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Department of Politics & Public Policy
Annual Research Report 2013/14

Introduction and Highlights

This report documents the research accomplishments of the Department of Politics and Public Policy (PoPP) in the academic year 2013-14. Our research is concentrated predominantly in public policy, but encompasses international politics, political theory and pedagogy within the discipline of politics. It epitomises DMU’s mission to deliver research excellence with impact, covering everything from developments in governance theory and critical urban studies to high-level research partnerships with policy makers, advisory and consultancy projects for central government and other prominent public sector stakeholders. The following paragraphs showcase last year’s highlights.

We were delighted to appoint three new permanent lecturers in spring 2014: Dr Valeria Guarneros-Meza, Dr Katharine Rietig and Dr Jinghan Zeng, colleagues who add a strong international dimension to our public policy research. Dr Guarneros-Meza specialises in Latin American Urban Studies; Dr Rietig is working on policy learning, particularly in the context of environmental governance. Dr Zeng lectures and researches Chinese Politics and research methods. In addition, Dr Eleanor Mackillop, Dr Steve Parker and Andy Thomas joined the department as part-time lecturers, Eleanor and Steve bringing research expertise in local governance and public management, Andy in popular participation in space exploration in Russia and China.

The department won over £550,000 in new research income, notably grants from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF). The JRF study progresses Professor Jo Richardson’s influential research on Gypsy and Traveller communities, exploring the co-production of conflict resolution methods for Gypsy and Traveller sites. The ESRC project led by Professor Jonathan Davies will scrutinise how austerity policies develop in the cities of eight countries, in particular the extent to which the voices of citizens and voluntary groups are heard in shaping and contesting the outcomes of reduced public spending.

Our engaged scholarship continues to influence the world of politics and policy. Last year we highlighted Professor Colin Copus’s report written for the Commons Political and Constitutional Reform Committee, setting out a statutory code of relationships between central and local government. This work progressed in 2014, with Professor Copus drafting the Local Government (Independence) Bill, introduced to Parliament as a Private Members Bill in late 2014. Professor Rob Baggott and Professor Steven Griggs developed a self-assessment tool for local health and wellbeing boards, “Ensuring Health and Wellbeing”, part of a follow-up to the outstanding ESRC Knowledge Transfer Partnership between APSE (Association of Public Service Excellence) and DMU. Together with collaborators at the University of Cardiff, Dr Guarneros-Meza is part of the ongoing evaluation of the European Social Fund Local Service Board, a project sponsored by the Welsh Government. Dr Rietig contributed to a worldwide study of climate legislation in 66 countries, gaining plaudits from the World Bank, the UN and the US Senate. At the request of the Central Compilation and Translation Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party’s Central Committee, Dr Zeng produced a report on the “Political Legitimacy of the Chinese Communist Party” — a key theme in his work.

Colleagues organised several memorable events, including the 10th Anniversary conference of the Local Governance Research Unit, The Chartered Institute of Housing national conference and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence annual conference. We hosted the department’s second annual lecture in February 2014, given by Professor Bob Jessop on A Cultural/Cultureal Political Economy Perspective on Crises of Crisis-Management: the Limits of Governance.
Introduction and Highlights (continued)

The department made a vital contribution to the faculty REF submission in Business and Management, demonstrating major improvements in all areas of assessment. We are consistently among the best post-92 research universities, and compare favourably with many “traditional” institutions as well. The panel singled out our knowledge transfer and staff development support for praise.

The remainder of the report lists key research outputs, current PhD students and completed doctorates.
Publications

Refereed Journal Articles


Publications (continued)

Refereed Journal Articles (continued)


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Publications (continued)

Refereed Journal Articles (continued)


Lishman, R. (2014) Part of the ESRC project on Boosting Affordable Housing Supply, information on the ESRC website http://www.esrc.ac.uk/my-esrc/grants/ES.K007564.1/read


Publications (continued)

Refereed Journal Articles (continued)


In Chinese

Books


Edited Collections (as editors)

Edited Books


Chapters in books
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Publications (continued)

Chapters in books (continued)


Copus, C., and Leach, S. (2014), Local Political Leaders,(Ch.36) in Rhodes and 't Hart (eds), The Oxford Handbook of Political Leadership, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp549-560


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Publications (continued)

Other academic publications


Richardson, J. (2014) ‘No Place To Go: How can we create space and place in communities for Gypsies and Travellers?’, *Britain in 2014*, Swindon: ESRC
Research Income

External Grants

Jonathan Davies
Principal investigator on major ESRC funded consortium project: *Collaborative Governance under Austerity: An Eight-case Comparative Study*. £435,131 - April 2015-September 2017

Steven Griggs
Steven Griggs, APSE, National Survey of Elected Members, £10,000, lead investigator with Wingfield, M. (DMU), Copus, C. (DMU) and Martin, S. (Cardiff)

