

LEEDS LAW SCHOOL LAUNCHES ITS FIRST ENRICHMENT WEEK

During the first week of November, Leeds Law School was delighted to host its first ever Law School Enrichment Week, sponsored by Beaumont Legal.

The event was attended primarily by second and third year students and was designed to support student employability, develop academic skills and encourage engagement with pro bono and other extra-curricular activities.

A range of local legal and non-legal employers supported the various events including **Careers Question Time**, **Speed Networking** and a **Careers Fair**:

- BT (British Telecom)
- Beaumont Legal
- Blacks Solicitors LLP
- Eversheds
- Front Row Legal
- Junior Lawyers Division (young lawyers with membership across the legal landscape in Leeds)
- Laurus Law
- Michael Lewin
- Price Waterhouse Cooper
- Sacco Mann (legal recruitment)
- Sagar Wright (legal recruitment)
- Ward Hadaway

The **Careers Fair** was hosted on Wednesday 2 November 2016, followed in the evening by a networking event to launch the **Law School Career Mentoring Scheme** for the coming year. Students were trained in networking skills prior to meeting up with mentors at the networking event.

The **London Legal Trip** rounded off the week with students having lunch in the beautiful hall at Middle Temple, one of the four Inns of Court that student barristers can choose to join. Students also experienced an informative talk and tour at the Royal Courts of Justice and a visit to the Law Society of England and Wales.

Students unable to make the overnight trip to London were invited to apply to attend Eversheds law firm for an Insight Day. This involved visiting the firm's offices in Leeds and engaging in a practical skills based exercise.

WELCOME FROM THE HEAD OF LAW: MELISSA ASKEW

As I reflect on the first term of this academic year, there are many things that as Head of Law I am pleased about, but what really springs to mind is the sight of our students rising to various challenges that will help them move forward and achieve their career aspirations.

For example, during Enrichment Week, there was such a buzz in the room when students met their mentors. Seeing the students taking their first foray into networking was a pleasure, as was hearing the perceptive questions posed by our students to employers at Careers Question Time and at the Careers Fair.

The positive feedback we received from employers reinforced the view that our students are a credit to the Law School. I look forward to seeing our students engage in the various opportunities provided to them in the Law School and the University, and seeing them being successful in their chosen careers.

ENRICHMENT WEEK: STUDENTS MEET LAW FIRMS



LEEDS LAW SCHOOL LEGAL CLINIC

The Law School ran its second legal clinic at the end of November providing students with the chance to experience a key aspect of legal practice: meeting clients, listening to their legal problem(s) and providing legal advice as appropriate.

Free legal advice in the area of Family Law was on offer with support from Norman Taylor, a solicitor at Jones Myers Family Law Solicitors and David Jacobs, a professional McKenzie Friend (someone that assists an unrepresented person at court).

Students received training in professional conduct before meeting and shadowing our supporting solicitor at client interviews. At the interview, preliminary advice was provided; the next step being for students to write a letter of advice to be checked by the solicitor and our in-house supervising solicitor before being sent to the client.

This is a Law School initiative to enhance the student experience by providing experience of legal practice and also helping others by offering free advice. To find out more, either as someone seeking advice or as a student, please contact Ian Doerfler: I.Doerfler@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

LEEDS LAW SCHOOL WELCOMES HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

In October the Law School was delighted to host the careers day for the Human Rights Lawyers Association and welcome students from our own university, universities across the North and North East of England, and lawyers from a broad spectrum of legal practice.

Talks were given by employees from the Government Legal Service, the Crown Prosecution Service and solicitors and barristers speaking about the work that they do. Insight into a typical day in their life and how students can develop a career practising human rights law was provided. Angela George, a barrister and former director of Human Rights Policy at Justice, advised that human rights lawyers need relentless optimism and sticking power in order to fight for the rights of ordinary people.

Level 6 law student Kitty Morgan, commented: 'As someone interested in human rights, it was great to hear the different routes the guest speakers had taken into their respective careers. I've been advised in the past that human rights is a difficult area to get into, but hearing and speaking to those who are involved, I found it really encouraging.'

Deveral Capps, Dean of Leeds Law School, said: 'It was wonderful to host the HRLA at the University. The Association has over 1,800 members including barristers, solicitors, legal executives, judges and legal academics and helps to encourage law students to work in this very important area of law'.

WANT TO BE THE NEXT FUTURE LEGAL MIND?

Future Legal Mind is an annual award scheme, with a top prize of £5,000 and work experience and nine runners up prizes of £250. Leeds Law School student Daniel Doig demonstrated his potential by submitting an essay to last year's scheme and securing a place as a runner up.

