

And yet we keep going...

❖ **You reached the end of your 3-year mandate as HoD. How does it feel?**

It feels particularly odd to end my HoDship in the midst of a pandemic when the university is run virtually and I haven't seen colleagues face to face for many weeks. But it feels good to finish with the department in good shape, despite the epidemic: REF is looking really good with everyone being returned and excellent outputs; recruitment is outstanding; NSS scores were up last year.

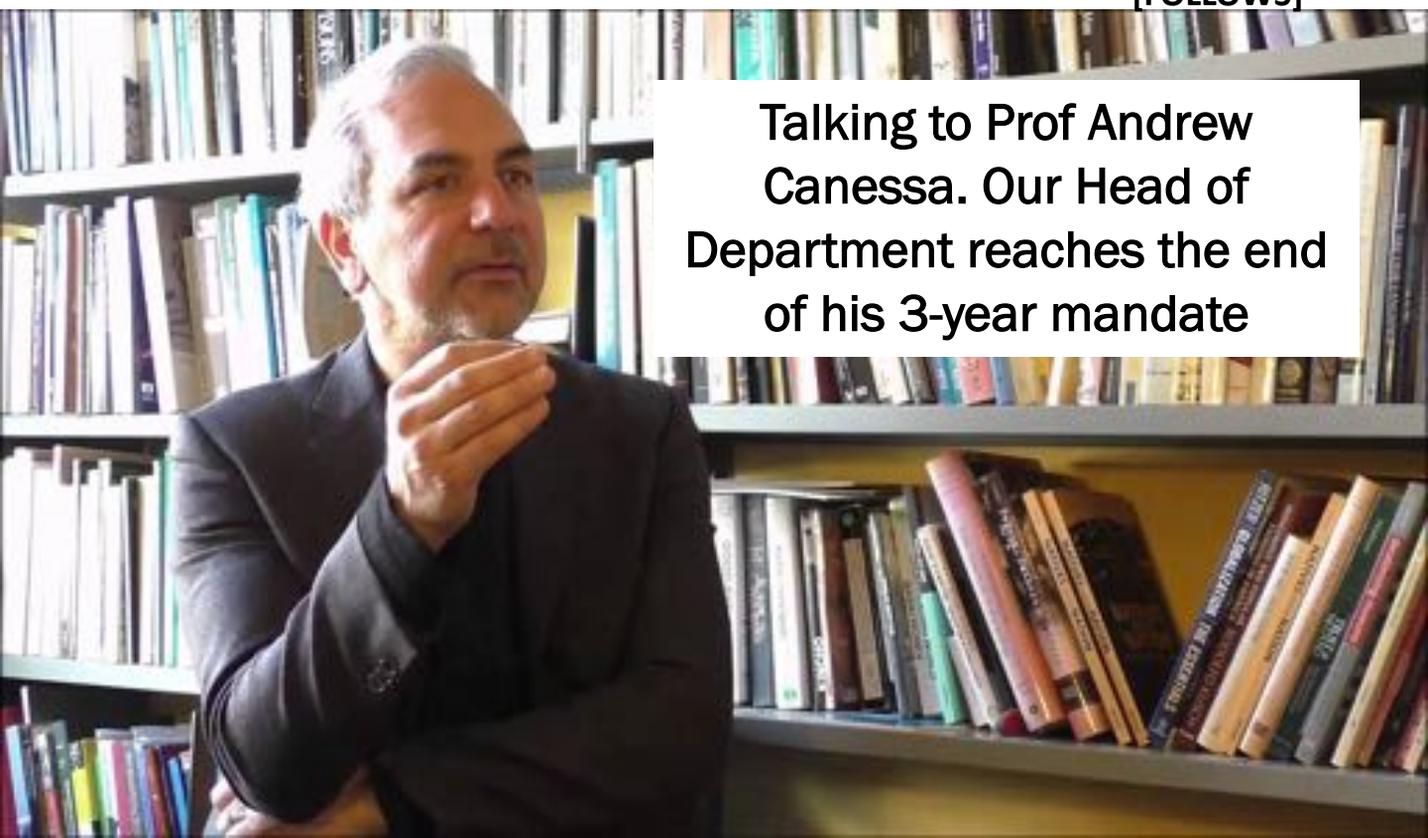
❖ **What would you have liked to know before starting 3 years ago as HoD that you do know now?**

It sounds dull but I would have really like do have understood better the role of HR in the university. A big part of the challenges facing the HoD involve HR issues and it takes a while to get your head around the policies, etc.

❖ **What were your greatest achievements?**

Difficult to say but I think that would have to be getting the university to change the way it thought about probation and to make the process a lot less bureaucratic and a lot more supportive. In that context, I am most proud of successfully supporting people to go from probation straight to SL as well as supporting people through other promotions. It was certainly the most rewarding part of the job. I am also really proud of the Athena Swan award and the changes we were able to make in the department as part of that process.

[FOLLOWS]



Talking to Prof Andrew Canessa. Our Head of Department reaches the end of his 3-year mandate

❖ What was your biggest failure?

I was hoping to have a programme of support for students in general and BAME students in particular, especially in the first year. I had high hopes for a really radical transformation of the first week of teaching but I just couldn't persuade enough people. I wish I had done more for BAME students.

❖ What was your biggest surprise?

People. People have an amazing capacity to behave in unexpected ways – both positively and negatively. I have to say, though, that, in the department most people, most of the time are simply marvellous to work with.

❖ What is your advice for Prof. Pamela Cox, your successor as HoD?

Make sure you take care of yourself. Also that you will need to get used to people misunderstanding what you say, even if you try to be really clear, and hardest of all, misunderstanding your motives. Read Marcus Aurelius' Meditations, Marcus got me through a lot of difficult moments.

❖ What has the future in store for you in terms of your research?

I want to finish a book with Manuela Picq, a political scientist, on indigenous people and the state and I am also co authoring another book with Dana Brablec, a recently finished PhD, on the urban indigenous experienced.



**OUR BEST
WISHES,
ANDREW !**

Coming soon!

Prof Colin Samson's
New Book

The Colonialism of
Human Rights
Ongoing Hypocrisies
of Western Liberalism

<https://politybooks.com/bookdetail/?isbn=9781509529971>



More from Prof Colin Samson

I published an essay on the BSA Cost of Living website. It is based on a re-reading of Albert Camus' *The Plague* to examine the ongoing colonial indifference to the deaths of black, indigenous and formerly colonised peoples shown by the UK and US governments in the current pandemic: <https://www.cost-of-living.net/regarding-the-infection-of-others-pandemics-and-colonial-indifference/>

NEWS FROM PROF MARK HARVEY

I wrote short piece on how the crisis has impacted on the self-employed, and the government's terrible failure to address the real issues. It was published by the Institute of Employment Rights.

<https://www.ier.org.uk/comments/the-coronavirus-infected-self-employment-chickens-have-come-back-to-roost-in-their-millions/>.



From Dr Neli Demireva

02th of July, 2020. "The underutilization of the human capital of vulnerable migrant groups", 17th Annual IMISCOE Conference – Online

17th of June, 2020. "How has Covid-19 redrawn the migration landscape of the UK?" Agora debate



News from Dr Alexandra Cox

I went to Islamabad, Pakistan in January with staff from Reprieve, where I trained staff from the **Foundation for Fundamental Rights (FFR)** in sentencing mitigation, met with Shazad Akbar, government minister of the interior who founded FFR and engaged in a human rights campaign against American drone strikes in Pakistan, and consulted on the case of a severely mentally ill man facing the death penalty in Pakistan.



I did an interview with Alex Vitale, author of 'The End of Policing,' for his new video series '**The Critical Criminologist**': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqCg2UIDqmE>

I completed a **fellowship at the International Institute for the Sociology of Law in Onati, Spain**, and submitted an article 'The Legitimizing Practices of Progressive Prosecutors' that grew out of my work there (co-authored with Camila Gripp of Yale University Law School's Justice Collaboratory).

I have an article on the language of incarceration coming out in the **inaugural issue of the journal Incarceration**, on whose editorial board I sit. This article explores the uses of the terms 'offender' and 'criminal' and how and where scholars working on incarceration can make their own interventions around language.

NEWS FROM PROF NIGEL SOUTH

2nd edition of The Routledge International Handbook of Green Criminology, co-edited with Avi Brisman, is finally published.

Co-authored paper on 'Southern green cultural criminology and representations of nature within four Colombian Indigenous communities' accepted for special issue of Critical Criminology, 29: 1.



NEWS FROM DR JASON SUMICH

Publications

- The Political Aesthetics of Middle Class Housing in (not so) Neoliberal Mozambique Co-authored with Morten Nielsen. - 2020. Antipode 52 (4), 1216-1234
- (with Morten Nielsen and Bjørn Enge Bertelsen) Enclaving: Spatial Detachment as an Aesthetics of Imagination in an urban sub-Saharan African context. - In Press, Journal of Urban Studies.
- Response by Author to Three Reviewers of the Monograph, The Middle Class in Mozambique: The State and the Politics of Transformation in Southern Africa - 2020, Africa. 90 (3), 602-603.

“Just another African Country”: Socialism, Capitalism and Temporality in Mozambique”, Accepted for Publication in Third World Quarterly

Presentations

“Politics of Class Formation in Mozambique”, Chatham House and the World Bank, “Fragility, Risk, and Resilience in Mozambique. London, June 5 2020.



