



Liberty Brief

School of Law Newsletter

Issue 3
April 2015



PG Students enjoy the sun on their visit to the Supreme Court

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Thoughts for the future from Head of School Alastair Mullis

It is at this time of year that as a School we have to present our plans to the University for the next five years. Inevitably, this has caused me to reflect hard on where we are now and where we could and should be in five years time. I want to share with you some of my thoughts.

First, we are one of the leading research law schools in the UK (and consequently in the world). We did very well in the research excellence assessment (REF 2014) and have a tremendously strong platform to build on. There is however no room for complacency and we are investing heavily in new academic staff in order to consolidate and build for the future. New appointments are being made in three areas: criminal justice and criminology; law and social justice; commercial and business and corporate regulation. Our goal in the next five years is to become recognised as preeminent in these fields. You will hear more about these research areas in due course.

Second, while research is very important and it must be one of the critical factors that distinguishes us from other law schools, student education lies at the core of everything we do. I, and my colleagues, are unequivocally committed to providing all of you with an exceptional experience during your time here that gives you the opportunities you need to develop your full academic and personal potential. My sense is that, in general, we are

getting teaching right but that there is still room to improve what we do. Consequently, we have decided to establish a new Centre for Legal and Criminological Education within the School, the purposes of which include: (a) to provide an organising focus for the development of world class education practice and in due course research in the field; and (b) to send a powerful message within and outside the University about the centrality of student education within the School. We are also creating a new academic post of Director of Student Support who will work closely with the Director of Student Education to ensure that we maintain an unerring focus on providing you with the support and opportunities that you need.

Third, you have heard me talk a lot about the importance of community. To me, this must lie at the heart of all that we do. As a community – of students, academic and support staff, and alumni – we are so much more than the sum of all our parts and a continuing focus over the next several years will therefore be on strengthening our sense of community. We have already started to do things that I hope you have enjoyed and found interesting. This newsletter is part of the process. The more you know about the School and its people the more I hope you will feel involved and feel a sense of ownership and pride. The Head of School's Supper Evenings, the alumni evenings, the mentoring programme, the quiz night and



Alastair Mullis introduces Shami Chakrabarti

Law's Got Talent were all new and will be continued in future years. We have plans for more of these types of event but really want to know what you want and what you would find valuable. We want you to feel that it is your School and that you have a voice in shaping it. Let me know if you feel that there are other things we could do that will bring us together more as a community – that celebrate the diversity but strengthen the commonality.

Do you have news to share?

Let us know! Contact us at lawmso@leeds.ac.uk and you could feature in the next School newsletter.



PG students visit the Supreme Court

Dr Sarah Brown

A group of intrepid PG students took a trip to London on 15 April, with me, to visit the Supreme Court and Royal Courts of Justice, on what was the hottest day of the year so far! There was no guarantee of a hearing but our luck was in and we were able to sit in

on a case that afternoon- Aspect Contracts (Asbestos) Limited v Higgins Construction Plc. We then went on to the Royal Courts of Justice and again there were courts still sitting, which allowed everyone to experience a hearing in a more traditional setting.

The cases ranged from unlawful detention and human rights to breach of the duty of care. We finished off the day by walking up to St Pauls before setting off back home, via a good old fashioned rush hour tube ride! Thanks to everyone for being great travelling companions, and thanks to Brian and Les our coach drivers for looking after us, there and back.

Promoting world class teaching: A new research centre for the School of Law

Associate Professor Nick Taylor

Following the School of Law's recent excellent results in the national research excellence framework (REF) we are reaffirming and making explicit our commitment to world class teaching and scholarship too. Over the summer, alongside the existing three successful research centres (the Centres for Business Law and Practice, Criminal Justice Studies, and Law and Social Justice) the School will open a centre dedicated to promoting world class teaching, scholarship and research in legal and criminological education.

It will concentrate upon the development of innovative and effective teaching practices which will be shared not only across the School and within the University but to national and international audiences too. It will seek to support the School's position at the cutting edge of research, but also develop the delivery of that research through teaching. Research based teaching practices build on the clear strengths that are already apparent within the School and the development of the new Centre will also make explicit that the student experience remains at the heart of what studying at Leeds is all about. Watch this space for further developments relating to the Centre.



Leeds Legal Sports Day

On 19 April LawSoc hosted the Leeds Legal Sports Day at Weetwood Sports Park with over ten firms joining in various teams. At time of writing the full total is being counted but a substantial amount of money was raised for the Jack O'Donnell Foundation, a charity that supports children to achieve their potential in the sports they love.

LawSoc were runners up in all competitions but it was Walker Morris who won the football on penalties, DLA Piper Sheffield who took the Netball title, and it was the Gryphons who eventually won the final round. Well done to all! We look forward to next years competition.

Informing future policing policy

N8 Policing Research Partnership (N8 PRP), a programme being led by the University of Leeds, has been awarded £3 million grant from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

The N8 PRP is a programme which brings researchers and practitioners together to design and undertake research on new and emerging challenges in policing.

On the research team from Leeds is Stuart Lister and Professor Adam Crawford, Director of the N8 PRP, who explained: "We want to transform the relationship between police users and academic researchers so that we co-produce the knowledge that will inform and improve the policing strategies of the future."