This year's essay question is: 'If eBay can resolve 60 million disputes each year why does the UK civil justice system need lawyers?' The deadline is 18 January 2017. For entrance requirements see: [Future Legal Mind 2017](#)

BLD FOUNDATION LEGAL LAUNCH PAD

Congratulations go to Owen Afriye, an LLB student who graduated in summer 2016. Owen was selected to be one of only 30 students to secure a place on the BLD Foundation Legal Launch Pad.

The Legal Launch Pad 'is a structured nine-month (January to September) intensive training, networking and mentoring programme open to those studying for a legal career.' For information: <http://bldfoundation.org.uk/legal-launch-pad-llp>

JUNIOR BARRISTERS SOCIETY

This year has seen the launch of the Junior Barristers Society open to anyone interested in or curious about life at the Bar. It seeks to enhance members' career prospects in a welcoming environment with extra-curricular activities, insight events, external speakers and more. You can email us via juniorbarristersoc@gmail.com or find us at: <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/groups/junior-barristers-society>. Students can also join **Leeds Beckett Student Law Society** <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/groups/law-society--10>



STREETLEEDS AND STREET LAW

Students from Leeds Law School have been involved with **StreetLeeds** since its launch in 2015. It is a collaborative public legal education project which provides legal workshops to different community groups in Leeds.

The workshops are run by law students from each of the four law schools in the city namely Leeds Beckett, University of Leeds, the University of Law and BPP. Each team is mentored by a legal practitioner with expertise in the relevant field of law. The scheme was recently nominated as Best New Student Pro Bono Activity.

Leeds Law School students are also involved with **Street Law**. This involves going into local schools to deliver workshops and presentations on areas of law relevant to the school curriculum. To get involved with either scheme, contact Teresa Aksamit-Hollingworth: T.Aksamit-Hollingworth@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MENTAL TOUGHNESS: DEALING WITH PRESSURE AND STRESS

At the start of this semester all level 6 students had the opportunity to take a Mental Toughness Test as part of a pilot scheme run by the Law School in association with Lorraine Goodhand of the University's Leadership Centre.

The scheme is designed to help students to identify their level of mental toughness by highlighting their strengths and weaknesses. Around 40 students participated and gained access to an individual report providing suggestions/strategies for dealing with pressures and stresses. To find out more about this project, contact Ian Doerfler: I.Doerfler@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

LEEDS LAW SCHOOL AND MOOTING

A moot is a staged trial, such as the hearing of a matter on appeal, during which students are in role as, for example, the appellant or the defendant, often staged in a mock court room and with a practising or retired judge volunteering their time to judge the competition.

This December, the finalists of the Law School's internal mooting competition, Daniel Doig and Riccardo Stone, represented the University at the first round of the prestigious Essex Court Moot against Hull University in front of the Crown Court Counsel. Congratulations to Daniel and Riccardo for their excellent performances and for winning the moot and getting through to the second round.

By getting involved with mooting, students get the chance to practise and hone their advocacy skills with their peers in a supportive environment. For further details and/or to get involved with mooting contact Leona Mydlowski: L.Mydlowski@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

REFLECTIONS ON ENRICHMENT WEEK...

Cassie Calder, level 6, LLB student: 'To allocate an interval specifically for Enrichment Week allows students the time to catch up on any university work that they may be behind on, without the panic of having to fall further behind in order to do so. Yet, and most importantly, it allows for the student to create space in their mind to be able to collect themselves and focus on what they personally need and want to do in order to progress. On this point, I believe that virtually every area of improvement was provided for...

The Academic Skills sessions answered many questions that I had been meaning to seek answers to. As a third year student, I almost did not want to admit that my ability to find journals and to navigate around particular databases was still pretty poor. It turns out however that I was not alone and that it is not that scary and difficult after all. Nor is it too late to learn. All of the information and techniques I gained in these sessions will become very valuable this year for my assessments, and for the many years of legal research to follow'.

Gresa Bakolli, level 6, LLB student: '...this week has been fantastic! I particularly found the question time event useful and I would definitely attend more sessions like that if the opportunity arises'.

Yvonne Marsh, Principal Lecturer: 'I was so impressed by all the events I was involved in. At the Law Fair students were impressing those staffing the stands with the research and preparation they had carried out in advance and their insightful questions. It was also evident how much the students had grown in confidence'.

Su Maynard, Employer Engagement Team: 'The amount of amazing feedback we've been getting from employers about the week has been brilliant. PWC said the students who they spoke to were confident, engaged and asked really good questions. They commented that they would be very interested in getting involved in activities again within the Law School'.

Michael Lewin Solicitors: '...we all thought they [the students] were well presented, very interested in the firm and legal topics and they all seemed very enthused by their future careers and prospects. They did the University proud'.