Jo Richardson
Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange, Evaluation of Asset Based Community Development Project, September 2014 to July 2017, £26,408 Project Lead. (With Fred Mear) ongoing project


Melton Borough Council 2014, Project leader at DMU on evaluation of ‘Me and My Learning’ project, £20,000 (with Ros Lishman and Tim Brown) ongoing project

ESRC 2013 to 2014, Part of team on knowledge exchange project ‘Boosting Affordable Housing Supply’ £70,000. Project now completed

DMU Funded Research

Alasdair Blair: HEIF project – De Montfort University European Centre of Excellence, £10,000 (2014)

Colin Copus: RIF6 – De Montfort University, £9,000 (2014)

Colin Copus: RCIF – De Montfort University, £10,000 (2014)

Jo Richardson: Seedcorn funding £1,250 (£400 Faculty and £850 Department) for Leeds Listening Project
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Major Research Events at DMU

Alasdair Blair: Conference Organiser: ‘Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence Annual Conference’, De Montfort University, June 2014


Colin Copus: COST Democratic Renewal Round Table: Action IS1207 Local Public Sector Reforms - An International Comparison. 27th November 2014

Jo Richardson: Conference Organiser: ESRC seminar (as part of series) on ‘Creating the space and place for Gypsy and Traveller sites’, De Montfort University, November 2013
Non-academic speaking engagements


Colin Copus: Invited roundtable participant: discussion of Respublica (think Tank) report on the Manchester Combined Authority and policies for public service reform 10 September 2014

Colin Copus: Invited roundtable participant: to Core Cities and London Councils roundtable on fiscal devolution to local government 21 July 2014

Colin Copus: ‘Whatever Happened to Local Democracy’, Key-note speaker, South east Employers Local democracy network seminar, London 4 July 2014


Colin Copus: ‘Decentralisation Decade; A New Deal for English Local Governance’, Roundtable invited participant, IPPR, 26 March 2014


Colin Copus: Local Government Association, extraordinary general meeting; as speaker on changes to the LGA’s governance arrangements and on the prospects for party and non-partisan candidates in the 2014 elections, 23 January 2014

Colin Copus: ‘International seminar, Governance, science and innovation in development policies, leadership for governance’, Key-note speaker, Department of Social, Political and Territorial sciences, University of Aveiro, Portugal, 14 January 2014


Jo Richardson: Frontline Futures, Chartered Institute of Housing national conference, Manchester, June 2014


Jinghan Zeng: ‘China’s anti-corruption campaign and the case of Zhou Yongkang’, media interview on Danish Broadcasting Corp, 10 April 2014
Conference and Seminar Highlights

Presenting papers at conferences and seminars is a vital way of showcasing our work and progressing it towards publication. In 2013-14, colleagues gave over 100 papers at events across Europe, the USA, Canada and China and Japan on a vast array of topics reflecting the diversity of our research. Key conference/seminar presentation themes included: ensuring health and wellbeing, local and national alcohol policy, the politics of food and obesity, lessons from new and established Mayoralities in England, the changing role of councillors, the role of partnerships in austerity governance, fair trade and the economic crisis, state violence and coercive governance in cities, affordable housing, conflict and conflict resolution in planning for Traveller sites, learning as a vehicle for enhancing sustainability policy and the question of political legitimacy in China.
Current PhD Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haila Altwaian</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Lixian Jin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Charlton</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Steven Griggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Cheetham (DMU Studentship)</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Mark Roberts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janie Codona</td>
<td>Jo Richardson/Steven Griggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lei Dai</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Andrew Tolson/Jinghan Zeng</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olawale Fawehinmi</td>
<td>Rob Baggott/Kathryn Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yoric Irving-Clarke</td>
<td>Peter King/Jo Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abdulbaset Ghnedi</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Chris Goldsmith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul O’Brien</td>
<td>Steven Griggs/Jonathan Davies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Ogman (DMU Studentship)</td>
<td>Jonathan Davies/Steven Griggs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raksha Pandya-Wood</td>
<td>Kathryn Jones</td>
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<td>Catherine Saltis</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Alasdair Blair</td>
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<td>Jane Scullion</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Mark Roberts</td>
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<td>David Simmonds</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Alasdair Blair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Thomas</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Jinghan Zeng</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Wilkes</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Alistair Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyn Wyeth</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Alistair Jones</td>
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PhD Completions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Supervisor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Dadd</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Melvin Wingfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eleanor Mackillop</td>
<td>Steven Griggs/Jo Richardson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jing Pan</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Martyn Denscombe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Poynter</td>
<td>Alasdair Blair/Clodagh Harrington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve White</td>
<td>Colin Copus/Alasdair Blair</td>
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</table>
Department of Politics & Public Policy
Annual Research Report 2013/14

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Hugh Aston 3.75

Hugh Aston 3.51
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