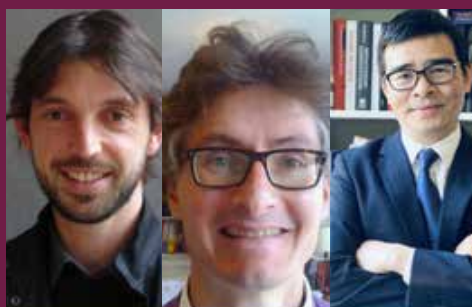


OXFORD LAW

2022
No 25



Iyiola Solanke appointed Jaques Delor Chair of EU Law
Research into Restorative Justice

Mary Adeyemo receives Increasing Access Award

New Professors

CSLS student wins art prize



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Cover photos (clockwise from top left):

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 Street art by Pank in
 Yogyakarta, Indonesia
 Mary Adeyemo
 New Professors
 Artwork by Aastha Prasad

Keep in touch

Alumni enquiries:
alumni@law.ox.ac.uk
Editorial enquiries:
 Clare Oxenbury-Palmer
communications@law.ox.ac.uk

Oxford Law News
 Faculty of Law
 St Cross Building
 St Cross Road
 Oxford
 OX1 3UL

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Dean's Letter



Greetings from Oxford at the start of the 22–23 academic year. We are delighted to be able to welcome students onsite after three rather disrupted and difficult years. It's been invigorating to see the various undergraduate and graduate cohorts' energy, enthusiasm, and engagement during their inductions, and the start of their year.

We have some good news to update you on:

First, the MSc in International Human Rights and the International Human Rights Summer School have moved from the Department of Continuing Education to the Law Faculty. This makes sense with the resounding success of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights under the leadership of Kate O'Regan. We are delighted to welcome to the Faculty Professors Nazila Ghanea and Shreya Atrey who teach these courses. Second, we have a new MSc in Intellectual Property Law, making a total of *seven* postgraduate taught Masters and one postgraduate diploma programme. Third, our second iteration of the Oxford Law Summer Programme has been a great success. This provides an opportunity to us showcase what we do at Oxford Law to those who are not at Oxford, and

gives our postgraduate research students the opportunity to lead some tutorials. I love a win-win-win situation.

We have just seen the retirement of our long-standing Director of Development for Law, Maureen O'Neil. As the first fundraiser solely focused on raising support for Law, Maureen has made a huge contribution to the Faculty and the University. She has worked tirelessly to establish and maintain a robust development programme, a particular legacy of which will be the ongoing close ties between Oxford Law and many of the UK and the world's leading Law firms. We all feel better in Maureen's company. We are enormously grateful to her and will miss her.

We will also miss Joseph Raz, Emeritus Professor of the Philosophy of Law and a giant of jurisprudence and philosophy who passed away this year. A student of HLA Hart, Joseph trained countless students, many now in philosophy and law faculties around the world. His importance is hard to overstate. The Faculty remembers Joseph with reminiscences from former students and colleagues, a list of his publications, tributes published on other channels and some of his evocative photographs. There will be a celebration of his life on 10 December 2022 in Balliol College, and an exhibition of Joseph's photographs will be held in the Old Archive Room.

Thank you so much to those who contributed to the Dean's Scholars Fund. This cause is very dear to my heart. With the cost-of-living crisis, the Fund has become more important than ever. If you benefited from an Oxford education, I hope you will consider passing it forward to enable a very talented someone to receive the same benefit, who would not otherwise be able to do so.

Faculty success at Vice Chancellor's Diversity Awards

Mary Adeyemo received a Highly Commended award at the Vice Chancellor's Diversity Awards for her work enhancing opportunities for school students from under-privileged backgrounds to access higher education and to enter the legal profession. She is a member of HeLEX (Centre for Health, Law and Emerging Technologies) at the Faculty. Her research focuses on the intersection of health law and technologies in Africa with the hope of advancing the healthcare systems in Africa. She founded a project, CareerCarrierz, which, amongst other things, supports indigent students in Nigeria with resources to study and take local and global opportunities as well as organising tech classes for teenagers, empowering them to explore tech opportunities at a young age. Congratulations also to the Dean of the Faculty, Mindy Chen-Wishart, who was one of 6 staff members

shortlisted from 36 nominees for the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Staff Champion or Role Model category. Mindy was recognised for her #RaceMeToo campaign launched on Twitter in July 2021 which seeks to raise awareness of, and challenge, everyday racism.

And finally, congratulations to Omar Khan, Departmental Lecturer at the Centre for Criminology, who was nominated by his students for his impact on their experience. His nomination stated: 'Omar's impact on the experience of racialised and otherwise multiply-marginalised students in just a few short months has been especially clear. Not only does he make time for any student who seeks out his advice, but his deep personal humility and heart of service are so clear in every interaction.'



Mary Adeyemo with Vice Chancellor, Louise Richardson

Professor Iyiola Solanke appointed to Jacques Delors Chair of EU Law

The Dean of the Faculty welcomed Professor Iyiola Solanke to the Jacques Delors Chair of EU Law in August, following the retirement of Stephen Weatherill.

Iyiola Solanke was Professor of European Union Law and Social Justice at the University of Leeds Law School and the Dean for EDI for the University. She is a Visiting Professor at Wake Forest University School of Law and Harvard University School of Public Health and a former Fernand Braudel Fellow at the European University Institute. She is the author of 'EU Law' (Pearson 2015), 'Making Anti-Racial Discrimination Law' (Routledge 2011), 'Discrimination as Stigma - A Theory of Anti-Discrimination Law' (Hart 2017), and many articles in peer reviewed journals. Professor Solanke is an Academic Benchers of the Inner Temple and judicial member of the Valuation Tribunal for England (VTE). She founded the Black Female Professors Forum, and the Temple Women's



Forum North to promote engagement between legal professionals and students in and around Yorkshire. She recently chaired the Inquiry into the History of Eugenics at UCL and is leading two research projects: Co-POWeR, an ESRC-funded project looking into the impact of COVID on practices for wellbeing and resilience in Black, Asian and minority ethnic families and communities; and Generation Delta, a RE/OfS-funded project promoting access to PGR study for BAME women.

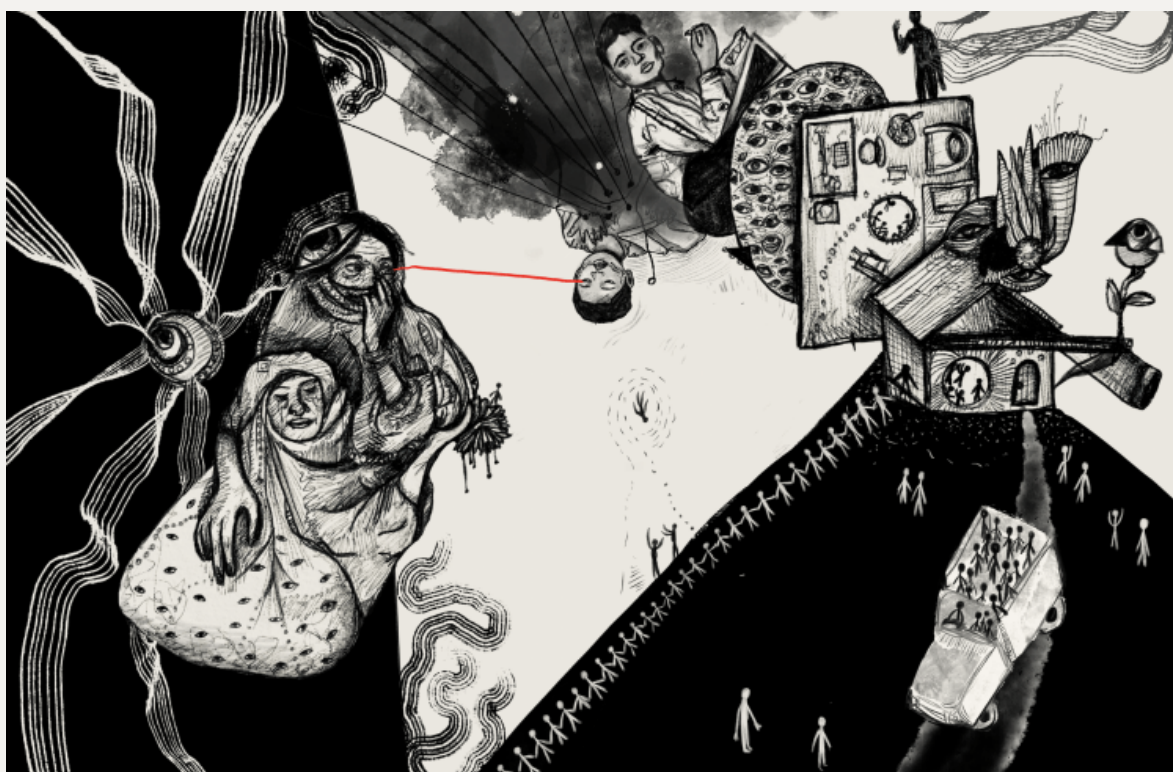
CSLS student wins Bonavero Institute's artwork competition

The Centre for Socio-legal Studies is delighted to announce that one of their research students, Aastha Prasad has won the Bonavero Institute's artwork competition. Aastha's work will now appear in the Institutes Annual Highlights publication.

Drawing on her fieldwork, the artworks "Household" and "Migration" reflect on yearly seasonal migration occurring in the Dangs District of Gujarat, India. Adivasi households from the Dangs migrate to neighbouring districts to work as agricultural labourers for sugarcane cutting for up to eight months of the year. The two pieces show the contrast between the longing for a home with dignity of labour and the liminal physical spaces occupied by the Adivasi families living in precarious conditions when their households move between the sugarcane fields to work day and night.



The artworks highlight the work that remains to be done in the field of human rights with the hope that renewed solidarities can lead to change towards the dignity of labour for migrant workers.



Lavanya Rajamani Delivers the 2022 Heilbron Lecture at the Old Bailey

Professor Lavanya Rajamani, Professor of International Environmental Law and Yamani Fellow and Tutor in Public International Law at St Peter's College, University of Oxford, was selected to deliver the third annual Heilbron Lecture.

The Heilbron Lectures were founded in 2020 by The Next 100 Years Project, a group dedicated to supporting and celebrating women in law in the second century following women's admission to the profession. Professor Lavanya Rajamani is the third eminent legal scholar invited to deliver a Heilbron Lecture and the first to give the lecture in person at the Old Bailey. The event marked 50 years since Dame Rose Heilbron QC, the lecture's namesake, became the first woman judge to sit at the Old Bailey. Professor Rajamani was introduced by Alison Gowman, Sheriff of the City of London, and closing remarks were delivered by Baroness Hale, the first woman to act as President of the Supreme Court of the UK.



Prof Rajamani's lecture explored the potential – and the possible limitations – of legal and political approaches to climate change. Her lecture drew on her extensive theoretical and practical expertise in international environmental law. In addition to teaching, researching and writing extensively on international climate change policy, she has wide-ranging experience supporting and counselling international governments and panels on responding to climate change.

This news story first appeared on the St Peter's College website and was written by Hannah Hempstead

Winner of 2022 Socio-Legal Studies Association book prize comes to Oxford as Visiting Professor Technologies (HeLEX)



Professor Mark Fathi Massoud has been appointed a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies in the Faculty of Law. He is a professor of politics and legal studies, and the director of legal studies, at University of California, Santa Cruz. Mark is a scholar of law and society,

specializing on the functions of law and religious faith in states under crisis. He uses various empirical methods, including archival research, ethnographic fieldwork, and qualitative interviews.

His most recent book, *Shari'a, Inshallah: Finding God in Somali Legal Politics* (Cambridge University Press 2021), was awarded the Socio-Legal Studies Association 2022 Hart-SLSA Book Prize.

New collaboration with Stowe Family Law



The Faculty is excited to announce a new collaboration with Stowe Family Law Oxford, who specialise in divorce, dissolution of civil partnerships and associated matters including financial settlements and arrangements for

children. Stowe are offering the top performing Family Law student a week-long work placement at their Oxford office, along with a £100 cash prize.

"It's a pleasure to offer this award to an Oxford University student. As a firm, we are keen to give something back to future generations of lawyers and it's great to be doing that with this highly regarded institution, where many leading lawyers have studied. The award recognises outstanding achievement in the family law module, and the prize includes work experience at the firm."

Gemma Davison, Stowe Family Law Senior Solicitor, Thames Valley and Head of Oxford

Launch of Oxford Seminars in Jurisprudence

When the pandemic hit in 2020, there were suddenly fewer opportunities to present and get feedback on works in progress, including in the philosophy of law. Adam Perry, Kate Greasley, and James Edwards decided to start the Oxford Seminars in Jurisprudence as a free online forum for discussion of new papers and ideas in the philosophy of law.

They have now held 19 seminars. Presenters have included many of the world's leading legal philosophers, as well as some of the most exciting junior figures in the field. Attendance has held steady despite loosening travel restrictions, with an average of 60-70 people per seminar attending from around the world.



Oxford Constitutional Studies Forum launches Podcast

'Efficient Secrets' is a new podcast about constitutions from the Oxford Constitutional Studies Forum, a collaborative project of academics from the Department for Politics and International Relations and the Faculty of Law.

Constitutions provide the basic laws and principles of government for modern states. They determine the powers and duties of those who govern, and guarantee rights and freedoms to those who are governed. Yet few countries politics can be understood through these documents alone. Constitutions have, in Walter Bagehot's famous formulation, "secrets" which don't always align to "the traditional theory, as it exists in all the books".

This podcast looks at the different efficient secrets of democratic constitutions, as well as the challenges to them, to gain deeper insights into the unstable and fractious politics of the twenty first century – a time when democratic politics finds itself under increasing attack.

The podcast is part of a broader project, the Constitutional Studies Forum, which brings together scholars of law and politics to understand the challenges faced by liberal democracies across the world today.

Available on all major platforms, as well as on our website. You can follow us on Twitter: @EfficientPod.

Bonavero Institute announces New Head of Programmes



The Bonavero Institute is delighted to announce that Professor Freya Baetens has been appointed as its new

Head of Programmes. She is expected to take up her appointment later in 2022. Professor Baetens will be Professor of Public International Law in the Law Faculty, and a governing body fellow at Mansfield College.

Professor Baetens is a public international lawyer with a wide range of interests including international human rights law, the responsibility of states and international organisations, WTO and investment law, energy law and sustainable development. She is also a practitioner of public

international law. As a Member of the Brussels Bar, she regularly acts as counsel or expert in international and European disputes before courts such as the European Court of Human Rights and the European Court of Justice.

Before coming to Oxford, Professor Baetens served as the Professor of Public International Law at the PluriCourts Centre of Excellence (Faculty of Law, Oslo University) where she worked on an interdisciplinary research project evaluating the legitimacy of international courts and tribunals. She is also affiliated with the Europa Institute (Faculty of Law, Leiden University). She undertook her doctoral research at the University of Cambridge.

Professor Baetens said that she "was delighted to be joining the Bonavero Institute, Mansfield College and the Law Faculty at Oxford! I'm looking forward to contributing to the Institute's mission of building bridges: contextualising human rights within international, European and domestic law as well as linking top level scholarship and teaching to the world of legal practice."

Dean's Scholars Fund

We are delighted to report that in 2022/23, The Dean's Scholars Fund is funding five exceptional law students who would otherwise be unable to take up their places at Oxford. This vital funding is only possible because of the generous support received from law alumni this year. With two talented Dean's Scholars awards in 2021/22, the total number of awards supported by the Dean's Scholars Fund is seven – a remarkable achievement in a short space of time!

We are hugely grateful to the many alumni donors who have kindly supported the Dean's Scholars Fund. Your gift has a truly life-changing impact for each of our Dean's Scholars – thank you!

So far, over £130,000 has been raised through single and regular gifts, of which £70,000 has been received, and spent! Regular gifts (£60,000 expected over next 4 years) are especially appreciated as we endeavour to establish the Fund on a firmer financial footing and enable us to continue to support the best and brightest students for years to come.

If you'd like to find out more, and join us to provide much needed financial support for Oxford Law, please go to:

www.development.ox.ac.uk/supportlaw

Law and Computer Science Course shortlisted for Vice-Chancellors Education Award



Law and Computer Science is a unique and groundbreaking course, offered as an option in postgraduate master's degrees in both the Law Faculty and the Department of Computer Science at Oxford. It is

also available as a fourth-year option in all three Oxford undergraduate courses in Computer Science.

This truly multi-disciplinary course stems from world-leading research into the use of AI in the provision of

legal services and the mindset, skills and knowledge gaps between lawyers and computer scientists. It allows students from both disciplines to come together and gain a unique perspective on their own specialist areas as well as learning to communicate and collaborate effectively to respond to the challenges and opportunities of digital tech.