LEEDS LAW SCHOOL AND THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LEGAL EXECUTIVES (CILEX)

This semester has seen the launch of a new pathway at level 6 in conjunction with the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx). The pathway consists of three modules approved by CILEx that, following successful completion of the modules in line with CILEx requirements and the award of a qualifying law degree, allows students to apply to become a graduate member of CILEx. This accolade means students are well placed to secure positions in legal practice as a paralegal and to make progress towards attaining the title of Legal Executive Lawyer should they wish to.

In recent years there has been an opening up of the legal profession. Non-lawyers can now own and run law firms and Legal Executive lawyers can be partners in firms. The CILEx pathway reflects the Law School's commitment to train the lawyers of the future and equip graduates with tangible skills that will benefit them for a legal or non-legal future career.

The Law School will be launching a Professional Diploma in Legal Executive Practice (CILEx) in the forthcoming months, with a view to welcoming the first students onto this programme in September 2017. For more information on this, see: <https://courses.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/profdiplegal/>

LEGAL LONDON TRIP 2016: STUDENTS VISIT THE LAW SOCIETY OF ENGLAND AND WALES



STRUGGLING WITH REFERENCING? CAN'T FIND A JOURNAL ARTICLE?

Legal research and the library

We have access to over 3,000 journals relevant to Law. Use the eJournal A-Z list to check what we subscribe to: <http://libguides.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/resources/journals>

Test and hone your referencing skills by doing the bespoke online tutorial for law students, or book a one to one appointment with your academic librarians and/or email us with your questions: http://libguides.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/subject_support/law

Just some examples of the additional library support we offered this semester:

- Tour of the library – written for law students and provided at induction (email the librarians / go to Law Admin for a copy of this tour).
- Induction lecture – explaining how to use the library's services.
- Drop-in sessions at the end of semester 1 – dealing with questions in relation to referencing, finding journals, using the legal research databases to name a few.

Small group study sessions for dissertation and extended study students will run at the start of semester 2.

NEW LLB COURSES LAUNCHED IN 2016

In September we launched three exciting new LLB degrees: Law with Management / Law with Finance / Law with International Business.

Each course is designed to provide the benefits of a fully qualifying law degree and the added value of specialist knowledge in their chosen area. Students follow a structured degree starting with foundation law modules then moving on to study specialist electives in their chosen subject.

This route offers advantage in a very competitive graduate recruitment market, both in the legal industry and elsewhere. On completion, graduating students will have not only the option of entry into the legal profession but also employment options in non-legal areas, such as banking, insurance, human resources, management and international businesses. For more information, contact the Course Leader, Jeremy Coyle: J.Coyle@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

STUDENT REFLECTIONS ON THE LEGAL LONDON TRIP...

Chanel Jones, level 6 LLB student: 'Our tour around Legal London was very exciting and engaging for anyone interested in a career in Law...

I found The Law Society particularly insightful as it gave me more motivation to reach that end goal of being a solicitor. Becoming a part of a society of solicitors, with access to legal databases and help by experts in your field is encouraging. It demonstrated how working in this field allows you to constantly learn and gain new skills.'

Maddie Lawrence, level 6 LLB student: 'The Legal London trip for me was so useful, I'm so glad I went! Over two days we saw so much that I would never have the chance to see otherwise. We went to an Inns of Court, had an amazing dinner, we were given talks by barristers and showed around a library full of law books from the 1700s...

This was such a fun, useful experience. I would definitely recommend any student to go on this trip! It was also the perfect time to get to know the other students and teachers on my course that I wouldn't usually see.'

