

# Significant progress for SIPR in its first year

The establishment of the Scottish Institute for Policing Research (SIPR) in November 2006 was the product of remarkable collaborative effort involving the Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland, the Scottish Funding Council and Scotland's universities. This collaboration has resulted in a unique institute. There is no other policing research centre in the world that can boast of such a wide ranging partnership between the police and the university research community. SIPR brings together researchers from 12 universities\* working in at least 15 different disciplines - from forensic science to psychology, computing to international relations, criminology to human geography - all committed to working with the police to undertake high quality, relevant research and to ensuring that such research provides a robust evidence base to inform policing policy and practice.

The last twelve months have witnessed SIPR make significant progress in relation to its key strategic aims of developing policing research capacity in Scottish universities; using this capacity to carry out high quality research of relevance to Scottish police forces; developing knowledge transfer mechanisms to strengthen the evidence base on which policing policy is developed; and developing national and international links with other researchers, practitioners and policy makers.



Former Chief Constable Peter Wilson (l), Professor Nicholas Fyfe, Director of SIPR, and Professor Wesley Skogan, Keynote Speaker at the First SIPR Annual Conference and the SIPR Annual Lecture, held in collaboration with Apex

Although it is difficult to single out one event during a busy year that captures these inter-connected aims, SIPR's first Annual Conference held in Edinburgh certainly demonstrated the important role SIPR now plays. The conference provided an environment in which over 150 people came together not only to discuss new research that is of relevance to policing in Scotland, but also to meet and exchange views with people involved with policing from different backgrounds, perspectives and countries. As one delegate commented in their written feedback on the event: 'This was a great start to what has the potential to be one of the most important events in the Scottish police calendar.'

Other significant achievements over the last 12 months include:

- The appointment of an international Advisory Committee comprising leading researchers and senior members of the policing and policy communities from the UK and Europe to advise on the strategic direction of SIPR and to help identify opportunities for SIPR to engage in research and knowledge transfer activity in partnership with others at both national and international levels;
- The appointment of five new lecturers to engage in research and teaching in policing-related fields in Scottish universities;
- The appointment of four SIPR-supported post-doctoral researchers and nine SIPR-supported PhD students to work on new research projects developed in collaboration with the Scotland's police forces;
- The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between ACPOS and SIPR providing the foundation on which relationships between the police and university research can develop.
- The development of strategic relationships with the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research (SCCJR), the Scottish Government and other academic, policy and practitioner groups within and outside Scotland;
- Participation in the inquiries conducted by the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee into the effective use of police resources, community policing and the Scottish Criminal Records Office.

# SIPR People

## SIPR Lectureships

Five new lecturers supported by SIPR have been appointed to research-led positions at collaborating universities, significantly increasing Scotland's capacity and capability in policing research.

Pictured (l to r):

Peter Sproat, David La Rooy, Jan Nicholson & Jeffrey Murer



**Dr Jeffrey Murer** has been appointed to the University of St Andrews. His research explores processes of collective identity formation and their relationship to enactments of violence in an effort to understand patterns of reactions and the motivations for "radical" political action, and to encourage modes of engagement that minimise misunderstandings between communities and promote greater societal security. He is part of a team that has been awarded a research grant of £650,000 from the British Council and is the Principal Investigator for the research strand of this initiative on "European Youth Radicalisation," which will develop protocols to conduct an exploratory study into patterns of youth radicalisation and political activism across eleven countries in Europe.

**Jan Nicholson** has been appointed to Glasgow Caledonian University. She has undertaken research on risk assessment and risk management with respect to children and young people who engage in sexual and violent behaviour and undertaken work on the impact of the law of evidence in sexual offence trials. Jan is currently conducting research in the areas of policing, communities, youth crime and violence in the east end of Glasgow.