Students are supported in their highly innovative practical work by a group of industry mentors and sponsors, who bring a strong commercial focus as well as sharing invaluable practical insights, data, and technical tools.

The course was founded and is convened by Professor Rebecca Williams, Faculty of Law, and Professor Tom Melham, Department of Computer Science, and was developed and designed together with Dr Václav Janeček, previously a Research and Course Development Fellow in Law and Technology in Oxford, now a lecturer at the University of Bristol Law School.

Congratulations to our new Professors

The Faculty is delighted that in the last two recognition of distinction exercises 12 Faculty members became full Professors.

They are:

2022

Ngoc Son Bui – Professor of Asian Laws

Andrew Higgins – Professor of Civil Procedure

Roderick Bagshaw – Professor of Law



Recognition of Distinction Exercise 2022
L-R Andrew Higgins, Roderick Bagshaw, Ngoc Son Bui

2021

Antonios Tzanakopoulos – Professor of Public International Law

Kristin Van Zwieten – Professor of Law and Finance

Sandy Steel – Professor of Law

Nicolaos Stavropoulos – Professor of Law and Philosophy

Glen Loutzenhiser – Professor of Tax Law

Imogen Goold – Professor of Medical Law

Nazila Ghanea – Professor in International Human Rights Law

Matthew Dyson – Professor of Civil and Criminal Law

Sanja Bogojevic – Professor of Law

Improvements across the board

We are delighted to report increases in all metrics relating to access demonstrating the significant impact of our access and outreach activities. The proportion of offer holders from UK state schools is stood at 72.5% in 2020 and the number of UK domiciled students from BAME backgrounds with offers is up from 30.6% in 2018 to 33.3% in 2020. The fact that we managed to continue showing improvements during the pandemic is even more impressive.

Harnessing online benefits of the pandemic

Our team worked tirelessly in moving all the activities online and went to great lengths to ensure that all participants received a high quality and interactive experience. These sessions were so successful that although we are running many events in person again, we are keeping some online and most of the other events have some online element to them. Overall this means that we can expand our audience and have improved the overall offering of our programmes through this time of change. This improved online provision has also included dedicated Virtual Learning Environments which we are continuing to use as they worked so well at all stages of the programme from application through to completion. We embraced the Launch of the Sutton Trust online academy and The University of Oxford pages on this platform now contain an additional lecture series on offer to all students who applied for a Sutton Trust program with several of our Pathways to Law alumni featuring in these videos. We are so proud of all our students and the fact that they are happy to be included in these videos shows the increase in confidence and the development of networking skills encouraged on the program alongside the academic content.

Moving forward

We have increased our collaborative activities with colleges and departments across the university such as Baliol, Wadham, Mansfield, and the Engineering department. This has enabled us to increase the number of students on many of our activities. For example we were able to invite 125 students to a taster day for students with an access background from Liverpool and Warwick who had expressed an interest in studying at Oxford. The numbers of students attending this event was significantly increased from 20 the last time this ran in 2020. Due to the popularity of the UNIQ programme at Law we have increased the number of students on the residential element by an additional 30 students. This has raised some challenges as we offer such a high contact programme, but having received such glowing feedback, it was worth the additional work.

We are now gearing up for another busy year with new and expanding programmes being offered to more students and are immensely proud of our students and their achievements. The Faculty is also very grateful for our enthusiastic and truly dedicated team of student volunteers and staff.

Andrew Higgins
Access and Outreach Co-ordinator



A STUDENT'S VIEW

Lauren Fox



For the past year, I have had the exciting opportunity of working alongside fellow undergraduate students on the Linklaters Oxford Law Access Ambassador Scheme (LOLAA). Having benefitted from one of the

programmes which the LOLAA scheme is involved with, I was keen to take the opportunity to give back and support aspiring law students from non-privileged backgrounds.

Participating in the Pathways To Law Mock Trial during secondary school was a key factor in giving me the confidence to apply for Law at Oxford. The event introduced me to both the academic and procedural elements of Law, with masterclasses from Oxford tutors and barristers at Maitland Chambers, and gave me experience of advocacy in the mock trial itself. The event allowed me to gain a unique understanding of what it would be like to study and practice Law. I was also able to speak to undergraduate students at the event, which enabled me to ask questions about life at Oxford and feel encouraged that I could study here.

Once I started at Oxford, the LOLAA scheme seemed like the perfect way to help to improve access to Oxford and give other students the same experience which I had on Pathways To Law. Over the past year, I have worked on the Faculty Open Days, answering questions from prospective students and helping to share a more realistic view of life at Oxford by dispelling some commonly held myths! I also took part in a panel discussion for the Pathways To Law students which was really rewarding – it was encouraging to share in their excitement about University and to pass on some advice about preparing for a Law degree. I also really enjoyed going back to my secondary school to give a presentation about the Oxford admissions process and the experience of studying Law at University.

Overall, it has been so rewarding to meet talented aspiring Law students and to work with the Access and Outreach team.



Mary Adeyemo given Increasing Access Award by Oxford University Student Union



Mary Adeyemo received the Increasing Access Award at the 2022 Oxford University Student Union awards. She founded CareerCarrierz, a non-profit organisation with the mission of promoting education amongst low income families from Ikorodu. They volunteer as a graduate moot mentor for the Pathways

to Law Programme, offering sixth form students in low performing schools the opportunity to explore opportunities in the legal profession.

These awards celebrate the student voice and the student community recognising and rewarding them for the impact they've had on the student body and the student experience. Each nomination has been submitted by students, and the winners and shortlists decided by the Student Union's Sabbatical Officers.

When asked about the award, Mary said:

'It is beyond surreal to have received this award, amongst the many great people working towards increasing access within and outside the University of Oxford. Nonetheless, the award is to and for us all for the many impacts and lives we are changing by our actions and inactions. Ubuntu – I am because we are!'

Students awarded funding from the Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute for their project: The Oxford Reader's Guide to Ethical Migration Reporting

Vicky Taylor (Criminology DPhil), Meghna Sridhar (Criminology MSc) and Ananya Kumar-Banerjee (MSt World Literatures in English) have recently been successful in securing funding to support the production and launch of The Oxford Reader's Guide to Ethical Migration Reporting. This project aims to:

- **Empower consumers to read migration reporting critically;**
- **Provide commentators with a framework for assessing articles; and,**
- **Guide journalists in ethically and sensitively reporting on migration.**

Over the past few years, 'migration' has come to dominate front page news in the UK: Channel crossings, 'refugee crises', 'economic migrants', offshoring, traffickers, 'illegal immigrants'. These trigger words are used by UK journalists to report on migration stories, but are often deployed in misleading ways that are legally inaccurate, decontextualized, inflammatory, or out of line with best reporting practices. The complexity of these issues demonstrates the need for evidenced-based, critical guidance which sets out advice and best practice for

news consumption and reporting in the UK context specifically.

Media narratives are central to shaping and guiding public opinion, policy, and material outcomes for those affected by border controls around the world. After conversations with key journalists, NGOs and lawyers in the refugee sector on the full extent of this impact, the team understands that an interdisciplinary and timely academic intervention into ethical reporting practises – drawing on critical language studies, law and legal policy, forced migration and refugee studies, and insights from fields such as border criminology and media studies – is urgently required and would be welcome by commentators and experts in the field.

"We are very grateful for the support provided by the Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute. This money will be used to enable people with lived experience to input into the design of the guide; to support a launch conference; and to enable us to disseminate our work to a wide audience. Thank you to the support provided by both Balliol, the Oxford Centre for Criminology, and Border Criminologies." – Vicky, Meghna and Ananya

Research project on rough sex with Hannah Bows and Jonathan Herring



Hannah Bows and Jonathan Herring have been working on a series of projects concerning rough sex. The project was provoked by a series of cases in which men had killed their partners and then claimed the killing occurred during “rough sex” which went wrong. They wrote an article in the *Journal of Criminal Law*, “Getting Away With Murder? A Review of the ‘Rough Sex Defence’”, which sets out how this somewhat implausible defence found success within quite a number of criminal trials. Hannah and Jonathan then co-edited a special issue of the *Child and Family Law Quarterly*, 2021, issue 4.

This included articles offering a comparative perspective, including one from Suzanne Zaccour looking at the Canadian perspective, and a more theoretical perspective. In their introduction to the special issue, they write:

“The articles in this special issue have taken the theme of ‘rough sex’ as a means of exploring the nature of violence against women and the role of the law in responding to it. It is now many decades since it has been accepted that domestic abuse is a serious social problem and an interference with women’s human rights. Yet we seem still so far from finding an effective response. Indeed, if we are still in the position where killings in the course of a controlling relationship can be determined by a court to be consensual acts of sex, we are a very, very long way off finding a proper response to the issue.

They are about to submit the chapters for an edited collection ‘Rough Sex’ and the Criminal Law to be published by Emerald Publishing, due in late 2022.

ESRC IAA top up award for Carolyn Hoyle and her team in the Death Penalty Research Unit



Carolyn Hoyle has been awarded an ESRC IAA ‘Stage 4’ award for the work being conducted by her team in the Death Penalty Research Unit on ‘Assisting Civil Society to Support Foreign Nationals Sentenced to Death in Asia and the Middle East’. Jocelyn Hutton, who leads on this project, will use the funding to realise the full impact and

engagement potential of their new interactive database developed with support from human rights NGO across the regions. In particular, the funding will help to develop their Network in the Middle East and generate a range of activities and publications to supplement the database.

Oxford Disability Law and Policy Project publishes its 'Up to the Challenge' report examining the National Disability Strategy

The report is part of the *Emerging Issues in Disability Law and Policy Series* which has been launched to mark the 4th anniversary of the Oxford Disability Law and Policy Project, established in February 2018.

To mark COP26 and Disability History Month, the Oxford University Disability Law and Policy Project held a webinar, in November 2021, on whether the National Disability Strategy (NDS) does enough to address the twin crises of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. Our discussants demonstrated that the NDS does not meet these urgent challenges. In bringing disabled people, disabled people's organisations, disabled academics, and professionals together to highlight the emerging and pressing issues in this fast-moving area, the report turns panellists' compelling presentations into a series of papers. These essays provide an overview of the emerging issues at the intersection of disability, climate change and COVID-19.

Contributors to the report include Kamran Mallick, CEO of Disability Rights UK; Professor Peter Beresford OBE, Visiting Professor at the University of East Anglia; Dr Sasha Kosanic, Lecturer at Liverpool John Moores University; Dr Sarah Bell, critical disability and The report is part of the *Emerging Issues in Disability Law and Policy Series* which has been launched to mark the 4th anniversary of the Oxford Disability Law and Policy Project, established in February 2018.

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The report highlights that inclusive climate governance (Jodoin *et al*, 2020) is needed now more than ever, as the twin crises of COVID-19 and climate change interact and exponentially lead to an increase in inequalities facing the 14.1 million (DWP, 2021; Scope, 2021) disabled people in the UK. In light of growing international policy-making and research (Gutnik and Roth, 2018) on the need for inclusive climate action, the oversight in the recent National Disability Strategy is striking and an abrogation of the UK's international human rights obligations.

Dr Marie Tidball, Co-ordinator of the Oxford University Disability Law and Policy Project said:



“The National Disability Strategy does not integrate any kind of action plan to implement disability-inclusive climate policies which empower disabled people’s full and effective participation in climate action and climate governance. Nor does it produce a cross-governmental plan to ensure an inclusive response to and recovery from the pandemic.”

This evinces a failure to meet the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (OHCHR, 2020: 9; see CRPD/C/GTM/CO/1, CRPD/C/HND/CO/1 and CRPD/C/PAN/CO/1), namely, that States incorporate and mainstream disability inclusion in their policies and programmes on climate change.

Our report, ‘*Up to the Challenge*’, is particularly timely as, last week, the High Court declared the National Disability Strategy is unlawful due to inadequate consultation with disabled people in *Binder, Eveleigh and Paulley v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* ([2022] EWHC 105 (Admin)).

The Report’s 21 recommendations to government and policy makers are designed to increase their awareness of the requirements and capabilities of disabled people as agents of change in addressing the harmful impacts of climate change and COVID-19 in our day-to-day lives. In doing so, these recommendations draw on the eight key principles of a disability-inclusive, human rights-based approach to climate change and key requirements for disability-inclusive climate action (OHCHR, 2020).

ABOUT THE EMERGING ISSUES IN DISABILITY LAW AND POLICY SERIES

The *Emerging Issues in Disability Law and Policy Series* brings together academics, disabled people, Disabled People’s Organisations, and practitioners to learn from the experiences and perspectives of disabled people and emerging issues in disability law and policy which require greater focus from policymakers and academics. This iterative process is designed to strengthen the interface between the professional and lived experience of disabled people and academia and

public policymaking to engender further policy-relevant research. It is hoped this will bring the challenges faced by disabled people from emerging issues to the fore to help academics better frame their research objectives in a way that is sensitive to and relevant for our diverse population. Recommendations are designed to facilitate action to improve law and policy for disabled people. Last week, the High Court declared the National Disability Strategy is unlawful due to inadequate consultation with disabled people in *Binder, Eveleigh and Paulley v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* ([2022] EWHC 105 (Admin)).

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New Publication on Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) in criminal matters in the UK and developing countries

Richard Mackenzie-Gray Scott, currently a post-doctoral researcher at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, announces a new publication examining mutual legal assistance (MLA) in criminal matters in the UK and developing countries. The report was written during his consultancy at the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law.

Organised crime causes a variety of issues ranging from social to economic, at both the micro and macro levels. In addition to the efforts to address crime within individual countries, there is an ever-increasing need to be able to combat criminal activity that extends beyond national borders. Among the various instruments that assist countries in this respect, Mutual Legal Assistance (MLA) is the formal means by which they cooperate by requesting and providing assistance to each other in order to obtain evidence for criminal investigations or proceedings.

This scoping study on MLA in criminal matters in the UK and in developing countries provides some preliminary responses to the following questions:

- **What Mutual Legal Assistance requests on criminal matters does the UK receive? From which countries, and what is the typology of assistance required?**
- **How does the UK co-operate with other countries on MLA in criminal matters?**
- **To what extent are MLA requests used among developing countries and how do they operate in practice?**
- **How can we improve the capacity to deal with MLA, both in the UK and in developing countries?**
- **How can the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office improve prospects for criminal justice collaboration with and among other jurisdictions?**

Supporting online justice: Enhancing Accessibility, Participation and Procedural Fairness

A team of Oxford based researchers based at the Centre for Socio-legal Studies have released a series of five films to help lay users of the justice system access and participate in online hearings. Produced with HM Courts and Tribunals Service as a project partner, these accessible films have been developed using an extensive process of research, consultation, and testing with a range of lay users. Each film is available with subtitles in six languages and British Sign Language version. Speaking at the launch of the films, Sir Ernest Ryder Former Senior President of Tribunals and Master of Pembroke College said:

"Supporting Online Justice is an exemplar of how effective a partnership between the University sector, HMCTS and the Judiciary can be. I recommend this accessible report to you in the highest possible terms and encourage you to watch, and tell others about, the films." You can find the link to the full playlist of all films on the HMCTS YouTube Page.

More details, along with the project report, are also available at the supporting online justice project page on the CSLS website. The Research Team is made up of Linda Mulcahy, Emma Rowden, Anna Tsalapatanis, and Lucy Klippan. They have been supported by an advisory group chaired by Sir Ernest Ryder.

This work was supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (Grant Number ES/V01580X/1)



Liz Fisher awarded Major Research Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust

The Faculty is delighted to announce that Liz Fisher, Professor of Environmental Law, has been awarded a Major Research Fellowship by the Leverhulme Trust.

The Fellowships are for well-established, distinguished researchers in the humanities and social sciences to complete a piece of original research.

The Fellowship will enable Liz to pursue research for three years on 'Environmental law and legal imagination: pasts and futures'. By studying how the expansion of legal imagination over the last fifty years has occurred in the US, UK and Australia, an understanding of how to better craft legal futures can be developed.

Liz said of her award:

"I'm incredibly grateful to the Leverhulme Trust for its generosity in giving me this opportunity to research how legal imagination has evolved in light of environmental problems over the last fifty years in the UK, US and Australia. Not only is it important to understand the richness of that legal past, but it also serves as a foundation for helping to craft laws to ensure sustainable futures."

Research project on Unwanted Intimate Examinations with Jonathan Herring, Camilla Pickles, and Marthe Goudsmit

Jonathan Herring, Camilla Pickles (Durham) and Marthe Goudsmit are working on a project on Unwanted Intimate Examinations.

