

LAW AT BUCKINGHAM



The University of Buckingham Law School Newsletter | Spring 2014



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM



Record Graduation

Graduation this year marked the first anniversary of my returning to the Law School as Dean and it was a great occasion. There were a record number of Law graduates with a record number of first-class honours degrees. But perhaps the most moving moment was when Charlotte Walsh, one of my predecessors as Dean, was given a standing ovation by the graduates as she received her Honorary Doctorate of Laws - a mark of her tireless service for the School and the University.

The Vice-Chancellor also pointed out in his address that the Law School had a record number of former Deans still teaching full- or part-time in it. In addition

to Charlotte and myself, there are Professor Susan Edwards (currently the Deputy Dean), Professor Robert Pearce, Mr John Halladay and Mr Jae Sundaram.

The rest of this Newsletter is dedicated to the School's activities over the last 12 months which may be of interest to both alumni of, and possible applicants to, the School. I hope the articles give a flavour of what it is like to be part of the Buckingham Law School family.

Professor Alistair Alcock
Dean of the Law School



“You too can be a great advocate?”

A capacity audience of students filled the Ian Fairbairn Lecture Hall on 6 February 2014 to hear Sir Ivan Lawrence QC deliver a ‘Master Class’ on the subject: “You too can be a Great Advocate?”

Sir Ivan is a Master Benchers of the Inner Temple, Visiting Professor in Law, and Honorary Doctor of Laws of the University. He has been delivering guest lectures on advocacy, life at the Bar, and crime since his appointment as Visiting Professor in 2003 as well as attending Graduation Ceremonies each year.

He has enjoyed a career both at the Bar and in Politics. He has practised at the Bar since 1962, was made Queen’s Counsel in 1981, a Recorder of the Crown Courts 1987 and a Benchers of the Inner Temple 1990. In politics he contested Camberwell in 1966 and Peckham 1970 and was MP for Burton from 1974 to 1997. Presently he is a member of 5 Pump Court Chambers in Temple, London where he specialises in crime. In 2012, he published his autobiography *My Life of Crime*, copies of which have sold like the proverbial hot cakes.

With great skill and humour, Sir Ivan guided students through the techniques, both legal and psychological, necessary for developing the art of jury advocacy and striking the right note with a jury. He highlighted the need to avoid over-playing pleading to the jury, doubting the efficacy now of Sir Edward Marshall Hall KC’s approach, who in his summing up to the jury at the murder trial of Marie Hermann said, ‘Look at her, gentlemen of the jury, look at her. God never gave her a chance, won’t you?’

With the barrister’s finest tool of persuasion Sir Ivan reassured even the most reticent and doubting of law students in attendance that they too could be great advocates and that advocacy was about learning, refining and developing techniques both legal and presentational, and about developing confidence and self belief. (Many of the student audience were developing their own advocacy skills for the forthcoming moot exercise – a compulsory component of the Legal Skills and Procedure course

which Mr Gavin Love, Mr continued into the late Jannati (President) and Sufia George Mawhinney and evening speaking with Ali (Vice President). myself, constituted as judges students in an informal of the Court of Appeal, seminar and signing copies presided over). of his autobiography. The

After the lecture, and evening was assisted by a short intake of breath members of the Buckingham and refreshments, Sir Ivan Law Society, including Justin

Professor Susan Edwards
Deputy Dean of the
Law School

Indigenous Rights Conference

On 8 May 2013, Buckingham's Centre for Multi-Cultural Studies in Law and the Family hosted a round-table conference: "Collisions and Crossroads: The Impact of Indigenous Rights Across Other Legal Sectors". This conference featured presentations on current developments in indigenous rights as well as interactive discussion between presenters, discussants and attendees. The round-table format of this event was tailored towards encouraging students to join in academic debate and discussion, following the success of this format in a round-table event on "The Emerging Landscape of Indigenous Rights" hosted by the Centre for Multi-Cultural Studies in 2011.

Speakers included Dr Valentina Vadi, currently at Lancaster University, Dr Lucas Lixinski, University of New South Wales, Australia, and Dr Sarah Sargent and Dr Patricia Covarrubia of the University of Buckingham. Discussants for the event were Professor Bob Watt, University of Buckingham, Professor Graham Dutfield, University of Leeds, and Professor Ravinder Barn, Royal Holloway, University of London. The event was chaired by the Honourable Dr Jocelyne A. Scutt.