**Dr Robert Smith** has been appointed to Robert Gordon University having recently retired from Grampian Police. Robert obtained his first degree, an MA, from Aberdeen University in 1997; and his doctorate from the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen in 2006 - both whilst continuing to work full time in the police. His PhD subject was the socially constructed nature of entrepreneurship, and from this stems his interest in entrepreneurial leadership, criminal entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial policing. He is a Committee Member of the British Society of Criminology (Scottish Section).

**Dr David La Rooy** has been appointed to the University of Abertay, Dundee. David received his Ph.D. from the University of Otago in 2003. He subsequently undertook a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) located in Bethesda, Maryland, where he received training in the use of the NICHD interview protocol and in the assessment of the quality of forensic interviews with children. His research is currently focused on the effects of repeated interviews with children. His future research will explore issues surrounding the sustainability of training programs designed to improve the quality of interviews with children.

**Dr Peter Sproat** has been appointed to the University of West of Scotland. He has research expertise in terrorism and counter-terrorist finance, money laundering and asset recovery. He has examined the social impact of counter-terrorist finance legislation in the United Kingdom and conducted a financial cost-benefit analysis and evaluation of the impact of the money laundering and asset recovery regime in the United Kingdom. Before moving to Scotland, Peter was Programme Leader of the MA in Fraud Management at the University of Teesside.

## Changes to SIPR's Executive Committee

In May 2008, Peter Wilson retired as Chief Constable of Fife Constabulary and stood down from his position as an ACPOS representative on the Executive Committee and Police Organization network. Peter led for ACPOS during the development of SIPR and his support and involvement have been crucial to the rapid progress SIPR has made since it was established. Chief Constable Pat Shearer, Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary, replaces Peter as an ACPOS representative on the Executive Committee and on the Police Organization Network Steering Group. We also congratulate SIPR Executive Committee Member; Neil Richardson, on his appointment as Deputy Chief Constable of Strathclyde Police.

# Scottish Parliament calls on SIPR expertise

As policing comes under greater political scrutiny in Scotland, members of SIPR have played important roles in advising both Parliament and Government. Professor Jim Fraser (Associate Director) served as a Special Adviser to the Justice Committee of the Scottish Parliament in its inquiry into the Scottish Criminal Records Office and the Shirley McKie Case, and subsequently led a Scottish Government Review of Scotland's procedures for keeping DNA samples. Professor Nick Fyfe (Director) served as a Special Adviser to the Justice Committee for its inquiry into the effective use of police resources and Dr Ken Scott (Associate Director) and Dr Danny Donnelly appeared before this Committee to give evidence. Nick is currently the Special Adviser for the Justice Committee's inquiry into community policing and both Danny and Alistair Henry have given evidence to the Committee on this topic.

## SIPR Research

As part its investment in new, relevant policing research, SIPR is funding both Post-doctoral Research Assistant (PDRA) positions and PhD studentships. All the PDRAs and PhDs must be working on projects that have been developed in collaboration with the Scottish Police service. Here we report on progress with some of the projects that began in 2007 and announce the results of a second round of competition for projects that will begin in 2008.

## Progress of current projects

### **Policing youth in the contemporary urban realm**

Contact: Donna Marie Brown ([d.m.y.brown@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:d.m.y.brown@dundee.ac.uk)),  
SIPR Research Fellow, University of Dundee.

This 2-year research project examines the mechanisms and practices through which the 'right to the city' for youths is circumscribed and/or enabled through the actions of the multiple stakeholders involved in the formal and informal policing of the contemporary urban realm. It directly responds to the need for more evidence-based research into understanding and improving everyday police-community relations and the associated impacts upon the lives of marginal citizens.

By working in close collaboration with police and community stakeholders, this research aims to produce policy relevant research that can influence community-policing policy and procedure. A qualitative, multi-method research methodology has been selected and includes: a review of academic and policy documents to identify crucial themes and policy concerns; archival research to gain a deeper understanding of the

chosen case study sites; semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders – including Community Wardens, Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers, youth group leaders, Councillors, City Centre Managers, Security Operatives, youths and 'public users' – to identify the formal and informal ways in which spaces are policed; and ethnographic participant observation in each site in order to develop an understanding of the various practices through which the spaces are encoded and (re)created.

