

**SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

**Registered Charity no. 1144426**

**Financial Statements**

**Year to 31 December 2015**

# **SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

## **Trustees and Professional Advisers**

**For the Year to 31 December 2015**

### **Trustees**

Prof. Jan Smit (2013 – 2016)  
Prof. A Sacker (2010 – 2015)  
Prof. I Schoon (2010 – 2015)  
Prof. J Bynner (co-opted)  
Prof. Y Kelly (from September 2013 - 2016)  
Dr. E Flint (from September 2013 - 2016)  
Prof. Hans-Peter Blossfeld (from September 2013 - 2017)  
Mr M Hayward (from 2014)  
Ms K Irving (from 2014)  
Ms E de la Rochebrochard (from 2014)  
Mr D Dannefer (from 2015)  
Ms E Webb (from 2015)  
Ms J Von Maurice (from 2015)

### **Principle Office**

Centre for Longitudinal Studies,  
The Institute of Education,  
20 Bedford Way, London  
WC1H 0AL

### **Independent Examiners**

Ronald Neil  
Neil & Co  
30 Cedar Avenue  
East Barnet  
Herts EN4 8DX

### **Bankers**

The Co-operative bank

# **SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Society for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year to 31 December 2015 which are set out on the following pages.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Ronald Neil*

*Neil & Co Chartered Accountants*

*30 Cedar Avenue*

*East Barnet*

*Herts, EN4 8DX*

*Date*

# **SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

## **For the year to 31 December 2015**

### **Trustees' Report**

For the fourth accounting period of the Society 1 January - 31 December 2015.

The Society gained registration from the Charity Commissioners in February 2011. This report and financial statement meets the requirements of the SORP for accounting by Charities (revised 2005).

### **Governance**

The Society was established at its first AGM in Cambridge in September 2010 where the Society's constitution was adopted. There is an open process of nomination and then balloting as required by the constitution. These elections result in the election of the President (for a 2 year period), Past President/President Elect (for a one year period), Treasurer (for a 4 year period), Secretary and (six) other Trustees (for 3 year periods). There are five co-options (annually). The most recent elections took place in summer 2015.

Governance and management of the Society is vested in the Trustees who meet twice a year as the Executive Committee of the Society.

The AGM was held at the Society's fifth international conference in Dublin, Ireland, on 19 October 2015 and was attended by 53 members.

### **Objectives and activities**

The Object of the Society is the advancement of education through the promotion of interdisciplinary and cross-national understanding and collaboration in longitudinal and life course studies. There were 327 members of the Society during 2015.

The Society's main activities are:

- The organisation of an annual international conference with participants from all over the world. The 2015 fifth international conference was held in Dublin, Ireland, and was attended by 280 paying delegates and 331 people in total. 20 bursaries were given to early career researchers. The 2016 conference will take place in Bamberg, Germany, in October.
- The production of an international on-line Journal. The Longitudinal and Life Course Studies Journal was founded by our sister charity, Longview, in 2009 with three years of initial support from the Nuffield Foundation. From March 2012, the Journal became the sole responsibility of the Society.
- The provision of a Members Newsletter every two months.
- The promotion of national and international networks between people working in the fields of longitudinal and life course studies.
- The organisation and sponsoring of other meetings and workshops as the opportunity arises.
- The establishment of a network of Society Global Representatives in countries across Europe and North America to encourage national networking and activities.

### **Financial Review**

The Society had a satisfactory year financially. The Society ended the year with an operating surplus of £2,276 on a turnover of £99,646. The balance sheet at 31 December 2015 shows funds of £49,027.

# **SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

**For the year to 31 December 2015**

## **Trustees' Report (*continued*)**

### **Reserves policy**

The SLLS aim to maintain unrestricted reserves of 10 months expenditure to enable them to meet expenses as they fall due. They believe 10 months is sufficient given income expected from this year's

### **Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Charity law applicable to charities in England/Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the Accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which are sufficient to show and explain The Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

### **Public benefit statement**

The Board of Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit publicised by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties. The public benefit of the Charity's activities are outlined under 'Objectives and Activities' above.

The financial statements which follow were approved by Trustees at their meeting in London on 15 April 2016 and signed on their behalf by:

**Hans-Peter Blossfeld**

President

**SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

**Statement of Financial Activities**

**For the year to 31 December 2015**

	Notes	2015 Unrestricted Funds £	2015 Restricted Funds £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	1	-	-	-	-
Bank interest receivable		12	-	12	38
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2	90,348	9,286	99,634	104,852
Other incoming resources		-	-	-	-
		<u>90,360</u>	<u>9,286</u>	<u>99,646</u>	<u>104,890</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Secretarial / administrative		22,014	3,467	25,481	25,735
Consultancy and journal editorial		-	16,674	16,674	11,026
Conference expenses including venues		32,909	3,517	36,426	40,384
Telephone, internet and website		5,094	947	6,041	4,770
Laptop and computer software		-	-	-	435
Journal printing		-	1,830	1,830	2,320
Other administration and project expenses		6,709	384	7,093	4,760
Bank charges		1,381	27	1,408	1,712
Foreign exchange losses		1,527	-	1,527	(1,876)
Professional fees		890	-	890	1,565
		<u>70,524</u>	<u>26,846</u>	<u>97,370</u>	<u>90,831</u>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year before transfers</b>		<b>19,836</b>	<b>(17,560)</b>	<b>2,276</b>	14,059
Gross transfers between funds	6	<u>(17,560)</u>	<u>17,560</u>	-	-
<b>Net incoming resources for the year and net movement in funds</b>		<b>2,276</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,276</b>	14,059
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2015		<u>46,751</u>	-	<u>46,751</u>	32,692
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 December 2015</b>		<b><u>49,027</u></b>	<b>-</b>	<b><u>49,027</u></b>	<u>46,751</u>

**There were no other recognised gains or losses.  
All operations are continuing.**

**SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

**Balance Sheet**

**As at 31 December 2015**

		2015		2014	
	Notes	Unrestricted			
		£	£	£	£
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors	4	8,128		4,018	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>40,899</u>		<u>43,629</u>	
		49,027		47,647	
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	5	<u>-</u>		<u>(896)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>49,027</u>		<u>46,751</u>
			49,027		46,751
<b>Net assets</b>			<u><u>49,027</u></u>		<u><u>46,751</u></u>
<b>Funds</b>	6				
Restricted funds			-		-
Unrestricted funds			<u>49,027</u>		<u>46,751</u>
			<u><u>49,027</u></u>		<u><u>46,751</u></u>

Approved by the Trustees on 15 April 2016

Hans-Peter Blossfeld  
President

## **SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

### **Statement of Accounting Policies**

#### **For the Year to 31 December 2015**

The principal accounting policies which are adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below:

#### **Basis of accounting**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations. The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

#### **Cash flow statements**

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charity is small.

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted income funds comprise those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have created a fund for a specific purpose

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Statutory grants which are given as contributions towards the Charity's core services are treated as unrestricted.

#### **Incoming resources**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, there is sufficient certainty or receipt and so it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donated facilities are included at the value to the Charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income or Gift Aid donations is recognised at the time the relevant income is receivable.

#### **Resources expended**

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.



**SOCIETY FOR LONGITUDINAL AND LIFE COURSE STUDIES**

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year to 31 December 2015**

**1 Voluntary Income**

	<b>Unrestricted 2015 £</b>	<b>Restricted 2015 £</b>	<b>Total 2015 £</b>	<b>Total 2014 £</b>
Donations	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**2 Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities**

	<b>Unrestricted 2015 £</b>	<b>Restricted 2015 £</b>	<b>Total 2015 £</b>	<b>Total 2014 £</b>
Conference income	68,515	3,517	72,032	65,026
Journal income	-	5,769	5,769	16,164
Membership fees	21,833	-	21,833	23,662
	<u>90,348</u>	<u>9,286</u>	<u>99,634</u>	<u>104,852</u>

The restricted income are grants received for specific purposes.

**3 Trustees expenses**

The trustees all give freely of their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2015: £nil). Expenses paid to the trustees in the year totalled £932 (2014: £nil). These expenses were made up of 3 trustees reimbursed travel expenses for travel to committee meetings.

**4 Debtors**

**Due within one year**

	<b>2015 £</b>	<b>2014 £</b>
Other debtors	1,361	154
Trade debtors - conference fees	6,767	3,864
	<u>8,128</u>	<u>4,018</u>

**5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2015 £</b>	<b>2014 £</b>
Accrued expenses	-	896
	<u>-</u>	<u>896</u>

**6 Funds**

The funds of the charity include the following restricted funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes:

<b>Restricted Funds:</b>	<b>Balance 31-Dec 2014</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Utilised in year</b>	<b>Transferred from unrestricted</b>	<b>Balance 31-Dec 2015</b>
Conference	-	3,517	3,517	-	-
Journal	-	5,769	23,329	17,560	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,286</u>	<u>26,846</u>	<u>17,560</u>	<u>-</u>

Details of the journal project are given in the trustees report

The conference grant was given by the Health Research Board to sponsor a session at their years conference.

<b>Unrestricted Funds:</b>	<b>Balance 31-Dec 2014</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Utilised in year</b>	<b>Transferred between funds</b>	<b>Balance 31-Dec 2015</b>
General funds	5,000	21,845	22,198		4,647
Conference income	41,751	68,515	48,326	(17,560)	44,380
Journal	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>46,751</u>	<u>90,360</u>	<u>70,524</u>	<u>(17,560)</u>	<u>49,027</u>

**7 Related Parties**

During the year no transactions occurred which require disclosure under the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities.