

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1186333

Details

Other names SLSA

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-11-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

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Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND LEARNING IN THE FIELD OFSOCIO LEGAL STUDIES AND TO PROMOTE RESEARCH, THE USEFUL RESULTS OF WHICH SHALL BE PUBLISHED FORTHE PUBLIC BENEFIT, TEACHING AND THE DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE FIELD.

Activities: The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£71,609	£113,907	-	-
2024-12-31	£227,389	£92,584	-	-
2023-12-31	£71,881	£80,011	-	-
2022-12-31	£149,960	£55,363	-	-
2021-12-31	£37,390	£41,090	-	-
2020-12-31	£31,112	£45,373	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Smita Kheria	Chair	2019-11-14
Dr Alexander Powell		2024-03-27
Dr Arwen Joyce		2025-04-16
Dr Caer Smyth		2025-04-16
Dr Ciaran O'Kelly		2026-03-31
Dr Claire Bessant		2026-03-31
Dr Clare Williams		2025-04-16
Dr Elisabeth Rachel Griffiths		2022-04-07
Dr Emma Roberts		2026-03-31
Dr Jennifer Hough		2025-04-16
Dr Joy Debski		2025-04-16
Dr Kay Louise Lalor		2023-04-05
Dr Marie Anne Hutton		2023-04-05
Dr Matthew Laurence Howard		2022-04-07
Dr Philip Bremner		2019-11-14
Dr Rachel Helen Maguire		2026-03-31
Dr Richard Craven		2022-04-07
Dr Sandra Duffy		2026-03-31
Professor Anne-Maree Farrell		2026-03-31
Professor David Simon Cowan		2025-04-16
Professor Rachel Cahill-O'Callaghan		2025-04-16

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

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Accounts



Socio-Legal Studies Association CIO Trustees' Annual Report 1 January 2025 –31 December 2025

Registered in England and Wales, number 1186333
Principal office: c/ Cardiff University, Sbarc Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ.
admin@slsa.ac.uk | www.slsa.ac.uk

SLSA Trustees

Ex Officio Trustees

- Dr Smita Kheria (Chair) University of Edinburgh
- Dr Elisabeth Griffiths (Vice Chair) Northumbria University
- Dr Philip Bremner (Treasurer) King's College London
- Dr Emma Jones Secretary (Secretary) University of Sheffield
- Mr Colin Moore (Membership Secretary) University of Essex

Trustees

- Professor Rachel Cahill-O'Callaghan Cardiff University
- Dr Richard Craven University of Sheffield
- Professor Dave Cowan Cardiff University
- Dr Joy Debski Robert Gordon University
- Dr Alex Green The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Dr Matthew Howard University of Kent
- Dr Marie Hutton University of Sheffield
- Dr Arwen Joyce University of Leicester
- Dr Jennifer Hough University of Lancashire
- Dr Kay Lalor Manchester Metropolitan University
- Professor Kirsten McConnachie University of East Anglia
- Dr Alex Powell University of Warwick
- Dr Andra Le Roux-Kemp University of Lincoln
- Dr Raza Saeed University of Warwick
- Dr Caer Smyth Cardiff University
- Dr Clare Williams University of Birmingham

Socio-Legal Studies Association, a charitable incorporated organisation (registered charity number 1186333).
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Chair's Report

Board Membership/Charity Commission

There were several changes to the SLSA Board at the AGM in 2025. The following trustees stepped down: John Harrington (Chair), Anna Bryson, Beverley Clough, Simon Flacks, Emma Milne (Honorary Secretary), Rebecca Moosavian, and Mitch Travis. Emily Walsh and Daniel Bedford came to the end of their term on the Board as Portsmouth Conference organisers. We also bade farewell to Marie Burton who stepped down as a trustee towards the end of 2025 due to a career change. The Board is very grateful to all of them for their valuable contributions to the association's work.

Smita Kheria was elected to the ex-officio Trustee role of Chair at the April 2025 AGM. We also welcomed the following new elected trustees to the Board: Rachel Cahill-O'Callaghan, Dave Cowan, Joy Debski, Jennifer Hough, Arwen Joyce, Caer Smyth, and Clare Williams. In addition, Beth Kamunge-Kpodo joined the board as our Precarity representative, and Nuno Ferreira and Amir Paz-Fuchs from the University of Sussex joined the Board as SLSA 2026 conference organisers.

Due to changes in trusteeships and ex-officio roles at the AGM, the board co-opted Elisabeth Griffiths as Vice Chair and Emma Jones as Honorary Secretary.

Mini Saxena stepped down as Postgraduate Representative after the May board meeting and we are grateful to her for her contribution in this important role. From a very strong field we selected Camilo Cornejo Martinez as her replacement.

There were three formal Board meetings in 2025, in January, May, and September, and two extra-ordinary board meetings in July and October. Four of these were held entirely online, while the September meeting took place in a hybrid format to ensure our work continues to be conducted in a cost-effective manner.

The Charity Commission's requirements continued to be met and monitored. We kept the Commission's website updated with the necessary information on trustees and maintained an up-to-date conflicts register. The Trustees' Annual Report and the audited accounts, as approved at the 2025 AGM, were also submitted to the Charity Commission. The Board continued to review and update its policies as needed to ensure compliance with Charity Commission expectations. In 2025, two new policies, on Serious Incident Reporting and Internal Risk Management, were adopted and will now be embedded in our ongoing work.

Financial Sustainability/ HE Funding

The SLSA remains in a healthy financial position, having received generous donations in 2024 from the Ulster 2023 and Portsmouth 2024 conferences. Throughout 2025, however, the Board remained acutely aware of the challenging financial climate facing UK higher education institutions. In light of this ongoing crisis and its impact on our membership, and in keeping with financial prudence, the Board prioritised the careful redistribution of the Association's surplus through our funding schemes, conference bursaries, and related activities.

For the 2024-2025 round of funding schemes, we agreed to award a total of £53,406 to support research projects, fieldwork, seminars, impact and internationalisation activities, exceeding the planned allocation by £10,906. Membership fees were held at the same level for the fifth consecutive year, and the early-bird registration rate for the Annual Conference

was again frozen for 2025 (like the previous two years). Working with the Liverpool conference organisers, ninety-three bursaries were awarded, twice as many as the previous year, to enable ECRs, PGRs, precariously employed researchers, and those without institutional support to attend the conference. These investments underscored our commitment to supporting the community during a difficult period. A new website and CRM system were also launched in 2025, marking an important investment in improving engagement for both members and the wider public.

The SLSA was able to undertake these activities thanks to a combination of prior conference donations and continued sponsorship and membership income in 2025. The potential donation from the 2025 Liverpool conference was discussed during the year and is expected in 2026, which will help support our charitable activities in future years. Looking ahead, however, there is reason for some caution. The three-year newsletter sponsorship cycle concluded in 2025, and it remains uncertain whether future conferences will generate donations at the levels seen in recent years. Declining institutional support for conference attendance and the possibility of redundancies may reduce our membership base, and schools are now less likely to be able to contribute to conference hosting costs or newsletter sponsorships as they once did. At the same time, demand for member support has grown markedly, as reflected by the rising number of applications for funding schemes and conference bursaries. The costs of organising conferences have also increased significantly, particularly as early-bird registration fees have been held steady in recent years.

In light of these considerations, we undertook careful financial planning for our activities in 2026 and beyond, beginning with a review of how best to deploy the current surplus to strengthen our ongoing initiatives and plans. The board agreed to earmark £66,000 for the 2025-2026 round of funding schemes, increasing both the maximum award sizes and the overall funding pots to encourage, nurture, and showcase the work of our members. It also approved the introduction of a needs-based stream convenor registration fee-waiver scheme, recognising the vital role convenors play in facilitating the Annual Conference.

In addition, at an extraordinary meeting focused on finance, the Board reviewed a two-year financial projection (rather than the usual one-year forecast) to support forward planning and ensure the effective distribution of its surplus in the coming years, mindful that future conference donations and sponsorship income are likely to decline significantly. The Board also discussed potential new and additional initiatives, aligned with our charitable objectives, for which detailed proposals could be developed for consideration in 2026. Philip Bremner has continued to keep a careful watch over our finances, and Elisabeth Griffiths will be leading the renewal of our newsletter sponsorship next year. I am incredibly grateful to both of them for all their support.

Annual Conference

SLSA's Annual Conference in 2025, at the University of Liverpool, was one of our largest ever, with 900 delegates, participating across a total of 38 streams and current topics. It also featured four PGR-focused sessions, a session on socio-legal publishing, and a thought-provoking and moving plenary on the Hillsborough Justice campaign. The conference was a dynamic and vibrant gathering with a broad range of ideas and perspectives. We are very grateful to Marie Fox, Helen Stalford, and their colleagues at Liverpool for their dedication and commitment to organising the hugely successful conference.

The 2026 Annual Conference will be held at the University of Sussex, and the conference team, led by Nuno Ferreira, worked closely with me and the SLSA Board throughout 2025 in preparing for the event. Drawing on feedback from the Liverpool conference and wider

developments, we reviewed our recent conference experience and introduced several improvements for 2026. Calls for papers, posters, and early-bird registration opened simultaneously, and earlier than ever, to give colleagues more time to plan their participation. We streamlined the abstract review process, offering an early acceptance deadline from which more than 150 abstracts benefited. We also ensured that essential information on conference participation, sustainability, and accessibility was published alongside the call for papers, providing attendees with a comprehensive overview of the event. Recognising the complexities of catering for a large-scale event, we worked with the Sussex team to ensure that details about available food options were shared at the same time to support informed planning and participation. In response to the financial pressures facing UK higher education, we held the 2026 conference registration rates at 2025 levels. We also opened bursary applications earlier and will announce decisions sooner than before to help successful recipients in their planning. We also introduced a new needs-based fee-waiver scheme for our permanent stream convenors. We also made every effort to review conference costs and expenditure in detail, so as to save resources for bursaries and to secure the minimum donation which the SLSA needs to remain financially sustainable in coming years, while running a supportive, stimulating, and enjoyable conference.

We remain committed to ensuring that our conference is accessible. SLSA membership fees have not increased since 2021, and the early-bird registration rate for the 2026 conference has been held fixed like recent years. The Board had agreed to discontinue the hybrid format from the 2025 conference due to prohibitive costs and in line with sector practice, where many learned societies have taken similar steps. However, particular care has been taken to ensure that the conference remains as accessible and inclusive as possible within these constraints. While the 2026 conference will be held in person, the plenary session will be live-streamed, and an online poster display will also be available. In accordance with sector practice, the Board had agreed to permit online presentations when required as a reasonable adjustment. We fully expect to learn from the 2026 experience as the conference format continues to evolve, and we will refine our processes and explore further mechanisms to enhance access in future years.

We also began work on identifying hosts for future Annual Conferences. Following a successful review of the expressions of interest received, Northumbria University was confirmed as the host for 2027. The Board is now working to identify a host for 2028, and we hope to make an announcement during 2026.

Postgraduate Conference and PGR activities

The SLSA PGR conference 2025 took place at the Manchester Metropolitan University from 9-10 January 2025. Many thanks to Beverley Clough and the rest of the organising team for holding a successful conference and sharing a useful set of reflections with the board.

Mini Saxena stepped down in May after two years as PGR Rep. We invited applications for this role over the summer and received a very strong field. The PGR group (Diksha Sanyal, Caer Smyth, Jennifer Hough and I) reviewed the applications received and interviewed shortlisted candidates. The role was offered to Camilo Cornejo Martinez and we were delighted that Camilo accepted the post.

The PGR conference will be held at Cardiff University in 2026, led by Dave Cowan. The board discussed planning for the conference carefully to ensure the team could put suitable arrangements in place.

The PGR group also reviewed and amended the Call for Expressions of Interest for hosting the SLSA PGR Conferences in 2027 and 2028, incorporating feedback from the 2024 EOI process and developing a new standard form for prospective hosts. An open call for EOIs was issued in October, and the group will review the applications with a view to making recommendations to the Board in early 2026.

The SLSA PGR representatives have also held successful virtual writing group sessions for SLSA PGRs as well as a hybrid writing group and social session. They have also led a successful PGR recruitment initiative in 2025. The board is very grateful for their hard work, energy, and enthusiasm, in supporting our postgraduate members.

Academy of Social Sciences (AcSS)

The SLSA continues to actively engage with AcSS through its Learned Societies CEOs meeting, the monthly Conference Group, and the bi-annual Fellowship scheme. I attended the Learned Societies CEOs meetings through the year, which provided valuable insight into the impact of the HE funding crisis on the social sciences and on learned societies, including key risks and planned mitigations. The meetings also covered developments relating to REF 2029, sector-wide EDI initiatives, publishing trends with a focus on open access and AI, and broader updates on the current higher education landscape.

I also regularly attended AcSS' monthly Conference Group, which has been an important forum for sharing insights on conference delivery formats and the key challenges involved in organising annual conferences. The group has also provided sector best practice on issues such as social events, costs, registration fees, venue considerations, and embedding EDI principles into planning and delivery.

We successfully nominated six members for the AcSS Fellowship across two rounds in 2025. We also continued to engage with AcSS in its work on EDI, and the SLSA EDI Committee remained informed about AcSS initiatives aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion across the social sciences.

Website and Membership System renewal

The Board had commissioned a new website and CRM system in 2024. We undertook substantial planning and preparation for their launch in the summer 2025. Since going live, hundreds of members have been migrated to the new platform, and this work continued through to the end of the year. My sincere thanks go to everyone involved in this project, particularly Daniel Bedford, Emma Milne, and Marie Selwood, for their hard work, patience, and support in bringing this major undertaking to fruition.

REF 2029

We were invited by Research England to contribute to REF 2029 planning as a sector representative organisation, and we provided input as requested to ensure that socio-legal studies is appropriately represented in their work.

Internationalisation

Our internationalisation efforts continue to be delivered in line with the initiatives developed in recent years. The International Collaboration funding scheme, launched in 2023 to support activities that build connections with socio-legal scholars and communities beyond the UK, has now become well embedded within our wider suite of funding schemes, with stronger quality and an increased number of applications. *Social & Legal Studies* had agreed to contribute £2,000 per year to this scheme for three years, specifically to support excellent

collaborations involving socio-legal scholars or communities in the Global South. This funding comes to an end with the 2025-26 round, and we are extremely grateful for the journal's support in helping us establish this scheme.

Our collaboration with the Dutch and Flemish Law and Society Association (VSR), in the form of a PGR exchange at our respective postgraduate conferences, completed its first successful cycle in early 2024 and continued in 2025 with improved communication and organisation following the initial run. With advice and support from the PGR group, the PGR representatives also organised the planning and delivery of a joint writing retreat with VSR.

EDI

The EDI subcommittee continued its work on precarity, mentoring, and broader strategic planning, all of which is set out in more detail in the committee's report. Our second Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Survey Report was published in 2025, and the SLSA Mentoring Scheme was renewed for the 2025-2026 round, reaffirming our commitment to fostering a more inclusive socio-legal community. I am particularly grateful to the committee's co-chairs, Clare Williams and Arwen Joyce, for their support and advice across the full range of our activities, including conference planning and the organisation of funding schemes and prizes, ensuring that EDI considerations remain embedded in our decision-making on an ongoing basis.

Prizes and funding schemes

Our prizes and funding schemes for 2025-26 opened shortly after the launch of the new website. Many thanks are due to the chairs of the respective committees for updating the guidance and completing the transition to online application forms as part of the launch. We received a high number of applications and will be reviewing them with a view to publishing results in early 2026. As usual, we will announce our annual prize winners at the Gala Dinner at the Sussex 2026 conference.

Our book prize for an outstanding contribution to socio-legal theory or socio-legal history has been supported since 2015 through the generous contribution of Roger Cotterrell as a private benefactor. In 2025, Professor Cotterrell concluded his support for this prize, and we are pleased that *Social & Legal Studies* has agreed to take over its sponsorship.

Article Prize

For the 2024-25 round of the SLSA Article prize, we received 24 eligible nominations. Following a calibration exercise, guided by REF output criteria, all the nominations were scored by board members (excluding those on the Book prize sub-committee) and a shortlist was published followed by announcement of the winner at the annual conference in Liverpool.

For the 2025-26 round, we received 25 eligible nominations. I commenced the judging process, similar to previous practice, in October 2025. The process will complete in early 2026 shortly after the January Board meeting with the winner announced at the annual conference in Sussex.

Looking ahead

I am very grateful to SLSA members for electing me as Chair at the 2025 AGM in Liverpool, succeeding John Harrington. The SLSA's Postgraduate Conference was my introduction to socio-legal studies, and the association has been my academic home since my doctoral days. I joined the SLSA Executive Committee in 2018, encouraged by the then Chair, Rosie Harding, to take up the role of Scottish representative, and it has been a privilege to serve

the socio-legal community in various capacities since then, including as International Liaison Officer and, from 2023, as Vice Chair.

During 2025, I worked both to deliver mandates previously agreed by the Board and to build on the achievements of my predecessor through strengthening and improving ongoing initiatives. Looking ahead, in 2026 we will continue to advance existing work and develop new initiatives, informed by our EDI survey, by learning from recent conferences and related activities, and by monitoring developments across the wider HE landscape.

In line with best practice in the charity sector and the expectations of the Charity Commission, we are planning several improvements to our governance structure. These include establishing a Finance and Risk Committee to support the Board with financial oversight, policy review, risk management, and transparent reporting; undertaking a skills audit of Board members to maintain a clear understanding of our collective strengths and areas for development, support succession planning, and inform recruitment priorities; maintaining an up-to-date risk register to regularly assess risks across all areas of our work; and enhancing the trustee nominations information pack and introducing a formal induction process to ensure our governance practices align with recognised standards.

We will also continue to deliver on our strategic financial priorities, including deploying the surplus to advance our charitable aims and support our members and the wider socio-legal community, while prudently managing the organisation's sustainability in the years ahead.

The SLSA Board and I remain committed to supporting the membership in a thoughtful way while managing the Association's resources responsibly and maintaining appropriate reserves. I've valued working closely with several board members last year and look forward to making further progress in the coming year.

Smita Kheria, Chair

Vice-Chair's Report

SLSA Annual Book Prizes

As Vice Chair, I co-ordinate the work of the Book Prize Committee (for the Hart SLSA Book Prize, the Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics, and the Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize).

For the 2024/25 round, the committee reviewed 26 books, and drew up three shortlists which were announced through SLSA communications. The committee then identified the prize winners, which were announced at the Gala Dinner at the SLSA Annual conference in Liverpool in April 2025.

For the 2025/2026 round, the committee reviewed 37 books in this round and drew up three shortlists which were relayed to the Chair and then announced through SLSA communications. The committee then identified the prize winners, which were announced at the Gala Dinner at the SLSA Annual conference in Brighton March 2026.

Fundraising group

I chair the fundraising group. The main activity for this group going forwards is to consider future fundraising, and particularly the Newsletter sponsorship. The sponsorship scheme has been running since 2002/09 on a 3-year cycle which is due for renewal in this academic year. The Fundraising Committee will be looking at how we can improve our offering to law schools to make it more relevant to them and cement our relationships with them. They have their logos in the newsletter and on the website and receive 5 hard copies per law school of each newsletter. If they send in news for the newsletter then this would be included. In the previous cycle sponsors contributed £700pa, up from £500 which it had been from the start.

Miscellaneous

As and when requested by the SLSA Chair, I also provided input on various other matters arising including finances, pay rate review, archivist role and interview.

Elisabeth Griffiths, Vice-Chair

Treasurer's Report

The SLSA's finances continue to be in a healthy position and we are in the process of finalising the donation from a very successful conference in Liverpool. As a result of our strong financial position we have significantly increased our investment in socio-legal studies through our various funding schemes and support for bursaries at the conference at Sussex. The SLSA board has approved increases in the size of the funding pots for our various schemes for at least the next two years, as we move to a two-yearly budget forecast model. As a result annual funding across our schemes has increased from £36,500 to £66,000. Alongside this we have allocated approximately £30,000 for bursaries for the Sussex conference to provide registration fee waivers.

Our accounts for 1st Jan-31st Dec 2025 have been independently examined by the Kelvin Partnership in line with the requirements of our CIO registration with the Charities Commission.

Philip Bremner, Treasurer

Membership Secretary and Data Protection Officer's Report

Membership

Overall Membership Numbers: As of 09/03/2026 our membership database holds information for the following members whose subscriptions are current. Changes are since September.

	Number
CARA Academics	3
Full Members (UK)	719
Honorary Life Members	14
PG Members (Free)	216
PG Members (Paid)	119
Retired Memberships	17
Total	1094

Thanks to Emma for all of her hard work as SLSA administrator.

Integration with the new SLSA website and membership database is now almost complete.

As this is my last report as SLSA Membership Secretary and Trustee, I would like to say a big thank you to all of the great SLSA colleagues I have worked with over the last 9 years, particularly during the transition of the SLSA to charitable status. Good luck everybody for the future!

Data Protection

A request for access to data from a third party was declined for data protection reasons.

Colin Moore, Membership Secretary and Data Protection Officer

Grants

There were three sets of grant awards in 2024/2025.

Name of award	Maximum award amount (£)	Total funds available	Number of applications
Research	3,000	10,000	16
PhD Fieldwork	1,500	5,000	19
International collaboration	2,500	5,000	7

In relation to the research grants, £2,000 of the total funds available are ring-fenced for applicants on precarious contracts. For the internationalisation awards, £2,000 is ring-fenced for collaborations involving the global south.

The following awards were made following the SLSA's January board meeting 2025:

Research grants 2024/2025

- Anna Katila, City University, London, 'Legal and Social Frames of Sámi Experiences: Narrative Construction of Discrimination in Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Finland', £2,980;
- Kate Falconer, University College Cork, 'The scope for alternative body disposal techniques in Ireland: A socio-legal review', £2,846;
- Teresa Sutton, University of Sussex, 'Perspectives on the Gender Pension Gap: The Old Age & Widows' Pensions Act 1940 and The National Spinsters' Pensions Association (1935-1958)', £1,190;
- Jonathan Collinson, University of Sheffield, 'Exploring how the statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children features in the work of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration', £2,900.

PhD fieldwork grants 2024/2025

- Sophie Quist, UiT Arctic University of Norway, 'Encountering Blue Transformation: A legal ethnography of small-scale fishers' resistance against salmon farming in Norway and Chile', £1,475;
- Preeti Pratishruti Dash, University of Cambridge, 'Criminal law as a site for feminist reforms: Analysing the enactment and enforcement of rape laws in India', £1,500;
- James Campbell, Oxford University, 'The Laws of Motion: Towards a Sensational Jurisprudence of Movement within the Court', £1,500;
- Vendula Kolarik Mezeiova, Oxford University, 'Are Behavioural Regulatory Tools Legitimate? A Post-structuralist Analysis of Tools to Promote MMR Vaccination in France', £1,500.

International collaboration grants 2024/2025

- Sophie Quist, UiT Arctic University of Norway, 'Encountering Blue Transformation: A legal ethnography of small-scale fishers' resistance against salmon farming in Norway and Chile', £1,475.
- Preeti Pratishruti Dash, University of Cambridge, 'Criminal law as a site for feminist reforms: Analysing the enactment and enforcement of rape laws in India', £1,500.

- James Campbell, Oxford University, 'The Laws of Motion: Towards a Sensational Jurisprudence of Movement within the Court', £1,500.
- Vendula Kolarik Mezeiova, Oxford University, 'Are Behavioural Regulatory Tools Legitimate? A Post-structuralist Analysis of Tools to Promote MMR Vaccination in France', £1,500.

It was decided that the funding available for grants schemes in 2025/2026 would be increased (see below). The 2025/2026 grants competition was opened in 2026.

Name of award	Maximum award amount (£)	Total funds available (£)	Number of applications
Research	4,000	20,000	30
PhD Fieldwork	2,000	10,000	16
International collaboration	4,000	12,000	7

The awards were determined at the SLSA's January board meeting 2026. The award decisions will be communicated to successful and unsuccessful applicants in early February 2026.

Richard Craven, Grants Committee Chair

Seminar Competition

In the time period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025 the SLSA Seminars SubCommittee awarded six seminar grants out of 19 applications. All were awarded due to their extremely high quality, demonstrating the significant range of socio-legal research activities taking place among members, and the availability of funds to reward the quality of applications. We were pleased to offer an extra award to an applicant on a precarious contract, reflecting our commitment to EDI and the work undertaken by the EDI committee in the last year or so.

Name	Title of seminar	Value of award
Nic Aaron	Sexually Violent Figures and Carceral Systems: Transphobia, Transmisogyny and Sexual Violence	£3,000
Eithne Dowds	Reforming Legal and Policy Responses to Investigating and Prosecuting Sexual Violence	£2890
Zaina Mahmood	Decolonising the Body	£2875
Danielle Watson	Disability and Rights: the possibilities and limits of rights discourses under neoliberalism	£2991.62
Kate Seear	Law, Drugs and the Moving Body	£3,000
Kate Sandford	The Politics of Law and Emotion: Addressing Overlooked Emotions in Legal Fields	£2567

Rachel Cahill-O'Callaghan Cardiff University, Seminar Committee Chair

Impact

In 2025-26, the Impact Committee has continued its activities, reflecting the importance of its role to SLSA colleagues. Impact remains a high profile activity for the association, to which its funds are properly directed. The position of chair of the committee passed from Dr Mitchell Travis to Dave Cowan in September 2025. The Committee and Board are particularly grateful to Dr Travis' leadership.

Membership of the Committee is Daniel Bedford, Joy Debski, Marie Fox, Matt Howard, Arwen Joyce.

The SLSA Impact Prize for 2025 received seven nominations. The results were announced at the Annual Conference in April 2025 in Liverpool, with joint winners: Nicola Barker (University of Liverpool) for the project '*Challenging the revocation of same-sex marriage in Bermuda*', and Mark Walters (University of Sussex) for the project '*Establishing a new framework of hate crime legislation for Seychelles*'.

The deadline for Impact Grants was changed for the 2025/26 round to align it with the timeline for other funding schemes. The scheme previously operated on a different timescale, and the results of the 2024/25 round were reported in last year's Trustees' Annual Report.

Applications for the 2025/26 round closed on 31 October, when 11 applications were received. The Committee was grateful to all applicants for the care and thought that had been put into the applications. The awards were determined at the SLSA's January board meeting 2026. The award decisions will be communicated to successful and unsuccessful applicants in early February 2026.

Dave Cowan, Impact Committee Chair

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The EDI Committee remained active in 2025, with a key focus on feeding into event planning. We continued to strengthen and evaluate the strategic initiatives that were developed after undertaking members' surveys in 2021 and 2024. We published the EDI Survey Report 2025 to share the results and analysis of the 2024 survey responses and the Board's plans for taking our EDI strategy forward based on member input. Clare Williams joined the Board as a Trustee in April 2025 and joined Arwen Joyce as Co-Chair of the EDI Committee.

Mentor scheme

The third year of our mentor scheme kicked off in October 2025 with ten more mentor-mentee pairs. The applications were of a remarkably high standard. The scheme includes both plenary sessions and one-to-one meetings. In response to feedback collected after the pilot scheme in 2023 and again in 2024, the scheme and its messaging were adjusted to set clear expectations about its purpose and the role of mentors, to exclude PhD students except those nearing completion, and to extend the scheme to cover a full year period rather than October-April. The continued popularity of the scheme reaffirms the real need and appetite for mentoring within the SLSA community.

EDI Members' Survey and Data Collection

The latest EDI Survey Report was published in 2025 to share the results and analysis of the 2024 survey responses and plans for taking our EDI strategy forward based on member input.

Ensuring that SLSA membership records are accurate and up to date has been substantially helped by the introduction of a new CRM system and website this year. Going forward we plan to collect, on a confidential and voluntary basis, EDI data from members when they join the SLSA and/or those who apply for funding through one of the SLSA's funding schemes, nominate someone or are nominated for a book or article prize, or take up a conference stream convenor role. The data collection form will not be connected to, nor have any bearing on, the outcome of an application for funding, prize nomination or stream convenor application, but collecting this data will help the SLSA monitor and progress EDI issues and identify whether our funding schemes and prizes are being allocated in an equitable manner. We plan to begin reviewing the data when we have collected a sufficient volume to ensure the anonymity of the respondents and to base any initiatives we develop on a significant and meaningful sample. Over time, this demographic data will build a more comprehensive picture of the membership than we are able to gather through periodic members' surveys alone. We anticipate that these transformative changes will assist the EDI Committee in coming years to offer more comprehensive data analysis and more rigorous monitoring of EDI across all activities.

Inclusion at events

We note that while there have been wider trends across the sector to move back to in-person-only events, benchmarking to an exclusionary practice can compound the minoritisation of some members. At the 2025 annual conference, hosted by Liverpool, one stream ran a hybrid setup, enabling participation by those unable to travel to the conference, there was an online poster session, and the AGM was live-streamed. The SLSA is building on this for the 2026 conference, with the help of the organisers at Sussex. In addition to the online poster session and live-streamed plenary session, delegates were able to request, when submitting an abstract, an online presentation in any conference stream if required as a reasonable adjustment. Stream convenors are being supported to accommodate such requests by the EDI Committee. The EDI Committee will collect views on the reasonable adjustments policy

from attendees and SLSA members after the 2026 conference. The EDI Committee continues to prioritise finding ways to maximise inclusion and accessibility at future events while avoiding the unsustainable costs of full hybrid provision.

The results of the 2024 EDI Survey confirm that members are interested in being able to interact more often with other SLSA members outside of the annual conference. This is especially true for members who find the annual conference difficult to attend in person for a variety of reasons. The new website gives members the option to search the membership directory and join research interest-related groups for networking purposes. The EDI Committee continues to discuss other ways to bring members together at more virtual and in-person events outside of the annual conference. Future surveys will inform deliberations on how we can realise maximum inclusion and accessibility for all SLSA events.

Academy of Social Sciences

We continue to engage with EDI events and initiatives put on by the Academy of Social Sciences. Doing so helps the EDI Committee keep abreast of initiatives taken by other learned societies and organisations as well as best practice guidance on inclusion and EDI monitoring shared throughout the sector.

Clare Williams and Arwen Joyce, EDI Committee Co-Chairs

Precarity

Many thanks to Dr Joyce Arwen from whom I took over after the 2025 SLSA AGM as the second Precarity Representative to the Board of Trustees. Unfortunately questions of precarity have only continued to be more rather than less relevant within Higher Education, making this a timely role.

Funding schemes

The initiative to ring-fence funds for precariously employed members continued in 2025. Forms for research funding, impact grants and the seminar competition forms continue to have guidance and a voluntary disclosure with regards to the employment status of an applicant who is precariously employed.

The current agreed disclosure on funding applications reads as follows:

<p>Voluntary disclosure [provide if desired/applicable or delete]</p> <p><i>Providing this information is voluntary. Doing so will not impact your chances of being awarded funding but will help us to target extra funding to precariously employed members.</i></p>	<p>[Applicant] is employed on a precarious (e.g. zero-hours, temporary, fixed-term or non-permanent) basis or is not currently employed by an HEI.</p>
--	--

When the funding application forms were transferred into an online format the Precarity Rep made sure that the guidance on including precariously employed colleagues was included.

Additionally, the fact that we have ring-fenced funds for precariously employed applicants was highlighted in newsletters and e-bulletins when our funding schemes were highlighted.

The work began to monitor the extent to which the 'precariously employed' disclosure on the SLSA's funding application packages is being used.

Additional

As a Precarity Representative I also sit in other (sub)committees including the EDI Committee and SLSA Grants committee. I also participated in Board meetings as well as voted for various SLSA prizes.

Beth Kamunge-Kpodo, Precarity Representative

Postgraduate Activities

PGR Conference

The SLSA PGR Conference was held at Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) on 9–10 January 2025. The conference delivered sessions designed to enhance postgraduate researchers' socio-legal research skills and introduce them to the PhD journey. Across the two days, delegates benefited from a combination of structured learning and valuable informal networking opportunities. The conference was well appreciated. Demand was significant, with all 50 allocated places filled very quickly, demonstrating strong interest in this type of event within the socio-legal community. Registration-to-attendance conversion was also high, and feedback from delegates was overwhelmingly positive.

PGR Activities at Annual Conference

PGR activities at the SLSA Annual Conference, held at the University of Liverpool from 15–17 April 2025 was very successful. Thematic sessions focusing on publishing, research impact, career development, and the use of arts and humanities methodologies in socio-legal research were planned for SLSA PGRs. Feedback from attendees was positive, with participants praising the quality, relevance, and welcoming atmosphere of the sessions. Along with presenting their research at the Annual Conference, PGRs also took part in the Poster Competition. Submissions this year were of particularly high quality and showcased the breadth and diversity of research interests across the SLSA PGR community.

PGR Writing Group

In 2025, we continued our tri-annual online writing group for PGRs. All sessions attracted strong interest, with consistently high levels of registration. We received praise and positive reviews for the online writing group, with participants highlighting the value of such groups for increasing both writing productivity and community-building.

This year, we experimented with the format of the writing groups to encourage greater participation. Two writing groups were held in 2025. The February session featured a guest speaker, Professor Shelley Marshall from RMIT University, Melbourne (as part of our collaboration with LSAANZ). Professor Marshall spoke to PGRs about research methodologies. The session was well attended and feedback was very encouraging. The session was especially praised for providing a relaxed, informal space for PGRs to interact with a socio-legal expert.

In May 2025, with the support of the SLSA Board, we organised our first hybrid writing session at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London. This session included a writing workshop delivered by Professor Isobel Roele (Queen Mary University of London), and included a peer feedback component, which was well received by all attendees. Participants expressed their enthusiasm for attending similar hybrid sessions in future.

PGR Representative

In May 2025, Mini Saxena stepped down from her role as PGR representative. Mini was an excellent colleague and played an instrumental role in strengthening the SLSA PGR community during her tenure. The SLSA Board extends its sincere thanks to Mini for her valuable contributions.

Diksha Sanyal continued in her role as PGR representative. In early September 2025, Camilo Martinez (Lancaster University) was appointed as the new SLSA PGR representative.

PGR Writing Retreat (VSR, ELS, SLSA)

With support from ELS Academy, Netherlands and SLSA, we co-organised a writing retreat with VSR for PhD students in the final stages of their writing-up. The retreat took place from 18–21 November 2025 at Drongen Abbey in Ghent, Belgium, and was attended by four SLSA PhD students (out of a total of 10 students overall).

Feedback for this initiative was overwhelmingly enthusiastic and supportive. We received a lot of interest from the PGR community for this event. Participants said the retreat provided a focused and productive environment for completing final stages of doctoral writing, while also offering valuable opportunities for international networking. The programme included workshops led by Professor Ellen Desmet (Ghent University) on completing a PhD and planning next steps, and Dr Dietmar Hertsen (Founding Partner, De Redenaar), who delivered a session on creative writing tools for academic writing.

Although this was a one-off event funded through the generous support of the ELS Academy and SLSA, it demonstrated clear value, particularly in fostering international collaboration. We hope that similar initiatives can be supported in the future.

Recruitment

The PGR representatives undertook a recruitment drive to encourage new PGRs to join the SLSA. This took place in early November 2025 and involved contacting PGR administrators and Directors of Law Schools to share information about the SLSA, its benefits, recent website developments, and details of the January 2026 PGR Conference.

Building on previous efforts, we significantly expanded our recruitment outreach. In addition to law schools, we contacted departments across a wide range of disciplines, including sociology, anthropology, psychology, criminology, gender studies, history, economics, business, international relations, and politics. Following advice from the SLSA Board, we also reached out to university research centres in law and the social sciences, as well as relevant networks and associations. Board members were asked to circulate recruitment information within their own institutions.

This expanded contact list will serve as a valuable resource for future recruitment cycles and supports aims identified in the EDI and precarity surveys, particularly in widening participation and fostering a more inclusive socio-legal community. As a result of these efforts, PGR membership of the SLSA increased by nearly 50%.

Diksha Sanyal & Camilo Martinez, PGR Representatives

SLSA Newsletter, Ebulletin, and Website

Overview of role and responsibilities:

- To work closely with SLSA Board – including attending Board meetings, Annual Conference and running Board email list;
- to keep SLSA members up to date with SLSA activities and important deadlines via website, newsletter and ebulletin;
- to gather socio-legal news from multiple sources, including from members, to circulate via SLSA website, ebulletin and *Socio-Legal Newsletter*;
- to deal with or forward as appropriate any other relevant SLSA business eg general enquiries from members and other individuals/organisations, and to liaise with individual SLSA Board members/officers.

Socio-Legal Newsletter

The [Socio-Legal Newsletter](#) is published termly – spring, summer and autumn/winter. During 2025, we published three 16-page newsletters (nos 105, 106 and 107).

The newsletter is mailed to SLSA members in the UK and Europe who have not opted out of receiving paper copies. Members who receive a paper copy have the option to change to the online version if they prefer. Members in other parts of the world receive a link to an online version. The current mailing list is approximately 650 (a drop of about 550 since last year). This is because we have launched a new membership database, and members have to re-opt into the mailing list when they set up their new accounts, so this is a gradual process. The newsletter sponsors (see below) also receive five copies each for circulation to non-SLSA colleagues and students to promote the SLSA's work and aims to a wider audience. This amounts to approximately 150 copies.

The newsletter was launched in 1989 and has been published without interruption since then. Electronic versions dating back to 2002 are available on the SLSA website in the [Newsletter Archive](#).

Content

The newsletter content is focused on the activities of the SLSA Board and SLSA members. Members are actively encouraged to contribute material for each issue. From January 2025 to December 2025, we covered, among many other things:

- messages from the new SLSA Chair and details of new Board members and those stepping down
- announcement and details of SLSA AGM and Trustee nominations and elections
- news arising from SLSA Board meetings, including coverage of key SLSA initiatives, eg grants, seminars and prizes, the SLSA Blog series, postgraduate writing group etc
- news about the new SLSA website and Membership Directory
- the second year of the SLSA Mentoring Scheme
- two further journals in the journals initiative
- SLSA 2025 Annual Conference at the University of Liverpool– call for papers, details of conference in advance and a comprehensive report afterwards, plus a feature article by Professor Phil Scraton, based on the plenary session on the Hillsborough Disaster, and an article about food choices at SLSA Annual Conferences
- SLSA 2026 Annual Conference at the University of Sussex – call for papers and advance details and announcement of the new stream convenor fee waiver scheme
- reports of other SLSA events – for example SLSA Postgraduate Conference 2025 (Manchester Metropolitan University), an event supporting Ukrainian socio-legal

scholars, the first hybrid SLSA writing workshop and three SLSA seminars (supported by the SLSA Seminar Competition)

- announcement of the winner of the SLSA Annual Prize (Professor David Sugarman) and shortlists and prize announcements for the other SLSA prizes
- a tribute to the late Professor William Twining, written by Professor Sugarman
- announcement of all new award holders for research and fieldwork grants, impact grants, seminar competition and new international collaboration scheme;
- numerous summaries and reports from SLSA grantholders (research/fieldwork/impact)
- and regular sections featuring research, events and publications news from members and other relevant organisations.

Newsletter sponsorship scheme

As mentioned in previous annual reports, a large portion of newsletter printing and production costs is covered by our sponsorship scheme which has been running since 2008. During that time the newsletter has been supported by sponsorship from a number of UK Law Schools which commit to making an annual financial contribution per year for three years. 2025–2026 marks the start of a new three-year cycle and we will be relaunching the scheme under the leadership of the Vice Chair.

SLSA website and ebulletin to members

The website carries full details of all SLSA activities, including funding schemes, events and prizes, the SLSA Board of Trustees and its subcommittees and an extensive ‘Socio-legal News’ section which is the basis for the weekly ebulletin. The website is updated weekly during termtime to ensure that members have access to the latest information.

In 2025 the website was moved to a new platform and underwent a complete redesign. We are now able to run all SLSA online activities from the same place.

The weekly ebulletin service is provided during term-time and is a key component of the SLSA’s relationship with members, keeping them informed about Board activities and also offering them an opportunity to share their own news with colleagues. The first ebulletin on the new platform was sent to 279 members. That figure rose to 851 at the end of the year and continues to rise as members interact with the new set-up. The opening rate for the final 2025 ebulletin was 64%.

Marie Selwood, SLSA Newsletter, Ebulletin, and Website editor

SLSA Webmaster

The Association has recently undergone significant digital transformation through the launch of a new website and integrated CRM system.

The new website provides a modern, user-friendly and mobile-responsive platform, improving access to key information and strengthening member engagement. New features include:

- Member social groups to support networking and collaboration
- Integrated event booking with streamlined registration and payment
- Introduction of online forms
- Improved navigation and accessibility

Alongside this, the implementation of a CRM has transformed membership administration. It enables:

- Simple online sign-up
- Centralised and secure member records
- Automated communications and reporting
- Reduced manual processing and improved efficiency

These developments have enhanced the member experience.

Daniel Bedford, Webmaster

SLSA Blog

The SLSA Blog was created in 2016 as a venue for academics and practitioners with an interest in socio-legal issues.

In the period 1 Jan 2025-31 Dec 2025, the SLSA blog published 63 new posts. This is 16 more than the previous period, demonstrating the blog's continued growth and recognition by the socio-legal community as a suitable forum for publishing short academic pieces.

There are two types of blogs posted to the SLSA blog: individual blogs published on a one-off, ad hoc, basis and blogs that form part of an edited guest series, which are convened by guest editors who respond to an annual call.

Individual blog posts cover a wide range of topics, this year including, among others, the Rule of Law and photo elicitation, AI and health data, Irish identity, Palestine and legacies of colonial repression, an analysis of REF 2029 submissions, and reflections on global perspectives on care.

Blog series published during the same period include series on *Gender (in)justice in Scotland*, *Climate Immobilities*, *Tech, Health and Law*, *Surrogacy Law Reform*, *Space Law and Policy*, *Migration in Focus*, and *The Legal Treatment of Defendants with Partial Criminal Responsibility*.

Following the move to the new SLSA website, the SLSA blog was migrated away from the old WordPress site where the blog previously been hosted, and integrated as part of the new website. This has allowed greater ease of posting, better tracking of post views and better alignment of the blog with the wider SLSA online presence. Overall, the blog refresh and the addition of a new blog editor to the blog team, has allowed for a streamlining of the administrative and technical processes by which the blog is run, and has contributed to streamlined, efficient, and effective home for SLSA scholarship.

Arwen Joyce and Kay Lalor, SLSA Blog Editors

Social Media

As in previous years, social media has been an important means of keeping members updated and engaged with both the SLSA postgraduate conference and the SLSA annual conference and other member events. SLSA social media is now spread across Bluesky and LinkedIn. We have 1064 (small increase) followers on Bluesky but we are not getting lots of engagement on that platform. LinkedIn is split between a private group and a page. The page is very recent but we now have 841 followers (269 in September) on there. The group is older and has 455 members (439 in September). We post the same content across both the page and the group. We no longer engage with X or Facebook. In January 2025 the Board made the decision to stop posting on X due to the political situation that was unfolding on that platform. This is in line with other organisations, learned societies and members of the SLSA. We have kept a presence on there, so our account is not hijacked, and we have informed followers what is happening. The Facebook group is almost closed.

In September 2025 the Board made the decision to split the Social Media Officer role. That role is now split between:

- PGR activities
- Blogs
- General announcements
- Annual Conference activity both in the run up to the conference and during.

This seems to be working well and saves some duplication of work as PGR reps can own their posts, Blogs can own their posts etc. LinkedIn seems to be the preferred platform for engagement.

Social media continues to play an important role in disseminating information about surveys, grants, competitions, prize winners, and so on. Social media has also continued to be used to promote engagement with the SLSA blog, publicising new posts and encouraging broader dissemination. PGR activities/ posts include writing retreat in Drongen Abbey, Ghent, the termly online PGR writing group, the PGR conference at Manchester Metropolitan University and Cardiff University and the VSR PhD days conference (which has spots for 5 SLSA PGRs).

Elisabeth Griffiths, Social Media officer

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2025
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	13 to 14

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The SLSA has continued to advance education, learning, and research in socio-legal studies through its annual conference, funding schemes, prizes, and a wide range of related activities. The 2025 annual conference in Liverpool was held in person due to the prohibitively high cost of a hybrid format, and it welcomed 900 delegates, making it one of our largest conferences to date. With 38 streams covering current topics, four PGR-focused sessions, and a thought-provoking plenary, the event showcased the breadth, energy, and diversity of the socio-legal community. The Liverpool 2025 conference donation is currently being finalised and is expected to support the SLSA's charitable work in the coming years. Excellence in socio legal research and publishing was celebrated at the Gala Dinner in Liverpool, where the winners of the six annual prizes and the poster competition were announced. The SLSA Mentoring Scheme continued to provide valuable support to those who may face structural disadvantage in their academic careers. Research projects, fieldwork, seminars, impact initiatives, and internationalisation activities continued to be supported through the SLSA's funding schemes, helping to nurture and showcase socio legal scholarship. Support from journals, universities, and individual members remained central to the success of the SLSA. PGR students benefited from the annual in-person PGR Conference as well as online and hybrid writing sessions. The SLSA continued to produce regular newsletters and e-bulletins to highlight events and opportunities for members, and the SLSA blog has flourished, disseminating cutting-edge research and ideas across the field. A new website and CRM system were launched, representing an important investment in improving engagement and enhancing the experience of both members and the wider public. Throughout these activities, prudent stewardship of resources and the maintenance of appropriate reserves were ensured while continuing to support the socio legal studies community in a wide variety of ways.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The SLSA is in a good financial position with increased income from newsletter sponsorship and membership payments and having previously also received generous donations from the Ulster 2023 conference and the Portsmouth 2024 conference.

Principal funding sources

The SLSA is funded through a combination of membership fees, institutional and publisher sponsorship as well as institutional donations following the annual conference.

Reserves policy

The SLSA maintains financial reserves that would allow for the continuance of its operations in the event a sudden decrease in income (e.g. as a result of a lower than expected conference donation). This reserve is spread across savings accounts and our existing current accounts.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

FUTURE PLANS

In addition to its regular activities the SLSA will fund a range of initiatives around equality, diversity and inclusion and in relation to precarity with the socio-legal community.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM in order to replace trustees who are stepping down.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Cardiff University

Sbarc/Spark

Maindy Road

CARDIFF

CF24 4HQ

Trustees

Doctor P Bremner Treasurer

Professor J Harrington Chair (resigned 16.4.25)

Doctor S Kheria Chair

C Moore Membership Secretary

Ms R Moosavian (resigned 16.4.25)

Doctor E J Jones Secretary

Doctor E Milne Secretary (resigned 16.4.25)

Doctor C Williams (appointed 16.4.25)

Doctor M J Travis (resigned 16.4.25)

Doctor B A Clough (resigned 16.4.25)

Doctor M L Howard

Doctor M P Burton (resigned 1.10.25)

Doctor R Craven

Doctor E R Griffiths Vice Chair

Doctor R Saeed

Doctor A G Green

Doctor M A Hutton

Doctor K L Lalor

Professor K McConnachie

Doctor A le Roux- Kemp

Doctor A Powell

Professor D S Cowan (appointed 16.4.25)

Professor R Cahill-O'Callaghan (appointed 16.4.25)

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

Company Secretary

Doctor E Jones

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd

Chartered Accountants

The Cooper Building

505 Great Western Road

Glasgow

G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 16 March 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Kheria', written over a horizontal line.

Doctor S Kheria - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Socio-Legal Studies Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

16 March 2026

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

	Notes	31.12.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		70,619	225,691
Other trading activities	2	-	1,100
Investment income	3	<u>990</u>	<u>598</u>
Total		<u>71,609</u>	<u>227,389</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	4		
Outgoing resources		<u>113,907</u>	<u>92,584</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(42,298)	134,805
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		<u>299,372</u>	<u>164,567</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2025**

	Notes	31.12.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.24 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		260,314	300,812
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(3,240)	(1,440)
		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>
NET ASSETS			
		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	9	<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			
		<u>257,074</u>	<u>299,372</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

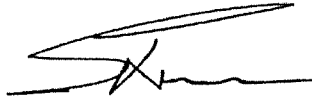
The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association


**Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2025**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16 March 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



S Kheria - Trustee



P Bremner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		31.12.25	31.12.24
		£	£
Flyer inserts		<u>-</u>	<u>1,100</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME		31.12.25	31.12.24
		£	£
Deposit account interest		<u>990</u>	<u>598</u>

4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS					
	Direct	Grant	Support		
	Costs	funding of	costs	Totals	
	£	activities	£	£	
Outgoing resources	<u>62,574</u>	£	<u>8,865</u>	<u>113,907</u>	
		<u>42,468</u>			

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.25	31.12.24
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	<u>1,800</u>	<u>1,440</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2025 amounted to £1,004 (2024 - £6,257). This was paid to Doctor E Milne, trustee, as the administrator for Socio-Legal Studies Association.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2025 amounted to £2,247 (2024 - £3,614). This is to cover the executive meeting expenses and attendance at board meetings.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

7.	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES		Unrestricted funds £
	INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM		
	Donations and legacies		225,691
	Other trading activities		1,100
	Investment income		<u>598</u>
	Total		<u>227,389</u>
	EXPENDITURE ON		
	Charitable activities		
	Outgoing resources		<u>92,584</u>
	NET INCOME		134,805
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		
	Total funds brought forward		<u>164,567</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>299,372</u>
8.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
		31.12.25	31.12.24
		£	£
	Accrued expenses	<u>3,240</u>	<u>1,440</u>
9.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		
		Net movement in funds	At
	At 1.1.25		31.12.25
	£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds		
	General fund	299,372	(42,298)
		<u>299,372</u>	<u>257,074</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS	<u>299,372</u>	<u>(42,298)</u>
		<u>299,372</u>	<u>257,074</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	71,609	(113,907)	(42,298)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,609</u>	<u>(113,907)</u>	<u>(42,298)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	164,567	134,805	299,372
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>164,567</u>	<u>134,805</u>	<u>299,372</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	227,389	(92,584)	134,805
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>227,389</u>	<u>(92,584)</u>	<u>134,805</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than those disclosed in Note 4, there are no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

	31.12.25	31.12.24
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	913	146,273
Memberships	49,220	67,923
Sponsorships	15,850	10,800
Grants returned	4,636	645
PG deposits	-	50
	<u>70,619</u>	<u>225,691</u>
Other trading activities		
Flyer inserts	-	1,100
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	<u>990</u>	<u>598</u>
Total incoming resources	71,609	227,389
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	506	506
Executive meeting expenses	2,247	3,614
Newsletter production	35,075	35,230
PG Conference	16,077	670
Website	5,545	2,338
Subscription	652	652
Storage fee	102	99
Seminar competitions	17,334	8,004
Annual prizes	2,020	900
Mailchimp	-	580
PG Deposit refund	-	370
International grants	6,834	1,000
Membership Fee Refunds	350	-
Impact Funding	250	15,022
Small research grants	12,052	10,902
Fieldwork grants	<u>5,998</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	105,042	84,887
Support costs		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2025**

	31.12.25 £	31.12.24 £
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	955	-
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,800	1,440
Administrative expenses	<u>6,110</u>	<u>6,257</u>
	<u>7,910</u>	<u>7,697</u>
Total resources expended	<u>113,907</u>	<u>92,584</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(42,298)</u>	<u>134,805</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1186333

Accounts

Socio-Legal Studies Association CIO

Trustees' Annual Report

1 January 2024–31 December 2024

Registered in England and Wales, number 1186333
Principal office: c/ Cardiff University, Sbarc Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ.
admin@slsa.ac.uk | www.slsa.ac.uk

SLSA Trustees

Ex Officio Trustees

- Prof John Harrington (Chair) Cardiff University
- Dr Smita Kheria (Vice Chair) Edinburgh University
- Dr Philip Bremner (Treasurer) King's College London
- Dr Emma Milne (Secretary) Durham University
- Mr Colin Moore (Membership Secretary) University of Essex

Trustees

- Dr Anna Bryson Queens University Belfast
- Dr Marie Burton University of Oxford
- Dr Beverley Clough Manchester Metropolitan University
- Dr Richard Craven University of Sheffield
- Dr Simon Flacks University of Sussex
- Dr Alex Green Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Dr Elisabeth Griffiths Northumbria University
- Dr Matthew Howard University of Kent
- Dr Marie Hutton University of Sheffield
- Dr Emma Jones University of Sheffield
- Dr Kay Lalor Manchester Metropolitan University
- Andra Le Roux-Kemp University of Lincoln
- Dr Kirsten McConnachie University of Liverpool
- Dr Rebecca Moosavian University of Leeds
- Dr Alex Powell Oxford Brookes University
- Dr Raza Saeed University of Warwick
- Dr Mitchell Travis University of Leeds

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Chair's Report

Board Membership/ Charity Commission

Dr Sabrina Germain stepped down as an SLSA Trustee at the AGM in 2024. The Board is very grateful to Sabrina for her very valuable contribution. The following Trustees were elected at the AGM: Alex Powell and Andra Le Roux Kemp. We have benefitted from their input and fresh insights.

Lara MacLachlan stepped down as Postgraduate Representative, and we are grateful to her for contribution in this important role. From a strong field we selected Diskha Sanyal as her replacement.

Along with SLSA Honorary Secretary Emma Milne and Precarity Representative Arwen Joyce, I am standing down at this AGM. It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Association, and a pleasure to work with such a dedicated and hardworking Board. The SLSA is sustained by deep reserves of goodwill across the socio-legal community, at all career levels and in all sorts of institutions, and I have benefitted from this support too.

SLSA's annual return to the Charity Commission was submitted in July 2024.

The Board initiated a process to review SLSA policies (adopted over four years ago) consistent with Charity Commission requirements. All of these, as well as two new policies (on Serious Incident Reporting and Internal Risk Management), were completed and scheduled for consideration and approval by the Board in early 2025.

Financial Sustainability/ HE Funding

The SLSA Board views the impact of the current HE funding crisis on our membership and on the field of socio-legal studies with concern. Building on discussions at the 2024 AGM and conference, we initiated a joint initiative with the two other learned societies in law, drafting and co-signing a letter stating our regret that some universities have mandated cuts to conference support, and setting out the essential role played by our associations in sustaining individual research careers and the field as a whole. This was received and discussed at the Committee of the Heads of University Law Schools (CHULS). Further to it, we invited the Chair of CHULS, Penny Carey, to address the SLSA Board meeting sharing insights and receiving feedback from members as regards responses to the crisis.

An SLSA Working Group examining impact as regards our conference, funding, and capacity to support members has been in place since September 2024. We have also gathered information on this through specific questions in our EDI survey of members, re-run this year. Practical steps in response have included keeping the cost of membership and the early bird rate for the conference fixed again this year, increasing maximum award sizes and overall funding pots for our competitions, consistent with financial prudence, and working with conference organizers to maximize the number of bursaries awarded.

These pressures come at a time when the SLSA benefits from a strong financial position, finishing the year with a surplus of over £300,000. As is set out in the Treasurer's report we have had transfer of surpluses from Ulster and Portsmouth, a significant increase in back payment of membership dues, ongoing sponsorship of the Newsletter by law schools, and generous support from law journals, particularly *Journal of Law and Society*, *Social and Legal Studies*, *Modern Law Review*, and *International Journal of Law in Context*. The SLSA Fundraising Group, directed by the Vice-Chair, is promoting the work of the Association and linking it specifically with support for bursaries. In 2024 this allowed us to support 48 conference bursaries and to award £38,000 in grants for research projects, fieldwork, seminars, impact and internationalization.

There is reason for some caution in relation to this financial situation, however. It can be doubted that conferences will generate surpluses on the scale of recent years. Support for conference attendance remains a low priority for university leaders, redundancies threaten our membership base, and the ability of schools to support us through conference organization or direct sponsorship has been weakened, at the same time as the need for support has increased significantly. While inflation has declined, earlier price rises remain a factor in the costs of the Association.

The SLSA Board remains committed to supporting the membership flexibly, intelligently, and as fully as possible, while managing the resources of the Association prudently, ensuring that adequate reserves are in place, and costs are managed. For example, we now run two out of three Board meetings on-line, and work to deliver SLSA events and initiatives on a low-cost basis. I am confident that the Board will remain vigilant and pro-active on this crucial issue.

Annual Conference/Hybrid Delivery

SLSA 2024 at the University of Portsmouth was a notable success, with nearly 500 delegates participating across 25 streams and current topics. Delegates commented very favourably on the intellectual vitality and lively social programme. We are very grateful to Dan Bedford, Emily Walsh and colleagues for the hard work, commitment, and vision which they brought to organizing the conference. Generous sponsorship, along with direct investment from SLSA funds, allowed us to award 48 bursaries covering conference fees.

The team at Liverpool have engaged closely with the SLSA Board in organizing the 2025 conference. Aware of growing financial pressures on institutions and individual members, they opened the period for registration as early as possible. Every effort has been made to ensure prudent expenditure in detail, so as to save resources for bursaries and to secure the surplus which SLSA needs to run, while running a lively and enjoyable conference.

SLSA Treasurer Philip Bremner and I have liaised with the organizers of SLSA 2026 at Sussex, assisting in the negotiation of favourable (or no) rates for administrative support and rooms for panels and plenaries, as well as venues for social events.

A call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) in hosting SLSA 2027 and 2028 will be launched and decided ahead of the conference at Liverpool. A working group of the

Board reviewed and overhauled our call documentation, reflecting on the likely impact of financial pressures in HE, and learning from the emerging experience of the Liverpool organizers. A notable change in the call is the option for organizers to retain a portion of any surplus generated over £50,000, as long as a plan has been submitted with the EOI specifying how this will be invested in order to promote socio-legal studies in the host organization. This regularizes a process which the Board approved *ex post* in relation to unanticipated costs incurred in organizing SLSA 2023 at Ulster University.

The hybrid option has been taken up by an ever-smaller number of conference delegates (less than 80 at Portsmouth), and we are no longer able to cover the cost of delivering this from fees. The imbalance would have been even greater in relation to Liverpool on the basis of costs quoted, and the Board resolved to move away from hybrid in 2025. Most learned societies in the AcSS have done so for these reasons.

Nonetheless we know that some members are excluded from attending in person and have been reflecting on ways to address this. As a result, in the call for EOIs relating to conferences in 2027/28 we have asked for information regarding capacity to include full or partial hybrid elements, as well as reminding potential organizers of the need to meet specific requests for reasonable adjustments. Alongside this, the renewal of the SLSA website will allow us to run dedicated on-line events, focused on conference streams/current topics for example. The EDI Committee has begun reflection on this, as noted in their report, and work will commence in 2025.

Postgraduate Conference

The SLSA Postgraduate Conference 2024 was organized by Laura Graham and colleagues at Northumbria. Attendees commented on how much they benefitted from sessions with expert and experienced scholars, as well as opportunities for socializing and informal discussions.

We ran an open call for EOIs in hosting the PGR conference in 2025 and in 2026, with successful applications from Manchester Metropolitan and Cardiff. I am grateful to the Vice Chair, Smita Kheria, for leading this process, given my own conflict of interest. Further to our collaboration with VSR – Dutch-Flemish Socio-Legal group – we continue to support reciprocal participation by PGR researchers in each other's events. We will look to open the very successful SLSA PGR Writing Group sessions (initiated this year by PGR reps Mini Saxena and Diksha Sanyal) to partners as well.

Academy of Social Sciences

SLSA continues to play an active part in AcSS through its Learned Societies CEOs meeting and Conference Group. This has been a very important source of exchange and learning in relation to format of conference delivery, and more recently the impact of the HE funding crisis on Learned Societies. SLSA has also engaged with AcSS in its work with ESRC on EDI. This has helped us showcase and also fine tune our work on precarity within the socio-legal community, for example, through mentoring, earmarking awards, and data collection.

SLSA successfully nominated 14 members for the AcSS Fellowship in two rounds during 2024. Consistent with our record in 2023 and 2022, this is clear recognition of the strength of our field and the individual quality of socio-legal scholars.

Membership System/ Website Renewal

We are pleased with the outcome of our investment in administrative support to overhaul our membership records and support systems. The consistent work of SLSA Administrator Emma Milne, advised by Membership Secretary Colin Moore, means that we now have a reliable database of current members, and a system to enable them to remain in good standing, enjoying membership benefits related to conferences, prize- and grant-eligibility.

Recognizing the need for a renewal of the SLSA website, now over 10 years old, we commissioned Lewis Gowers to review options for a new website, including the SLSA blog, and Customer Relations Management (CRM) system, along with backup support. Given the nature of the investment in the work (c.£3,500) and our obligations of due diligence, Lewis worked with SLSA Board members (Emma Milne, Colin Moore, Andra Le Roux Kemp, Marie Selwood, and me) to determine a set of alternatives with specifications and costs. Reviewing these, the Board commissioned Evo Web Designs to carry out the work. As current Board member, Dan Bedford, is the director of that firm, we took care to eliminate conflicts of interest and to document this.

The new website and CRM will offer a more engaging source of information for members and the wider public on the aims and work of SLSA, showcasing our very popular blog and enabling us to carry out fundraising. The members area will enable SLSA to run and host study events and seminars, expanding our on-line offer and, thus, advancing our goal of inclusivity. The new CRM will dramatically cut the costs of administration in supporting members. It will also allow entry of details into a register of SLSA members which can be made publicly available, as recommended to us at the 2024 AGM.

REF 2029

We were pleased that Research England made changes to the format and criteria for REF 2029 in line with the proposals made by the sub-group of the SLSA Board in its responses to their consultation exercise in late 2023.

Unlike in previous exercises, it was decided that learned societies would not be involved directly in the process whereby REF panel members are nominated. We raised concerns relating to REF 2029 through AcSS. We also responded positively to an invitation from Research England to signal willingness to advise and be consulted on ongoing REF planning (eg. as regards People, Environment and Culture).

Impact/Internationalisation

Our impact award schemes are now well 'bedded-in', with a notable increase in the number and quality of applications. This was enabled by dedicated pieces in the Newsletter on 'how to apply' and a roundtable on 'demystifying impact' at Portsmouth 2024, where Mitch Travis (SLSA Impact Subcommittee) gave guidance on funds and

prizes. Rob Street and Ash Patel (Nuffield Foundation) presented on funders' understanding of impact, and Caroline Cox (University of Portsmouth) spoke on her 4* rated impact case study.

The internationalisation funding scheme has now completed its second year with a similar increase in the number and quality of applications. We are grateful to *Social and Legal Studies* for annual support allowing us to earmark awards within this scheme for applicants building socio-legal collaboration with institutions in the Global South.

SLSA has continued to develop partnerships with VSR (Netherlands/Belgium), ALSA (South/East Asia), and LSAANZ (Australia/New Zealand), as well as working with Ukrainian colleagues to develop socio-legal studies there. We organized a plenary at Portsmouth in collaboration with CARA (the Council for at Risk Academics) and the *Modern Law Review*. Recently migrated scholars from Ukraine and Afghanistan addressed the conference about their research and journeys to the UK. Stephen Wordsworth, Executive Director of CARA and former UK Ambassador, spoke on the migrant contribution to the academy from the 1930s on.

EDI/ Mentoring/Archives

The EDI group continued its work on precarity, mentoring, and renewed data collection. These are discussed more fully in the committee's report. I am grateful to the committee for its advice on the range of initiatives taken by the Board, ensuring that EDI perspectives are consistently included in our decision-making.

We ran a successful pilot mentoring scheme this year, with direction from Bev Clough. Building on lessons learned, a full scheme was launched (and oversubscribed) in autumn 2024. This year's programme, led by Elisabeth Griffiths, will include one-to-one mentoring of ECRs and precariously employed members by senior socio-legal scholars, as well as two workshops, on impact and publication respectively.

The SLSA Board voted funds to support the time-limited work of a professional archivist to review our holdings at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, to advise on our procedures for retaining materials (hard copy and digital) for deposit in the archive, and the retrieval of material held by former members of the Board/Executive. The position will be advertised and filled in spring 2025. Raza Saeed has led on this with advice from Anna Bryson, and IALS Archivist Clare Cowling.

Article Prize

We received 17 eligible nominations for the SLSA Article Prize 2023-24. I chaired a group of 13 Board members (ie all those not involved in judging the SLSA Book Prizes). Following a calibration exercise and guided by REF output criteria, we scored all nominations, arriving at a shortlist of three, which was opened for voting on by the whole Board. We were pleased with the high quality of nominated papers.

John Harrington, Chair

Vice-Chair's Report

SLSA Annual Book Prizes

As Vice Chair, I continued to co-ordinate the work of the Book Prize Committee (for the Hart SLSA Book Prize, the Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics, and the Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize). For the 2023/24 round, the committee reviewed 59 books, and drew up three shortlists which were relayed to the Chair, and then announced through SLSA communications. The committee then identified the prize winners, which were announced at the Gala Dinner at the SLSA Annual conference in Portsmouth in March 2024. The committee's work for the 2024/25 round is underway.

