

## UNESCO CHAIR/UNITWIN NETWORK PROGRESS REPORT 2016

<b>Title of the Chair/Network:</b>	UNESCO Chair in Cultural Property Protection & Peace
<b>Host Institution:</b>	Newcastle University
<b>Date of establishment of Chair/Network:</b>	June 2016
<b>Period of activity under report:</b>	January 2016 - December 2016 (even though the agreement for the Chair was only finally signed in June 2016 the University started to pay me to carry out these duties from 1/1/16)
<b>Report established by:</b>	Professor Peter Stone, UNESCO Chairholder

### 1. Executive Summary:

*Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair, including on national policies, in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO)*

#### The purpose of the Chair is to:

- Better understand cultural property protection (CPP) and the illicit antiquities trade through research & publication;
- Raise awareness/ensure knowledge transfer of the value of CPP within the heritage sector, the military, educational groups and the general public by developing free, online training materials, delivering seminars and lectures, and producing appropriate publications;
- Establish an effective Blue Shield;
- Co-operate closely with UNESCO.

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY:

##### Development of understanding/raising awareness of CPP:

- a) Supporting internal legislation (became law February 2017) to enable the UK to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols (expected September 2017);
- b) Advising the British Council and Department for Culture Media and Sport regarding the UK's Cultural Protection Fund (CPF);
- c) Working as a member of the Joint Service CPP Working Group to ensure that UK Armed Forces comply fully with the 1954 Hague Convention;
- d) Supporting the UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights with her October 2016 presentation to the UN General Assembly;
- e) Contributing to an International Council of Museums Report on the Protection of Cultural Property in Conflict and Occupation for UNESCO;
- f) Undertaking a 7 country lecture/meeting tour regarding CPP;
- g) Speaking at 16 international (including 3 military) and 6 national academic/professional conferences;
- h) Speaking to 4 general public and 2 student audiences;
- i) Publishing one academic and six general publications (see below).

##### Establishment of an effective international Blue Shield:

- a) Leading the rewriting of the Blue Shield statutes under Dutch law (signed April 2016);
- b) Leading on the drafting of "The Blue Shield Approach" to CPP expected to become BS Policy (September 2017);
- c) Establishing regular Skype meetings of the International Board.

<b>Cooperation with UNESCO:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Development of generic training materials for the military;</li> <li>b) Creation of a Blue Shield Pacifica.</li> </ul>	
<b>2. Activities:</b> <i>Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period</i>	
<b>a) Education/Training/Research</b> <i>(key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period, target group and geographical coverage)</i>	
<b>i) Education (leading to certificate)</b>	N/A
<b>ii) Training (short term)</b>	N/A
<b>iii) Research</b>	<p>I have been carrying out research regarding the seven risks to cultural property in the event of armed conflict and possible means to mitigate the impact of these risks. These were first identified in my 2016 <i>Museum International</i> article “The Challenge of Protecting Heritage in Times of Armed Conflict” and I am planning to develop them in an article in 2017/8 in the <i>British Army Review</i>. I am also researching the content for a short book on CPP to elaborate the BS Approach (see above) that will also serve as a brief introduction to the military and heritage communities regarding the importance of CPP.</p>
<b>iv) Other</b>	<p><b>1.0 THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND RAISING OF AWARENESS OF CPP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>House of Lords Debate on the ratification of the Hague Convention (14 Jan 2016).</b> I acted as advisor to Peers and the Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) regarding this Debate on the Hague Convention. It was crucial that the Debate be heavily in favour of ratification in order to put ‘unavoidable’ pressure on the Government to include national legislation to enable the UK to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention &amp; its Protocols in the May 2016 Queen’s Speech. The debate, in which I was thanked as UNESCO Chair by a number of Peers, did just that. The draft Bill required before ratification was the first business in the House of Lords the day after the Queen’s speech that set out the business for Parliament for the year.</li> <li>b) <b>Supporting internal legislation to enable the UK to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention and its two Protocols.</b> The Cultural Property (Armed Conflict) Bill received Royal Assent in February 2017. During its progress through Parliament I worked with Members of both Houses of Parliament, Ministers, and civil servants to smooth and speed the passing of the Bill. This was made doubly difficult by the Brexit decision that required a new set of Ministers to be briefed. I was thanked publically as the UNESCO Chair by Peers and MPs during debates and referred to in a meeting with civil servants as the “mother of the Bill” by the responsible Minister in the Lords. Ratification has been delayed by the UK’s unexpected General Election but is anticipated to happen in September 2017 or soon thereafter.</li> </ul>

