Foreword

It is my privilege, as Chairman of the Advisory Council, to contribute a brief Foreword to the Annual Report of the Director of the Centre, Professor Basil Markesinis.

In his Report, Professor Markesinis describes another year of remarkable progress. It is not my purpose in this Foreword to replicate his description. I wish, however, to draw attention to two aspects which I consider to be of particular importance.

First, I refer to the recognition given by the University to the achievements of the past three years, in conferring upon the Centre its new title – The Institute of European and Comparative Law. This is welcome, not only in the deserved enhancement of the status of the Centre, but also in the merciful abbreviation of its name to a more manageable length.

Second, I refer with great pleasure to the expanding contacts of the Centre with Italy and the Netherlands. Obviously, I do not wish to detract from the links already forged with France and Germany. These continue to flourish, as the new and admirable Programme with the University of Munich demonstrates. Moreover I believe that the distinguished lawyers from those two countries who have supported the Centre will be as pleased as we are that colleagues from Italy and the Netherlands are working with us in what is surely a collaborative endeavour. It was a great privilege for me to be invited to lead the team which travelled to Italy to sign the Concordat between the Universities of Oxford and Siena which marked a new era of cooperation. The ceremony, though formal, was very moving, as our team remembered, and recognised, the debt which we in this country owe to Italian civilisation and culture. The connection with the Netherlands is, of course, an extension of the valuable link already existing between the Universities of Oxford and Leiden. We are most grateful to those generous benefactors who have made this important expansion in the work of the Centre possible.
For the rest, I refer the Reader to the Annual Report, in which he or she will find much of interest, and much for which we may all be grateful to the dedicated, skilful and indefatigable work of Professor Markesinis.

The Rt. Hon the Lord Goff of Chieveley, PC, DCL, FBA
High Steward of the University of Oxford;
Chairman of the Advisory Council

1. Introductory remarks

This is my Third Annual Report as Director of the Centre for the Advanced Study of European and Comparative law. Like its predecessors, it is addressed at first instance to the Chairman of the Advisory Council, The Rt. Hon. the Lord Goff of Chieveley, DCL, FBA, the Chairman of the Committee of Management, Dr. Eric Anderson FRSE, Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Faculty Board of Law, Mr. Simon Gardner and Professor Mark Freedland, and the Chairman of the Law Faculty Mr Jeremy Horder. Through them its contents will receive wider dissemination among the members of the Law Faculty and the University as a whole. However, the interest showed in our work, both by individuals and academic institutions, remains as strong as ever as their letters and telephone calls constantly remind us. For this reason, but also because we wish to mark our transition from Centre to Institute, this Report is in extended form. But our objectives, proclaimed at a time when an atmosphere of political scepticism over things European prevailed in our country, remain unchanged. Quite simply they are two: to increase further understanding of European Law – a term which for us includes both community law, union law, and comparative law – and to contribute, eventually, to a more integrated European legal education. The recently improved European climate can thus be seen both as a vindication of our faith in the need to strengthen further existing European legal links but also as a harbinger of greater things to come.

2. The wider setting

In this context it is, perhaps, worth reminding ourselves and the reader of the fact that the Centre for the Advanced Study of European and Comparative law forms part of the wider effort of the University of Oxford to enhance its cultural and teaching links with leading academic institutions on the European Continent (while maintaining its long-standing and fruitful connections with other countries of the Common law world). Growth is thus the order of the day; and our successful efforts in this direction have been the subject of favourable comment by two University Committees of Enquiry published since the last Annual Report saw the light of day approximately one year ago.

