

Report for the Warwick Humanities Research Centre

Social Rights Workshop

This one-day manuscript workshop on Prof. Kimberley Brownlee's forthcoming book *Social Rights* (Oxford University Press) was held on 23 September 2016 in the Warwick Law School Moot Court Room, Social Sciences Building. The speakers included:

- Clare Chambers (Senior Lecturer in Political Philosophy, University of Cambridge)
- Rowan Cruft (Senior Lecture in Philosophy, University of Stirling)
- James Nickel (Professor of Philosophy and Law, University of Miami)
- Fay Niker (ESRC funded PhD candidate in Political Theory, University of Warwick)
- Thomas Parr (Assistant Professor in Political Theory, Government, University of Essex)
- Kimberley Brownlee (Professor of Philosophy, University of Warwick)

The sessions were chaired by Clare Heyward (Politics, Warwick), Adam Slavny (Law, Warwick), Laura Valentini (Politics, LSE), Chris Nathan (Politics, Warwick), and Felix Pinkert (Philosophy, Warwick). The largely invitation-only audience totalling 25 people included graduate students, postdocs, and temporary and permanent faculty members including leading academics in the fields of philosophy, practical ethics, politics, and law.

The five sessions covered a range of themes from the manuscript, such as the value of sociability, the defensibility of a human right against social deprivation, the scope and value of freedom of association, the implications that social rights have for personal morality and political theory, and the moral messiness of some forms of social connection. The discussion highlighted the key innovations in the project and sketched out several lines of inquiry that could be taken up either by Prof. Brownlee in future work or by other scholars with similar research interests. The chapters on which the discussions were based were circulated to all participants in advance. The workshop was ably organised by Fay Niker, an ESRC-funded doctoral candidate. The workshop was followed by drinks and a conference dinner on campus, where the discussion continued.

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