

Centre for Social Policy
AGM DECEMBER 5th 2018
ANNUAL REPORT

This report covers the year to November 2018 and details the series of five seminars held at Dartington, Buckfast and London. The report also notes changes in the membership of Fellows.

Thanks must be given to all those who have helped maintain the programme: in particular John Diamond, Patrick Diamond, Brian Warren, Ella Baillie, Roger Bullock and Tim Hobbs, with special thanks to Kate Moule who was secretary until October 2018.

Our Programme

We have enjoyed a busy and stimulating programme over the course of the year with six seminars held since the last meeting. We are grateful for the commitment of so many Fellows who have given their time to support the design and co-ordination of these events.

Details of the seminars held during the year are:

October 2018

An evening seminar was held at King's College, London on the The Role and Value of Reviews, Investigations and Inquiries in Order to Learn Lessons in the Field of Public Services. There were presentation from Gillian Downham, Androulla Johnstone, Jill Manthorpe, Wendy Rose and James Blewett covering the issues raised by reviews in health, mental health, adult social care and child and family services..

July 2018

A day seminar was held at King's College, London in collaboration with the Social Work History Network on *Children's Homes: What were they really like? Have they a future?* The focus was Peter Higginbotham's book *Children's Homes: A history of institutional care for Britain's young* with contributions from Roger Bullock, David Lane and Ray Jones.

June 2018

The seminar was held at the Lab's Buckfast office and comprised four presentations. Mary Anne MacFarlane described setting up a project for young offenders in Romania; Ross Hommell discussed plans to set up a centre for developing and delivering preventive work with children and families in Australia; Caroline Davies reviewed the work of an English adoption agency and the issues surrounding national and inter-country adoptions and Shreya Sunthalia and Daniel Ellis outlined the system-modelling approach to service design being developed at the Service Design Lab.

March 2018

At this Dartington Hall seminar, Josh MacAlister discussed *Frontline*, the fast-track social work training programme for well qualified graduates; Professor Dave Gordon from the Bristol University reviewed concepts, measures and trends in surveying national and world poverty; Ben Hartridge described the Lab's work with the homeless charity CRISIS and Tim Hobbs, the Service Design Lab's director, presented possibilities for the future of CSP.

December 2017

A London meeting was held at the LSE at which Professor Ian Gough from the Centre for the Analysis of Social Exclusion discussed his new book *Heat, Greed and Human Need* which considers the relationship between climate change, capitalism and sustainable well-being,

November 2017

At the seminar held at Dartington Hall, David Lane discussed issues raised by the Northern Ireland Inquiry into historic child abuse; Chris Hanvey outlined his plans for a new book *Fractured Childhood: Fashioning a comprehensive system appropriate to meeting children's needs*; Christine Bradley discussed her new book *Revealing the Inner World of Traumatized Children* and Jean Harris-Hendriks spoke to a paper by Mary Lindsay on *Sick Children and their Parents- A history of family contacts of children in hospital*

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The place of CSP in the Charity

Following the establishment of the Service

Design Lab in April 2018, the Trustees reviewed the role and function of CSP. The outcome of this was a move to establish a closer relationship between the Centre and the Lab, for instance by combining CSP meetings with some Lab staff days, writing a CSP Constitution and formalising the terms and expectations of a CSP fellowship. It was decided that fellows who had not paid their annual subscription would be reminded that their fellowship would lapse if payment had not been received by October 31st. As a result four fellows resigned, and 11 fellowships lapsed. However, it was also agreed that from November 2018, new nominations would be invited.

The new administrative arrangements mean that CSP will be managed by a committee comprising the chair, a trustee, the Lab director, another fellow with others co-opted as needed. Brian Warren and Ella Baille will manage the administration in the place of Kate Moule. Also, future CSP Devon meetings will be held at Buckfast Abbey.

Changes in data protection legislation mean that it is no longer possible to circulate the

email addresses of fellows to others. Brian Warren is exploring an arrangement that meets the new regulations and satisfies the needs of fellows.

Other contributions to the work of the Charity

The Centre has assisted the Research Unit and SDL Lab in several ways. The Ethics Committee continues to provide an opinion on Unit proposals, fellows refereed articles for the Journal of Children's Services, advised the Unit on proposals and commented on reports.

The CSP website

The CSP website, first launched in June 2016, has been expanded to include more information on the Centre, including the Constitution and Annual Report, and papers that have been produced from its events. It was made possible by a generous legacy from former CSP fellow and chair Rupert Hughes CBE. It has four sections: About the Centre and future events, a list of fellows, reports on past seminars and papers from previous meetings (divided into policy and practice, research reviews, theory and history).

CSP elected officers

At the AGM in November 2017, John Diamond was elected chair, Kate Moule secretary and Roger Bullock treasurer.

Our Membership

As a result of the changes described above, the number of fellows has dropped to 55 but with the addition of trustees and the Lab director who are fellows ex officio. They represent eleven disciplines and sub-disciplines: social policy, research, social work, education, early years, psychiatry/medicine, psychology, psychotherapy, health, youth justice and law.

It is with much regret that we record the death of CSP fellow David Donnison who passed away in May 2018.

John Diamond
Chair
November 2018