



SoSS School News

Your round up of news and events across
the School of Social Sciences

Head of School Report - Brian Heaphy

The academic year 2020/21 is now winding down, there are a few exam boards still to be held, and we have the online celebration of this year's graduands early in the first week of August. For those who want to join us, we will be celebrating the Class of 2021 on Zoom at 11am on Tuesday 3rd August: <https://zoom.us/j/97264273338>

Over August campus is being prepared to be fully opened up by September when, Government policy allowing, we will be prepared to welcome our new and returning students. It will be good to see them in person again. There will, of course, be policies and procedures in place to ensure as Covid-secure an environment as possible. [See Staffnet for updates.](#)

Currently, our plan for the coming academic year is provide as much in-person teaching, learning and student support as possible. If government guidance allows, teaching on programmes and units will be expected to provide a minimum of 70% in-person activity, to be supplemented by up to 30% on-line activity. Lectures will be in person, with online provision available for those who are unable to attend (for example, some overseas students). Some 'lab-based' teaching, workshops and seminars and the like will use hybrid teaching technology, some will be in-person only, and some will

be online for those students who can't attend the in-person groups – the numbers and preferences of students, the nature of teaching sessions and our support needs for teaching will be factored into our planning.

As you know, we have increased staffing in those areas that require it in the coming year, and we have plans to deal with any unexpected growth in student numbers linked to higher than expected A Level results. With Mario (the Director of Teaching and Learning), I am also developing plans for other ways to support the most high-intensity teaching.

One of the highlights of this past year was the improved UEQ (unit evaluation questionnaire) scores across the School, that demonstrate how much the students valued everyone's exceptional work in engaging students. Unfortunately, this did not translate into stronger NSS results, which many of us found unsurprising given the ways in which Covid-19 impacted on the whole Higher Education sector. Nevertheless, teaching and learning leads will fully examine our NSS responses for lessons to be learned, and we will develop strategies for improvement.

As you are aware, SEP (student experience programme) is progressing with the aim to improve the experience of both students and staff. There will be implications for how we do things in the School and in Departments, and for who does what in terms of PS staff. We will be updated regularly about these.

Despite all the challenges that this academic year has presented, we have managed incredibly well in responding to them, as is evident in the achievements listed below - as well as teaching, learning and student support, research and social responsibility saw some big successes. This is down to the remarkable level of commitment, collegiality and mutual support that all PS and academic colleagues have shown, and we should be very proud of that.

I am sure that many colleagues are now looking forward to a good summer break, especially if you haven't already had some time out yet. I hope you take some time to wind-down, and reenergise.

Finally, the School Leadership team would like to congratulate all SoSS staff who are being promoted from 1st August 2021!

Promoted to Chair:

Dr Carolyn Abbot (Law)
Dr Javier Garcia Oliva (Law)
Dr Aristeia Koukiadaki (Law)
Dr Geoff Pearson (Law)
Dr Bruce Wardhaugh (Law)
Dr Madeleine Reeves (Social Anthropology)
Dr Sophie Woodward (Sociology)

Promoted to Senior Lecturer:

Dr Reka Solymosi (Criminology)
Dr Laura McLeod (Politics)

SoSS Leadership Roles

Firstly, to thank all those that will finish their term of office at the end of July. On behalf of your Departments and the School, I would like to say how much we have appreciated the great work you have done, and for keeping us all on track (and sometimes even optimistic and cheerful) under some very difficult circumstances.

Chris Wallace (HoD Economics)
Dave Richards (HoD Politics)
Tony Simpson (HoD Social Anthropology)
Tarani Chandola (HoD Social Statistics)
Claire Alexander (Director of Research)
Angie Wilson (Internationalisation Lead)
Javier Garcia-Oliva (Business Engagement Lead)
Peter Backus (Employability Lead)

Leadership roles from 1st August

Head of School	Brian Heaphy
Director of Research	Andy Miles
Director of Teaching and Learning	Mario Pezzino
Director of PGR	Sophie Woodward
Director of Social Responsibility	Dimitris Papadimitriou
Director of External Relations	Claire McGourlay
Head of Criminology	Judith Aldridge
Head of Economics	Akos Valentinyi
Head of Law	Yenkong Hodu
Head of Philosophy	Graham Stevens
Head of Politics	Yoram Gorlizki
Head of Social Anthropology	Andrew Irving
Head of Social Statistics	Wendy Olsen
Head of Sociology	Alice Bloch
Business Engagement Lead	Ruby Hammer
Internationalisation Lead	Jasem Tarawneh
Internationalisation (Students)	Ruth Lamont
Employability Lead	Jackie Carter
e-Learning Lead	Dan Rigby
Environmental Lead	Jit Banerjee

Professional Services:

Head of School Operations	Alison Wilson
Head of Teaching, Learning & Student Experience	Jo Kaiserman
Head of School Finance	Lizzy Langton
HR Partner	Jenny Knights

Teaching and Learning News - Mario Pezzino

Thank you!