The project expands the 2020 edited book on unauthorised vaginal examinations, 'Women's Birthing Bodies and the Law: Unauthorised Intimate Examinations, Power and Vulnerability'. That collection was focused specifically on women's experiences of vaginal examinations in hospital-based childbirth. The current project widens the scope, as unwanted intimate examinations are an issue of concern in many different contexts.

As part of this project, they are guest editing a special edition of the Journal of Gender-Based Violence, and are hosting a panel at the Feminist Approaches to Bioethics World Congress in Basel.

The special issue expands focus to unwanted intimate examinations generally and explores broader links to patriarchy and power. It is vital to distinguish between 'wanted' and 'unwanted' touch. The unwanted intimate touch of the body of another person suggests a lack of agency on behalf of the person being touched, and

expresses a diminished ownership claim over their body. However, where there is full consent, intimate examinations can be justified, and could for example be an effective part of good healthcare.

Consequently, this special issue aims to provide space for exploring contexts in which people may have been subjected to unwanted intimate examinations, and without their full consent, including (but not limited to) healthcare, imprisonment, and security. Traditionally, such conduct is experienced more by people marginalised by broader social and gender norms, including women; people of colour; and members of the LGBTQI+ community. Despite this, most interrogations of unwanted procedures approach the issue from a gender-neutral medical, sociological, philosophical, and legal perspectives, and focus on binary-type categories such as consented or unconsented examinations or informed or uninformed decisions about examinations.

The special issue will provide platforms to interrogate how patriarchal values and power more generally manifests in the broad context of unwanted intimate examinations, with the aim of expanding the study area and to offer a more inclusive conversation.

iMANAGE - Rethinking Employment Law for a World of Algorithmic Management

As ‘artificial intelligence’ (AI) systems are quickly becoming ubiquitous, so are the regulatory challenges: across the world, new models have begun to emerge at national, regional, and international levels. There is general consensus that existing instruments are insufficient, potentially even inadequate, to deal with the myriad challenges this development poses — but also considerable divergence on what new AI regulatory frameworks should look like.

In June this year the team of the *iManage Project*, led by Professor Jeremias Adams-Prassl, hosted *The Race to Regulate AI: Global Comparative Perspectives*, a day-long hybrid conference considering different approaches to regulating artificial intelligence. Scholars, policy makers, and civil society practitioners from Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Asia discussed experiences with, and prospects for, regulating AI through data protection law, labour law, international treaties and standards, and omnibus legislation.

The conference was followed by a workshop in July focused specifically on *Regulating Algorithmic Management*, which will be the topic of a 2023 special issue of the *European Labour Law Journal* edited by the team.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Funded by the European Research Council, *iManage* is a five-year research project focused on rethinking the regulation of ‘algorithmic management’ – the increasingly pervasive use of monitoring technology and automated decision making systems to measure, control

and discipline workers, in workplaces across the socio-economic spectrum.

The iManage team – Professor Jeremias Adams-Prassl, outgoing researcher Aislinn Kelly-Lyth, incoming researcher Rakshita Sangh, and postdoctoral researchers Halefom Abraha and Six Silberman – explore how algorithmic management challenges not only employment law and labour market institutions – but potentially the entire legal framework governing work, including anti-discrimination law and data protection law.

The team convenes a weekly *Reading Group on Algorithms at Work* to host international, interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral dialogue on the practice and regulation of algorithmic management. This year, the reading group welcomed presentations from early-career as well as established legal scholars, computer scientists, philosophers, and civil society practitioners from jurisdictions across the world.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Recently accepted publications include:

- Jeremias Adams-Prassl, Reuben Binns, and Aislinn Kelly-Lyth, ‘Directly Discriminatory Algorithms,’ *Modern Law Review*
- Halefom Abraha, ‘A Pragmatic Compromise? The Role of Article 88 GDPR in Upholding Privacy in the Workplace,’ *International Data Privacy Law*
- Aislinn Kelly-Lyth, Halefom Abraha, and Jeremias Adams-Prassl, ‘From “Code” to “Guidance”: Revising the Instrument on Data and Employment,’ *Industrial Law Journal*



New research finds that AI is improving the way the legal sector operates

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) assisted lawtech in law firms is changing the way that firms operate – but the traditional legal practice business model is likely to survive, a new report has concluded. The report, *AI-assisted lawtech: its impact on law firms*, was produced by an interdisciplinary team of researchers led by Professor John Armour of the Law Faculty. The researchers spent almost three years studying the impact of AI lawtech on law firm working practices, recruitment behaviours, training needs, and third-party collaborations.

The report found that around half of solicitors surveyed were now using at least one type of AI-lawtech. The deployment of AI-lawtech is changing the ways that legal work is undertaken, with new roles being created to support the technology's evaluation and rollout. More generally, the technology was found to substitute the role of legal fee earners for some tasks, but augmenting the role of those fee earners for other tasks. Lawyers who use AI-lawtech are also more likely to work in multidisciplinary teams with technology and other process specialists, compared with lawyers who do not use AI-lawtech.

Yet, despite the operational changes associated with the deployment of AI-lawtech, many law firms are not significantly changing their business models or hiring practices. Rather than using AI-lawtech to generate significant sources of new revenue, law firms were more likely to use the technology to improve their internal operational efficiencies. And, instead of recruiting a large number of lawtech professionals, law firms tended to work in partnership with third party providers, who develop AI-lawtech solutions on their behalf.

Looking forward, the report does not anticipate significant changes to the traditional law firm business model as a result of AI-lawtech usage but suggests changes to the skills mix of professionals within law firms. Historically, lawyers' skill demands have focused strongly on software packages used by their employer and there is a noticeable

trend towards a greater percentage of lawyers wanting to learn about data analytics, innovation techniques, project management, software coding, and related technology skills. Lawyers with these additional skills are increasingly described as "T-shaped lawyers" or "legal technologists", due to their deep domain expertise in law coupled with a broader understanding of the technology that surrounds the delivery of legal services.

Commenting on the report's findings, research project lead Professor John Armour says:

"Our report paints a broadly positive picture of the impact of AI lawtech on the English and Welsh legal sector. True, we see little evidence that AI lawtech is significantly impacting on law firms' traditional business models, which remain very much lawyer-led. But what we are seeing is lawyers' use of the technology to work more efficiently, and more collaboratively with other specialists. Perhaps the most significant uncertainty that surrounds the development and usage of AI-assisted lawtech is the issue of when client data can, and cannot, be used to aid the solution's development".

Professor Mari Sako, who co-led the research into the impact of AI-lawtech on law firm business models, adds:

"We're starting to see a clear division of expertise between lawyers who are involved in the development of AI lawtech as producers, and those who mainly use the technology as consumers. As more lawyers develop their technology-related skills, it will be interesting to see what impact these changes have on the wider legal profession. It is possible that, in future, lawyers with these skills will stop regarding themselves as being traditional lawyers, and instead regard themselves as being part of an emerging profession of legal technologists".

Research Profile – Diana Batchelor



I have heard it said that restorative justice is just 'sitting around talking' instead of appropriately punishing the offenders. In 'Talking Punishment' I explore the relationship between restorative justice

and punishment from victim-survivor perspectives. I found that victims often achieved a sense of justice through talking about punishment as part of a restorative justice process. Some victims appreciated hearing the offenders' reaction to their punishment, and some even saw talking with the offender as a form of punishment. I describe here the details of this research and briefly tackle some of the difficult questions it raises.

What was the problem that you were looking to address?

Early advocates suggested that restorative justice was the opposite of retributive justice, or an entirely new justice paradigm. Since then, many scholars have argued that the two approaches are overlapping, interlinked or compatible, including the Oxford Law Faculty's own Professors Carolyn Hoyle and Lucia Zedna. Kathleen Daly memorably describes the 'myth' that they are opposing as a 'nonsense'.¹ The problem, however, is that the view that restorative justice is the opposite of retributive justice is extremely persistent. For example, restorative justice is often described as 'non-punitive', and some restorative justice facilitators say they would not proceed with a victim-offender meeting if the victim had 'punitive' motivations.

What was your argument and how did you make it?

The most useful contribution to this ongoing debate, I reasoned, would be empirical evidence about the

nature of the relationship between restorative justice and punishment. I therefore interviewed forty victims of crime who considered meeting the offender, as part of a restorative justice scheme. The majority suggested that their view of the offender's punishment changed through communicating with them – in other words that restorative justice and punishment were intrinsically linked.²

The participants considered restorative justice to be connected to punishment in three main ways. First, communication with the offender enabled some victims to receive information about the offender's punishment. In many cases, this was information that the victim was entitled to receive through the criminal justice system, but for a variety of reasons they had not been able to access it. For example, the facilitators or offenders gave victims information about sentence length, license conditions, or prison activities. Secondly, communicating with the offender enabled some victims to receive feedback about the offender's response to the punishment. For example, one participant said they felt better after the offender had said he was 'not having the time of his life' in prison. This supports laboratory studies in which psychologists have found people are most satisfied by punishment when they receive feedback about how the offender has responded.³ Thirdly, some victims felt that communication with the offender in a small way constituted punishment, as it made the offender 'suffer' for their crime.

What do you think are/will be the consequences of this research and its impact?

Early proponents of restorative justice emphasised that it was non-punitive in part to distinguish it from vigilante justice; they wanted to counter concerns that victims would be simply 'let loose' on offenders with a baseball bat. In this study, victims felt that they were participating in offenders' punishments, which raises the question of whether restorative justice processes may

¹ Daly K (2016) What is restorative justice? Fresh answers to a vexed question. *Victims & Offenders* 11(1): 9–29.

² This was not the case for all the participants. Some victims wanted to meet the offender to forgive them, and some did not mention punishment at all. While these people may see restorative justice and punishment as opposing or independent, this study focused on those who saw them as related, in order to explore the nature of the relationship.

³ Funk F, McGeer V and Gollwitzer M (2014) Get the message: Punishment is satisfying if the transgressor responds to its communicative intent. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* 40(8): 986–997.



indeed be undermining a supposedly neutral and independent state justice system? I argue this is not the case. First, the criminal justice system also often leaves victims feeling responsible for offenders' punishment – victims know that the

offender may not have been punished if they themselves had not called the police or pressed charges, for example. If victim participation is unavoidable within a system designed precisely to avoid it, then the solution is not to be found through claiming victim participation can be eliminated. Nor is the solution to be found through arbitrarily claiming that participation within formal criminal justice systems is acceptable, whereas participation through more informal restorative justice processes is unacceptable.

"It is only by gaining a better understanding of the nature of the relationship between restorative justice and punishment, that we can make the process fair for all involved".

Acknowledging there is a relationship and exploring its nature, as I have done in this study, enables us to:

1. Monitor the type and extent of victim participation in the offender's punishment and assess the benefits and harms to all parties. Boundaries can then be drawn between acceptable and unacceptable levels of participation based on evidence rather than arbitrary cut off points.
2. Mitigate the risks of facilitator implicit bias. When restorative justice processes are described as 'non-punitive', facilitators ignore victims' punitive motivations and simply exclude the victims they feel are 'too angry'. This can result in unequal treatment of people who communicate their needs in a different way from the facilitator, disadvantaging or excluding certain ethnic groups or social classes.⁴

3. Be more inclusive to victims who do not wish to forgive the offender. While most restorative justice providers are clear that forgiveness is not expected of victims, nevertheless the victims in this study felt that expressing any desire to know the offender had been punished might be unacceptable. It should be acknowledged that a desire for punishment is normal and can be integrated into a restorative justice process.

4. Enable all parties to make informed choices about whether to participate. The danger of claiming the process is 'non-punitive' is that punitive motivations simply remain hidden. When the role of punishment in restorative justice is openly discussed, both victims and offenders can be given information about the other's views on punishment, so that they can make an informed decision about whether to communicate.

Going beyond the immediate conclusions of this study, these findings also make a small contribution to a bigger question: how to escape a cycle of ever-increasing punishments that arises because of rhetoric that victims are dissatisfied, that the public therefore demand harsher punishments, and that politicians must feed this almost insatiable appetite? Given victims' desire to know that offenders have been punished, we will not break this cycle of ever-increasing sentences by establishing an alternative 'non-punitive' system. However, we have seen that increasing sentences is not the only way to satisfy victims – when victims are provided with feedback and given a voice in the system, they are likely to be more satisfied with the offender's punishment. Thus, any claims that victims are dissatisfied would be an argument for investing more in feedback and genuine victim participation, rather than only in lengthening sentences.

"While giving victims the opportunity to talk punishment on its own cannot break an age-old politically-motivated cycle, it could get us one step closer to a healthy equilibrium".

Batchelor, D. (2021). *Talking punishment: How victim perceptions of punishment change when they communicate with offenders*. *Punishment and Society*, Online edition 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14624745211054748>

⁴ Willis R (2018) 'Let's talk about it': Why social class matters to restorative justice. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*: 1–20.

Rising to sustainability challenges: building the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme



The Oxford Sustainable Law Programme (SLP) was conceived to harness the potential of the law as a lever to drive rapid and systemic change that addresses the biggest sustainability challenges of our time. Whilst the imperative to act on sustainability

challenges, particularly climate change and biodiversity loss, is rapidly mounting, current actions remain insufficient. Despite its potential to catalyse change, the legal sector has lagged other sectors (e.g., finance) in developing responses to the sustainability challenges posed. Against that backdrop, Thom Wetzer (Associate Professor of Law and Finance) founded the SLP in 2021. At the conclusion of its first full academic year, we look back on key milestones of this expanding programme and preview some of the exciting projects that are set to launch in the upcoming year.

The SLP is an interdisciplinary initiative of the Faculty of Law and the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment. It acts as a hub that convenes experts spanning disciplines relevant to law and sustainability (e.g., finance, public policy, business, geography, physics, philosophy, and economics) from Oxford and its global network of academic and practitioner partners. ‘We aim to facilitate collaboration, between scholars working in different legal fields and those working in entirely different disciplines, as well as between scholars and practitioners’, says Wetzer.

The programme’s mission is to ‘leverage the power of the law to tackle global sustainability challenges’. Its team insists that the scale and urgency of the challenges call for nothing less. ‘Legal tools – innovative contracting, governance structures, legislation, or litigation – have a critical role to play in addressing global sustainability challenges’, Wetzer notes. ‘However, the power of the

Oxford Sustainable Law Programme establishes the Climate Litigation Lab

In September 2022, the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme will launch its Climate Litigation Lab, a new initiative leveraging multidisciplinary research to inform climate change litigation efforts around the world.

The Lab will bring together scientists, scholars, and practitioners from a range of disciplines to address practical challenges presented by climate litigation across the globe.

It will interface with climate litigation practitioners and stakeholders to understand the strategic and evidentiary landscape informing climate litigation efforts in various jurisdictions and conduct research across the natural, social, and legal sciences to help enable just and effective legal outcomes at scale.

law to address climate change, biodiversity loss, water insecurity, and to drive sustainable transitions in the energy and food sectors has not yet been fully exploited. These are inherently interdisciplinary issues that require joint-up innovation from multiple perspectives.’

The SLP’s multidisciplinary work achieves impact via production of novel research that is disseminated and applied through education and engagement. ‘Our research is intended to be both scientifically meaningful and practically relevant’, Wetzer says. So far, the programme’s research has been published in leading scientific journals, including *Nature*, *Nature Climate Change*, and *Science*, has been cited by leading global media outlets, and applied by practitioners and policymakers.

‘To illustrate’, Wetzer says, ‘Rupert Stuart-Smith leads our work on attribution science, a subfield of climate

SYSTEM CHANGE
NOT
CLIMATE CHANGE

science that assesses the contributions of greenhouse gas emissions to climate-related harms. Such findings inform claims regarding liability for climate harms, and his research indeed plays a significant role in various climate-related lawsuits, including *Lliuya v. RWE*.⁹ Other research, which Wetzer carried out jointly with Professors John Armour and Luca Enriques, informs ongoing policy debates about mandatory climate disclosures and the credibility of corporate climate commitments. New work, in partnership with the Oxford Net Zero initiative (jointly with Professor Lavanya Rajamani) is set to focus on the legal challenges that the transition to a net zero emissions economy will generate, not least in relation to equitable burden sharing.

Oxford Sustainable Law Programme contributes to UN report on adaptation in the face of climate change

Associate Professor Thom Wetzer, Director of the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme, and Arjuna Dibley, a researcher at the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme and Director at Pollination, led the team responsible for a chapter in *The Adaptation Gap Report 2021: The Gathering Storm* from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which reveals that while governments have announced US\$16.7 trillion in COVID-19 stimulus and recovery packages, budgets for emergency disaster management have reduced, and less than one-third of countries have delivered funding for climate risk management.