The N8 PRP is also supplemented by a further £3.686m from policing partners and other universities. It will bring together researchers from a variety of disciplines, Police and Crime Commissioners, police and partners organisations.

The N8 partnership includes scholars from eight universities across the north of England: Durham, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Sheffield and York.

Policing partners that are contributing to the initiative include: Cumbria Constabulary, Durham Constabulary, Greater Manchester Police, Humberside Police and the West Yorkshire Police.

Professor Crawford added: "This is a fantastic opportunity for us to combine the intellectual power and research excellence of eight leading Universities with the resources, capabilities and practical skills of police forces across the north of England. We are delighted to have the support and backing of HEFCE and the contributing Police and Crime Commissioners and senior police command teams. Together, we now have an opportunity to make a real difference to public safety through cutting-edge research and knowledge exchange that will deliver collaborative advantages."





Shami Chakrabarti

2015 Annual Liberty Lecture

Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty, the UK's leading civil liberties NGO, delivered the School's 2015 Annual Liberty Lecture on the 25 February 2015.

Her lecture entitled "On Liberty" was delivered in the Western Lecture Theatre to an audience of students, staff, alumni and invited special guests.

Shami gave an overview of Liberty's work from its conception as the National Council of Civil Liberties, through to its work today in lobbying, building community coalitions and providing specialist advice and information. Shami discussed our fundamental rights and freedoms as defined in the European Convention on Human Rights and discussed a crisis in trust of institutions in the UK, from the Iraq War and phone hacking to parliamentary expenses and the banking crisis.

She dismissed the idea of privacy as an absolute, as our desires to be more sociable mean giving up some privacy. She explored the idea of 'nothing to hide, nothing to fear' and explained how advances in technological advancements have increased the 'capacity to snoop', as the laws and ethics supporting our privacy struggle to keep up.

A barrister by background, Shami was called to the Bar in 1994 and worked as a lawyer in the Home Office from 1996 until 2001 for Governments of both persuasions. She has been Director of Liberty (The National Council for Civil Liberties) since September 2003.

At the reception after the lecture students and staff got a unique opportunity to discuss human rights and the work of Liberty with Shami.

Shami will be returning to speak at the School of Law on October 15 for an "In Conversation" and book signing event.

You can watch the "On Liberty" talk online: <http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/news/2015/shami-chakrabarti-delivers-2015-annual-liberty-lecture>



Annual Frank Dawtry Memorial Lecture

Professor Betsy Stanko OBE delivered the Annual Frank Dawtry Memorial Lecture on the 23 February at the School of Law. The lecture discussed her extensive research on rape allegations and public debate about 'rape culture'.

Professor Stanko is the Head, Evidence and Insight at Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in London, as well as a Visiting Professor at UCL.

Her lecture was titled "In the eye of the storm: police decision making and the management of rape allegations" and draws upon research on rape allegations from over eight years work in the Metropolitan Police.

The talk discussed whether there has been a change in public understanding of rape and sexual abuse. It also considered discussion of sexual exploitation in light of the Saville revelations and debate about 'rape culture'; for example the heated exchanges about the possible signing of Footballer Ched Evans, following his conviction and imprisonment for rape.

The Frank Dawtry Memorial Lecture honours the lifelong service of Frank Dawtry, OBE, a probation service organiser who worked in Leeds who made an important impact on developing the probation service.

In May 1963 the University of Leeds conferred on him the degree of Master of Arts, *honoris causa*.

Guest Speakers Alan Rusbridger, Judicial College Lecture Series

Alan Rusbridger, editor-in-chief of the Guardian newspaper, spoke at the School of Law at The University of Leeds in February as part of the Judicial College's second academic lecture series.

A select audience of 120 students, staff and judiciary members heard Mr Rusbridger speak about the relationship between the Media and the Judiciary.

The Judicial College is responsible for providing training for judicial office holders,

which includes on-going professional development. As part of this an Academic Programme was developed, with lectures being held around the country. These are open for judiciary members and to the students of the hosting law education institution.

The Director of the Judicial College commented:

"The Judicial College is extremely grateful to the students, Professor Alistair Mullis, and the Law School for

their administrative support for this lecture, and for hosting a reception after the Alan Rusbridger's presentation. This gave the students and judicial office holders an opportunity to discuss their roles, aspirations and discuss the views expressed by the editor-in-chief of the Guardian."

It was reported late last year that after 20 years in the role, Alan Rusbridger will be stepping down as editor-in-chief of the Guardian newspaper this summer.



The Right to Health

Public Lecture by Professor Dainius Puras

On the 11 February Professor Dainius Puras, recently appointed UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, delivered a public lecture at the School of Law entitled “The Right to Health: Global Challenges and Opportunities”.

Professor Puras reflected on the interpretation and history of the mandate of Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health. He discussed the vision for the future on issues including ones arising from the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Professor Puras commented:

“It was a pleasure and honour for me to present my vision of the UN Special Rapporteur to the School of Law. It was a good opportunity for me to rethink my priorities as I am now preparing my first thematic report, to be presented at the UN Human Rights Council.

“I was also very happy to meet Surya P. Subedi, who was UN Special Rapporteur on Cambodia.”

This talk was jointly hosted by the Centre for Disability Studies and the Law and Social Justice Research Group.



