme Court and the Miller Case: More Reasons Why the UK Needs a Written Constitution. The Round Table: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs*


**Events**

03.10.17 CeCIL Speaker nights
Paul Clark (Human Rights and International Criminal Law Barrister, Garden Court Chambers) Speaker series from Kent Law School’s Centre for Critical International Law (CeCIL)

04.10.17 Collaborative Research Projects workshop organised by Professor Emily Grabham and Cathy Norman, with presentations from AHRC grant holder Professor David Stirrup of the School of English and GCRF grant holder Professor Elena Korosteleva of the School of Politics and International Relations.

05.10.17 Centre for Critical Thought ‘Lund and Gothenburg meet Kent: an intellectual exchange’ including presentations by Dr Matilda Arvidsson on Targeting, gender and international posthumanitarian law and practice: Warfare in the age of data-driven agency”; Dr Leila Brannstrom and Dr Markus Gunnell on ‘Feminism, human rights and the new Swedish foreign policy activism’; Dr Miriam McKenna on ‘Law’s Epoché: Self-Determination in the Wake of Empire 1970-1989.’; Professor Gregor Noll on ‘Digitalization, the Law and an Emergent Form of War’.

10.10.17 CeCIL Speaker nights
Nessam MacMillan of the University of Melbourne on ‘The Ideal of International Criminal Justice: Subjektivity, Geography, Ethics’

17.10.17 CeCIL Speaker nights
Isobel Roele of Queen Mary University on ‘Articulated Security: The Rise (and Fall) of the Machine’

18.10.17 Kent Law School Staff Seminar
Professor Nehal Bhuta of the European University Institute on ‘How to Think About Drones’

19.10.17 SoCrIL-sponsored Cinemigrante
Film screening and workshop

19.10.17 Keith Tucker Memorial lecture
Baroness Chakrabarti- Shadow Attorney General

23.10.17 to 27.10.17 KLS Research Methods Festival
Organised by Emily Grabham and Cathy Norman.


31.10.17 CLGS staff seminar
Wanda Wiegors on ‘Child Welfare Regimes in Two Provincial Jurisdictions in Canada’

31.10.17 CeCIL International Law Skills & Employability Programme
Essay Writing Workshop

14.11.17 KISS Research Seminar
Dr David Henig of Kent’s School of Anthropology and Conservation on ‘Living on the frontline: Indeterminacy, Value and Military Waste in Postwar Bosnia Herzegovina’

15.11.17 KLS Staff Seminar Series and Kent Centre for Law Gender and Sexuality (KCLGS)
Professor Ann Stewart of the University of Warwick on ‘Who cares for elderly women in Africa? Reflections on policy and practice in relation to ageing’

16.11.17 KISS Annual Lecture
Dr Adrian Lahoud of the Royal College of Art on ‘Architecture’s Anthropology’
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17.11.17
CLGS and CISoR
Surrogacy seminar sponsored by CLGS and CISoR, the ‘Regulating Surrogacy – problems and potential solutions’.

21.11.17
CLGS
Workshop on sexual autonomy
Catherine O’Sullivan (Cork) and Dana Valentinier (Hamburg)

21.11.17
CeCIL Speaker nights
Maia Pal of Oxford Brookes University on ‘Jurisdictional Accumulation: Towards Non-Eurocentric Histories of Early Modern European Empires.’

29.11.17
Kent Law School Staff Seminar
Dr Kirsty Duncanson of La Trobe University on ‘Erotic Conversations about Contract and Consent at the Cinema’

30.11.17
CeCIL Annual Lecture
Professor Anne Orford of University of Melbourne on ‘Surplus Population and the History of International Law’

05.12.17
CeCIL International Law Skills and Employability Programme
Careers in International Law Forum

07.12.17
KISS Research Seminar
Professor Helen Carr of Kent Law School on ‘Taking responsibility for Grenfell’

18.01.18
Recent graduate Colin Colas on ‘What I Wish I Knew at University: Thinking Global and Never Saying “Never”!’

25.01.18
Student Success Project Inspirational Speaker Series
Symeria Hudson, former Global President for Innovations and Franchises at FTSE 100 medical giant Convatec on ‘Defying the Odds – from Alabama and Harvard to Global President’

25.01.18
Law Question Time

30.01.18
CeCIL Speaker and Film Nights
The Museum of International Law
Panel discussion with Qudsia Mirza of Birkbeck, John Strawson of University of East London and Dr Emily Haslam and Dr Sara Kendall of Kent Law School.

05.02.18
CeCIL in Canterbury Public Engagement Events
Dr Jastine Barrett of Kent Law School on ‘What a Difference a Day Makes: Child Perpetrators of Genocide in Rwanda’

06.02.18
CeCIL Speaker and Film Nights
Polly Pallister-Wilkins of University of Amsterdam on ‘Hotspots and the geographies of humanitarianism’

07.02.18
Race, Religion and Law Team at Kent Law School
Screening of John Afromkah’s ‘The Stuart Hall Project’

19.02.18
KLS alumna Andrea Constantine on ‘Getting into the city: Applying to and interviewing at city law firms’

20.02.18
KISS Visiting Fellow Lecture
Professor Ross Adams of Iowa State University on ‘Circulation and Urbanization’

21.02.18
KLS Seminar Series
Professor Claudia Aradau

21.02.18
KISS Visiting Fellow Lecture
Professor Ross Adams of Iowa State University on ‘Becoming-infrastructural: Power, space and the body’