Thus, the high-powered Review Committee for Law, which was established by the General Board as part of its regular pattern of reviews of departments and faculties, noted that "the rapid growth of this centre is evidence both of the initiative of the Law Board and the entrepreneurial skills of [its] Director" and concluded that "the ever increasing importance of European law in legal education, as in national life, suggests that the contribution of the centre to the faculty, and particularly to its teaching needs, will become even more significant". A more recent enquiry, conducted by Professor David Marquand, FBA, Principal of Mansfield College, into Oxford's European policy in general endorsed our request that the Centre be re-designated as an Institute "given [its] remarkable progress" which Professor Marquand attributed largely to our "remarkable fund-raising initiatives". As a result of this growth, both in size and activities, the official application of the Faculty Board of Law for the re-designation...
of the Centre into a full-blown University Institute has been accepted with effect from Michaelmas Term 1998. As of that date, therefore, the Centre will be known as *The Institute of European and Comparative Law* - a change in nomenclature which we also hope will enhance further our fund-raising possibilities.

3. Continued support for the Centre's varied academic initiatives.

The Centre's attempts to increase the profile of European legal studies in the University of Oxford have resulted in further substantial financial support being granted for the attainment of its aims. As proposed in last year's Report, the new resources have been channelled mainly in four directions: (i) new contacts with European countries; (ii) greater emphasis on the acquisition of library materials to facilitate teaching and advanced research in Continental European law; (iii) increased Centre involvement in the Faculty's teaching commitments towards subjects connected with European law (as defined above) and (iv) a continued, strong presence in the conference and lecture activities of our Faculty. All this has been achieved without abandoning the high-profile public events which marked our first two years of existence and without in any way decreasing the research and publication record of the Centre's staff (as the information given in the pages which follow clearly shows.)

Entrepreneurial activity has thus been combined with traditional scholarly endeavours in a manner which, judging from the reactions we receive daily from almost all over the world, is judged to be unique.

(a) High visibility events.

Such events contribute to our Centre becoming known and respected abroad. They are thus essential for an institution which is as young as we are. But they also give us the opportunity to expose our students to leading European visionaries and, where appropriate, enlist their support in our continuing fund-raising efforts. In this context, the visit of Mr. Jacques Delors, former President of the European Commission, was undoubtedly "the event" of the academic year which is drawing to a close. The President's thought-provoking speech, delivered on the 27th October 1997 before a record-breaking audience at the Gulbenkian Theatre (where over one hundred guests had to be turned away because of lack of standing space outside the theatre), is reproduced on this website. Here suffice it to say that this speech was followed by a second one given the next day in London before an audience of one hundred and fifty high-powered financiers, businessmen, and politicians hosted at the London headquarters of Clifford Chance. This second speech, focusing on the imminent introduction of the Euro, gave the former President the opportunity to display his mastery over his subject and his vision of Europe in the next century. But it also led to the creation of many new contacts for the Centre which thus, once again, feels in the debt of Clifford Chance for generously agreeing to host the event.

The second major event of this kind was an official visit by the Greek Minister of Economic Development Mrs Vasso Papandreou who, as Commissioner for Social Services between 1989 and 1992, was responsible for launching the whole debate about the Social Chapter. Mrs Papandreou's speech, given before a large audience of Community specialists on March 11th, has been published in the Centre's annual list of distinguished lectures.

Also included in this series is a fascinating lecture entitled "Germany After Unification" which was delivered on November 5, 1997 by Professor Dr. Hans Joachim Meyer, Minister of State for Science and Culture of the Free State of Saxony, and co-hosted with the London office of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. These publications are, stocks permitting, available free of charge to anyone who writes to the Administrative Secretary of the Centre and asks for a free
copy enclosing a stamped and addressed envelope.

(b) Expanding contacts with Italy and the Netherlands.