A packed Moot Court Room listen to Professor Puras

RECENT EVENTS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

A brief summary of recent events held at the School of Law. For more info: <http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/>

Studying ideology and strategies of the jihadi movement

21 January CCJS Seminar

Speakers - Dr Andreas Armbrorst, Marie Curie Fellow, and Dr Lars Berger, School of Politics.

Introducing Competition Law into Healthcare Nationalising the NHS

9 February CBLP Seminar

Speaker - Professor Erika Szyszczak, University of Sussex.

Access to Justice Project Workshop

10 - 11 February L&SJ Workshop

'Judgeship in Your Early 20's? Not a Myth in China'

11 February Seminar

Speaker - Alison(Lu) Xu, PhD Candidate, spoke about judge-selection process and judgeship in China.

Disability Equality and Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System: Implications for Policing and Prosecuting

13 February CCJS, L&SJ, CDS and Care-Connect Conference

A Critical Comparison of the English and Australian Insolvency Regimes: where we are and where are we headed?

17 February CBLP Seminar

Speaker - Michael Murray, Legal Director of ARITA.

'Conducting Expert Interviews in the Law Enforcement Environment: What Lessons Were Learned in Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal and The Gambia?'

18 February CCJS PGR Seminar Series

Speaker - Emmanuel Sotande, PhD candidate presented his work to staff and peers.

The International Criminal Court in Africa

25 February L&SJ Seminar

Speakers - John Harrington, Cardiff University, Alexander Beresford, University of Leeds, and Bryn Higgs, University of Bradford.

China's Deposit Insurance and Transformation of Banking Sector

25 February CBLP Seminar

Speaker - Lerong Lu, PhD Candidate, introduced the latest changes in China's Banking Sector and its upcoming Deposit Insurance Scheme (DIS).

'Author, author: Google, orphan works, and competition'

2 March CBLP Seminar

Speaker - Professor Uma Suthersanen, Queen Mary University, spoke about the balancing dilemma within copyright law.

The Authority of Court Decisions in China: An Empirical Survey

4 March Seminar

Speaker - Dr Qiao Liu, University of Queensland.

Managing Risks Related to Hydraulic Fracturing

9 March CBLP and L&ET Seminar

Speaker – Professor Terence J. Centner, University of Georgia.

Legal Consciousness and Resistance: Constitutive Legality and Social Justice

11 March L&SJ Seminar Series

Innovative Methodological and Theoretical Approaches

Speaker - Dr Rosie Harding, Birmingham Law School.

Legalise or not to Legalise International Trade: the Interactionism Approach

11 March CBLP Seminar

Speaker - Abdulmalik Altamimi, PhD Candidate explored the debate on goal of trade sanctions and introduced interactionism as a mechanism of assessment.

'After Doogan and Wood'

13 March L&SJ Workshop

Speakers – Professor Michael Thomson and Ilias Trispiotis, University of Leeds, and many others examined the outcome of the Doogan and Woods v Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board case.

Torture, Terrorism and Criminal Justice

16 March CCJS Seminar

Speaker - Professor Phil Rumney, Bristol Law School, spoke about recent use and legislation on torture and coercion.

Transcitizenship, identities and regulation

17 March L&SJ Seminar

Speakers - Sally Hines, University of Leeds, and Helen Belcher, Trans Media Watch, spoke on developments around transcitizenship.

'Publishing Your Research'

18 March CCJS Seminar

Speaker - Professor Adam Crawford presented to staff and post graduate students on bringing their research to a wider audience.

'I'm not Dancing, I'm Zigzagging' – evidence, theory, and a metaphor for qualitative researching

18 March L&SJ Seminar Series

Innovative Methodological and Theoretical Approaches

Speaker - Dr Nick Emmel, School of Sociology.

Advance decision-making – the context, the promise and the pitfalls

24 March ESRC Funded Seminar Series

New Staff News



Dr Jingchen Zhao
Associate Professor
in Law

My role involves...

teaching at both undergraduate level and postgraduate level. I am currently teaching International Trade Finance Law at postgraduate level and Researching Law at undergraduate level. I will be responsible for two new modules at postgraduate level next academic year including "Corporate Social Responsibility" and "Corporate Finance and Securities Law". My role also involves undertaking research in the areas of corporate law, corporate social responsibility, corporate governance and interdisciplinary areas such as corporate governance, business ethics and corporate finance. My most recent research has focused on board accountability in corporate governance, corporate governance in emerging market, transparency and information disclosure and regulating corporate social responsibility.

Before working in the School of Law, I was...

a senior lecturer in corporate and commercial law in the Sussex Law School, University of Sussex.

I wanted to work at Leeds because...

of the school's excellence and its strength in corporate and business law. Of course, the outstanding working environment and friendly colleagues are also important reasons for my move.

The best part of my job is...

working with colleagues in the Centre for Business Law and Practice to develop my research profile, as well as delivering new modules.

My favourite about Leeds (the city) is...

it is a vibrant city that has many things to offer. In particular the internationalisation of the city with people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

When I'm not working you'll find me...

in the library, visiting my friends, training in the gym, playing basketball or having a coffee in a coffee shop or a few drinks in a bar in town. I do like travelling as well and my favourite city is Budapest.



Ilias Trispiotis
Lecturer in Law

My role involves...