The chapter, 'Emerging consequences of COVID-19 on adaptation planning and finance', warns of the compounding impacts that climate change, covid, and rising debt burdens pose to adaptation efforts.



'COVID-19 and climate change are compounding on each other to create immense human suffering, and the increasing debt burden is constraining the ability of the most vulnerable to protect themselves from that suffering,' said Wetzer. 'And yet, governments are investing trillions in responding to the pandemic without taking proper account of climate adaptation, leaving the risks that a warming planet poses to build. It does not have to be this way; governments around the world promised to 'build back better' from the pandemic, and funding climate adaptation should be a central part of that. And let's be clear: this requires wealthier countries to step up their financial support to those most vulnerable.'

The report found that policies and planning are growing for climate change adaptation, financing and implementation are still far behind where they need to be. The report also finds that we are missing the opportunity to use the fiscal recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic to prioritize green economic growth, that also helps nations adapt to climate impacts such as floods, droughts, storms, and wildfires.

CATHERINE REGDWELL
*Chichele Professor of Public
International Law, All Souls College*



Catherine's research interests fell broadly within the public international field,

including international energy law and international environmental law. She has co-authored two leading texts on international environmental law, Birnie, Boyle and Redgwell, *'International Law & the Environment'* (OUP, 3rd edn, 2009; 4th edn forthcoming 2019) and Bowman, Davies and Redgwell, *'Lyster's International Wildlife Law'* (CUP, 2nd edn, 2010). In the energy field she published widely including as co-editor and contributing author on *'International energy law in Energy Law in Europe'* (OUP, 3rd edn, 2016). She was co-director of the Sustainable Oceans

Programme funded by the Oxford Martin School (2016–2020) and by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation (2018–2020).

Catherine's affiliations include membership of the Academic Advisory Group of the Section on Energy, Environment, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Law of the International Bar Association. She was joint general editor of the *'British Yearbook of International Law'* and joint editor of the *'Oxford Monographs in International Law series'* (OUP), having previously served as joint general editor and chair of the editorial board of the *'International and Comparative Law Quarterly'* (2006–2012).

In Oxford, her teaching interests focused on public international law. She has taught on the International Law of the Sea and the Comparative and Global Environmental Law courses offered

to BCL and MJur students and taught public international law at the undergraduate level. She also supervised research students in the broad areas of international dispute settlement, human rights and humanitarian law, natural resources law, law of the sea, international investment law, immunity of international organisations, and regulation of cyber operations.

Before joining the Oxford Faculty, she held the chair in Public International Law at University College London (2004–2013), having previously held the position of Reader in Public International Law and Yamani Fellow at St Peter's College (1999–2003). She also previously held positions at the Universities of Nottingham and Manchester. In 1992/93 she spent six months on secondment to the Legal Advisers, UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

JULIAN ROBERTS
*Professor of Criminology, Centre
for Criminology*

Julian Roberts holds a Ph.D from the University of Toronto and an LL.M. from the University of London. In 2021 he was awarded the American Society of Criminology 2021 Sellin-Glueck Award for scholarship that considers Criminal Justice Internationally and Comparatively.

Julian was a member of the Sentencing Council of England and



Wales from 2008–2018. He is currently Executive Director of the Sentencing Academy, a London-based institute which links scholars with practitioners, and promotes greater public understanding of sentencing in England and Wales. Julian has authored or co-authored 8 books, the most recent of which is *'Paying for the Past'* (with Richard Frase) published by the Oxford University Press in 2019. He has edited or co-edited 19 scholarly volumes, the most recent of which is *'Sentencing and Artificial Intelligence'* published by Oxford University Press in 2022.

Julian has been a Visiting Professor at a number of universities, including: Faculty of Law, University of

Ferrara; Faculty of law, University of Minnesota; European Public Law Program, Athens (2015); Global Law School, University of Haifa (2012); Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge (2012); Visiting International Professor, Faculty of Law, Université Libre de Bruxelles (2009–2010); School of Law, King's College London (2009–2010; 2005–2006); Faculty of Law, Catholic University of Leuven (2007–2008). From 2014–2018 he was co-Director of the Criminal History Project located in the Robina Institute, Faculty of Law, University of Minnesota. This multi-year project conducted research into the use of prior convictions in the US sentencing guidelines.



HELEN SCOTT

Professor of Private Law, Lady Margaret Hall

Helen Scott was Professor of Private Law in the Oxford Law Faculty and Tutorial Fellow in Law at Lady Margaret Hall. Her research interests fell within the law of obligations (particularly tort and unjust enrichment) and civilian legal history (particularly Roman law). She is the author of *Unjust Enrichment in South African Law: Rethinking Enrichment by Transfer* (Hart, 2013), reviewed by Hector MacQueen in the *South African Law Journal*, and recently edited 'Private Law in a Changing World', a collection of essays celebrating the career of Danie Visser. She has worked on projects concerning the role of foreseeability in the law of tort, remedies arising from theft of incorporeal money, and the significance of careless mistake in unjust enrichment.

She has a BA degree majoring in law and Latin from the University of Cape Town in 1993–1995, followed by

Latin Honours (concurrently with Greek I) in 1996 and a postgraduate LLB (concurrently with Greek II and III) in 1997–1998. She then completed BCL (2000), MPhil (2001) and DPhil (2005) degrees at Oxford. Before taking up her position at Oxford, she was a professor in the Department of Private Law at the University of Cape Town, where she taught courses on comparative legal history, delict, unjustified enrichment and Roman law. Between 2005 and 2009 she was a tutorial fellow in law at St Catherine's College Oxford, and before that a fixed-term fellow at Trinity College. Between 2008 and 2014 she was also a visiting professor at the Université Panthéon-Assas (Paris II), where she taught a course in the common law of tort. At Oxford she taught Roman law, tort, and the restitution of unjust enrichment.

Helen was the Vice Dean (Personnel) from 2020–2022, and was responsible for overseeing Academic staffing issues, the initial period of office of new post holders, the Recognition and Reward scheme, and the implementation of the Code of Practice for Contract Research Staff.

JOSEPH SAMPSON

Associate Professor of Law, Magdalen College

Joseph joined the Faculty of Law as an Associate Professor, and Magdalen College as a Tutorial Fellow, in October 2018. Before this, he was the David Li Fellow in Law at Selwyn College in Cambridge (2015–2018) and a student at Trinity College, Cambridge (BA Law 2008–11, MPhil Medieval History 2011–12, PhD Legal History 2012–16).



MIKE MACNAIR

Associate Professor of Law, St Hugh's College

Mike Macnair was an Associate Professor and Tutor in Law at St Hugh's College. His teaching fields were in history of English law, Roman law, land Law, and torts.



PROFESSOR JOSEPH RAZ
(1939–2022)

Professor Joseph Raz made an immense contribution to the Faculty of Law in terms of the scope and analytical depth of his research and his abiding commitment to teaching and supervising generations of its students, especially its graduate students. His relationship with the Faculty spanned five decades: he came to it first as a doctoral student in legal philosophy working under the supervision of HLA Hart in the mid-1960s, took up a tutorial fellowship in law at Balliol College from the early 1970s to mid-1980s, then held a personal chair as Professor of the Philosophy of Law (1985–2006) followed by a research

professorship (2006–2009).

As his publications evidence Professor Raz's research engaged with a remarkable array of topics across legal, political, and moral philosophy. Law Faculty members and alumni are perhaps most likely to have encountered his writings on the rule of law, the nature and extent of law's authority, and whether there is an obligation to obey the law, but our understanding of these issues is enriched by a striking feature of his work: it strives always to situate them within a network of wider human concerns such as what it is to lead an autonomous and valuable life, and how aspects of our practical reasoning, and our ways of responding to the world, shape our lives and the social institutions amidst which we live them.

Professor Raz taught and supervised a multitude of students during his career. Seminars he taught as part of the Jurisprudence and Political Theory course on the law masters degrees of the BCL and MJur were avidly attended not just by students on those courses but also by doctoral students in law, politics, and philosophy, post-doctoral researchers, and visiting academics. Especially during his years as Professor of the Philosophy of Law, he supervised a host of students undertaking research degrees. His

intellectual rigour was invaluable in helping them improve their work and develop their ideas, but also memorable was his kindness, and his dedication to his students' well-being in the round. Professor Raz would meet with, support, and encourage students beyond supervision meetings, inviting them to social gatherings at his house and in local restaurants. He took a keen interest in, sometimes even adopting for himself, their hobbies and interests. When students or visiting academics came to Oxford for the first time, perhaps remembering himself how that once felt, he would do all he could to help them meet like-minded others, and encourage them to look out for, and look after, one another.

A memorial service recollecting the richness and variety of Professor Raz's life and interests will be held in the Hall, Balliol College, Oxford, at 2 pm on 10th December 2022. In the autumn of 2023, two major international conferences inspired by aspects of his work will be held at King's College London, and Columbia University, New York, respectively. A collection of reminiscences about Professor Raz from his colleagues and students is available on the Faculty's website.

*Julie Dickson, Professor of
Legal Philosophy*



**PROFESSOR
ANTHONY W.
BRADLEY QC**
(1934 – 2021)

The Institute of European and Comparative Law and its members mourn the passing of Professor Anthony (Tony) Bradley QC in December 2021. Tony was a long-standing Visiting Research Fellow at the IECL who over a period of almost twenty years actively contributed to many of the Institute's activities and events.

A leading expert and foremost thinker on UK constitutional law, administrative law and human rights, Tony had an extremely distinguished career in both academia and legal practice. Until his retirement, he was Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Edinburgh. He also practised at the Bar and was made an Honorary QC in 2011. His many scholarly contributions included a highly acclaimed landmark textbook on '*Constitutional and Administrative Law*', co-authored with Keith Ewing and commonly referred to as '*Bradley*

& Ewing' (Pearson, 17th edn 2018, 18th edn in preparation for 2022).

Esteemed and loved by colleagues, many of whom in due course became friends, Tony supported the Institute and its members in countless ways. He was renowned for his unfailing kindness and generosity with his time. In particular, he always offered help and encouragement to younger scholars and engaged with the research of the Institute's visitors. Tony will be sadly missed by all who knew him.



**PROFESSOR
ROGER J
SMITH**
(1948 – 2022)

Professor Roger J Smith, who died

in March 2022, was elected as a Tutor and Fellow in Law at Magdalen College in 1974, and served the College and the Oxford Law Faculty in an exemplary manner for more than forty years. Within the Faculty he became famous for his authoritative lectures on the

land registration system, his engaging tutorials, particularly on Land Law, Trusts, Tort and the FHS Company Law option, his BCL teaching on the Personal Taxation course, and his outstanding student books: 'Property Law' (ten editions), and 'Property Law: Case and Materials' (six editions). Behind the scenes he was a peerlessly supportive and reliable colleague, regularly taking on – without fuss or fanfare – substantial administrative roles, and on hand whenever informal advice was sought. Since his death – and that of

his wife Maralynn – were announced, the College has been inundated with messages attesting to Roger's crucial roles in teaching and encouraging generations of students – he set a benchmark for other law tutors to aspire to – and warmly reminiscing about the role that Roger and Maralynn together played in befriending and assisting so many of their former students.

Roderick Bagshaw



PROFESSOR ULF BERNITZ
(1936–2022)

The Institute of European and Comparative Law and its members mourn the passing of Professor Ulf Bernitz in July 2022, a longstanding member of the Institute and founding father as well as dedicated co-ordinator of the Oxford-Stockholm collaboration.

Ulf was a specialist in both European Union law and private law, with a particular interest in consumer law, competition law and intellectual property law. He was a leading legal figure not merely in Sweden, his home jurisdiction, but over many decades engaged with other systems and colleagues from all over the world. Having read law at Stockholm University, Ulf showed an early fascination with the common law, obtaining a Master of Comparative Jurisprudence at New York University

in 1963. There followed a glittering academic career. Based in Stockholm, Ulf soon established himself as the Swedish doyen of European Community (later: Union) law. Always keen to enhance and promote the reputation of Sweden as a powerhouse in EU law scholarship, Ulf's contributions to both academia and legal practice are far too numerous to be listed here in full. Suffice it to say that besides publishing widely in his fields of expertise, he served as a highly respected legal expert in various commissions, headed a range of specialist bodies, held visiting positions in Oxford, Paris, London, Riga and Örebro, and was awarded an honorary doctorate by Copenhagen University.

The Institute's connection with Ulf goes back over twenty years. In 2001, he was instrumental in setting up the successful collaboration between the Universities of Oxford and Stockholm, spearheaded on the Oxford side by the Institute of European and Comparative Law and on the Stockholm side by the Stockholm Centre for Commercial Law. As Director for the Wallenberg Foundation Oxford/Stockholm Association in European Law, Ulf initiated or supported countless seminars, conferences and publications which have since sprung – and continue to spring – from this collaboration. Long into his retirement and until May

2022, Ulf regularly visited the Institute and contributed enthusiastically to its activities. No less than three books in the Institute's own series ("Studies of the Oxford Institute of European and Comparative Law") were co-edited by him over the years.

Ulf was a much-loved member of the IECL community. When news of his death broke, tributes came flooding in. Steve Weatherill, Emeritus Jacques Delors Professor of EU Law, writes: "It is over twenty years since I first got to know Ulf, first as a colleague and then quickly as a friend. He has, for more than twenty years, been a staunch supporter of European law in Oxford and of links between Oxford and Sweden. We owe him an incalculable debt, though he would never have wanted it calculated."

The Institute is tremendously grateful to have benefited so much from Ulf's kindness, wisdom and engagement. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Birke Häcker, Director of the Institute



IYIOLA SOLANKE
Jacques Delors Chair of EU Law

Iyiola graduated from the London School of Economics with a PhD in Law and joined the School of Law at the University of Leeds in 2010. In 2017, she was elected an Academic Benchers of Inner Temple and appointed a member of the Valuation Tribunal for England (VTE).

Her areas of interest include EU law; anti-discrimination law and stigma; weight and law; comparative race and law; intersectional discrimination; and critical race theory.



DAVID TIPPING
Departmental Lecturer in Taxation Law

David read Jurisprudence (with Law Studies in Europe) at Christ Church, Oxford, and studied abroad at the University of Leiden before completing the BCL with an emphasis on tax law.

His interests cover a wide range of topics within tax law and policy, particularly evaluating the fundamental principles of both the domestic and international tax systems.



OMAR KHAN
Departmental Lecturer in Criminology

Omar led the Equality & Diversity departments at HMP Wormwood Scrubs and HMP Latchmere House before moving into international criminal justice reform. He has evaluated several projects for UN departments and also facilitated training on UN standards. Omar taught criminology at the University of Westminster for the four years previous to joining Oxford.



VAN ANH LE
Departmental Lecturer in IP Law

Dr Van Anh Le is a Departmental Lecturer in Intellectual Property (IP). Prior to joining Oxford, she taught IP law at Warwick and Durham. Van Anh read for her LLB at Ho Chi Minh City University of Law (Vietnam) and completed her LLM at Bangor University, Wales where she was granted the Bangor University Fellowship to pursue her PhD in IP Law. During the writing of her doctoral thesis, she was granted a research scholarship at the prestigious Max Planck Institute for Innovation and Competition (Munich).



PETER O'LOUGHLIN
Departmental Lecturer in Law and Finance

Peter is currently pursuing his DPhil under the supervision of Professor Ariel Ezrachi. He holds a MSc in Law and Finance from the University of Oxford, along with LLM degrees from Columbia Law School, University College London, and Maynooth University (Ireland). Peter's research interests lie, broadly, at the interplay between Law and Economics.



SAMUEL SINGLER
Departmental Lecturer in Criminology

Samuel is a DPhil candidate and ESRC Grand Union Scholar at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford. His DPhil research aims to illuminate the effects of novel border security technologies on the global criminalization of migration.

Samuel holds a BA International Relations with first-class honours from Queen Mary University of London, where he was awarded the Principal's Prize for Outstanding Academic Achievement in each of his three years of study. Thereafter, he completed the MPhil International Relations at the University of Oxford with distinction.

Faculty of Law Awarded Second Athena Swan Bronze Certificate

In August this year, the Faculty was awarded its second Athena Swan Bronze Certificate by Advance HE. This award is the culmination of a lot of hard work put in by the Faculty's Athena Swan Self-Assessment Team led by Professor Kristin van Zwieten, Associate Dean for Equality and Diversity.