In my Report last year I stressed the undoubted fact that a strong intellectual case can be made for the Centre focusing largely on the three major legal systems which have historically provided the core of the major legal families of the world, namely the Common law, the Romanesque systems (largely inspired by French law) and the Germanic legal family. However, the Centre's Advisory Council also accepted my proposal that we expand our links with two other important European countries - the Netherlands and Italy. Thanks to generous financial support received from various sources (governmental and business) from both these countries these plans are now a reality. In this context the Centre’s Advisory Council noted with gratitude the magnificent donation received from the City firm of Linklaters & Paines which, through the kind mediating efforts of Mr. Chris Bright and the much-valued help of John Ledlie, have proved staunch supporters of the Oxford Law Faculty in general and the Centre in particular. Indeed, to celebrate the launching of "the Italian connection", the Italian members of the Centre's Advisory Council (Professors Alpa and Francioni) entertained Members of the Advisory Council and a number of partners of Linklaters & Paines, in Siena and Rome during the last week in May. During these festivities, a Treaty of Co-operation was signed with the University of Siena with which the Oxford Law Faculty already enjoys good working links thanks to an earlier generous grant made by the historic Bank of Monte dei Paschi of Siena; and the Judge-members of our Advisory Council also used the occasion to have useful meetings with some of their Italian counterparts from the Constitutional Court and the Court of Cassation. The highlight of this visit, however, were prolonged audiences with the President of the Republic, H E Dr Luigi Scalfaro and the Prime Minister, Professor Romano Prodi who promised to visit the Centre at the earliest possible opportunity. I shall return to this visit in next year’s Annual Report since by then we hope to be able to announce some further important developments.

As I predicted in my last Report, our Dutch links have also been strengthened further with the arrival of Professor Marcel Brus, a known expert in International and International Environmental Law, to take up his joint post at Lincoln College, Oxford. The post is funded partly by a grant which the Dutch Minister of Education Mr Joe Ritzen generously made to the Leiden Law Faculty and my Leiden Institute of Anglo-American Law and partly by funds provided by the General Board. The acquisition of the new post is thus as important as the way its funding came about. Last year, the Leiden-Oxford graduate student exchanges also increased to a total of 11 with all exchange students having received financial assistance from the VSB Bank and the Leverhulme Trust.

Within the context of the wider Anglo-Dutch co-operation which exists between Oxford and Leiden, the two Institutes which I have the honour to direct also decided to launch a series of jointly organised lectures. The first speaker this year was the Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Millett who delivered his lecture in Leiden on the 23rd of February 1998. It is entitled "The English Law of Restitution: Unfinished Business" and once again is, stocks permitting, available to those who send us a stamped and addressed envelope. Finally, only a few weeks before this Report went to print, a proposal for a collaborative research project was received from Professors Carel Stalker and Martijn Polack of the University of Leiden and is currently receiving the Centre's detailed attention. The subject matter would be "The Appointment and Role of Expert Witnesses"; and the proposed partners would be Leiden, Oxford - we hope our team would be led by Mr. Adrian Zuckerman - and Munich (under the guidance of Professor Dr Dagmar Coester-Waltjen). Appropriately, it is to our new agreement with Munich that I must now turn.

(c) The Munich programme: a new and important link
In the course of last summer the Rector of the University of Munich, Professor Dr. Andreas Heldrich, the Dean of the Law Faculty of the same University, Professor Dr. Dagmar Coester-Waltjen, (who is also the Director of the famous Institute of International Law (Comparative Law section founded by Ernest Rabel), of the University of Munich, and I (in my capacity as Director of the Oxford Institute), explored possibilities of closer co-operation between our respective Law Faculties and Institutes. A plan of action was drawn up and thanks to the indefatigable efforts of the Rector of Munich substantial funds have now been made available to us by "The Friends of the University of Munich" to implement a five year exchange programme of teaching and research between the two Faculties. These will consist of two student exchanges and one Professorial exchange per year. The agreement was monographed by Dean Coester-Waltjen and Mr. Martin Matthews, Chairman of the Law Board, last April; and the official conclusion of the agreement will take place in the Autumn when Professor Heldrich will visit Oxford to deliver the Fifth Gildesgame Lecture and explore with his counterpart, the Vice Chancellor of our University, Dr. Colin Lucas, the possibility of extending the co-operation agreement to other interested faculties of the two Universities.

