

# welcome

This issue of Risk & Regulation marks a new departure in a number of ways. We hope that you will like the new design of the magazine. More generally, this is the first issue that has been produced since we have taken on the leadership of **carr**. We are grateful to Mike Power for his leadership, and to Martha Poon for having edited and modernized this magazine over the past few years.

**carr**'s central ambition was and continues to be the promotion of leading international research in the field of risk and regulation. **carr** continues to bring together different research disciplines, and we have started some new initiatives to further strengthen exchanges and mutual learning between the worlds of practice and research. We continue to be committed to our multi-disciplinary approach that is characterized by its cross-sectoral and cross-national perspectives. In the next few years, we will organize our activities around three key themes: regulation in crisis; regulating for sustainability and innovation; and accounting, accountability and reputation. These three themes build on our earlier research, but also represent a new emphasis in our work and activities. The past few months have witnessed a number of events to advance our thinking on these themes. We have held workshops on 'risk cultures', 'existential risk' and the theme of 'accountability'.

This issue is devoted to the theme of Regulation in Crisis. It reflects our successful bid to the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) to hold a series of workshops on Regulation in Crisis. One starting point is whether it should be Regulation in Crisis with a '?'. This theme will inform much of our activities over the coming years as we note in a separate article. Other articles in this issue also touch on the theme of Regulation in Crisis, ranging from questions of organisational risk management and error correction (by Carl Macrae) to wider debates about how to encourage long-term decision making by policy makers (by Jonathan Boston). Regulation in Crisis also suggests that there might be a Crisis in Regulation. How contemporary regulatory regimes can deal with questions of sustainability and existential risks is a further theme in this issue.

An additional feature that characterizes **carr**'s work is its strong commitment to engaging with the world of practice. We were successful in receiving 'Higher Education Impact Funding' (HEIF 5) to organize a 'Regulators' Forum' for non-economic regulatory bodies in the UK. These regular meetings are to encourage a conversation among regulators about the common challenges that they face in their everyday life. Such topics range from issues of risk-based regulation, methods to identifying emerging risks, to questions of measuring regulatory performance. Unlike those UK regulators that are organized as part of the 'network of economic regulators', the Regulators' Forum invites regulatory bodies that, as yet, have not had the opportunity to informally exchange their experiences. Such meetings necessarily cannot be held in public, but we publish anonymized records of these meetings on the **carr** website. The website also includes the '**carr** seat': web-based videos in which we discuss the issues raised during Forum meetings.

Finally, we are very pleased that **carr** will be hosting the annual Helen Suzman lectures at the LSE. The first lecture will take place in the coming spring. Helen Suzman's promotion of the rule of law and her commitment towards public service has left a long-standing legacy in South Africa and beyond. The regulation of the public services is always a central theme in public policy and at the heart of much of **carr**'s research. The regulation of public life and services, and the protection of civil liberties and privacy in the age of big and 'open' data represent central challenges, and we will explore these themes in greater depth in the coming years.

We are greatly looking forward to building on **carr**'s legacy and we warmly welcome you to join us during our events, in our research, and other activities during these exciting times for the study and practice of risk and regulation.

**Martin Lodge & Andrea Mennicken**