
The Griffins Society

Visiting Research Fellowships Programme

New
Thinking
About
Women &
Criminal
Justice

THE
GRIFFINS
SOCIETY

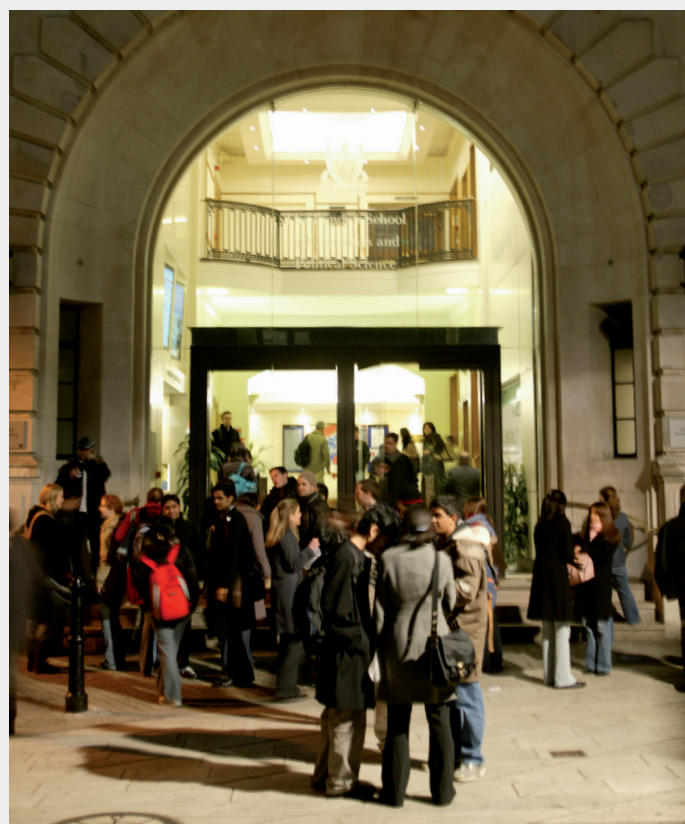
www.thegriffinsociety.org

The Griffins Society provides the Fellowship Programme in partnership with the Mannheim Centre for Criminology at the London School of Economics. The Programme offers a unique opportunity for people working in the criminal justice system to explore an issue of concern or interest to them about the treatment of women offenders. The aim is to provide them with 'thinking space', combined with the academic support that is necessary to complete a research project to a high standard. The

grant of £3,000 towards their research expenses. At the end of the year, they produce a 10,000 research report that is published on the Griffins Society's web site and which we help to disseminate.

Outcomes: Fellowships research is influential. A 2006 project on the needs of women who before they went to prison were caught up in the sex industry led to an innovative project to devise training for Prison Service staff. The new training programme was successfully piloted. It became incorporated into prison staff training, with the result that women wishing to avoid returning to the sex industry on release can now obtain more effective help. A 2007 Fellowships report on the role of volunteering for women prisoners was used in a government review of volunteering conducted by Baroness Neuberger. The Fellowships Programme is highly valued by those that undertake it. In the evaluation of the 2008-9 Programme, one participant said "Meeting together with other fellows and being supported by both the teaching input and the Griffins Council has been a very useful and productive experience. It is inspiring to work with passionate and committed people whose aim is to motivate and encourage us, and it has been a very worthwhile experience". There are usually four to six Griffins Fellows on the Programme each year.

Future plans: We are now working on enhancing the influence that our Fellowships research has on criminal justice policy and practice towards women. This includes enabling Fellows to present their work at the 2009 Women in Focus criminal justice conference, a professional seminar for criminal justice policy makers featuring Fellowships research, the production of specialist journal articles, and a series of talks to influential professional associations.



Fellowship programme lasts for one year at a time. Fellows attend a series of research seminars and their work is supervised by an academic, usually from the Mannheim Centre, who is often a leading authority in the subject of the Fellow's research. Each Fellow receives a