To date, the Dundee component of the research is almost complete. Early and tentative findings suggest a mismatch between pathological discourses of youth as the 'ASBO-generation' that continue to circulate within contemporary society, and the positive encounters that many youths have with people and places within their community. The distinctive roles of Community Wardens and Police Community Officers within Dundee, also provides an illuminating example of alternative, yet complimentary, approaches to community policing.

### **Resilience and well-being in a Scottish Police force**

Contact: Professor David Alexander ([d.a.alexander@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:d.a.alexander@rgu.ac.uk)),  
Robert Gordon University,

Inspector Marilyn Wignall, formerly of the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, is conducting a comparative comprehensive study of which factors help to develop and to maintain resilience in police officers. The two police forces involved will be the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary and the Grampian one. This approach contrasts with much of the earlier police

research which has focused on "pathological" issues relating to "stress" in the police service, ie, which officers have difficulty in coping and which factors contribute to their difficulties.

By taking this more "positive" approach to the functioning of police officers, it is hoped to unearth other factors which will enlighten the police service as to how best to select, train, prepare and support officers in their difficult duties. The information will be collected by focus groups, semi-structured interviews, and questionnaires.

### **Obtaining best evidence from young eyewitnesses**

Contact: Professor Amina Memon (amemon@abdn.ac.uk),  
University of Aberdeen

Dr Catriona Havard, a Post Doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Aberdeen, is currently working as the Research Fellow for this project, investigating children and adolescents' ability to identify a stranger from a video parade. Pilot studies have taken place at Primary and Secondary Schools, and further studies, involving live events and a film specially produced for the project with the assistance of actors, is currently being tested with a larger set of Primary 3 and 4 pupils, and Secondary 2 and 3 pupils. The research so far has discovered that identifying a culprit from a video parade is just as accurate as using a still photographic parade for both younger children (aged 7-9 years) and adolescents (aged 13-15 years). Additionally adolescents

are more accurate at determining if a culprit is not present in a lineup, as compared to younger children. One interesting finding is that a simple change in hairstyle, such as shorter hair and a different colour, can reduce culprit identification from 56 percent to 22 percent. In the second of a two-pronged approach, a questionnaire for VIPER operators was distributed to all the Scottish Police Forces at the beginning of the year. Over one thousand completed questionnaires have been collected so far. The questionnaire focused on the demographics of the witnesses, suspects and also the behaviour of the witnesses' whilst viewing VIPER parades. Sixty one percent of witnesses picked out the suspect, and the results obtained so far appear to show that the VIPER parades are a good medium for allowing witnesses to identify a suspect without the emotional stress of facing an accused in a live setting.

### **Policing the night-time economy in Scotland**

Contact: Professor Nick Fyfe (n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk),  
University of Dundee

The development of a night-time economy has emerged as a key urban regeneration strategy for town and cities across Scotland. The mix of bars, clubs, restaurants and other places of entertainment that form the infrastructure of such a strategy, however, raise important resourcing issues for the police and other agencies given the potential problems of crime and disorder associated with these developments. In particular,

concerns about the relationship between alcohol, health and public disorder have already been the focus of attention as a result of the Nicholson Committee's recent review of aspects of liquor licensing law and practice. Drawing on a combination of interviews, participant observation work with police officers, and an analysis of relevant documentary sources, Neil Davidson is examining these issues in the context of three Scottish towns and cities by looking at the changing nature of policing the night-time economy and assessing the impact of different approaches and strategies for tackling night-time disorder.