We are aware that, while we write, there is a lot still going on: moderation panels, academic malpractice panels, mitigating circumstances and (pre)exam boards. We would like to thank all colleagues, academic and PS, involved with these panels for their immense efforts. And, while we are preparing to say goodbye to our students (see below), some of us are already working on welcoming back returning and new students for next year.

This has been an exceptionally busy and difficult year for many, staff and students, and we would like to thank all colleagues involved in T&L.

Graduation 2021

The SoSS virtual graduation celebration will take place on Tuesday 3rd August at 11am.

In addition to a welcome by the Head of School and congratulatory messages by Heads of Department, Gary Younge, Professor of Sociology, will give a congratulatory speech. You are all invited and if you would like to attend the virtual celebration, please log in via Zoom at 11am on Tuesday 3rd August. <https://zoom.us/j/97264273338>

New SoSS T&L Website

As we mentioned last month, we have now a [new SoSS T&L website](#). As you can see, it is still work in progress, but we are hoping to have a proper launch after the summer. The ambition is that the website will be a catalyst for T&L initiatives in the School (e.g. seminars, masterclasses, resources, working papers, etc.). [Robert O'Neill](#) (ECON) has agreed to lead the development of the site and related activities and he will be supported by [Adaeze Aniodoh](#) (LAW) and [Christina Thorne](#).

If you would like to know more and you would like to engage with some of the activities, please, get in touch with these colleagues.

NSS and TEF

We have just received the NSS results for our programmes. We will study the SoSS data and discuss it with Faculty and our counterparts in the other Schools. We will also

support T&L Leads in our Departments in analysing the results and considering, if necessary, actions to address possible concerns. These discussions will also help us to (re-)start getting ready for the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). Yes, TEF is back; it is not yet clear in what form, but we are expecting that TEF preparation will be on our T&L agenda from the beginning of next academic year.

Research News - Claire Alexander

Research Round-up

While the past year has been difficult for research, the School has continued to produce great research and win significant awards. Between August 2020 and June 2021 we made 196 applications for grants (worth over £23.6 million) and have won 63 awards (worth over £12 million). We submitted 6 REF returns, with a total of 227 people, 553 outputs, and 24 impact cases – fingers crossed for good results next March.

New Awards

Congratulations to the following colleagues who have been successful in grant awards:

Aristea Koukiadaki, [Law] Co-I in a European Commission-funded project on Promoting Decent Work through Public Procurement in Cleaning and Private Security Services (PROCURFAIR) led by UniEuropa (315,500 EUR) (2021-2023)

Carolyn Abbot (Law) – Society of Legal Scholars Conference Fund “Planning Law: New Horizons”

Dave Gadd (Criminology) - Simon Industrial and Professional Fellowship “Supporting Men in Prison to Overcome Sexual Assaults”

Meng Wu (Economics) – British Academy Post-Doctoral Fellowship “Rethinking State Capacity and Economic Development in Republican China -Yan Xishan and his Provincial State, Shanxi, 1912-1937”

Dr Vanessa Higgins [Social Statistics] has been awarded £175k to lead and develop the training events programme for EOSC-Future (European Open Science Cloud from April 2021-Sept 2023).

Rose Broad [Criminology] (in collaboration with Trilateral Research) has received funding (£272,000) from GMCA for ProjectHoneycomb to develop relationships with organisations across the private, public and civil society sectors, and support them to record information related to modern slavery, human trafficking and exploitation.

Congratulations to...

Natalie Shlomo [Social Statistics] has been elected President of the International Association of Survey Statisticians from 2023-2025 and will serve on the Executive Board as President-Elect during the period 2021-2023

Prof Jenny Edkins [Politics] who is the very worthy recipient of this year's highly prestigious British International Studies Association's Distinguished Contribution Prize for 2021.

Congratulations also to all our PGR students who are graduating this year

Simon/Hallsworth Visiting Professorships

I am delighted to announce that all of our applications for Simon/Hallsworth Visiting Professorships were successful this year. Congratulations to the applicants and host departments, and we look forward to welcoming our visitors (hopefully in person).