(d) Library expansion

In my Report last year I stressed that my next target was to start raising funds for library purposes. More precisely, believing as I do of the need to widen our research interests to include Continental European systems, I embarked upon the task of searching for funds for the purposes of increasing our library holdings. Fund-raising for posts is becoming a routine activity for many of us who are persuaded by the idea that in today's world law faculties must carry more of the burden of finding their own resources. But fund-raising for books is, as anyone who has attempted the task knows, as thankless a chore as fund-raising for buildings. Yet, once again, my friends abroad notably the hyper-active Professor Dr Marcus Lutter, Member of the Chancellor's Court of Benefactors, proved invaluable allies so that by the end of the last calendar year we had received gifts or pledges in excess of £100,000 for the purchase of books from German speaking countries (Germany, Austria, and Switzerland) as well as books and materials on the Italian legal system (the funds in this last case coming from the Banca Carige of Genova). The Law Lords, who are members of the Centre's Advisory Council, once again, kindly agreed to entertain our donors, Dr. and Mrs Erich Schumann, (accompanied by Dr. Leonard Aulinger, Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Marcus Lutter) as well as Herr Martin Kohlhagen, Chief Executive of the Commerzbank, Wilfried Graf, Head of the London Branch of the Commerzbank, Professor Dr. Manfred Erhardt, and Dr. Albrecht Schneider, respectively Secretary General and Director of the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft in order to express the Centre's and University's gratitude for the gifts to the Centre and their promised, continued support to our European efforts. But it gives me particular pleasure to thank all of these friends once again - especially Dr Albrecht Schneider with whom I have developed close working links - and assure them of our commitment to the European cause to which they have so generously given their support. I confidently expect more developments in this area, as well.

(e) Conferences and lectures.

A major part of my time as Centre Director is spent organising conferences and other annual lecturing events. The year which has just ended was no exception; and I am happy to report the following.

1. Last September the Centre hosted in Oxford the biennial Conference of judges organised by Lord Goff and Professor Dr. Christian von Bar (who is a Meber of its Advisory Council). The distinguished group of jurists, which considered in the course of two working days legal problems of common interest, included from the German side: Dr. Karlmann Geiss, President of the Bundesgerichtshof, Presiding Judges Herbert Schimansky and Karl-Bernhard Schmitz,
Judges Gerda Müller, Jürgen von Gerlach, Hans Peter Kirchhof, Gerhard Kreft, Christian Zülch and Professors Peter Schlosser and Christian von Bar (initiator and co-organiser of the exchange programme). The British delegation was, once again, headed by Lord Goff and included: Lords Hoffmann, Cooke, Saville, the Vice Chancellor Sir Richard Scott, Lord Justice Phillips, Madame Justice Arden, Mr. Justice Mance, Professors Peter Birks QC, FBA, and Jack Beatson QC, Mr. Adrian Zuckerman and Mr Arthur Marriott QC.

2. On November 26th, 1997, the Centre also organised a one day Conference at the London headquarters of Clifford Chance at which a team of eminent speakers, headed by the Lord Chancellor, the Rt. Hon. the Lord Irvine of Lairg, spoke about the implications of the Human Rights legislation on various aspects of English Law (human rights, employment, discrimination, corporations, the law of obligations, style of judgements, etc.) The article-size contributions of our ten key-note speakers (Professor Andrew Ashworth QC, Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Professor Paul Davies, Ms Sandra Fredman, Professor Bob Hepple QC, Mr. Murray Hunt, Mr. Nicholas Jordan, Mr Sydney Kentridge QC, Dr. Geoffrey Marshall FBA, and Dr. Chris McCrudden) will soon appear in book form as volume three of The Clifford Chance Lectures (to be followed by a fourth volume, entitled Protecting Privacy) which have now become for us (and the Oxford University Press) an important, annual publishing event.

3. Also on the 17th November 1997 the Centre hosted The Fourth Annual Gildesgame Lecture which was delivered by one of Germany's leading Comparative lawyers, Professor Emeritus Dr. Hans Stoll of the University of Freiburg.

4. On February 11th the Centre, with the invaluable assistance of Mr. Michael Byers, Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, organised Professor Francesco Francioni's Inaugural lecture as the second Heather Grierson Visiting Professor of European Law. The lecture, attended by a large audience, was entitled "Reconciling Trade and Environmental Protection: The World Trade Organisation" and was chaired by Professor Ian Brownlie, CBE, QC, FBA who then also presided over a lively debate. One week later, the Centre organised jointly with the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn the first of a series of joint events which it hopes will become a permanent feature of the annual London lecture scene. The lecture, also given by Professor Francioni, Vice Rector of the University of Siena and Heather Grierson Visiting Professor of European Law, was entitled, "Customary International Law and the European Convention of Human Rights" and was attended by over one hundred leading judges (including four Law Lords, the Lord Chief Justice and the Master of the Rolls), Benchers of the Inn and other leading practitioners as well as the donor and his son, Mr Jacob Grierson, a practising barrister and a keen supporter of our Centre. The Centre is hoping that Professor Francioni's set of six lectures will, in due course, be published in book form.

(f) Teaching for the Faculty.

As predicted in last year's report the Centre is playing an increasing role in Faculty-related teaching. Thus all of the Centre's permanent and visiting teaching staff were in various ways involved in the normal under-graduate and graduate teaching offered by the Oxford Law Faculty as well as having complete responsibility of all the foreign law teaching provided for the benefit of those students whom we send abroad during their third year of studying law. In this context, I am happy to thank Mrs Irene Snook and Mrs Marina Milmo for the sterling work they have, once again, done in preparing our students for their year abroad. With the addition of the Italian component we shall, as of next year, also be offering tuition in Italian Law (in Italian) so it is a pleasure to welcome formally Mr. Nello Edoardo Pasquini who is a lawyer qualified both in Genova and London and who, for many years now has, despite his busy schedule as a successful practitioner, also found the time to tutor students in Italian Law at University College London. Mr Pasquini played a leading role in organising our recent visit to Rome (on which see my earlier comments).
(g) The expansion of activities connected with Community law

Our teaching and research activities in this area of the Law recently received a great boost with the arrival from the University of Nottingham of Professor Stephen Weatherill as the first holder of the Jacques Delors Chair. Last June, a strong electoral board had to consider over twenty serious candidates for the post and Mr. Weatherill emerged as the candidate whose teaching abilities, enthusiasm and research record commended him strongly to the Electors. His presence with us, coupled with the continuing and much-valued efforts of Ms Grainne de Burca and Dr. Enchelmaier, has considerably enhanced the teaching strength of the Centre (and the Faculty) in this important area of the law. In addition we have been fortunate to secure on a long term basis the presence and assistance of two leading French experts on this topic who will be joining us under the heading of the Chair of EC Law which the French Government, thanks to the indefatigable efforts of Mr Albert Prevos, kindly seconded to the Centre last year for an indefinite period. We have thus benefited from the visit of Professor Laurence Idot of the University of Paris I, Panthéon-Sorbonne; and in 1989/99 Professor Idot will be joined by Professor Jacqueline Dutheil de la Rochère who is well-known to Common lawyers from her regular teaching at the N.Y.U Law School and Cambridge. These appointments bring the French professorial contingent at the Centre to three and ensures Community law equal treatment to Comparative Public and Private law.

(h) Scholarly publications and related activities by the Centre's permanent staff.


Professor Stephen Weatherill. The following works were published during the academic year which is about to end. EC Consumer Law and Policy (1997); European Economic Law (co-authored) (1997); Contribution on "Merger Control" in Palmer's Company Law (loose leaf publication); "Reflections on EC law's implementation imbalance in the light of the ruling in Hedley Lomas" in Kramer, Micklitz and Tonner, Law and Diffuse Interests in the European Legal order: Liber Amicorum Norbert Reich (1997); "Compulsory Notification of Draft Technical regulations: The Contribution of Directive 83/189 to the Management of the Internal Market (1996) 16 Yearbook of European Law, 129-204; "On the Depth and Breadth of European Integration" Review Article in (1997) 17 Oxford Journal of Legal Studies, 537- 550; "Implementing EC Directives on Consumer Protection - Short term Choices by the
UK" (1998/3) Amicus Curiae 11-13. Professor Weatherill has also been teaching on the European Business Regulations BCL/ M.Jur course, and delivered papers in Leiden, Nottingham, Edinburgh and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies in London, and has been actively involved in the development of teaching of EC law in Slovenia, Portugal, and Belgium. He is currently working on the 4th edition of his Cases and Materials on EC Law and the 3rd edition of Weatherill and Beaumont's EC Law.