Luckily, various responsibilities. I am teaching Constitutional and Administrative Law, Foundations of law, Jurisprudence and Researching Law. I coordinate the Law and Social Justice Work in Progress Seminars, where staff members present ongoing work and receive feedback. From January 2015 I am also a Lecturer representative on the Research Committee of the School.

Before working in the School of Law, I was...

A PhD candidate and Teaching Fellow at University College London (UCL), where I was teaching public international and international human rights law. I have also been a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School and case reporter for international law at Oxford University Press.

I wanted to work at Leeds because...

it is one of the best law schools in the country, not least according to the latest REF! I particularly enjoy the research culture of the School of Law, the great interest in human rights and social justice, and the vibrant student community.

The best part of my job is...

the support and opportunities to develop my research, the stimulating interaction with students and the chances to meet many interesting scholars in talks, conferences and workshops.

My favourite thing about Leeds (the city) is...

the music scene, the beautiful city centre, the people; and of course how affordable it is compared to London where I was living before!

When I'm not working you will find me...

out and about exploring the wonderful Yorkshire countryside or in the corridors of the Liberty Building chatting with colleagues about thorny problems of Greek and EU politics.



Sophia Verhaeghe
Project Officer

My role involves...

working on the European Commission Funded Action project 'Creativity and Effectiveness in the Use of Electronic Monitoring as an Alternative to Imprisonment in EU Member States' managed by Professor Anthea Hucklesby. My role involves helping in the management and coordination of the project. My tasks are varied and include liaising with our European partners and organising meetings and events.

Before working in the School of Law, I was...

working as a Researcher for the UK Sector Skills Council for the Justice Sector.

I wanted to work at Leeds because...

the University offers a very friendly and supportive environment where you can learn a lot and develop yourself. I wanted to gain some experience in project management, and learn more about the Criminal Justice sector in the UK and research at the University.

The best part of my job is...

the people I work with, as well as the variety in the job.

My favourite thing about Leeds (the city) is...

the atmosphere, the people...

When I'm not working you'll find me...

learning Spanish, watching films, going for walks and visiting new places in England.



Raising Dough

You may be familiar with a regular sweet smell hovering around the School every Monday.

If you didn't know already then this is from Cake Mondays: a fundraising initiative kick started by Antony Butcher, School Support Administration Assistant.

Antony explained: "Cake Mondays is a fun way of raising money for charity while eating lots of cake. Every week I (or another gullible member of staff) bakes a cake or two which people can then help themselves to for a small donation.

"Since October last year we've raised £150 for MS society, £60 for B-eat and £157.70 for Guide Dogs UK. Most recently everyone pulled behind Guide Dogs as we are all inspired by Professor Anna Lawson – one of the University of Leeds inspiring women of 2015 and the first blind Professor and Chair in a UK higher education institution. "

With the Money raised for Guide Dogs UK the school has sponsored an adorable puppy in training called Issac (pictured).

So keep your eyes and noses peeled every Monday lunchtime. It'll make the start of the week taste a little sweeter.

Want to get involved in Cake Mondays? Contact Antony on A.J.C.Butcher@leeds.ac.uk or pop into the Management Support Office, Room 2.33. Cake Mondays is now supporting Parkinson's UK, all your donations will be well appreciated.



Issac from Guide Dogs UK

Successful EU Insolvency Law tender bid

Professor Gerry McCormack, Professor Andrew Keay, Dr Sarah Brown and Judith Dahlgreen have been contracted by the European Commission to carry out a study on substantive insolvency law. The contract was awarded after a competitive tender process involving other high level rival bids. The value of the contract is 317,000 euros and the project is due to run for 10 months.

The study will examine options for the harmonisation of European insolvency law and build up the knowledge base of the Commission. Working with a team of national reporters, the Leeds project team will collect data on insolvency law matters in the EU Member States. This includes data about the procedures available to over indebted consumers explaining the conditions and timeframe for debt reduction and discharge.

Police Liaison Officer Conference

On 26 – 27 March the School of Law at the University of Leeds hosted the 'National Public Order Police Liaison Officer Conference'. This was a free two day event to enable police, academics and interested stakeholders to develop a fuller understanding of the status, benefits and pitfalls of Public Liaison Officer deployment.

Public Liaison Officers are an approach to policing crowds and protests without using force. Since their first deployment in Sheffield in 2011 they have been adopted by around 75% of UK forces including the Metropolitan Police Service, West Yorkshire Police, Police Scotland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

Dr Clifford Stott organised the conference using funding by the ESRC through their Celebrating Impact Prize, which Dr Stott was awarded the prize for creating an outstanding impact in public policy.

The conference was also hosted in partnership with the West Yorkshire Police, as part of the ESRC funded 'Knowledge Exchange' project. This project creates opportunities for information sharing and skill training between researchers and police. The research team is headed by Professor Adam Crawford and includes Stuart Lister, Dr Stott and Dr Nick Malleson from the School of Geography.

The School is involved in multiple linking projects focused on policing policy including the N8 Policing Research Partnership, a collaboration between the N8 Universities.

Staff News

A summary of the brilliant work and achievements by Staff. Did we miss something? Tell us at: lawmso@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Subhajt Basu has been elected as the Vice-Chair for the British and Irish Law, Education & Technology Association (BILETA).