Hallsworth Visiting Professors:

Martin Bouchard (Simon Fraser University) – host Judith Aldridge (Criminology)

Francois Velde (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago – host Nuno Palma (Economics)

Simon Visiting Professors:

Cathy Cohen (University of Chicago) – host Andrea Zevnik (Politics)

Amita Baviskar (Ashoka University) – host Soumhya Venkatesan (Anthropology)

Rohan Grey (Willamette University College of Law, Digital Fiat Currency Institute, Freedom Box Foundation) – host John Haskell (Law)

Ulrik Brandes (ETH Zurich) – host Martin Everett (Sociology/CMI)

Finally:

I would like to thank all colleagues across the School for their hard work and support over the past three and half years of my tenure as School Research Director. I would particularly like to thank Paula Dalzell and her team in the Research Support Office (Becci Bailey, Neil Chetham, Damaris Richards and Ellie McGregor), Gillian Whitworth, Pat Gorham, Clare Canning and Carly Chadwick, colleagues in the finance office (Paul Henshall and Alica Alaksova), and Pip Walker and her GMAT colleagues (Sue Bailey, Mark Kelly and Laura

Watt). Thanks to all of the Department Research Directors, Heads of Institutes and Centres, and to our REF leads/teams, and to all members, past and present, of the School Leadership Team and Heads of Department, who have been wonderful colleagues. Good luck to Andy Miles who is taking over from me this summer.

Social Responsibility - Dimitris Papadimitriou

Congratulations...

To our Environmental Sustainability Student Competition winners! We saw some incredible entries for our UG and PGT dissertation awards and we would like to thank all of the academic colleagues who put forward students for the awards.

We also saw some fantastic videos for the Environmental Sustainability Student Video Competition.

Take a look at our Making A Difference website to find out more about the winners!

[Find out more](#)

Engagement and External Relations - Claire McGourlay

New Webpage for the Manchester Innocence Project

The Manchester Innocence Project, our pro bono organisation aimed at helping the wrongfully convicted and promoting positive change in the justice system, now has a new home on the SoSS website. Take a look at the page to find out more about the Project and our student volunteers.

[Find out more](#)

Get in touch with the Team

Following recent feedback from colleagues about getting in touch with the Engagement and External Relations Team, we've created a new website for colleagues to find out more about what the team do, and how to reach us!

[Find out more](#)

Head of School Operations - Alison Wilson

Colleagues who are leaving or have left:

Academic – Tarani Chandola (SoST), John Pearson (Law) Bruce Wardhaugh (Law), Owen Abbott (Sociology) Alina Rzepnikowska-Phillips (Sociology), Vitaly Kasakov (Politics) Yong Han (Law)

PS - Bryony Onions (Programme Administrator SOAN), Emily Wells (UG Intern), Serena Williams (PGT Intern) Monika Szabova (Department Administrator for Politics and Social Anthropology)

SEP Update

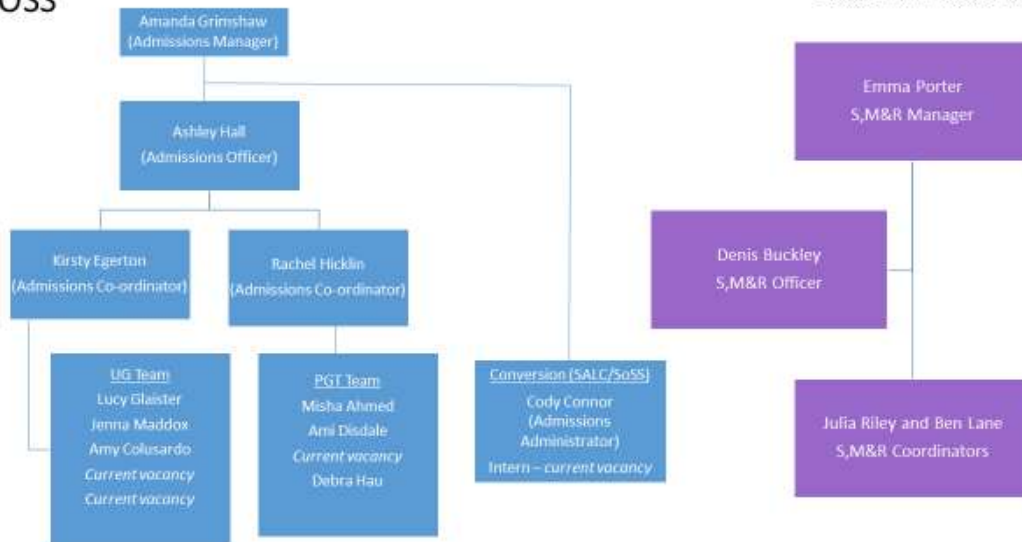
Phase 2A Student Marketing and Recruitment and Applications and Admissions

- New structures were formally implemented from 1st June 2021
- Colleagues will transition to new roles between that date and 1st October, although some have already started in new posts.

