Liberty Brief School of Law Newsletter School of Law Newsletter

Issue 5 December 2015



A note from the Head of School

As we reach the end of the winter semester it is an appropriate moment to reflect on where we are as a School. I have said before, and will continue to say, that we cannot afford any complacency.



If we really are fully to realise our potential and firmly establish our reputation as one of the leading law schools in the world, there is much work still be done. That said, I believe that there is much that we have

done in the last few months that we can be very proud of.

Being ranked 9th in England and Wales (and 11th in the UK) by the Times / Sunday Times University Guide was a considerable achievement. Indeed it is our highest ranking ever in what I have always regarded as the most credible of league tables. This ranking, in my view, offers a pretty accurate reflection of where we are relative to other law schools. There is still room for improvement but it will also be tough to maintain our position. Your perception of your School (as assessed by the National Student Survey) plays a significant part in the overall league table position. We have improved our performance in this over the last three years but can still, with your help, do better. If there are issues you want to raise about the School, please do contact me or Nick Taylor and let us know what we can do to improve things.

Reading this issue of Liberty Brief also emphasises how much is going on in the School and the extent of the achievements of our students and staff. A couple of items are worth emphasising. First, we recently launched the first joint Chinese / UK research centre in commercial law with East China University of Politics and Law. World class law schools are genuinely international both in terms of their make-up and their global reach. This unique venture, with one of China's top law schools, demonstrates our international reputation and ambition. Second, I talk a lot about the importance of community in the School. There is much in this issue that makes me very proud and demonstrates how hard many colleagues and students work to build a strong community within the School. Law Soc and Crim Soc have both been brilliant this semester. Law's Got Talent was once again a triumph and the Silent Auction a huge success. The Law Soc Christmas Social was also immensely eniovable. There are too many other examples to mention but I encourage you to read this issue in order to get a sense of the vibrancy of your School.

Finally, I hope you have enjoyed this semester. There is certainly much that we can all be proud of. I hope you all have a wonderful and restful vacation and I look forward to seeing you next semester.

Alastair Mullis
Head of School

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Law's Got Talent 2015

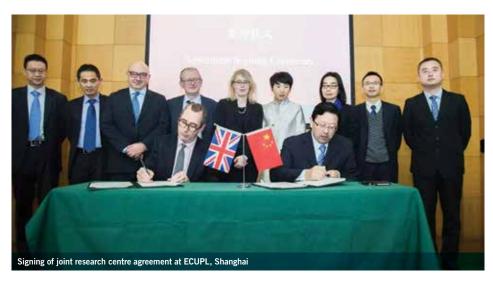
On Thursday 3 December 2015, students, staff and friends welcomed the return of the School's highly acclaimed Law's Got Talent competition. Throughout the evening singers, musicians and spoken word poets were invited to the stage by compare Nadi Choudhury (LawSoc's Equality & Diversity Secretary) who thrilled the audience with a series of dance compilations and crowd play.

Sharona Eivan took home first prize for 'best all round entertainer' following her fantastic acoustic set, Nash Sithole won the prize for 'most inspirational performance' following his impassioned poetic reading and LawSoc's very own boyband 'No Direction' were also recognized for their... let's say enthusiasm!

Everyone who attended agreed it was a fantastic night, all of which couldn't have taken place without the hard work of Nadi Choudhury, the LawSoc and Crimsoc committees, Antony Butcher (School Administration) the Law's Got Talent judges; Nick Taylor, Richard Peake, Bren McCarthy and Charlotte Hutchison and of course, the talented acts.

All proceeds from the ticket sales went to charity Stop Hate UK.





China-Britain Joint Research Centre on Commercial Law major and unique new initiative

The China-Britain Joint Research Centre on Commercial Law (CBRCCL) was launched in Shanghai on 19 November 2015. The founding partners are the School of Law, University of Leeds and the Research Institute of Economy and Law, East China University of Politics and Law. This is a unique venture drawing together one of the leading British centres for research in commercial and corporate law (The Centre for Business Law and Practice at the University of Leeds) with its equivalent in China. The joint research centre is the culmination of several years of collaboration between the School of Law at Leeds and ECUPL's research institute.

Keynote speeches at the opening ceremony were given by Professor Roger Halson, who has led the development of the Centre for the University of Leeds, and the Vice Chancellor of ECUPL, Professor Gu Gongyun. Also present at the opening event were Professor Alastair Mullis, Head of the School of Law, Professor Joan Loughrey, Deputy Head and Professor Gerard

McCormack, Director of CBLP. The official launch event followed a workshop at which areas of potential collaboration were discussed. After the launch a reception was held at ECUPL to which University of Leeds alumni, local lawyers and commercial figures such as the Vice President of the Shanghai Stock Exchange were invited.

The Joint Research Centre will provide a platform for cooperation in Commercial Law studies between China and Britain. It will promote academic partnership through: the hosting of annual joint academic conferences (the first of which is to be held at Leeds in March 2016 and chaired by Lord Dyson MR), the exchange of visiting scholars, the organisation of joint research programmes, joint applications for external funding and grants in both China and the UK, the publication and dissemination of research findings and engagement with practitioners and policy makers in China and the UK.

Criminal Justice Fair

The 4th annual Criminal Justice and Criminology (CJC) Fair was held in the School of Law on 7 October 2015. Organised by Marika Hildebrandova, Education Service Officer for Student Support, and her colleagues in CJC, the fair brought in representatives from a number of local criminal justice organisations who spoke to students about volunteering and career opportunities.