Professor Anna Lawson was awarded the title of 'Woman of Achievement 2015' on International Women's Day by the University. She was one of 13 members of staff or students at the University to receive this honour.

Dr Stuart Lister participated in a roundtable discussion in Westminster at the Independent Committee on Standards in Public Life on 3 March.

Dr Iyiola Solanke has acted as convenor for the British Academy Conference entitled 'The Race Relations Act @ 50' to be hosted at their Central London offices on 9-10 July 2015.

Dr Amrita Mukherjee will speak at the Law Society on 5 May in a panel debate about "Human Rights in the Theatre of War."

Dr Henry Yeomans has been awarded the inaugural Socio-Legal Studies Association prize for Legal Theory and History for his book 'Alcohol and Moral Regulations: Public Attitudes, Spirited Measures and Victorian Hangovers'.

Professor Emeritus Clive Walker has delivered papers at Humboldt-Universität of Berlin, on 22 January, and at the Université Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne on 10-11 March on 'The perils of investigative journalism post-9/11'.

Professor Emeritus Clive Walker has also been responsible for a further 'Dirty Assets' event, a series on AML/ PoC/ CTF issues, at the University of Notre Dame, London Law Centre on May 14-15.

Professor Surya P. Subedi has been appointed by the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development in Geneva, as a member of a Task Force on Investment Policy with a mandate to develop global policy on investment.

Dr Jen Hendry and Dr Amrita Mukherjee spoke at the Spaces of Indigenous Justice conference at the University of Arizona on the 13 – 14 April.

Dr Hendry spoke at the University of Mississippi on 23 April on the topic 'Beyond A Rights-Based Approach to Indigenous Justice'

Dr Pinar Akman delivered a keynote speech in front of the General Assembly of the Hungarian Competition Law Association on 13 April.

Dr Paul Wragg spoke at a conference marking the tenth anniversary of the influential decision in Campbell v MGN Ltd case, which brought about the misuse of private information tort. The conference was at the University of Newcastle on 17 April.

Samantha Halliday has been awarded funding by the ESRC for a series of research and policy seminars. The series seeks to promote and support high quality research and to encourage a more critical and constructive assessment of the law relating to advance decision-making. The first seminar took place on 24 March with the series continuing September 2015.
<http://eadm.leeds.ac.uk/>

Nick Addis, PhD researcher and module assistant, has completed the University of Leeds Teaching Award (ULTA1) and been awarded Associate Fellow status from the UK Higher Education Academy. ULTA1 provides academic credits and professional recognition for training and teaching experience and is delivered and assessed by the Staff and Departmental Development Unit at the University.

Staff News



Reforming the UK Constitution

Eneribe Oguh, LLB Graduate Programme student, was invited to the House of Commons last month to discuss Constitutional Reform with Prime Minister David Cameron.

Eneribe was one of six students chosen from across the UK to meet with the Political and Constitutional Reform Select Committee, which came about when he took up the challenge to write a possible Preamble to a future UK written Constitution.

The meeting was called by Mr Graham Allen MP, Chair of the Political and Constitutional Reform Committee, to discuss flaws in the current constitutional arrangement. He was also invited to join the Parliamentary Liaison Meeting with the Prime Minister David Cameron to discuss a range of domestic and foreign policy issues.

Eneribe said that the discussions gave him a chance to “test out some of my ‘theories’ and to get some feedback from ‘Parliament’ so to speak”.

He added “It was very useful session as well as my first time to meet Mr Cameron in person. It was a truly wonderful and edifying experience for me and I am deeply grateful to Professor Cram for making me aware of this opportunity.”

United Nations Annual Youth Assembly

Last month LLB finalist student Abisola Babalola was invited to take part in The Youth Assembly held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

The two day conference, held on 11-12 February, is a unique platform created to foster dialogue and generate partnerships between exceptional youth, UN officials and staff, the private sector, and civil society.

Talking about the whole experience she said:

“I have made friends from all over the world, and new contacts who have inspired me with their humility and knowledge. Walking through the corridors of the United Nations at New York, speaking with dignitaries, even having meals in the United Nations Cafeteria has made a significant difference to my mind-set. It has made me realise that my dreams are never too far out of reach if I remain focused, determined and grateful.”

Around the World in 80 Minutes



There were so many wonderful and exciting events at this year’s World Unite Festival. One project was organised by Five University of Leeds students, including LLB student Cynthiya Charles, who educated local primary school children through multicultural focused activities.

Throughout February the students ran activities at local primary schools across Leeds.

In the length of a short film, and with the budget for a weekend trip, the students took the pupils “Around the World in 80 Minutes” - an imagined international adventure through Italy, Kenya, China and Mexico. Activities included

storytelling, languages games, Chinese dancing and painting Day of the Dead skulls.

The children also received specially made ‘passports’ to stick in pictures and write reflections on what they learnt about each country.

Talking about the experience, Cynthiya said:

“The children enjoyed the programme which was very heartening and rewarding. When we finished the programme both the teachers and students wanted more!”

At the end of the month the pupils visited Leeds to take part in the World Unite Festival and complete their ‘travel journey’.

Also involved in bringing the activities to life were the East African Society, SlapSoc and the Confucius Society.



Congratulations to...

Megan Sharp, LLB finalist, for being awarded the Newton Pembroke Scholarship at Cambridge University.