- Partnership working: the structures for academic leadership in Admissions differs across Humanities' schools. The SMR and A&A Teams Team will work in partnership with the academics in relevant roles within each School and make clear to those academics who their contacts are.
- It is anticipated that the Managers, Officers and their teams will continue to participate in appropriate school governance and communication structures so as to be able to be up to date with school priorities that may impact admissions, and to ensure they are informed and able to inform applicants of the benefits of coming to their chosen programme.
- The following organogram of the Humanities Student Marketing and Recruitment Team and the Humanities Applications and Admissions Team for SoSS reflect structures from 1st October, when colleagues will have transitioned to their new roles.
- A recruitment campaign is currently ongoing to fill the vacancies in the A&A team, a significant number of which are due to additional posts being added to the team. A number of those noted as current vacancies, are currently occupied by temporary staff.
- For Student Marketing and Marketing Recruitment the team for SoSS is led by Emma Porter (who also covers SALC). For Applications and Admissions the team for SoSS is led by Amanda Grimshaw (who also covers SALC).
- The team will take a matrix approach – acting as the interface with Schools and key functions in the central team.
- To note that the roles at each grade have consistent job descriptions with the same core responsibilities.

SOSS

Structure from 1st October 2021



HR Updates - Jenny Knights

Right to work checks for casual workers - updated guidance

To engage casual staff at scale and ensure that there is no delay in the staff member receiving pay, hiring managers can now undertake right to work checks directly at the interview/recruitment stage

Everyone who works at our University must have their right to work status checked before they can begin work. To alleviate any delays, especially when a large number of casual staff are being employed in one go, HR Services will enable right to work checks to be carried out by staff in areas where more than 20 casual staff are being employed in one go. HR Services will carry out checks where there are 20 or fewer, unless there is a specific agreement otherwise. Full guidance on how to perform the check and supply the required documents to HR Services is available:

- [HR Services - right to work checks](#)

HR Services will still continue to set casual staff up on the HR and payroll systems, process timesheet claims and deal with general HR queries from casual workers and their managers. If you know that you are going to engage more than 20 new casual workers in one month, please contact your [Employment Services Officer](#) to let them know. They will ensure that your requirement is built into our processing timetable, and provide you with guidance on how to perform the right to work checks locally.

2021/2022 Leadership and Management Programmes

We are pleased to announce applications for the 2021/2022 cohorts of our leadership and management programmes are now open. **Applications will be open until 17 September 2021.** Information on all of our programmes is available following this link, which provides an overview for each programme and the intended audiences: [Our Development Programmes](#)

Programmes available 2021/22:

[Leading at Manchester](#)

[Women into Leadership](#)

[Managing at Manchester](#)

[Managing at Manchester for Researchers](#)

[Supervising at Manchester](#)

We also have a range of online resources for aspiring managers, such as the '[Become a Manager](#)' Learning Path from LinkedIn Learning.

For more information on all of the programmes, please contact staffld@manchester.ac.uk.

Information Governance

Sharing personal data

The University must ensure that it fully complies with the provisions of data protection law. It's really important that all staff members who work with personal data familiarise themselves with data protection principles and our obligations. Failures or weaknesses in our processing of personal data can result in significant harm and distress to individuals who may be affected and may also cause significant reputational damage to the University <https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/igo/data-protection/>.

Please adhere to the [email guidance](#) set out on Staffnet.

Reporting data breaches

Did you know it's your responsibility as an employee of the University to report all data breaches as soon as you become aware of one? Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) we are obliged to report data breaches within 72 hours of becoming aware. The clock starts from the moment we know something has occurred. For example, this could be someone telling their line manager about an email sent containing sensitive personal data to an incorrect recipient.

What do I need to do? As soon as you are aware of an incident involving person identifying information (PII), or if you're unsure about whether you need to report an incident, you should email infosec@listserv.manchester.ac.uk in line with the incident reporting procedure. This is so they can assess whether it needs to be reported to the Information Commission Office on behalf of the University within the 72 hour deadline. **If the University does not meet this deadline it could face a six figure fine.**

Find out more on the Information Governance Office website

Information Risk Register

The Information Governance Office have developed a specific Information Governance Risk Register Assessment in OneTrust for academic research projects, following feedback that the standard IGRR assessment didn't quite work for such projects. It only needs to be completed in certain circumstances (i.e. high risk processing).

This aim of the screening assessment is to identify projects or activities where there are likely to be information risks, in order for advice and guidance to be provided by the Information Governance Office and IT Security, to minimise those risks. It must be completed by the business owner or project manager as early as possible, if any of the following apply:

- You are involved in the procurement or development of a new IT system
- You are making changes to an existing IT system

- You are involved in a non-IT-related project or activity that involves collecting, using or sharing, information or data (whether it's personal data or not)

[Find out more](#)

[Read the President's update](#)

[Read the latest Humanities eNews](#)



You have received this email because you are an employee in the School of Social Sciences. If you have any queries, please contact soass.externalrelations@manchester.ac.uk