Those in attendance included; Alternatives to Violence Project, British Transport Police, Crime Reduction Initiatives, HMP Leeds, Leeds Youth Offending Service, St Giles Trust,

Victim Support, West Yorkshire Police and West Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company (Probation), to name a few.

Contributors were impressed with the student turnout and many said they had received a lot of interest and numerous sign-ups. The CJC Fair takes place every October, so do come along next year if you missed it this time.





From StreetLaw to StreetLeeds

On 5 October 2015, collaborative community project StreetLeeds was introduced to the legal profession of Leeds at a launch event held at the offices of law firm Eversheds. Professor Alistair Mullis, Head of the School of Law opened the event and explained why the project was so important and how local lawyers could get involved.

StreetLeeds was initiated in response to StreetLaw, a national enterprise that creates classroom and community programmes that teach people about law, democracy, and human rights. The StreetLaw project promotes understanding about legal rights and responsibilities to individuals who would not otherwise have access to legal knowledge or education.

It was back in April 2015 when the University of Leeds, along with BPP, Leeds Beckett and the University of Law, were tasked with developing a similar outreach programme, tailored specifically for the legal needs of local communities around Leeds. In the months that followed, more than 30 key service providers were surveyed to establish whether there was a demand for further legal information and support in Leeds. The response was a resounding 'yes'.

Importantly, the collaboration is not limited to the Leeds' law schools alone. Law firms and chambers have also joined the project as mentors, supporting the students and providing guidance on skills such as presenting and audience engagement. The support of local law firms provides a professional validation to the scheme and gives students the invaluable opportunity to work alongside lawyers in practice.

With workshops already in the diary and an official launch event planned for early February 2016, this is an exciting time for the StreetLeeds project. Representing a collaboration in Leeds on a scale not seen before in the city, the project offers something unique and has the potential to make a real difference.





Restorative practice conference brings together practitioners, researchers and policymakers

On the 6th of November 2015, the University of Leeds welcomed over 120 people to the Great Hall for a one-day conference on restorative practices. The conference was the result of a collaboration between the University's School of Law, the Leeds Social Science Institute and Leeds City Council.

Attendees were drawn primarily from the criminal justice, education and children's services sectors in the City of Leeds, with others coming from London, Bradford, Hertfordshire, Brighton and elsewhere in the UK. Several

researchers and students with an interest in the subject matter also participated.

The conference, entitled 'Restorative justice and restorative practices in Leeds: Towards a restorative city', focused primarily on the inherent challenges and possible benefits of delivering restorative approaches in a range of sectors, as well as the ways in which these sectors could collaborate in the creation and maintenance of a restorative city.

To read the full article visit the School of Law website (www.law.leeds.ac.uk/news/)

Hamlyn Lecture: are children human?

On 11th November 2015 the School of Law and Centre for Social Justice at the University of Leeds was pleased to host the first of the 2015 Hamlyn lectures to be delivered by Professor Michael Freeman. The Hamlyn lectures are the most prestigious series of public lectures in law in the UK. The first Hamlyn lecture was delivered in 1947 by Lord Denning, since then the most distinguished lawyers, judges, academics and public figures have considered it a great honour to be invited to deliver the lectures.

Professor Freeman who is Emeritus Professor of English Law at UCL is one of the most vociferous campaigners for the rights of children having written or edited over 80 books in his long and distinguished career. Fittingly the theme of his 2015 lectures is: 'A Magna Carta' for Children? – Rethinking Children's Rights'. The first lecture in the series, delivered at Leeds and chaired by Mr Justice Holman was provocatively titled "Are Children Human?". The lecture uncovered the roots of children's rights and early supporters including Karl Marx and the rise of children's rights in recent times and the reasons for their prior marginalisation were also discussed.

The Hamlyn Trust was created in 1948 to 'further knowledge and understanding of the law'. The Trust is administered by representatives of 6 universities, a national newspaper (The Guardian) and a distinguished retired judge (Sir Steven Sedley). The School of Law has a close association with the Hamlyn Trust. Professor Roger Halson is a trustee and has represented the School since 2006. The School has also previously hosted lectures by Professor Nicola Lacey in 2007 and the Rt Hon Jack Straw MP, himself a Leeds University Alumnus, in 2012.

Law Clinics

The School of Law is developing an innovative set of free legal advice clinics which will operate in and around the city of Leeds. Volunteering Law students will be working alongside members of the local legal profession, providing free advice to individuals who might otherwise struggle to access justice. Initially operating in partnership with a partner organisation in Chapeltown, the intention is for the clinics to expand to other communities in the city and to cover areas of law such as family, employment, housing and education.

Fourteen second year LLB students have been recruited to take part in the project, although it is expected that more will be recruited as the academic year progresses and the clinics grow. The students will play two vital roles: Firstly, they will be the first point of contact for clients arriving at any clinic, they will be responsible for making the client welcome and for checking key information about their legal problem. Secondly, the students will sit in during the advice session and will take comprehensive notes of the advice solicitors and/or barristers give to the clients.

Interested members of the legal profession and the third sector are encouraged to contact the School's Director of Clinics, Lydia Bleasdale-Hill, for more information (I.k.bleasdalehill@leeds.ac.uk).

Supporting the transition to university

For many, the transition to university, though exciting, can be daunting and unsettling. To address this, I have been working for the Law School since June 2015 in order to try and make the move to university as smooth and enjoyable as possible for new students.