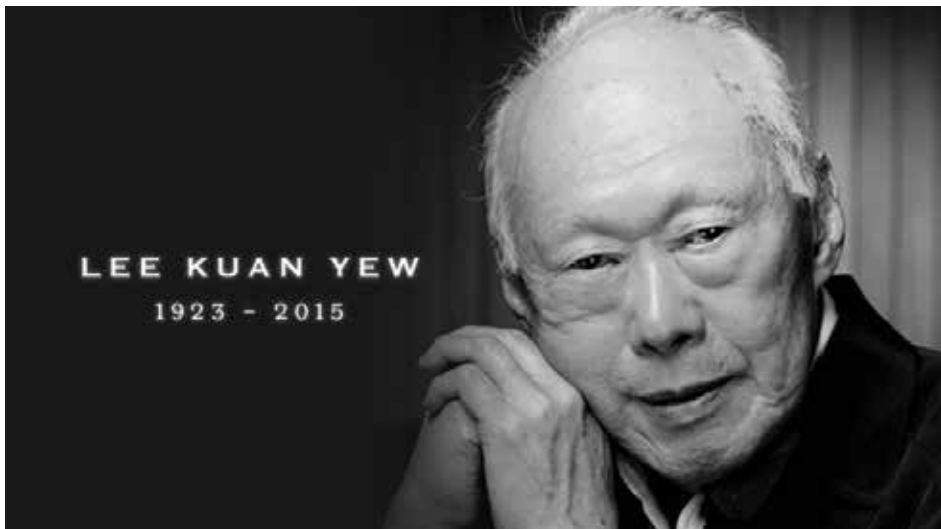
Megan will be studying an MPhil in Criminological Research at the University of Cambridge. She is one of three candidates to be awarded the scholarship, which totals to a value of £12,000.

“It’s really daunting,” says Megan “but I am so excited and it’s really motivating me with my current studies. I feel very privileged to be in this position and I’m still on a high from being accepted!”

There is overwhelming sense of pride throughout the school for inspiring things the students achieve.

Talking about her time as a student at the School of Law, University of Leeds she said:

“I shall miss Leeds a lot, and I will really miss the students and staff at the School of Law. The staff have been the best. They have made me feel a part of a community, rather than just entering a pretty building where I have seminars. Massive thanks to all the staff for your support and inspiration!”



Student Perspective: In Loving Memory of Lee Kuan Yew

Daryl Bryan Chee, LLB finalist

Lee Kuan Yew passed away on 23 March at the age of 91. Around the world, Singaporeans felt as if a close family member had passed away, for that is what Lee meant to Singapore and its people – he was everyone’s father.

Lee, a Cambridge-educated lawyer, accomplished a myriad of things during his lifetime including, inter alia, achieving independence for Singapore. But his greatest achievement was taking an infant country from – in his vernacular – a muddy backwater with no natural resources to a prosperous first world metropolis. With his peers, Lee successfully rallied the multiracial populace to strive towards building a successful nation - based on the principles of multiracialism, meritocracy and rule of law.

Lee Kuan Yew never shied away from unpopular decisions and had his critics, but no one can deny that whatever he did, he did because he fervently believed it was for the good of the people. He lived and breathed Singapore.

His legacy is the country and people he left behind – a living legacy. If you are curious to know who Lee Kuan Yew was, ask any a Singaporean, for each one is a tiny reflection

of this patriot and goliath. If you are curious to know his impact, travel to Singapore and look around you.

Coming to England to read law as Lee Kuan Yew did, one cannot help but feel a certain sense of connection or apprenticeship. My generation and generations after have all learned about what Lee Kuan Yew did for Singapore. But this is knowledge without true understanding for we never experienced the hardships of “old” Singapore. It is precisely because of Lee that we did not have to, and for that we are forever indebted to him.

Singaporeans have lost a father and the world has lost a brilliant statesman whose advice was widely sought after. Lee’s given name in Chinese means “light and brightness”. An apt name: he was a light which shone brightly in a time of need; the likes of which we are unlikely to see again.

May he rest in peace.

Leeds students show off their Commercial Awareness

Last month five LLB students reached the final of the Aspiring Solicitors Commercial Awareness Competition held at Barclays HQ in London.

Held on the 19 March the final pitted the University of Leeds team against University of York, University of Edinburgh, and Queen Mary University. The Leeds team, the Leeds Gryphons, were LLB graduate programme students Lolan Sagoe-Moses, Curran Folkers, Rikhav Shah, Nadine Wilson and first year LLB student Arjun Patel.

They competed in multiple rounds with over 400 students from Law Schools across the country. Though it was Queen Mary University who took home the winning prize five Leeds Gryphons will receive an excellent work experience opportunity with Barclays HQ.

Talking about the day Curran Folkers said:

“It was a lot of fun, actually, and really useful for developing skills, especially in training our minds to approach situations and issues from the commercial perspective. It was also a great networking opportunity”

The Leeds team pitted their knowledge and analysis skills through multiple rounds, including two rounds on the phone with Aspiring Solicitors founder Chris White.

“We actually thought we were going to be eliminated after the first round,” said Curran. “I couldn’t remember what a derivative was. At the time, it felt like a complete catastrophe.” The team had actually over prepared for their first round, and so were surprised when they were met with a basic industry knowledge quiz; this however meant they had an edge for the subsequent rounds. “We were honestly shocked when we found out we progressed to the next round, but as the competition went on, we learned to function quite well as a team, and we became much more confident.”

