

College of Social Sciences

Your PhD – What next?



Alumni profiles

Dr Gerard Bates, Director of Operations Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust

Ged Bates became the Trust's first Director of Operations, having been the Director previously of the West Midlands Area. He was formerly an Assistant Chief Officer in Wales, a HM Inspector of Probation and also held national roles within the National Probation Directorate, Part of Ged's background is in academic research and he holds a PhD in Social Policy from the University of Birmingham.

Ged also has extensive experience of work in the voluntary sector. Ged has also worked as an EU expert advising on the development of probation in other countries. Currently Ged is the lead for the Probation Chiefs Association on Reducing Reoffending and Offender Management.

Dr. Claudia Natanson, CEO, Security Practitioners Ltd

Claudia graduated from the University of Birmingham with a M.Sc. in Computer Science in 1991 and a Ph.D. in Education/Computers and Education in 1994. Since graduating she has held senior positions at British Telecommunications, and Diageo. Both roles have been global with responsibility for over 80 countries and 180 markets.

In 2011 she set up her own company and continues to work with the board and executive levels of FTSE 100 companies in implementing strategic plans across their global organisations. She is also the Chair of the Corporate Executive Programme www.globalcep.com. The CEP is an organisation bringing together senior leaders and executives from academia, government and the private sector to look at the risks that impact their brand revenue and reputation.

Dr Chloe Taylor, Project Manager Public Sector Commissioning Partnership (PSCiP) Staffordshire County Council

Chloe has a PhD in Political Science and MA in Research Methods (both funded by an ESRC studentship) and BA Political Science and Sociology from the University of Birmingham. While undertaking her doctoral research she was employed as a seminar leader on various undergraduate courses, was elected to the position of Newsletter Editor for the Political Studies Association Graduate Network, undertook a three month placement at the Scrutiny Unit, House of Commons and was a Visiting Student at the European University Institute, Italy.

Following the completion of her PhD she joined Staffordshire County Council on the national graduate development programme (ngdp). Here she undertook four six month placements over two years while completing a postgraduate diploma in local government management at the University of Warwick. Since completing the scheme she has worked as Policy Officer (Community Engagement), Policy Officer (Partnerships) and is currently the Project Manager of PSCiP.