The fourth meeting of the Law and Religion Scholars Network (LARSN) took place as part of the 2011 LARSN conference held at Cardiff Law School and was chaired by Russell Sandberg.

Sharron Alldred, Sarah Kennedy and Helen Calvert were thanked for their work in the organisation and administration of the conference.

The speakers, chairs and delegates were also thanked for their attendance and for their contribution to the conference.

1. Minutes of the Meeting held 11 May 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record.

2. LARSN Membership

It was reported that LARSN now had 196 members. This could be compared with the figure at the time of the 2010 conference when there was 146 members on the website. There were also around 20 people who had attended the 2010 conference but who were not then members. These people had joined following the conference.

3. The Future Funding of the Network

It was reported that the current financial arrangements were not sustainable in the long-term and with the fifth anniversary of LARSN taking place in May 2012, it was timely to consider the future of the Network and the financial implications.
It was decided that an attendance fee would be charged for future annual conferences with the aim of ensuring that the conference is self-funding. Any surplus funds would be used to support other LARSN activities, such as the doctoral students’ conference and online facilities. This would mean the creation of a designated LARSN budget which would be held by the Centre for Law and Religion at Cardiff.

4. LARSN Physical Activities

   o Research Students’ Conference

Peter Edge reported that a LARSN Research Students’ Conference had been held towards the end of 2010 and that another one would be organised this year. He is currently consulting doctoral students working in the field in order to find a suitable date.

   o Conference

It was decided that a two-day LARSN Conference would be held at Cardiff Law School in the Spring of 2012, which would be funded by means of a conference fee.

It was suggested that moving to a two-day event would allow more time to be given for papers and would result in less panel sessions running simultaneously.

5. LARSN Online Activities

   o LARSN Mailbase
   o Publication list
   o Case Database
   o Members’ interests list

It was decided that these online resources would continue and the Centre for Law and Religion at Cardiff pledged to continue to support them for the next twelve months.

6. Desirability of a Law and Religion Statute Book

It was reported that a publisher had contacted the Network suggesting the creation of a Law and Religion statute book. Although it would be possible for the content of such a book to vary from institution to institution (depending upon what is taught), it was questioned whether it would be desirable to produce one edition as a LARSN initiative. Anyone who is interested in pursuing this matter further was invited to email SandbergR@cf.ac.uk so that he can gauge the level of interest.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held as part of the 2012 LARSN Conference.