Professor Etienne Picard. His publications during the past academic year include two chapters - "L' Etat de droit en tant qu'il implique un Contentieux administratif" and "Les voies de recours en droit du contentieux administratif francais: l' appel" - in Le Contentieux administratif et l Etat de droit (1997) (for which he also acted as General Editor); "La procedure juridictionnelle et l Etat de droit" and "Le juge de l'Administration et les droits fondamentaux", both being Reports written for conferences which he organised in Cairo on December 13th- 16th, and 18th and 21st 1997 which will be published soon in book form containing the proceedings of the conferences; "Citizenship, Fundamental Rights, Public Service" in Citizenship and Public Service (1998); "The Right to Privacy in French Law" in Protecting Privacy (Gen. Ed. Basil Markesinis) (1998); "L' émergence des droits fondamentaux en france", in Actualité Juridique, Droit Administratif, numéro special 1998. His main teaching during this period was in the BCL/ M.Jur seminar "Comparative Public Law" (with Professor Craig and Freedland) and the French Law course (shared with Mrs Milmo) for the Oxford students reading for the BA course with French law.

Ms Grainne de Burca. Her publication for this period include the 2nd edition (with Professor Paul Craig) of their EU Law: Text, Cases and Materials (1998); "The Principle of Subsidiarity and the Court of Justice as Institutional Actor" (1998) 36 JCMS; "The Influence of European Legal Concepts on UK Law: Proportionality and Wednesbury Unreasonableness" (1997) 3 European Public Law, 561. She is also working on a collection of essays (with Professor Craig) entitled EU Law: An Evolutionary Perspective and another book with Joanne Scott entitled The Constitution of the European Union for the Butterworths Law in Context Series. Her teaching has included lectures in Oxford on the European Court of Justice and various tutorials and seminars in EC law, Criminal Law and EC Social, Environmental and Consumer Law. She also gave invited lectures at the Irish centre for European Law at Trinity College, Dublin, and seminar papers at Aberdeen, Cambridge, Glasgow and Manchester Universities. She taught a specialised course on "Subsidiarity and the EU" at the Academy of European Law at the European University Institute in Florence and, finally, gave a course of lectures on substantive EU law at the Cornell- Paris I Summer Institute of International and Comparative Law at the Sorbonne in Paris.

Lecturers in Great Britain and Ireland, the Goethe Institute in London, as well as a guest lecture in Trinity College, Dublin, on "Statutory Drafting and Interpretation in the Common law and the Civil law". Finally, during this last year, Dr. Dannemann was made a Founding Member of the Advisory Council of the Sir William Dale Institute of Legislative Studies, at the IALS in London and specifically translated a decision of the Bundesarbeitsgericht (BAG 28.10.1992, EzAr 247, sub para. 112 BetrVG) which was quoted with approval by the Court of Appeal in Barry v. Midland Bank [1998] 1 All E R 805, at 821h.

