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Welcome

Welcome to the 2015/16 academic year

It gives me great pleasure to introduce another packed edition of All Things Law. As you will see, it has been a busy summer for NLS with student visits to Geneva, Strasbourg and Berlin, success in national mooting competitions and academic exchanges with Australia and Tallin. I am sure you will also enjoy reading about how NLS research is contributing to developments in combatting hate crime, tackling terrorism, and reviewing the football transfer system.

We extend a particularly warm welcome to new students joining us this term and hope that the tips provided in this newsletter by several current students and one of our recent graduates will prove useful. I am also pleased to announce the arrival of six new members of staff – Dr. Vasileios Adamidis, David Barrett, Jennifer Gant, Dr. Helen Hall, Elyse Wakelin and Rachael Dawson – who will be contributing to our LLB, LLM, GDL, BPTC and LPC programmes.

Our team of dedicated lecturers and administrative staff are committed to ensuring you have all the support you need to enable you to succeed with your studies and beyond. We have many exciting activities and opportunities with which you can get involved. In this edition, you can read about our summer schools, Legal Advice Centre, mooting club and pro bono projects to name but a few. Melanie King also outlines her top tips for drafting a winning CV and sets out some of our upcoming careers events.

Finally, a special mention goes to Jo Boylan-Kemp who has been shortlisted for the Times Higher Education Award for the most innovative teacher. It is a tremendous achievement and we wish Jo all the best for the ceremony in November.

Thank you to all who contributed to this edition of All Things Law. I wish you a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker
Dean, Nottingham Law School



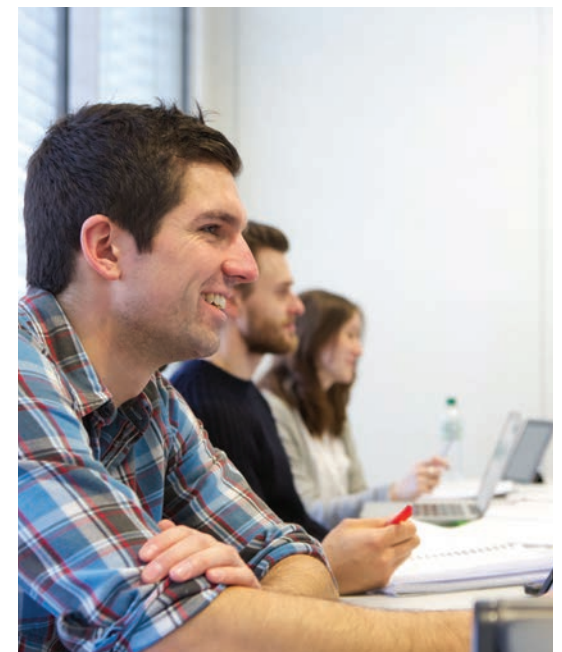
Janine Griffiths-Baker, Dean of Nottingham Law School

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Want to feature in this section? Be a contributor

If you are a current Nottingham Law School student or member of staff and would like to feature in a future edition of All Things Law, contact the editorial board at nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk



The latest in Law



Police hate crime challenges examined in new report

An independent study into the policing of hate crime has for the first time investigated the perspectives of police officers and the issues they face, revealing that more support from external agencies is needed.

Carried out by Nottingham Law School on behalf of the Hate Crime Steering Group, in-depth interviews were conducted with frontline officers from Nottinghamshire Police, and the outcomes will be shared among UK forces.

The findings revealed that while police officers are clear on what a hate crime is and know the procedures to be followed, their current training – mostly through simulated incident computer programmes or equality and diversity courses – does not equip them sufficiently to deal with more complicated cases.

The report suggests that officers are trained using a range of real cases as examples, as well as bringing in support from external agencies to facilitate contact with a range of victims. The police also need more resources that can help to signpost them to agencies that can help to support victims.

Find out more at: www.ntu.ac.uk/hatecrimechallenge

LLM Student wins Prestigious International Prize

Waiswa Abudu Sallam, a student on the LLM Corporate and Insolvency Law (distance learning), has been announced as the recipient of the 2015 Richard Turton Award. Waiswa is from Uganda, where he works for the country's Revenue Authority, and began his LLM studies at Nottingham Law School in October 2015.

The Richard Turton award is open to applicants who are nationals of an emerging or developing nation and are actively involved in the study of insolvency law or practice. The award enables the recipient to attend the INSOL Europe conference and to have a technical paper published by the association.

Find out more at www.ntu.ac.uk/prestigiousprize



Waiswa Abudu Sallam with Dr Alexandra Kastrinou and Professor Paul Omar

Nottingham Law School launches new in-company degree

From 2016 Nottingham Law School will be offering the Law for Financial Services (In-Company) degree pathway.

The course runs in tandem with the standard LLB (Hons) Law (full-time) degree, so students are not required to elect for the in-company route until halfway through their second year. This design ensures that students will still graduate with the qualifying law degree required for entry into the traditional legal professions.

The final year of university represents the start of the learning in the workplace period. During this period students will complete their qualifying law degree in-company in the insurance, banking or financial services market. This allows students to apply theory to practice whilst developing important skills required in the workplace.

To find out more about the Law for Financial Services (In-Company) degree please visit: www.ntu.ac.uk/law4financialservices



The latest in Law

Nottingham Law School lecturer shortlisted for Times Higher Education Award

Nottingham Law School (NLS) principal lecturer, Jo Boylan-Kemp, has been shortlisted in the Most Innovative Teacher of the Year category of this year's Times Higher Education (THE) Awards.

The THE Awards, which are widely recognised as the Oscars of the higher education sector, attract hundreds of entries that exemplify the talent, dedication and innovation of individuals and teams across all aspects of university life.

A 2015 Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Award winner, Jo was one of the first Nottingham Trent University academics to adopt the innovative SCALE-UP approach, in which students learn through group problem-solving activities in a bespoke, technology-rich classroom.

Jo blends a number of teaching methods to strengthen the student learning experience and is creative in her development of unique learning materials in order to create a rich and stimulating learning environment.

Professor Edward Peck, Vice-Chancellor, Nottingham Trent University, said: "This is a tremendous achievement for Jo to be shortlisted for a Most Innovative Teacher of the Year Award.

"The Times Higher Education Awards recognise outstanding examples of best practice during the 2013/14 academic year and the category which Jo has been shortlisted for recognises how her imagination and passion have transformed a course and inspired students.

"Last month, the University achieved its highest ever ranking in the National Student Survey – a climb of 15 places to 46 out of 157 in the UK – which shows how we are continuing to gain national recognition for the quality of our teaching. It also reflects the tremendous efforts our staff have made to improve the university experience for students."



Jo Boylan-Kemp

Expert opinion: Repugnant detention

Whilst politicians may reassure us that measures such as Control Orders and Terrorist Prevention and Investigation Measures (TPims) were introduced to protect the innocent from the atrocities witnessed in New York, London and Madrid, the erosion of the Rule of Law and concepts which are supposed cornerstones of a good legal system is as alarming as it is relentless.

It would be disingenuous to lay the blame entirely at the door of the British Parliament as the fear and perception of the risk posed to this state by terrorism is perpetuated in the media. Google 'Britain' and 'Syria' together and you would be forgiven for undertaking a full threat risk

assessment before leaving the house such is the reported threat that IS poses to the UK and our much heralded British values.

My own research amongst 16-18 year old Sheffield residents on counterterrorism strategies was telling in its absence of criticism expressed towards this creep. The participants were from a broad range of ethnic and demographic backgrounds and whilst some were able to articulate the risk of racial profiling, none expressed a fear that their own rights as UK citizens were being chipped away at. Indeed, there was a noticeable sense that those coming of age in a post-9/11 world have been conditioned

to simply accept that the benefits of a counterterrorism strategy which robs Peter to pay Paul is an acceptable one if it saves us from the terrorist.

Whilst the situation in Syria and Iraq continues to descend into a desperate human tragedy, having arguably been stoked by Western intervention / non-intervention, the press will continue to make hay on such stories and, for fear of attack, the Rolls Royce principle of protecting the innocent from the state is very much parked in the garage.

About the author: James Carson is a senior lecturer at Nottingham Law School.



The latest in Law

Expert opinion: FIFPro challenge to football's transfer system is likely to end in a score draw

The announcement by FIFPro, the global union representing football players, that it has launched a legal action against the football transfer system has received substantial media attention. The complaint to the European Commission, in its capacity as the European Union's competition law body, has been made following a failure to reach agreement with the game's authorities on changes to the transfer system.

FIFPro has been seeking a change to the rules that regulate the relationship between clubs and their players, in particular as they relate to breaches of contract by those clubs. FIFPro's principal concern has been that when a player seeks to terminate their contracts for just cause, as a result of a club failing to pay their wages, they can be faced with a significant period out of the game and, potentially, substantial financial liabilities should their claim eventually prove unfounded.

Being dissatisfied with the progress made through negotiation, FIFPro has now raised the stakes by making these issues a matter of complaint to the Commission. FIFPro has further upped the ante by extending its claim. Taken together the various points of the complaint seem to amount to a wholesale challenge to football's transfer system as it presently stands. There are specific issues raised relating to the existing rules, but the major part of the complaint is, in effect, a challenge to the transfer system as a whole.

The tendency, when these sorts of challenges arise, is for the football authorities to throw their hands in the air and proclaim that the claims being pursued amount to an existential threat to the game. From the abolition of the maximum wage, to George Eastham's case, to Bosman and beyond, the game's regulators have often been quick to predict the end of football. The reality has always been different; the legal authorities have shown themselves able to balance the interests of the players with the wider needs of the sport itself.

It seems unlikely that the European Commission will act so as to wholly dismantle the football transfer system. The history of the Commission's involvement in sport since the Court of Justice judgment in Bosman

indicates that a more subtle line is likely to prevail. The recent past has shown that both the Court of Justice and the Commission are likely to prefer an approach where the existing system is tweaked and refined, rather than scrapped in its entirety. Equally FIFA – football's global regulator – has, since Bosman, preferred to adjust their rules to obviate legal concerns before litigation is concluded. In Piau – a case concerning the legality of FIFA regulation of player agents – FIFA responded quickly to adjust its rules in accordance with the concerns of the Commission. In Balog – relating to the treatment of non-EU nationals in football – and Oulmers – concerning the release of players for international matches – FIFA twice acted at the eleventh hour to reach a settlement before the case was decided by the Court of Justice.

It seems unlikely that FIFPro will truly believe that they will achieve a wholesale reworking of the regulation of football's labour market; the complaint made to

the Commission clearly stems from frustration with its attempts to negotiate changes in much narrower areas of concern. The wider challenge to the transfer system appears calculated to raise the profile of the complaint and to provide a more serious legal threat in order to encourage FIFA to meet FIFPro's more specific concerns.

The likely outcome is that FIFA will – by the threat of legal challenge to the wider transfer system – be persuaded to make adjustments to the regulations relating to players terminating their contracts for just cause, but that the fundamentals of the existing football transfer system will remain in place.

About the author: Simon Boyes is a senior lecturer at Nottingham Law School and Director of the Centre for Sports Law. He researches and writes extensively on sports law issues and is co-author of *Sports Law*, now in its fourth edition, published by Routledge Cavendish.



Press coverage

Dr Loretta Trickett: on securing justice for disabled people: thetim.es/1VAXHgO

Simon Boyes: Director of the Centre for Sports Law at Nottingham Law School, argues that bridge can't be classified as a sport: bit.ly/1LWOn1x

Dr Samantha Pegg: on the assisted dying debate: bit.ly/1Jp7W0d

Nick Jarrett-Kerr: on NewLaw firms: bit.ly/1V9ZCbR

Dr Samantha Pegg: on dealing with revenge porn offenders: bit.ly/1NLLEMU

John Tingle: on the recent speech given by Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, on making health care more human-centered: bit.ly/1NSQc5N



Student success

Working as a student paralegal

Being a lawyer has always been something I wanted to do, since I was a young girl. My time as a student paralegal at Trent Chambers and Trent Centre for Human Rights (TCHR) has made me realise that I have definitely chosen the right profession; law is definitely my calling.

TCHR is a lay pro bono support system based in Nottingham, for direct access counsels at Trent Chambers. It consists of students from all levels of their education and other disciplines. All of us work alongside the legal supervision of the barristers, and the TCHR coordinators. Gary Steel, a senior paralegal for TCHR, and myself are a team on many projects.

Public law, refugee and immigration cases (including judicial review cases) are the bread and butter of Trent Chambers, while human rights in general is the core of TCHR. As a student paralegal, I work with various vulnerable clients with the most heart wrenching stories, and no two cases are the same.

The first big case I ever worked on involved a Rule 39 Interim Injunction, as well as a substantive application to the European Court of Human Rights for a deportee with a child and family in the UK, who had been here since childhood himself. Together, Gary and I assisted our student interns with the research, and with the bundle itself. The client in this particular case had a criminal background. Working on this case has made me realise that all lawyers must look beyond labels, in order to represent their client effectively.

I was thrown in at the deep end throughout my internship, and was able to utilise various skills. Just in my first week, I sat in on a conference with a client, and on the following week, I drafted a letter of instruction. Whilst I admit that these tasks fell outside the parameters of my comfort zone, I found relief in knowing that I wasn't completely clueless. Before this internship, I was already a student adviser at Nottingham Law School's Legal Advice Centre, undertaking pro bono work. Following this experience, I was able to assist the barristers more efficiently by simply transferring the skills I gained as a student adviser, to my experience as a student paralegal.

Being a lawyer can definitely be a challenging job, but a noble one at that. It's not always as glamorous as it is portrayed by the media, but know that you will encounter cases which will remind you of why you entered the profession in the first place, and that makes it that much more rewarding. You will have good days and bad days, and on your bad days, never forget that losing a case does not diminish your capacity as a lawyer. Anyone who intends to pursue a legal career should also be aware that it is not for everyone, or the faint hearted. Should you choose to practise in law, you have to be mentally and emotionally prepared that you will encounter clients with incredibly tragic stories (there is no avoiding them in practice!), because this is real life, and not just another episode of *The Good Wife*.

- Hann Alexyz Cruz



Dual LLM sees first successful LLM dissertation viva

Dave Hillen, a postgraduate student on the first cohort of the dual LLM programme, successfully defended his dissertation project at a viva held in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, on Friday 28 August 2015. Members of the dissertation panel included Professor David Burdette of the Nottingham Law School as well as Professor Michael Veder and Ms Anne Mennens of the Radboud University Nijmegen (RUN), Faculty of Law. The panel unanimously recommended Dave's dissertation pass cum laude (equivalent to a distinction level).

Dave Hillen's project, which was jointly supervised by Ms Anne Mennens (RUN) and Professor Paul Omar (NLS), was a comparative assessment, underpinned by a strong theoretical methodology, of the post-commencement financing frameworks in the United Kingdom and United States under their respective insolvency laws. This was done with a view to ascertaining whether a recommendation could be made for the Netherlands to similarly develop a process by which funding obtained for the purposes of restructuring insolvent companies could be guaranteed a sufficient priority. This would enable such funding arrangements to become attractive for participating creditors, even though it might result in reordering their entitlements in insolvency. The outcome would be to ensure restructuring took place in optimal conditions to rescue the company and incidental employment and economic benefit.

The successful result at Dave Hillen's viva, soon to be followed by those of others in the same cohort, vindicates the hope held by both law schools that the launch of this new programme in 2014 would mark a further step in the close cooperation between the institutions, as well as add to the lustre of the insolvency centres at both universities.

To find out more visit www.ntu.ac.uk/dualllmviva



Left to right: Prof David Burdette, Prof Michael Veder, Dave Hillen, Anne Mennens

Student advice

Tips for new starters

Law is a great subject to study, but it does have its challenges. We caught up with current second and final year students who were happy to offer a little advice to help you settle into university life.

If you could start your time at university again what would you do differently?

Abigail: Read more from the start!

Artiom: I would definitely take my degree more seriously from the start. I would read more and spend more time preparing for seminars.

Hann: Instead of buying books straight away I would go to the library and read some chapters first.

Morenike: I would join a society for fun/leisure purposes. There are loads of different societies to choose from and it would be a nice change from academic study and a good chance to make friends that are not necessarily on your course or in your accommodation.

What advice would you give students joining Nottingham Law School?

Artiom: Treat university as an amazing life experience, but do not forget about your studies.

Abigail: Make sure you do all the work they tell you to do.

Hann: Prepare yourself mentally, because it will be an intensive three years.

Morenike: Make sure you have a good work/social life balance. It's important to get good grades, but it's also important to relax and have fun with your friends.

Are there any study tips you would recommend?

Morenike: 100% attendance is key for a high grade! Also ensure you understand everything taught in your seminars. If not, talk to your tutor at the end; they will be happy to help.

Hann: Start revision notes well in advance, because it helps boost your confidence for your exams. It'll also take a bit of the stress away because you're not spending the last few days before your exam cramming and in a panic.

Would you recommend any extra-curricular activities?

Hann: The Legal Advice Centre or pro bono work, because you'll pick up skills that you will definitely need when you qualify (i.e. drafting). Also, try to go to society events because it shows employers that you're a rounded person.

Morenike: Pick up a sport, this will help you to maintain a healthy lifestyle and also get you involved in a society. Get yourself involved in pro bono activities as you will develop practical skills needed for a career in law, and experience the practical side of the subject.

Abigail: Societies: surf and snow sports.

Artiom: Definitely. Societies will help you to make some valuable networking connections, and pro bono will help you to gain work experience.

And finally, any general tips on university life?

Hann: Try to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Your brain functions better when it's well rested and fuelled with nutritious food.

Morenike: Make the most out of your time at university because time flies and next thing you know you will be a graduate! Enjoy it while you can.

Artiom: Be social, have fun, study hard.

Abigail: Enjoy it before it's over!



Bottom left to top right: Hann Alexyz Cruz, Abigail Palmer, Artiom Romanovskij, Morenike Onasanya

Research

The Nottingham contribution to a new framework for judicial cooperation

The EU Cross-Border Insolvency Court-to-Court Cooperation Principles was released by Eleven International Publishing in September 2015. The project that resulted in the text was the result of a successful joint funding bid by the Leiden Law School, the Netherlands, represented by Professor Bob Wessels (the editor of the text) and Nottingham Law School, represented by Professor Paul Omar, a member of the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law.

The project aimed to develop a set of principles for cross-border communication and cooperation in insolvency cases between courts in the European Union and to provide judicial training on the principles. This project was timely, given the revision of the European Insolvency Regulation, published March 2015, with which the principles are aligned.

Paul Omar's contribution to the project was to take the lead in the capacity building stage of the project, which was focused on providing judicial training. This took place in two stages; the first in 2013/14 saw the project disseminated to European insolvency judges at conferences and events organised by invited project partners, including the International Insolvency Institute and INSOL Europe. The second phase in late 2014 focused on bringing together European insolvency judges for training events that took place in Riga and Amsterdam. In all, over 200 judges active in insolvency matters participated across all training phases and dissemination events.

The project fits firmly within Nottingham Law School's focus on outreach to practice and the judiciary. It is also a major achievement for the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law, which has an international reputation for specialist research and teaching.

To find out more visit www.ntu.ac.uk/judicialcooperation



Professor Wessels presenting the book to Mr Michael Shotter, Head of the Civil Justice Policy Unit at the DG Justice and Consumers.

More from the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law

Walkabout down under: NLS academic visits Australia

Professor David Burdette, Director of the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law (CBIL) at the Nottingham Law School, recently paid a visit to academic institutions and collaborative partners in Australia.

During his visit Professor Burdette gave a talk at an event hosted by the Commercial and Property Law Research Centre (CPLRC) at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). The talk outlined a new global research project being led by Professor Burdette into the regulation of insolvency office-holders. To find out more visit:

www.ntu.ac.uk/cbilvisitaustralia



From left to right: Associate Professor Judith McNamara (Head, School of Law at QUT), Professor David Burdette (NLS) and Professor Rosalind Mason (QUT)

Tales from Tallinn: Academic visitor from Estonia comes to Nottingham

The Centre for Business and Insolvency Law recently played host to Anto Kasak, Lecturer in Insolvency Law at the University of Tartu. At Tartu, Anto is also pursuing doctoral studies into the position of security rights holders in insolvency.

Whilst visiting the Centre, Anto researched into the English law position with respect to his doctoral project and met with other members of the Centre to discuss insolvency law research and teaching.

Centre for Business and Insolvency Law welcomes new member of team

On 1 September the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law welcomed Jenny Gant to the position of lecturer.

Jenny undertook her doctoral studies within the Centre under the supervision of Professors David Burdette and Paul Omar, which she submitted in autumn 2015.

To find out more visit: www.ntu.ac.uk/cbilwelcome

Research

Launch of the Centre for Sports Law

Nottingham Law School has recently launched the Centre for Sports Law. The mission of the Centre is to pursue and encourage innovative scholarship in the field of sports law.

The official launch event will take place on 14 and 15 December 2015. The event will include a number of high profile speakers and an opportunity to discuss the future of the Centre. To find out more visit www.ntu.ac.uk/centresportslaw

Contract Stadium Governance Match-Fixing
 Competition Violence Mediation Referee
 Doping Bosman Sport Licensing Cheating
 Corruption Discrimination Dispute
 Ticketing
 Umpire Amateur CAS Television
 Ethics Money Marketing Athlete
 Professional Law Sponsorship Rights
 Commodification Arbitration Court
 Self-Regulation
 Discipline Arbitration Court
 Broadcasting Anti-Doping Litigation Regulation

The second International Advocacy Teaching Conference

Nottingham Law School will host the second International Advocacy Teaching Conference in June 2016.

The conference will bring together advocates, judges and academics from different jurisdictions and across disciplines to discuss and share best practice in the training of advocates. The theme in 2016 will be 'The 21st Century Advocate' and presentations will focus on the challenges of training advocates to practise in a rapidly changing social and legal landscape. To find out more please visit: www.ntu.ac.uk/advocacy2016



The Nottingham Intellectual Property Guide for Creatives

Intellectual property rights are property rights in something intangible and they reward innovation and creative activity. The Intellectual Property Research Group aims to lead research in this field within the East Midlands region.

As part of the Nottingham Creative IP Project 2014-2015, the project team produced the Nottingham Intellectual Property Guide for Creatives, which is available as an open access publication.

To find out more about the Intellectual Property Research Group visit www.ntu.ac.uk/ipresearch



Centre for Legal Education (CLE) Conference 2015

Building on the success of their first conference, the Centre for Legal Education at Nottingham Law School was delighted to host their second conference: Legal Education and Access to Justice.

The conference took place on 19-21 June 2015, welcoming visitors from around the world (including Ireland, Turkey, India, Chile, Fiji, the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand as well as the UK, and also a large number of members of the Centre).

To find out more visit our www.ntu.ac.uk/cleconference2015



Meet our staff

Jeremy Robson

Jeremy is the course leader for the LLM in Advocacy Skills, a bespoke programme designed and run for the Attorney General of Malaysia. This is the first LLM in Advocacy to be awarded outside of the USA. He teaches advanced advocacy in the context of both civil and criminal litigation.

Jeremy began his career as a barrister and is a door tenant at KCH Garden Square. He is the Director of the Centre for Advocacy, a research centre dedicated to studying advocacy, and organiser of the International Advocacy Teaching Conference.

What has been your career highlight?

I was privileged to travel to Kuala Lumpur for the first graduation ceremony of the LLM in Advocacy Skills. All of the officers from the Attorney General's Chambers who had studied on the LLM had been awarded either a commendation or a distinction and it was an honour to be able to celebrate their hard work.

You joined us in 2008. How has courtroom advocacy changed in that time and how do you see it changing in the future?

There are an increasing number of routes to becoming an advocate – it is no longer restricted to barristers. Cuts to public funding have, however made it very difficult for those who wish to practice in areas such as criminal law. There will always be a demand for high quality advocates but junior advocates will need to be able to offer a broad range of services to make a living.

What is the most rewarding part of the job?

Seeing students develop confidence in their advocacy skills and knowing that they will be able to fight their client's case fearlessly before a judge.

What advice would you give to students joining NTU?

It's important that you have as broad a range of knowledge (about both the legal profession and the wider world) as possible. You are entering a competitive jobs market and employers are looking for graduates whose range of abilities and experiences stand out from the rest.

Why is advocacy important?

It is in court where the rights of an individual are put under the greatest scrutiny. Society needs fearless and capable advocates to ensure that the powerful aren't able to abuse their power at the expense of the vulnerable.

What's your top tip for succeeding as an advocate?

The best advice I ever received was from my pupil supervisor: "Keep it simple."

What are your research interests?

I'm interested in what advocacy is and in particular how advocates can persuade effectively. I'm also very interested in criminal law and evidence. I've been doing a lot of research recently on whether women of the Muslim faith should be allowed to wear the niqab in court. I prosecuted one of the first cases where this was raised as an issue in 2001.

And as the International Advocacy Conference is fast approaching, tell us a bit more about what attendees can expect?

I was delighted that the last event attracted a wide range of judges, practitioners and academics from around the world and that everyone met with the aim of sharing their

expertise in a friendly and supportive environment. I'm looking forward to building on that at next year's event so everyone can draw on a breadth and depth of experience.

If you have any questions for Jeremy, email jeremy.robson@ntu.ac.uk



"It is in court where the rights of an individual are put under the greatest scrutiny. Society needs fearless and capable advocates to ensure that the powerful aren't able to abuse their power at the expense of the vulnerable."

Alumni

Laura Hush

Course: LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology and LPC graduate

Job title: Trainee Solicitor

The way I learnt to study and express my arguments at NTU helped me immensely when I first began my career, and particularly during my placement year. Also if it wasn't for my placement year, I think it would have been significantly more difficult to get a job in law.

After graduating from my degree I started the LPC at NTU. I was glad that NTU guaranteed a place on the LPC if you obtained the grades as it took a lot of stress away during my final year (no applications, worrying about moving etc).

During my LPC I contacted the firm where I had undertaken my placement and they offered me a paralegal position without even having an interview! Since then I spent a year working in public law and community care law and was then offered a training contract and the department move I had requested.

I am currently a trainee solicitor working in crime at a predominantly legal aid firm. I am a fully accredited police station representative so the majority of my time is spent representing clients at police stations. This involves ensuring the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 has been complied with by the police, obtaining disclosure from the interviewing officer, advising the client as to the law, police powers and both the option for how to address the police interview and the possible consequences of each option in interview for the case, and making representations to the police regarding bail and the outcome of cases. I also complete the administrative work in the office, including opening the file and completing client care letters. In addition to this I also clerk Crown Court cases.

My career highlight so far is obtaining a training contract as this is obviously the ultimate first goal after graduating from the LPC.

“The way I learnt to study and express my arguments at NTU helped me immensely when I first began my career, and particularly during my placement year.”



Marvellous mooters

GDL students at the Supreme Court

On May 19 2015 four GDL students, Max Gordon, Alexandra Durling, Anna Clarkson (all full time) and Hannah Payne (distance learning), together with a group of friends and family and supporting members of NLS staff, made their way to the Supreme Court in London for the final of the GDL Mooting Competition 2015.

The final, held in Court 1 of the Supreme Court and presided over by Lord Wilson, lasted a tense 90 minutes during which each of the finalists was forensically examined by Lord Wilson on their knowledge of tort law and, in particular, the law relating to nervous shock.

All those taking part demonstrated an extremely high level of advocacy skills and were all warmly congratulated by Lord Wilson, who gave his final judgment on the proceedings as well as selecting the winning moot team (Max and Anna). The individual leading advocate was Max Gordon.

A memorable day was had by all those who attended and special thanks must be made to the BPTC students involved for their meticulous organisation of the event.



Blackstones Mock Trial Competition

The Blackstones Mock Trial Competition involves not just legal argument but witness handling and making speeches to the jury. It is an incredibly tough competition that NLS won a couple of years ago.

Our team this year (Ryan Akhurst and Faith Rowan) made it through the gruelling initial rounds to get to the finals weekend in early July at the University of Hertfordshire. They made it to the quarter finals and were able to take advantage of advocacy workshops to improve their skills even more.

Ireland and UK Mooting Championship 2015

First year students Billy Shaw and Alex Lucas tackled mooting head on in 2014/15 and competed in two external, national competitions in their first term. When the UK and Ireland Mooting Competition at Queen's University, Belfast came up they again took on the challenge of representing NLS, doing a great job in Belfast in March 2015. They were particularly commended by the judge for their ability to deal with judicial interventions and they missed out on a semi-final place by only two points, even though they were mooting against City GDL students.

Marvellous mooters

The Mooting Club and NLS Mooting

Entry to the external mooting competitions is through the Mooting Club, which is run by students. We say goodbye to newly graduated Sophie Warren-Reece whose mooting success, both individually and through her presidency of the Club has been exceptional. This year's committee are Alice Radford (President) and Billy Shaw (Deputy President). Alice and Billy will be bringing together those who are interested in inter-university mooting and then selecting and supporting the teams.

The LEX Mooting Officer for last year was Seb Thorpe, another successful NLS mooter. He hands over this year to Alex Lucas. LEX will be organising their usual excellent workshops and competitions through the year.

After the Supreme Court final last year, GDL mooters have a lot to live up to, but as their mooting is always of the highest standard, this year's GDL competition will not disappoint.

Mooting tips

Some tips to help you moot – whether for module assessments, internal competitions or when representing NLS in external competitions:

1. **Read** the moot problem.
2. Now **read it again**.
3. Identify the **law** involved and then the **legal issues** which arise in the moot problem.
4. Do your **research** on the law – start with a **good textbook** on the area and then read **statutes, cases, journal articles** and other textbooks to deepen your knowledge.
5. Construct **submissions that support your argument** using the law where it helps you and explaining why the judge should agree with you where the law appears to be in favour of your opponent.
6. Try to **persuade** the judge – make your points persuasively and work to a point.
7. **Signpost** where you are going in your submissions.
8. Be politely deferential to the judge, but not obsequious.
9. **Do not use a script** as it gets in the way of you making effective oral submissions. Have good notes instead so you can rearrange your points as necessary as you are making your submissions.
10. **Eye contact** is important and you can't make it if you are looking down.
11. Questions are your opportunity to show that you know your law and arguments. **Listen** to the question, **think** and then **respond**.
12. **Never** tell a judge that you'll come back to their question later.
13. Appellants must try and **anticipate** their opponent's arguments and **deal with** them in their submissions.
14. Respondents must **listen** to their opponent's submissions and **respond** to them.



Pro bono

New campaign to clarify law surrounding female genital mutilation

A campaign to raise awareness of female genital mutilation (FGM) in Nottingham and educate communities on how the law can be used for protection has been launched by a group of graduates and a student from Nottingham Law School.

Sanjit Nagi, Kathryn Moran, Ashleigh Glenn and Ben Chapman, graduates of the Law School's Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC), and final year LLB Law with Psychology student, Georgina Foreman, set up the extra-curricular inFrinGeMent project with support from the Legal Advice Centre at Nottingham Law School.

They have now linked up with Nottingham organisation Mojatu Foundation, which works mainly with African and Caribbean communities on media, health and education related initiatives. It is also the leading local organisation involved in tackling FGM through community mobilisation and engagement, support for FGM survivors, training and raising awareness, and works closely with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and other organisations tackling FGM.

Through the use of case studies and talks and seminars at schools and community centres inFrinGeMent aims to make people aware of law surrounding FGM, its role as a deterrent, and the legal obligations of public bodies. The group will also be targeting professionals such as teachers, medical staff and social workers.

Director of Mojatu Foundation and FGM campaigner, Valentine Nkoyo, who is also a Nottingham Trent University alumna, said: "It is fantastic to see young people getting involved in such a campaign and giving their time and expertise to support an organisation like ours. As a survivor myself, I understand the huge impact FGM has on girls and women physically, emotionally and psychologically and it's therefore vital to do what we can to stop it."

Kathryn Moran, a member of inFrinGeMent and an aspiring human rights and criminal justice barrister, is currently working with fellow member, Ashleigh, as a prison law advocate in Nottingham. She said: "The idea for the project came after a conversation with a judge about how little is known about this area of law. We all have an interest in this topic, and with Georgina providing an input on the psychological impact on survivors of FGM, we felt we could really make a difference."

Sanjit Nagi, who hopes to become a family law barrister, added: "FGM is certainly making its way into family law cases, especially within care proceedings – thus making it an area which may be relevant to my future practice. However, the main thrust for me was to educate communities and professionals in the legality of FGM, as it is an area of the law with many shades of grey. inFrinGeMent is certainly a project I will be involved in throughout the rest of my career."

Faye Deverell, a senior supervising solicitor at the Legal Advice Centre, said: "When the group came to us with their idea we were very keen to support them however we could. This project uses the skills they have learned throughout their degrees and the BPTC course to raise awareness of a very important issue in the local community. We encourage all students at Nottingham Law School to carry out pro bono work, both as part of their course and extra-curricular, to enhance their studies and to give back to the local community."

To find out more visit: www.ntu.ac.uk/newcampaign



New Legal Advice Centre annual report

2014/15 saw the eighth full year of operation of the Nottingham Law School Legal Advice service and the thirteenth year of the Pro Bono Project.

Since 2006 we have advised over 700 clients and it is estimated that over a 1000 students have participated in pro bono work over the last 13 years. With the Legal Advice Centre creating over 240 student pro bono opportunities in 2014-15.

If you would like to find out more about our pro bono work the latest annual report can be viewed at www.ntu.ac.uk/lacreport



Legal Advice Centre



Legal Advice Centre to run as an alternative business structure (ABS)

Nottingham Law School students have provided a legal advice service to their local community since 2006. The Legal Advice Clinic (now the Legal Advice Centre) was set up with the aim both of fulfilling unmet legal need in our local community and giving our students hands-on experience of the law. The Centre provides advice on a wide range of issues including employment, welfare benefits, housing and some commercial work. Students also act for clients in employment and social security tribunals and work on miscarriage of justice cases.

The Centre is part of the Law School as we have always seen it as a vital part of any legal education that students see the law as it really operates. This not only develops important legal skills but also enables students to better understand how the law affects real people.

We are very fortunate to have excellent premises on Level 1 Chaucer Building, opened in 2014 by the then Attorney General, Dominic Grieve QC, from which we provide our service. This year, however, we are looking to further develop the service with a licence from the Solicitors Regulation Authority to run the Centre as an alternative business structure (ABS).

ABSs were created by the Legal Services Act 2007 and enable those who are not legal professionals to own and manage legal practices. A significant aim of the Act was to extend the range of legal services available and improve access to justice. ABSs are now

an important part of the legal services landscape. As a response to this, the Law School decided last year to apply for an ABS licence from the Solicitors Regulation Authority and this year we intend to run our Centre service using this licence.

The Centre will continue to operate as a charity, in line with its objective to provide a service to the local community. However, the ABS licence will also enable us to operate more like a law firm making even more authentic the hands-on practical experience we offer to our students. We will be able to offer advice in additional areas of law and to charge for some of that advice on a modest basis. The Centre will also give students direct experience of law firm practice management. We will be able to diversify the services it provides and be a platform for delivering legal services in a new and innovative way, such as through public legal education projects.

It also means that our Legal Advice Centre can play a greater role in the local community, fulfilling current unmet public demand for legal advice as well as enhancing our students' legal education.

For more information about the Centre, its work and how to get involved visit www.ntu.ac.uk/legal_advice_centre. To sign up to our NOW information page, email NLS.legaladvicecentre@ntu.ac.uk

Careers

CV hints and tips

It's the start of a new academic year, so what better time to start thinking about building and developing your CV? Here are a few tips to make sure that your CV stands out from the crowd.

An employer is likely to skim-read your CV first and will then decide whether or not it is worth reading fully. Getting the right structure, format and layout is therefore extremely important:

- **Decide on a layout and stick to it.** Make sure you keep a consistent layout throughout your CV. This will help the reader and will make it easier for them to find the key information that they need.
- **Don't overcrowd your CV.** A clear font in at least a size 11 for the main text is recommended, and don't forget the use of headings to break up your CV.
- The typical student/graduate CV should be **no longer than two sides of A4.** Ideally these need to be two full pages – any shorter than this and it can give the employer the impression that you haven't been up to much.
- **Don't rely on the employer making assumptions** about your CV – make it clear what your contribution was and what you gained from any activities that you've been involved in.
- **Consider the use of bullet points** to make details clearer and enable you to emphasise key aspects.

A good CV should stand out from the numerous other CVs that an employer could receive. To achieve this, make sure you emphasise:

- **Transferable skills** that you may have gained from other roles. Teamwork, communication and working under pressure are all good examples
- **Your experiences** and their impact on you in relation to the role you are applying for
- **An understanding** of the post being applied for (or area of work for a speculative CV)

Some CVs that you see may have a personal profile; however, there is a tendency for law firms not to be huge fans of them so you can leave it out. However, if applying to other areas they can be a welcome addition but do be mindful that a poorly written profile can do more harm than good.

References should be one academic, plus one employer if possible, and both need to be recent. There is no need to include a complete postal address on your CV as references are not usually sought at this stage. Name, position, organisation, a contact phone number and email address are sufficient.

Don't forget your covering letter

Some would argue that covering letters are more important than your CV. Just as with your CV you need to make sure you get the right professional layout, and that it includes specific information and not just general and vague statements.

Use the job advert, description and person specification, if available, and other sources (website/social media) to make a list of essential and desirable criteria. Make sure you use these in your covering letter.

You should be aiming for one page for your covering letter and there should be no spelling or grammatical errors. For a simple structure for your covering letter, remember the acronym ICME.

I = Introduction – A brief opening to introduce yourself and outline the position or opportunity you are applying for.

C = Competencies – Why are you suitable for the role? Explain what competencies you have, linked to what the employer is looking for. Always provide evidence and examples.

M = Motivation – Show why you are interested in the company/role/sector. Be specific and demonstrate your research.

E = Ending – Thank the reader for their time and state that you are looking forward to hearing from them.



Careers

Are you on LinkedIn?

We're living in the age of social media and employers are increasingly looking at not only how good you are on paper, but at your online profile too. Online vetting has become a vital aspect of recruiters' selection processes, with employers viewing applicants' LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter pages to get a sense of what kind of person they are and what they have to offer them.

As Susan Vogel, Business Development Consultant at NTU says, having a professional online presence like LinkedIn could have a really positive impact on your employability prospects too. Susan explains: "Although graduate recruitment is increasing, there will always be a lot of competition for the best opportunities. Being on LinkedIn makes you stand out from the crowd through networking with industry professionals, researching potential employers and finding jobs. It also means you can be found, so get your profile right and your dream job could come to you."

We've come up with some top tips on how you can go about building a great LinkedIn profile:

- Profile picture – An image speaks louder than words.**
 Leave your holiday snaps on Facebook and make sure that your profile picture shouts 'employable' rather than 'party animal'. Use a head and shoulders photograph that demonstrates your professionalism.
- Headline – Read all about it!**
 Promote yourself with a short, to-the-point, professional slogan, something like: 'Enthusiastic NTU student aspiring to become successful lawyer'.
- Summary – Keep it snappy.**
 Remember, this is a brilliant opportunity to sell your skills and experience to potential employers. Make sure your summary is interesting, engaging and to the point.
- Experience – Think outside the box.**
 Experience doesn't just have to mean paid work. Whilst having paid employment is great, don't forget you can include a whole range of other activities too. Whether you're a course representative, help run a society, work as a student advisor at the Legal Advice Centre or have your own blog, this is all relevant experience that demonstrates your creativity, ability and enthusiasm.
- Skills – You've got them!**
 This is a great opportunity to demonstrate what exactly you can do. If you're tempted to lie – don't! You will have plenty of skills, even if you haven't used them in a professional working environment. Think about the sorts of skills that recruiters might be looking for (check out job descriptions for roles that you're interested in for ideas) and see if you can include these skills on your profile.
- Get connected!**
 Groups that you've joined appear on your profile page. You can search groups by entering a business name or employment area in the search bar at the top of your LinkedIn page and then selecting 'Groups' from the dropdown menu. Joining groups is a great way of showing that you want to build up your own professional network.

If you would still like to find out more about LinkedIn join us at a 'Beginners Guide to LinkedIn' session. To find out more visit Futurehub.



Futurehub

Don't forget to check Futurehub regularly for up-to-date careers information. There is a range of events listed, including workshops on training contract or pupillage applications, and all the latest job and placement vacancies. Don't miss out, visit www.ntu.ac.uk/futurehub



We're here to support you

Nottingham Law School and the Employability Team provide extensive services for all students.

A drop-in service for Law students takes place each Wednesday between 10 am and 12.30 pm in the Legal Advice Centre, Chaucer Building. If you have any employability-related queries feel free to drop in, no appointments necessary.

Nottingham Spring Law Fair

If you're interested in a legal career don't miss the annual Nottingham Spring Law Fair in the Newton Building on Wednesday 20 January 2016.

A wide range of exhibitors will be attending with information about training contracts, pupillages, paralegal, vacation and placement opportunities. Visit Futurehub for the latest list of exhibitors. The fair takes place between 5.30 pm and 8 pm and all are welcome. There is no need to book.



Summer schools

Why take part?

John Hodgson, reader at Nottingham Law School and co-organiser of the International Summer School Programme talks about the benefits of taking part in the programme.

Why should students take part in the programme?

The summer schools bring to life important aspects of law that you can't experience in Nottingham.

You get direct access to important institutions such as the UN, the World Health Organisation and International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe and European Parliament in Strasbourg, and hear about them from people who are experts on their work.

In Berlin you see a concentration camp at first hand, and also visit the holocaust museum and other key historic sites.

Attendance sends a message to potential employers that you will go the extra mile to expand your horizons.

What skills do students develop?

You make collaborative presentations and engage in other activities to ensure that the material presented is actively understood.

You learn to work with a wide range of students from across the Law School and beyond. You develop communication and inter-cultural skills.

What are your favourite things about the programme?

For me it is the visits, and also the chance to experience other cultures and ways of doing things.

And finally, can you summarise our summer school programme in five words?

A window on the world.

Prepare for 2016

Want to take part in our International Summer School Programme?

The provisional dates for 2016 are:

- Geneva, 2 – 9 July
- Strasbourg, 9 – 16 July
- Berlin, 23 – 30 July

If you would like to find out more about the summer school programme please contact john.hodgson@ntu.ac.uk



...and finally



Upcoming events

NLS Professional Courses Open Day (GDL, LPC, BPTC)
Saturday 7 November 2015

NLS Postgraduate and Professional Courses Drop-in Event

Wednesday 11 November 2015

Wednesday 27 January 2016

Wednesday 16 March 2016

Nottingham Spring Law Fair

Wednesday 20 January 2016

For more information on upcoming events visit
www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsevents

Write for our blog

Anyone in the Law School can write for the Nottingham Law School blog and we're always on the hunt for new bloggers. If you want to get involved send a sample post to nlsblog@ntu.ac.uk and check out previous posts at www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsblog



Discounts and scholarships

We have a range of competitive scholarships available for GDL, LPC, BPTC and LLM courses. Current Nottingham Law School students are also eligible for a progression discount if you continue on to any of these courses.

Visit www.ntu.ac.uk/scholarships to find out more.

New professional courses videos

Nottingham Law School has a reputation for excellence in delivering the Legal Practice Course (LPC) for intending solicitors, the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC) for intending barristers and the Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) conversion course for non-law graduates.

But don't just take our word for it! Hear from Matthew, Kristina, Sarah and Kim as they talk about their experience.

Discover more at www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsprofvideos



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