Review of rules for SLSA Prizes for Books and Articles

In the first half of 2024, I undertook a review of the rules for SLSA Prizes for Books and Articles. The review included an update to the rules, as well as a consideration of the type of queries received during the administration of these prizes, views and experience of the article and book prize committee chairs, as well as recommendations from the EDI committee. I proposed a range of revisions to the prize rules which were discussed and approved by the SLSA Board in May 2024. I also proposed the development of an FAQ section on prizes for the SLSA website, containing common queries and answers which are updated from year to year, and would be helpful in ensuring both clarity and consistency in practice in interpretation of the rules and requirements across years. The changes to the rules and FAQs were subsequently finalised and published, and came into effect for the prizes for the 2024/25 round.

Future SLSA PGR Conferences

In 2024, the call for expressions of interest for future SLSA PGR conferences in 2025 and 2026 was issued. This was only the second year when the PGR conference hosts were being selected through an open call. I chaired a group to review the expressions of interests received. The group reviewed, ranked, and discussed the expressions of interest as per the criteria of the call and recommended Manchester Metropolitan University to be the hosts for the 2025 PGR conference, and Cardiff University to host the 2026 PGR conference. I wrote to both the successful applicants with the decision and the next steps, and also informed all the unsuccessful applicants of the outcome along with brief points of feedback.

Fundraising group

I continued to chair the work of the fundraising working group to improve SLSA's fundraising activities, with a focus on attracting donations, use of gift aid status, as well as receiving legacies, and aiming to formalize, expand and give more prominence to our fundraising efforts. The mechanism for donation was simplified and streamlined i.e. there is now a simple 'donate' button that gives the option to make a one-off donation or regular contribution, via easy payment methods. The group agreed that it would be prudent to focus fundraising efforts towards donations on conference bursaries, due to its urgency as a result of cuts to conference funding in universities. Accordingly, the text for the [fundraising webpage](#) was developed and finalised, and shared with the 2025 Liverpool conference team for publicity. The

SLSA fundraising policy was also reviewed in 2024 and updated as part of the broader review of SLSA policies.

Miscellaneous

I participated in the working group for preparation of call for expressions of interest for future SLSA Annual conferences. I also participated in an ad-hoc group led by the Chair to consider issues around the challenges within UK HEIs and the impact on funding for learning societies and conferences. As and when requested by the SLSA Chair, I also provided input on various other matters arising including finances, future conferences, and website redevelopment.

Smita Kheria, Vice-Chair

International Liaison Report

I continued to chair the International subcommittee, and organise internationalisation work to be progressed on the basis of previously agreed three key strands: 1) contributing to global and multilateral developments and discussions involving socio-legal associations; 2) developing bilateral relations with other socio-legal associations; and 3) developing initiatives that enable SLSA members to develop, sustain and widen their international networks.

International collaboration funding scheme

The new International collaboration funding scheme was launched in 2023 to support SLSA members to undertake international collaborative activities that are specifically aimed at building connections with socio-legal scholars and socio-legal communities beyond the UK. The first award under this scheme was made in 2024 and publicised through the SLSA newsletter no102. I co-ordinated the work of the international subcommittee in reviewing the operation of this scheme in its first year, with a view to refining the guidance and application process for scheme, and reviewing the size of the funding pot in light of broader discussions around SLSA funding schemes. A range of amendments to the scheme's guidance, funding size, and the application form were proposed to and approved by the SLSA board in May 2024 and came into effect for the 2024/25 round.

International Collaboration on Promoting Socio-Legal Studies in Ukraine

I planned and co-ordinated with USAID Justice for All Activity, and Professor Pavlo Fedorchenko-Kutuyev (Head of the Sociology Department, Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute), the organisation of a collaborative online event aimed at facilitating exchange between academics from the UK and Ukraine on teaching and research in the field of socio-legal studies. This joint event, titled 'Developing International Collaboration on Promoting Socio-Legal Studies in Ukraine: Tools and good practices', took place on 30 May 2024, with over 30 scholars from Ukraine as attendees. Since the event, based on further interest from scholars in Ukraine in developing socio-legal studies as a field, Professor Fedorchenko-Kutuyev has been working on plans to establish a Ukrainian socio-legal studies working group under the auspices of the national sociology association. A full report of the event has been published in the SLSA newsletter no 105.

PGR exchange with the Dutch and Flemish Law and Society Association (VSR)

The collaboration with the Dutch and Flemish Law and Society Association (VSR), in the form of a PGR exchange at our respective postgraduate conferences, completed its first successful run in early 2024. Thereafter, I co-ordinated review of this exchange along with respective representatives from SLSA and VSR, to discuss the experience from the first year including challenges and next steps. A continuation of the exchange had the strong support of both VSR and SLSA PGR representatives as well as the SLSA International committee. Consequently, a proposal to continue the scheme for another year, along with some changes in the communications and administration of the exchange, was made to and approved by the SLSA board in

May 2024. The changes have been implemented since and led to improvements in the operation and uptake of the scheme for its run in 2025.

Smita Kheria (International Liaison Officer)

Treasurer's Report

The SLSA's finances are in a very healthy position following receipt of donations from the very successful conferences in Ulster and Portsmouth. As a result of these large donations, our income this year was £227,389 and our expenses were £ 92,464. We also continue to benefit from increased income from newsletter sponsorship by law schools and payment of membership fees that were owing from previous years.

As a result of the healthy state of our finances, we are in a position to reconsider how we can most effectively invest in socio-legal studies through our various funding schemes. This year we have been able to increase the funding available through our schemes on an ad-hoc basis (as well as increasing the size of individual awards). In consultation with the chairs of the various funding sub-committees, I will bring a proposal to the May board meeting for increasing the overall funding available across our schemes in order to make most effective and fair use of our current surplus. We are also actively considering how best to support engagement with our annual conference through bursaries and support for stream convenors.

It has been a long process ensuring that our financial reserve is spread across different accounts and thereby benefiting from advantageous interest rates and the financial services guarantee. Currently the reserve is spread across two current accounts with separate banks as well as a single savings account. We are in the process of opening a second savings account with one of our existing banks as well as an account with a third bank (Unity Trust Bank) to spread the risk across different institutions.

The SLSA's annual accounts (which are available as part of the AGM documentation) were signed off in March 2025 by the Kelvin Partnership for independent examination in line with the requirements of our CIO registration with the Charities Commission. Below is a proposed forecast budget for 2025 (2024 Actuals in Red) based on last year's forecast. At the board meeting in May 2025, the board will discuss whether any changes to the budget might be made in order to maximise the use of our current surplus. The board would welcome any views at the AGM or via e-mail (treasurer@slsa.ac.uk) in advance of our meeting about changes to the budget in relation to particular spending priorities.

Philip Bremner, Treasurer

Income

Membership	33000	[67,923]
Annual Conference Donation (Liverpool, 2025)	45000	[146,223]
Newsletter Sponsorship	17000	[7,700]
Prize/Other Sponsorship	3600	[3,100]
Flyer Inserts	1200	[1,100]
Interest	200	[598]
Grant Underspend Refunds	0	[645]
Miscellaneous	0	[0]

TOTAL

100,000 [227,389]

Expenditure

Executive Committee Expenses	6000	[3614]
PG Conference Expenses	8000	[670]
SLSA Admin Support	6500	[6257]
Newsletter: Editing	28000	[28010]
Production	7500	[7220]
Small Research Grants	12000	[10902]
Seminar Competition	7000	[8004]
Fieldwork Grants	5000	[5000]
Impact & Engagement Grants	7500	[15000]
Annual Prizes	1600	[900]
Website & Database	3000	[2338]
AcSS membership	700	[652]
IALS Storage Fee	100	[99]
Charities Insurance	600	[506]
External Auditor Fee	1500	[1320]
Internationalisation Award Scheme	5000	[1000]
Miscellaneous	0	[0]

TOTAL

100,000 [92,464]

Membership and Data Protection Officer's Report

Membership Secretary

Overall Membership Numbers:

As of 17/01/25 our membership database holds information for the following members whose subscriptions are current. Changes are since September

	Number
CARA Academics	4 (-1)
Full Members (UK)	795 (-62)
Full Members (Overseas)	118 (+7)
Honorary Life Members	16 (+2)
PG Members (Free)	196 (+8)
PG Members (Paid)	227 (+62)
Retired Memberships	28 (+12)
Total	1315

- My key contribution this year was the procurement of a new SLSA IT system – including a new website and membership database. With the aid of the Board of Trustees a specification was developed, and this was then passed to potential suppliers via the SLSA IT consultant who arrange appropriate demos.
- The new system promises greater stability, and a range of new facilities, including a membership directory.
- Thanks to Emma Milne (again!) for all of her excellent work as SLSA Administrator and for chasing lots of membership fee debts.
- The reduction in full member numbers is, again, attributable to the removal of long-term debtors. This process is now approaching completion.
- We are all looking forward to switching away from the current database supplier when the new system is ready.
- Thanks Marie Selwood for helping to supply the data for this report.

Data Protection Officer

- No requests received.

Colin Moore, Data Protection Officer

Grants

Awards made in January 2025

The committee graded 3 distinct sets of awards this year:

Name of award	Maximum award amount [increased since 23-24]	Total pot size [unchanged since 23-24]	Number of applications received
Research grants	£3,000	£10,000 [£2000 of which is ring-fenced for applicants on precarious contracts]	16
Fieldwork grants	£1,500	£5,000	19
New for 23-24: Internationalisation award	£2500	£5,000 [£2000 of which is ring-fenced for global south collaborations]	7

The maximum award amounts were increased for this 2025 round, but the total size of the award pots was not increased. This means we made fewer awards but of higher value for this round.

The board agreed to go slightly over the indicative maximum pot totals for both the fieldwork and internationalisation awards so that we were able to make 11 awards in total for this round.

Small research grant winners:

Winners –

- (1) Anna Katila, City University, London, 'Legal and Social Frames of Sámi Experiences: Narrative Construction of Discrimination in Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Finland', £2,980
- (2) Kate Falconer, University College Cork, 'The scope for alternative body disposal techniques in Ireland: A socio-legal review', £2846

- (3) Teresa Sutton, University of Sussex, 'Perspectives on the Gender Pension Gap: The Old Age & Widows' Pensions Act 1940 and The National Spinsters' Pensions Association (1935-1958)', £1190
- (4) Jonathan Collinson, University of Sheffield, 'Exploring how the statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children features in the work of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration', £2900

Total awarded: £9916

Fieldwork research grant winners:

Winners –

- (1) Sophie Quist, UiT Arctic University of Norway, 'Encountering Blue Transformation: A legal ethnography of small-scale fishers' resistance against salmon farming in Norway and Chile', £1475
- (2) Preeti Pratishruti Dash, University of Cambridge, 'Criminal law as a site for feminist reforms: Analysing the enactment and enforcement of rape laws in India', £1,500
- (3) James Campbell, Oxford University, 'The Laws of Motion: Towards a Sensational Jurisprudence of Movement within the Court', £1500
- (4) Vendula Kolarik Mezeiova, Oxford University, 'Are Behavioural Regulatory Tools Legitimate? A Post-structuralist Analysis of Tools to Promote MMR Vaccination in France', £1500

Total awarded: £5975

Internationalisation grant winners:

The winners were –

- (1) Koldo Casla, Essex University, 'Strategic Litigation on the Progressive Realisation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights', £2500 (top score: 3.8)
- (2) Jill Dickinson, Leeds Beckett University, 'Pracademia in Law Schools – An International Community of Practice', £2286 (2nd top score: 3.6). This entails a project with a Mauritian law school so it is also a Global South project and gets the ring-fenced money for Global South projects.
- (3) Zainab Lockhandwala, Essex University, 'Laying the Groundwork & Building Collaborations for Multi-Scalar Studies in the Field of Environmental Law through a Socio-Legal Mapping Exercise of Sanitary Waste Management Systems in the Eastern Himalayan Region, India', £2048. (Global South project).

Total awarded: £6834

Rebecca Moosavian, Chair of Grants Committee

Seminar Competition

In the time period 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024 the SLSA Seminars Sub-Committee awarded eight seminar grants out of 13 applications. All were awarded due to their extremely high quality, demonstrating the significant range of socio-legal research activities taking place among members, and the availability of funds to reward the quality of applications. We were pleased to see a continuation of the increase in number of applications following low numbers since Covid 19.

At the AGM in 2024, the decision was made to increase the maximum funding available for each individual grant to £3000. This reflected the healthy state of the SLSA's finances, and our wish to maximise opportunities for sharing and developing research, particularly in light of the funding situation affecting many universities.

We were pleased to see applications rise again for the December 2024 deadline to 18. This followed attempts to advertise the scheme more widely and enthusiastically on social media and other channels.

We were also able, as last year, to offer an extra award to an applicant on a precarious contract, reflecting our commitment to EDI and the work undertaken by the EDI committee in the last year or so.

Grants Awarded:

Lead Applicant Surname	Lead Applicant Name	Title of Proposed Seminar	Amount req
Costello	Róisín	Representing Minority Language Voices in Court	£1,000.00
Graffin	Neil	Contemporary challenges to migration	£1000.00 (adjusted)
Jaber	Nora	The Juridification of Justice: Potentials and Limitations	£1,000.00
Lindsey	Jaime	Law's Role in Shaping and Responding to Disability and Motherhood	£1,000.00
Luoma	Colin M.	Climate Change Mitigation and Human Rights	£985.58
O'Rourke	Catherine	LAW And Global Justice: Research Centres Without A Research Field?	£980.00
Pelliconi	Andrea Maria	Climate Change & Migration: New Challenges, Legal Responses, and Policy Solutions	£999.95
Shah	Sahar	Calculating Climate Reparations: Legal Perspectives	£996

Total: 7,961.43

Simon Flacks, Chair of the Seminar subcommittee

Open Access

In 2024, SLSA's open access working group continued to keep abreast of UKRI's new Open Access policy and updates.

Members have been kept informed about the Working Group's activities via the Socio-Legal Newsletter, the weekly SLSA ebulletin and the SLSA blog. This has included informing members about updates to UKRI policy.

The main piece of work concerned our response to Research England's consultation on OA for the next REF, based on a new set of proposals. The consultation closed midday 17 June and we submitted a detailed response after input from both the OA committee and wider body of SLSA trustees. That included reservations about the proposed changes on monographs and books, in particular, as well as suggestions for modifications in other areas.

The proposals on longform publications were, in the end, postponed, as a result of objections including ours.

Simon Flacks, Open Access Working Group Chair

Impact

The Impact Grant Committee was newly constituted in 2022, to carry out activities related to the series of new ‘Impact’ funding streams announced at the 2022 Annual Conference. These include, specifically – (1) an Impact Grant Scheme; (2) an Annual Impact Prize; and (3) liaising with Annual Conference Stream Convenors regarding funding to facilitate Impact – <https://slsa.ac.uk/index.php/news/socio-legal-publications-2?id=400> . The Annual Conference Stream Convenors fund has now been retired due to a lack of applications.

The Committee was chaired by Vanessa Munro up until the 5th April 2023 and since May 11th 2023 has been chaired by Mitchell Travis. The committee is also comprised of – Anna Bryson, Marie Burton, Rebecca Moosavian, Mini Saxena and Emma Milne. Mitchell Travis and Rebecca Moosavian will retire this April. We meet on MS Teams to assess applications received throughout the year in respect of the schemes above, making reports on our decision-making for the approval of the Board of Trustees at our meetings.

Impact Grant Scheme

In its third round, we received a total of 13 applications (up from 6 the previous year) with 3-4 from applicants on precarious contracts.¹ Each application was scored (out of 5) with feedback provided from each committee member on their scoring, in accordance with the criteria for the awards as advertised. 5 awards were made (see below), creating a total spend of £7285.60. In addition to the quantity of applications, the quality of the applications has risen substantially since previous years with at least 9 fundable projects set out below.

• PI Last	• Amount	• Title
• Fejős	• £1,460.00	• Training credit unions on the Guide on Affordability Assessment for the British Credit Union Sector (the ‘Guide’)
• Yong	• £1,500.00	• Domestic abuse in a new immigration landscape – creating a community of practice for migrant victim-survivors of domestic abuse in England & Wales
• Greenwood-Reeves	• £1,495.60	• Law’s a Drag Research Principles Design Lab
• Gokani	• £1,332.00	• Developing international standards on alcohol labelling to improve consumer protection and public health

¹ One of them seemed to be on a precarious contract but did not tick the box for being on a precarious contract.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perry-Kessarais 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,497.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activating Imagination in an Island-wide deliberation for Cyprus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,250.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate Research Sex Work Network: Interdisciplinary Conference and Workshop
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kamil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,340.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity/Project: Navigating Justice: A Guide for Interpreter-mediated Hearings in the Immigration and Asylum Tribunals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yaqub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,200.07 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can legal developments in adoption law across Muslim states increase child adoption in the UK?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tongue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,400.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reproductive Futures: A Zine-Making Project

Given the underspend by the Impact committee in previous years, coupled with the previous year's underspend and the closing of the Stream Convenors Impact Fund, the committee queried whether we could fund additional projects. Chair's action was taken in consultation with the Treasurer to release an extra £5,000 allowing us to fund an additional four excellent projects, ie each of the projects listed in the above table. The Committee extends their thanks to the Chair and the Treasurer for this decision.

Demystifying Impact

The committee had a successful event at the Annual conference on Demystifying Impact coupled with an article in the newsletter. The event featured Rob Street and Ash Patel from the Nuffield Foundation who are keen to work with us again. Feedback from the event was positive and hopefully it helped to improve the quality and quantity of the applications above.

Nick Hopkins from the Law Commission had been interested in speaking but the dates clashed with the law Commission's own board meeting, a representative of the CPS had also shown some interest in attending. It may be possible to build a separate event around this in the future.

Annual Impact Prize

Seán Columb won the 2024 Annual Impact Prize for his project 'Exposing the Organ Trade: Seeking Truth in Violence'. Nominations opened for this year's prize opened in July and end on the 31st October. The annual prize is fixed at £250.

The 2025 Annual Impact fund has now also been decided with seven applications. The results will be announced at the Annual conference in April.

General

We believe that the introduction of this funding support and recognition for Impact activity within the socio-legal community has been a useful innovation, and that there has been a strong interest in it given its novel status as a funding stream for the SLSA. Guided by our advice sessions (see above), the quality of the applications under the existing schemes has increased, with a spread of applicants at various career stages and at a range of institutions. We anticipate that the schemes will go from strength to strength as awareness of their existence continues to develop. In the coming year we will look to build community awareness of the fund.

Mitchell Travis (Impact Committee Chair)

1/3/25

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

In 2024 we continued to strengthen and evaluate the strategic initiatives that were developed after undertaking a members' survey in 2021, the results of which were published in the 2022 EDI Survey Report. The EDI Committee then published an EDI Strategic Response Document and EDI Strategy, which were approved by the Board in January 2024 and now appear on the SLSA's website.

Mentor scheme

Our pilot mentor scheme for members kicked off with a plenary session in October 2023, continued with one-to-one meetings, and concluded at the SLSA Conference at the University of Portsmouth in April 2024. We had over 30 applications for mentees, and 20 volunteers willing to act as mentors. All of this reaffirmed to us the real need and appetite for mentoring within the SLSA community. In the end we created 10 mentor-mentee pairs.

Feedback on the scheme was collected from both mentors and mentees and reviewed by the EDI Committee. Overall, the mentees were very happy with the scheme, all saying that they found it a positive experience and that they would recommend it to others. Some issues were raised in relation to setting clear expectations about the purpose of the scheme and the role of a mentor, the short duration of the pilot, and the lack of opportunities to meet other mentees. In response to feedback from the pilot scheme, we amended certain elements of the scheme and relaunched it in September 2024. This included changing the eligibility criteria to exclude PhD students except those nearing completion and extending the scheme to cover a full year period rather than October-April. We paired a further 10 mentors and mentees for the 2024-25 mentor scheme.

2024 EDI Members' Survey

We re-launched the EDI Members' Survey in October 2024. The SLSA committed in the 2022 Report to keeping our data current by surveying SLSA members every two to three years. As a learned society and Charitable Incorporated Organisation, it's important that we understand and represent our members, and the survey results will inform the SLSA's equity, diversity and inclusion initiatives over the next few years. We will analyse the responses and publish an updated EDI Report and Strategy in 2025.

EDI Data Collection

In 2024 we continued to collect, on a confidential and voluntary basis, EDI data from members who apply for funding through one of the SLSA's funding schemes, nominate someone or are nominated for a book or article prize, or take up a conference stream convenor role. The form is not connected to, nor does it have any bearing on, the outcome of an application for funding, prize nomination or stream convenor application, but collecting this data will help the SLSA monitor and progress EDI issues and identify whether our funding schemes and prizes are being allocated in an equitable manner. We will only begin to review the data after it has been collected for at least three years, in order to ensure anonymity of the respondents and to base any initiatives we develop on a significant and meaningful sample.

Funding application

The SLSA applied for funding from the Academy of Social Sciences in 2024 for proposed EDI initiatives focused on addressing academic precarity – a growing trend in the sector and something that our members expressed concerns about through the 2021 EDI Members' Survey and the 2022 Precarious Employment Survey. The proposed project included developing our mentoring scheme with a series of capacity building workshops and community development networking events. Our application was unsuccessful but nevertheless we continued to develop our mentoring scheme in 2024, albeit in a more limited way. We also continued to engage with the Academy of Social Sciences EDI events.

EDI Policies

The SLSA's EDI Policies were reviewed and updated by the Committee in November 2024. The Committee will investigate further whether the process for recruiting and electing new Trustees to the Board aligns with Principle 6 of the Charity Governance Code re Trustee recruitment and Board diversity. More work will be done on this in 2025.

Developing a broader offering of inclusive events

For budget and institutional capacity reasons, the annual conference will not be fully hybrid in 2025 or 2026 and presenting remotely will only be facilitated when a member requires a reasonable adjustment to participate. As a result, the EDI Committee was tasked with considering how to increase the number of engaging and inclusive events organised for members throughout the year so that there are more opportunities to connect, develop and share our research outside of the annual conference, especially for those who cannot attend the conference in person. The Committee began this exercise by mapping the activities members currently have access to, as well as drawing on the expertise of the Committee and wider Board in thinking through how to make these more inclusive, and how to utilise online or hybrid events to support members. This work will continue in 2025.

Bev Clough and Arwen Joyce, EDI Co-Chairs

Precarity

The Precarity Representative to the Board also currently serves as a Co-Chair of the EDI Committee and many precarity-related initiatives are advanced in that forum. See the EDI Report for additional information on the mentoring scheme and work being undertaken to make the SLSA and its events more inclusive, including for precariously employed members.

Funding schemes

In 2023 funds were ringfenced in our funding pots for precariously employed members and in 2024 the Board completed the process of updating the application forms for research funding, impact grants and the seminar competition with guidance and a voluntarily disclosure box re the employment status of an applicant who is precariously employed in order to more easily allocate these ringfenced funds.

The forms now say:

- Joint applications are welcome and particularly encouraged where permanent members of academic staff are partnering with precarious/unaffiliated researchers.

The voluntary disclosure box appears in this way:

Voluntary disclosure [provide if desired/applicable or delete] <i>Providing this information is voluntary. Doing so will not impact your chances of being awarded funding but will help us to target extra funding to precariously employed members.</i>	[Applicant] is employed on a precarious (e.g. zero-hours, temporary, fixed-term or non-permanent) basis or is not currently employed by an HEI.
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We also encourage those who apply for seminar funding to include in their proposed budget some funding to cover the cost of travel and attendance for precarious and/or unaffiliated researchers who would be otherwise unable to attend or participate in the proposed seminar.

We will continue to monitor how often this 'precariously employed' disclosure is being utilised in each of the funding schemes and how often ringfenced funds are being awarded.

Arwen Joyce, Precarity Representative to the Board of Trustees

Postgraduate Activities

PGR Conference

The SLSA PGR Conference was held at Northumbria University on 11-12 January 2024. The conference was very successful. We had significant interest, and the allocated 50 spaces were filled very quickly. This demonstrates the high demand for this type of event in the socio legal space. There was also a high registration to attendance conversion. Feedback from the event was very positive. The PGR representatives are grateful to the team at Northumbria University in planning and delivering the sessions, as well as to the delegates for their contributions throughout.

PGR Activities at Annual Conference

The PGR Activities at the SLSA Conference at University of Portsmouth were a great success. There was a total of four sessions delivered by a range of facilitators including academics from the University of Portsmouth as well as those with experience of researching in different contexts such as sub-Saharan Africa and India. PGRs also presented their work at the Annual Conference and participated in the Poster Competition. Their submissions this year were of particularly high quality and demonstrated the wide range of research interests within the SLSA community.

PGR Representative

In May, Lara MacLachlan stepped down from her role as PGR representative. Lara was a wonderful colleague who made very worthwhile contributions to the SLSA community during her time in this role. The SLSA Board would like to express their gratitude to Lara for her work. Mini Saxena remained in her role as PGR representative. In June, Diksha Sanyal, based at UCL, was recruited as the new SLSA PGR representative.

PGR Writing Group

In 2024, we continued with our tri-annual writing group for PGRs. For every group, sign-ups were collected via a google registration form with a cap of 25. Each session saw a positive response from the community in relation to registration. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and participants repeatedly mentioned that they found the groups incredibly useful both for writing and for building community. We now plan to hold the next sessions in February and May 2025, but we are trialling some new formats, including a hybrid session with an in-person component in London, and having a socio-legal expert from the Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand join us to speak about her experiences.

Recruitment

The PGR representatives conducted a recruitment drive to encourage new PGRs to become SLSA members. Socio-legal PGRs from across the UK and Ireland were contacted through their institutions and invited to become a member. This year, building on work from the last two years' recruitment drives, we continued to include a more diverse range of disciplines. The PGR representatives now maintain a list of approximately 134 contacts. This supports the development of aims identified in both our EDI survey and our precarity survey to widen participation amongst the socio-legal community and create a more inclusive environment.

Across November and December, the PGR Representatives helped to support preparation for the 2025 PGR Conference. The PGR Representatives also prepared for the PGR Activities for the 2025 SLSA Conference at University of Liverpool. These include a session on publishing, a session on research impact, a session on post-PhD pathways, and finally a session on arts and humanities in socio-legal research. These sessions were guided by feedback from the 2024 conference and include speakers from both inside and outside academia.

Mini Saxena and Diksha Sanyal (PGR Representatives)

SLSA Newsletter, Ebulletin and Website Editor's Annual Report

Overview of role and responsibilities

To work closely with SLSA Board – including attending Board meetings, Annual Conference and running Board email list; to keep SLSA members up to date with SLSA activities and important deadlines via website, newsletter and ebulletin; to gather socio-legal news from multiple sources, including from members, to circulate via SLSA website, ebulletin and *Socio-Legal Newsletter*; to deal with or forward as appropriate any other relevant SLSA business eg general enquiries from members and other individuals/organisations, and to liaise with individual SLSA Board members/officers.

Socio-Legal Newsletter

The [Socio-Legal Newsletter](#) is published termly – spring, summer and autumn/winter. During 2024, we published three 16-page newsletters (nos 102, 103 and 104). The newsletter is mailed to all SLSA members in the UK and Europe. Members in other parts of the world receive a link to an online version. Members who receive a paper copy have the option to change to the online version if they prefer. The current mailing list is approximately 1200 (an drop of about 250 on last year). The newsletter sponsors (see below) also receive five copies each for circulation to non-SLSA colleagues and students to promote the SLSA's work and aims to a wider audience. The newsletter was launched in 1989 and has been published without interruption since then. Electronic versions dating back to 2002 are available on the [SLSA website](#).

Content

The newsletter content is focused on the activities of the SLSA Board and SLSA members. Members are actively encouraged to contribute material for each issue. From January 2024 to December 2024, we covered, among many other things: announcement and details of SLSA AGM and Trustee nominations and elections news arising from SLSA Board meetings, including coverage of key SLSA initiatives, eg grants, seminars and prizes, the new socio-legal journals initiative, support for CARA migrant scholars, funding scheme article, postgraduate reading group etc; SLSA 2024 Annual Conference at the University of Portsmouth– call for papers, details of conference in advance and a comprehensive report afterwards; SLSA 2025 Annual Conference at the University of Liverpool – call for papers and advance details; reports of other SLSA events – for example SLSA Postgraduate Conference 2024 (Northumbria University) and SLSA seminar – 'The Juridification of Justice' (Exeter); announcement of the winner of the SLSA Annual Prize (Professor Joanne Conaghan) and shortlists and prize announcements for the SLSA Book and Article Prizes and the Impact Prize; announcement of all new award holders for research and fieldwork grants, impact grants, seminar competition and new international collaboration scheme; numerous summaries and reports from SLSA grantholders (research/fieldwork/impact) and regular sections featuring research, events and publications news from members and other relevant organisations.

Newsletter sponsorship scheme

As mentioned in previous annual reports, a large portion of newsletter printing and production costs is covered by our sponsorship scheme which has been running since 2008. During that time the newsletter has been supported by sponsorship from about 20 UK Law Schools which commit to making an annual financial contribution per year for three years. The current three-year cycle is in its final year. The sponsorship scheme currently consists of 29 institutions from across all four UK nations who are committed to an annual sponsorship payment of £700.

SLSA website and ebulletin to members

The website carries full details of all SLSA activities, including funding schemes, events and prizes, the SLSA Board of Trustees and its subcommittees and an extensive 'Socio-legal News' section which is the basis for the weekly ebulletin. The website is updated weekly during termtime to ensure that members have access to the latest information.

During the second half of 2024, the Board set up a working group to put together a plan for the website to be relaunched and combined with the membership database and weekly ebulletin (see below). This project was ongoing at the end of the year.

We also provide a weekly ebulletin service to members during term-time which is a key component of the SLSA's relationship with members, keeping them informed about Board activities and also offering them an opportunity to share their own news with colleagues. The final ebulletin of December 2024 was sent to 1050 recipients (a drop on the previous year due to the SLSA administrator's work cleaning up the database and closing dormant accounts). The ebulletin is extremely popular with members and now regularly achieves an opening rate of between 70% and 80% and a constant stream of membership news for inclusion. The SLSA also uses its electronic mailing list to send one-off messages about important events/news, for example the announcement of our AGM and the call for papers and posters for the Annual Conference.

In summary

The popularity of the hardcopy newsletter and weekly ebulletin and other e-announcements during 2024 show that the SLSA Board's commitment to communicate with members is as strong as ever. I hope to continue to work with the Board over the coming months to build on this work to make sure that members are fully informed of all SLSA activities and initiatives while also offering them numerous opportunities to share their own news, events and activities with socio-legal colleagues.

Marie Selwood, SLSA Newsletter and Website Editor

SLSA Blog

The SLSA Blog was created in 2016 as a venue for academics and practitioners with an interest in socio-legal issues. During 2024 the SLSA blog published a total of 47 new posts.

Individual posts covered a wide range of topical issues, for example, rights of the unborn child, protest camps on university campuses, judicial craft, and regulation and the common good.

Following a successful call for guest-edited blog series, a total of five series were also published across the year. These included an [Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Guest Series](#), [Right-Wing Extremists in Power: Party Bans in Europe under Focus](#), [Contracts in Life and Law](#), [Empirical Approaches to the Rule of Law](#) and [Preserving Public Values in Privatised Digital Systems](#).

Emma Jones and Kay Lalor, SLSA Blog Editors

SLSA YouTube Channel Report

The [SLSA YouTube Channel](#) was launched in 2021 to celebrate the winners of SLSA prizes; allow those who have been awarded SLSA grants to discuss the outcome of the award; showcase conference plenary panels; explain the role of an SLSA Trustee.

At present, there are 54 published videos on the channel and we have 172 subscribers, an increase of 70 subscribers since end 2023. Since 1 January 2024, approximately 15 videos were published on the SLSA YouTube Channel. The last published videos were in June / July 2024.

Some of the notable videos that were published during the 2024 calendar year include interviews undertaken by SLSA Trustees with winners of SLSA prizes, such as Dr Richard Craven interviewing Dr Natalie Ohana, winner of the 2023 Socio-legal Article Prize Dr Kay Lalor interviewing Dr Silvana Tapia Tapia, winner of the 2023 Hart-SLSA Book Prize

Subsequent the handover to a new YouTube Channel Editor on 20 September 2024, a review of our SLSA YouTube Channel documents were undertaken to ensure that all SLSA prize winners and grant holders have received an invitation to make a video contribution to the SLSA YouTube Channel. This is important not only in terms of showcasing the contribution of SLSA to socio-legal studies, but also to showcase the important socio-legal work and achievements of all our members. The focus has specifically been on SLSA prize winners and grant holders from 2019 to 2022. There are at present 28 active invitations and communications for video contributions to the SLSA YouTube Channel. Finalised videos will be published on the SLSA YouTube Channel as these become available.