The rights of indigenous peoples is one of the most rapidly evolving areas of international public law. It involves not only human rights, but a wide swathe of other areas including cultural heritage, intellectual property, and economic and financial law. This diversity was captured in the depth and breadth of presentations and discussions at the event. The event is also an indicator of one of the specialisms at Buckingham Law School. Further evidence of the variety of specialist research is given in the section on "Faculty News".

Dr Sarah Sargent



Buckingham Law Society



The Student Law Society has been particularly active over the last 12 months. Apart from organising debates, moot courts, negotiations, advocacy workshops and trips to the Inns of Courts, the courts and a bowling alley, there have been two big events, both led by last year's Law Society President, Enyinnaya Uchenna-Emezue.

The Social Event of 2013 was the Law Ball at Stowe House in November. The setting was the 18th Century equivalent of Camp David (the estate where the ruling elite of the British Empire partied during the summer). The Guests of Honour were Lord and Lady Scott. Lord Scott was for many years one of the leading judges in the UK, producing the Scott Report on Arms to Iraq, and retired as a Law Lord just before the Supreme Court came into being in 2009. The Ball was a sell-out.



The Society also set up an annual student written and peer reviewed publication, the *Buckingham Student Law Review*, which affords members the opportunity to develop critical legal skills. The first volume was published in August 2013. It contains articles on Human Rights, Adoption by Same-Sex Partners, the Death Penalty and Judicial Autonomy in Hong Kong. The second volume will be available for purchase later this year around campus, as well as available online.



We are proud to announce that it was our pro-active role within the University which gained our society the University's "Best Society of the Year Award" in 2013! To keep up this momentum, the Law Society now has its own website at www.buckinghamlawsoc.com to keep both current and former students informed of events and much more.

Justin Jannati
President of the Law Society



University of Buckingham Centre for Extractive Energy Studies



The University of Buckingham Centre for Extractive Energy Studies (UBCEES) was launched on 16 October 2013 at a conference entitled “Current Legal Problems in the Global Energy Sector.” The conference was organised and chaired by Prof. John Hatchard and Mrs Hephzibah Egede, the joint leaders of UBCEES. Key speakers at the launch were Prof. Bob Lee, University of Exeter, James Maton, Partner, Edwards Wildman LLP, Dr Natalia Yakovleva, University of Winchester, Carlos Bellorin, Senior Petroleum Analyst, IHS Energy and Richard Grover, Oxford Brookes University.

The speakers at the conference provided illuminating insights and perspectives on some critical 21st century energy issues. Prof. Robert Lee explored the topical debate on shale gas fracking – unconventional gas exploitation. He identified the key regulatory risks and threats that shale gas fracking may have on the environment and

community. He also considered the climate change issues of the “dash back to gas”. He highlighted the role of the community engagement charter in promoting proactive engagement with affected communities, but emphasised that regulation of the environmental and social challenges of shale gas will only be as effective as the resources provided for its enforcement.

Dr Natalia Yakovleva and Richard Grover assessed the key impacts of indigenous stakeholder participation in energy pipeline development. Drawing from the examples of the Yamal-Nenets Okrug pipeline and the Eastern Siberia-Pacific Ocean pipeline, they considered whether the commercial objectives of the industry and society at large are reconcilable with the aspirations and goals of indigenous oil communities. They also considered the key models of community engagement, namely the

equity participation model adopted in the Mackenzie gas project and the “for profit” model utilized in the Alaskan Oil Corporation, and queried whether these models are adequate to address the key needs of host communities.

James Maton discussed the international legal framework for combating corruption in the global energy sector. He highlighted the key issues of consideration in asset recovery and concluded that most asset recovery programmes will require a mix of mechanisms, including criminal and civil routes of recovery. The conference ended with a presentation from Carlos Bellorin which identified current resource nationalism trends in the Latin American energy sector. In considering these trends, he provided a fascinating comparative analysis of petroleum laws and contracts in three key Latin American jurisdictions – Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico. He also considered the effect that economic policy making and law formulation may have on natural resource management.

UBCEES offers a uniquely holistic approach to the study of extractive energy. This ranges from issues of good governance and accountability, combating corruption and asset recovery, on to the legal, fiscal and competition issues relating to the actual process of the extraction and carriage of energy resources and its environmental and social impact. It also explores community and labour rights in the global extractive energy sector, including indigenous community participation in the decision making process of the ownership, extraction and sustainable management of energy resources.