I have undertaken many tasks in order to do this, including improving the introductory handbooks, writing a letter sent out to all new students, and giving campus and library tours to those who may never have been to the University before, such as the new Malaysian students. I have also tried to have a presence in the School of Law in order to offer another dimension of support to new students, for example by having tea with the mature students and setting up a student help desk.

The branches of support for students in the School of Law is second to none, but there are always improvements that can be made to help students settle in, and sometimes these are best addressed with the help of a student's point of view – the Transitions Student Intern role has facilitated this.

Nancy Kelehar

Transitions Student Intern



Silent Auction (NPBW)

A Silent Auction marked the start of National Pro Bono Week and was held in honour of local charity PAFRAS whose work provides immediate humanitarian relief and long-term support, advice and advocacy for Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

Addleshaw Goddard sponsored the evening in which those who attended bid for some spectacular prizes including holidays in France and Wales, Christmas hampers, restaurant vouchers, The Edge membership and a little yellow scooter that stole the show (pictured). The end result was a colossal £1300. Well done and thank you to all in making the evening a success.

Caitlin Healey (LawSoc Pro Bono Sec), who sourced the prizes for the auction said: "The auction was a great way to kick off national pro bono week where we were joined by students, staff, law firm representatives and most importantly the charity we were raising money for. The whole experience of organising it was extremely rewarding."

Pathways to Law 2015: Cohort 9

This semester has seen the launch of the 9th cohort of the Pathways to Law programme which was established in 2006 to widen access to the legal profession for first generation university candidates who achieve at least 5 grade A/A* GCSE's and show a keen interest in pursuing a career in law.

We have recruited 40 new students in Year 12 to undertake the programme this year, all of whom were welcomed to the School by Professor Alastair Mullis during their first visit in late October.

It is a testament to Pathways to Law that The Bar Council and many major law firms are supporting the students and the programme. On Wednesday 25 November 2015, many of the representatives involved attended an event at the School of Law where they met the Pathways students and briefed them on their placements for next year. Throughout the two year program the students will undertake debating and negotiating workshops, will deliver mock trails

and presentations and experience life as university students. They will also discover what it is like to work in the legal profession with all the main city firms and The Bar offering bespoke work placements.

If you would like any further information regarding the programme and would like to get involved (mock lectures, judging debates/ negotiations etc) please contact Herabans Kaur (h.kaur@leeds.ac.uk).





National Pro Bono Week 2 – 6 Nov 2015

From silent auctions to debating workshops for young people, there was no shortage of activities for our students to get involved in throughout National Pro Bono Week.

From 2 – 6 November 2015, almost 100 undergraduate and postgraduate students volunteered and the School of Law welcomed in excess of 150 visitors including representatives from Addleshaw Goddard, Pinsent Masons, PAFRAS, students from 5 different schools and colleges and a number of School of Law alumni. The focus this year was to raise awareness and funds for current global and local issues.



Debating and Negotiating (NPBW)

Special thanks go to Jack Wray and Sam Hill (pictured) for leading the debating and negotiating sessions for almost 100 school/college students throughout National Pro Bono Week (NPBW). The feedback provided was overwhelmingly positive and highlighted the value of the sessions.

Sam Hill said: "Pro Bono Week was a great opportunity for me and some of my peers to show young people from Leeds how the skill of negotiation is extremely useful and enjoyable."

When asked about their experiences the school students involved said:

"the experience has made me feel more positive about the University"

"It helped to develop my confidence and communication skills."

Many thanks go to ALL the students who made the week a roaring success, including LawSoc committee members, Caitlin Healey (Pro Bono Sec), Jack Wray (Debating Sec), Samuel Hill (Negotiating Sec), Bren McCarthy (President) and of course all Pathways to Law Ambassadors.



Surviving the Bar

On 19 October, the Temple (North) Women's Forum (TNWF) organised by Dr Iviola Solanke held its third annual event at the School of Law. The event was entitled 'Surviving the Bar' and brought an audience of students and local practitioners together to listen to inspiring and encouraging talks from a stellar line up of speakers.

The evening began with an incisive address from the Lord Chief Justice. Lord Thomas of Cwmgiedd setting out the importance of a diverse judiciary for not only the independence but also the credibility of the judiciary. As he noted, diversity in the judiciary does not stop at gender, but also includes a need for more judges from black and minority ethnic groups at all levels of the judiciary.

He set out the various initiatives being introduced under his leadership to achieve this - from the introduction of flexible working in the judiciary to the use of the Diversity and Community Relations Judges across the country. He also explained the importance of evaluating this work to ensure that it achieved its goals.

Lord Thomas was followed by personal addresses from The Lady Justice Eleanor King, Her Honour Judge Jessica Pemberton, Brie Stevens-Hoare QC and Chair-Elect of the Bar

Council Chantal-Aimee Doerries QC. Each spoke extensively of their experiences at the Bar and beyond, providing sage advice on how to not only survive but thrive at the Bar.

Key words used throughout the evening from each speaker included conscious choices, self-belief, passion, preparation, determination and bravery. However, the speakers noted the significant change in the current context: students and entrants to the profession may now have more opportunity as gender discrimination in the profession declines, but more is also expected of them – preparation takes longer and more materials are required.

Lord Thomas said afterwards: "It was a great pleasure to take part in the latest Temple Women's event. I found the discussion throughout the evening both interesting and encouraging, and I very much appreciated the frank views shared by those who attended."