09.03.18
CeCIL Workshop for LLM and PGR students
‘Vulnerability and Resilience’

13.03.18
KISS
‘London Overground’
Film screening and discussion between James Kloda of ISAC and the film’s director J Rogers

17.03.18 to 18.03.18
Kent Critical Law Society Annual Critical Law Conference
Law and Metamorphosis

21.03.18
CISoR and CPCS
Abortion in Britain: past, present and future

27.03.18
KISS Research Seminar together with SAC Human Ecology Research Group
Iain Sinclair, independent author and filmmaker on ‘The Last London’

28.03.18
KISS Research Seminars
Dr Patty Baker and Dr Efrosyni Boutsikas of Classical and Archaeological Studies, University of Kent, on Ancient Roman and Greek spatial experiences’ June 2018

22.06.18
Scales of Justice: Calculating Norms and Probability

Visiting Researchers

Adams, Dr Ross, Assistant Professor of Architecture and Urban Theory, Iowa State University, Department of Architecture hosted by Thanos Zartaloudis.

Arowolo, Aoyemi, Associate Professor of Law, Babcock University School of Law and Security Studies, hosted by Emilie Cloatre.

Bhuta, Prof Nehal, European University Institute, hosted by Gavin Sullivan.

Brown, Professor Tenille, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, University of Ottawa, hosted by Gavin Sullivan.

Doringer, Bogomir, the University of Applied Arts Vienna, hosted by CeCIL.

Duncanson, Dr Kirsty, La Trobe University, hosted by Maria Drakopoulou.

Fernanda Salcedo Repoles, Maria, Associate Professor at the UFMG Faculty of Law, Department of Labor Law and Introduction to the Study of Law (DIT), Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, hosted by Helen Carr and Toni Williams.

Greif, Elisabeth, Associate Professor at the Institute for Legal Gender Studies, hosted by Flora Renz.

Gonzalez, Dr Noelia, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, hosted by Kirsty Horsey.

Gu, Dr Myoung hosted by Judy Fudge.

Hachem, Professor Daniel, Pontifical Catholic University of Parana, hosted by Simone Gianert.

Heyes, Professor Cressida, Professor of Political Science and Philosophy, University of Alberta, Edmonton, hosted by Sinead Ring.

Karibi-Whyte, Rhoda Asikia, Feminist Legal Scholar at University of Lagos, Nigeria.

O’Sullivan, Dr Catherine, University College Cork, Ireland, hosted by Sinead Ring.
Sarmas, Lisa, Melbourne Law School, hosted by Nick Piška.

Stewart, Prof Ann, University of Warwick, hosted by Emily Grabham and Nicola Barker.

Tsagdis, Dr George, University of Westminster

Vaiavade, Anita, Assistant Professor, Researcher, Latvian Academy of Culture, hosted by Sophie Vigneron.

Valentinier, Dr Dana, Helmut Schmidt University, hosted by Nicola Barker for CLGS

Wiegers, Professor Wanda, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, hosted by Judy Fudge (CLGS).

PhD Completions

Marta Almeida ‘The concept of Law as Ordinary Language Philosophy’. Supervised by Steve Pethick and Geoffrey Samuel.

Ali M M M B Airashedi ‘In the context of both international law and the application of Islamic Sharia Law, how effective have Kuwait and the Kuwaiti legal system been in addressing, preventing and combating human trafficking?’. Supervised by Steve Uglov and Nick Grief.


Margo Elsa Bernelin ‘The Regulation of Biomedical Research in France and in the United Kingdom: A Comparative Study of the Concept of Legitimacy’. Supervised by Sally Sheldon and Simone Gianert.


Jeremy Odhiambo Okonjo ‘Expert ideas and technological practices as financial market regulators: ideological and performative reproduction of regulatory neoliberalism’. Supervised by Donatella Alessandrin and Toni Williams.


Flora Renz ‘The Gender Recognition Act 2004 and Transgender People’s Legal Consciousness’. Supervised by Davina Cooper and Emily Grabham.

Laura Scaife ‘The Effective Regulation of Social Media’. Supervised by Kirsty Horsey and Helen Carr


Research Centres and Groups

Centre for Sexuality, Race and Gender Justice: https://research.kent.ac.uk/srgj/
Co-directors: Suhraiya Jivraj and Sinead Ring

Kent Centre for European and Comparative Law: https://research.kent.ac.uk/kcecl/
Director: Simone Gianert

Centre for Critical International Law: https://research.kent.ac.uk/ccil/
Co-directors: Sara Kendall and Luis Eslava

Social Critiques of Law: https://research.kent.ac.uk/socril/
Co-directors: Emilie Cloatre and Donatella Alessandrin

Equity and Trusts Research Network: https://research.kent.ac.uk/equity-and-trusts/
Director: Nick Piška

Cross School/Faculty centres and groups

Centre for Critical Thought: https://research.kent.ac.uk/critical-thought/
KLS Representatives: Connal Parsley and Maria Drakopoulou

KISS: https://research.kent.ac.uk/kiss/
KLS Representative: Thanos Zartaloudis

Research Awards

Bellido, Jose, ‘Copying Patent Specifications: Citation networks and the emergence of patents as scientific literature’. Science History Institute. £750.


Centre for Heritage: https://research.kent.ac.uk/heritage/
KLS Co-director: Sophie Vigneron

Clio: https://research.kent.ac.uk/clio/
KLS Director: Maria Drakopoulou

CRIPT: https://research.kent.ac.uk/political-theology/
KLS Representative: Dr Thanos Zartaloudis

Research Contributions 27