Oxford's Faculty of Law was one of the first law faculties in the UK to be awarded an Athena Swan Bronze Certificate in 2017 and we are proud to be continuing this important work. The Athena Swan Charter is a framework which is used across the globe to support and transform gender equality within higher education (HE) and research. As part of the certification process, the Faculty has had to gather and analyse historical data on student programmes and staff profiles with a view to address any inequalities observed through a five year iterative action plan.

Our latest application was submitted under the Transformed Charter which puts greater emphasis on intersectionality and culture. As such, we developed seven key priorities for the coming award period under which 53 actions will sit. They are:



1. Diversifying recruitment of Associate Professors and Professional and Support Staff (PSS)
2. Improving well-being and workload for staff
3. Improving opportunities for career progression
4. Plugging the gaps in our student pipeline
5. Improving our culture
6. Ensuring recognition of EDI work
7. Improving EDI systems and AS infrastructure

If you would like to find out more about what we are doing to tackle gender inequalities in the Faculty, visit the Equality and Diversity section of the website.

Equality and Diversity Lecture 2021: Islamophobia and the Struggle for Recognition



Last year the Faculty had the pleasure to invite Tariq Modood, Professor of Sociology, Politics and Public Policy and founding Director of the Centre for the Study of Ethnicity and Citizenship at the University of Bristol, to give its annual Equality and Diversity Lecture entitled '*Islamophobia and the Struggle for*

Recognition'. Professor Modood argued that, though the concept of Islamophobia as anti-Muslim racism was establishing itself in social science and public discourse alike, a multiculturalist rather than merely an anti-racist understanding was needed to view discrimination within a larger frame of a struggle for recognition and institutional accommodation of difference. You can now watch a recording of this incredible lecture on the Faculty's YouTube page.

A new topic: 'Hate Crime and Discrimination'



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

Rebecca Williams, Professor of Public Law and Criminal Law, and I have introduced a topic to the Final Honours School module, Advanced Criminal Law. Since 2019, ACL has aimed to enhance the breadth and depth of Oxford's criminal law education. It exposes students to a wider variety of more complex themes in the area than the first-year course, Criminal Law, ranging from counter-terrorism to methods of regulation to the theory of sexual offences. But we felt that the module had been missing something.

WHY DID WE INTRODUCE A NEW TOPIC?

In a sense, students led this change. When I was teaching another topic of the module, 'Crime and Regulation', I drew on my interest in discrimination law. In tutorials,

the students and I discussed the role of discrimination in criminal law. For example, we talked about the reality of policing, the dangers of the state and its institutions, and the unfair disadvantage that many groups suffer in the context of criminal justice. However, I found myself referring to a lot of literature absent from the reading list—and outside Oxford's traditional legal curriculum. The students, along the same lines, responded enthusiastically to this issue. They had many questions; several asked where they could read about it further. All this led me to decide that we needed to make some changes.

HOW DID IT HAPPEN?

Initially, I spoke with Professor Williams, who has always encouraged and supported more junior academics' ideas. With her support, I put together a reading list for a new topic, one focused on the theme of discrimination. Having refined it and found a specific, doctrinal grounding, we settled on a title: 'Hate Crime and Discrimination'. I thought that this was a great lesson, not just for the students. Teachers can, sometimes, stick to what is familiar, sometimes, that makes sense but academics often have many years' experience; they have tried a lot of things before. Professor Williams showed me the importance of remaining open to new contributions and to evolving in the way that we teach

WHAT DO WE DISCUSS?

As a starting point, the new topic takes hate crime laws in England and Wales. There is no discrete 'law of hate crime' in this jurisdiction. Instead, there are various pieces of legislation that criminalise conduct 'aggravated' by certain motivations or demonstrations. Against the background of uneven and (often) incoherent protection, we evaluate the law. What is a 'hate crime'? What are lawmakers seeking to achieve? Is the law trying to address discrimination? Can criminal law, with all its baggage, ever combat discrimination? By considering these questions, we aim to add another dimension of

analysis to the teaching at Oxford. It bridges the traditional gap between criminological study and the doctrinal analysis of legal principles, recognising that they have much to add to each other.

WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED?

Professor Williams has been crucial in the development of the topic. Alongside my teaching of the tutorials and the seminar, Abimbola Johnson taught the lecture. Like me, Abimbola is a criminal barrister. She has also been particularly involved in raising awareness about discrimination in the law and in policing (with an emphasis on anti-racism). For instance, Abimbola is the Scrutiny Chair for the Police Plan of Action on Inclusion and Race for the National Police Chiefs' Council.

HOPES GOING FORWARD

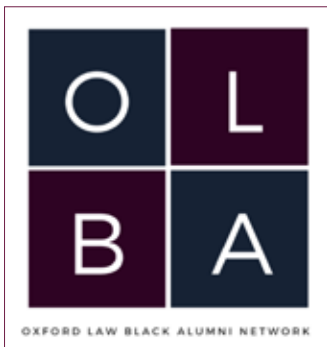
It is exciting for students to have this kind of insight. For many, it brings the law to life. Students see just how vital legal careers—especially those in criminal law—can be. Rather than the cliché of all Oxford students filing into commercial chambers and corporate firms, topics like this broaden horizons. Hopefully, they also show prospective students that, if they come to Oxford, they can engage with the most pressing problems in our society and channel their education towards solving them.

By Alex Benn (they/he)

Alex Benn is a senior lecturer in law at University College, Oxford, and a criminal barrister at Red Lion Chambers, London. Alex has written various articles on aspects of criminal and discrimination law, including 'Gender Non-conformity at the Bar' (2022, Counsel), 'Classism as Hate Crime' (2021, Criminal Law Review) and 'The Big Gap in Discrimination Law' (2020, OHRH Journal).



Oxford Law Black Alumni (OLBA) Network: The Year in Review



Since the inception of the Oxford Law Black Alumni (OLBA) Network in 2020, OLBA members have worked to foster a more welcoming and supportive community for Black students in the Faculty of Law. For Black law students who

have trekked from all over the world to pursue a legal education, a sense of community and inclusion are critical to shaping our academic and extracurricular experiences at Oxford. Recalling the legacies of Christian Frederick Cole and Stella Thomas, some of the first Black Africans to be called to the English bar, OLBA is uniquely situated within a wealth of Black legal history. It is this history of Black legal education, and the challenges faced to achieve it, which continues to shape our organization's advocacy and mission." 2021/2022 marked an important year for OLBA.

NETWORKING DINNER

On Tuesday, 3 May 2022, OLBA held its first networking event. It was a spectacular evening filled with laughter, cheer, and conversation. It was an important gathering

for a sundry of reasons. It brought together Black law students from various programmes, countries and backgrounds under the same venue to share their experiences and journeys thus far. Friendships were formed, bonds were created, and blackness was celebrated. The event brought about a calming familiarity and reminded everyone that we are alone in this together. Although, for many of us, it was the first time meeting each other, our experiences as Black people navigating a historically white institution made it feel like we had known each other for longer. The sense of comradery and solidarity in the room made for a special evening. On behalf of our members, OLBA would like to extend a special thank you to the Faculty and staff for making this event possible.

This networking dinner was the first of many annual events to come. After such a well-received experience, OLBA is looking forward to hosting more networking events like this!

Still, in a predominately white heteronormative university, being a Black student means navigating a range of social challenges and educational pressures. At times, this can be a precarious experience. For OLBA, awareness to Black issues and legal thought outside of the University setting have been just as crucial as the community we are building within. This academic year, our Committee continued to promote our platform for issues relevant to Black legal scholarship and advocacy via our Changemakers Interview Series. We also had the privilege of coordinating several impactful speaking events and panels, all of which were well-received by both our members and the Faculty of Law at large.



OLBA CHANGEMAKERS INTERVIEW SERIES

In October 2021, OLBA launched the Changemakers Interview Series, featuring student members of OLBA in conversation with people who have inspired and contributed to change both locally and internationally at the helm of social justice, racial equality, and human rights. The interviews have been incredibly insightful and will serve as a repository of ken.

Amongst our stellar interviewees, we have had Dr Courtenay Griffiths QC, a criminal defence barrister who has been involved in some of the most high-profile cases of the past two decades reflecting on his upbringing and sharing his thoughts on the state of the UK criminal justice system, and his work as the defence counsel for Charles Taylor, former Liberian president convicted of abetting war crimes in Sierra Leone.

Dr Joel Modiri, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Jurisprudence at the University of Pretoria, taking us through his thoughts on Critical Race Theory, African jurisprudence, epistemicide, institutional racism, decoloniality and Black African radicalism.

And Justice Caroline Heaton Nicholls, Justice of the South African Supreme Court of Appeal, recounting her personal experience as a defence lawyer during apartheid representing political prisoners. She also shared her experience as a woman in the legal profession and judiciary, and the value of an intersectional approach to the judiciary.

EVENTS:

Institutional Racism in the UK's Policing System

To mark Stephen Lawrence Day 2022, OLBA, in collaboration with the Faculty of Law, hosted a panel event, *Institutional Racism in the UK's Policing System*, with Deborah Coles, Dr Leroy Logan MBE, Kevin Maxwell MBE. The panellists discussed pertinent issues that plague the UK policing system from how police are trained, to their subconscious biases, and the prevailing culture of institutional racism.

Algorithmic Bias

The increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI) systems and machine learning algorithms to assist in making complex decisions that would have otherwise been subjected to human error and biases. Humans are imperfect and may harbour biases that impact their

decision-making. AI and algorithms held great promise for improving the quality of decisions. However, frightening examples of algorithmic bias have emerged.

In the event, *Algorithmic Bias*, OLBA explored how algorithms can be racist and sexist. Professors Jeremias Adams-Prassl and Sandra Wachter joined the panel. They reflected on aspects of their work relating to AI and discrimination and how this may affect our daily lives, from job applications to the political advertisements we see.

Decolonising Land

For UK Black History Month 2021, OLBA held an event, *Decolonising Land*, with Professor Elmien du Plessis and Tembeka Ngcukaitobi SC. The enthralling conversation posed crucial questions about the meaning of decolonisation and the importance of decolonising property. Part of the conversation entailed recounting the history of dispossession and how property (particularly land) was used to deprive indigenous communities of their identities and personhood.

We have a duty to make the Faculty of Law a welcoming intellectual space for future Black law students. It has been an incredibly productive year, and we look forward to the incoming year.

OLBA Organising Committee

Sfiso Benard Nxumalo (President), Valencia Scott (Deputy President), Jasmine Bacchus (Director of Development), and Samuel Bailey (Treasurer).



Alumnus appointed Dean of the College of Law, Qatar

Dr Talal Abdulla Al-Emadi was appointed Dean of the College of Law at the University of Qatar in May 2022. He studied for his DPhil in Oxford and set up the Oxford alumni group in Qatar.

He is the founding Director of Qatar University Press and a founding faculty member of the College of Law, specializing in the Oil and Gas Law course in QU. He holds a doctorate degree in law from the University of Oxford and an LLM from Harvard University, where he was also appointed as a Visiting Scholar. He was among the first QU law graduating cohort, in 1994, to receive a bachelor's in law degree. He is also an alumnus of the Georgetown Leadership Seminar 2018 class (Washington DC) and is currently enrolled in Cornell University Public Sector Leadership Program, as the first cohort in Arabic via the UN's ESCWA.



Oxford Law alumni elected to the International Law Commission



Three Oxford Law alumni have been elected to the International Law Commission by the UN General Assembly. Professors Dapo Akande and Phoebe

Okowa and Dr Martins Paparinskis have been elected for a five year term commencing on 1 January 2023.

The 34 seats on the Commission are split across five regional groups, which makes it a significant achievement for our alumni to be represented in three of the regions.

Professor Okowa has been elected to the African States group, Professor Akande will join the Western European States group, with Dr Paparinskis elected to the Eastern European States group.

Professor Akande's election is particularly notable as he is the first ever candidate to be nominated by both the United Kingdom and Nigeria. Speaking of his nomination, Professor Akande said:

"I am humbled to have been co-nominated by Nigeria for the International Law Commission, alongside the UK. This is a great honour as I was born, educated, and started my legal journey in Nigeria. Throughout my career, I have been proud to represent Nigeria before international courts, and to help strengthen its legal system by providing training in international law to lawyers and government officials. It would be a privilege to be elected to the International Law Commission and I believe I can make a meaningful contribution to its work. My vision is clear: the codification and progressive development of international law can strengthen the rules on which international cooperation is based, and help promote a just and peaceful system of international relations."

Alumni appointed to senior judicial position in Australia

Andrew Bell and Julie Ward, both alumni of the BCL, have been appointed to senior judicial positions in Australia.

Her Excellency the Governor of NSW, the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, has appointed the current President of the NSW Court of Appeal, the Honourable Justice Andrew Bell, as the next Chief Justice of NSW. Attorney General Mark Speakman said Justice Bell's renowned intellect and leadership make him a worthy successor to Chief Justice Tom Bathurst AC, who retires from the Supreme Court on 5 March.

Justice Bell has an illustrious academic record including two University Medals from Sydney University and a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford University. At Oxford he was awarded the Vinerian Scholarship for first place in the BCL and he continued on to complete his DPhil under Adrian Briggs.

Mr Speakman said "Before being appointed President of the Court of Appeal in 2019, Justice Bell's career at the Bar spanned almost a quarter of a century. He took silk in 2006. His Honour began his legal career with two consecutive terms as a judge's associate, including to then Chief Justice of Australia Sir Anthony Mason AC KBE QC. This early recognition of Justice Bell's ability continued throughout his career." He continued "Justice Bell was a regular advocate in the High Court, twice led his chambers Eleven Wentworth as chair and was a leader in the NSW Bar Association including as Senior Vice President. His many scholarly articles and contributions to law texts are also highly regarded."



Justice Bell's successor in the position of President of the NSW Court of Appeal is the Honorable Justice Julie Ward who has the distinction of being the first female solicitor appointed directly to the Supreme Court of NSW

Attorney General Mark Speakman said her appointment represents a deserved elevation for an outstanding lawyer. "Justice Ward has been a trailblazer for both women and the solicitor branch of the profession throughout her career," Mr Speakman said. "Her Honour's service to the law began with a term as Associate to the first Chief Justice of the Federal Court, Sir Nigel Bowen. Only six years after Justice Ward was admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court in 1982, she became the then youngest female lawyer to become a partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques, one of Australia's most prominent law firms."

Justice Ward's prodigious legal talent was recognised at the University of Sydney where she won the University Medal in law. She went on to achieve First Class Honours in the BCL at Oxford. Her Honour became the first female solicitor to be appointed to the bench of the Supreme Court in 2008, where she sat in the Equity Division, before becoming a Judge of Appeal in 2012 and Chief Judge in Equity in 2017.



Abimbola Johnson

I went to Haberdashers' Aske's School for Girls, a private school in Elstree. We were really encouraged to set our sights high academically, so applying to Oxford was very much seen

as 'the normal thing to do.' My Nigerian heritage reinforced that: every adult in my family had gone to university and the expectation was always to be a high achiever. The majority of them had a law degree, even if they didn't go on to practice! Gina Yashere makes a joke that if you're Nigerian you have four options in life: being a doctor, lawyer, engineer or a disappointment! My family were always extremely supportive and continue to be but certainly the expectations were always to enter a solid, traditional and stable career.

I've always been quite precocious and assertive. I loved reading, debating and standing up for others. With my family's background in law, I grew up with people pointing out that my attributes and interests lined up with becoming a lawyer, specifically an advocate. I therefore felt really drawn to the Bar. As it is so competitive, aiming to obtain a law degree from Oxford made sense. Something that would show on my CV that I had a strong intellect and academic curiosity that would stand me in good stead in this vocation. However, really, I'd wanted to read history. It had been my favourite subject at school and I think I'd have found studying it really fulfilling.

I went to St Peter's College between 2006 and 2009. I'd originally applied to Balliol but ended up with an offer from Peter's and I absolutely loved being there. It was much less traditional than other colleges. I sang with the Oxford Belles which meant I got to attend a lot of college balls for free and we even did an LA tour visiting College level acapella groups out there. I played netball and I got a half-blue for Athletics too. I regularly attended African-Caribbean Society events. I ended up with a core group of friends whom I remain close to even now. To be honest, I didn't actually enjoy my degree! I wasn't in love with the law at the time. I wanted to be a lawyer more than I'd wanted to study it. I found it quite hard to motivate myself to study, to read through cases, and write essays for tutorials.

In my third year, however, we got to choose modules. I chose public international law and moral and political philosophy. Looking at the law through an international and philosophical lens brought it to life and as stressful as I found studying for finals, being able to look at all of the modules together made it click for me. I left Oxford wishing I'd had more breathing space to really enjoy the subjects we learnt. I'd found the constant pressure of termly collections, the heavy reading list and essay rotation draining. Particularly after years of attending an academically challenging school. Having said that, the essay crises have been good preparation for the realities of working to tight deadlines at the Bar!