NEWS FROM DR SANDYA HEWAMANNE

Sandya Hewamanne will be co-editing the volume 'Pandemic, Work, and Economy: Post-Lockdown Lives in the Global South,' with Smita Yadav of Bristol University. The edited volume will be published by Palgrave under its International Studies series.



NEWS FROM DR ANNA SERGI

- Sergi, A. (2020), Policing the Port, Watching the City. Manifestations of Organised Crime in the Port of Genoa, Policing & Society: An International Journal of Research and Policy, Online First
- Sergi A. (2020), Playing Pac-Man in Portville: Policing the Fragmentation and Dilution of Drug Importations through Major Seaports, European Journal of Criminology, Online First,
- Sergi, A. (2020) The Port-City Interface. A Report on Organised Crime & Corruption in Seaports, University of Essex, London: Kindle Direct Publishing/Amazon Media EU
- Sergi, A. (2020) "La trasmissione intergenerazionale dei comportamenti mafiosi: una prospettiva socioculturale e criminologica su 'ndrangheta e minori in Calabria", in A. Cava (ed) Il Gioco del Killer. Culture mafiose e minori, Milano: Franco Angeli (Open Access)
- Sergi A. & S. Amerio (2020) La Mafia Ai Tempi Del Covid-19: Espansione O Contrazione Degli "Affari? Magistratura Indipendente

Anna engaged a lot with international media commenting on the Covid pandemic and Organised crime – including The Financial Times, the CNN, OCCPR, The Telegraph, The Herald Sun, La Presse, . See «Anna Sergi» on Google News

Organised Crime and Covid-19, Online, University of Essex, 20th May <https://vimeo.com/421004597>

Poppies, Ports, and Harm Reduction: Changing Dynamics in Drug Markets, Online, University of San Diego, Center for US-Mexican Studies, June 17, 2020 - https://youtu.be/QAA5ngWAd_Q

"Mafie italiane nel mondo. Mafie straniere in Italia. Quale scenario? Online, Avviso Pubblico. La Rete Nazionale degli Enti Antimafia, 23 April 2020,

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=1141303756230009&ref=watch_permalink



NEWS FROM DR KAT HADJIMATHEOU

Kat has just been appointed to the MET police's first Research Ethics Committee, which launches in September. She is excited that the first publication from her work on the Human Rights Big Data and Technology Project is coming out soon in Policing and Society and that she'll be doing some dissemination and impact work with the National Police Chiefs Council about it over the next few months. In mid-June she heard that a bid she was involved in for a UKRI Centres Grant application on Online Harms was unsuccessful, but is now working on another bid, for Horizon2020, on human trafficking and child sexual exploitation.



NEWS FROM PROF PETE FUSSEY

- Fussey, P. and Roth, S., (2020). [Digitizing Sociology: Continuity and Change in the Internet Era](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0038038520918562). Sociology, 003803852091856-003803852091856 available here:

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/0038038520918562>

Pete has been working on the **societal, ethical and human rights implications of the NHSX COVID-19 contact tracing app**:

- His submission with other members of the ESRC HRBDT project was published by Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights and cited in their report of their inquiry into the human rights implications of the government's response to COVID-19:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/3973/pdf/>

- Invitation to Government Office for Science & ESRC working group on research led post-pandemic resilience, led by Sir Patrick Vallance, UK Chief Scientific Advisor.

- Contributed to a rapid evidence review of the ethics and rights implications of technological approaches to easing lockdown in, Ada Lovelace Institute (2020) *Exit through the App Store? A rapid evidence review on the technical considerations and societal implications of using technology to transition from the COVID-19 crisis*, available here: <https://www.adalovelaceinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Ada-Lovelace-Institute-Rapid-Evidence-Review-Exit-through-the-App-Store-April-2020-2.pdf>

- Co-presented a **webinar on COVID-19: Artificial Intelligence, and Data Governance** Chaired by Lord Clement Jones (co-chair of all Parliamentary Group on Artificial Intelligence) (18 May).

- Invited contribution to Cabinet Office review of policing responses to COVID-19.

Facial recognition technology

- Part of invited *amicus curiae* submission to the Court of Appeal for the Liberty case challenging the legality of police uses of automated facial recognition (*Bridges v The Chief Constable of South Wales Police*)

- Presented at COG-X AI & emerging tech summit on a panel convened by DCMS Centre for Data Ethics and Innovation. Other conference presenters included John Kerry, Tony Blair and Matt Hancock.