Invitations for video contributions from our 2023 and 2024 SLSA prize winners and grant holders are sent out on a bi-weekly basis to ensure a steady and consistent income of new video recordings to the SLSA YouTube Channel. These invitations include interview video recordings with 6 SLSA prize winners from 2023/24, as well as 44 invitations for “90-second highlight videos” from SLSA grant holders, including the winner and runner-up of the 2024 poster prize.

Dr. Andra le Roux-Kemp
SLSA YouTube Channel Editor

Social Media Report

As in previous years, social media has been an important means of keeping members updated and engaged with both the SLSA postgraduate conference and the SLSA annual conference and other member events. X (formerly Twitter) has been used to publicise calls for session convenors for the PG conference, registration for both conferences, call for current topics for the annual conference, as well as pushing out the CFPs for the annual conference. However, in January 2025 the Board made the decision to stop posting on X due to the political situation that was unfolding on that platform. This is in line with other organisations, learned societies and members of the SLSA. We have kept a presence on there, so our account is not hijacked, and we have informed followers what is happening.

We have since started an account on Bluesky and we are slowly building up our profile on there. We have a LinkedIn group and are in the process of setting up a LinkedIn page for dissemination.

Social media continues to play an important role in disseminating information about surveys, grants, competitions, prize winners, and so on. Social media has also continued to be used to promote engagement with the SLSA blog, publicising new posts and encouraging broader dissemination. It has also been an important route for dissemination of our new YouTube channel which hosts short lightning talks and more in depth, 'in conversation pieces, with prize winners and members of the SLSA Board of Trustees.

Elisabeth Griffiths, Social Media Officer

Conference Stream Secretary Report

SLSA 2024 was held in Portsmouth on 26-28th March. Beverley Clough stepped down as Stream Secretary and Kirsten McConnachie took over the role in June 2024. Stream Secretary activities have been focused on preparing for the SLSA 2025 conference in Liverpool.

This has included: ensuring that all streams have convenors, advertising for and appointing replacement convenors where needed; communicating with convenors around the call for papers, review of abstracts and allocation of papers into panels. A Stream Convenor policy was updated and approved by the SLSA Board in January 2025. Minor changes include specifying that both Stream Convenors and Current Topic convenors should be SLSA members in good standing and establishing a procedure for informally appointing convenors outside of the annual cycle. The call for papers for SLSA 2025 closed on 6th January. This was a slight extension on the original timeline, which was to close the call for papers before Christmas. The final number of submissions was exceptionally strong, with close to 1000 abstracts submitted and 923 accepted. Stream Convenors finalised selection of papers and panels by early February 2025 and a full draft conference programme was complete by mid-March 2025.

The timing of calls overall worked fairly successfully though in future years we may want to be mindful of semester start/end dates as our recruitment of convenors and selection of Current Topics clashed with the start of autumn teaching at many institutions.

Another issue to keep under review for future years is the impact of financial problems across the university sector. A number of stream convenors are unable to attend SLSA 2025 due to the withdrawal of institutional research funding for conference attendance. The impact on SLSA 2025 is not yet clear (in terms of both stream convenor and wider delegate participation) but this is an issue that we should consider for future conferences, including through measures to offer bursaries or fee reductions to facilitate stream convenor activities.

Kirsten McConnachie, Stream Secretary

Socio-Legal Studies Association

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The SLSA has continued to advance education, learning and research in the field of socio legal studies through its annual seminar and small grants schemes (including PhD fieldwork grants). Having restored the maximum for individual awards to its pre-pandemic level, there was a further increase in applications to these schemes. SLSA continues to publicize these opportunities to its community, to ensure that it fulfils its aim of supporting socio-legal studies as far as possible, consistent with prudential stewardship of its resources and the maintenance of appropriate reserves. The impact grant scheme for members to support their work in translating socio-legal scholarship in to 'real world' outcomes, introduced in 2023 has attracted applications in greater numbers and of increasing quality. The SLSA's annual conference in Portsmouth was run in hybrid format, maximizing participation. With hybrid participation down on previous years, the cost of that element was not covered by delegate fees from the relevant participants. Nonetheless a healthy surplus was generated. Support from journals, universities, and individual members continue to be instrumental to the success of the SLSA. PGR students also had the opportunity to attend the SLSA's annual PGR Conference which was run in-person. The SLSA continues to produce regular newsletters and e-bulletins highlighting events and items of interest for members. It has also expanded its You Tube channel showcasing the work of prize winners and grant holders, in interview format. The SLSA blog remains a lively outlet for discussion regarding the state of the socio-legal field, as well as showcasing cutting edge research.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The SLSA is in a good financial position with increased income from newsletter sponsorship and membership payments. We have also received generous donations from the Ulster 2023 conference and the Portsmouth 2024 conference for which we are very grateful.

Principal funding sources

The SLSA is funded through a combination of membership fees, institutional and publisher sponsorship as well as institutional donations following the annual conference.

Reserves policy

The SLSA maintains financial reserves that would allow for the continuance of its operations in the event a sudden decrease in income (e.g. as a result of a lower than expected conference donation). This reserve is spread across savings accounts and our existing current accounts.

FUTURE PLANS

In addition to its regular activities the SLSA will fund a range of initiatives around equality, diversity and inclusion and in relation to precarity with the socio-legal community.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM in order to replace trustees who are stepping down.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Cardiff University
Sbarc/Spark
Maindy Road
CARDIFF
CF24 4HQ

Trustees

Doctor P Bremner Treasurer
Professor J Harrington Chair
Doctor S Kheria Vice Chair
C Moore Membership Secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne Secretary
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis
Doctor B A Clough
Doctor S Germain
Doctor A Bryson
Doctor M L Howard
Doctor M P Burton
Doctor R Craven
Doctor E R Griffiths
Doctor R Saeed
Doctor A G Green
Doctor M A Hutton
Doctor K L Lalor
Professor K McConnachie

Company Secretary

Doctor E Milne

Socio-Legal Studies Association
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner
The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor J Harrington - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

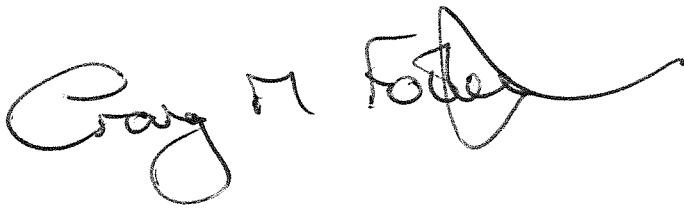
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

14 March 2025

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	Notes	31.12.24 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		225,691	71,881
Other trading activities	2	1,100	-
Investment income	3	598	-
Total		<u>227,389</u>	<u>71,881</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	4		
Outgoing resources		<u>92,584</u>	<u>80,011</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		134,805	(8,130)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		164,567	172,697
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>299,372</u></u>	<u><u>164,567</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2024**

	Notes	31.12.24 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		300,812	165,887
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(1,440)	(1,320)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		299,372	164,567
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		299,372	164,567
NET ASSETS		299,372	164,567
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	9	299,372	164,567
TOTAL FUNDS		299,372	164,567

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

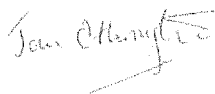
The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14 March 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



J Harrington - Trustee



P Bremner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES		31.12.24 £ <u>1,100</u>	31.12.23 £ <u>-</u>	
Flyer inserts				
3. INVESTMENT INCOME		31.12.24 £ <u>598</u>	31.12.23 £ <u>-</u>	
Deposit account interest				
4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS				
	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	<u>68,985</u>	<u>15,902</u>	<u>7,697</u>	<u>92,584</u>
5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)				
Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):				
		31.12.24 £ <u>1,440</u>	31.12.23 £ <u>1,320</u>	
Independent examiner's fee				

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2024 amounted to £6,257 (2023 - £1,662). This was paid to Doctor E Milne, trustee, as the administrator for Socio-Legal Studies Association.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2024 amounted to £3,614 (2023 - £5,103). This is to cover the executive meeting expenses and attendance at board meetings.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	71,881
	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	80,011
	<hr/>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(8,130)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	172,697
	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>164,567</u>

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
Accrued expenses	1,440	1,320
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	164,567	134,805	299,372
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>164,567</u>	<u>134,805</u>	<u>299,372</u>

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	227,389	(92,584)	134,805
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>227,389</u>	<u>(92,584)</u>	<u>134,805</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	172,697	(8,130)	164,567
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>172,697</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>164,567</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	71,881	(80,011)	(8,130)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,881</u>	<u>(80,011)</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than those disclosed in Note 4, there are no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	146,273	-
Memberships	67,923	33,973
Sponsorships	10,800	34,400
Grants returned	645	3,488
PG deposits	50	-
Miscellaneous	-	20
	225,691	71,881
Other trading activities		
Flyer inserts	1,100	-
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	598	-
	227,389	71,881
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	506	506
Sundries	-	8
Executive meeting expenses	3,614	5,103
Newsletter production	35,230	33,462
One day conferences	670	6,065
Website	2,338	2,818
Subscription	652	652
Storage fee	99	96
Seminar competitions	8,004	4,850
Annual prizes	900	1,600
Mailchimp	580	-
PG Deposit refund	370	-
International grants	1,000	-
Impact Funding	15,022	2,800
Small research grants	10,902	11,264
Fieldwork grants	5,000	6,022
	84,887	75,246

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

	31.12.24 £	31.12.23 £
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,440	1,320
Administrative expenses	6,257	3,445
	<u>7,697</u>	<u>4,765</u>
Total resources expended	<u>92,584</u>	<u>80,011</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>134,805</u></u>	<u><u>(8,130)</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1186333

Accounts

Socio-Legal Studies Association CIO

Trustees' Annual Report

1 January 2023–31 December 2023

Registered in England and Wales, number 1186333
Principal office: c/ Cardiff University, Sbarc Spark, Maindy Road, Cardiff, CF24 4HQ.
admin@slsa.ac.uk | www.slsa.ac.uk

SLSA Trustees

Ex Officio Trustees

- Prof John Harrington (Chair) Cardiff University
- Dr Smita Kheria (Vice Chair) Edinburgh University
- Dr Philip Bremner (Treasurer) King's College London
- Dr Emma Milne (Secretary) Durham University
- Mr Colin Moore (Membership Secretary) University of Essex

Trustees

- Dr Anna Bryson Queens University Belfast
- Dr Marie Burton University of Oxford
- Dr Beverley Clough Manchester Metropolitan University
- Dr Richard Craven University of Sheffield
- Dr Simon Flacks University of Sussex
- Dr Sabrina Germain City University of London
- Dr Alex Green University of York
- Dr Elisabeth Griffiths Northumbria University
- Dr Matthew Howard University of Kent
- Dr Marie Hutton University of Sheffield
- Dr Emma Jones University of Sheffield
- Dr Kay Lalor Manchester Metropolitan University
- Dr Kirsten McConnachie University of Liverpool
- Dr Rebecca Moosavian University of Leeds
- Dr Raza Saeed University of Warwick
- Dr Mitchell Travis University of Leeds

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Chair's Report

Board Membership/Charity Commission

The following SLSA Trustees stepped down at the AGM in 2023: Chris Ashford (Vice-Chair), Neil Graffin (Honorary Secretary), Clare Williams, Vanessa Munro, and Flora Renz. The Board is very grateful to each of them for their essential contribution.

The following Trustees were elected at the AGM: Marie Hutton, Alex Green, Raza Saeed, Kirsten McConnachie and Kay Lalor. Smita Kheria was elected to the position Vice-Chair, and Emma Milne to Honorary Secretary. We are looking forward to working with all of them.

Maddy Millar stepped down as Postgraduate Representative, and we are grateful to her for contribution in this important role. From a strong field we selected Mini Saxena as her replacement.

In order to inform current Trustees regarding their responsibilities, we invited SLSA member John Picton, an expert in Charity Law to address the Board. He provided an overview of Trustees duties, and of the wider landscape of charities regulation in which the SLSA operates. The recorded presentation along with links and further information is now available on our webpages. It functions thus as a resource for members considering running for Trustee roles, contributing to our EDI goal of widening participation in the Board and the activities of SLSA more generally.

SLSA's annual return to the Charity Commission was submitted in July 2023.

Annual Conference

SLSA 2023 at Ulster University was a great success. With over 800 delegates, including 600 in person, from over 20 countries this was the largest and most international conference in the history of the SLSA. Delegates commented very favourably on the rich variety of (over 20) streams, panels and papers. Dinner and social events hosting at a range of venues in the historic and beautiful city of Derry-Londonderry allowed for networking and catching up with colleagues.

We are very grateful to the organizing team – Mark Simpson, Ciara Fitzpatrick, Claire McCollum and colleagues – for the vision, commitment and hard work that they brought to organizing the conference. In 2024 we will meet at Portsmouth, with Dan Bedford, Emily Walsh and colleagues organizing, and are very much looking forward to making good the 2020 conference which was cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Former Trustee Jed Meers led a review of our selection processes and support for conference stream convenors. I am delighted that Bev Clough has taken on the role of SLSA Stream Convenor, overseeing implementation of this important review. Jed also led the commissioning of future conferences. An open call generated a strong field. We awarded the conference to Liverpool (2025) and Sussex (2026).

Postgraduate Conference

The SLSA Postgraduate Conference 2023 was organized by Linda Mulcahy and colleagues at the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies. Attendees commented on how much they benefitted from sessions with expert and experienced scholars, as well as opportunities for socializing and informal discussions. Thanks to all involved in this essential fixture in the SLSA calendar.

For the first time we ran an open call for bids to host the PGR conference, making the award to Northumbria University Law School. We are grateful to Laura Graham and team for offering to include the runner-up applicants in planning and delivery so as to develop their capacity. In future we will run bids for two years worth of PGR Conferences (eg. 2025, 2026) as with annual conference.

Further to our internationalization strategy and collaboration with VSR – Dutch-Flemish Socio-Legal group – we have supported reciprocal participation by PGR researchers in each other's events.

Academy of Social Sciences/ Fellowships

AcSS continues to provide support and insights for our work, as well as the opportunity to engage directly with other associations, through its Learned Societies CEOs meeting and Learned Societies Conference Group, both of which I attended through the year.

EDI is an important focus for the Academy as it is for SLSA, and I was able to share ongoing work by our EDI Committee with them, including the results of our general and precarity-focused EDI surveys. Both attracted positive notice, given in particular our pathbreaking work in support of precariously employed members, through mentoring, ringfencing grant funds, and dissemination of our survey results to heads of law schools, trade unions, parliamentary committees and others.

We have also gained useful insights into the format of our conference, and the sustainability of hybrid delivery, in light of other societies' experiences. As regards the latter, it is apparent that SLSA is now among a smaller number of societies still delivering a fully hybrid conference. With the Treasurer, Vice-Chair and future conference organizers, we will continue to review this with a view to inclusivity and financial sustainability goals, as well as the capacity of host institutions.

SLSA made full use of its capacity to nominate 10 members for the AcSS Fellowship in two rounds during the year, having reviewed our internal selection procedures, and encouraged proposals from the diversity of our membership. We are delighted that all 10 nominees were successful in attaining the Fellowship, recognition of the strength of our field and the individual quality of socio-legal scholars.

Costs

The costs of running the SLSA have increased perceptibly over the last year, as the Treasurer's report and financial statement will explain in more detail. This is in part due to cost inflation affecting our activities (eg. physical delivery of the Newsletter, transport costs for Board meetings), as well as necessary and overdue increases in the rates at which we pay providers of services to the Association. Pursuant to our ambitions for the SLSA, we have launched new initiatives to support the community,

including our Impact and internationalization awards, and the ringfencing of funds for precariously employed members.

We remain committed to maintaining accessibility in general and to our conferences in particular. Notwithstanding general inflation, membership fees have not been increased since 2021, conference fees at the Early Bird rate have been fixed for the last two conferences, and we have made as many bursaries as is compatible with financial prudence (60 at SLSA 2023 in Ulster University).

Membership Systems/Website

We are investing in systems and administrative support to ensure that our membership records are accurate and that new and existing members can access support and pay dues without inconvenience, and enjoy membership benefits related to conferences, prize- and grant-eligibility. This will also ensure we have an accurate view of membership numbers and income to assist with future planning.

I am pleased that we were able to appoint Emma Milne as our new SLSA Administrator during the year, after a competitive process, which eliminated conflicts of interest. As Emma is also a Trustee of the SLSA, we have taken care to comply with provisions of our CIO constitution concerning remuneration for services provided to the association. A plan of regular work and one-off upgrade to systems was agreed by the Board. Emma is advised and supported in her work by our Membership Secretary, Webmaster and Newsletter Editor.

The current SLSA website is now over ten years old and lacks appeal and functionality by comparison with those of many peer societies. We have initiated a scoping exercise with proposals for redesign, backup work, and comparative costs, to allow work to proceed in 2024.

Financial Sustainability

In seeking to cover increases in recurrent costs, as well as needed one-off work and maintaining accessibility, we have worked to secure and increase funds available to the SLSA. We benefit from continuing support from university law schools, who sponsor our Newsletter, increasing the number of sponsors from 21 to 29 over the last year. Ongoing support from *Social and Legal Studies* and *Journal of Law and Society* is complemented by bids to support projects and events to *Modern Law Review*, Legal Education Foundation and ESRC/AcSS.

SLSA has constituted a fundraising group under the leadership of Smita Kheria. Building on our attainment of Gift-Aid status, we are developing technical and informational resources on our webpages to enable members to donate in support of SLSA's work.

We have also benefitted from notable surpluses generated by recent conferences. We acknowledge the commitment of members attending, and the major contribution made by organizers at York and Ulster. SLSA will manage this income in light of three main considerations: 1) retaining a reserve adequate to cover increased costs; 2) planning for financial contingencies, as exemplified during Covid-19; 3) seeking to return as much as is prudent to the membership in the form of grants, bursaries, and affordable membership levies.

REF 2029

A sub-group of the SLSA Board responded to Research England's consultation on the form and scope of the coming REF exercise. We also benefitted from the views of Joanne Conaghan, chair of the REF 2021 Law Panel. Our response was submitted in October 2023, and widely shared with the community through the SLSA E-Bulletin. I am pleased that many of the points we raised regarding fairness and the burden of the exercise were reflected in the subsequent response and revised plans.

Research Funders/Interdisciplinarity

Following an approach by UKRI and other funders, we organized a roundtable for information and consultation with members and other attendees at SLSA 2023 at Ulster University. AHRC, Nuffield Foundation, Legal Education Foundation and the British Academy sent representatives. All remarked on the lively and vibrant atmosphere at the conference.

SLSA was pleased to contribute to AHRC's planning of its Law and Social Justice research centre competition through this conference event, and in ongoing discussions. We will continue to showcase the strength of our discipline to UKRI and other funders.

The conference at Ulster also included a roundtable on interdisciplinarity to initiate the SLSA's Learned Societies Initiative. Ann-Marie Gray, chair of the Social Policy Association, Joanne Conaghan, chair of the REF 2021 Law Panel, and Nick Ellison, chair of the REF 2021 Social Policy Panel, reflected on the challenges of working across disciplines in team and individual projects, on publication, funding and impact strategies.

EDI/International/CARA

The EDI group advanced a set of schemes concerning precarity, mentoring, and renewed data collection. These are discussed more fully in the committee's report. It was pleasing in particular to see the successful launch of our pilot mentoring scheme. I am very grateful to those senior socio-legal scholars who have given of their time to mentor other colleagues.

This year saw implementation of our international strategy. Under the direction of our International Committee, an award scheme was launched to support members in building and sustaining links with colleagues and institutions overseas. As their report indicates, we have also negotiated/pursued partnerships with VSR (Netherlands/Belgium), ALSA (South/East Asia), and LSAANZ (Australia/New Zealand).

Following an approach from CARA (the Council for at Risk Academics) we implemented a waiver of membership fees for academics working in our field who have moved to the UK as refugees. Building on this link we will run a plenary at SLSA 2024 on the historic and current contribution of migrant scholars to socio-legal studies. This will include presentations from three current CARA fellows, and support from the *Modern Law Review*.

John Harrington, Chair

Vice-Chair's Report

This is my first report as Vice Chair and I am grateful to my predecessor, fellow trustees, and the SLSA chair, for their support in my first year of this role.

SLSA Annual Book Prizes

I chaired the three SLSA book prizes for the 2023/24 round. We received a larger than usual number of nominations: 59 nominations this year. To help with the increased workload, we expanded the book prize sub-committee to include two more members. The quality of entries across all three competitions – the Hart/SLSA Book Prize, the Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics, and the Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize, continued to be very high. The judging is in progress and the winners will be announced at the Annual conference in 2024.

Fundraising group

I chaired a new fundraising working group to improve SLSA's fundraising activities, with a focus on attracting donations, use of gift aid status, as well as receiving legacies, and aiming to formalize, expand and give more prominence to our fundraising efforts. The group discussed and agreed on SLSA's ability to fundraise as per the CIO constitution as well as formal steps required to implement this (i.e. declaration on the next Charity Commission return). The group's planned work will include a revision of SLSA's webpage on donations to succinctly highlight SLSA's activities and the difference it makes (through community-building work, bursaries, grants, seminars, PGR conference) as well as reasons and mechanisms for supporting SLSA's work through a donation. The mechanism for donations will be simplified and streamlined i.e. a simple 'donate' button that gives the option to make a one-off donation or regular contribution, via easy payment methods, and including the ability to add gift aid. There will be a suitable section on a legacy option enabling donations to be made through wills. Once the work on the webpages is complete, steps will be taken to communicate and promote the donation options. These activities commenced in the second half of 2023 and will continue in 2024.

Miscellaneous

In this reporting period, I attended, along with the SLSA Chair, an online meeting of the Academic Associations Forum, where updates were offered on the IALS Archives, IALS Library, and new School of Advanced Study Research training. I contributed to the process of recruiting a new SLSA administrator, as well as reviewing EOIs for hosting the PGR conference in 2024. I contributed to the first mentor meeting for the launch of the SLSA Pilot mentoring scheme. I also contributed to SLSA's response to Research England's consultation on the form and scope of the coming REF exercise. As and when requested by the SLSA Chair, I also provided input on various other matters arising including rules for prizes, funding schemes, finances and forecasting, costs of website development and the upgrade of membership system.

Smita Kheria, Vice-Chair

Treasurer's Report

The SLSA's finances continue to be in a healthy position. As you will see from the breakdown below, our actual income this year (£71,881) was roughly in line with our projected income (£73,600). However, our income projection was based on a £30,000 donation from the Ulster conference which we are still in the process of finalising (and which we anticipate will exceed expectations from previous years). In effect, therefore, we will have considerably exceeded our projected income (albeit that this will be reflected instead in next year's accounts).

We feel that it is important that our budget forecasts are as accurate as is practical. Therefore our budget forecast for 2024 includes an increased projected conference donation of £45,000. We continue to ask that a projected donation of £20,000 is built into conference budgets but in recent years this higher figure reflects the actual donation that has been made. In addition our forecast reflects the fact that our income has been boosted by the ongoing support from law schools through our newsletter sponsorship scheme for which we are grateful. We have also begun to implement new administrative procedures in relation to membership payments, with the support of our membership secretary and administrator, which has resulted in an increase in income from memberships.

Our budget forecast below also reflects the increase in expenditure we have been able to implement as a result of this increased income. We have made additional funding available within our existing funding schemes particularly to support precariously employed colleagues and international collaboration. This is supported by the generous sponsorship we have received from the Social & Legal Studies to promote collaboration with colleagues in the Global South. Our budget forecast also reflects increased costs associated with running the PGR conference, board meetings and SLSA administration costs. We will also experience some one-off costs this year as we invest in the SLSA website and membership database, each of which are essential to the effective running of the SLSA.

With our projected expenditure (and projected income) at around £100,000 now we believe it is important to continue to maintain one year's operating costs in reserve. We are in the process of moving some of this reserve into savings accounts such that notice will be required to access some of the funds (£30,000) in order to take advantage of higher interest rates and some will remain instantly accessible either in a savings account (£40,000) or current account (£30,000).

Below is the overview report with the breakdown of accounts from 1st Jan-31st Dec 2023. The accounts were sent at the end of January 2024 to the Kelvin Partnership for independent examination in line with the requirements of our CIO registration with the Charities Commission.

Philip Bremner, Treasurer

Summary of Accounts

Overall Assets

Opening Balance as 1.1.23	£173,898
Total Income 1.1.23 - 31.12.23	£71,881
Total Expenditure 1.1.23 - 31.12.23	£79,882
Closing Balance as 31.12.23	£165,887

Coop Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.23	£148,029.29
Closing Balance as 31.12.23	£143,392.81

Lloyds Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.23	£18,107.40
Closing Balance as 31.12.23	£19,448.40

Paypal Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.23	£7,761.10
Closing Balance as 31.12.23	£3,046.01

**Breakdown of Income & Expenditure:
Period: 1/1/23 – 31/12/23**

Income

Memberships	33,973
Annual Conference Donation	0
Newsletter Sponsorship	30,400
Prize/Other Sponsorship	4,000
Grant Return/Underspend	3,488
Miscellaneous	20

TOTAL £71,881

Expenditure

Exec Meeting Expenses	5,103
PG Conference Expenses	6,065
SLSA Admin Support	3,445
Newsletter & E-Bulletin Editorial	23,435
Newsletter Production	10,027
Small Grants	11,264
Seminar Competition	4,850
Impact Funding	2,800
Fieldwork Grants	6,022
Annual Prizes	1,600
SLSA One Day Conferences	0
Website & Subscriber CRM	2,818
Insurance Premium	506
Travel Bursaries	0
Training & Mentoring Grant	0
ACSS Subscription	652
Production Flyers	0
IALS Storage Fee	96
Auditor Fee	1,200
Miscellaneous	0

Total: £79,882

Forecast budget for 2024

Below is a proposed forecast budget for 2024 (2023 Actuals in Red):

Income

Memberships	33000 [33,973]
Annual Conference Donation	45000 [TBC]
Newsletter Sponsorship	18000 [30,400]
Prize/Other Sponsorship	4000 [4,000]
Grant Return/Underspends	0 [3,488]
Miscellaneous	0 [20]
TOTAL	100,000 [71,881]

Expenditure

Executive Committee Expenses	6000 [5,103]
PG Conference Expenses	8000 [6,065]
SLSA Admin Support	6500 [3,445]
Newsletter & E-Bulletin Editorial	23500 [23,435]
Newsletter Production	12000 [10,027]
Small Grants	12000 [11,264]
Seminar Competition	7000 [4,850]
Fieldwork Grants	5000 [6,022]
Impact & Engagement Grants	7500 [2,800]
Annual Prizes	1600 [1,600]
Website & Database	3000 [2,818]
ACSS Subscription	700 [652]
IALS Storage Fee	100 [96]
Charities Insurance	600 [506]
External Auditor Fee	1500 [1,200]
Internationalisation Award Scheme	5000 [0]
Miscellaneous	0 [0]
TOTAL	100,000 [79,882]

Membership Secretary Report

Overall Membership Numbers

As of 15/01/2024 our membership database holds information for the following members.

Full Members (inc/ overseas	1040 (an increase of 140 members).
Honorary Life Members	14
PG Members	333 (a decrease of 344 members)
Retired Memberships	25 (an increase of 2 members)
Total	1412 (a decrease of 152)

- Thank you to new SLSA Administrator, Dr Emma Milne for her excellent work in chasing membership dues and for her help during my ongoing illness.
- Membership continues to increase steadily in the full section.
- PGR memberships have decreased, mainly as we have become stricter about making sure PGR students only receive one free year and moving them to full memberships once their studies have ended.
- New processes have been implemented to ensure members are chased for fee payment and are then removed from membership if fees are not received (after a period of notice). These plans have been approved by the Board of Trustees.

Colin Moore, Membership Secretary

Data Protection Officer's Report

There were no data protection requests this year.

Colin Moore, Data Protection Officer

Grants

Awards made in January 2024

Small research grant winners:

Winners –

- (1) Diamond Ashiagbor, Kent University, Reconceptualising Labour Law: Race, Legal Form and the Legacies of Colonialism, £1,500
- (2) Hannah Hirst, Sheffield University, Exploring Gender Diverse Children's Participation in Clinical Decision-Making, £1,500
- (3) Paulien de Winter, University of Groningen, Unravelling the Paradox: Investigating Contrasts in Administrative and Criminal Sanctions in the Dutch Social Security System, £1500
- (4) Allison Holmes, Kent University, SQE-mish? The future of sexual offences in legal education, £1279.56
- (5) Cameron Giles, London South Bank University, Law in Universities, Law in Society: Exploring Students' Perspectives on LLB Degree Design and The Role of Academic Legal Education in England and Wales, £1,155.80
- (6) Joshua Shaw, Kent University, The Legal Somatics of Bioart and Bodily Aesthetics, £961.40.
- (7) Pardis Tehrani, Sunderland University, Enhancing Government Responsiveness by Overcoming Legal Challenges of AI-Driven Chatbots in the Public Sector, £1,500
- (8) Jana Kujundzic, Northumbria University, Towards an Abolitionist Feminist Framework in Former Yugoslavia, £1500

A total of **£961.40** was awarded from the ringfenced £2000 precarity pot.

A total of **£8435.36** was awarded from the main £10,000 small grants pot.

£9396.76 awarded in total for small grants.

Fieldwork research grant winners:

Winners –

- (1) Saptarshi Mandal, Kent University, A Jurisprudence of Statues: Caste, Law, and Public Spaces in India, £1000
- (2) Dalia Saris, QMUL, A practice analysis of the symbiotic relationship between humanitarian security practitioners and private security companies in Nairobi, £1000
- (3) Ayisha Pattnaik, Oxford University, Concealed Claims, Contested Citizens: A Study of India's Informal, Internal Migrant Workers, £1000
- (4) Atreyee Sengupta, SOAS, Rethinking Feminist Engagement with Institutional Anti-Sexual Harassment Mechanisms: A Study of University Spaces in India, £1000
- (5) Waruguru Gaitho, Cambridge University, "To Revolutionary Type Love": Legal Mobilization by Black lesbian bisexual and queer (LBQ+) women and non-binary people in Kenya and South Africa, £1000

Award = **£5000 total**

Winners are to be announced in the spring 2024 SLSA newsletter.

New internationalisation award introduced:

This is the first year the internationalisation scheme has run.

Winner - Michael Ashworth, Newcastle University, with Rachel Pougnet at the Max Planck Institute, and Ignacio Riquelme Espinosa at O'Higgins University (Chile), 'Exploring socio-legal methods and methodologies in studies of governance and regulation' - £1000.

This is the only award for this round, making a total pot spend of **£1000** which is to come from the part of the pot ringfenced for global south collaborations.

Grants guidance amended:

Following points agreed in the May 2023 meeting, RM worked on the following amendments to guidance for Fieldwork, Small Grants and Seminar guidance:

- Confirmation that award winners have the additional option of reporting on how they spent the award via blog or video.
- At the executive board's request, the guidance regarding non-submission of a report to the SLSA newsletter following the grant of an SLSA award was strengthened.
- The fieldwork guidance was also amended to add a condition that awards cannot be retrospective, and they only cover work undertaken after the awards are announced (i.e. from February each year).
- (Seminar guidance only) A note regarding the importance of diversity of representation of invited speakers at seminars.
- Confirmation that applications must be 1500 words max.
- The academic reference requirement has been removed.

The amended and approved guidance documents were posted to the SLSA website for the 2023 round of applications.

Chasing up old incomplete grant awards:

In January 2023 the executive board discussed approx. £11,000 of incomplete historic grant awards (where awards were granted but the grant-holders 'fell off the radar' and had not completed the required final report on their research project). The board asked RM to take steps to chase up any unspent sums from these awards.

RM spent a lot of time chasing up outstanding award holders and/or heads of school. Ultimately all cases were resolved by either the provision of a written report for the SLSA newsletter on the relevant project or the return of unspent award funds to the SLSA account.

Rebecca Moosavian, Chair of the Grants subcommittee

Seminar Competition

In the time period 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023 the SLSA Seminars Sub-Committee awarded five seminar grants out of five applications. All were awarded due to their extremely high quality, demonstrating the significant range of socio-legal research activities taking place among members, and the availability of funds to reward the quality of applications. We had hoped to attract more applications, but this relatively low number reflected the downward trend since Covid 19.

However, although applicant numbers have declined since the pandemic (from 18 applications in the last round pre-Covid), we were pleased to see applications rise for the December 2023 deadline to 13. This, we think, resulted from attempts to advertise the scheme more widely and enthusiastically on social media and other channels.

We will continue to devise ways of encouraging more applications, and this will be discussed at the AGM.