I returned to Oxford recently to teach a lecture on 'Hate Crime and Discrimination' as part of the FHS option 'Advanced Criminal Law'. I was asked to do so by Alex Benn who's a fellow barrister. I loved the fact that this was part of the optional modules, the aspect of my degree I'd enjoyed the most and felt it would be a good opportunity to show students the real life relevance of the things they learn at Oxford; show them how their degrees will enable them to go out into the world and make a difference from day one. I used it as an opportunity to provide examples of how case papers would look, and the practical application of the theories and principals they'd been studying in the preceding weeks.

This is something I've taken into my own work. I've been a barrister for eleven years now and have developed a 'portfolio' practice, I work in criminal defence but I'm also involved in public inquiry work and I chair a board that scrutinises all 43 police forces across England and Wales in relation to their implementation of a race action plan that aims to make the police 'anti-racist'. The skills I honed at Oxford: reading through dense paperwork; analysis; looking not just at the letter of what someone has committed to but also the principles behind those commitments have really helped me throughout my career and I see it in particular in this role. One of the key areas of friction that the race action plan is working on is how the police can work more transparently and with more accountability. If they want to win the trust and confidence of people from Black communities, they need to show a willingness to listen, change and hold themselves to account. Sometimes that can be as simple as clearer data collection, making minutes of meetings more readily available, bringing community members into decision making processes, looking at the language they use when doing all of the above. A lot of that aligns with principles and approaches I studied at Oxford. It's been fulfilling to know that even over a decade later, those late nights in the library were worth it!



Rahul Bajaj

Please tell us about your route to Oxford and what your experience here was like?

My decision to pursue my masters in law education at Oxford was prompted by the fact that I was selected as a Rhodes Scholar.

Like most people, I had absolutely

no expectation that I would get the scholarship. But I was encouraged by a friend to apply, and that made all the difference.

Even after I got the Rhodes, my admission into the BCL was not a given. I studied my first law degree at a very lesser known university in India. This decision was motivated by my disability [blindness], and the challenges that I anticipated I would have to face, were I to study law outside my home town. I was unsure that Oxford would be willing to look past this deficiency in my profile.

As for my experience in Oxford, I pursued two law degrees there: the BCL and the MPhil in Law. Going in, I had heard a great deal about how hard and demanding the BCL would be. The volume and complexity of the reading that we had to do was immense. But I tried not to let that bog me down. I was very grateful for the opportunity to be in the company of such illustrious professors and top class students, and that too, free of cost [smile].

I was a bit disappointed with my marks in two of my BCL papers. But apart from that, I really enjoyed my BCL year.

For the MPhil, I was very fortunate to have an excellent supervisor, Dev Gangjee. In Dev, I found a trusted guide, a role model and, I daresay, a friend. Unfortunately, my time in Oxford was abruptly cut short by the pandemic in March 2020.

What attracted you to study Law? What is the most important lesson that you learnt during your time in Oxford?

As a school student, I was drawn to the social sciences and to debating [even though I never debated seriously, in a competitive sense]. I was also most excited by the prospect of studying law amongst the avenues realistically open to me after school.

The most important lesson I learnt was this: never assume that you are inferior to others. When in the company of so many brilliant people, many of whom are on top of their game, it can be easy to think that one will have nothing valuable to contribute. But you would be surprised how far hard work, diligence and self-belief can take you.

Tell us about your initiative, Mission Accessibility?

In India, as indeed in most countries, persons with disabilities struggle to participate meaningfully in the digital marketplace. Apps and websites are not designed accessibility, that is, with the needs of the disabled in mind. At a time when so much of our lives are being led digitally, technology, for the disabled, has emerged as much of an impediment as an enabler.

Mission Accessibility seeks to realize the right to digital accessibility for persons with disabilities. Our initiative has three key strand:

- **Grievance redressal:** pursuing legal remedies on behalf of users with disabilities against service providers whose apps and websites are not disabled friendly.
- **Consultancy:** advising app and website developers to make their platforms disabled friendly.
- **Sensitization:** shaping the public narrative on the need for disabled friendly digital infrastructure, through talks, workshops, opinion pieces amongst others.

The backbone of our initiative is our volunteers, most of whom are law students at the National Law School of India University, Bangalore. I have co-founded the initiative with another lawyer who is blind, Amar Jain.

Those interested to learn more should write to us on missionaccessibility@gmail.com.

And follow us on Twitter @missionaccess_.

What is a typical day for you working at Ira Law?

Ira is a litigation firm that specializes in intellectual property law. A typical day consists of attending court, preparing for upcoming hearings, drafting pleadings, attending briefings sessions with senior lawyers and brainstorming with colleagues on the above aspects.

What motivates you in your daily life?

The desire to ensure that I realize my full potential. To give everything I do my 100%. To not let people's lowered expectations form me [owing to my blindness] come in the way of achieving my aspirations. And to make the world a more disabled friendly place.



Andreas Televantos wins a Teaching Excellence Award

Congratulations to Associate Professor Andreas Televantos for receiving one of four Teaching Excellence (Early Career) awards at the Social Sciences Division's Teaching Excellence Awards 2021-2022.

Andreas said:

"It's an honour to have been given a Teaching Excellence Award. Oxford really is a great place, and it's a privilege to teach such bright students alongside such brilliant colleagues."

Shazia Choudhry appointed as a Specialist Adviser to the Women and Equalities Select Committee



Shazia Choudhry, Professor of Law, has been appointed as the Specialist Legal Adviser to the Parliamentary Committee on Women and Equalities Committee for the Enquiry into Preventing Violence against Women and Girls.

This stage of the enquiry, launched in November 2021, draws on a wealth of existing evidence submitted as part of two recent high-profile consultations, will conduct an exploration of existing legislation and evidence, identifying gaps for further research.

Shazia's research is focused on gender, human rights and violence against women and seeks to examine various dimensions of these areas from an interdisciplinary and feminist perspective.



Thom Wetzer appointed to ESMA's Sustainable Finance Expert Group

Thom Wetzer, Associate Professor of Law and Finance and founding Director of the Oxford Sustainable Law Programme, has been appointed by the European

Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) to its newly-established Consultative Working Group (CWG) on Sustainable Finance. The appointment is initially for two years

Thom Wetzer is one of three European Supervisory Authorities in the European Union (EU) and has a remit to improve the functioning of EU financial markets, enhance investor protection, and promote stable and orderly financial markets. As such, it has a central role in the development, implementation, and enforcement of the EU's 'Green Deal' and, more specifically, its 'Action Plan on Financing Sustainable Growth'.

Thom Wetzer commented:

"Building more sustainable societies is one of the major policy challenges of our time, and the financial sector has an essential role to play in that transition. Given escalating sustainability risks,

challenging economic conditions, and increasing scepticism around the ESG movement, this is the moment for the sustainable finance agenda to mature so that it drives and facilitates genuine progress. I am excited and honoured to have the opportunity to work with my new colleagues to help advance ESMA's mission in this highly salient area."

At Oxford, Thom has conducted (co-authored) research on a range of related topics, including mandatory corporate climate-risk disclosures, credible corporate climate commitments, climate-driven asset partitioning, climate risk in government bond markets, the role of science in enabling climate litigation, the meaning of net zero, and 'sensitive intervention points' (including disclosures) in the post-carbon transition.

Ius Commune Prize 2021 awarded to Dr Marco Cappelletti

Dr Marco Cappelletti, Junior Research Fellow at St John's College and Research Fellow at the Institute of European and Comparative Law within the Law Faculty, has been awarded the prestigious international Ius Commune Prize for outstanding legal research.

The announcement was made during a ceremony in November 2021.

The Ius Commune Prize has been in existence since 2001. It is awarded annually to an early career researcher who has produced an article of outstanding quality which falls within the field of the Ius Commune Research School and which, therefore, deals with either comparative law or the harmonisation/unification of national legal systems in Europe.

The jury awarded the Prize to Dr Cappelletti (ex aequo with the joint authors of another paper) for his

work on the role of punishment in tort law, entitled 'Comparative Reflections on Punishment in Tort Law'. The study explores and compares the different treatment of the idea of punishing civil wrongs in the US, English, and French laws of civil wrongs or 'torts'.



Imogen Goold appointed Visiting Professor of Medical Law at Gresham College



Imogen Goold (Associate Professor and Fellow of St Anne's College) has been appointed Visiting Professor of Medical Law at Gresham College. Founded in 1597, Gresham College is an independently funded

educational institution, that has been providing free lectures within the City of London for over 400 years. Its objective is 'to contribute to society through the pursuit, dissemination, and application of knowledge, by means of innovative collaboration and partnerships'.

As Visiting Professor, Imogen has given three lectures in the 2021/2022 Gresham lecture series. The first was on children and consent to medical treatment. Her second and third lectures examined whether the law should allow people to own human bodily material such as organs and blood, and how the law should regulate the freezing of oocyte to extend female fertility.

Her second and third lectures will examine whether the law should allow people to own human bodily material such as organs and blood, and how the law should regulate the freezing of oocyte to extend female fertility.

All lectures are available to watch on YouTube.



Alice Pirlot, Michael Devereux and John Vella shortlisted for 8th IBFD Frans Vanistendael Award

The IBFD Frans Vanistendael Award for International Tax Law promotes and celebrates scientific research of the highest standards. An international jury judges the submitted publications and selects the work that makes the most outstanding contribution to the development of international tax law.

Shortlisted publications:

Michael P. Devereux, Alan J. Auerbach, Michael Keen, Paul Oosterhuis, Wolfgang Schön, and John Vella, *Taxing Profit in a Global Economy*, Oxford University Press 2021

Alice Pirlot, 'Carbon Border Adjustment Measures: A Straightforward Multi-Purpose Climate Change Instrument?', *Journal of Environmental Law* 2021

Rachel Noah awarded the Halperin Award



Rachel Noah, a DPhil Candidate at the Centre for Criminology, won The Emil Zola Chair for Human

Rights' Halperin Award for Human Rights Research and Cause Lawyering in Israel. The award, at the sum of \$10,000, has been given to Rachel and Maya Rosenfeld, PhD Candidate at the Hebrew University and the Director of the Prisoners Representation Department at the Tel Aviv Public Defence Office, for their co-authored article, (No)-Parole Committees? An Empirical Study of

Parole in Israel, published earlier this year in the Israeli law journal Hukim.

The article studies the reasons for the limited use of parole in Israel by analysing 346 parole committees' decision. It focuses on four central findings: the significant percentage of prisoners who waive their right to apply for parole; the state's objection to parole in 93% of the cases examined; the impact of prior prison sentences on prisoners' chance for parole; and how prisoners who did not participate in treatment programmes faced lower chances for parole, even though most incarcerated persons cannot access prison rehabilitation given their short sentences. The article concludes with several

recommendations on how to expand the use of parole in Israel, in light of the Israeli government efforts to decrease the country's incarceration rates.

The Award Committee, which included senior Israeli jurists and the Former President of the Supreme Court of Israel, Justice Dorit Beinisch, described Rachel and Maya's work as 'an excellent combination of cause lawyering with innovative research that includes accessible reflective academic writing with the potential to create a positive impact'.

Liz Fisher wins American Bar Association Award

Warm congratulations to Professors Liz Fisher and Sidney A. Shapiro who have been jointly awarded the 2021 American Bar Association Administrative Law Section's Annual Scholarship Award for their book Administrative Competence: Reimagining Administrative Law (Cambridge University Press 2020). They share the award with Anne Joseph O'Connell for her article Actings.

The works of Fisher, Shapiro and O'Connell, are jointly recognised as the best works published in the field of administrative law during 2020. Professor Fisher received her award in a virtual ceremony on the 18th of November, as part of the 2021 Administrative Law Conference.

Responding to her award, Professor Fisher said:

"It was a joyful labour of love that took eight years of work that required myself and my co-author to dive deep into law, public administration writings, and historical scholarship so as to reconnect legal imagination to legal realities. Much of the joy came from having the most amazing co-author in Sid Shapiro. We shared a commitment to exploring and deliberating the hard issues and the differences between us."

In their book Fisher and Shapiro reimagine administrative law as the law of public administration by making its competence the focus of administrative law. The authors demonstrate why understanding the capacity and authority of expert public administration is fundamental to ensuring the legitimacy and accountability of the administrative state.

Australian Legal Research Awards

Article co-authored by Andrew Higgins shortlisted for Australian Legal Research Awards

Andrew Higgins and Inbar Levy (University of Melbourne) have been shortlisted for the Australian Legal Research Awards for their Modern Law Review article "What the Fair Minded Observer Really Thinks About Judicial Impartiality" (2021). Andrew & Inbar's work was funded by the Allan Myers Oxford-MLS Research Partnership. Their work on bias, including the MLR article, was extensively cited by the Australian Law Reform Commission in its recent review of judicial impartiality in Australia.

Halefom Abraha wins Dean's Award for Academic Excellence at University of Malta

Halefom Abraha, a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, working on the iMANAGE project, has won the Dean's Awards 2021 for Academic Excellence for his PhD project at the University of Malta. His PhD project 'The Jurisdictional Game in Regulating Law Enforcement Access to Data Across Borders' examines how to reconcile the practical necessity of law enforcement authorities to access electronic evidence across borders and the corresponding challenges to the territorial sovereignty of other countries; the fundamental rights of individuals whose personal data is being sought, and the interest of technology companies whose cooperation is required.

The Faculty and COMBAR announce two new fully funded scholarships for Black students

The Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR) has joined with the Faculty to fund two new scholarships for students of Black or Mixed Black ethnicity to study the BCL from the start of the next academic year.

Uniquely the scholarships will not only cover the students' tuition fees, but also provide a maintenance grant to enable the students to meet their accommodation and living expenses for their year of study. COMBAR will also offer the students the opportunity to join their new mentoring scheme to assist with the process of applying to and thriving at the Commercial Bar.

The scholarships will be available to those who demonstrate exceptional academic merit or potential, who are ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom, and who indicate a serious

interest in commencing a career at the commercial bar following completion of their studies.

Dean of the Faculty, Mindy Chen-Wishart, said

"We are delighted to work with COMBAR to ensure that talented students are not prevented by financial need from taking the BCL course. Like the gene pool, diversity strengthens the university and the legal profession. We look forward to welcoming the COMBAR-Oxford Law scholars to the rich, challenging, and rewarding experience that is the BCL."

David Joseph QC, Chair of COMBAR added

"I am delighted that together with Oxford we have been able to create these important scholarships, which I believe are best in class.....This scheme is a practical step to further our aim of strengthening a Commercial Bar which reflects the make-up of the society in which we all live up and down the country."

The Faculty and COMBAR look forward to welcoming the scholars and to guiding them on a career path that fulfills their aspirations.

BCL / MJur Prizes 2022

Prize	Candidate	College
3 Verulam Buildings Prize in Legal Concepts in Financial Law	Eliza Bond	St Edmund Hall
Clifford Chance (Proxime Accessit) for the Second Best Performance in the MJur	Konstantinos Filippou Sioufas	Oriel College
Clifford Chance Prize for the Best Performance in the MJur	Yue Cao	Worcester College
Clifford Chance Prize in Principles of Civil Procedure	Maxwell Davie	Mansfield College
Herbert Hart Prize in Jurisprudence and Political Theory	Angelo Ryu	St John's College
John Gardner Prize for Philosophical Foundations of the Common Law	Maxwell Davie	Mansfield College
John Morris Prize in The Conflict of Laws funded by Quadrant Chambers	Jonathan Mo	Keble College
Law Faculty Prize for Commercial Negotiation and Mediation (shared in 2022)	Penelope Bristow Sam Warburton	Magdalen College Somerville College
Law Faculty Prize for Commercial Remedies	Jonathan Mo	Keble College
Law Faculty Prize for Comparative Constitutional Law	Ruben Robertson	Magdalen College
Law Faculty Prize for Comparative Copyright	Anupriya Dhonchak	Balliol College
Law Faculty Prize for Constitutionalism in Asia	Surbhi Karwa	Merton College
Law Faculty Prize for Principles of Financial Regulation	Roseanna Bricknell	St Hugh's College
Law Faculty Prize in Medical Law and Ethics	Oisín Mag Fhógartaigh	Linacre College
Law Faculty Prize in Advanced Property and Trusts (shared in 2022)	Roseanna Bricknell William O'Hara	St Hugh's College Mansfield College
Law Faculty Prize in Business Taxation in a Global Economy	Eliza Bond	St Edmund Hall
Law Faculty Prize in Comparative Corporate Governance (shared in 2022)	Thomas Cleeve Mallika Sen	Lady Margaret Hall Somerville College
Law Faculty Prize in Comparative Equality Law	Disha Anand	Brasenose College
Law Faculty Prize in Constitutional Principles of the EU	Konstantinos Filippou Sioufas	Oriel College
Law Faculty Prize in Constitutional Theory	William O'Hara	Mansfield College

BCL / MJur Prizes 2022 (cont.)