Given University of Essex Celebrating Excellence in Research Award in the category of Best Interdisciplinary Research (with Daragh Murray)

- Interviewed by *The New Statesman*,

<https://tech.newstatesman.com/security/nhsx-contact-tracing-app-privacy-risks>

Facial recognition research featured on *Last Week Tonight with John Oliver* (US) (14 June)



NEWS FROM DR ANNA DI RONCO

Anna's article titled 'Law in Action: Local-level prostitution policies and practices and their effects on sex workers' has been accepted by the *European Journal of Criminology* and will soon be available on the Journal's website!

Anna will attend the Eurocrim 2020 Online conference in September presenting a paper on 'Technosocial green resistance: the uses of digital communication technologies in activist practice'.

Anna is currently co-editing a book titled '*Harm and Disorder in the Urban Space: Social Control, Sense and Sensibility*', also featuring a chapter by Nigel South and his colleagues! The book will be published in early 2021!



NEWS FROM DR AYSE GUVELI

Research (with Sait Bayrakdar) is published as **Working Paper from ISER on the inequalities in home learning during the COVID-19 school closure and the mitigating impact of schools' distance teaching provisions.**

* Children receiving free school meals, from single-parent households, with less-educated parents, and with Pakistani and Bangladeshi heritage spend significantly less time on schoolwork at home than their peers during the COVID-19 school closure.

* Children with Pakistani and Bangladeshi backgrounds spend the least amount of time on home learning and are overrepresented in not receiving distance teaching provisions.

*The more distance teaching schools provide, the more time children spend on home learning.

*Schools' distance learning provisions explain half of the learning gap between children receiving free school meals and their peers.

* Schools' distance learning provisions fully explain the learning gap between children with Pakistani and Bangladeshi heritage and their peers.

<https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/research/publications/526152>

Awarded **British Council Newton Research Environment Link grant** to build collaboration with Istanbul Sehir University on "Migration and Social Policies in Turkey and UK".

Published a journal paper (with Sait Bayrakdar) using the unique **2000 Families dataset**. It finds that Migration particularly benefits women's education. And in Europe migrants' children benefit less from their parental resources than in Turkey.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1736531?journalCode=cjms20>

Also Published Guveli, Ayse (2020) Consequential Identities: Mexicans in the US and Turks in Europe, *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 43(13) ID: 1789188 DOI:10.1080/01419870.2020.1789188



NEWS FROM MARJAN WIJERS

We did a small online survey in the Netherlands to gain more insight in the access of sex workers to emergency income support, the barriers they face, and reasons why they apply or refrain from applying for financial support. The survey was developed by the Prostitution Information Centre (PIC) in cooperation with SekswerkExpertise, a network of sex workers, service providers, health professionals, researchers, academics and jurists, aiming to improve the position of sex workers. The survey was conducted online. It was distributed through twitter in Dutch, English and Spanish. The report is based on 108 questionnaires, which were received between 22 .04 - 4 .052020. It contains an analysis of the data of 80 respondents to the Dutch survey, 19 to the English, and 9 to the Spanish. Of the 108 respondents, 61 (56%) applied for coronavirus income support. Of those 61 applicants, only 8 sex workers (13%) actually received income support.

: <https://sekswerkexpertise.nl/report-survey-income-support-sex-workers-10-06-2020/>

NEWS FROM PROF JOAN BUSFIELD

Busfield J (2020), Documenting the financialisation of the pharmaceutical industry, *Social Science and Medicine*, 258. doi.org/j.socscimed.2020.113096

Jonsson, KR, Busfield, J, Sodergren, N and Adjei, Nk (2020), Social capital, deprivation and psychological well-being among young adolescents, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17 (10) 3420

Busfield J (2019), The moral economy of the pharmaceutical industry: legitimising prices, *Health*, DOI: 10.1177/1363459319879474



NEWS FROM OLIVIA ARIGHO-STILES

I participated in an Alborada Magazine discussion on the coup against Evo Morales in Bolivia and the current situation in the country. You can watch it here: <https://alborada.net/alboradaonline4/>



I also presented at the online symposium *Race, Space and Activism in Latin America* hosted by the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS). It was an excellent event, albeit with obligatory 'technical issues', with academics participating from all over Latin America and the UK



MORE DEPARTMENT NEWS!



- ❖ Dr Johanna Romer and Dr James Allen-Robertson have been awarded an ISRF Flexi-Grant (£5000) : Deciphering Violence: New Network Analytic Tools to Improve Hate Speech Detection Online.
- ❖ Prof David Pevalin have been awarded a BA grant (£5500) for creating derivation matrices for the former measures of social class to use beyond the Census.
- ❖ Dr Roisin Ryan-Flood has been awarded British Academy funding for our project 'Holding Hands: Experiences of shame, pride and protest among LGBTQ relationship partners'