Aspiring Solicitors is an organisation which works to increase diversity in the legal profession and supports training solicitors through multiple outlets. The School of Law is proud of its students’ achievements and looks forward to seeing more University of Leeds students participating next year.



Congratulations to...

Patrick Keane, LLB second year, has been awarded a yearlong internship as a UK Film Sales Intern at Warner Bros. in London.

Jessica Thwaites, LLB first year, has been awarded a 4 week summer school place at Aarhus University in Denmark. She said: “I’ve always wanted to study abroad and plan to do it for a whole year so I feel like this will give me a taster. I’m really excited to go to Denmark, although at the same time nervous as I’ve never done anything like this before!”

LawSoc Negotiating Final



The negotiating competition concluded this year with the final on 10 March in the Woodhouse suite, University House.

Teams Nadine Wilson and Rikhav Shah, and Gus de Haan and Elizabeth Leather negotiated over a scenario inspired by the production of a new James Bond film. Nadine and Rikhav represented a client who ran into financial difficulties while producing the film but, while Elizabeth and Gus represented a commercially minded client with sound financial backing. They had to negotiate a deal to make the film a success, while making sure each client had their interests protected.

Sponsoring and judging the competition were Baker & McKenzie, with the First prize

including an open day place at B&M. Nadina and Rikhav were the ones to take this home as well as each taking a £100 Trinity Voucher.

But Runners up Gus and Elizabeth, as they say, didn't leave empty handed both winning a nice £50 voucher each.

The competition started in October last year, with over 100 students taking part and running right through to march. LAW SOC

Thanks to Bren McCarthy, next year's LawSoc president, for organising this year's competition.

LawSoc Mooting Update

Leeds Senior Final at UK Supreme Court

This year's Senior Student Mooting Final was held on the 21 April at UK Supreme Court, with Lord Justice Hughes judging. There have been 4 rounds of the competition, whittling the finalists down to Bryan Chen and Min Chin, as the lead and junior Appellants respectively, and Chevan Ilagarante and Angus Cheuk, as lead and junior Respondents.

Both teams have fought hard against other law schools in national mooting competitions including the Oxford University Press and BPP competition, and the ESU-Essex Court Competition.

As the Leeds LawSoc final is being held in the highest court in the land they were also taken on a tour of the grand building. If their mooting skills are anything to show for then they might just return again someday.

After an excellent competition this year Chevan Ilagaratne and Angus Cheuk, lead and junior Respondents, were the overall winners. Congratulations, and well done to everyone who took part!

Leeds Junior Final 5 May, Moot Court Room

Let's not forget the Junior Mooting competition either. After five rounds the final will be on the 5 May in the Moot Court Room here at the School of Law. Judging the competition will be Freshfields partner Neil Golding.

Thanks to Jess Bourke, this year's LawSoc Mooting Secretary, for organising the competitions.

Senior Debating Final

Harvey Pare, LLB Finalist

After a fantastic year in the LawSoc Senior Debating Competition the pairs were whittled down to the last two, with the final taking place on 16 March in the Moot Court Room.

In response to the recent Parliamentary vote on the issue, the motion being discussed was the plain packaging of cigarettes in the UK.

Lydia Skeels and Beth Cook were proposing the plain packaging of cigarettes, while Dinesh T and Jing Hui Eva Teh were opposing. Both sides presented thoroughly researched debates, accompanied with great arguments, making the debate a very close affair. However a decision from the judges had to be made and it was the proposition who took home the title.

Overall the standard in this year's competition has been very high. We've had some challenging motions and so some brilliant debates in response to this. It shows the high calibre of students we have in the Law School at Leeds. A big thank you goes out to all of those who took part and a thank you must also go out to the guest judges in the final:

Neil Stanley, from the School of Law, and Sophie Rothwell, our current LawSoc General Secretary.



Senior Debating Final: Winners



Senior Debating Final: Runners-up

Congratulations to...

Jonathan (Mao) Foo, LLB first year, has been elected as President of the Singapore Society. He said: "While I feel privileged to be elected, there is little time to feel gratified. My committee and I are faced with the immediate challenge of fitting into the big shoes of the previous committee, as well as living up to members' expectations."

Amelia Carr, LLB first year, has been awarded a University of Leeds Undergraduate Research and Leadership Scholarship to work with David Churchill. She will be working on an Oral History project, interviewing Staff and Alumni about Learning and Teaching. The project has been funded by Keith Lee, one of our Alumni.

Thank you LawSoc

Saahil Sheth, LawSoc President 2014-15

We've almost come to the end of another academic year, which regrettably means drawing to a close another successful year of LawSoc. But we'll be ending the year in the best way with the Mooting Finals, Cricket Social and Graduation Party!

Recently we have welcomed a new committee who will represent the society for the new academic year. On behalf of the retiring committee I would like to again congratulate them, and wish them the best for next year.

Reflecting on the last two years, I can confidently say that this has been one of the best experiences of my life. Being on the committee is like being in a small family that sticks together through testing times and celebrates the happier moments. My committee have been fantastic and have worked extremely hard to provide a high standard of events. I would like to once again thank them for this.