The UBCEES serves as a forum for world class inter-disciplinary research in energy

studies and combines the expertise of the Buckingham Law School and other Schools involved in energy studies in the University. Its projects and outputs will be disseminated through academic publications, conferences and seminars, policy briefings and reports, and through media communications. The next conference to be hosted by UBCEES will be a round-table Conference on Governance Issues in the Extractive Energy Sector on 7 May 2014. The Conference will also mark the official launch of Professor John Hatchard’s book *Combating Corruption: Legal Approaches to Supporting Good Governance and Integrity in Africa*.

The Centre has also decided to establish a Student Energy Club to encourage the discussion of and publication about contemporary energy issues. It will provide the student community (undergraduate and postgraduate) with learning and networking opportunities preparatory to prospective careers in the energy sector.

The UBCEES has an Advisory Board consisting of leading academics and practitioners in the extractive energy sector. These specialists will provide expert guidance in the development and implementation of the UBCEES’ programmes and activities.

UBCEES Advisory Board Members currently are:

1. Prof. RG, Lee Exeter University
2. David Salter, Warwick University
3. James Maton, Partner Edward Wildman LLP
4. Marc Hammerson, Partner Akin Gump LLP
5. Carlos Bellorin, Senior Petroleum Analyst IHS Energy
6. Mr Abimbola Ogunbanjo, Partner, Chris Ogunbanjo and Co.

Faculty News

Of course, for a large, mature School like Buckingham Law School, there are bound to be departures, which this year included the retirement of one of the longest serving members of staff, Mrs Jennifer Shearman.

Jennifer joined the Law School in 1990 and for many years taught Company Law with the current Dean. More recently, Jennifer did much as Tutor for Undergraduate Studies to persuade some of our perhaps less dedicated students to apply themselves more fully to their academic studies. Others who moved on during the year are Dr Phil Larkin, Dr Greg Ioannidis, Dr Graham Melling and Mr Damian Warburton.

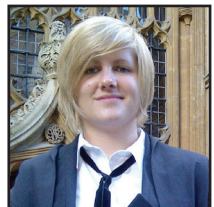
On the other hand, the last 12 months have seen new members of staff arrive (or return), including Ms Natalie Pratt, Mr George Mawhinney, Mr Gavin Love and Ms Sheena McMurtrie. Below there is a list of “Current Academic Staff”, when they first taught at Buckingham and their principal subjects, so that alumni can see at a glance whom they might have known.

Professor bob Watt completed his research project for the Electoral Commission on electoral law with the publication by the Commission of his “Reflections on a New Structure for the United Kingdom’s Electoral Law”; bob has also become a member of a Law Commission expert advisory group on electoral law.

Professor John Hatchard has just published a major new book “Combating Corruption: Legal Approaches to Supporting Good Governance and Integrity in Africa”.

We congratulate Dr Francis Grimal on his promotion to Senior Lecturer and Mrs Judith Bray on becoming a Professor. Judith has produced new editions of her three books in the areas of “Land Law” and “Trusts” and an article on “Treasure” in the last 12 months.

Professor Susan Edwards continues to edit the School’s *Denning Law Journal*. In the 2013 volume there were articles from three current members of staff, Professor Alistair Alcock, Dr Carol Brennan and Ms Karen Dyer, and one from a former member of staff, Dr Mary Welstead. The volume can be accessed via the University website. Susan herself produced articles for other publications on “Accusations of Witchcraft” and “Marital Coercion”.



Indeed, the range of subjects covered by articles and books published in the last 12 months has been tremendous, including “Directors’ Duties” by Dr Adolfo Paolini, “India and Patents” by Mr Jae Sundaram, “Town and Village Greens” by Ms Natalie Pratt, “Criminality of Contagion” by Mr George Mawhinney, “Missile Defence Shields” by Dr Francis Grimal and “Horse Culture of the American Indians” by Dr Sarah Sargent.



Current Academic Staff

Staff Member	Date of Arrival	Principal Subjects Taught
Mr Irving Stevens	1977	Con and Ad; Torts
Professor John Hatchard	1988*	Evidence; Money-Laundering; Criminal, Con and Ad;
Professor Robert Pearce	1989*	Land; Trusts
Professor Susan Edwards	1989	Sex and Gender; Criminology; Family; Crime
Mr Gavin Love	1989*	Land; EU
Ms Sheena McMurtrie	1989*	Con and Ad; Contract
Mrs Charlotte Walsh	1990*	Crime; Torts
Professor Alistair Alcock	1990*	Company; Securities Regulation
Professor Judith Bray	1990*	Land; Trusts
Mr John Halladay	1991	Contract; Commercial; E-Business
Dr James Slater	2002	Crime; Jurisprudence; Legal System
Dr Adolfo Paolini	2005	Company; Torts; Banking
Ms Karen Dyer	2007	Crime; Medical; EU; Torts
Dr Patricia Covarrubia	2007	Intellectual Property; EU
Mr Jae Sundaram	2007	International Trade; World Trade
Dr Francis Grimal	2008	International; EU
Dr Carol Brennan	2008	Torts; Medical
Dr Mark Gretason	2009	Land; Trusts
Mrs Hephzibah Egede	2011	Oil and Gas; Environmental; Torts
Professor bob Watt	2011	Employment; Contract; Con and Ad