### **People with a learning disability and the construction of facial composites**

Contact: Dr Derek Carson (d.carson@tay.ac.uk),  
University of Abertay

Julie Gawrylowicz has been examining the performance of people with mild learning disabilities as eyewitnesses. In the initial stages of the project she has been comparing the ability of people with

mild LD and a control population of similarly-aged students to recognise and describe faces. Later during this research project, the ability of people with mild LD to use facial composite systems, currently utilized by the police, will be assessed. Particularly, their performance with Efit and Evofit will be investigated to determine which of those composite systems is most suitable for them.

## **Second round of research awards**

Following a second open competition, which required applicants to again develop research project proposals in collaboration with the Scottish police service, further investment has been made in new research with the award of a PDRA and an additional five PhD studentships for starting in autumn 2008.

The PDRA, linked to the Police Organization Network, will be based at the University of the West of Scotland (Dr Kenneth B Scott) and will examine the organizational challenges for local policing in Scotland. Two PhD studentships will be linked to the Police-Community Relations Network. The first, at Glasgow Caledonian University (Professor Hazel Croall), will examine the lessons that can be learnt from a local case study of policing and racial and ethnic diversity. The second, at the University of Edinburgh (Andy Aitchison), will look at the challenges for policing and democracy in Scotland and Northern Ireland. One studentship will be linked to the Evidence & Investigation Network. This will be based at Napier University (Professor William), and will investigate how we can best use time critical intelligence information to provide a verifiable and auditable intelligence interface between the Scottish police and community partners. The final two studentships will be linked to the Police Organization Network. The first, at the University of Abertay (Dr Maria O'Neill), will focus on how we use police inter-agency co-operation across jurisdictions to maximise Scottish-based anti-money-laundering operations, whilst the second, at the University of the West of Scotland (Dr Linda Cusick), will look at consultation, decision making and evaluation of new strategies for the policing of street prostitution.

Further details of these projects have been placed on the website ([www.siprac.ac.uk/research/](http://www.siprac.ac.uk/research/))

# Research Profiles

## Policing Youth in Post-War Scotland

*Dr Louise Jackson and Dr Angela Bartie report on a predominantly archival investigation of policing in the period 1945-1971. They would, however, be interested in talking to former members of the police service in Scotland who worked as Juvenile Liaison Officers or were involved in work with young people in other capacities in this period.*

To what extent has the policing of the 1950s and 60s been remembered as a mythical 'golden age' as a result of police television series ranging from Dixon of Dock Green to Heartbeat? How did police officers work with young people in the changing cultural climate of the 1960s? Post-war commentators worried about rising crime levels which they linked to increased affluence, the emergence of a distinct youth culture, a growing climate of sexual 'permissiveness', shifts in gender roles, and challenges posed by multi-culturalism. Anxieties about social change were often projected onto the figure of the 'juvenile delinquent' who, as sociologists have noted, became scapegoated as a modern 'folk-devil'.

'Policing Post-War Youth: a Comparative Study of England and Scotland c. 1945-1971' is a new project, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and based at the University of Edinburgh, which will examine the everyday regulation of young people under 17 by police officers, magistrates, social workers and other practitioners. It aims to cut through the mythology about this period to consider grassroots experiences. Whilst it is often assumed that a multi-agency approach to youth justice and child welfare is a recent trend, the project will examine its antecedents, most obviously in relation to Juvenile Liaison Schemes, pioneered from 1949 onwards. Approaches towards youth justice diverged significantly after 1968 with the introduction of children's hearings in Scotland by 1971 and the retention of juvenile courts in England. To what extent these differences were prefigured in previous decades will be investigated.

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## Research in Forensic Chemistry

*Dr Niamh Nic Daeid reports on the work of this leading research group based at the Centre for Forensic Science, University of Strathclyde. For more information on any of these projects please contact: [n.nicdaeid@strath.ac.uk](mailto:n.nicdaeid@strath.ac.uk)*

One of the areas our research group is focused on is looking at the differences and similarities between different batches of the same materials, whether they be illicit drugs or synthetic fibres. Determining batch differences can have huge implications on the degree of certainty that is placed on attributing samples to a common source. Whilst other commonly used analytical techniques cannot distinguish samples, stable isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS) may provide a means of 'fingerprinting' a chemical molecule, thereby individualising the sample.