Supporting disabilities in education

Dr Gautier De Beco participated in the annual conference of the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD) between 22-23 October 2015. The conference held in Salzburg, Austria, addressed aspects of Inclusive Teaching and Dr De Beco spoke on a panel entitled 'Supporting young adults with an intellectual disability to access development education'.

Looking at the state of play of the implementation of article 24 of the UN Convention, on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the conference aimed to share practical examples of how education could be made more inclusive and addressed the elements required to succeed in fully including persons with disabilities in mainstream educational systems following the principles and values of the CRPD.





Internet Regulation at the IGF

Dr Konstantinos Stylianou attended the 10th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) that took place between 10 – 13 November 2015, in Joao Pessoa, Brazil. The IGF is organized annually under the auspices of the United Nations to provide a forum for academics, corporations, civil society and governments to discuss Internet law and policy. It is one of the largest international conferences in the field with more than 1,000 participants and more than 150 sessions over the course of the week.

The IGF is described as a multistakeholder, democratic and transparent forum which facilitates discussions on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance. Dr Stylianou presented on the panel of the Dynamic Coalition on Net Neutrality, speaking on whether the European Union's new proposed Regulation on the Open Internet is a step in the right direction. The new Regulation lays down for the first time specific rules on net neutrality, which are meant to safeguard the open and neutral nature of the internet while allowing for new services to be offered in the market. In that sense the regulation addresses the concerns of net neutrality proponents, but does not adopt the strictest possible rules, like the US Federal Communications Commission. This is a good indication that the EU sees competitiveness seriously, but at the same time it still contains rigid rules that may not be appropriate for today's Internet.

Dr Stylianou shared the panel, among others, with Vint Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist, Google, Chis Marsden, Professor at Sussex University, and Elise Lindeberg, Senior Legal Adviser at the Norwegian Communications Authority.

Dr Whelan on cartel criminalization

Dr Peter Whelan, Associate Professor at the School of Law, delivered a guest lecture at the University of Strathclyde on 7 October 2015.

Dr Whelan's two-part, two-hour lecture presented research from his recently published monograph, The Criminalization of European Cartel Enforcement: Theoretical, Legal, and Practical Challenges, Oxford University Press. Here, Dr Whelan examined in detail the problematic aspects of cartel criminalisation before critiquing recent British efforts to create a workable criminal cartel offence in practice.

The lecture was attended by a large number of undergraduate and postgraduate students and was organised by Professor Barry Roger of the Law School at the University of Strathclyde.



Counter-terrorism financing at 'Dirty Assets' Symposium

The third symposium in the 'Dirty Assets' series of events was hosted at the University of Tilburg on October 26 & 27 2015. The two-day event – "Comparative and international aspects of criminal and terrorism financing" –was on this occasion organised as a collaboration between the Universities of Leeds, (represented by Professor emeritus Clive Walker) Sussex, Notre Dame and Tilburg. The event is funded by the AHRC and designed to bring together in a network key stakeholders from policy, practice and research backgrounds to explore emerging issues surrounding criminal and terrorist assets.

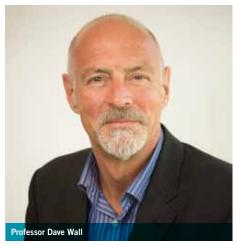
This latest symposium was held over two days, split between counter-terrorism financing and criminal money laundering and asset recovery. Throughout, there was a focus on comparative and international perspectives, and a strong input from policy and practice backgrounds, as well as academic contributions.

Taking the agenda forward, the committee have submitted a proposal for a research handbook on criminal and terrorism finances. Publication is anticipated in 2016.



New research sheds light on 'grave threat' of economic cybercrime

New approaches must be adopted to tackle the escalating problem of economic cybercrime, according to a new report co-authored by a University of Leeds expert, Professor David Wall, for the City of London Corporation and supported by the City of London Police.



The report highlights the scale of economic cybercrime in the UK, stating that 106,681 fraud-related incidents were reported by individuals and businesses to Action Fraud in the last three months of 2014, a third of which related to banking and credit industry fraud.

The report, 'The Implications of Economic Cybercrime for Policing', states that e-commerce fraud losses totalled £217.4m in 2014, with losses to the banking sector from online banking fraud reaching a new high in 2013/14 of £60.4m.

Data from business services firm PWC is also cited in the research, showing that 90% of large organisations reported a security breach in 2013/2014. Since then, there has been a spate of high profile data breaches in the US and the UK, showing the ease with which both personal data and corporate secrets can be stolen.

Report co-author David Wall, Professor of Criminology in the School of Law at the University of Leeds, said: "This report lays bare the scale and effect of economic cybercrime. It is imperative that the recommendations for policing responses are taken on board by law enforcement agencies, otherwise this issue will get even worse and hit businesses even harder in their pockets.

Research into restorative policing secures major new award

A research team based at the University of Sheffield and the University of Leeds has secured £336,000 of funding from the Police Knowledge Fund to develop greater understanding of restorative justice principles relevant to policing and the research evidence base that informs good practices that are sensitive to the needs of victims.

The 18 month project lead by Professor Joanna Shapland (Sheffield) and Professor Adam Crawford (Leeds) will assist the police in identifying means for front-line officers to assess which paths to use to facilitate restorative policing and how best to introduce restorative principles to victims of crime.