Grants Awarded:

Applicant name and seminar title:	Amount awarded
James Brown and Sarah Carrick Socio-Legal Approaches to Protecting Athletes from Financial and Physical Harm: Challenges, Reflections and Solutions	£1000
Hannah Wishart and Kat Langley Prevent, Surveil and Protect: The fight against Terrorism	£900
Roxanna Dehaghani, Samantha Fairclough, Harriet Pierpoint The Vulnerable Accused in the Criminal Justice System Conference,	£1000
Gregory Davies and Robert Jones Prisoner Rights: Time for a Rethink?	£1000
Victoria Barnes and Amanda Perry-Kessarlis Fantasy Legal Exhibitions	£950

Total: £4850

Simon Flacks, Chair of the Seminar subcommittee

Prizes

The SLSA has seven annual prizes:

- Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community
- Hart SLSA Book Prize
- Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics
- Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize
- Socio-Legal Article Prize
- Annual Impact Prize
- Poster competition

2023

Below we outline the nominees for each prize awarded in 2023, with the winner highlighted in bold.

Hart SLSA Book Prize

- Jaime T Lindsey (2022) [Reimagining the Court of Protection: Access to Justice in Mental Capacity Law](#) Cambridge University Press
- Lucy Series (2022) [Deprivation of Liberty in the Shadows of the Institution](#) Bristol University Press
- Silvana Tapia Tapia (2022) [Feminism, Violence Against Women and Law Reform: Decolonial Lessons from Ecuador](#) Routledge**
- Sharon Thompson (2022) [Quiet Revolutionaries: The Married Women's Association and Family Law](#) Hart

Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics

- Jaime T Lindsey (2022) [Reimagining the Court of Protection: Access to Justice in Mental Capacity Law](#) Cambridge University Press**
- Silvana Tapia Tapia (2022) [Feminism, Violence Against Women and Law Reform: Decolonial Lessons from Ecuador](#) Routledge

Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize

- Lucy Series (2022) [Deprivation of Liberty in the Shadows of the Institution](#) Bristol University Press
- Sharon Thompson (2022) [Quiet Revolutionaries: The Married Women's Association and Family Law](#) Hart**

Socio-Legal Article Prize

- Henrique Carvalho (2022) '[Dangerous patterns: joint enterprise and the culture of criminal law](#)' 0(Ahead of Print) *Social and Legal Studies*
- Antonia Layard and Room 13 at Hareclive E-Act Academy (2022) '[Vehicles for justice: buses and advancement](#)' 49(2) *Journal of Law and Society* 243–443

- Natalie Ohana (2021) '[The politics of the production of knowledge on trauma: the Grenfell Tower Inquiry](#)' 48(4) *Journal of Law and Society* 497–523

Annual Impact Prize

- Banning LGBTIQ+ 'Conversion Therapy': Engaging Policymakers and LGBTIQ+ Organisations to Change UK Law
 - Host institution: School of Law, University of Leeds
 - Research team: Dr Ilias Trispiotis, Associate Professor in Human Rights Law, University of Leeds (lead researcher); other participants – Dr Craig Purshouse, Senior Lecturer, University of Liverpool; and Mr Elliot Ross, PhD Candidate, Hertie School, Berlin
- **Establishing the Liverpool Access to Advice Network: No Wrong Door, Free Legal Advice for All**
 - **Host institution: University of Liverpool with lead delivery partner Citizens Advice Liverpool**
 - **Research team: Dr James Organ and Dr Jennifer Sigafos, School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool, and Dr Sophie Wickham, Institute of Population Health, University of Liverpool**
- Supporting Online Justice: Enhancing Accessibility, Participation, and Procedural Fairness
 - Host institution: Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford
 - Research team: Linda Mulcahy, University of Oxford, Anna Tsalapatani, University of Oxford, Emma Rowden, Oxford Brookes University, Nikki Macmicheal, University of Oxford, Lara MacLachlan, University of Oxford, and Rowen Siemens, University of Oxford

The winner of the SLSA Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community in 2023 was Professor Rosemary Hunter.

The winner of the SLSA poster competition was Katie Morris, '[Caring about food: rethinking the UK's approach to the right to food through Tronto's political theory of care](#)'.

2024

Below we outline the nominees for each prize that will be awarded in 2024. The winners will be announced at the SLSA Annual Conference in Portsmouth, March 2024.

Hart SLSA Book Prize

- Başak Ertür, [Spectacles and Specters: A Performative Theory of Political Trials](#) (2022) Fordham University Press
- Orevia Olakpe, [South-South Migrations and the Law from Below: Case Studies on China and Nigeria](#) (2023) Hart Publishing
- Sally Sheldon, Gayle Davies, Jane O'Neill and Clare Parker, [The Abortion Act 1967: A Biography of a UK Law](#) (2022) Cambridge University Press

Hart SLISA Prize for Early Career Academics

- Priyasha Saksena, [Sovereignty, International Law, and the Princely States of Colonial South Asia](#) (2023) Oxford University Press
- Jess Smith, [Law, Registration, and the State: Making Identities through Space, Place, and Movement](#) (2023) Routledge

Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize

- Başak Ertür, [Spectacles and Specters: A Performative Theory of Political Trials](#) (2022) Fordham University Press
- Toby Seddon, [Rethinking Drug Laws: Theory, History, Politics](#) (2023) Oxford University Press
- Sally Sheldon, Gayle Davies, Jane O'Neill and Clare Parker, [The Abortion Act 1967: A Biography of a UK Law](#), Cambridge University Press

Socio-Legal Article Prize

- Fatima Ahdash, '[Countering terrorism in the family courts: a dangerous development](#)' (2023) *Modern Law Review* 86(5): 1197–123.
- Robert Jones & Gregory Davies, '[Prisoner voting in the United Kingdom: an empirical study of a contested prisoner right](#)' (2023) *Modern Law Review* 86(4) 900–926.
- Yüksel Sezgin, '[Undignified jurisprudence: Muslim family law at Ghanaian courts](#)' (2023) *Law and Social Inquiry* 48(4): 1303–1333.

Annual Impact Prize

- Seán Columb, University of Liverpool, 'Exposing the organ trade: seeking truth in violence'
- Melanie Klinker, Bournemouth University, 'Protection, investigation and justice efforts in relation to mass graves'
- Carin Tunåker, University of Kent, and Helen Carr, University of Southampton, 'Homelessness in the countryside: a hidden crisis'

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

A key focus this year has been on implementing strategic initiatives that came from our 2021 EDI Member Survey and 2022 Report on this.

The first strand of this has been on improving our ongoing data collection. This year, the EDI sub-committee has drafted, and the Board has approved, the text of an online EDI data collection form. Once it is operational, a link to this confidential and voluntary form will be sent to members who: apply for funding through one of the SLSA's funding schemes, nominate someone or are nominated for a book or article prize, or take up a conference stream convenor role. The form will not be connected to, or have any bearing on, the outcome of an application for funding, prize nomination or stream convenor application, but collecting this data will help the SLSA monitor and progress EDI issues.

The second strand has been focused on precarity. In late 2022, the Precarity Rep to the SLSA Board conducted a membership survey to build a picture of the challenges precarious colleagues face and identify ways the SLSA can better support them. A report on the results of the survey was published in 2023. One initiative following the survey has been to ringfence funding for precariously employed members and to update the text of application packages for the next funding round to make this clear. Heads of Law Schools and other interested bodies like the Academy of Social Science, UKRI and UCU were provided with a copy of the report. The report authors filmed a short summary of the report for the SLSA's YouTube channel and a blog post written by a precariously employed member was published on the SLSA Blog in 2023.

The third strand has been developing a pilot mentor scheme for our members. Both the EDI Survey and the Precarity Survey highlighted the need to improve community inclusion and diversity by creating opportunities for connection and channels for the transfer of knowledge from more established socio-legal scholars to those in earlier stages of their careers or those wishing to return following career breaks. To that end, the Board launched a pilot mentoring scheme. We received 31 applications from potential mentees and 20 mentor volunteers, demonstrating the appetite and need for this initiative. We paired 10 mentees with senior academics in 2023 and will conclude at the 2024 annual conference.

Bev Clough and Arwen Joyce, Co-Chairs of the EDI subcommittee

Precarity

In late 2022, the SLSA conducted a membership survey on precarious contracts in academia to build a picture of the challenges precarious colleagues face and identify ways the SLSA can better support them. The Precarious Employment Survey Report (the Report) was published in April 2023.

The Report highlights the concerns of members about precarious employment practices in the higher education sector. Our objectives in running this survey and publishing the results were to build a picture of the challenges precariously employed colleagues face, to raise awareness of these issues, and to identify interventions and support that could provide a bulwark against these worrying trends in higher education.

Four main themes were identified in the survey data.

- The first theme was *financial precarity*. Respondents described the financial pressures they experienced due to low rates of pay and the scarcity of research funding associated with precarious employment.
- Another theme was *career impact*: respondents noted the stress of constantly looking for their next role and the career disruption and erosion of research time they attributed to an insecure employment status.
- Respondents also raised the issue of *burnout* including the mental health impact of precarity, excessive workloads and exhaustion from juggling multiple roles to make ends meet.
- Finally, respondents shared that they felt undervalued by and excluded from their institutions when working on precarious contracts. This links with a desire for *belonging*. Feelings of exclusion also came up in connection with immigration-related precarity.

To raise awareness of the challenges related to precarity and to advocate for precariously employed members, we have shared the Report widely including with the Heads of many UK Law Schools, the Academy of Social Sciences, UKRI, the University and College Union, and an All-Party Parliamentary Group investigating the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on students. The Report was also publicised through X/Twitter, the SLSA newsletter, an SLSA blog post and a YouTube video. A post written by a precariously employed member was also published on the SLSA Blog in 2023.

One initiative following the survey has been an effort to make the SLSA's funding schemes more inclusive and available to precariously employed researchers. To that end, we ringfenced funds in 2023 for precariously employed members and have updated the text of the application packages to make this clear. That has now been done for the SLSA's two types of research grants, seminar funding grants and impact grants. We have also made clear in the application forms that joint applications are encouraged where permanent members of academic staff are partnering with precarious/unaffiliated researchers. This is meant to encourage applicants to involve precariously employed academics in projects that can bolster their CVs, academic contacts, and experience.

Finally, we have made efforts to increase opportunities for precariously employed members to feel part of a supportive community. To that end, we launched a pilot mentoring scheme in 2023 (although this was not limited to people on precarious contracts). We have also encouraged those who apply for seminar funding to include in their proposed budget funds cover for the cost of travel and attendance of precarious and/or unaffiliated researchers who would be otherwise unable to attend or participate in the proposed seminar.

In addition to serving as the Precarity Representative, I am also a co-chair of the EDI Committee. Some of the work mentioned above is also documented in the EDI Committee report herein.

Arwen Joyce, Precarity Representative to the Board of Trustees

International Activities

I continued to chair the International subcommittee, and organise internationalisation work to be progressed on the basis of previously agreed three key strands: 1) contributing to global and multilateral developments and discussions involving socio-legal associations; 2) developing bilateral relations with other socio-legal associations; and, 3) developing initiatives that enable SLSA members to develop, sustain and widen their international networks.

International collaboration funding scheme

In 2023, as planned, a new funding scheme was launched to support SLSA members to undertake international collaborative activities that are specifically aimed at building connections with socio-legal scholars and socio-legal communities beyond the UK.

The scheme provides seed core funding of up to £1000, and can be used to initiate and build new connections as well as strengthen existing relationships with socio-legal scholars or socio-legal communities beyond the UK in order to lay the groundwork for, and develop, new collaborative research initiatives or capacity-building activities. The scheme will enable SLSA members to participate in and contribute to the international community of socio-legal scholars, and thus to advance the discipline in accordance with SLSA's CIO constitution. The scheme is being funded through a combination of SLSA's own resources and a new annual donation from the Social & Legal Studies Board to the SLSA. The scheme was launched in the summer of 2023, with the deadline at the end of October, and is being administered as a distinct pot by the Grants committee.

The scheme is anticipated to be developed in the future through liaison with other socio-legal organisations and exploration of opportunities for co-funding and joint applications between memberships.

Collaboration with USAID Justice for All activity in Ukraine

I held discussions with a representative from USAID Justice for All activity based in Ukraine, to explore potential for collaboration between this initiative and SLSA.

The USAID Justice for All Activity assists its Ukrainian governmental and non-governmental partners in improving legal education as a precursor for strengthening the rule of law in Ukraine. After several discussions and approval by the board, it was agreed to hold a joint online event to introduce the UK experience in socio-legal studies to Ukrainian law schools. The aim of the online event is to promote socio-legal studies to scholars from Ukraine interested in this field, including its importance through specific examples of socio-legal research covering interactions between law, society, and justice. A call for contributions is planned to be sent out to SLSA's membership at the start of 2024, with the online event planned to take place in the first half of the year.

PGR exchange with the Dutch and Flemish Association (VSR)

The planned collaboration with the Dutch and Flemish Association (VSR) through a PGR exchange at our respective conferences, was put into action in 2023. A call for SLSA PGRs to sign up for VSR's PhD school in July (for 5 reserved places at a reduced rate) was circulated through various SLSA communication channels. This first part of the exchange took place in July when SLSA PGRs attended VSR's PhD school. SLSA PGR rep, Lara MacLachlan attended the activity and along with the VSR rep, wrote a short piece about the exchange experience for the SLSA newsletter. Likewise, places for VSR PGRs were opened for SLSA's PG conference in January 2024.

Other PGR collaboration at international level

I liaised with SLSA PGR reps to support their plans to organise a PGR focussed international collaboration panel at the SLSA Annual conference in 2023. After discussions with the International subcommittee, SLSA PGR reps Lara MacLachlan and Mini Saxena, commenced work with the PGR rep from Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand (LSAANZ) to explore opportunities to facilitate connection between PGRs from both organisations.

Smita Kheria, International Liaison Officer,

Recruitment

Summary of main matters arising in 2023:

EDI work

Across 2023 RM continued contributing to the work of the EDI committee and joined as a committee member. The EDI committee undertook work (which is ongoing) to increase the diversity of applicants and award holders (see report for details) and this aligns with enhancing the recruitment of a diverse membership.

RM drafted an EDI model questionnaire that the SLSA board discussed and approved for use across various grants awards (fieldwork, small grants and internationalisation). This questionnaire was rolled out for the first time in the autumn 2023 round of applications and will enable the SLSA to start monitoring EDI progress.

Internationalisation work

RM also continued contributions to the internationalisation agenda led by SK by: (1) attending internationalisation strategy meetings and contributions as set out in SK's report; (2) co-ordinating the grading and administering of the new internationalisation awards (see annual grants report for further details).

Rebecca Moosavian, Recruitment Secretary

Postgraduate Activities

PGR Conference

The SLSA PGR Conference was held at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Oxford on the 5th and 6th of January. The conference was very successful.

We had significant interest for the conference and the allocated 50 spaces were filled very quickly. This demonstrates the high demand for this type of event in the socio legal space. There was a high registration to attendance conversion. Feedback from the event was very positive. The PGR representatives are grateful to the team at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies for planning and delivering the sessions, as well as to the delegates for their contributions throughout.

PGR Activities at Annual Conference

The PGR Activities at the SLSA Conference at Ulster University were a great success. All PGR sessions were delivered in a hybrid format to enable attendees to participate both online and in-person. There was a total of three sessions delivered by a range of facilitators including PGRs from Ulster University and PGRs with experience across a number of contexts including Australia, The Netherlands, India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. PGRs also participated in the annual Postgraduate Poster Competition.

Their submissions this year were of particularly high quality and demonstrated the wide range of research interests within the SLSA community.

PGR Representative

In May, Maddy Millar stepped down from her role as PGR representative. Maddy was a wonderful colleague who made very worthwhile contributions to the SLSA community during her time in this role. The SLSA Board would like to express their gratitude to Maddy for her work. Lara MacLachlan remained in her role as PGR representative. In August, Mini Saxena, based at SOAS University of London, was recruited as the new SLSA PGR representative.

PGR Writing Group

In October, we held the first session of our tri-annual writing group for PGRs. Sign-ups were collected via a google registration form with a cap of 25. There was a positive response from the community in relation to registration. Feedback from the session was overwhelmingly positive, and each participant mentioned that they found the group incredibly useful both for writing and for building community. We now plan to hold the next sessions in February and May 2024.

Recruitment

The PGR representatives conducted a recruitment drive to encourage new PGRs to become SLSA members. Socio-legal PGRs from across the UK and Ireland were contacted through their institutions and invited to become a member. This year, building on work from last year's recruitment drive, we expanded the drive to include a more diverse range of disciplines. The PGR representatives now maintain a list of approximately 120 contacts. This supports the development of aims identified in both our EDI survey and our recent precarity survey to widen participation amongst the socio-legal community and create a more inclusive environment.

Across November and December, the PGR Representatives helped to support preparation for the 2024 PGR Conference. The PGR Representatives also prepared for the PGR Activities for the 2024 SLSA Conference at University of Portsmouth. These include a session on researching in different contexts, a session on doing interdisciplinary work, and finally a session on writing during your PhD. These sessions were guided by feedback from the 2023 conference and include PGR speakers as well as academic speakers at other career stages.

Lara MacLachlan and Mini Saxena, Postgraduate Representatives

Open Access

In 2023, SLSA's open access working group continued to keep abreast of UKRI's new Open Access policy and updates.

Members have been kept informed about the Working Group's activities via the Socio-Legal Newsletter, the weekly SLSA ebulletin and the SLSA blog. This has included informing members about updates to UKRI policy, and the announcement that, from 1 January 2024, this will apply to monographs, book chapters and edited collections that need to acknowledge UKRI funding. We also issued a call for blog items in relation to Open Access, and we will issue this call again in Spring 2024.

Simon Flacks, Open Access Working Group Chair

Impact

The Impact Grant Committee was newly constituted in 2022, to carry out activities related to the series of new 'Impact' funding streams announced at the 2022 Annual Conference. These include, specifically – (1) an Impact Grant Scheme; (2) an Annual Impact Prize; and (3) liaising with Annual Conference Stream Convenors regarding funding to facilitate [Impact](#)

The Committee was chaired by Vanessa Munro up until the 5th April 2023 and since May 11th 2023 has been chaired by Mitchell Travis. The committee is also comprised of – Anna Bryson, Marie Burton, Sabrina Germain, Rebecca Moosavian and Mini Saxena. We met on MS Teams to assess applications received throughout the year in respect of the schemes above, making reports on our decision-making for the approval of the Board of Trustees at our meetings.

Impact Grant Scheme:

In its second round, we received a total of 6 applications. Each application was scored (out of 5) with feedback provided from each committee member on their scoring, in accordance with the criteria for the awards as advertised. 4 awards were made (see below), creating a total spend of £5,083.20. Feedback was provided to the unsuccessful applicants by MT, based on the committee's views.

- Grundler (£1,500) 'From the University to the Grand Chamber'
- Hewitt and Simpson (£783.20) 'Getting on YOUR case: Basic Justice'
- Stockton Brown (£1,300) 'Tattooing in the Archive'
- Ohana (£1,500) 'Grenfell Community Project'

Annual Impact Prize:

We received a total of 5 applications for the second year of this prize, all of which we determined to be eligible. As with grants, the committee individually reviewed and scored each application, providing some feedback on scoring in line with advertised criteria for the award. These comments were circulated on an anonymous basis

across the committee along with scores. A shortlist for the prize of 3 nominees (see below) were settled upon, with the winner to be announced at the Annual Conference in Spring 2023. The annual prize is fixed at £250.

- Seán Columb, 'Exposing the Organ Trade: Seeking Truth in Violence'
- Melanie Klinker, 'Protection, Investigation & Justice efforts in relation to Mass Graves'
- Carin Tunåker, 'Homelessness in the Countryside: A Hidden Crisis'

Stream Convenor Impact Funding:

We have received no applications for use of these funds ahead of the 2024 Annual Conference, but will use the opportunity of that conference to remind members and Convenors of the funding for future use.

General:

We believe that the introduction of this funding support and recognition for Impact activity within the socio-legal community has been a useful innovation, and that there has been a strong interest in it given its novel status as a funding stream for the SLSA. The quality of the applications under the existing schemes was good, with a spread of applicants at various career stages and at a range of institutions. We anticipate that the schemes will go from strength to strength as awareness of their existence continues to develop. In the coming year we will look to build community awareness of the fund.

Mitchell Travis, Impact Committee Chair

Social Media

X (formerly Twitter) followers: 7,189 February 2024 (previously 6, 648 February 2023)

Activity

As in previous years, social media has been an important means of keeping members updated and engaged with both the SLSA postgraduate conference and the SLSA annual conference and other member events. X (formerly Twitter) is also used for publicising calls for session convenors for the PG conference, registration for both conferences, call for current topics for the annual conference, as well as pushing out the CFPs for the annual conference. Throughout, social media has been useful for responding to individual queries and signposting members to the conference website/email addresses. The SLSA also uses X to engage with Law and Society Association content and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies content as well as the Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies blog and events. It is a useful means of making sure the SLSA is across relevant international content.

Social media has also played an important role in disseminating information about surveys, grants, competitions, prize winners, and so on. Social media has also continued to be used to promote engagement with the SLSA blog, publicising new posts and encouraging broader dissemination.

It has also become an important route for dissemination of our new YouTube channel which hosts short lightning talks and more in depth, 'in conversation pieces, with prize winners and members of the SLSA Board of Trustees.

The SLSA Board took the decision to close the Facebook group in October 2023 as this forum was not well engaged with. Members were given warning and an opportunity to comment ahead of the closure, but no comments were received. The group was suspended, and members are gradually being removed. Engagement with the X (formerly Twitter) account continues to grow.

Elisabeth Griffiths, Social Media Officer

Blog

The SLSA Blog was created in 2016 as a venue for academics and practitioners with an interest in socio-legal issues.

During 2023 the SLSA blog published a total of fifteen new posts covering a wide range of topical issues. Examples include the influence of 'rape myths', the impact of the cost of eating on the right to food, the relationship between law and drag and the cost of precarity.

Emma Jones, SLSA Blog Editor

Website, Newsletter and E-Bulletin

Overview of role and responsibilities

- To work closely with SLSA Board – including attending Board meetings, Annual Conference and running Board email list;
- to keep SLSA members up to date with SLSA activities and important deadlines via website, newsletter and ebulletin;
- to gather socio-legal news from multiple sources, including from members, to circulate via SLSA website, ebulletin and *Socio-Legal Newsletter*;
- to deal with or forward as appropriate any other relevant SLSA business eg general enquiries from members and other individuals/organisations, and to liaise with individual SLSA Board members/officers.
-

Socio-Legal Newsletter

The [Socio-Legal Newsletter](#) is published termly – spring, summer and autumn/winter. During 2023, we published three 16-page newsletters (nos 99, 100 and 101). The newsletter is mailed to all SLSA members in the UK and EU. Members in other parts of the world receive a link to an online version. Members who receive a paper copy have the option to change to the online version if they prefer. The current mailing list is approximately 1450 (an increase of about 250 on last year). The newsletter sponsors (see below) also receive five copies each for circulation to non-SLSA colleagues and students to promote the SLSA's work and aims to a wider audience.

The newsletter was launched in 1989 and has been published without interruption since then. Electronic versions dating back to 2002 are available on the [SLSA website](#).

Content

The newsletter content is focused on the activities of the SLSA Board and SLSA members. Members are actively encouraged to contribute material for each issue. From January 2023 to December 2023, we covered, among many other things:

- announcement and details of SLSA AGM and Trustee nominations and elections
- news arising from SLSA Board meetings, including coverage of key SLSA initiatives, eg report of the SLSA precarity survey, new Stream Convenor Policy, the launch and progress of the Mentoring Pilot Scheme etc;
- SLSA 2023 hybrid Annual Conference at the Ulster University – call for papers, details of conference in advance and a comprehensive report afterwards;
- SLSA 2024 hybrid Annual Conference at the University of Portsmouth – call for papers and advance details;
- reports of other SLSA events – for example SLSA Online Postgraduate Conference 2023 (University of Oxford), SLSA seminars – ‘New Directions in Law and Time’ (QMUL), ‘Prevent, Surveil and Protect’ (online), ‘Fantasy Legal Exhibitions’ (various locations in London), ‘Socio-Legal Approaches to Protecting Athletes’ (Manchester), ‘Law, Narrative and Masterplot’ (Southampton & Durham), ‘The Vulnerable Accused’ (Birmingham), ‘Prisoner

Rights' (Liverpool) – and the joint SLSA, SLS, ALT and Law Commission event on 'Influencing Law Reform';

- announcement of the winner of the SLSA Annual Prize (Professor Rosemary Hunter) and shortlists and prize announcements for the SLSA Book and Article Prizes and the Impact Prize
- announcement of all new award holders for research and fieldwork grants, impact grants and seminar competition;
- numerous summaries and reports from SLSA grantholders (research/fieldwork/impact)
- and regular sections featuring research, events and publications news from members and other relevant organisations.

Newsletter sponsorship scheme

As mentioned in previous annual reports, a large portion of newsletter printing and production costs is covered by our sponsorship scheme which has been running since 2008. During that time the newsletter has been supported by sponsorship from about 20 UK Law Schools which commit to making an annual financial contribution per year for three years. The current three-year cycle is in its second year. The sponsorship scheme currently consists of 29 institutions from across all four UK nations who are committed to an annual sponsorship payment of £700.

SLSA website and ebulletin to members

The website carries full details of all SLSA activities, including funding schemes, events and prizes, the SLSA Board of Trustees and its subcommittees and an extensive 'Socio-legal News' section which is the basis for the weekly ebulletin. The website is updated weekly during termtime to ensure that members have access to the latest information.

In late summer 2023 (with the support of our website technician Lewis Gowers) we successfully migrated the SLSA website to the most up-to-date version of Joomla (the open-source content management platform that we use to host the website) to ensure the stability and security of the site over the next few years.

We also provide a weekly ebulletin service to members during term-time which is a key component of the SLSA's relationship with members, keeping them informed about Board activities and also offering them an opportunity to share their own news with colleagues (see [SLSA Weekly Ebulletin 24 November 2023](#)). The final ebulletin of December 2023 was sent to 1439 recipients (increased from 1195 in December 2022). The ebulletin is extremely popular with members with a consistent 'opening' rate for 2023 of between 46% and 79% and a constant stream of membership news for inclusion. The SLSA also uses its electronic mailing list to send one-off messages about important events/news, for example the announcement of our AGM and the call for papers and posters for the Annual Conference.

In summary

The increase in circulation of the hardcopy newsletter and the increase in uptake of the weekly ebulletin and other e-announcements over the past 12 months show that the SLSA Board's commitment to communicate with members is stronger than ever. I hope to continue to work with the Board over the coming months to build on this work to make sure that members are fully informed of all SLSA activities and

initiatives while also offering them numerous opportunities to share their own news, events and activities with socio-legal colleagues.

Marie Selwood, Newsletter and Ebulletin Officer and Webeditor

YouTube

The SLSA [YouTube Channel](#) is used to release videos that:

- celebrate the winners of SLSA prizes;
- allow those who have been awarded SLSA grants to discuss the outcome of the award;
- showcase conference plenary panels;
- explain the role of an SLSA Trustee.

As of the 5 February 2024, we have 106 subscribers. Over 2023 the channel had 2,341 views, with a total watch time of 153.9 hours, and an average view duration (average minutes watched per visit) of 3.56 minutes.

During 2023, we worked with the winners of the SLSA prizes from 2023 to produce an “In conversation” video with a member of the SLSA, and also a 90-second highlight video:

- Richard Collier, SLSA Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community
- Silvana Tapia Tapia, Hart–SLSA Book Prize
- Jaime T Lindsey, Hart–SLSA ECR
- Sharon Thompson, Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize
- Natalie Ohana, Socio-Legal Article Prize

These videos will be released in 2024.

We also continue to work with those awarded our research grant scheme, fieldwork grant, and seminar competition, to release “90-second high-light” videos. As these videos are completed, we will release the them over the course of 2024.

During the SLSA 2023 Annual Conference, the plenary panels were live streamed over the YouTube Channel and recordings of the talks have subsequently been released on the channel.

Emma Milne, YouTube Editor

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	13

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The SLSA has continued to advance education, learning and research in the field of socio legal studies through its annual seminar and small grants schemes (including PhD fieldwork grants). The number and value of applications to these schemes had fallen during the pandemic. While there has since been an increase, overall numbers have still not fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels. SLSA is working to publicize these opportunities to its community, to ensure that it fulfils its aim of supporting socio-legal studies as far as possible, consistent with prudential stewardship of its resources and the maintenance of appropriate reserves. It has also introduced an impact grant scheme for members to support their work in translating socio-legal scholarship in to 'real world' outcomes. The first round of awards from that scheme was made in 2023. Alongside these grants the SLSA continues to award a range of annual prizes, including a new impact prize. The SLSA's annual conference in Ulster was run in hybrid format, maximizing participation. The significant costs of running the event in both formats was covered by delegate fees, as well as generating a healthy anticipated surplus. Support from journals, universities, and individual members continue to be instrumental to the success of the SLSA. PGR students also had the opportunity to attend the SLSA's annual PGR Conference which was run in-person. The SLSA continues to produce regular newsletters and e-bulletins highlighting events and items of interest for members. It has also expanded its You Tube channel showcasing the work of prize winners and grant holders, in interview format. The SLSA blog remains a lively outlet for discussion regarding the state of the socio-legal field, as well as showcasing cutting edge research.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The SLSA is in a good financial position with increased income from newsletter sponsorship and membership payments. We are in the process of finalising the Ulster 2023 conference donation but we anticipate this will exceed expectations from previous years.

Principal funding sources

The SLSA is funded through a combination of membership fees, institutional and publisher sponsorship as well as institutional donations following the annual conference.

Reserves policy

The SLSA maintains financial reserves that would allow for the continuance of its operations in the event a sudden decrease in income (e.g. as a result of a lower than expected conference donation). We are in the process of spreading this reserve across savings accounts and our existing current accounts.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

FUTURE PLANS

In addition to its regular activities the SLSA will fund a range of initiatives around equality, diversity and inclusion and in relation to precarity with the socio-legal community.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM in order to replace trustees who are stepping down.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Cardiff University
Sbarc/Spark
Maindy Road
CARDIFF
CF24 4HQ

Trustees

Doctor P Bremner Treasurer
Doctor N Graffin (resigned 5.4.23)
Professor J Harrington Chair
Doctor S Kheria Vice Chair
C Moore Membership Secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Professor V Munro (resigned 5.4.23)
Doctor F Renz (resigned 5.4.23)
Professor C Ashford (resigned 5.4.23)
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne Secretary
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis
Doctor B A Clough
Doctor S Germain
Doctor A Bryson
Doctor M L Howard
Doctor M P Burton
Doctor R Craven
Doctor E R Griffiths
Doctor R Saeed (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor A G Green (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor M A Hutton (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor K L Lalor (appointed 5.4.23)
Professor K McConnachie (appointed 5.4.23)

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

Doctor E Milne

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd

Chartered Accountants


The Cooper Building

505 Great Western Road

Glasgow

G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Harrington", with a horizontal line underneath.