A project using this technique to profile MDMA (ecstasy) is just completing its second year using MDMA samples synthesised in-house at the University of Strathclyde and then analysed by IRMS at Queen's University. Results of this analysis will allow us to assess some critical questions including what isotopic variation is expected within one batch of MDMA; what variation is expected between batches synthesised using the same 'recipe'; and what variation is expected between batches synthesised using different chemicals and/or 'recipes'?

We have a similar project involving the clandestine synthesis of methylamphetamine and are building expertise in the internet and commonly used methods for illegal synthesis of this drug. "Meth labs" are one of the largest types of clandestine

laboratories encountered in the United States and many parts of South East Asia. Our work is focused on the analysis of the products and the elucidation of batch to batch links of samples made by the same chemist. Our hope is that the results of these projects will benefit law enforcement agencies in their quest for identifying drug trafficking, production and supply networks, either by the use of IRMS as a stand-alone technique or in conjunction with other methods.

We are also involved in research into batch variations and discrimination of natural fibres, based on analysis of the un-dyed and dyed fibres using conventional techniques as well as IRMS as a new application of the technique to forensic fibre examination.

The final area of work within the Chemistry research group involves investigations related to fire scene examination. One project in collaboration with the Home Office Scientific Development Branch (HOSDB) is based around the recovery and examination of human contact traces from fire scenes. It involves looking at whether fingerprints and DNA will survive the destructive effects of fire and fire suppression methods. A second project involves the examination of the occurrence of electrical arcing within fire scenes and how this phenomenon and the evidence remaining post fire can aid the investigator in corroborating the areas of potential origin of the fire.

The research group is funded by grants from EPSRC, RSC, HOSDB, Malaysian Government, Forensic Science Society and the University of Strathclyde.

# Total Recall

*Fiona Gabbert, University of Abertay, reports on the development of a 'Self-Administered Interview' (SAI) recall tool, designed to elicit a comprehensive initial statement from eyewitnesses at the scene of a crime. ACPO have recently endorsed the SAI and will support field tests later this year. Dr Fiona Gabbert is keen to discuss similar opportunities within Scotland.*

Consider the scenario: a serious crime has occurred for which there are numerous eyewitnesses, each of whom holds potentially vital information about the event and descriptions of the perpetrators – information that might prove critical to a successful investigation. Ideally these witnesses should be interviewed as soon as possible, before any important information has been forgotten. However, all too often this is not possible, largely due to demands on police resources and time. In the gap between witnessing an incident and giving a full statement, a witness's memory is not only prone to decay, but it is also vulnerable to the distorting influence of post-event information from numerous sources such as other witnesses, media reports, etc. The quality of eyewitness statements, in terms of completeness and accuracy, is therefore time-critical.



In direct response to the problem of obtaining high quality witness evidence quickly, efficiently, and with minimal police resources available, researchers Dr Fiona Gabbert (University of Abertay, Dundee), Dr Lorraine Hope (University of Portsmouth) and Professor Ron Fisher (Florida International University), funded by The British Academy, have developed and tested a new recall tool called the 'Self-Administered Interview' (SAI). The SAI enables witnesses to record their memories at the scene of an incident, or shortly after. Witnesses do this by following a carefully researched protocol of instructions and questions that have been proven to significantly boost accurate remembering and protect against forgetting. In addition to these benefits, the SAI frees up police time, and allows for numerous witnesses to provide evidence simultaneously and efficiently.