The project partners include three police force areas in which the research will be conducted - South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside – as well as Remedi, a specialist voluntary sector organisation providing restorative responses. The Police and Crime Commissioners and senior command teams in the force areas are committed to ensuring the greatest impact and value from the research.

Mark Burns-Williamson, Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire commented:

"This project is particularly timely and important given recent changes and developments in the commitment to police organisations and the delivery of restorative justice. The proposed collaboration with the Universities of Sheffield and Leeds will enable us to better understand and improve our practices in delivering restorative justice and improve engagement with victims."

Staff News

Professor David Wall contributed to a research report for the City of London Corporation entitled 'The Implications of Economic Cybercrime for Policing' in October 2015. Professor Wall also gave a talk entitled 'The Changing Cyber-threat Landscape and the Challenge of Policing Cybercrimes in the EU' at the 2015 European Police Research & Science Conference on Evidence Based Policing, CEPOL (European Police College), the Escola de Polícia Judiciária, cia Judiciária, Lisbon, Portugal, 5-8 October.

Professor Surya Subedi's book 'International Investment Law: Reconciling Policy and Principle' has recently been translated into Chinese following its success in South East Asia. It was translated by Professor Lei Zhang of East China University of Politics and Law and published by Law Press, Beijing, China.

Professor Graham Farrell is currently coinvestigator for a research project referred to as 'The Violence Trends Project' that examines a fall in violence over the past two decades. The project aims to fill the current knowledge gap in this area and to support violence reduction initiatives throughout the UK and around the world.

Dr Lydia Bleasdale-Hill, Associate Professor in Criminal Law (Leeds) and Jill Dickinson (Sheffield Hallam University) were invited to present to the Northumbria Centre for Evidence & Criminal Justice Studies Seminar series on 28 October 2015. Their paper 'Dangerous Dogs Law: Same Dog, Different Lamppost?' advocated a significant shift in the policy approach to owners of dangerous dogs, and the authors are exploring the possibility of implementing a public education campaign in partnership with key agencies.

Professor Ian Cram spoke at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in a daylong seminar for PREVENT (a core element of the Government's Counterterrorism strategy) as it applies in the University sector. Vince Cable, Former Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills was amongst the notable speakers.

Dr Jose Pina-Sanchez has recently started working as a co-investigator for a project led by RAND Europe (Research ANd Development) and commissioned by the Ministry of Justice entitled "The Evaluation of the Sentencing Council Guidelines".

Professor Graham Dutfield has been working with International Institute for Environment and Development on developing a biocultural heritage indications branding scheme for products made by indigenous people and has recently published a paper on the subject.

Dr Paul Wragg, Associate Professor in Media Law has recently been appointed as lead editor for quarterly law journal 'Communications Law', published by Bloomsbury Professional Press. Dr Wragg has also been invited to speak to members of the Inner Temple as part of their prestigious lecture night programme in 2016.

Professor Joan Loughrey recently joined the Reference Group of an independent research project commissioned by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) on how City & Global (C&G) firms are preserving professionalism and managing liability in competitive international legal practice.

Professor Pinar Akman and Dr Peter Whelan, Associate Professor in Law have provided competition law expertise on a project examining potential conflicts between EU social and labour rights and the hard law of the EU internal market for a European Parliament Report published recently. Dr Peter Whelan also presented a paper entitled 'Section 47 of the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013: A Flawed Reform of the UK Cartel Offence'. Specifically, Dr Whelan's presentation examined the recent legislative reforms of the UK's criminal Cartel Offence and argued that, although considerable improvement has been made, the UK authorities currently have at their disposal a criminal offence that is fundamentally flawed and unworkable in practice.

Dr Cliff Stott has been brought in as a leading, national academic to carry out an independent review of the way football matches are policed in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent. The research has been commissioned by Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis and will involve three league clubs – Stoke City, Port Vale and Burton Albion.

Staff News



Callum Lee – Brand Rep for DLA Networking Event

Callum Lee, second-year law student is the Brand Manager for DLA Piper, global commercial law firm ranked third largest in the world by revenue, at the University of Leeds. In late October 2015, DLA Piper held a workshop on 'Commercial Awareness' in the Moot Court Room of the Liberty Building to which 70 students attended.

Callum told us...

"It was a very useful workshop, which helped us to understand how to apply basic business principles to a specific industry within a legal sphere with the key advice being: In your dayto-day reading and activities, always have the question "what are the legal implications?" in the back of your mind." "The Employees sent by DLA Piper were all Leeds University Alumni, from trainees to partner level: Matt Duncombe, Rebecca Holden, Rebecca Wylie, Sam Millington, Isabella Gee who came from the London, Sheffield, Manchester and Leeds offices.

As a Brand Manager your general role is to work closely with the Graduate Recruitment team to strengthen DLA Piper's relationship with the University and to increase the firm's presence and brand awareness on campus.

When you are nearing the end of your first-year or in your second year, you should look out for these exciting opportunities offered by large law firms, the big four, banks and marketing companies!"

Leeds Law graduate nominated for Fulbright Scholarship to study in U.S.

Jesudevan Viveganandam, LLB Law graduate 2000-2003, has been nominated for the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship which if selected, will enable him to pursue his Masters in Law in the U.S in academic year 2016/17.

Tell us about the Fulbright Scholarship...

This flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Government is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, and is administered by the Department of State and the Institute of International Education (IIE).

How many scholarships are given each year?