Professor J Harrington - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

12 March 2024

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

		31.12.23 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies		71,881	149,960
		<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	2		
Outgoing resources		80,011	55,363
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(8,130)	94,597
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		172,697	78,100
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>164,567</u>	<u>172,697</u>

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2023**

	Notes	31.12.23 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		165,887	173,897
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(1,320)	(1,200)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		164,567	172,697
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		164,567	172,697
NET ASSETS		164,567	172,697
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	7	164,567	172,697
TOTAL FUNDS		164,567	172,697

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 12 March 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



J Harrington - Trustee



P Bremner - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	57,960	17,286	4,765	80,011
	<u>57,960</u>	<u>17,286</u>	<u>4,765</u>	<u>80,011</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,320	1,200
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,200</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to £1,662 (2022 - £NIL). This was paid to Doctor E Milne, trustee, as the administrator for Socio-Legal Studies Association.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to £5,103 (2022 - £2,224). This is to cover the executive meeting expenses and attendance at board meetings.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	149,960
	<u>149,960</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	55,363
	<u>55,363</u>
NET INCOME	94,597
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	78,100
	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	172,697
	<u>172,697</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Accrued expenses	1,320	1,200
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,200</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	172,697	(8,130)	164,567
	<u>172,697</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>164,567</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>172,697</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>164,567</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	71,881	(80,011)	(8,130)
	<u>71,881</u>	<u>(80,011)</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,881</u>	<u>(80,011)</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	94,597	172,697
	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	149,960	(55,363)	94,597
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	86,467	164,567
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>86,467</u>	<u>164,567</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	221,841	(135,374)	86,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>221,841</u>	<u>(135,374)</u>	<u>86,467</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than those disclosed in Note 4, there are no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Socio-Legal Studies Association**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	31.12.23 £	31.12.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	33,973	22,412
Sponsorships	34,400	18,050
Flyer inserts	-	700
Grants returned	3,488	2,396
Annual conference donation	-	105,733
Miscellaneous	20	669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	71,881	149,960
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	71,881	149,960
 EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	506	501
Sundries	8	-
Executive meeting expenses	5,103	2,224
Newsletter production	33,462	25,465
One day conferences	6,065	60
Website	2,818	2,001
Subscription	652	652
Storage fee	96	107
Seminar competitions	4,850	2,700
Annual prizes	1,600	1,030
Impact Funding	2,800	5,810
Small research grants	11,264	7,937
Fieldwork grants	6,022	3,976
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	75,246	52,463
 Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,320	1,200
Administrative expenses	3,445	1,700
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,765	2,900
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	80,011	55,363
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The SLSA has continued to advance education, learning and research in the field of socio legal studies through its annual seminar and small grants schemes (including PhD fieldwork grants). The number and value of applications to these schemes had fallen during the pandemic. While there has since been an increase, overall numbers have still not fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels. SLSA is working to publicize these opportunities to its community, to ensure that it fulfils its aim of supporting socio-legal studies as far as possible, consistent with prudential stewardship of its resources and the maintenance of appropriate reserves. It has also introduced an impact grant scheme for members to support their work in translating socio-legal scholarship in to 'real world' outcomes. The first round of awards from that scheme was made in 2023. Alongside these grants the SLSA continues to award a range of annual prizes, including a new impact prize. The SLSA's annual conference in Ulster was run in hybrid format, maximizing participation. The significant costs of running the event in both formats was covered by delegate fees, as well as generating a healthy anticipated surplus. Support from journals, universities, and individual members continue to be instrumental to the success of the SLSA. PGR students also had the opportunity to attend the SLSA's annual PGR Conference which was run in-person. The SLSA continues to produce regular newsletters and e-bulletins highlighting events and items of interest for members. It has also expanded its You Tube channel showcasing the work of prize winners and grant holders, in interview format. The SLSA blog remains a lively outlet for discussion regarding the state of the socio-legal field, as well as showcasing cutting edge research.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The SLSA is in a good financial position with increased income from newsletter sponsorship and membership payments. We are in the process of finalising the Ulster 2023 conference donation but we anticipate this will exceed expectations from previous years.

Principal funding sources

The SLSA is funded through a combination of membership fees, institutional and publisher sponsorship as well as institutional donations following the annual conference.

Reserves policy

The SLSA maintains financial reserves that would allow for the continuance of its operations in the event a sudden decrease in income (e.g. as a result of a lower than expected conference donation). We are in the process of spreading this reserve across savings accounts and our existing current accounts.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

FUTURE PLANS

In addition to its regular activities the SLSA will fund a range of initiatives around equality, diversity and inclusion and in relation to precarity with the socio-legal community.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM in order to replace trustees who are stepping down.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Cardiff University
Sbarc/Spark
Maindy Road
CARDIFF
CF24 4HQ

Trustees

Doctor P Bremner Treasurer
Doctor N Graffin (resigned 5.4.23)
Professor J Harrington Chair
Doctor S Kheria Vice Chair
C Moore Membership Secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Professor V Munro (resigned 5.4.23)
Doctor F Renz (resigned 5.4.23)
Professor C Ashford (resigned 5.4.23)
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne Secretary
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis
Doctor B A Clough
Doctor S Germain
Doctor A Bryson
Doctor M L Howard
Doctor M P Burton
Doctor R Craven
Doctor E R Griffiths
Doctor R Saeed (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor A G Green (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor M A Hutton (appointed 5.4.23)
Doctor K L Lalor (appointed 5.4.23)
Professor K McConnachie (appointed 5.4.23)

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

Doctor E Milne

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd

Chartered Accountants

The Cooper Building

505 Great Western Road

Glasgow

G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Harrington", with a horizontal line underneath.

Professor J Harrington - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

12 March 2024

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Notes	31.12.23 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		71,881	149,960
		<hr/>	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	2		
Outgoing resources		80,011	55,363
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(8,130)	94,597
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		172,697	78,100
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>164,567</u>	<u>172,697</u>

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2023**

	Notes	31.12.23 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		165,887	173,897
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(1,320)	(1,200)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		164,567	172,697
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		164,567	172,697
NET ASSETS		164,567	172,697
FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	7	164,567	172,697
TOTAL FUNDS		164,567	172,697

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 12 March 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



J Harrington - Trustee



P Bremner - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	57,960	17,286	4,765	80,011
	<u>57,960</u>	<u>17,286</u>	<u>4,765</u>	<u>80,011</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,320	1,200
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,200</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees' remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to £1,662 (2022 - £NIL). This was paid to Doctor E Milne, trustee, as the administrator for Socio-Legal Studies Association.

Trustees' expenses

Trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 amounted to £5,103 (2022 - £2,224). This is to cover the executive meeting expenses and attendance at board meetings.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	149,960
	<u>149,960</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	55,363
	<u>55,363</u>
NET INCOME	94,597
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	78,100
	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	172,697
	<u>172,697</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Accrued expenses	1,320	1,200
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>1,200</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	172,697	(8,130)	164,567
	<u>172,697</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>164,567</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>172,697</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>164,567</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	71,881	(80,011)	(8,130)
	<u>71,881</u>	<u>(80,011)</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,881</u>	<u>(80,011)</u>	<u>(8,130)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	94,597	172,697
	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	149,960	(55,363)	94,597
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	86,467	164,567
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>86,467</u>	<u>164,567</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	221,841	(135,374)	86,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>221,841</u>	<u>(135,374)</u>	<u>86,467</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than those disclosed in Note 4, there are no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Socio-Legal Studies Association**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	31.12.23 £	31.12.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	33,973	22,412
Sponsorships	34,400	18,050
Flyer inserts	-	700
Grants returned	3,488	2,396
Annual conference donation	-	105,733
Miscellaneous	20	669
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	71,881	149,960
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources	71,881	149,960
 EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	506	501
Sundries	8	-
Executive meeting expenses	5,103	2,224
Newsletter production	33,462	25,465
One day conferences	6,065	60
Website	2,818	2,001
Subscription	652	652
Storage fee	96	107
Seminar competitions	4,850	2,700
Annual prizes	1,600	1,030
Impact Funding	2,800	5,810
Small research grants	11,264	7,937
Fieldwork grants	6,022	3,976
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	75,246	52,463
 Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,320	1,200
Administrative expenses	3,445	1,700
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,765	2,900
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	80,011	55,363
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(8,130)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1186333

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report 2022

Socio-Legal Studies Association CIO

Registered in England and Wales, number 1186333

1 January 2022–31 December 2022

SLSA Trustees:

Ex Officio Trustees

- Prof John Harrington (Chair) Cardiff University
- Prof Chris Ashford (Vice Chair) Northumbria University
- Dr Philip Bremner (Treasurer) Royal Holloway, University of London
- Dr Neil Graffin (Secretary) Open University
- Mr Colin Moore (Membership Secretary) University of Essex

Trustees

- Dr Emma Jones University of Sheffield
- Dr Beverley Clough University of Leeds
- Dr Simon Flacks University of Westminster
- Dr Sabrina Germain City University of London
- Dr Smita Kheria Edinburgh University
- Dr Elisabeth Griffiths Northumbria University
- Dr Emma Milne Durham University
- Dr Rebecca Moosavian University of Leeds
- Dr Flora Renz University of Kent
- Dr Mitchell Travis University of Leeds
- Dr Clare Williams University of Kent
- Prof Vanessa Munro University of Warwick
- Dr Matt Howard University of Kent
- Dr Marie Burton University of Oxford
- Dr Anna Bryson Queens University Belfast

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Chair's Report

John Harrington

Moving out of the coronavirus pandemic, and building on successful conferences at York and Cardiff, the SLSA Board of Trustees renewed its work to achieve our charitable objects, which are:

for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

We have achieved these objects this year through our Annual Conference, our Postgraduate Conference, and support for the ESRC socio-legal methods masterclass, as well as our small grants, fieldwork grants and seminar grants, our newsletter, website and blog, our work on equality and diversity, on precarity in legal academia, and on fostering international and interdisciplinary links for the benefit of our community. We also introduced a new funding and prize scheme to support and recognize the impact of socio-legal research carried out by our members. All of these activities are detailed in this annual report.

SLSA Board News

Five members of the SLSA Board stepped down at the 2022 AGM:

- Prof Rosie Harding (Chair and Ex-Officio Trustee)
- Prof Diamond Ashiagbor (Trustee)
- Dr Edward Kirton Darling (Trustee)
- Dr Jess Mant (Trustee)
- Victoria Adkins (PGR Representative)

We welcomed the following new members to the SLSA Board this year:

- Dr Matt Howard (Trustee)
- Dr Elisabeth Griffiths (Trustee)
- Dr Richard Craven (Trustee)
- Dr Anna Bryson (Trustee)
- Dr Marie Burton (Trustee)
- Lara McLachlan (PGR Representative)
- Dr Mark Simpson (Ulster Conference Rep)
- Dr Ciara Fitzpatrick (Ulster Conference Rep)

John Harrington was elected to the ex-Officio Trustee role of Chair at the April 2022 AGM.

Philip Bremner was elected to the ex-Officio Trustee role of Treasurer at the April 2022 AGM.

There were three formal Board meetings in 2022, in January, May and September. Of these the first two took place wholly online, using Zoom. Our September 2022 meeting was held in hybrid format, with a majority of the Board able to meet in person for the first time since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each year, at the AGM, one-third of the SLSA Trustees must retire, though may stand for re-election if they are eligible to serve another term. Trustees usually serve on the Board for up to 6 years (two terms of three years each). In exceptional cases, such as when a trustee is elected to an Ex-Officio role, they may serve on the board for up to 9 years. This year, Colin Moore, Simon Flacks, Emma Jones and Emma Milne will retire by rotation, and will be standing for re-election. Chris Ashford (Vice-Chair), Neil Graffin (Secretary), Vanessa Munro, Flora Renz and Clare Williams will retire from the board and do not seek re-election. Jed Meers and Caroline Hunter have also come to the end of their term on the Board as York Conference representatives.

So that the total number of trustees is easily divisible by three, there will be five vacancies for election as Trustees at the AGM, including election to the ex-officio roles of Vice-Chair and Secretary. Statements from all those who have put themselves forward for election will be circulated with the AGM paperwork and an election will be held at the AGM. In keeping with the hybrid nature of the SLSA conference, the AGM will be held both in person and via Zoom. All members are welcome to attend, whether or not they are at the SLSA conference.

SLSA Annual Conferences

The 2022 SLSA Annual Conference was hosted in hybrid format by the University of York. With over 500 delegates and a rich variety of streams and current topics, the conference was a great success, with wide praise for the York team's excellent organization, including the comprehensive support for on-line participants. Attendees clearly relished the chance to meet again in person after two years and there was a lively atmosphere. We are very grateful to York for their hard work and contribution to the SLSA.

As we write this annual report, we are making the final preparations for our Conference hosted by Ulster University, Derry-Londonderry, 4-6 April 2023 again in hybrid format. We take this opportunity also to remind members that our 2024 conference will be held at the University of Portsmouth (dates tbc). We are delighted that SLSA will come to Portsmouth, having had to cancel our 2020 conference due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bids to host SLSA 2025 and 2026 have been received, and we will be announcing the venues for these conferences shortly.

The annual SLSA PG Conference was very successfully hosted online in 2022, with innovations in the range of colleagues involved as session leaders. (Although outside the scope of this report, it is worth noting that, with the reduction of risks presented by COVID-19, we were able to run the 2023 PG conference on a face-to-face basis at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford in 2023.)

Conference Streams Review

The SLSA Board received a detailed and comprehensive review of how Streams and Current Topics are organized in our Annual conference, and of the role of Stream Convenor. The review was conducted by Jed Meers, who wrote a report and set of recommendations. We are very grateful to him for this essential work on this. The report has been adopted by the Board and will be implemented ahead of the 2024 conference. It will establish formal criteria for appointment and renewal of Convenor roles, highlighting the importance of opening this opportunity up to the diversity of our community. It will also specify tasks and support from the Board for convenors in doing this indispensable and highly valuable task for SLSA. Criteria will be set out for refreshing streams, including the admission of new streams. This ongoing task will be administered by a new Stream Secretary who will be a member of the SLSA Board, and guided by a specific policy.

Learned Society Activities

As a learned society, the SLSA represents our members across a wide range of sectors and activities. We have continued to work as part of the Academy of Social Sciences and with the Law Commission,

REF2021 law panel, funders of socio-legal research and to represent our members' views and interests in legal education forums. The Board responded to the QAA's Consultation on the Revised Subject Benchmarking Statement for Law. Strategically, we are also focussing on building links with other learned societies in order to support and encourage interdisciplinary working among our members. Thus, our 2023 Annual Conference will have the Social Policy Association (SPA) as our 'guests'. It will include a roundtable on interdisciplinarity involving SLSA, SPA, and the head of the REF 2021 Panels on Law and on Social Policy.

PGR Representative Recruitment

Victoria Adkins having stepped down, the Board invited applications for this role. Maddy Millar, Mitch Travis and I considered 4 very strong applications, and selected Lara MacLachlan, a first year PhD student at Liverpool. We were delighted that Lara accepted the post.

Looking forward

I am very grateful to SLSA members for electing me as Chair at the 2022 AGM. It is a privilege to follow in the footsteps of my predecessor Rosie Harding and I am lucky to be able build on the achievements of the Board under her leadership, including incorporation as a CIO and guiding the Association through the pandemic.

We are carrying forward key initiatives – on EDI (including anonymized data gathering on our competitions) and Precarity (including earmarking funds within our current schemes) – due to be implemented in the current year, as well as reviewing the first year of our pioneering Impact schemes. We are also working on a number of new initiatives: on internationalization, including funding for links with scholars based in the global south; partnering with other socio-legal associations to support SLSA PGRs engaging with counterparts in other countries; a mentoring scheme; and an initiative to review and support socio-legal provision in the undergraduate curriculum, over 15 years since the Nuffield Inquiry into Legal Empirical Research.

These initiatives are enabled by our sound financial position, as set out in the Treasurer's report below, which has been due to prudent decision-making during the pandemic, successful conferences at York and Cardiff, and the generosity of at least 23 law schools, research centres and journals, in renewing their sponsorship of the SLSA Newsletter.

It's been a pleasure working with our talented and highly engaged Board on these initiatives, on implementing essential changes in our systems for membership renewal and the maintenance of our website, as well as on established aspects of the SLSA calendar, including competitions and awards. I look forward to making further progress in the coming year.

Vice Chair's Report

Chris Ashford

This will be my last report as Vice Chair and I am grateful to my fellow trustees who have supported and worked with me throughout my time on the SLSA Executive. In this reporting period, I was part of the new impact prize subcommittee and supported the Chair as and when needed, stepping in to lead meetings and discussions as required.

SLSA Annual Book Prizes

I have once again chaired the three SLSA book prizes with the winners announced at the 2022 conference and the 2022/23 round in progress to be announced at the 2023 Annual Conference. The quality of entries across all three competitions – the Hart/SLSA Book Prize, the Hart SLSA Prize for Early Career Academics, and the Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize – was once again exceptionally high. I am grateful to the sub-committee that have supported me in both rounds. Discussions also took place in the course of 2022 to explore potential data gathering in future rounds to better support the EDI work of the Association and better understand the profile of those who are nominated for prizes. This work remains ongoing.

Law Commission

Together with the SLSA Chair, John Harrington, I attended the annual SLS/SLSA meeting with the Law Commission. This proved a useful opportunity to hear about the ongoing work of the Commission and also provided an opportunity to raise the profile of the Association, notably in relation to potential impact work of SLSA members.

Treasurer's Report

Philip Bremner

Please see appended Annual Accounts for the Treasurer's Report.

Below is the overview report with the breakdown of accounts from 1st Jan-31st Dec 2022. The accounts were sent at the end of January 2023 to the Kelvin Partnership for independent examination in line with the requirements of our CIO registration with the Charities Commission.

End of Financial Year Accounts

Period: 1st January – 31st December 2022

Overall Assets

Opening Balance as 1.1.22	£79,060.38
Total Income 1.1.22 - 31.12.22	£149,960.70
Total Expenditure 1.1.22 - 31.12.22	£55,123.30
Closing Balance as 31.12.22	£173,897.79

Coop Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.22	£62,479.98
Closing Balance as 31.12.22	£148,029.29

Lloyds Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.22	£16,580.40
Closing Balance as 31.12.22	£18,107.40

Paypal Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.22	£0.00
Closing Balance as 31.12.22	£7761.10

Notes:

Our finances are in a very healthy position due to the large donations from Cardiff (£52, 511.72) and York (£52,681.55) and the increased newsletter sponsorship. We, therefore, exceeded the income forecasted at last year's AGM (£104,450). We also came in under our forecasted expenditure of £85,150. This is partly due to the fact that costs for the PGR conference will be incurred during the next reporting period and partly due to an underspend on some of the grants notably the impact and engagement scheme.

Breakdown of Income & Expenditure

Period: 1/1/22 – 31/12/22

Income

Memberships	22412.35
Annual Conference Donation	105193.27
Newsletter Sponsorship	16800
Flyer Inserts	700
Prize Sponsorship	1250
One Day Conference Donation	0
PG Conf Deposits	540
Grant Return/Underspends	2395.98
Miscellaneous	669.11

Total £149,960.70

Expenditure

Exec Meeting Expenses	2224
PG Conf	60
SLSA Admin Support	1700
Newsletter & E-Bulletin Editorial	19140
Newsletter Production	6325
Small Grants	7937.33
Seminar Competition	2700
Impact Funding	5810
Fieldwork Grants	3976.4
Annual Prizes	1030
SLSA One Day Conferences	0
Website & Subscriber CRM	2001

Insurance Premium	500.84
Travel Bursaries	0
Training & Mentoring Grant	0
ACSS Subscription	652
Production Flyers	0
IALS Storage Fee	106.73
Auditor Fee	1200
Miscellaneous	0

Total: £55,363.30

Below is a proposed forecast budget for 2023 (2022 Actuals in Red).

Income

Membership	22000 [22,611]
Annual Conference Donation (Ulster, 2023)	20000 [105,193]
Newsletter Sponsorship	12000 [12200]
Conference Flyer Inserts	350 [350]
Prize Sponsorship	1250 [1,250]
One Day Conference Donations	0 [0]
PG Conference Deposits	0 [120]
Grant Underspend Refunds	0 [0]
Miscellaneous	0 [3]
TOTAL	£55,600 [141,726]

Expenditure

Executive Committee Expenses	2500 [1784.58]
PG Conference Expenses	6275 [60]
SLSA Admin Support	2500 [1700]
Newsletter: Editing	21000 [19140]

Production	7500 [6325]
Small Research Grants (update for additional expenditure around £2200)	10000 [7937.33]
Seminar Competition	5000 [2700]
Fieldwork Grants	5000 [3976.4]
Impact & Engagement Grants	15000 [5810]
Annual Prizes	1350 [1030]
SLSA One Day Conferences	4000 [0]
Website & Database	2000 [1030]
Training & Mentoring Grants	1000 [0]
AcSS membership	700 [652]
Production of Flyers	400 [0]
IALS Storage Fee	100 [106.73]
Charities Insurance	600 [500.84]
External Auditor Fee	1500 [1200]
Social Media Ambassador	3000 [0]
Internationalisation Award Scheme	2000
Miscellaneous	0 [83.59]
TOTAL	£91,425 [56,867.47]

New funding schemes approved:

- Internationalisation Award Scheme £4,000 (£2000 from SLSA; £2000 from SLS Journal)
- PGR conference additional amount to support exchange with Flemish Law and Society Assoc £275

Membership and Data Protection

Colin Moore (Membership Secretary)

Overall Membership Numbers:

As of 21/02/2023 our membership database holds information for the following members.

Full Members	798 (an increase of 145 members).
Full Members (Overseas)	112 (an increase of 35 members).
Honorary Life Members	14
PG Members	677 (an increase of 135 members)
Retired Memberships	23 (an increase of 3 members)
Total	1,624 (an increase of 419)

- Membership continues to increase steadily across both full and PGR membership sections.

Data Protection Officer

- There were no data protection requests this year.

Grants

Rebecca Moosavian (Grants Sub-Committee Chair)

A total of £7,305 was awarded for small research grants and £3,976 was awarded for fieldwork grants. In total, £11,281 was returned to the socio-legal community through awards to SLSA members. Candidates were assessed against (longstanding) published criteria by the grants committee, which then made recommendations to the Board. Winners were announced in the spring 2022 SLSA newsletter. They were as follows:

Small Grants:

- Lynsey Black, Maynooth University, £1489, 'An oral history of securing the Northern Irish border'
- Avi Boukli, Open University, £1360, 'The gold rush in Scotland: mining nuggets of legal consciousness'
- Georgina Dimopoulos, Swinburne University, £1485 'The time for rights? Use of the UNCRC in Australian decision-making'
- Agata Fijalkowski, Leeds Beckett University, £1471, 'Defence counsel maestro'
- Melanie Stockton-Brown, Bournemouth University, £1500, 'Pushing back: copyright law and film archives'

PhD Fieldwork Grants

- Cristiano Blanco, University of Essex, £1000, 'Amazonian epistemologies and IL'
- Shruti Iyer, University of Oxford, £1000, 'Silicosts and the state: reframing contestations between capital and labour in India'
- Atoosa Khatiri, University of York, £1000, 'The women and children of ISIS and their journeys back home'
- Tania Nascimento, Strathclyde University, £976, 'Facilitating emotions in restorative justice'

Change of Personnel/ EDI

Rebecca Moosavian took over from Ed Kirton-Darling as chair of the grants committee in 2022. We also welcomed two new members to the subcommittee: Elisabeth Griffith and Richard Craven. The chair has been liaising with the EDI sub-committee on the possibility of dealing with future applications anonymously and separately tracking applicant data for EDI purposes.

Seminar Grants

Simon Flacks (Seminar Sub-Committee Chair)

In the time period 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022 the SLSA Seminars Sub-Committee awarded three seminar grants in March 2022. In total there were 5 applications for seminar grants in this round, all of which were of extremely high quality and demonstrated the significant range of socio-legal research activities currently taking place despite the ongoing challenges of Covid.

To reflect the impact of Covid-19 the Seminar Grants rules were modified as of 2020 to allow applications that include funding for IT costs to enable online events.

It is notable that applicant numbers have declined since the pandemic (from 18 applications in the last round pre-Covid). This led to an underspend on the seminar grants pot of money. It might be that this will naturally recover, but there were also only 5 applications for the 2023 round. The seminar committee will raise this as an issue at the next AGM, and consider how the competition might be advertised more widely.

Grants Awarded:

Applicant name and seminar title:	Amount awarded
Christopher Bevan and David Gurnham "Legal Masterplots: a way forward for socio-legal studies?"	£900
Felicity Adams and Fabienne Emmerich: "Breaking Free from The Master's Tools"	£800
Tanzil Chowdhury and Kathryn McNeilly "New Directions in Law and Time Scholarship"	£1000
	Total: £2700

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Clare Williams (EDI Sub-Committee Chair)

2022 saw the publication of the SLSA's first Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) survey report, which contains data and analysis of the SLSA's first EDI survey carried out at the end of 2021. The report can be accessed via the SLSA [website](#). The report was a collective tour de force by the EDI subcommittee and Board, and gives the SLSA a strong platform on which to build a robust, empirically-grounded EDI strategy. Consequently, the SLSA EDI subcommittee's efforts throughout the remainder of 2022 have focused on identifying meaningful responses.

Responding to the EDI Survey

To this end, three working groups were set up to explore the main themes emerging from the data. These focused, respectively, on social location characteristics (in particular, race and disability), widening participation through diversity in recruitment and membership, and insecure or precarious employment practices. A range of potential responses to the EDI survey data were considered by each working group in some detail, before options were identified that might offer a meaningful response that could be delivered sustainably and effectively. While there is a lot to celebrate in the EDI report, our immediate focus has been on how the SLSA can better support minoritized and precarious groups within the socio-legal community.

Firstly, in the EDI survey, PGR, ECR, and less established researchers highlighted problems with precarity across the sector, and to this end, Arwen Joyce (SLSA Precarity Rep) designed and oversaw the SLSA's Precarity Survey at the end of 2022 (please see Precarity Officer's report for more detail). In response to the 2021 EDI survey, the EDI subcommittee has been considering how existing funding streams and awards might be partially targeted towards those already disadvantaged by structural conditions within the sector. The subcommittee and Board will continue to carefully design funding applications for the next round in the light of data emerging from both surveys.

Mentoring

Similarly, in response to multiple calls for more support for groups minoritized on social location (race and disability) grounds, we have made inroads into mapping out how we might respond to requests for mentoring within the socio-legal community. The SLSA previously ran a mentoring scheme which was discontinued some years ago due to low take up. To build on previous experiences of mentoring schemes, and to more fully understand how we can design an inclusive and effective yet sustainable mentoring scheme, we have reached out to existing schemes who have kindly shared their experiences with us. While an SLSA mentoring scheme is being devised, a buddying system has been introduced for the SLSA annual conference with a view to welcoming and facilitating networking amongst PGRs and ECRs at the 2023 conference. We aim to have concrete proposals for a pilot mentoring scheme for the forthcoming academic year.

In 2022, the EDI subcommittee also led on drafting responses to UKRI's EDI survey and an EDI consultation by AcSS, with some feedback from the latter. Additionally, the EDI subcommittee also has begun to consider how we might further embed EDI work throughout the SLSA's engagement with the socio-legal community. Under consideration are processes and structures for ongoing monitoring of EDI within the SLSA. These will include the collection of EDI data on SLSA funding and awards, potentially allowing the SLSA to monitor the representation of various groups at application and award stages. The SLSA will continue to play an active role in the ongoing embedding of EDI across the sector, and looks forward to building on the work undertaken in 2022 to more fully respond to the EDI survey and the needs of members.

Precarity

Arwen Joyce (Precarity Representative to the Board of Trustees)

I took up the role of the SLSA's first Precarity Representative to the Board in November 2021. This Board-level role was created to raise the profile of issues related to casualisation in higher education at a crucial time. The burden of casualisation falls disproportionately on women, members of minoritized communities, and disabled staff, eroding labour rights, bargaining power, and financial security, and Covid has exacerbated much of this disadvantage. In this role, I aim to be a conduit for the diverse views and concerns of precariously employed socio-legal researchers to the SLSA Board. As the Precarity Representative I sit on the EDI Committee and lead its working group on precarity and employment. Please see the EDI Report for more detail on the initiatives being undertaken by this working group including efforts to make the SLSA's funding schemes more inclusive and available to precariously employed researchers.

Survey

One of the themes identified in the SLSA's first EDI survey, carried out at the end of 2021, was increasing precarity and casualisation in the higher education sector. To follow up on this finding and collect additional data, the SLSA designed and conducted a Survey on Precarious Employment in late 2022. The survey was open from 14 October to 31 December and 76 responses were collected. The purpose of the survey was to: find out what would assist precariously employed members in terms of research funding/support from the SLSA; build a picture of the challenges precarious colleagues face in order to raise awareness of these issues within the SLSA and more broadly; and identify ways the SLSA can facilitate and encourage 1) the employment of researchers on more stable and secure contracts and 2) the attendance of precarious researchers at SLSA-funded seminars and events. The survey received ethical approval from the University of Leicester. The survey data is currently being analysed and a report disseminating the survey results and analysis will be published by the next AGM.

Some survey respondents indicated they would be willing to write about their experiences as a precariously employed academic for a future SLSA newsletter or blog post. Publication of members' experiences (which could be done anonymously) will help raise awareness of these issues and further the aims of the survey mentioned above. In addition, 41 (62%) survey respondents said they would find it useful to be paired with another SLSA member as part of a mentoring or buddy scheme. Please see the EDI Report for more detail on the SLSA's plans with respect to mentoring and buddy schemes.

Analysing the results of the Survey on Precarious Employment will help the SLSA better understand and respond to worrying trends in the sector. We recognise that these issues are sector-wide and that the SLSA will not be able to address them or reverse them on its own. What we can do is draw attention to these issues and look for ways to support and assist members who are facing precarity-related challenges in their socio-legal careers. For an example of the leadership the SLSA has recently showed in this area, the SLSA Board issued a statement in November 2022 urging an uplift in postgraduate funding for all PGRs in line with the 10% increase in stipends the UKRI announced for postgraduate researchers holding studentships from the ESRC, AHRC and other research councils. The SLSA Board's announcement drew attention to the fact that all postgraduate researchers and especially those who are self-funded are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the ongoing cost of living crisis.

International Activities

Smita Kheria (International Liaison Officer)

2022 was a busy year for internationalisation activities and involved the development of an international strategy for the near future, with three key strands: 1) contributing to global and multilateral developments and discussions involving socio-legal associations; 2) developing bilateral relations with other socio-legal associations; and, 3) developing initiatives that enable SLSA members to develop, sustain and widen their international networks. Several activities helped operationalise these themes in 2022 and are noted below.

Global LSA Meeting in Lisbon:

The Global meeting of the Law and Society Association (LSA) took place in Lisbon, from 13-16 July and was organized in partnership between LSA and other socio-legal associations around the world, including the SLSA.

We hosted a get together on the evening of 14th July for SLSA members attending the Global meeting. The event brought together new and continuing members to socialise informally, and was particularly appreciated by early career members who were attending the LSA meeting for the first time.

The meeting offered several opportunities for building our international links. We participated in LSA's business meeting for socio-legal organisations on 14th July, and the Global Café session's thematic roundtables on international collaboration and the next generation of law and society scholars, on 16th July. These activities facilitated new international connections with the Swiss Network for Law and Society, the Commission on Legal Pluralism, and the Dutch Flemish Law and Society Association. It also allowed us to continue dialogue with the Law and Society Association of Australia and New Zealand, the Africa Law and Society Network, and the Asian Law and Society Association, on potential opportunities for international collaboration as well sharing of information and know-how.

We also participated in a poster display organised by LSA, aimed at sharing information about the range of international and regional organisations operating in the law and society area, and their mission and activities, to the large socio-legal audience at the global meeting.

International Collaboration Funding Scheme:

SLSA plays an important role in funding research activities undertaken by the membership through seminar and fieldwork grants, some of which naturally involve international collaboration. However, has been no funding scheme aimed at supporting collaborative activities by members that are specifically aimed at building connections with socio-legal scholars and socio-legal communities beyond the UK.

In 2022, a new funding scheme was developed to specifically enable SLSA members to participate in and contribute to the international community of socio-legal scholars, and thus to advance the discipline in accordance with our CIO constitution. The scheme will do so through facilitating international collaborative activities led by our membership. An initial proposal for the scheme was discussed and developed through a breakout group discussion at the SLSA board, after which an international liaison working group was established to generate a full proposal for the scheme. The SLSA Board subsequently agreed to support the new funding scheme and it will be launched for the membership in 2023.

The scheme will provide seed core funding that will allow the recipient to lay the groundwork for international collaboration and applicants will be welcome and encouraged to seek other sources of funding in addition to the SLSA award to fully realise their proposed work (similar to our seminar

competition funding). It will enable members to initiate and build new connections as well as strengthen existing relationships, with socio-legal scholars or socio-legal communities beyond the UK in order to develop new collaborative research initiatives or capacity building activities.

The scheme will be funded through a combination of SLSA's own resources and a new and very generous annual donation from the *Social and Legal Studies* to the SLSA. The international liaison working group will review the outcome after the first financial year of the scheme for effectiveness, affordability, and future direction.

International Exchange through SLSA and VSR PGR Conferences:

Conversations at the Global Café at the 2022 LSA Annual Meeting (see above) enabled the development of a new bilateral initiative between the SLSA and the Dutch and Flemish Law and Society Association (VSR), with a focus on postgraduate researchers. SLSA and VSR jointly developed a new scheme that will facilitate PGR students from SLSA and VSR to participate in each other's annual postgraduate conferences. The SLSA Board subsequently agreed to support this exchange scheme to launch in 2023. After trialling the exchange in 2023-2024, representatives from the SLSA and VSR will review the uptake of the exchange and its future direction.