Dr. Stefan Enchelmaier. In 1997 Dr. Enchelmaier's book Europäische Wettwerbspolitik im Oligopol was published by Nomos Verlag. He also co-authored (with Professor Markesinis) a chapter in the forthcoming vol IV of the Clifford Chance Lectures Protecting Privacy entitled: "The Applicability of Human Rights as between Individuals under German Constitutional Law"; Publication is also imminent on the following works: "Pros and Cons of European Federalism" 1998 Inter Ali; "Agriculture, Fisheries, and Environmental Policy in the EC", (1998) ICLQ and book reviews of Korah, Introductory Guide to EC Competition Law and Practice, 6th ed. and Beatson and Tridimas, New Directions in European Public Law, both to appear in 1998 Yearbook of European Law. Despite the fact that this was Dr. Enchelmaier's first year in Oxford, he also tutored throughout the year 30 undergraduates and delivered eight lectures on "Introduction to European Community Law" in Michælmas Term 1997, supervised 2 M.Jur theses and 1 D.Phil dissertation, gave 4 revision lectures on the European Community Course during the Trinity Term of 1998, as well as 3 seminars on the Law and German course (for which he has now assumed main responsibility). In February 1998, he also gave a seminar to a group of Eastern European Civil servants who attended a seminar series organised by the "Know How Fund".

(i) Departures

As is to be expected, the passing of every year sees old members of the Centre leave and new friends arrive. Thus, this coming summer Professor Roy Goode, CBE, QC, FBA will be retiring from his post as Norton Rose Professor of English Law. The Oxford Law Faculty as well as the Centre owe a great debt of gratitude to this indefatigable and visionary colleague so I am happy to announce that the Advisory Council unanimously voted to offer Professor Roy Goode one of its coveted Honorary Fellowships. The Council also voted to confer a second fellowship to Sir John Kerr KCMG, Permanent Under Secretary at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for the invaluable assistance which he gave to the Oxford Law Faculty when, as H.M. Ambassador in Brussels, he helped secure the funding for the Delors Chair. Professor Paul Davies will also be leaving Oxford to take up his post as Casell Professor of Company Law at the London School of Economics in the University of London. Much of the initial and highly sensitive work of setting up the Centre and securing the posts funded from abroad was achieved smoothly and efficiently during Professor Davies' Chairmanship of the Law Board. The LSE's gain is Oxford's great loss; but his many Oxford friends are comforted by the fact that he will continue to reside in Oxford. Professor Mark Freedland, Vice Chairman -elect of the Faculty Board of Law, will be taking Professor Davies's seat on the Centre's Advisory Council.

After three years as our French Deputy Director, Professor Etienne Picard will also be returning to his Chair at the Sorbonne. All who worked with this learned colleague will miss his presence and learning though the friendships made during his three-year stay with us will, I am sure, ensure that we shall remain in close contact in the future. Professor Picard will be replaced by Professor Auby from the University of Paris II.

Also leaving teaching is Mrs Irene Snook whose activities and teaching predates the Centre's creation and has served it loyally throughout its short life. Mrs Snook, who was first hired by
Mr. John Eekelaar to provide tuition to our students going to Germany, has been much appreciated by all those whom she taught. Her departure, prompted by family reasons will not, however, deprive us totally of the pleasure of her company since she hopes to become involved as a translator of German materials which we shall be placing in the Centre Website which is being set up under the direction of Dr. Gerhard Dannemann.

Finally, on a happier note, I am pleased to announce the fact that the post of Administrative Assistant at the Centre has been up-graded (again thanks to financial backing from Clifford Chance) to a grade five post in the light of the increased responsibilities entrusted to its holder and the Centre's imminent re-designation into an Institute. The post has gone to Mrs Pamela (Pam) Harries whose most recent post was being the Personal Assistant to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Cardiff. Once again, therefore, I offer on behalf of the Centre my deepest thanks to Mr Keith Clark, Senior Partner of the Clifford Chance for his confidence in and support for our work.

Conclusions

The summary of our activities, sketched out above, gives some idea of what has been accomplished in the course of our third year of operation. Whilst for many this would be regarded as sufficient, for me it is still the beginning. The European cause, to which I have devoted all my teaching and professional life, is entering a new phase which, I suspect, will be marked by Britain's enhanced involvement in the shape of future events in our Continent. I confidentially expect that Government and University will have to do more in this area. We shall be there to assist both in any way we can. Above all, we shall continue to serve our students who, like most young people, often see the future in much clearer and more optimistic terms than their elders.

Oxford, 4th July 1998 Prof. Basil Markesinis QC, DCL, FBA.