- c) **Advising the British Council and Department for Culture Media and Sport regarding the UK's Cultural Protection Fund (CPF).** While it is no doubt funding excellent individual projects, the UK's CPF has not produced the strategic impetus for CPP that had been hoped for by the CPP community or argued for by me while advising the British Council. I have recently been appointed to the CPF's Advisory Group and hope from this position to influence the strategic vision and legacy potential of the CPF in the future.
- d) **Working as a member of the Joint Service Cultural Property Protection (CPP) Working Group to ensure that UK Armed Forces comply fully with the Hague Convention.** This Working Group was set up following its Chairman reading my 2013 '4 Tier Approach' article. It is expected a specialised CPP unit will be created in UK forces in 2017. This is a really significant development and, it is hoped, can be used as an exemplar for other countries through an enhanced Blue Shield network (see [2] below). There is still a significant amount of work to do here regarding the practical and technical aspects of CP to be protected in the event of armed conflict and the training and expertise of the Unit's staff.
- e) **Supporting the UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights with her October 2016 presentation to the UN General Assembly.** The UN Special Rapporteur requested help to prepare for her October 2016 presentation to the UN General Assembly where her "key goal was to have the human rights system recognize cultural heritage as also a human rights issue". I attended a preparation seminar for the Special Rapporteur's presentation to the UN Cultural Rights Assembly in Geneva; spent a day briefing her privately; attended a two day seminar in Geneva; organised a briefing meeting with key colleagues for the Special Rapporteur in the UK; and supported her via email. She presented to the UN on 26 October and my work was referenced.
- f) **Contributing to an International Council of Museums Report on the Protection of Cultural Property in Conflict and Occupation for UNESCO.** I contributed ideas and text for the ICOM report.
- g) **Undertaking a 7 country lecture/meeting tour regarding CPP (Canada, China, Japan, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, and Singapore)** I had a series of independent invitations to present papers on issues relating to CPP in the above countries, through which I was able to raise significantly the profile of my UNESCO Chair and of CPP generally.
- h) **Speaking at 16 international and 6 national academic/professional conferences (in 2016).** Some of these relate to my tour as mentioned under [g], others to other invitations. All are listed below.
- i) **Speaking to 4 general public and 2 student audiences (in 2016)** See list below.
- j) **Publishing 1 peer reviewed academic and 6 general publications.** See lists below.
- 2.0 WORKING TO ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL BLUE SHIELD**
- a) **Leading the rewriting of the Blue Shield statutes under Dutch law that were signed in April 2016.** I worked with colleagues and lawyers to produce new Statutes for the Blue Shield (signed 6 April 2016). These statutes create an organisation known simply as 'The Blue Shield' and amalgamate the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) and the Association of