Postgraduate Activities

Maddy Millar and Lara MacLachlan (PGR Representatives)

PGR Conference

The SLSA PGR Conference was held online on 11th and 12th January 2022 and was a great success. Over 90 delegates registered to attend, with a high registration-attendance conversion. Positive feedback was received throughout the event, with frequent mentions on Twitter. The PGR representatives at the event (Maddy Millar and Victoria Adkins) are grateful for the support of Board members and facilitators in planning and delivering the sessions, as well as to the delegates for their thoughtful contributions throughout.

PGR Activities at Annual Conference

The PGR Activities at the SLSA Conference at University of York were also hugely successful. This year, the sessions were delivered in a hybrid format to enable attendees to participate both online and in-person, and we had very positive feedback to this effect. Four sessions were delivered by a range of facilitators, including those PGRs from the University of York, Board members, and other academic colleagues, with opportunities for PGRs to network throughout. PGRs also participated in the Postgraduate Poster Competition, which saw incredibly high-quality submissions across a range of fascinating research topics.

In April, following the York Conference, Victoria Adkins stepped down from her role as PGR representative. Victoria made valuable contributions to the SLSA community during her role and the SLSA Board would like to express their gratitude to Victoria for her important work. Maddy Millar continued in her role as PGR representative and during the summer Lara MacLachlan from the University of Liverpool was recruited as the new SLSA PGR representative.

Recruitment

During October, the PGR representatives carried out a recruitment drive to encourage new PGRs to become SLSA members. This has involved contacting socio-legal PGRs across the UK, through their institutions, and inviting them to join the association. This year in particular supported a focus on expanding the drive to include socio-legal scholars across disciplines (for example, sociology, psychology, history, and criminology). In total, the PGR representatives now maintain a list of over 100 contacts which supports the development of aims from the recent EDI survey to widen participation amongst the socio-legal community.

Across November and December, the PGR Representatives prepared for the 2023 PGR Conference. This included the management of delegate registration, and the organisation of early career researchers to facilitate sessions alongside more senior academic colleagues. The PGR Representatives also prepared for the PGR Activities for the 2023 SLSA Conference at Ulster University. Three activities have been organised for the PGR events, following feedback from the York Conference, as well as considering the recent EDI survey findings. These include a session on collaborating internationally, whereby PGRs from international socio-legal societies will facilitate a session on forming research connections, as well as sessions on using tools to streamline the research process, and navigating social media.

Open Access

Smita Kheria (Open Access Working Group Chair)

In 2022, SLSA's open access working group reviewed UKRI's new Open Access policy and updates. It published a summary of the key elements of the new policy for the benefit of the membership in the [last issue of the Socio-Legal Newsletter](#) for 2022 (Autumn/Winter, page 4). The group also agreed to promote open access as a topic for the SLSA blog and continues to monitor developments in relation to UKRI's policy and guidance as well as its implementation, and broader discussions in relation to OA.

Impact

Vanessa Munro (Impact Committee Chair)

The Impact Grant Committee was newly constituted in 2022, to carry out activities related to the series of new 'Impact' funding streams announced at the 2022 Annual Conference. These include, specifically – (1) an Impact Grant Scheme; (2) an Annual Impact Prize; and (3) liaising with Annual Conference Stream Convenors regarding funding to facilitate Impact – <https://slsa.ac.uk/index.php/news/socio-legal-publications-2?id=400>

The Committee was chaired by Vanessa Munro, and composed in addition of – Chris Ashford, Anna Bryson, Marie Burton, Sabrina Germain and Mitch Travis. We met on MS Teams to assess applications received throughout the year in respect of the schemes above, making reports on our decision-making for the approval of the Board of Trustees at our meetings.

Impact Grant Scheme:

In its inaugural round, we received a total of 6 applications. Each application was scored (out of 5) with feedback provided from each committee member on their scoring, in accordance with the criteria for the awards as advertised. 4 awards were made (see below), creating a total spend of £5,810. Feedback was provided to the unsuccessful applicants by VM, based on the committee's views.

- Rachel Dunn (£1,500) 'Re-imagining Secure Care for Children'
- Alex Dymock (£1,415) 'Gender in Online Drug Purchasing'
- Marie Fox (£1,420) 'Recognising Pet Bereavement in the Workplace'
- Kay Lalor (£1,457) "Publish Not Perish!" An Academic Publishing Podcast'

Annual Impact Prize:

We received a total of 8 applications for the first year of this prize, all of which we determined to be eligible. As with grants, the committee individually reviewed and scored each application, providing some feedback on scoring in line with advertised criteria for the award. These comments were circulated on an anonymous basis across the committee along with scores. A shortlist for the prize of 3 nominees (see below) were settled upon, with the winner to be announced at the Annual Conference in Spring 2023. The annual prize is fixed at £250.

- Ilias Trispiotis (with Craig Purhouse & Elliot Ross): 'Banning LGBTIQ+ 'Conversion Therapy': Engaging Policymakers and LGBTIQ+ Organisations to Change UK Law'
- James Organ & Jennifer Sigafos: 'Establishing the Liverpool Access to Advice Network: No Wrong Door, Free Legal Advice for All'
- Linda Mulcahy, Anna Tsalapatani, Emma Rowden, Nikki Macmichael, Lara MacLachlan & Rowen Siemens: 'Supporting Online Justice'

Stream Convenor Impact Funding:

We have received no applications for use of these funds ahead of the 2023 Annual Conference, but will use the opportunity of that conference to remind members and Convenors of the funding for future use.

General:

We believe that the introduction of this funding support and recognition for Impact activity within the socio-legal community has been a useful innovation, and that there has been a strong interest in it given its novel status as a funding stream for the SLSA. The quality of the applications under the existing schemes was good, with a spread of applicants at various career stages and at a range of institutions. We anticipate that the schemes will go from strength to strength as awareness of their existence continues to develop.

Social Media and Blog

Elisabeth Griffiths (Social Media Officer); Emma Jones (Blog Editor)

Social Media Stats

- Twitter followers: 6,648 Jan 2023 (from 5,818 Jan 2022)
- Facebook group members: 1500

Activity (Social Media):

As in previous years, social media has been an important means of keeping members updated and engaged with both the postgraduate conference and the forthcoming annual conference, due to be hosted by the Ulster University in April 2023, publicising calls for session convenors for the PG conference, registration for both conferences, call for current topics for the annual conference, as well as pushing out the CFPs for the annual conference. Throughout, social media has been useful for responding to individual queries and signposting members to the conference website/email addresses. Also used twitter to engage with LSA content and IALS content as well as research centres in our field.

Social media has also played an important role in disseminating information about surveys, grants, competitions, prize winners, and so on. Social media also continues to be used to promote engagement with the SLSA blog, publicising new posts and encouraging broader dissemination.

It has also become an important route for dissemination of our new YouTube channel which hosts short lightning talks and more in depth, 'in conversation pieces, with prize winners and members of the SLSA Board of Trustees.

Blog Activity

The SLSA Blog was created in 2016 as a venue for academics and practitioners with an interest in socio-legal issues.

During 2022 the SLSA blog published new posts regularly covering a wide range of topical issues. Examples include commentary on the US Supreme Court in the wake of *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a discussion over whether legal sex status should be dismantled and an exploration of the gender pay gap.

Work is underway to explore new avenues for contributions, including approaching SLSA Conference Stream Convenors.

Website and YouTube Report

Daniel Bedford (Webmaster); Emma Milne (YouTube Editor)

Main Site www.slsa.ac.uk

There have been minor changes to the design of the main SLSA website, including a new dynamic image banner on the frontpage. We have avoided any more substantial changes as we are in the

process of migrating to Joomla 4 (stable version). This process began in November 2022 and we have completed the archiving and rationalising of existing content.

Changes have been made to the process of downloading new profiles from the website into the database, which is helping to ensure that people are added to the database in a more timely fashion.

YouTube

The SLSA launched its [YouTube Channel](#) in November 2021. The channel is used to release videos that celebrate the winners of SLSA prizes and to allow those who won SLSA grants to discuss the outcome of the award. As of the 13 February 2023, we have 51 subscribers.

During 2022, we worked with the winners of the SLSA prizes from 2021 and 2022 to produce an “In conversation” video with a member of the SLSA, and also a 90-second highlight video:

2021

- Nesam McMillan, Hart–SLSA Book Prize
- Seán Columb, Hart–SLSA ECR
- Helen Stalford and Kathryn Hollingsworth, Socio-Legal Article Prize
- Caroline Hunter, SLSA Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community

2022

- Mark Massoud, Hart–SLSA Book Prize
- Hedi Viterbo, Hart–SLSA ECR
- Jana Norman, Socio-Legal Theory and History Prize
- Nafay Choudhury, Socio-Legal Article Prize

These videos will be released in 2023.

We also continue to work with winners of our research grant scheme, fieldwork grant, and seminar competition, to release “90-second high-light” videos. As these are completed, we will release over the course of 2023.

The SLSA YouTube channel is also used to share videos from our annual conference. In May 2022 the recording of the 2022 Conference plenary by Sir Geoffrey Vos, Master of the Rolls was released.

Newsletter and E-Bulletin

Marie Selwood (Editor)

Newsletter and E-Bulletin editor’s role

- To work closely with SLSA Board – including attending Board meetings, Annual Conference and running Board email list;
- to keep SLSA members up to date with SLSA activities and important deadlines via newsletter and ebulletin;
- to gather socio-legal news from multiple sources, including from members, to circulate via SLSA website, ebulletin and *Socio-Legal Newsletter*;

- to deal with any other relevant SLSA business eg general membership queries, liaising with individual SLSA Board members/officers.

Socio-Legal Newsletter

The [Socio-Legal Newsletter](#) is published termly – spring, summer and autumn/winter. During 2022, we published three 16-page newsletters (nos 96, 97 and 98).

The newsletter is mailed to all SLSA members in the UK and EU. Members in other parts of the world receive a link to an online version. Members who receive a paper copy have the option to change to the online version if they prefer. The current mailing list is approximately 1200 (an increase of about 100 on last year). The newsletter sponsors (see below) also receive five copies each for circulation to non-SLSA colleagues and students to promote the SLSA's work and aims to a wider audience.

The newsletter was launched in 1989 and has been published without interruption since then. Electronic issues dating back to 2002 are available on the [SLSA website](#).

Content

The newsletter content is focused on the activities of the SLSA Board and SLSA members. Members are actively encouraged to contribute material for each issue. From January 2022 to December 2022, we covered, among many other things:

- announcement and details of SLSA AGM and Trustee nominations and elections
- news arising from SLSA Board meetings, including coverage of key SLSA initiatives, eg EDI and precarity activities, membership survey, open access updates etc
- SLSA 2022 hybrid Annual Conference at the University of York – call for papers, details of conference in advance and a comprehensive report afterwards
- SLSA 2023 hybrid Annual Conference at the University of Ulster – call for papers and advance details
- reports of SLSA events – for example SLSA Online Postgraduate Conference 2022, SLSA activities at LSA Annual Meeting 2022, SLSA seminar 'Mental Capacity, Sexual Relationships and Intimacy', Keele University and online, Socio-Legal Masterclass, University of Oxford
- announcement of the winner of the SLSA Annual Prize (Professor Richard Collier) and shortlists and prize announcements for the SLSA Book and Article Prizes
- numerous summaries and reports from SLSA grantholders (research/fieldwork) plus announcement of the new impact scheme
- and regular sections featuring research, events and publications news from members and other relevant organisations.

Newsletter sponsorship scheme

A large portion of newsletter printing and production costs is covered by our sponsorship scheme which has been running since 2008. During that time the newsletter has been supported by sponsorship from about 20 UK Law Schools which commit to making an annual financial contribution per year for three years. In 2022, the fourth three-year cycle came to a close, and it was therefore necessary to relaunch the scheme and invite existing Law Schools to renew their commitment. The SLSA Chair also wished to expand the scheme and invite new sponsors from both the UK and Ireland to participate.

In November 2022, I worked with the Chair to relaunch the scheme and invite Law Schools to commit to a contribution of £700 per year for three years from 2022 to 2025 (increased from £500 for the first

time in the 14 years since the scheme's launch). This is an ongoing task which takes several months to complete, but we hope to have the final list of committed sponsors in place by the end of the current academic year. At the time of writing we have 23 sponsors signed up (including four new ones) and are in the process of following up those who have not yet responded.

SLSA website and ebulletin to members

The website carries full details of all SLSA activities, including funding schemes, events and prizes, the SLSA Board of Trustees and its subcommittees and an extensive 'Socio-legal News' section which is the basis for the weekly ebulletin. The website is updated weekly during termtime to ensure that members have access to the latest information.

We also provide a weekly ebulletin service to members during term-time which is a key component of the SLSA's relationship with members, keeping them informed about Board activities and also offering them an opportunity to share their own news with colleagues. The final ebulletin of December 2022 was sent to 1195 recipients (increased from 1058 in December 2021). The ebulletin is extremely popular with members with a consistent 'opening' rate for 2022 of between 46% and 53% and a constant stream of membership news for inclusion. The SLSA also uses its electronic mailing list to send one-off messages about important events/news, for example the announcement of our AGM and the call for papers and posters for the Annual Conference.

General

In 2022, with the invaluable support of the Board, I was able to continue to provide timely and relevant information to SLSA members about SLSA events and activities along with news and information about research, funding and events in the wider socio-legal community. The increases in both the newsletter and the electronic mailing lists reflect the popularity and usefulness of the news services we offer, and I will continue to work with the Board in the coming year to maintain and improve these in order to keep up with developments in a changing world.

Appendix: Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts

Please see attached Annual Report for details:



SLSAAccountsSprea
dsheet22.xlsx

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

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Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6 to 7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 12
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	13

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

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Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

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Charitable activities

The SLSA has continued to advance education, learning and research in the field of socio legal studies through its annual seminar and small grants schemes (including PhD fieldwork grants). The number and value of applications to these schemes had fallen during the pandemic. While there has since been an increase, overall numbers have still not fully recovered to pre-pandemic levels. SLSA is working to publicize these opportunities to its community, to ensure that it fulfils its aim of supporting socio-legal studies as far as possible, consistent with prudential stewardship of its resources and the maintenance of appropriate reserves. It has also introduced an impact grant scheme for members to support their work in translating socio-legal scholarship in to 'real world' outcomes. The first round of awards from that scheme will be made in 2023. Alongside these grants the SLSA continues to award a range of annual prizes, including a new impact prize. The SLSA's annual conference in York was run in hybrid format, maximizing participation. The significant costs of running the event in both formats was covered by delegate fees, as well as generating a healthy surplus. Taken with the surplus generated by the preceding conference (on-line, run by Cardiff) this has seen the SLSA make up much of the resources foregone by the cancellation of the 2020 conference at the start of the pandemic. Support from journals, universities, and individual members have seen the SLSA through this difficult period. PGR students also had the opportunity to attend the SLSA's annual PGR Conference which was run online. The SLSA continues to produce regular newsletters and e-bulletins highlighting events and items of interest for members. It has also expanded its You Tube channel showcasing the work of prize winners and grant holders, in interview format. The SLSA blog remains a lively outlet for discussion regarding the state of the socio-legal field, as well as showcasing cutting edge research.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

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The SLSA maintains financial reserves that would allow for the continuance of its operations in the event a sudden decrease in income (e.g. as a result of a lower than expected conference donation).

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

FUTURE PLANS

In addition to its regular activities the SLSA will fund a range of initiatives around equality, diversity and inclusion and in relation to precarity with the socio-legal community.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Trustees are appointed at the AGM in order to replace trustees who are stepping down.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Cardiff University
Sbarc/Spark
Maindy Road
CARDIFF
CF24 4HQ

Trustees

Professor D Ashiagbor (resigned 7.4.22)
Doctor P Bremner Treasurer
Doctor N Graffin
Professor J Harrington Chair
Doctor S Kheria
Doctor E Kirton-Darling (resigned 7.4.22)
Ms J Mant (resigned 7.4.22)
C Moore Membership secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Professor V Munro
Doctor F Renz
Professor R Harding (resigned 7.4.22)
Professor C Ashford
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis
Doctor B A Clough
Doctor S Germain
Dr A Bryson (appointed 7.4.22)
Dr M L Howard (appointed 7.4.22)
Dr M P Burton (appointed 7.4.22)
Dr R Craven (appointed 7.4.22)
Dr E R Griffiths (appointed 7.4.22)

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

Doctor N Graffin

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd

Chartered Accountants

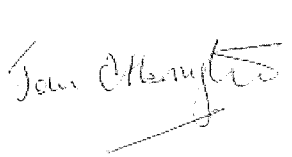
The Cooper Building

505 Great Western Road

Glasgow

G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Harrington", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a rectangular box that is open on the right side.

Professor J Harrington - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Socio-Legal Studies Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

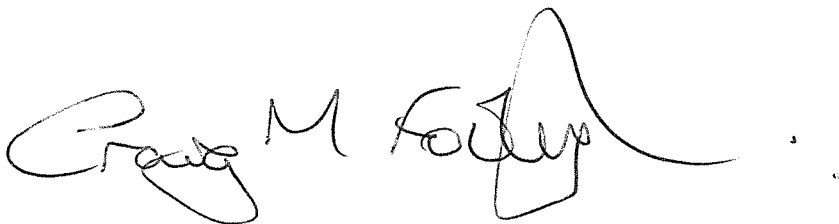
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA
The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

13 March 2023

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	31.12.22 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		149,960	37,390
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	2		
Outgoing resources		55,363	41,090
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		94,597	(3,700)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		78,100	81,800
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2022**

	Notes	31.12.22 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		173,897	79,060
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(1,200)	(960)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		172,697	78,100
NET ASSETS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted funds		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

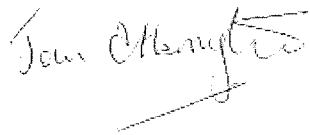
The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2022**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13 March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J Harrington", enclosed within a rectangular box.

J Harrington - Trustee

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Bremner".

P Bremner - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	40,550	11,913	2,900	55,363

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	960

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	37,390
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	41,090
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(3,700)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	81,800
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	78,100

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Accrued expenses	1,200	960
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>960</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	94,597	172,697
	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	149,960	(55,363)	94,597
	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	(3,700)	78,100
	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,390	(41,090)	(3,700)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,390</u>	<u>(41,090)</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	90,897	172,697
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>90,897</u>	<u>172,697</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	187,350	(96,453)	90,897
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>187,350</u>	<u>(96,453)</u>	<u>90,897</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Socio-Legal Studies Association**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	22,412	22,141
Sponsorships	18,050	8,750
Flyer inserts	700	700
Royalties	-	3
Grants returned	2,396	5,796
Annual conference donation	105,733	-
Miscellaneous	669	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,960	37,390
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,960	37,390
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	501	501
Sundries	-	3
Executive meeting expenses	2,224	70
Newsletter production	25,465	21,414
One day conferences	60	-
Website	2,001	1,278
Subscription	652	1,972
Storage fee	107	87
Seminar competitions	2,700	2,700
Annual prizes	1,030	1,360
Student support	-	1,400
Impact Funding	5,810	-
Small research grants	7,937	4,135
Fieldwork grants	3,976	3,010
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52,463	37,930
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	960
Administrative expenses	1,700	2,200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,900	3,160
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	55,363	41,090
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>94,597</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2022
for
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Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
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**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Company Secretary

Doctor N Graffin

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd

Chartered Accountants

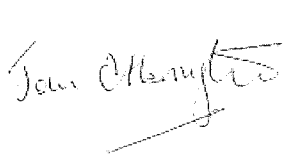
The Cooper Building

505 Great Western Road

Glasgow

G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Harrington", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is enclosed within a rectangular box that is open on the right side.

Professor J Harrington - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Socio-Legal Studies Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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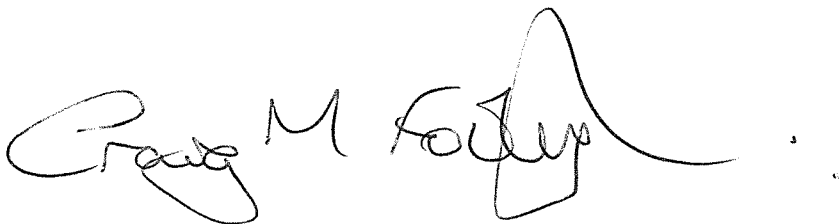
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Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
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4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA
The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

13 March 2023

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	Notes	31.12.22 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
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Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2022**

	Notes	31.12.22 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
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CREDITORS			
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NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		172,697	78,100
NET ASSETS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted funds		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>172,697</u>	<u>78,100</u>

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The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

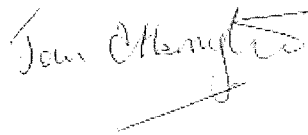
The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2022**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13 March 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J Harrington", enclosed within a rectangular box.

J Harrington - Trustee

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Bremner".

P Bremner - Trustee

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	40,550	11,913	2,900	55,363

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	960

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	37,390
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	41,090
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(3,700)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	81,800
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>78,100</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Accrued expenses	1,200	960
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>960</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	78,100	94,597	172,697
	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>78,100</u>	<u>94,597</u>	<u>172,697</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	149,960	(55,363)	94,597
	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>149,960</u>	<u>(55,363)</u>	<u>94,597</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	(3,700)	78,100
	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,390	(41,090)	(3,700)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,390</u>	<u>(41,090)</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	90,897	172,697
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>90,897</u>	<u>172,697</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	187,350	(96,453)	90,897
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>187,350</u>	<u>(96,453)</u>	<u>90,897</u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Socio-Legal Studies Association**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	22,412	22,141
Sponsorships	18,050	8,750
Flyer inserts	700	700
Royalties	-	3
Grants returned	2,396	5,796
Annual conference donation	105,733	-
Miscellaneous	669	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,960	37,390
Total incoming resources	<hr/>	<hr/>
	149,960	37,390
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	501	501
Sundries	-	3
Executive meeting expenses	2,224	70
Newsletter production	25,465	21,414
One day conferences	60	-
Website	2,001	1,278
Subscription	652	1,972
Storage fee	107	87
Seminar competitions	2,700	2,700
Annual prizes	1,030	1,360
Student support	-	1,400
Impact Funding	5,810	-
Small research grants	7,937	4,135
Fieldwork grants	3,976	3,010
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52,463	37,930
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee	1,200	960
Administrative expenses	1,700	2,200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,900	3,160
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended	55,363	41,090
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>94,597</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SOCIO-LEGAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1186333

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report 2021

Socio-Legal Studies Association CIO

Registered in England and Wales, number 1186333

1 January 2021–31 December 2021

SLSA Trustees:

Ex Officio Trustees

- Prof Rosie Harding (Chair) University of Birmingham
- Prof Chris Ashford (Vice Chair) Northumbria University
- Prof Vanessa Munro (Treasurer) Warwick University
- Dr Neil Graffin (Secretary) Open University
- Mr Colin Moore (Membership Secretary) University of Essex

Trustees

- Prof Diamond Ashiagbor University of Kent
- Dr Philip Bremner (Publisher Liaison) University of Sussex
- Dr Beverley Clough University of Leeds
- Dr Simon Flacks University of Westminster
- Dr Sabrina Germain City University of London
- Prof John Harrington Cardiff University
- Dr Emma Jones Sheffield University
- Dr Smita Kheria (Scottish Rep and International Liaison Officer) Edinburgh University
- Dr Ed Kirton-Darling University of Kent
- Dr Jessica Mant (Social Media Officer and Blog Editor) Cardiff University
- Dr Emma Milne Durham University
- Dr Rebecca Moosavian (Recruitment Secretary) University of Leeds
- Dr Flora Renz University of Kent
- Dr Mitchell Travis University of Leeds
- Dr Clare Williams University of Kent

Socio-Legal Studies Association, a charitable incorporated organisation (registered charity number 1186333). Principal office: c/o Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TT. ✉ admin@slsa.ac.uk | www.slsa.ac.uk

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Chair's Report

Rosie Harding

As the coronavirus pandemic continued to disrupt academic routines, and place additional burdens on academics, the SLSA Board of Trustees continued to work to to achieve our charitable objects, which are:

for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

We have achieved these objects this year through our Annual Conference, as well as our small grants, fieldwork grants and seminar grants, our newsletter, website and blog, our work on equality and diversity, open access, SQE reform, and research ethics. All of these activities are detailed in this annual report.

SLSA Board News

Four members of the SLSA Board stepped down at the 2021 AGM:

- Professor Emilie Cloatre (Trustee)
- Dr Roxanna Fatemi-Dehaghani (Trustee)
- Professor Antonia Layard (Vice Chair and Ex-Officio Trustee)
- Tahir Abass (PGR Representative)

We welcomed the following new members to the SLSA Board this year:

- Beverley Clough (Trustee)
- Sabrina Germain (Trustee)
- Mitchell Travis (Trustee)
- Maddy Millar (PGR Representative)
- Caroline Hunter (York Conference Rep)
- Jed Meers (York Conference Rep)
- Arwen Joyce (Precarity Rep)

Chris Ashford was elected to the Ex-Officio Trustee role of Vice Chair at the April 2021 AGM.

There were three formal Board meetings in 2021, in January, May and September. All of those meetings took place online, using Zoom. We had originally planned to meet face-to-face in September 2021, but the ongoing disruption caused by the pandemic, and a lack of access to hybrid meeting spaces prevented this from being possible. The Board hope to meet in person in 2022 for at least one of the regular Board meetings.

Each year, at the AGM, one-third of the SLSA Trustees must retire, though may stand for re-election if they are eligible to serve another term. Trustees usually serve on the Board for up to 6 years (two terms of three years each). In exceptional cases, such as when a trustee is elected to an Ex-Officio role, they may serve on the board for up to 9 years. This year, Vanessa Munro (Treasurer), Philip Bremner and Rebecca Moosavian will retire by rotation, and will be standing for re-election, though Vanessa Munro will be stepping down from her role as Treasurer. Diamond Ashiagbor, Rosie Harding (Chair), Ed Kirton-Darling,

and Jess Mant will retire from the board and do not seek re-election. Huw Pritchard has also come to the end of his term on the Board as Cardiff Conference representative.

So that the total number of trustees is easily divisible by three, there will be five vacancies for election as Trustees at the AGM, including election to the ex-officio roles of Chair and Treasurer. Statements from all those who have put themselves forward for election will be circulated with the AGM paperwork and an election will be held at the AGM. In keeping with the hybrid nature of the SLSA conference, the AGM will be held both in person and via zoom. All members are welcome to attend, whether or not they are at the SLSA conference.

SLSA Annual Conferences

The 2021 SLSA Annual Conference, which was hosted digitally by the University of Cardiff was our biggest conference ever, with over 700 delegates. Whilst there were a few early digital teething problems, overall the conference was a great success. We remain indebted to Cardiff University, the Learned Society of Wales, the *Journal of Law and Society*, *Modern Law Review*, *Social & Legal Studies* and Wiley for their generous sponsorship of the 2021 Online SLSA Conference.

As we write this annual report, we are making the final preparations for our 2022 Conference hosted by York Law School from 6-8 April 2022, and will be available to both in-person and online attendees. We should take this opportunity also to remind members that the locations of our 2023 and 2024 conferences have already been announced:

- 2023: Ulster University, Derry-Londonderry, 4-6 April 2023
- 2024: University of Portsmouth (dates tbc)

We are particularly delighted that Portsmouth have volunteered to host in 2024, after sadly having to cancel our 2020 conference there as the pandemic took hold.

The annual SLSA PG Conference was hosted online in 2021 (and 2022, though the latter falls outside the period covered by this report). As the risks of gathering in person reduce, and recognising the importance of networking for emerging scholars, the SLSA Board plan to transition back to a face-to-face PG conference in 2023.

Flora Renz and Clare Williams hosted a hugely successful SLSA One-Day Conference on ‘Doing Socio-Legal Research in a Pandemic’ on 21 September 2021. Further details are available below.

Learned Society Activities

As a learned society, the SLSA represents our members across a wide range of sectors and activities. We have continued to work as part of the Academy of Social Sciences and with the Law Commission, REF2021 law panel, funders of socio-legal research and to represent our members’ views and interests in legal education forums. Of particular note in this year is our work with the Law Commission, including supporting them in their work on developing their 14th programme of law reform, and co-hosting an online conference exploring possible topics for inclusion.

Research Ethics Review

The ongoing research ethics review that had been taking place since early 2020 was completed in 2021. The updated Statement of Principles of Ethical Research Practice are available on the [SLSA Website](#), alongside a historical note about the development of the SLSA Ethics statement.

A personal thank you

Finally, as noted above, I will be standing down from my role as Chair of the SLSA at the 2022 AGM. It has been my great pleasure and privilege to serve on the SLSA Executive Committee and the SLSA CIO Board of Trustees since April 2013, including as Vice Chair from 2015-2017 and as Chair from 2017-2022.

In that time, the SLSA has (amongst other things) incorporated as a CIO, weathered the storm of the coronavirus pandemic, grown our membership, expanded our international activities, supported our PGR and ECR community, and introduced new support for non-academic impact arising from Socio-Legal Research (see further below). I am greatly indebted to all those who have served the SLSA community as members of the Executive Committee and the SLSA Board over the time that I have been Chair. None of these achievements, all of which help to support, develop and expand our field, would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the SLSA Trustees and other Board members, nor of the engagement and support of our membership, especially those who lead streams and current topics at our Annual Conferences.

As we emerge into a world where we will have to adapt many of the ways we do things in response to the continuing risks posed by the coronavirus, I am pleased (and relieved!) that the SLSA remains in a strong position to support and serve our membership. I am grateful that the SLSA membership put their trust in me to lead the SLSA over the last few years, and I trust and hope that our Association, and our field will continue to thrive in the years ahead.

Vice Chair's Report

Chris Ashford

PGR Representative Recruitment

Together with sub-group colleagues (Victoria Adkins, Jess Mant, Emma Milne, Colin Moore, and Rebecca Moosavian) we considered 9 applications, and selected Maddy Millar, a first year PhD student from Exeter. I am delighted that Maddy has accepted the post. It was a strong field of applications, and I am grateful to the sub-group for their tremendous work reviewing the applications and coming to a final decision, particularly during the Summer months.

Law Commission

I represented the SLSA, alongside Rosie Harding at the annual meeting with the Law Commission in June 2021, attended by representatives of the other scholarly law associations.

Bar Standards Board Review of EU Law

Together with Mitch Travis, I led the SLSA engagement with the Bar Standard Board review of EU Law as a 'foundation' subject of the academic stage of

training for the Bar. Alongside the other scholarly societies, we encouraged open engagement with the sector and await formal proposals.

Annual Book Prize

I reviewed the rules and process of the competition, taking soundings from Nathan Emmerich who administers the prize entries once the SLSA receives them. No changes have been made for this year and the call for nominations has been posted through our usual channels.

Treasurer's Report

Vanessa Munro

Please see appended Annual Accounts for the Treasurer's Report.

Below is the overview report with the breakdown of accounts from 1st Jan-31st Dec 2021. The accounts were sent at the end of January 2022 to The Kelvin Partnership for independent examination in line with the requirements of our CIO registration with the Charities Commission.

Overall Assets

Opening Balance as 1.1.21	£82,760.14
Total Income 1.1.21 - 31.12.21	£37,430.04
Total Expenditure 1.1.21 - 31.12.21	£41,129.80
	- £3,699.76
Closing Balance as 31.12.21	£79,060.38

Coop Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.21	£67,707.98
Closing Balance as 31.12.21	£62,479.98

Lloyds Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.21 £14,888.40

Closing Balance as 31.12.21 £16,580.40

Paypal Account

Opening Balance as 1.1.21 £153.76

Closing Balance as 31.12.21 £0.00 [income transferred
monthly to Coop]

Notes: Increased membership donation took effect from July 2021 but was not uniformly adhered to by all members. Reminders were issued, resulting in many top up payments. We would expect a further increase in membership income next year as all members update payment arrangements. The conference donation from the Cardiff 2021 conference is still pending. At the AGM in 2021, we projected an income of £54,500 for 2021 which included a £20k Cardiff conference donation. Though delayed, we now expect that Cardiff donation to be larger, and have projected £50k on that basis in next year's budget, alongside projected donation from York 2022 in due course. Aside from the Cardiff donation delay, income projections for 2021 as outlined at the previous AGM have been largely accurate. At the AGM, we projected an expenditure for 2021 of £47,150, and have in fact managed to make some savings against that. As a result, the SLSA accounts are looking in a strong position, which is why, as outlined in the 2022 projections, the Trustees intend to reinstate higher budgets for Grant and Seminar competitions, and to introduce a new stream of Impact & Engagement funding.

Breakdown of Income & Expenditure:

Period: 1/1/21 - 31/12/21

Income

Membership 22181.31

Annual Conference Donation	0.00
Newsletter Sponsorship	7500.00
Conference Flyer Inserts	700.00
Prize Sponsorship	1250.00
One Day Conference Donations	0.00
PG Conference Deposits	0.00
Grant Underspend Refunds	5795.53
Miscellaneous	3.20
TOTAL	37,430.04

Expenditure

Executive Committee Expenses	70.00
PG Conference Expenses	0.00
SLSA Admin Support	2200.00
Newsletter: Editing	16154.00
Production	5260.00
Small Research Grants	4135.00
Seminar Competition	2700.00
Fieldwork Grants	3010.00
Annual Prizes	1360.00
SLSA One Day Conferences	0.00
Website & Database	1278.00
Charities Insurance Premium	500.84
Training & Mentoring Grants	0.00
AcSS membership	652.00
Production of Flyers	0.00
IALS Storage Fee	87.20
Auditor Fee	960.00

Miscellaneous	2762.76
TOTAL	41,129.80
Net Balance	<u>- £3,699.76</u>

SLSA Budget Forecast 2022

Below is a forecast for 2022 (with 2021 actuals in red). It is based on certain assumptions –

- That we continue to hold a number of our Trustee meetings online
- That we hold the next PGR conference in Jan 2023 in hybrid format (previous event online in Jan 2022 at no cost). Costs may be transferred to host in 2022 to facilitate planning
- That membership remains constant with more members paying the increased donation
- That the Cardiff donation comes in at £50,000
- That the York donation will come in at £20,000
- That the newsletter be returned to its previous length, having been reduced to save costs as an interim measure due to reduced income from cancellation of Portsmouth 2020

Income

Membership	25000 [22,181]
Annual Conference Donation (York, 2022)	20000 [0]
Annual Conference Donation (Cardiff, 2021)	50000 [0 - 2020 cancelled]
Newsletter Sponsorship	7500 [7,500]
Conference Flyer Inserts	700 [700]
Prize Sponsorship	1250 [1,250]
One Day Conference Donations	0 [0]
PG Conference Deposits	0 [0]
Grant Underspend Refunds	0 [5796]
Miscellaneous	0 [3]

TOTAL**104,450 [37,430]****Expenditure**

Executive Committee Expenses	2500 [70]
PG Conference Expenses	5000 [0]*
SLSA Admin Support	2500 [2200]
Newsletter: Editing [16,154]	21000
Production	7500 [5,260]
Small Research Grants	10000 [4,135]
Seminar Competition	5000 [2,700]
Fieldwork Grants	5000 [3,010]
Impact & Engagement Grants	15000 [0]
Annual Prizes	1350 [1,360]
SLSA One Day Conferences	4000 [0]
Website & Database	2000 [1,278]
Training & Mentoring Grants	1000 [0]
AcSS membership [652]	700
Production of Flyers	400 [0]
IALS Storage Fee	100 [87]
Charities Insurance [501]	600
External Auditor Fee	1500 [960]
Miscellaneous	0 [2,723]
TOTAL	85,150 [41,089]

Membership and Data Protection
Colin Moore

Overall Membership Numbers:

As of 10/02/2022 our membership database holds information for the following members.

Full Members	653 (an increase of 95 members).
Full Members (Overseas)	77 (an increase of 21 members).
Honorary Life Members	13
PG Members	542 (an increase of 75 members)
Retired Memberships	20 (an increase of 1 members)
Total	1,305 (an increase of 182)

Membership continues to increase steadily across both full and PGR membership sections.

Data Protection Officer

There was one data protection request this year. This resulted in an author's name being redacted from digital versions of a previous conference programme.

Grants

Ed Kirton-Darling (Grants Sub-Committee Chair)

In the 2020-21 grants competition, we received 14 applications for Small Grants and 7 applications for PhD Fieldwork Grants. We provided £7,135 in grants to support research, via our small grants and PhD fieldwork grants scheme. Candidates were assessed against (longstanding) published criteria by the grants committee, which then made recommendations to the Board.

The successful applicants were:

Small Grants:

- Suhraiya Jivraj (Kent, £1,500.00): 'Transforming Social Justice Through Artivism',
- Elizabeth Seal (Sussex, £1,135.00): 'Race, Crime and Justice in Britain, 1870-1955'. (Note that after receiving the award, this applicant received a BA grant to take some of this work forward, and so modified what she would do with the funding and then returned us £300 of the original project grant, using the rest for additional work to support the research).
- Ethnie Dowds (QUB, £1,500.00): 'New Methodologies in Feminist Legal Studies: Legislative Drafting Project'

PhD Fieldwork Grants

- Marcelo Carvalho-Loureiro (Birmingham, £1,000.00): 'Decolonising Nationality Law: a syncretic theory of citizenship'
- Gee Imaan Semmalar (Kent, £1,000.00): 'Colonial folklores in legal archives; Caste and gender deviant categorisations in 19th century colonial India'

- Marie Wilmet (European University Institute, £1,000.00): ‘Healing through justice? Empirically evaluating the mitigating effect of the civil party system on the harms suffered by Cambodian victims of sexual and gender-based crimes’

Seminar Grants

In the time period 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021 the SLSA Seminars Sub-Committee awarded four seminar grants in February 2021 out of a pot of £2700. In total there were 18 applications for seminar grants in this round, all of which were of extremely high quality and demonstrated the significant range of socio-legal research activities currently taking place despite the challenges of Covid.

To reflect the impact of Covid-19 the Seminar Grants rules have been modified as of last year to allow applications that include funding for IT costs to enable online events.

Summary of grants awarded:

Applicant name and seminar title:	Amount awarded
Laura Pritchard-Jones and Bev Clough: "Mental Capacity in the Context of Sexual Relationships and Intimacy"	£1,000
Anna Nelson and Elizabeth Chloe Romanis: "COVID-19 and Birthing Services: Socio-Legal Reflections & Lessons"	£700
Lucy Finchett-Maddock, Sean Mulcahy and Sophie Doherty: "Art/Law Network Online Seminar Series 2021: Homing - Beyond 2020"	£1000
	Total: £2700

SLSA One Day Conference

Doing Socio-Legal Research in a Pandemic: How, Why, When, Where?

Flora Renz and Clare Williams

The ways we do, talk, and think about socio-legal research have fundamentally shifted. State and University responses to Covid-19 have disrupted sites of power and privilege, of inclusion and exclusion, of access to resources and ability to be heard. Our approaches to research practices have shifted as a consequence. While research across the social sciences has adapted rapidly to substantively explore new practices and structures, questions of how we go about socio-legal research (methodology and epistemology) remain largely unaddressed. To investigate some of these issues we organised a one-day virtual conference sponsored by the SLSA on the 21st September 2021. The event had been widely publicised, and we were delighted to present eight papers split across three

panels, with two keynote presentations. The event was truly global, with speakers from Australia, South Africa, The Netherlands, Colombia, Norway, and the UK. Over 140 people had registered for the event, and we had an audience of 40-65 across the entire day, confirming the need for events that support and connect the sociolegal community given the upheavals of the past two years.

We had SLSA funding set aside to cover child and other care costs to enable participation, but this was not required in the end.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Clare Williams (EDI Sub-Committee Chair)

In line with the ongoing work of the SLSA and other subcommittees, the EDI subcommittee has been busy throughout 2021. The beginning of 2021 saw some changes to the committee's line up, as Professor Diamond Ashiagbor, who chaired the SLSA's EDI committee since its inception in 2019, stepped down as chair of the group in January 2021. Professor Ashiagbor has led the development of SLSA's EDI agenda, including the drafting of key SLSA policies and engagements, in particular the Equality and Diversity Policy and associated documents, and has been instrumental in placing the SLSA on firm EDI footings. I agreed to stand in as chair of the subcommittee in January and hope to continue the excellent work. At the same time, the EDI subcommittee was also boosted by Dr Flora Renz and Dr Simon Flacks, along with Maddy Millar who joined Victoria Adkins as PGR rep. Victoria, along with Dr Jess Mant and Dr Ed Kirton-Darling will be leaving us in April 2022 when they stand down from the SLSA Board, and all will be hugely missed.

We also welcomed the SLSA's first Precarity Rep, Arwen Joyce, in November 2021. The creation of this Board-level role within the SLSA to raise the profile of issues related to casualisation in higher education is both timely and important. The burden of casualisation falls disproportionately on women, BAME and disabled staff, eroding labour rights, bargaining power, and financial security, and Covid has exacerbated much of this disadvantage. We hope that the Precarity Rep role can be a conduit for the diverse views and concerns of precariously employed socio-legal researchers to the SLSA Board, and we look forward to supporting Arwen in the role.

The most ambitious project undertaken by the EDI committee this year was the SLSA's first EDI survey, which was launched on 15th November 2021 and ran for 6 weeks. The survey had been proposed in early 2020 and marks the culmination of the hard work of many people. As we were unable to use the membership database to collect demographic information about our members, the survey became the best tool available to us to begin our data journey. I would like to extend deep gratitude to all those involved in designing, reviewing, piloting, revising, and administering the survey, and all those involved in analysing the data and drafting the report.

The survey highlighted that while the SLSA is doing well in some aspects of EDI work, there are areas requiring us to go further. EDI is the work of everyone, and a journey rather than a destination, and in this spirit, the data will offer a springboard and empirical grounding for future activities, engagements, and policies. While the response rate of around 8% makes wider inferences about the

SLSA or socio-legal community difficult, some of the comments from the survey highlighted that the SLSA was “one of the more inclusive” societies, praising it for its work engaging and encouraging postgraduate and early career researchers. The survey highlighted areas of race and disability as being weaker points though, and along with socio-economic status and class, and the rise of precarity in higher education employment practices, the data offers a solid starting point for the SLSA’s EDI focus over the coming years. The full Report will be published on the SLSA’s website, with updates in the newsletter and eBulletin, and is shared in the spirit of dialogue that we hope to continue.

The pivot to online and hybrid events as a result of Covid offered us a remarkable social experiment into access and accessibility, and we are consciously working towards retaining the best aspects of inclusion that we glimpsed through the lockdowns as far as reasonably practicable. As we saw with the online SLSA annual conference in 2021, hybrid and online events have the potential for greater inclusion not only of those with disabilities, but those with caring responsibilities for children or adults, and for those who are unable to travel. The SLSA-sponsored one day conference hosted on 21st September 2021 by Dr Flora Renz and myself, “Doing Socio-Legal Research in a Pandemic”, received positive feedback about the event’s accessibility as well as the community-building content. Nevertheless, while hybrid options were strongly urged in survey responses, there is a desire to return to face-to-face events, and we will carefully consider maximum possibilities for inclusion as we try to balance multiple needs in the SLSA’s “post-pandemic” engagements list.

Earlier on in 2021, the EDI subcommittee in partnership with Professor Linda Mulcahy, continued to collate and record law school statements responding to the Black Lives Matter movement and expressing a commitment to anti-racism. In recognition of the longstanding ongoing work to decolonize the academe by members of our community, and in solidarity, the SLSA wanted to record and preserve these statements, and continues to collate statements by law schools. Please continue to submit these to the SLSA to be recorded on the website.

The EDI subcommittee has reviewed and drafted additional policies throughout 2021, and this included reviewing the membership options that the SLSA offers. We reviewed policies for retired membership and introduced a policy allowing members to freeze their membership on EDI grounds which can be viewed on the SLSA website. The subcommittee continues to review SLSA policies and practices to ensure that these operate with equality and fairness, and welcome comments and suggestions from our members about how these can be improved.

International Activities

Smita Kheria (International Liaison Officer)

International Liaison annual report

The focus in 2021 was on continuing to maintain existing international connections and reaching out to new socio-legal organisations. Specific activities included:

- Making contact with a selection of organisations and communities, especially in the Global South, with the aim of, initially, improving sharing of opportunities for relevant memberships through our existing mechanisms (e.g. e-bulletin; social media), and in the longer term, exploring the potential for collaborative events and activities.
- Representing SLSA at LSA-FICA Meeting for discussion of, and preparation for, LSA's 7th Global Meeting on Law and Society (taking place in Lisbon, Portugal in July 2022 at the ISCTE University Institute of Lisbon) with a view to ensuring that SLSA's interests as co-sponsors of the meeting are suitably represented, and that relevant information about the conference is disseminated to SLSA members.
- Representing SLSA at a workshop for planning in-person networking activities at LSA's meeting in Lisbon, to facilitate better connection between representatives of international socio-legal associations, and their memberships, and using the Lisbon meeting to provide better visibility to associations at the conference and beyond.

Postgraduate Activities

Victoria Adkins and Maddy Millar (PGR Representatives)

The SLSA PGR Conference took place on 6 and 7 January 2021 and due to the pandemic, the conference was hosted online. Despite this, the conference was very successful and positive feedback was received from attendees. The online format also allowed us to have a larger attendance of PGR's, as well as providing an opportunity of attendance for those who would not have been able to attend in person for various reasons. The programme provided an opportunity for PGR's to network with each other as well as to engage with some early career researchers. Many thanks to the organising team and speakers for hosting a wonderful and successful event.

The SLSA PGR Activities were also held online in 2021 but again these were still a real success. Again, positive feedback was received throughout the event, with frequent mentions on Twitter. In addition, PGR's were still able to participate in a poster competition, with 15 very impressive entries received. A short quiz was also held online in the evening of the PGR Activities to provide an opportunity for PGR's to network informally. The PGR representatives at the event (Tahir Abass and Victoria Adkins) are grateful to the online platform providers for their support in planning the activities.

In April Tahir Abass stepped down from his role as PGR representative. Tahir was a great PGR representative, making a valuable contribution to the SLSA community during his role and the SLSA Board would like to express their gratitude to Tahir for his important work. Victoria continued in her role as PGR representative and during the summer Maddy Millar was recruited as the new SLSA PGR representative to replace Tahir.

Throughout the summer the PGR's attempted to launch informal PGR catch-up sessions to provide a space for PGR's in the socio-legal community to network more informally. Whilst there was interest for this on social media, attendance at

the first session was low, however the ongoing pandemic and timing of the session may have contributed to this. The PGR's will revisit this initiative in 2022.

During October to December, the PGR representatives have been preparing for the 2022 PGR Conference and PGR Activities, as well as carrying out a recruitment drive to encourage new PGR's to become SLSA members. This has involved contacting Socio-Legal PGRs across the UK, through their institutions, and inviting them to join the association.

Open Access

John Harrington (Open Access Working Group Chair)

The SLSA Board recognises the importance of open access (OA) issues for SLSA members. Its OA Working Group has kept a watching brief on developments in this area, having responded at length to the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) consultation in 2020. Based on the latter, UKRI published an updated OA policy for UK researchers in August 2021. In the case of all UKRI-funded research, this will require immediate OA for peer-reviewed research articles submitted for publication from 1 April 2022 and a new requirement for monographs, book chapters and edited collections published from 1 January 2024 to be made OA within 12 months of publication. These requirements are likely to be taken over into any future iteration of the Research Excellence Framework (REF). The OA Working Group studied the policy closely and updated corresponding guidance for members on the SLSA website. This was publicized to members through the Newsletter. The Working Group will continue to follow developments and has recruited two new SLSA Board members to boost its capacity to respond to the implementation of the UKRI policy, and wider developments in relation to OA.

Impact Working Group

Rosie Harding (Impact Working Group Chair)

Ensuring that academic research makes the most of pathways towards impact has been increasing in importance over the last decade and more. As impact becomes further embedded in REF, and as the value to be gained from working with non-academic partners becomes increasingly recognised, ensuring that all scholars have access to funds to support impact is increasingly important. We recognise that impact activities are unevenly supported across UK Higher Education Institutions, and across types of socio-legal scholarship.

Since becoming a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation, the object of the SLSA is:

“for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.”

This new ‘public benefit’ object means that we have greater scope to support activities that are aimed at developing non-academic, cultural, social, economic

and justice impacts and effects of socio-legal research, which is an important element in ensuring public benefit.

During 2021, an Impact working group was established to generate proposals for how the SLSA could support impact activities. The Board subsequently agreed to a range of ways that the SLSA will support impact in the future, including **impact funding, networking funding, impact prizes, and training on impact**. These impact and public engagement focused activities will be launched for our membership in 2022.

Social Media and Blog

Jess Mant (Social Media Officer and Blog Editor)

Social Media Stats

- Twitter followers: 5818
- Facebook group members: 1500
- Facebook likes: 1805

Activity (Social Media):

Social media continues to play an important role in promoting events, opportunities, and activities of our members. It is used to encourage registration and participation in socio-legal events, whether sponsored by the SLSA or elsewhere.

The official SLSA twitter and Facebook accounts have been used as a primary means of sharing information and promoting engagement with both the annual postgraduate conference (hosted online by the SLSA Board in January 2022) and the annual conference (hosted virtually by Cardiff University in April 2021, and due to be hosted in hybrid format by the University of York in April 2022). This has involved publicising calls for session convenors for the PG conference, registration for both conferences, call for current topics for the annual conference, as well as publicising the CFPs for the annual conference.

Throughout, social media has been useful for disseminating information about event formats and opportunities as our members move into a new context where events are increasingly being held in hybrid-format.

Social media has also played a vital role in disseminating the first ever SLSA membership survey, organised by the EDI subcommittee, with a corresponding blog post prepared by the committee to inform members about the survey and its importance for our continued representation of the socio-legal community.

Social media has also continued to be used to promote engagement with the SLSA blog, publicising new posts and encouraging broader dissemination.

Blog Activity

We have continued to have a regular stream of blog submissions, with posts going live every few weeks if not more frequently. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the blog has continued to provide an important outlet through which our members have been able to engage with each other's work, as well as gain

insight and feedback on their early research ideas about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on socio-legal issues and concerns.

Website Report

Daniel Bedford (Webmaster)

Main Site www.slsa.ac.uk

There have been a few design changes to the SLSA site, including some alterations to the frontpage graphics. The site will continue to undergo changes this year, as we migrate to the new version of Joomla.

YouTube

The [SLSA YouTube channel](#) was successfully launched in November 2021. The channel includes videos of winners of grant and publications prizes. The videos on the site have already been watched by 253 viewers.

Newsletter and Ebulletin

Newsletter and ebulletin editor's role

My role is broadly threefold: firstly, to keep in close touch with the SLSA Board (including attending Board meetings, the annual conference and via the Board email list) so that I am fully acquainted with SLSA activities and able to ensure they are widely publicised and reported; secondly, to keep the SLSA membership informed of SLSA activities – including funding initiatives, prizes, events and important deadlines – and to enable them to share their own news with socio-legal colleagues via the newsletter and ebulletin; and, thirdly, in an independent news-gathering role through subscribing to mailing lists – eg British Academy, Nuffield Foundation, UKRI, law publishers etc – and online research in order to monitor and feedback important developments, publications, funding opportunities, job vacancies and the like through the newsletter and ebulletin. In addition, I answer general membership queries and liaise with individual SLSA Board members when appropriate, in particular the chair, treasurer, blogeditor, membership secretary and webmaster. This is all done through my integrated role as newsletter, ebulletin and website editor.

Socio-Legal Newsletter

The Socio-Legal Newsletter is published termly – spring, summer and autumn/winter. During 2021, we published three newsletters, Nos 93, 94 and 95 (2x12pp, 1x16pp). During the first part of the Covid crisis, the Board took the decision to reduce printing and distribution costs by cutting the number of pages in the newsletter and printing it on cheaper paper using cheaper ink (ie black on white, instead of our traditional dark blue on cream). In autumn 2021, the Board decided to increase the pagination again, but to retain the black and white format.

The newsletter is mailed to all SLSA members in the UK and EU. Members in other parts of the world receive a link to an online version. Members who receive a paper copy have the option to change to the online version if they prefer. The current mailing list is approximately 1100. The newsletter sponsors (see below)

also receive five copies each for circulation to non-SLSA colleagues and students to promote the SLSA's work and aims to a wider audience.

The newsletter was launched in 1989 and has been published without interruption since then. Electronic issues dating back to 2002 are available on the SLSA website.

Content

The newsletter content is focused on the activities of the SLSA Board and of SLSA members. Members are actively encouraged to contribute material for each issue. From January 2021 to December 2021, we covered, among many other things:

- announcement and details of SLSA AGM and Trustee nominations and elections;
- news arising from SLSA Board meetings ;
- SLSA 2021 Cardiff online conference - call for papers, full details of conference in advance and a comprehensive report afterwards;
- SLSA 2022 York hybrid conference - including the call for papers and details of the format and arrangements for the SLSA's first ever hybrid annual conference;
- reports of SLSA one-day conferences and seminars - for example 'Critical Perspectives on Land Registration', 'Benefits in Wales: Opportunities and Challenges for Social Security Devolution', 'The Gender Pay Gap from History to Computer Algorithms' and the SLSA's free Postgraduate Conference (online in 2021);
- announcement of the winner of the SLSA Annual Prize for Contributions to the Socio-Legal Community (Professor Caroline Hunter) and the shortlists for the prestigious SLSA Book and Article Prizes;
- numerous reports from the SLSA Grants Scheme (research and fieldwork), including pre-project summaries and final reports and other outcomes from completed projects - the scheme has funded over 150 projects since its launch in 1999;
- tributes/obituaries to recently deceased eminent socio-legal scholars;
- plus, regular sections featuring news from members about their research activities, events, publications and so on.

Newsletter sponsorship scheme

A large portion of the newsletter printing and production costs is covered by our sponsorship scheme which has been running since 2008. The newsletter is currently supported by about 20 UK law schools which commit to a contribution of £500 per year for each three-year cycle. The scheme is in the final year of its fourth cycle (2019 to 2022), demonstrating how much the law schools value the role of the SLSA in promoting socio-legal studies to the wider community and supporting the dissemination of the work of its members and other socio-legal scholars.

SLSA website and ebulletin to members

The SLSA website is a key feature of the SLSA's work. It carries full details of all SLSA activities, including funding schemes, events and prizes. It is updated on a

weekly basis in term-time and, in particular, features an extensive 'Socio-legal News' section which is the basis for the weekly ebulletin.

The SLSA has been providing the ebulletin service to members since June 2000. From around February 2005, the ebulletin developed into a weekly message, and since then it has become a key part of the SLSA's work in providing information to members about its own activities and also as a conduit for members to share their news with colleagues. The final ebulletin of December 2021 was sent to 1058 recipients (increased from 927 in December 2020). The ebulletin is extremely popular with members with a consistent 'opening' rate of between 40% and 50% and a constant stream of membership news for inclusion. In 2021, the weekly ebulletin continued to be published on Fridays during termtime. The SLSA also uses this electronic mailing list to send one-off messages about important events, for example the announcement of the AGM and the call for papers and posters for the Annual Conference.

General

Overall, the commitment of the SLSA to communicating with members and building links across disciplines via the newsletter and ebulletin reflects its key objectives to 'to advance education and learning in the field of socio legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field'. In partnership with SLSA Board members I will aim to continue to find ways to improve this aspect of its work.

Appendix: Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts

Please see attached Annual Report for details [AnnualAccounts_SLSA2022]



SLSA 2021 -
UPDATED in line wit

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Treasurer's Report
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Despite a challenging period following the necessary cancellation of the Portsmouth SLSA Annual Conference in 2020, the Board of Trustees are pleased with the state of the Association's accounts, as reflected in this report. The Cardiff SLSA Annual Conference, which was held in 2021, was very successful and we remain extremely grateful to the local organisers as well as to publishers and journals that provided additional sponsorship to manage the financial risks associated with the online medium. Attendance numbers for the York SLSA Annual Conference 2022 are strong, and it is excellent to have the chance to come together again as a research community.

As reported and agreed at the previous AGM, we have now increased membership donations modestly, and the budget projections presented to the AGM in April 2021 have been largely accurate, with a small additional saving reflected in these accounts. As a result, the budget projections to be presented to the AGM in April 2022 will allow for an increase in expenditure on grant and seminar competitions, as well as a new stream of funding for impact and engagement activity by our membership. The SLSA Newsletter, which provides a vital mechanism for communicating news to and across our community, will return to its previous length, having been temporarily reduced as a cost-saving measure; and we will continue to hold some Trustee meetings online to maintain savings.



Professor V Munro

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the Association Model CIO for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Birmingham Law School
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
BIRMINGHAM
B15 2TT

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Trustees

Professor D Ashiagbor
Doctor P Bremner
Professor E Cloatre (resigned 31.3.21)
Doctor R Fatemi-Dehaghani (resigned 31.3.21)
Doctor N Graffin
Professor J Harrington
Doctor S Kheria
Doctor E Kirton-Darling
Professor A Layard Vice chair (resigned 31.3.21)
Ms J Mant
C Moore Membership secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Professor V Munro Treasurer
Doctor F Renz
Professor R Harding Chair
Professor C Ashford
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis (appointed 31.3.21)
Doctor B A Clough (appointed 31.3.21)
Doctor S Germain (appointed 31.3.21)

Company Secretary

Doctor N Graffin

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor R Harding - Trustee



Professor V Munro - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Socio-Legal Studies Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA
The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

11 March 2022

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

		Year Ended 31.12.21 Unrestricted funds £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies		37,390	31,112
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	2		
Outgoing resources		41,090	45,373
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(3,700)	(14,261)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		81,800	96,061
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2021**

	Notes	31.12.21 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		79,060	82,760
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(960)	(960)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted funds		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the Association Model CIO keeps accounting records and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association Model CIO as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 March 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



R Harding - Trustee



V Munro - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Association Model CIO, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The Association Model CIO is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	<u>30,785</u>	<u>7,145</u>	<u>3,160</u>	<u>41,090</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 £
Independent examiner's fee	<u>960</u>	<u>960</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021. There were trustees' expenses of £881 paid for the period ended 31 December 2020 in relation to executive meeting expenses.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	31,112
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	45,373
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(14,261)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	96,061

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

Unrestricted
funds
£

**TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED
FORWARD**

81,800

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Accrued expenses	<u>960</u>	<u>960</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	(3,700)	78,100
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,390	(41,090)	(3,700)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,390</u>	<u>(41,090)</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 14.11.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	-	(14,261)	96,061	81,800
Unincorporated SLSA	<u>96,061</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(96,061)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>96,061</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,061</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,800</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	31,112	(45,373)	(14,261)
	<u>31,112</u>	<u>(45,373)</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,112</u>	<u>(45,373)</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	22,141	21,651
Sponsorships	8,750	8,750
Flyer inserts	700	700
Royalties	3	11
Grants returned	<u>5,796</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>37,390</u>	<u>31,112</u>
Total incoming resources	37,390	31,112
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	501	501
Sundries	3	-
Executive meeting expenses	70	2,428
Newsletter production	21,414	19,263
One day conferences	-	450
Website	1,278	2,262
Subscription	1,972	652
Flyer production	-	380
Storage fee	87	87
Seminar competitions	2,700	7,455
Annual prizes	1,360	865
Student support	1,400	-
Small research grants	4,135	3,319
Fieldwork grants	<u>3,010</u>	<u>5,931</u>
	37,930	43,593
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	960	960
Administrative expenses	<u>2,200</u>	<u>820</u>
	3,160	1,780

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period to 31.12.20 £	14.11.1	9
Total resources expended	<u>41,090</u>	<u>45,373</u>		
Net expenditure	<u><u>(3,700)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,261)</u></u>		

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE019582 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1186333

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2021
for
Socio-Legal Studies Association

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

**Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Treasurer's Report
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Despite a challenging period following the necessary cancellation of the Portsmouth SLSA Annual Conference in 2020, the Board of Trustees are pleased with the state of the Association's accounts, as reflected in this report. The Cardiff SLSA Annual Conference, which was held in 2021, was very successful and we remain extremely grateful to the local organisers as well as to publishers and journals that provided additional sponsorship to manage the financial risks associated with the online medium. Attendance numbers for the York SLSA Annual Conference 2022 are strong, and it is excellent to have the chance to come together again as a research community.

As reported and agreed at the previous AGM, we have now increased membership donations modestly, and the budget projections presented to the AGM in April 2021 have been largely accurate, with a small additional saving reflected in these accounts. As a result, the budget projections to be presented to the AGM in April 2022 will allow for an increase in expenditure on grant and seminar competitions, as well as a new stream of funding for impact and engagement activity by our membership. The SLSA Newsletter, which provides a vital mechanism for communicating news to and across our community, will return to its previous length, having been temporarily reduced as a cost-saving measure; and we will continue to hold some Trustee meetings online to maintain savings.



Professor V Munro

Socio-Legal Studies Association

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the Association Model CIO for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Socio-Legal Studies Association is a learned society for Socio-Legal Studies. Its objects are for the public benefit to advance education and learning in the field of socio-legal studies and to promote research, the useful results of which shall be published for the public benefit, teaching and the dissemination of knowledge in the field.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE019582 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1186333

Registered office

Birmingham Law School
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston
BIRMINGHAM
B15 2TT

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Trustees

Professor D Ashiagbor
Doctor P Bremner
Professor E Cloatre (resigned 31.3.21)
Doctor R Fatemi-Dehaghani (resigned 31.3.21)
Doctor N Graffin
Professor J Harrington
Doctor S Kheria
Doctor E Kirton-Darling
Professor A Layard Vice chair (resigned 31.3.21)
Ms J Mant
C Moore Membership secretary
Ms R Moosavian
Professor V Munro Treasurer
Doctor F Renz
Professor R Harding Chair
Professor C Ashford
Doctor E J Jones
Doctor S Flacks
Doctor E Milne
Doctor C Williams
Doctor M J Travis (appointed 31.3.21)
Doctor B A Clough (appointed 31.3.21)
Doctor S Germain (appointed 31.3.21)

Company Secretary

Doctor N Graffin

Independent Examiner

The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 11 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor R Harding - Trustee



Professor V Munro - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Socio-Legal Studies Association**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Socio-Legal Studies Association ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Craig M Fotheringham BSc CA
The Kelvin Partnership Ltd
Chartered Accountants
The Cooper Building
505 Great Western Road
Glasgow
G12 8HN

11 March 2022

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

		Year Ended 31.12.21 Unrestricted funds £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes		
Donations and legacies		37,390	31,112
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities	2		
Outgoing resources		41,090	45,373
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(3,700)	(14,261)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		81,800	96,061
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Balance Sheet
31 December 2021**

	Notes	31.12.21 Unrestricted funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		79,060	82,760
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	6	(960)	(960)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
FUNDS	7		
Unrestricted funds		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>78,100</u>	<u>81,800</u>

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the Association Model CIO keeps accounting records and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association Model CIO as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 March 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:



R Harding - Trustee



V Munro - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Association Model CIO, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

The Association Model CIO is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

2. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities £	Support costs £	Totals £
Outgoing resources	<u>30,785</u>	<u>7,145</u>	<u>3,160</u>	<u>41,090</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 £
Independent examiner's fee	<u>960</u>	<u>960</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021. There were trustees' expenses of £881 paid for the period ended 31 December 2020 in relation to executive meeting expenses.

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	31,112
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Outgoing resources	45,373
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(14,261)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	96,061

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

5. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

Unrestricted
funds
£

**TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED
FORWARD**

81,800

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Accrued expenses	<u>960</u>	<u>960</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	81,800	(3,700)	78,100
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>81,800</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>	<u>78,100</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	37,390	(41,090)	(3,700)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,390</u>	<u>(41,090)</u>	<u>(3,700)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 14.11.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	-	(14,261)	96,061	81,800
Unincorporated SLSA	<u>96,061</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(96,061)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>96,061</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,800</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>96,061</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>81,800</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	31,112	(45,373)	(14,261)
	<u>31,112</u>	<u>(45,373)</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>31,112</u>	<u>(45,373)</u>	<u>(14,261)</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period 14.11.19 to 31.12.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Memberships	22,141	21,651
Sponsorships	8,750	8,750
Flyer inserts	700	700
Royalties	3	11
Grants returned	<u>5,796</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>37,390</u>	<u>31,112</u>
Total incoming resources	37,390	31,112
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Insurance	501	501
Sundries	3	-
Executive meeting expenses	70	2,428
Newsletter production	21,414	19,263
One day conferences	-	450
Website	1,278	2,262
Subscription	1,972	652
Flyer production	-	380
Storage fee	87	87
Seminar competitions	2,700	7,455
Annual prizes	1,360	865
Student support	1,400	-
Small research grants	4,135	3,319
Fieldwork grants	<u>3,010</u>	<u>5,931</u>
	37,930	43,593
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	960	960
Administrative expenses	<u>2,200</u>	<u>820</u>
	3,160	1,780

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Socio-Legal Studies Association

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Year Ended 31.12.21 £	Period to 31.12.20 £	14.11.1	9
Total resources expended	<u>41,090</u>	<u>45,373</u>		
Net expenditure	<u><u>(3,700)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,261)</u></u>		

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