The SAI was developed in line with theoretical predictions within the psychological memory literature concerning how information is accessed in memory. It incorporates techniques known to aid memory retrieval, including selected components of the Cognitive Interview (CI). Findings to date indicate that the SAI facilitates the number of details that are available and accessible from memory. For example, the researchers have found that mock witnesses who viewed a simulated crime and completed an SAI reported 42% more correct details than those who were simply asked to freely report what they had seen. Furthermore, this recall advantage is found to persist over a long duration of time, suggesting that the SAI protects against normal forgetting. Recent findings show that mock witnesses who complete an SAI after witnessing a simulated crime remember more information following a delay of one month, than do control participants (who have not completed an SAI) after a delay of one week. Some of these research findings are currently 'in press' in the journal *Law & Human Behavior*:

*If you would like more information about the research, or to discuss opportunities to collaborate with field testing the SAI, please contact Fiona by phone: 01 382 308361, or by e-mail: [f.gabbert@abertay.ac.uk](mailto:f.gabbert@abertay.ac.uk).*

## In Brief

**Workforce Modernisation** A high-profile workforce modernisation initiative by Central Scotland Police is to be the subject of evaluation by academics from SIPR. The Falkirk Priority Crime Unit is the first instance in Scotland of police use of civilian investigators to support police officers. The project covers the whole Falkirk Local Command Area and involves two 'mixed economy' teams each comprising a detective constable, a police constable and several police staff specially recruited and trained to carry out follow-up interviews and meetings with victims of crime. The evaluation is based on a pilot carried out by Surrey Police in England, and will be carried out over the next year by Dr Kenneth Scott and Dr Peter Sproat from University of the West of Scotland's Centre for Criminal Justice and Police Studies.

### **Resilience Following Major Incidents**

Professor David Alexander and his team from the Aberdeen Centre for Trauma Research, RGU, have been commissioned by the Department of Health and NATO to generate evidence-based guidelines for developing and maintaining resilience in the community following major incidents, including terrorist ones. This work will have important implications for the police and other "first responders". The project will be conducted in conjunction with Professor Richard J Williams, Professor of Mental Health Strategy, University of Glamorgan.

**Authorised Firearms Officers (AFOs) Recruitment** Professor David Alexander (RGU & Consultant to the Grampian Police) and Dr Penny Woolnough and Ms Haley Kelly (Grampian Police Research Unit), in conjunction with the AFO training personnel of that force have just completed a survey of the entire force to identify which factors attract officers to AFO training and those which deter them from doing so. Grampian, as is the case with other Scottish police forces, is having difficulty in attracting applicants just at a time when there is a wish to have the numbers of AFO trained personnel increased. This survey will be used to shape up a new recruitment strategy.

# SIPR Knowledge Exchange

One of the key aims of SIPR relates to Knowledge Exchange and Knowledge Transfer (KT), and as part of the commitment to this area over the past 12 months the Networks have organised a number of seminars (some in collaboration with the SCCJR) involving the academic and practitioner communities at venues throughout Scotland. Principal events have included:

**From Crime in the Community to Community Crime Control.** Organised by the Police-Community Relations Network in collaboration with the SCCJR, Simon Mackenzie, spoke on 'Community and reciprocity' and John Bannister spoke on 'Intolerance and antisocial behaviour'.

**Rural Crime in Scotland** Organised by the Police-Community Relations Network, with talks by Susan McVie, Senior Research Fellow within the School of Law at the University of Edinburgh, and David McCracken, Lothian and Borders Police.

**Forensic Investigation of Wildlife Crime** Organised by the Evidence & Investigation Network, with a series of eight speakers from the police, procurators fiscal service, and academic communities.

**The 'Tragedy' of Public Guardianship** Organised by the Police Organization Network, with presentations by Professor Tim Hope, Keele University, and Pat Shearer, Chief Constable of Dumfries and Galloway.

**Research Tools for Crime and Community Analysts** Organised by the KT coordinators, with 13 presentations outlining different research methodologies and possible applications. This highly successful event was intended to establish a dialogue between University-based researchers and police analysts. A small Working Group has been established to plan further events.