Prize	Candidate	College
Law Faculty Prize in Corporate Control – Law and Finance	Arasj Khodadade Jahrome	St Cross College
Law Faculty Prize in Dissertations	Sam Warburton	Somerville College
Law Faculty Prize in Families and the State: Adult Relationships	Surbhi Karwa	Merton College
Law Faculty Prize in Families and the State: Children	Amy Kerr	Lady Margaret Hall
Law Faculty Prize in Human Rights at Work	Gianna Seglias	Wadham College
Law Faculty Prize in International Environmental Law	Ruben Robertson	Magdalen College
Law Faculty Prize in International Human Rights Law	Surbhi Karwa	Merton College
Law Faculty Prize in International Law and Armed Conflict	Gianna Seglias	Wadham College
Law Faculty Prize in Law and Computer Science	Rachelle Lam	Harris Manchester College
Law Faculty Prize in Law and Society in Medieval England	Franciszek Lech	St Catherine's College
Law Faculty Prize in Legal Concepts in Environmental Law	Ruben Robertson	Magdalen College
Law Faculty Prize in Modern Legal History	Zohra Nabi	St Peter's College
Law Faculty Prize in Principles of Intellectual Property Law (shared in 2022)	Eleni Gklavini Max Oliver	St Hilda's College Corpus Christi College
Law Faculty Prize in Private Law and Fundamental Rights (shared in 2022)	Daniel Leyva Ross Moore	Pembroke College Merton College
Law Faculty Prize in Regulation	Nicola Fish	Balliol College
Law Faculty Prize in Taxation of Trusts and Global Wealth	Luke Broadway	Brasenose College
Law Faculty Prize in Trades, Marks and Brands	Nicola Fish	Balliol College
MLF Prize for the Best Overall Performance in the MSc in Law and Finance	Shi Hao Foo	Merton College
MLF Prize in Finance	Shi Hao Foo	Merton College
MLF Prize in First Principles of Financial Economics (FPFE) (shared in 2022)	Ramon Callis Thomas Harrison	Exeter College Lincoln College
MLF Prize in Law and Economics of Corporate Transactions (LECT)	Ivan Podkopalov	Harris Manchester College
Monckton Chambers Prize in Competition Law	Anupriya Dhonchak	Balliol College
Norton Rose Fulbright Prize in Incentivising Innovation	Nga Wai Ruby Wong	Exeter College
Onora O'Neill Prize in Philosophy, Law and Politics	Megan Pfiffer	Brasenose College
Peter Birks Prize Restitution of Unjust Enrichment	Cher Yi Tan	Wadham College
Ralph Chiles Prize in Comparative Human Rights	Amy Kerr	Lady Margaret Hall
Studio Legale Cappelli RCCD Prize in Civilian Foundations of Contract Law	Franciszek Lech	St Catherine's College
Vinerian Scholarship (Proxime Accessit) for the Second Best Performance in the BCL	Maxwell Davie	Mansfield College
Vinerian Scholarship for Best Performance in the BCL	Ruben Robertson	Magdalen College
Volterra Fietta Prize in International Dispute Settlement	Vishaka Ramesh	St Cross College
Volterra Fietta Prize in International Law of the Sea	Panpailin Jantarasombat	St Hugh's College
Winter Williams Prize in International Economic Law	Vishaka Ramesh	St Cross College

FHS and Mods Prizes 2022

Prize	Candidate	College
3 Verulam Buildings Prize in Commercial Law	Emma Lewis	Pembroke College
All Souls Prize for Public International Law	Beatrice Sexton	Jesus College
D'Sousa Prize (Senior Status) (Overall best 2nd BA)	Matthew Frey	Jesus College
Diploma in Legal Studies Prize (Overall Best Performance)	Juna Icaza Wilfert	Merton College
Law Faculty Prize in Dissertations (shared in 2022)	Mizan Rahman Danielle Watts	New College St Hugh's College
Falcon Chambers Prize for Land Law	Katherine Edgeley	Brasenose College
Francis Taylor Building Prize in Environmental Law	Zahra Hannigan	St Catherine's College
Gibbs Prize Winner	Ryan Fincham	Pembroke College
Gibbs Prize Proxime	Nicholas U Jin	Merton College
Gibbs Prize Book 1 of 3	Benjamin Coady	Lincoln College
Gibbs Prize Book 2 of 3	Philippe Allen	Christ Church
Law Faculty Prize for Civil Dispute Resolution	Aleksandra Ruzikowska	University College
Law Faculty Prize for Competition Law	Maria Munoz Gomez	Wadham College
Law Faculty Prize for Copyright, Trade Marks and Allied Rights	Katherine Edgeley	Brasenose College
Law Faculty Prize for Human Rights Law	Richard Wagenländer	Somerville College
Law Faculty Prize for Medical Law and Ethics	Peter Bille	Oriel College
Law Faculty Prize for Moral and Political Philosophy	Philippe Allen	Christ Church
Law Faculty Prize for Personal Property	Ryan Fincham	Pembroke College
Law Faculty Prize for Roman Law (Delict)	Henry Fahrenkamp	Magdalen College
Law Faculty Prize for Trusts	Katherine Edgeley	Brasenose College
Law Faculty Prize in Criminology & Criminal Justice	Jake Dealtry	Balliol College
Law Faculty Prize in European Union Law	Benjamin Coady	Lincoln College
Law Faculty Prize in Family Law	Jasmine Knapman	Wadham College
Littleton Chambers Prize in Employment Law	Obaydh Khan	Lincoln College
Martin Wronker Prize (Overall Best Performance)	Ryan Fincham	Pembroke College
Martin Wronker Proxime (Second Best Performance) (shared in 2022)	Benjamin Coady Obaydh Khan John Yao Wen Yap	Lincoln College Lincoln College Mansfield College
Martin Wronker Prize for Administrative Law	Nicholas U Jin	Merton College
Martin Wronker Prize for Jurisprudence	Obaydh Khan	Lincoln College
Martin Wronker Prize for Tort	Yun Kei Chow	Christ Church
Norton Rose Fulbright Prize for Overall Best Performance	Syed Anzar	Lady Margaret Hall
Pinsent Masons Prize in Taxation Law	Wesley Ding	Somerville College
Quadrant Prize for International Trade	Charlotte Case	Lincoln College
Slaughter and May Prize in A Roman Introduction to Private Law	Syed Anzar	Lady Margaret Hall
Slaughter and May Prize in Constitutional Law	Marlon Austin	Worcester College
Slaughter and May Prize in Criminal Law	Omid Yeganeh	Lady Margaret Hall
Slaughter and May Prize in History of English Law	Ryan Fincham	Pembroke College
White & Case Prize in Company Law	Emma Lewis	Pembroke College
White & Case Prize in Comparative Private Law	Benedict Stanley	St John's College

Subedi Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation 2020-21 awarded to Eleni Katsampouka



The Law Faculty is delighted to announce the winner of the Subedi Prize for best doctoral dissertation in the 2020-21 academic year.

The Subedi Prize was established in 2019 thanks to a generous donation from Professor

Surya P. Subedi QC. Each academic year, the prize is awarded to the thesis that, in the opinion of the judges, makes the most exciting original contribution to the relevant field of scholarship and is best crafted in terms of organisation, style and presentation.

The prize for the 2020-21 academic year is awarded to Dr Eleni Katsampouka, for her thesis *Rethinking Punitive Damages*. This ground-breaking project offers the first full-length treatment of the English law on punitive damages. The project uses both classical legal analysis and empirical methods to provide the first comprehensive account of how punitive damages are used in practice. This research challenges our thinking about the use of punitive damages by dispelling a number of common misconceptions. The thesis then develops a normative account of punitive damages

which, grounded as it is in the most comprehensive account of the practice, is likely to have significant impact on future judicial decision-making.

On hearing she had won the prize, Eleni said:

"It is an immense honour to receive the Subedi Prize for best doctoral dissertation. I would like to thank my friends, mentors and supervisor for their support, and, of course, my examiners Lord Andrew Burrows and Mr Nicholas McBride for their invaluable feedback and support."

Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart, Dean of the Faculty of Law, said:

"We are absolutely delighted to award the Subedi Prize for the Law Faculty's best DPhil thesis in 2020-21 to Dr Eleni Katsampouka. Once again, we had an extremely strong field of outstanding dissertations to consider. It was especially inspiring to see so many strong projects coming to fruition given the extraordinary challenges faced by our community at that time. We are extremely grateful to Professor Subedi for funding this prize. Many congratulations to Eleni and her supervisor Professor James Goudkamp!"

Eleni intends to publish her doctoral thesis as a book in due course.

The Nicolas Berggruen Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation in Philosophy, Law & Politics at the University of Oxford 2022

The Law Faculty is delighted to announce the winner of the Nicolas Berggruen Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation in Philosophy, Law & Politics at the University of Oxford in 2022.

2022 marks the inaugural year of this prestigious prize, generously funded by Nicolas Berggruen of the Berggruen Institute in Los Angeles. Each year the prize will be awarded to the best dissertation across the three disciplines of philosophy, law and politics that is both excellent and transformative for either the theory or practice in any field of human inquiry. Each of the three faculties (Philosophy, Law and the Department of Politics



and International Relations) nominate their most outstanding dissertation each year and then a winner is selected among the three outstanding dissertations by a committee constituted by the terms of the Prize.

The 2022 prize is awarded to Dr Jay Ruckelshaus, for his dissertation "Partisanship, Polarization, and Political Identity". Ruckelshaus' dissertation explores how partisan polarization distorts the relationship between citizens and politics and the relationships across the citizenry. In response, Ruckelshaus offers a novel account of what citizens of diverse, divided democracies must share.

In five carefully argued and original chapters, Ruckelshaus proposes an original diagnosis of the harms of polarization. But he goes on to consider a question that has received significantly less attention, noting that we rarely pause to reflect on what the opposite of polarization might be – what citizens who will never agree must nonetheless aspire to in terms of social cohesion. His new account of political identity and cohesion as shared action is thus sensitive to the real-world workings of polarization but does not abandon the hope of a better democratic politics.

In addition to untangling the relationships among polarization, partisanship, and identity politics in contemporary democracies, Ruckelshaus intervenes in long-standing debates on the moral foundations of liberalism and the appropriateness of public emotions and identities among modern, diverse citizenries.

The result is a piece of work that is, in the words of the examiners, "an emphatic contribution...provocative, original, and interesting", and that has already resulted in several publications, including one in the single most prestigious journal within Political Science, the American Political Science Review.

Dr Ruckelshaus is a Rhodes Scholar, non-profit leader who helps people with disabilities gain entry into higher education, and an emerging public intellectual with by-lines in The New York Times, Governing, and elsewhere.

On hearing he had won the prize, Jay said:

"I'm incredibly humbled and honored to have been awarded the Nicolas Berggruen prize! The central focus of my work has been the power of ideas in democratic societies, so I feel particularly lucky to be acknowledged by a benefactor and an Institute driving transformative intellectual change. I hope to do my part in developing and – crucially – enacting ideas that help make the world more humane."

Winners of the 5th Border Criminologies Dissertation Prize

We are proud to announce the winners of the fifth Border Criminologies Masters Dissertation/Thesis Prize, who will receive £200 and £100 worth of Routledge books. For the first time this year, we welcomed submissions from different parts of the world focusing on immigration and border control in the India-Bangladesh border, Nigeria, Libya, and Indonesia, among others.

Border Criminologies seeks to support early career researchers working on the intersections between border control and criminal justice. From a strong list of 12 entries, the competition panel, consisting of academics from the Border Criminologies

Network identified the following winners:

Tiphaine Le Corre, winner, University of Oxford, *'The Politics of Deterring Unwanted Immigration to the United Kingdom'*.

Tosin Durodola, Runner-up, University of Ibadan, *'Narratives of the Journey to Exile and Transformative Agency of Residual Liberian Refugees in Oru, Southwestern Nigeria'*.

Blackstone Human Rights Moot Court Competition 2022

The Blackstone Human Rights Moot Court Competition 2022, co-organised by Oxford Lawyers without Borders, the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights and the Oxford Mooting Programme, was held on 4 and 5 March. This year's edition was generously supported by Blackstone Chambers.

In the preliminary rounds, teams had to argue once as Applicant and once as Respondent. Participants included both undergraduate and BCL/ MJur students. The judges, drawn from a pool of Oxford's Master's and DPhil programs, included Angelo Ryu, Almas Shaikh, Juliana Mota and Lara Ibrahim.

After the preliminary rounds, the two teams that proceeded to the finals of the competition were Oisín Mag Fhogartaigh (Linacre) and Frances Hand (Hertford) for the Applicant, and Abe Chauhan (Jesus) and Gianna Seglias (Wadham) for the Respondent. The finalists made their submissions before a panel of esteemed judges consisting of Prof Maurice Mendelson QC and Emmeline Plews from Blackstone Chambers and Ashleigh Barnes, DPhil (Law) candidate.

The bench praised all finalists for their high-quality submissions, exceptional advocacy skills and nuanced analysis of the cited international authorities. The winners were the agents for the Respondent, Abe Chauhan and Gianna Seglias. Abe Chauhan and Gianna

Seglias also walked away with the 'Best Oralist, Final Round' and 'Best Oralist, Preliminary Rounds' awards respectively. They will go on to represent the University of Oxford at the Nelson Mandela World Human Rights Moot 2022 this summer.

We would like to congratulate all participants on their performance, and extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Finals Judges and the Preliminary Rounds Judges for making time for this moot. Our gratitude also goes to the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, Mansfield College, the Oxford Law Faculty, and Oxford Lawyers without Borders, for their valuable support. Last but not least, we are immensely grateful to Blackstone Chambers, for making this moot possible year after year, and giving Oxford students an opportunity to engage in human rights research and improve their advocacy skills.



New College wins Blackstone Chambers Postgraduate Mooting Championship 2021-2022



The Grand Final of the University of Oxford Blackstone Chambers Postgraduate Mooting Championship 2021-

22 took place on Friday 25 February 2022 between the team from Wadham College and New College.

The moot problem for this year's Grand Final was drafted

by Blackstone Chambers and involved an appeal to the Supreme Court, concerning judicial review of the conduct of elections through online voting.

Cher-Yi Tan and Sean Sutherland (Wadham) appeared on behalf of the Appellant, and Dana McGibbon and Alex Chan (New) appeared on behalf of the Respondent.

The Grand Final was judged by Tom Lowenthal and Madelaine Clifford. Having retired to consider the arguments made before them, the judges returned to pronounce a judgement on merits and then announced New College as the winners, commending all mooters on the quality of their submissions and advocacy.

The winning team were awarded a prize of £400 and the runner-up team were awarded a prize of £200.

Oxford student wins the Landmark Chambers Property Moot 2022

After three months and four rounds of mooting, two of our students, Yun Kei Chow (Christ Church) and Henry Fahrenkamp (Magdalen College), have completed a successful streak of performances in the Landmark Chambers Property Moot 2022. The competition centres on topics in Property Law which go beyond the FHS Land Law syllabus, and more than 20 universities from around the UK enter undergraduate teams in the moot each year.

On the first day of the competition, participants were invited to a mooting workshop conducted by members of Landmark Chambers. This workshop involved discussing the outstanding appeal in *Fearn v Tate* [2020] EWCA Civ 104, which members of Landmark Chambers were instructed on. Subsequently, the Oxford team took on the team from University College London in the first round of mooting, which concerned the courts' discretionary power to grant injunctions for trespass to land, as well as the assessment of damages awarded in lieu of an injunction. Oxford ranked within the top eight teams in terms of total speaker points and progressed to the next round.

The quarter final moot problem explored the Court of Appeal's decisions in *NRAM Ltd v Evans* [2017] EWCA Civ 120 and *Antoine v Barclays Bank* [2018] EWCA Civ 2846, and whether or not they could be extended to other situations. The Oxford duo faced a difficult task in seeking to uphold the registration of an adverse possessor who, after taking over his neighbour's property

by force, successfully applied to be registered despite not having completed 10 years of adverse possession. Nonetheless, they were named victorious against their opponents from SOAS University of London and secured a place in the semi-finals.

Oxford then faced off against the University of Cambridge, now mooting before a hypothetical Supreme Court (all prior rounds had been argued before a hypothetical Court of Appeal). The moot problem centred on the doctrine in *Neilson v Poole* [1969] 20 P. & C.R. and invited submissions on whether or not it should be overruled entirely or limited in scope. Fortunately, the Oxford team's defence of the doctrine found favour with the judge, who praised the construction of their written submissions and declared them the winners.

Unlike the previous rounds, the Grand Final took place in person, and was held at the Royal Courts of Justice on Wednesday, 16 February. HH Judge Dight CBE presided over the final round, which saw the Oxford team and their counterparts from the University of Nottingham argue a moot problem concerning the frustration of Leases. The factual scenario at the core of the problem raised difficult questions about the nature of the doctrine of frustration, with both teams eventually winning on one ground of appeal each. Based on their individual speaker points, James Piercy (University of Nottingham) and Henry Fahrenkamp were declared the overall winners of the competition.

Subsequently, all the finalists enjoyed a dinner and drinks with the judges and organisers of the competition. Yun Kei and Henry would like to thank all members of Landmark Chambers involved in the event, and, in particular, Natasha White-Foy for her support through the competition.



Oxford students finish as Finalists at the Inner Temple Inter-Varsity Moot 2022

We are proud to announce that the team representing the University of Oxford, Benedict Stanley (St John's College) and Henry Fahrenkamp (Magdalen College), have finished as Finalists at the Inner Temple Inter-Varsity Mooting Competition 2022.

This year's competition was held remotely on Sunday, the 16th of January, and saw 20 teams (representing universities from around the United Kingdom) participate in a series of knock-out rounds. The moot problem explored traditional contract law doctrine in the context of online messenger services. In particular, competitors had to determine if casual text messages could amount to a contractual offer, and, secondly,

whether or not these would be subject to the 'postal acceptance rule'. Over the course of the competition, teams had to represent both parties to the appeal, which required switching between two wholly different sets of arguments at short notice.

Oxford's team received kind praise from the moot judges throughout the knock-out rounds. The grand final was judged by Lord Hughes of Ombersley as well as HHJ Deborah Taylor and Mark Hill QC, Master Treasurer and Master of Mooting at The Inner Temple, respectively. All finalists were commended on the quality of their oral advocacy and, in particular, their responsiveness to judicial intervention.

Oxford team wins DM Harish Memorial International Moot 2022



The team representing the University of Oxford won the 23rd D. M. Harish Memorial Government Law College International Moot. The competition took place online from 12-13 February 2022. The problem, which raised various questions of public international law, concerned a fictional dispute between two countries over alleged cyberattacks and cyberespionage.

Oxford's team consisted of Angelo Ryu (St John's College), Oliver Hutton (Jesus College), and Lester Ho (Lincoln College). After the preliminary rounds, Oxford ranked among the top eight teams. From there Oxford prevailed through the quarterfinal, semifinal, and final rounds. Aside from winning the competition, Angelo Ryu was ranked the 2nd best speaker during the preliminary rounds, and the best speaker during the finals.

Oxford team reaches new heights in Jessup Moot



In 2022, Oxford once again took part in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the world's largest and most prestigious international moot court competition. This year, over 600 teams participated in the competition from around the world. After winning the UK National Rounds in February, the Oxford team spent their Easter vacation preparing for the international rounds of the competition, which took place from 24 March to 8 April. This was the first time in several years that Oxford has contested the international rounds.

The team, consisting of Kristy Chan (Somerville), Luca Geary (Magdalen), Athena Kam (Pembroke), Joseph

Khaw (Wadham), and Christopher McHugh (Keble), and coached by Sophie Ryan (Magdalen) reached new heights for Oxford in its outstanding results.

After qualifying for the elimination rounds of the competition (top 32 teams) as the 6th highest ranked team, the team made it to the Top 16 teams in the global rounds. Additionally, the team received the following accolades for their performance:

- The team won the award for the Best Overall Applicant in the international rounds;
- Luca Geary was named the 2nd best oralist in the preliminary rounds, and 15th best oralist in the advanced rounds; and
- Joseph Khaw was named the 5th best oralist in the preliminary rounds.

The World Championship Final Round took place on 8 April between Singapore Management University and Harvard University before Her Excellency Judge Charlesworth (of the ICJ), His Excellency Judge Nolte (of the ICJ), and His Excellency Judge Simma (of the Iran US Claims Tribunal and formerly of the ICJ). In an excellent moot, Harvard came away World Champions of this year's competition.

The Faculty and the team would like to thank all those who supported the team throughout their participation in the competition for their unending encouragement and support.

Oxford wins Best Written Pleadings Award at Herbert Smith Freehills Competition Law Moot 2022

The team representing the University of Oxford won the Best Written Pleadings Award at the Herbert Smith Freehills Competition Law Moot 2022, the world's top competition law moot hosted by King's College London (KCL). The moot hearings took place in a hybrid format, with part of the team attending the hearing in-person at KCL's Law Faculty between the 17th and 18th June 2022. The Oxford Law Faculty was represented by Harry

Chan (BA Jurisprudence, St Catherine's College), Alex Sze (Law exchange student, St Catherine's College), Sushrut Royyuru (BA Jurisprudence, Magdalen College), and Mihir Rajamane (BA Jurisprudence, Magdalen College).

The moot was modelled on the ongoing appeal before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in the case of *Commission v CK Telecoms UK Investments* (Case C-376/20 P), originally triggered by the European Commission's decision to prohibit the merger between Three and O2. The expansive moot problem's six referred questions concerned cutting-edge debates on: (i) the scope of jurisdiction of the ECJ, (ii) the standard of proof for merger decisions under the EU Merger Regulations (EUMR), (iii) the conditions that must be satisfied to establish the existence of a



significant impediment to effective competition (SIEC) under EUMR Art. 2(3), (iv) whether the said impediment must be "significant", (v) whether there is a presumption that all mergers generate "standard efficiencies", and (vi) whether SIEC can be found on contradictory theories.

The competition was judged by over 30 distinguished competition law practitioners and academics from prestigious law firms, enforcement agencies and universities, including Dorothy Livingston (competition, regulation and trade consultant at HSF), Kevin Coates (partner at Covington & Burling), Professor Alison Jones (Vice Dean at KCL), Professor William Kovacic (George Washington University), Jessica Radke (Senior Legal Director of Litigation at the CMA), and John McInnes (Senior Legal Director, Policy & International at the CMA).

Of the 38 teams from 9 jurisdictions which submitted written pleadings, we are proud to announce that Oxford took home the Best Written Pleadings Award.

The team competed against the 12 best teams in the oral rounds, where it was narrowly eliminated by the Quarter-Finalists and Runner-Ups, the University of Hong Kong and King's College London.

Oxford team wins the Helga Pedersen Moot Court Competition 2022

Court Competition (formerly known as the ELSA Human Rights Law Moot) held in Strasbourg from 9-13 May 2022.

Disha Anand (BCL, Brasenose), Reuben Andrews (BCL, Lincoln), Weronika Galka (BA in Jurisprudence, St Peters) and Oliver Clement (BA in Jurisprudence, Magdalen) had progressed through the regional round held earlier this year in first place. At the International Finals, Oxford progressed through preliminary rounds, quarter-finals and semi-finals to moot in the grand

final, which was held in the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights before a panel of 9 judges. Over 50 teams entered the competition and 19 teams progressed to the International Finals. The team was coached by Ashleigh Barnes (DPhil in Law, Lady Margaret Hall).

The moot simulates the experience of pleading a case before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg and is organized by the European Law Students' Association with the support of the Council of Europe. The case for the 2022 edition concerned alleged violations of the right to life, the prohibition of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, the right to respect for private life and the protection of property. In broad terms, it dealt with the application of the European Convention on Human Rights to natural disasters caused by anthropogenic climate change.





'Digital Constitutionalism in Europe: Reframing Rights and Powers in the Algorithmic Society'

by Giovanni De Gregorio has been published by Cambridge University Press. This book is about rights and powers in the

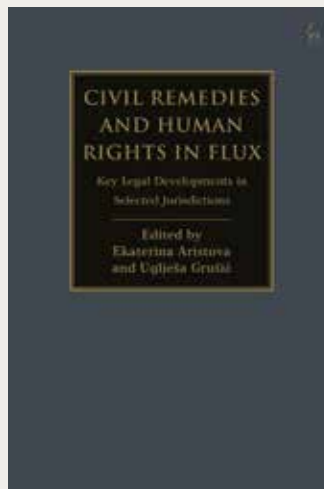
digital age. It is an attempt to reframe the role of constitutional democracies in the algorithmic society. By focusing on the European constitutional framework as a lodestar, this book examines the rise and consolidation of digital constitutionalism as a reaction to digital capitalism. The primary goal is to examine how European digital constitutionalism can protect fundamental rights and democratic values against the charm of digital liberalism and the challenges raised by platform powers.

Second edition of 'Commentary on the European Insolvency Regulation'

edited Reinhard Bork and Kristin van Zwieten has been published by Oxford University Press. This second edition of 'Commentary on the European Insolvency Regulation' expands upon what has become a widely cited work on the recast EU Regulation on Insolvency Proceedings. It incorporates important developments in the case law since the Regulation was recast in 2015, as well as other significant updates. It provides a detailed article-by-article commentary on the Regulation, written by a group of expert scholars and practitioners from a range of European jurisdictions. This edition offers new analysis of issues that have arisen since the publication of the first edition, including updates on the impact of Brexit and the passage of the European Restructuring Directive in 2019.

'Civil Remedies and Human Rights in Flux: Key Legal Developments in Selected Jurisdictions'

edited by Dr Ekaterina Aristova and Dr Uglješa Grušić has been published by Hart Publishing. What private law avenues are open to

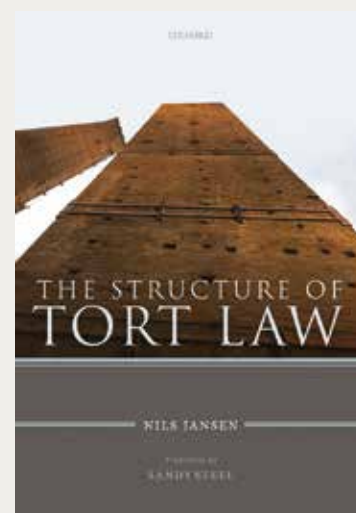


victims of human rights violations? This innovative new collection explores this question across sixteen jurisdictions in the Global South and Global North. It examines existing mechanisms in domestic law for bringing civil claims in relation to the involvement of states, corporations

and individuals in specific categories of human rights violation: assault or unlawful arrest and detention of persons; environmental harm; and harmful or unfair labour conditions. Taking a truly global perspective, it assesses the question in jurisdictions as diverse as Kenya, Switzerland, the US and the Philippines.

'The Structure of Tort Law'

by Nils Jansen translated by Sandy Steel has been published by Oxford University Press. This English translation makes available to anglophone readers a modern classic of German tort theory. It argues that modern German tort law



is faced with doctrinal tensions based on problematic theoretical assumptions which stem from historical conceptions of tortious liability, inappropriate to modern times. From a theoretical perspective, it argues against the prevalent doctrinal view in Germany that conceives of tortious liability as split between two tracks – a fault-based track and a strict liability track – each with different normative foundations.

Mary Adeyemo, DPhil in Law



Mary Adeyemo is a first-year DPhil in Law. This year, she received the Highly Commended Student Champion Award at the 2022 Vice Chancellors Diversity Award Ceremony for her work in enhancing opportunities for school students from underprivileged backgrounds to access higher education and to enter the legal profession. She was also given the Increasing Access Award by Oxford University Student Union. In this brief interview, we ask Mary about her journey into the Law, her time at Oxford thus far, her outreach activities and more.

What led you to a career in Law and, in particular, to studying at Oxford?

The dream to BECOME attracted me to study Law. I was born in the popular Ikorodu Garage, Lagos, Nigeria. This is a community that was (and is) flawed with unlimited social vices even amongst young people, the reality of teenage mothers and society disappointed future champions, and the incessant shootings and violent takeover of motor parks by hoodlums among others. I remember that for safety reasons, lying low on the ground was the norm as cutlasses and all sorts of weaponry filled the area whenever there was a clash of hoodlums or unrest at the garage. It was a community tormented by various cult groups that committed varying degrees of horrendous crimes. I must give credit to my parents who found a way to shelter us from the mayhem happening on the other side of our walls, however, it didn't change the fact that something had to be done to alter the actions and more importantly, the orientation of those who for the knowledge of nothing better had chosen violence and rioting as their only way of life.

Hence, to BECOME a pathfinder, a thought leader, a present (positive) example, a voice and not an echo, and a pioneer of great possibilities, which Ikorodu is generally not known for attracted me to study law. I thought, that if my parents could bring law and order within the walls of our home, I could do the same within my community. I am privileged to be the first lawyer in my family and perhaps my lineage; in fact, the first lawyer within my immediate community- a feat I continue to thank God for.

Further, studying at the University of Oxford (Oxford) has been my longest dream. Most times, it feels surreal that; that which is far beyond my wildest dreams is materialising (and if by any chance, it is a dream, I do not want to wake up from it... LOL). Undoubtedly, the astute quality of education and global recognition ignited my love for Oxford.

Today and forever, I am thankful for the opportunity to be part of this world-class institution.

Did you have any preconceived ideas about Oxford and did reality live up to them so far?

I did have preconceived ideas about those who attended the University of Oxford. Until, very recently, I thought they were supernatural beings who had some special skills and abilities "ordinary" people like me did not have. Truthfully so, as what I've realised is that they are natural beings whose "super" skill is taking a step towards achieving their aims even if that only entails submitting the application despite the inadequacy of their circumstances or the imposter syndrome they might fight daily. I also realised that I was not ready for many things including culture shocks which caused me to struggle in the first few weeks of resumption. Nonetheless, Oxford has met and is still exceeding my expectations, especially with the relationships I have been able to build with the amazing people here, even over a short period.

Please tell us what led you to set up CareerCarrierz and what are the aims of the project?

My desire to continue to contribute to equality and access to quality education led me to start CareerCarrierz. CareerCarrierz is my brainchild, born out of a desire to not only tell indigent students or those from low-income families that anything is possible but to show them. CareerCarrierz is aimed at helping these students access local and global opportunities in education, employment, and entrepreneurship (EEE) at no cost. Apart from our monthly webinars and tutorials, we provide one on one support and pair students with mentors. We understand that catching them young is a necessary tool to reduce, if not totally eradicate vices that we do not applaud. Thus, we run the Project-X targeted at teenagers to

help them acquire skill sets which will come in handy in a technologically driven world, among other projects.

What is your go-to advice for people who are thinking about studying law?

My advice is that if you ever love anything at all, go for it. What distinguishes you from the rest is the ability to "take a step". It does not matter if you have never done it before or know someone who has. You are sufficient to write or even re-write your story. Hence, for those who are interested in studying or pursuing a career in Law, please go for it. Law is a land filled with milk and honey, there are immeasurable opportunities that present themselves with a law degree.

What are your goals for the future?

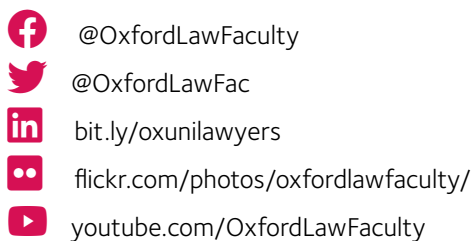
My primary goal as always is to continue to positively impact the lives of present and future generations through my actions and inactions. We all struggle with one thing or the other and for me, the ability to impact the lives of everyone that has contact with me is huge, regardless of how minute that impact might appear to be. Further, I intend to continue championing discourse that advances equality and access in every sphere. Ultimately, I am passionate about teaching and mentoring, I look forward to launching a career in education and continuing my practice as a lawyer. Today and forever, I am thankful for the opportunity to be part of this world-class institution.

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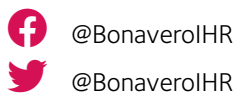


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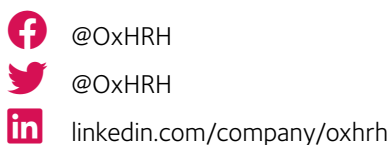
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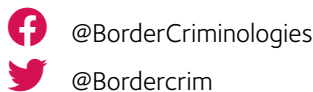
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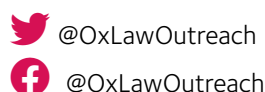
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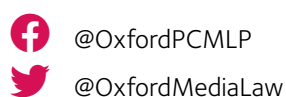
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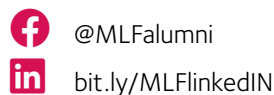
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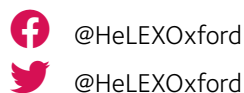
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