The size of a country has a bearing on the number of scholarships allocated to it by the U.S. This year, 2 principal candidates in total were identified (including me) from Singapore.

On what grounds do the selection panel assess applicants?

I understand there are a number of areas considered; apart from outstanding academic records the selection panel looks for potential leadership capabilities, demonstrable involvement in community outreach and the motivation and commitment to graduate study.

Where do you plan to study?

Either Harvard, Stanford, NYU or Georgetown.

Did your time at Leeds prepare you for your next steps?

Definitely. At Leeds University, I benefitted from its unique pedagogy of approaching the law from both a traditional and practical angle. It prepared me for real lawyering and to think creatively. I graduated feeling motivated to investigate the policy behind the law, and think out of the box to address new challenges in an increasingly complex and global landscape.



Jennifer Fish – MDAC Summer Internship

Jennifer Fish, LLB Law student was awarded a scholarship earlier this year to undertake a work placement with the Mental Disability Advocacy Centre (MDAC) in Budapest. The scholarship was made possible by the generosity of Marcus Killick, OBE and alumnus of the School of Law.

Here is what Jennifer told us about her experience...

"I am interested in the area of Human Rights law because helping vulnerable groups of people is one of the reasons I decided to pursue a career in law. It was during my International Human Rights Law module during my second year that I became particularly interested in disability rights.

I applied for the internship with the MDAC because I believe that volunteering for a good cause is an exceptional way to spend your time, especially when it is for an organisation that strives to improve the lives of people who are segregated from society. Throughout my time in Budapest I carried out work experience in different areas but the placement I held in a local solicitor's office was the experience I enjoyed the most. I also carried out various tasks which aided MDAC

in their work which in turn, helped me to develop my academic skills in a wide range of areas.

My time in Budapest with MDAC has opened the door to many different opportunities. It has highlighted my interest in the human rights of minority groups marginalised by society. It also helped me process ideas for my dissertation and module choices for this academic year. I am also now considering further study abroad in the area of Human Rights as well as working for a nongovernmental organisation such as MDAC who work hard to achieve developments in this field.

I would like to say thank you to the University of Leeds, to MDAC and to my donor, Marcus Killick for his kindness and generosity."



The NCUK Prize

On the 13th of November, Damarie Kalonzo, a first year LLB student received a monetary prize of 5000 pounds for academic excellence from the NCUK in Manchester.

The NCUK (Northern Consortium of UK universities) is a group of 11 universities, of which Leeds is a part, which runs several foundation programmes. It has centres in Nigeria, Kenya, Columbia and China among others. Damarie took part in the International Foundation Year programme at Brookhouse International School in Kenya where she got the grades to join us at the Law School this year.

"I'm glad I've made it this far but the prize doesn't change the fact that I'm still a first year student trying to settle down in a foreign country. I love my course so far and I definitely made the right decision coming to Leeds. I'm grateful to have been one of the many prize winners this year. Although I still have to work as hard as other students it is nice to know that sometimes, education literally pays and that my efforts are recognized."

Damarie is enthusiastic to be a Brand Ambassador for the NCUK during her time here in Leeds and exploiting every opportunity we have to offer.



Squire Patton Boggs Scholarship Prize

...and the 2015 Squire Patton Boggs Scholarship Prize, goes to... Anna Ward and Jacynthia Pommells.

The Squire Patton Boggs (SPB) Scholarship is an annual prize that was first awarded in 2011. A summer work experience opportunity and £1,500 of prize money is awarded to a second-year undergraduate Law student (or in this case two) who demonstrated academic merit in their first year examinations along with evidence of extra-curricular activities and a positive contribution to the wider community.

After being shortlisted following their initial applications, Anna and Jacynthia were invited to attend an interview with two SPB partners at their offices in Leeds. Anna told us more about her interview:

"This was great interview experience and my first ever legal interview. It was totally not what I expected, I had to pretend the interviewers were aliens and teach them to swim butterfly and describe a bike through just words in order to test my communication skills. We also spoke a

lot about my extra-curricular activities including the Justice Project, the Together Women Project and my part-time job as a swimming instructor."

Jacynthia also told us about her involvement:

"I am absolutely honoured to receive this scholarship and it feels great to gain recognition for the activities I do outside of my academic studies. During the interview, I spoke about my involvement in Street Law, Leeds Revelation Rock-Gospel Choir, Rare Recruitment Articles Programme and my part-time job at the Apple Retail Store, Leeds.

I would encourage every law student to take advantage of as many extra-curricular opportunities as possible. The 'soft' skills and qualities that you gain from activities outside your studies are invaluable and will boost your employability for any field of work you choose." Congratulations both.

CrimSoc goes social

I'm Laura Booth, CrimSoc's new Communications Sec. CrimSoc are having a great semester and our committee have worked really hard to have even more events lined up for you!

At the start of term, we visited the Manchester police museum where we were able to find out about policing over the years – we even tried on some of the police uniforms! As you can see, we all had a great day out (pictured).

We've had two socials so-far, firstly our annual bowling social at MFA Bowl and then our midsemester social at Tiger Tiger before heading onto Mint Mondays. Our social secs arranged amazing discounts for all CrimSoc members and this was a great way for everyone across the years to get to know each other! On the 8th December, we're hosting our Christmas dinner for both students and lecturers at Tiger Tiger,

with a strictly festive dress code! We can't wait to see all the Xmas jumpers and have a final get together before everyone leaves for Christmas.

This year we got involved with 'Law's Got Talent' on 3 December. It was a so much fun night watching all the performers and everyone seemed to have a really great night.

Our sports teams are also doing really well this year! The netball team play on Tuesdays at the edge and are currently 6th in the league! Also, the football team are doing well and have managed to order a brand new kit for this year!

If you're still not involved in CrimSoc, it's not too late...simply search 'CrimSoc' on the Leeds University Union website. You will benefit from great discounts, with No Curfew membership cards and discounts on upcoming CrimSoc events and visits. You can also join our

Facebook page by searching 'Leeds Crimsoc – The Criminal Justice Society 2015-2016'; follow us on twitter **@LeedsCrimSoc** and Instagram 'CrimsocLeeds'.

Any questions, email crimsocleeds@mail.com

Laura Booth

Communications Sec University of Leeds Criminology Society









Law Soc the story so far...

Law Soc has had one of its busiest semesters to date. We are delighted to welcome a record breaking 200 new members so far this year!

It is great to see many new faces getting involved. Richard Munro and Georgia Ma have recently joined the committee as our First Year Representatives and they have settled into the team perfectly. They are currently busy preparing another First Year Social which will take place in the New Year.

Our Negotiating, Mooting and Debating Competitions are enjoying yet another year of success. The Negotiating Competition is starting to hot up as it reaches the latter stages and the Regional Finals are fast approaching. The First Year Debating Final is nearly upon us, whilst the senior competition starts in February 2016. Our Mooting Competition is also underway and the participants are currently preparing for various external competitions, including a visit down to London.

Our charity Silent Auction in collaboration with the School of Law was a big success and included some great prizes which resulted in us raising over £1300 for PAFRAS – a big thank you to everyone who was involved.

Our members have recently returned from our annual excursions trip which took place in Dublin. It is safe to say that the return journey was quite the experience, but everyone eventually made it back to Leeds in one piece. The weekend itself was the perfect break from university life and everyone had a great time, living up to our ethos of work hard, play hard! It was the perfect mix between cultural and social activity and the group visited the Guinness Factory and explored the night life that Dublin has to offer.

We held our annual Careers Dinner on Wednesday 25th November (pictured) and it was certainly a night to remember. With a record number of firms present and its first 'barrister table', it was the biggest Careers Dinner in Law Soc history. The night started with arrival drinks at the Marriott Hotel, featuring a network session with law firm representatives and it was swiftly followed by a three course meal in the dining room. In order to strengthen our members' exposure to the firms that attended, our Careers Secretary hosted a speed-networking session over coffee and mints. The night concluded at Normans Bar for further networking in a more casual and lighthearted environment.

This semester will conclude with our Christmas Social taking place on Thursday 10th December.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the rest of the Committee who work extremely hard to make Law Soc what it is and to bring you the all amazing the opportunities and events which take place over the year.

Bren McCarthy

President
University of Leeds Law Society

Woman Breaking Barriers

Women Breaking Barriers (WBB) is a new student led initiative that has been established to promote confidence and ambition amongst female students within the School of Law.

The group, supported by academic staff from within the School, plans to deliver a series of networking and social events aimed at increasing confidence and ambition amongst their female peers. The founding group is made up of Emma Robinson, Beth Haylett, Nancy Kelehar and Samantha Wakaimba.

Their first event, an inaugural public lecture, took place in the Moot Court Room at the Liberty Building on 2 December 2015. The group told us more about their first event:

"We were lucky enough to have Phillippa Kaufmann QC Silk as our first speaker for the Women Breaking Barriers Group. Phillippa took silk in 2011 and her expertise spans both the public and private law arenas. She was awarded 'Human Rights and Public Law Silk of the Year' at the 2014 Chambers Bar

Awards and has been involved with litigation against the Ministry of Defence and Foreign and Commonwealth Office."



The group are very keen to increase participation in their activities, you can find out more about their activities on their current Facebook page

(facebook.com/womenbreakingboundaries)



School of Law Prize Lunch

Each year the School of Law awards a number of prizes for both academic excellence and contribution. On 30 September 2015, students from the LLB Law and BA CJC were awarded prizes made possible by the generous donations of a number of key sponsors.

Head of School Alastair Mullis officiated the awards and was joined by Superintendent Kate Jowett from West Yorkshire Police, and John Flathers, Partner at Irwin Mitchell, amongst a number of School of Law staff.

The following students were awarded prizes...

BA Criminal Justice and Criminology:

Emma Robinson

West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board Achievement Award

Laurie Cain

West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board Contribution Award

Stephanie Dixon

West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board Contribution Award

Caterina Tavagnutti

West Yorkshire Criminal Justice Board Contribution Award

Annabel Briggs

Second Year Achievement Award

Jack Butroid

Batt Prize for Criminal Law

Tirian Fletcher

First Year Achievement Award

Ella Johnson

Leeds Youth Offending Service Annual Prize

LB Law

Derek Yap

Irwin Mitchell Prize in European Union Law

Samar Almahmood

First Year Achievement Award

Melissa Atkinson

DLA Piper UK Contract Law Prize

Elizabeth Gaskell

Oxford University Press Law Prize in Family Law

Nithiya Visvalingam

Thomson Reuters Law Prize

Samar Almahmood

First Year Achievement Award

Melissa Atkinson

DLA Piper UK Contract Law Prize

Elizabeth Gaskell

Oxford University Press Law Prize in Family Law

Nithiya Visvalingam

Thomson Reuters Law Prize





Students network with law alumni

The first alumni event of the new academic year took place on Tuesday 3 November 2015. A group of Leeds graduates, all of whom now work for international law firm Eversheds, were invited to attend a networking event with second and third year students from the LLB Law programme.

Charlie Markilli, Senior Associate at Eversheds was joined by colleagues and fellow alumni, James Wilson (HR Partner), Ash Sheppard (Associate) and Tanzeela Malik (Trainee Solicitor). The group gave an introduction to Eversheds and discussed their current roles as well as sharing experiences of their time at the University and access to the legal profession more generally.

Charlie Markillie, had this to say of the evening: "it was fantastic to come back to Leeds University and see the changes in the law school that have happened over the last couple of years – it is worlds apart from the old department on Lyddon Terrace. It was a fantastic evening and we all really enjoyed meeting the students. We look forward to doing more with the University in the near future".

The opportunity to network with alumni working in such a prestigious firm was well received by the students involved who had previously expressed an interest in pursuing careers as commercial solicitors in a survey they had taken in earlier in the year.

On behalf of the School of Law and Head of School, Alastair Mullis, we want to express our thanks to the alumni from Eversheds and we encourage them, as we do all of you, to keep in touch after graduation.

2015 PG prizes announced

Prize for highest dissertation mark among taught PG students:

Elke Hellinx

LLM Comparative Corporate & Financial Law

Jodie Wildridge

LLM International Banking & Finance Law

John Gannon

LLM International Trade Law

Friedrich Vogel MSc Law & Finance

Prize for contribution to the School of Law's Community:

Jodie Whit

(LLM International Banking & Finance Law) for her contribution to widening participation activities Ellis Hudsor

(MSc Law & Finance) for his role in representing PG students at School and University committees

Prize for International Student with highest overall degree average among international taught PG students:

Lahiru Lakmal Walawage (Intellectual Property Law)

Prize for Outstanding Scholarship with the highest overall degree average among taught PG students:

Elke Hellinx

Dates for the Diary

International Alumni Reception: Malaysia 12 January 2016 | 19:00 | La Bodega BSC, Kuala Lumpur | Reception

Head of School, Professor Alastair Mullis will be welcoming Malaysian alumni to a special reception to mark the first international alumni event of 2016. This is a free event but registration is required in advance

www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events

International Alumni Dinner: Singapore

13 January 2016 | 19:00 | Klapsons Boutique Hotel, Singapore | Dinner

Head of School, Professor Alastair Mullis will be joining Singaporean alumni for a dinner event at the wonderful Klapsons Boutique Hotel. This is a free event but registration is required in advance www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events

Developing Disability Rights in China: From Paper to Practice?

15 January 2016 | 10:00 - 16:00 | School of Law, Liberty Building | Conference

This event seeks to raise awareness of current initiatives and challenges experienced by disabled people and their organisations and advocates in China. This is a free event but registration is required in advance

www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events

Northern Chancery Bar Discussion 1 February 2016 | 17:30 | School of Law, Liberty Building | Discussion

Mark Cawson QC, Chairman of the Northern Chancery Bar Association will be returning to the School of Law in 2016 with some of his colleagues to meet and talk with students who are interested in pursuing a career in chancery and the commercial bar. More details to follow in January 2016.

Land, Place and Belonging: The World Bank Reads Friel's Translations with Crace's The Harvest

10 February 2016 | 17:00 | School of Law, Liberty Building | Seminar Ambreena Manji will be joining us from Cardiff Law School to deliver this seminar. More information will be available in January 2016.

Exploring the Ethics of Corporate Lawyers

15 February 2016 | 17:00 - 18:00 | School of Law, Liberty Building | Seminar

In this seminar brought to you by the Centre for Law and Social Justice, Dr Steven Vaughan of Birmingham Law School will raise some questions about (the ethicality of) transactional practice in large law firms.

Stay in Leeds Law Fair

24 February 2016 | 13:00 - 16:00 | Rooms 1.11-14, Liberty Building | Employability Event

Leeds has the second largest legal and financial market in the UK. Here is your opportunity to meet graduate recruiters at leading firms based in the city, many of which will be providing work experience opportunities to those who attend. The event is open to all students in the School of Law. Further details will be published on the Personal Development VLE pages in the new year.

Diagnostic Innovation in Psychiatry: Michael Pickersgill (full title TBC)

2 March 2015 | 17:00 | School of Law, Liberty Building | Seminar

Martyn Pickersgill from the University of Edinburgh will speak about diagnostic innovation in psychiatry. More details to follow in January 2016.

Alumni Supper: Mark Drury I Linklaters 3 March 2016 | 17:30 | School of Law,

Liberty Building | Discussion

Alumnus Mark Drury, Council at Linklaters in London and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales is a specialist in structured capital markets securities and derivatives. Mark will be returning to the School of Law to speak with students about his work and review some recent transactions. More details to follow in January 2016.

Security ethics: theory, trends and developments

22 -23 March 2016 | All Day | School of Law, Liberty Building | Conference

The Security and Justice Research Group at the University of Leeds is hosting a leading edge and timely workshop to discuss, debate and explore ethical issues in security.

Events Summary

For more information, including full programmes and details of how to register for any of these events, please visit: www.law.leeds.ac.uk/events

Contributions



If you would like to contribute to the next issue of Liberty Brief or provide any feedback, please get in touch:

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Thank you to all contributors for this issue.