**The SIPR Seminar Programme** will continue in the autumn, with events already being planned on Vulnerable Witnesses (15th October, Aberdeen); Law and Sports (7th November, Edinburgh); Managing Resources and Engaging Users: comparing experiences and approaches in policing and health care (date t.b.c, Edinburgh).

For further details of future and past events, please see <http://www.sipr.ac.uk/events/index.php>

## The SIPR Practitioner Fellowship Programme

Practitioner Fellowships are aimed at all practitioner groups involved with the policing of Scotland. They provide an opportunity for practitioners to work together with members of academic staff from SIPR on the practical and/or policy applications of a policing topic or issue. By creating a partnership between academics and practitioners the programme will allow rigorous and robust analysis of specific issues, and thus make a significant contribution to improving policing in Scotland. The following two case studies give examples of recent and current Fellowships. Please contact Professor Fyfe, SIPR Director ([n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:n.r.fyfe@dundee.ac.uk)) for further information.

**Chief Inspector Amanda McGrath** (Lothian & Borders Police) was seconded to the Chamber of Commerce in Edinburgh to help develop a strategy to tackle business crime within the city. As part of this work, she wished to carry out a survey of businesses in the Lothian and Borders areas to establish the extent and nature of crimes against businesses, to compare this against perceptions of risk and to identify how best to offer crime prevention advice and support. Susan McVie (who leads the SCCJR CJ-Quest Network) assisted CI McGrath with the design of an online survey which was issued to over 2000 businesses. On completion, in discussion with CI McGrath, the dataset was cleaned and analysed and a series of tables and charts produced for inclusion in the final report to the Chamber of Commerce.

**Detective Chief Superintendent Angela Wilson** (Tayside Police) is working with Professor Dennis Tourish (Aberdeen Business School, Robert Gordon University) on a programme to investigate the over / under-representation of certain Myers Briggs Type Indicator™ (MBTI) 'personality type preferences' within the Scottish police service. The MBTI describes 16 different personality types, each of which contributes its own particular 'gifts' or strengths, and can be used to explore and improve leadership styles, team working, problem solving, communication, conflict resolution, and learning. A representative sample will be drawn from: probationer classes, accelerated promotion group, and senior officers, and these people will be asked to complete an MBTI on-line questionnaire.

Angela Wilson has demonstrated her commitment and enthusiasm regarding the promotion of strong leadership within Scottish Policing through her work in establishing the Women's Development Forum (WDF). She is Tayside's most senior female officer; and last year was awarded the inaugural award for "Leadership" by the WDF.

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University of Aberdeen

University of Abertay

University of Dundee

University of Edinburgh

University of Glasgow

Glasgow Caledonian University

Napier University

Robert Gordon University

University of St Andrews

University of Stirling

University of Strathclyde

University of the West of Scotland



## SIPR Website Developments



**People** We are currently in the process of developing an on-line, searchable database of all those interested in policing research. The database includes

- Academics actively involved in police-related research;
- Practitioners, including police and civilian staff actively involved in research

A comprehensive off-line version also includes details of others with an interest in learning about the ongoing research, who would like to be kept informed of publications, network meetings, conferences. If you would like to be included in either version, please download and return the template, which can be found at: <http://www.siprac.ac.uk/people/index.php>

**Forum** Over 90 people have now joined the SIPR Discussion Forum, which gives members an opportunity to discuss relevant issues and post new topics. The Forum is only accessible by entering an individually issued password. To join the forum, please register at: <http://www.siprac.ac.uk/sipforum/index.php>

**SIPR Briefing Papers** We invite SIPR Members to submit short (c. 2 to 4 pages) expert "Briefings" for inclusion within the Publications section of the Website. A style template, with further information, can be downloaded at: [http://www.siprac.ac.uk/downloads/Briefing\\_Paper\\_Template.doc](http://www.siprac.ac.uk/downloads/Briefing_Paper_Template.doc)