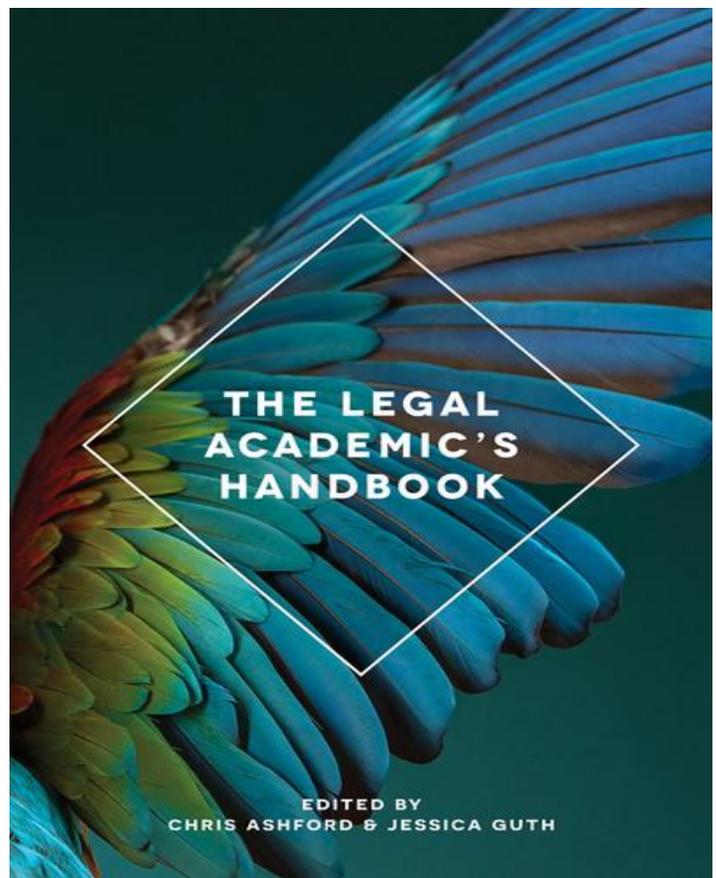
Hayley Blackburn, level 6 LLB student: 'A really interesting trip – we saw some amazing places. Loved learning about the heritage of the profession. Thoroughly enjoyed it, well worth going!'

FINAL WORD FROM THE DEAN: DEVERAL CAPPS

As festive tunes carry us towards Christmas and 2017 it is, perhaps, timely to review how far we have travelled in the past 12 months:

- In January we launched our Law in Practice lectures and welcomed alumna Catherine Dixon, Chief Executive of the Law Society of England and Wales, to talk about the future of the solicitors' profession; and in March, Shami Chakrabarti, the Shadow Attorney General, to talk about Human Rights in the 21st Century;
- July saw our Law School figures for graduate employability increase significantly. With 96.8% of our students in work or in further study six months after graduation, Leeds Beckett University is fourth in the country for employability;
- August heralded great success: in the National Student Survey we achieved a 91% overall student satisfaction rating, the highest in Leeds Law School's history. This places us well above the 88% average for law schools across the country;
- Statistics provided by the International Student Barometer show that the University is ranked first in the world for technology and second in the UK for student wellbeing.
- We have risen 11 places in the Times League tables, making us one of the fastest rising Law Schools in the country.

This of course is all down to the hard work of University and Law School staff and the enthusiasm and conscientiousness of our students. Very well done to you all and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



LAW SCHOOL RESEARCH

Staff and research students are involved in research focusing on a range of legal topics, including Criminal, International, EU and Anti-terrorism Law. Recent publications include:

- Ajala T, and Morrison D, 'Women's poverty alleviation through a redistributive land reform; Nigeria a Social Constructivist Paradigm', (2016) *Irish Law Times*, 34(4) 53.
- Dzehtsiarou K, Repyeuski P, European Consensus and the EU Accession to the ECHR, in Kosta V, Skouratis N, and Tzevelekos V, (eds.) *The EU Accession to the ECHR*, (Hart Publishing 2016).
- Gardiner S, Robinson S, Parry J, 'Integrity and the Corruption Debate in Sport: Where is the Integrity?' (2016) 17(1) *European Sports Management Quarterly*.
- Ashford C, and Guth J, (eds) *Legal Academics' Handbook* (Palgrave MacMillan 2016)
- Capps D, 'Challenges of International Students' in *Legal Academics' Handbook* (Palgrave MacMillan 2016)
- Guth J, 'Law as the Object and Agent of Integration: Gendering the Court of Justice of the European Union, its decisions and their impact' in Abels G, and McRae H, *Gendering European Integration Theory* (Opladen: Barbara Budrich Verlag 2016)
- Riches L, and Gardiner S, 'Racism and Homophobia in English Football', (2016) 16 (2-3) *International Journal of Discrimination and the Law*, 102.
- Turner E, 'Caveat Emptor, 'Buyer Beware in the Court of Appeal' *Solicitors Journal*, 13 October 2015.
- Wood S, 'The Terrorism Act 2000 Schedule 7 and its Implications for the Human Rights of Passengers Travelling through United Kingdom Airports' (2015) 6(1) *Global Security Studies*, 10.

YOUR STUDENT VOICE IS IMPORTANT – MAKE SURE IT IS HEARD

We want to hear your feedback – there are lots of ways for you as a student to share your thoughts with us:

Module evaluation - students should be receiving emails with a link to online module evaluation. We pay careful attention to the feedback we receive and this is one of the ways in which you can express your views and thoughts.

Course representatives - course representative details can be found via the group pages on MyBeckett. If you are unsure of who your course rep is, email lawadmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Personal tutor / module tutor / course leader - speak to these people directly about your experience as a law student.