	<p>National Committees of the Blue Shield (ANCBS) and these names and acronyms will no longer be used.</p> <p>b) <b>Leading on the drafting of “The Blue Shield Approach” to CPP that is expected to become Blue Shield Policy at the September 2017 General Assembly.</b> I drafted the original text of a new document ‘The Blue Shield Approach’ that sets-out the background, context, and future direction of the renewed organisation at an international and national level. I have led the review and modification of the document by a small drafting committee. The document is now with the Interim Blue Shield Board for scrutiny. It is expected that the Approach will be given full approval at the September 2017 General Assembly if not before.</p>
<p><b>b) Conferences/Meetings</b> (key conferences and meetings organized by the Chair or to which its Chairholder contributed)</p>	
<p><b>i) Key conferences and workshops hosted by the Chair</b></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><b>ii) Other conferences/organizational activities undertaken by the Chairholder</b></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><b>iii) A selection of conference presentations by the Chairholder and other colleagues</b></p> <p><b>Academic/Professional engagements in 2016</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <b>Invited speaker and panellist</b>, Australian ICRC conference: Protecting Cultural Property in Armed Conflict, Obligations in War and Peace, Adelaide, Australia: <i>Protecting cultural property in the event of armed conflict</i></li> <li>2) <b>Invited speaker</b>, Australian Department of Defence conference, ISIL and Middle Eastern Regional Dynamics, Canberra, Australia: <i>Cultural Heritage, Ethics and the Military</i></li> <li>3) <b>Invited speaker</b>, University of Auckland Archaeology Department seminar series, Auckland, New Zealand: <i>Blue Shield and The protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict</i></li> <li>4) <b>Invited Keynote speaker</b>, UNESCO Pacific Workshop on the Hague Convention, Fiji: <i>The Blue Shield</i></li> <li>5) <b>Invited speaker</b>, University of Sapporo Symposium on Higher Education for Sustainability Development Goals: <i>Cultural Heritage and the Sustainable Development Goals. A missed opportunity?</i></li> <li>6) <b>Invited speaker</b>, 10th International Conference on Applied Ethics, Sapporo, Japan: <i>Ethical issues relating to the protection of cultural property during armed conflict</i></li> <li>7) <b>Invited Keynote speaker</b>, Nanjing Forum, China: <i>Protecting cultural heritage as an ambassador for peace</i></li> <li>8) <b>Invited participant</b>, Royal Ontario Museum workshop, Relevance and Application of Heritage in Contemporary Society: <i>Lessons since 2003: Protecting cultural heritage during conflict</i></li> <li>9) <b>Invited Keynote speaker</b>, Centre de Recherches en Archéologie et Patrimoine, Université libre de Bruxelles, International Seminar on the destructions against archaeological heritage through history, <i>Protecting cultural heritage in times of conflict</i></li> <li>10) <b>Invited speaker</b>, Durham University Archaeology Department seminar series, Durham: World Heritage and Peace</li> <li>11) <b>Invited speaker</b>, Coping with Culture Expert Meeting, organised by the German Bundeswehr (Armed forces), Koblenz, Germany: <i>The Blue Shield and UNESCO’s Generic Training Materials for the Military</i></li> <li>12) <b>Invited speaker</b>, International Council of Museums 24<sup>th</sup> General Conference, Milan, Italy, disaster risk</li> </ol>	



	Groups/general public
<p>Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.</p>	
<p><b>i) Theses</b></p>	
<p>N/A</p>	
<p><b>ii) Publications</b></p>	
<p><b>Peer Reviewed</b></p>	
<p>The Challenge of Protecting Heritage in Times of Armed Conflict. <i>Museum International</i> 2016, 67(1-4), 40-54.</p>	
<p><b>Not Peer reviewed</b></p>	
<p>a) "The challenge of protecting heritage in times of armed conflict." <i>News in Conservation</i>, April 2016: <a href="https://www.iiconservation.org/node/6323">https://www.iiconservation.org/node/6323</a></p> <p>b) "Comment: Cultural Property Protection – developments." <i>Museums Journal</i>, March.</p> <p>c) "Protection of Cultural Property in Armed Conflict." In Wiesand, AJ, Chainoglou, K and Śledzińska-Simon, A (eds), <i>Culture and Human Rights: The Wrocław Commentaries</i>, pp. 84-86. De Gruyter, Berlin/Boston.</p> <p>d) Editorial: "The protection of cultural heritage", in <i>The Burlington</i>, Vol CLVIII, No, 1363, p.863. Comment: "Why ratifying the Hague Convention matters", in <i>The Art Newspaper</i>, 29 November 2016. <a href="http://theartnewspaper.com/comment/why-ratifying-the-hague-convention-matters/">http://theartnewspaper.com/comment/why-ratifying-the-hague-convention-matters/</a></p> <p>e) History under attack", in <i>BBC History Magazine</i>, 200: 41-43.</p> <p>f) "Cultural Property Protection", in <i>Understand to Prevent: Practical guidance for the military contribution to prevention of violent conflict</i>, Multinational Capability Development Campaign, 134-136.</p>	
<p><b>e) Cooperation with UNESCO Headquarters, Field Offices</b></p>	
<p>a) <b>The development of generic training materials for the military.</b> While it has not been my most successful project, I led a team to produce generic training materials for the military for UNESCO. Difficulties arose over the materials that are not worth detailed discussion here. Suffice to say that the UNESCO Treaties Section decided to complete the materials in-house. I would expect that the materials, if produced, will be published with 95%+ of the material as produced by my team. More importantly, in 2017 we have had significant positive feedback from a number of national and international military organisations and I am in discussion with UNESCO regarding the production of a publication outlining the approach taken within the generic materials but perhaps not providing a full set of teaching materials (that no military will ever use).</p> <p>b) <b>The creation of a Blue Shield <i>Pacifica</i> committee.</b> I attended a three day workshop in Fiji organised by the UNESCO Regional Office to present a paper on the work of the Blue Shield network and help participants frame an application to create a Blue Shield <i>Pacifica</i> regional committee. Since the workshop I have advised the UNESCO Intern lawyer working at the Regional Office on the application which was submitted in April 2017.</p>	