Staff Member	Date of Arrival	Principal Subjects Taught
Dr Sarah Sargent	2011	Indigenous Rights; Company Family; Human Rights
Dr Tim Sinnamon	2012	Land; Trusts
Mr Sam Abboud	2013	EU; Con and Ad
Ms Natalie Pratt	2013	Land; Trusts
Mr George Mawhinney	2013	Crime; Legal System

* With breaks in employment

Two of the non-academic staff in the School have been particularly long-serving: Lizzie Horne and Anne-Marie Higginson both started in 1990.

Law Programmes

Full-time LLB Changes

Single Honours Law remains by far the largest programme in the School, but the core subjects can be taken with French, Spanish or English Language, Business Finance or Management Studies, Economics or Politics. Common to all of these continues to be the School's emphasis on legal skills. From 2015, the emphasis on research skills will be increased as a non-exam assessment worth 25% of each module is introduced into second year modules.

The Law Options are constantly being reviewed and recent additions have been Employment Law, Human Rights, Insurance Law and Medical Law and Ethics.

Part-time LLB

The part-time LLB has seen a process of expansion over the last 3 years, from 35 students in 2011 to a current total of 60. Its graduates are also proving very successful, for example Janine Leeder (2012), who obtained a training contract with the leading law firm Latham and Watkins and is currently undertaking the MSc in Law and Finance at Oxford University.

LLM in International and Commercial Law

This remains the School's second most popular programme and now has two entry points, September and January. It may be taken as a general LLM or designated with a specialism. The specialist streams have been reviewed and from September 2014 there will be:

- Oil and Gas Law
- International Trade and Maritime Law
- Financial Services Law

Research Degrees

This has been the fastest growing area in the Law School, albeit from a low base. With six professors and a further eight members of staff with doctorates, our capacity to take research students and the width of specialisms we can cover has been increasing. We currently have students researching into areas as diverse as "The Crime of Aggression in International Law", "Cultural Genocide", "Nigerian Employment Law" and "Multinational Insurance Programmes."

Scholarships and Bursaries

The University has a number of scholarships and bursaries for Undergraduate and Postgraduate students. There are three categories of Scholarship that particularly benefit Law applicants. Further details can be found on the University's website.

International Law Scholarship

This is a scholarship worth 25% of the LLB International fees. Those eligible are

- applicants for LLB programmes;
- who have to pay International fees (principally non-EU students); and
- who already have a good first degree (what we assess to be the equivalent of a 1st or 2.1)

At the 2014/15 fee levels, this would reduce the annual tuition fee from £17,160 to £12,870.

Home Scholarship

This is a scholarship worth £2,500 per annum. Those eligible are either:

- high achievers with ABB at A levels (or their equivalent) excluding General Studies; or
- applicants resident in Buckinghamshire, Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire or Northamptonshire

At the 2014/15 fee levels, this would reduce the annual tuition fee from £12,444 to £9,944.

LLM Scholarship

This is a scholarship worth 33% or 25% of the LLM fees. Those eligible are

- for 33%, those with a 1st class LLB from Buckingham
- for 25%, those with a 2.1 LLB from Buckingham

At the 2014/15 fee levels, this would reduce the total LLM tuition fee from £11,655 to £7,809 and £8,742 respectively. This scholarship is of particular interest to applicants looking to complete an LLB and an LLM in three years.

Law

Patricia Brooks

Tel: +44 (0)1280 828321

Email: law-admissions@buckingham.ac.uk

International Office

Tel: +44 (0)1280 820155

Email: international-office@buckingham.ac.uk

Admissions Enquiries

Tel: +44 (0)1280 820313

Email: admissions@buckingham.ac.uk



The University of Buckingham
Hunter Street
Buckingham
MK18 1EG
United Kingdom

www.buckingham.ac.uk