IALS Digital + DH

- “Intersection of computing and the disciplines of the humanities”
- Research materials + tools
- New approaches
- New thinking

- IALS digitisation of JCPC case papers
- Open access journals – IALS Student Law Review

Steven Whittle, IALS Information Systems Manager
Legal research + DH

- Digital legal scholarship
- Legal information management
  - Content provision
  - Access – metadata description
  - Reuse – adoption and adaptation
  - Application of technology to deliver new information and understanding
Law & Humanities

- How far akin to disciplines in the Arts and Humanities?
  - Legal History, Law and Linguistics, Law and Literature, Law and Philosophy …
- Placing Law in context / Law in cultural setting / Cultural heritage
- Protecting humanity – individual and collective rights
- Society as “client” / Whole of humanity as “client”
- Ethics and emotions
- Legal design and legal policy / Concerned with human experience
- Writing and communication skills / Processing and documenting
- Crossing boundaries between disciplines
  - Methodological and interdisciplinary in approach
The Supreme Court poem was written by Andrew Motion, Poet Laureate 1999 - 2009

- Tides tumbled sand through seas long-lost to earth; Sand hardened into-stone – stone cut, then brought To frame the letter of our four nations’ law And square the circle of a single court.
- Here Justice sits and lifts her steady scales Within the Abbey’s sight and Parliaments But independent of them both. And bound By truth of principle and argument.
- A thousand years of judgment stretch behind – The weight of rights and freedoms balancing With fairness and with duty to the world: The clarity time-honoured thinking brings.
- New structures but an old foundation stone: The mind of Justice still at liberty Four nations separate but linked as one: The light of reason falling equally.
IALS Digital Objectives

• Further develop content creation, curation and editorial roles in publications (Website, web databases and Open Access journals and Open Access monograph).

• Further develop content creation, management and preservation (through digitisation initiatives).

• Further develop roles in investigating and applying best practice re: metadata and resource description, search and retrieval methodology and technology, interfaces, Interaction and user experience (through web database and IALS digital resource creation and enhancement – ie the combined creation and update of content and tools).
More Objectives …

• Further develop training roles – support for technology enabled research (group sessions and one-to-one appointments) and web delivery (themes such as Open Access, use of applications for legal research, information visualisation) via Libguides and Law Port and VLE.

• Extend scholarly communications (via digital publication, library discovery catalogue, website, social media, events and outreach participation).

• Identify funding opportunities and make funding bids.

• Further develop collaborative roles – enabling collaboration through digital projects and initiatives (with Fellows, School, Associates, learned societies).
IALS Digital initiatives

Case papers of JCPC appeals

• 35+ countries
• 1930 – 1985 + selected earlier
• Significant moments in time
  – late 19th century and early 20th century
• Contemporary resonance
• Additional case papers:
  – Case for the appellant
  – Case for the respondent
  – Factums
  – Record of proceedings
  – Appendices
• Over 5,000 documents digitised involving more than 300,000 page scans from over 1,400 appeals to the JCPC
• Online open access on BAILII

http://www.bailii.org/uk/cases/UKPC/
Range of cases

Significant work of JCPC reflected in case papers

- Examples of the Law in action
- Demonstrating legal professionals at work + legal arguments employed
- Illustrating the impact of legal process on individual lives
- Stories of global significance from the end of Empire and start of Nationhood
- Colonial devolution and development of Common Law and international law
- Insight into public, personal, social, political, cultural and human issues
Range of countries

Geographic visualization

- Alternative views and routes
- Google maps
- Interacting with our data
- JCPC decisions by Country
- Through to the documents on BAILII
- Developing search options
IALS OA Journals

**Amicus Curiae**
Print + Online Journal of IALS and SALS. Articles by legal experts, judges, practising lawyers, scholars
http://journals.sas.ac.uk/amicus/

**IALS Student Law Review**
Open access peer-reviewed law journal established by IALS research students. New writing.
http://journals.sas.ac.uk/lawreview/

**Digital Evidence and Electronic Signature Law Review**
Articles, legal developments and case reports and translations
http://journals.sas.ac.uk/deeslr/

SAS OJS http://journals.sas.ac.uk/
ISLRev

- Open Access online journal edited by IALS research students

- Peer reviewed papers by legal research students, scholars, lawyers (new and established)

- Investigate legal issues from single or multiple vantage points whether topically or jurisdictionally.

- Full range of search + browse facilities. PDF article search + save

- Included in DOAJ Directory of Open Access Journals

http://journals.sas.ac.uk/lawreview/
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Thank You!