I would also like to say a big thank you to you, all LawSoc members, for continuing to get involved. The enthusiasm you show makes us enjoy our roles much more. Ultimately, when I look back on my time as President, there will be so many memories I shall cherish and I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to experience them.

The remainder of the semester will mostly be taken up by exams and, of course for final years, the dissertation. Balancing all of the work throughout the year has made third year extremely challenging. However, I am sure that we will all get through exams relatively unscathed. Deep down, I'm glad to have so much work; I still feel like a student, a feeling that I will miss in a few months. Three years really does fly, especially when you get involved! Although this year marks my final as an undergraduate, thanks to LawSoc and so much more, it has been the perfect goodbye!

leedsuniversityunion
crimsoc

Our Final Chapter

Megan Sharp, CrimSoc President



So this is it, as I'm writing it's 8 weeks today until we all finish our exams! I would like to thank everyone in the society and all the staff for a really great year! I could not have done it without my wondrous committee, you are all my heroes. Thanks to Alastair Mullis and Saahil Sheth for all your support and advice. And big thanks to all the lecturers who have supported the society too.

We have had a jam packed year, with Victim Support, Kelly Henderson, PREVENT from West Yorkshire Police Counter Terrorism unit and Dr John Mitchel. We have also had a hand in the Halloween Quiz and Law School's Got Talent, as well as our cake sale which fundraised for the Howard League Society. Our social secretaries secured sponsorship from Revolution, providing us with many a merry night, as well as organising our Army themed Pub Crawl. The boys have done really well in the football and the girls... well we had a great time with the netball!

But out with the old and in with the new: Our new President is Charlotte Hutchison, and second in charge is Georgina White. The other two members of the exec committee are Luke Hutchinson, as Treasurer and Ella Johnson, as Secretary, continuing for another year, such as the life of a hero.

Providing the entertainment are Dan Balmforth and Beth Thompson, who hosted a successful social at Revolution and Faversham (from what I remember anyway). For all things sporty I present to you the new King of Football Josh Smith and the Queen of Netball Katie Bryant.

Last, but definitely not least, we have Lucy O'Bryne handling Careers and Volunteers, so anyone struggling to decide with what to with the rest of their lives Lucy will be at the rescue! Congratulations on your new positions and commiserations to those who did not, thank you for putting yourselves forward!

So from this year's committee and I, farewell, we have loved serving you and wish you all the best for the exam season and next year!

Lots of love, Megan

Dates for the Diary

Researching and Improving Social Justice

Postgraduate research students Chris Dietz, Jess Mant, and Alex Pearl have been responsible for arranging the Law and Social Justice Seminar Series 'Innovative Methodological and Theoretical Approaches', which continues throughout May.

Alex Pearl commented:

"Each speaker has raised interesting and thought-provoking issues surrounding research which seeks to advance social justice for marginalised groups. Against a backdrop of austerity, and cuts to health and social welfare provision, research assessing the impact of such measures on disadvantaged groups is becoming ever more important. So too, is the need to develop innovative ways to think about, and conduct research with these groups."

The series has already welcomed Dr Nick Emmel, University of Leeds, discussing metaphors for social research, and Dr Rosie Harding, Birmingham Law School, exploring the utility of legal consciousness studies for social justice research.

6 May – Dr Kate Brown 'Researching Vulnerability'

Room 1.14, 4-6pm

Dr Kate Brown, University of York, will be discussing her work researching the amorphous concept of 'Vulnerability.' The talk is entitled "From Contested Concept to Lived Experience: Researching Vulnerability" From Contested Concept to Lived Experience: Researching Vulnerability.

20 May – Dr Sarah Wilson 'Historical approaches to Research'

LOCATION TBA, 1-3pm

Dr Sarah Wilson, University of York, will be discussing the benefit of considering political approaches from the past in attempts to scrutinise current social justice issues.

Book your place online:

<http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/>

5 May 6 - 7.30pm Moot Court Room

Public Lecture – 'Life as a UN special Rapporteur' - Professor Surya P. Subedi O.B.E. reflects on his six year tenure as UN Special Rapporteur for Cambodia.

13 May 1 – 2pm Room 2.46

CCJS PGR Seminar Series - 'Restorative Justice: Applications Across Legal Scholarship' - Postgraduate students will present their work to be questioned by peers and staff. Staff and post graduate students are welcome to attend and bring their own lunch

15 May 9.30 am – 6pm Moot Court Room

CBLP Conference – 'Contemporary Challenges in Competition Law' - This one-day free conference focuses on the most important contemporary challenges in competition law. Full programme is online - Book your place online: <http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/>

7 July 12:45 – 6pm Moot Court Room

CCJS Conference - 'Community of Restorative Researchers: Inaugural Conference' – The purpose of the conference is to promote an open and critical dialogue between restorative justice researchers, policymakers, practitioners and other stakeholders in the UK. Full Programme is online – Book your place online: <http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/>

8 – 9 July 10 – 5pm Room 2.46

CCJS Conference – 'Historical Perspectives on Policing, Regulation and Security: Connecting Past, Present and Future' – This event will bring historians and criminologists together to discuss policing, regulation and security in an historical context – Book your place online: <http://www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/>

Events Summary

For more information, including full programmes of and how to register for these events, visit:

www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events/