**f) Other***(any other activities to report)*

### **3. Future Plans and Development Prospects:**

*Outline of action plan for the next biennium and short/medium and long-term development prospects. Please do not hesitate to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced*

My plan for January-December 2017 is to build an effective UNESCO team at Newcastle to:

1. Work with the UK Government to finalise the UK's ratification and implementation of the 1954 Hague Convention & Protocols
2. Continue development of The Blue Shield as effective organisation
3. Help develop UK Armed Forces doctrine and capability with respect to CPP (with CPPWG)
4. Continue to develop materials and curricula for CPP
5. Identify funding to produce on-line materials relating to CPP
6. Help develop better geospatial understanding between the military and heritage communities
7. Continue liaison with NATO and national armed forces over the development of NATO CPP doctrine and training materials
8. Continue to support the development of a Blue Shield *Pacifica* committee
9. Search for funding for proactive protection project with colleagues in Lebanon
10. At least two international and two national media articles on the ethics of cultural heritage experts working with the military targeting the general public
11. Research and write peer-reviewed article on the seven risks to cultural property for *British Army Review*
12. Research peer-reviewed article on the ethics of cultural heritage experts working with the military
13. Research short book on CPP
14. Continue search for long-term funding for a university Centre for CPP and Peace
15. Continue and extend 'Syria in my mind' heritage education project for Syrian refugees regarding heritage and peace (advisory role with Biladi)
16. I also intend to search for funding to develop my interest in the use of World Heritage sites as ambassadors of peace for UNESCO – as was part of the University's original application.

**Appendix:****1) Human Resources**

Chairholder: Professor Peter Stone OBE

Professor Stone is Professor of Heritage Studies, and was formally Head of School of Arts and Cultures, at Newcastle University, UK.

The School of Arts and Cultures is part of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, one of three Faculties that make-up the University. The Chair is line-managed by the Pro-Vice Chancellor for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, who also carries out the Chair's annual Professional Development Review.

**2) Financial Resources**

*Please tick sources of financial contribution and specify the amount in U.S. dollars*

[tick]

Amount (\$)

<b>Host Institution</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chair salary: c. \$124,000 Travel & support: \$ 15,000
<b>Partner Institution</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Government Body</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Other Public Institution/Body (incl. Research Councils)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>UNESCO</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Other UN Agency</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>IGO</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>NGO</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Industry</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
<b>Other Private</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

*Give details of financial contributions, material resources and space.*

The UNESCO Chair is fully funded by Newcastle University which has also allocated \$15,000 per annum for travel and other support for the Chair.

The Chair is provided with an office and all usual support for an academic at Professorial level at Newcastle University, including administrative support from within the School of Arts and Cultures, access to a union, pension scheme, Human Resources, IT, and Health & Safety advice and support.