

The magazine of  
Nottingham Law School

# ALL THINGS LAW

Winter 2016



# Mediation or Litigation

A fresh perspective from Nottingham Law School

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## IN THIS ISSUE

The latest in Law | Thoughts of a Visiting Professor | Meet our staff | Summer schools

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**NOTTINGHAM  
LAW SCHOOL**

NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

# Welcome

## Welcome to the 2016/17 academic year

It gives me great pleasure to introduce another issue of *All Things Law*. We extend a particularly warm welcome to new students who have joined us this term and hope that the tips provided in this issue by current students and staff will be useful. In this edition you can also read about research, upcoming events and the LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company) Pathway.

I am delighted to announce that Nottingham Law School has been named Legal Education Provider of the year 2016 by the *Solicitors Journal*, recognising the School's innovative teaching and commitment to social mobility and diversity. This award is particularly prestigious and reflects the excellent and pioneering work undertaken by the whole School. I was honoured to collect it on behalf of Nottingham Law School and thank everyone for their contribution towards this tremendous achievement.

This month, Nottingham Law School launched the Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution. This academic centre offers research-led commentary and innovative training for lawyers, professional advisers and practitioners. The Centre will be at the forefront of public and academic debate about mediation and dispute resolution and will influence growth and development in both fields.

Finally, I am pleased to report that the Legal Advice Centre was recently shortlisted for another prestigious national award – the Law Society award for 'Excellence in Pro Bono'. Nottingham Law School was the only higher education institution that was shortlisted in any category.

Thank you to all who have provided articles for this edition of *All Things Law*. I wish you all a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker  
Dean, Nottingham Law School

## Contents

The latest in Law	03
Thoughts of a Visiting Professor	05
Cover story	06
Legal Advice Centre	08
Meet our staff	10
LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company)	12
Student articles	14
Student ambassador	15
Alumni	16
Student experience	17
Summer schools	18
Research	20
Awards	22
and finally...	23

## Want to feature in this magazine? Be a contributor

If you are a current Nottingham Law School student or member of staff and would like to feature in a future edition of *All Things Law*, contact [nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:nls.enquiries@ntu.ac.uk)



# The latest in Law

## Nottingham Law School named 'Legal Education Provider of the Year'

"This award is particularly prestigious and reflects the excellent and innovative work undertaken by the whole School."

Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker, Dean of Nottingham Law School

Nottingham Law School was named Legal Education Provider of the Year 2016 at the inaugural *Solicitors Journal* Awards. The award was given in recognition of the Law School's innovative teaching and commitment to social mobility and diversity during a ceremony in London hosted by the BBC's Andrew Marr.

Nottingham Law School, part of Nottingham Trent University, runs a unique Legal Advice Centre, which was granted an ABS licence in October 2015. The centre gives all students the opportunity to work within a fully regulated and functioning 'teaching law firm' as part of their studies, supervised by full-time solicitors employed by the centre.

This not only provides a fantastic enhancement to the student experience and their employability skills, but also supports individuals and community groups, as well as the business community, charities and local organisations.

The School's commitment to making legal careers more accessible involves working with a number of partners, such as the Sutton Trust Pathways to Law Scheme, Freshfields Stephen Lawrence Scheme, and Aspiring Solicitors.

Recent examples of the School's commitment to diversifying courses include unique degrees such as the LLB / LLM (Hons) in European Law and the LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company) Pathway.

The Dean of Nottingham Law School, Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker, said: "We are all absolutely thrilled. This award is particularly prestigious and reflects the excellent and innovative work undertaken by the whole School. I was honoured to collect it on behalf of the School and thank everyone for their contribution towards this tremendous achievement."

"In 2015 Nottingham Law School celebrated 50 years of excellence in delivering legal education, and we have consistently been at the forefront of legal education innovation. We believe that we are a unique and forward-thinking legal education provider which enables our students to achieve in a changing legal world."

Laura Clenshaw, Managing Editor of *Solicitors Journal*, said: "I'm absolutely delighted for Nottingham Law School. They are truly deserving winners in an extremely tough category. Their innovative approach to legal education impressed the panel and their teaching law school model shows they are pioneers within higher education."



Nottingham Law School receives the Legal Education Provider of the Year Award



## Third place at National Advocacy competition

Nottingham Law School undergraduate students Alice Radford and Sophie Price, both studying LLB (Hons) Law (full-time), have taken third place at the UH/Blackstone's National Criminal Advocacy Competition. The finals weekend of the competition took from Friday 1 July - Sunday 3 July at the University of Hertfordshire.

On Friday 1 July, Alice and Sophie met competing university teams and attended an advocacy masterclass delivered by an experienced barrister. The Nottingham Law School team were successful at the quarter-finals (Saturday 2 July), advancing into the semi-finals the

following day, in which they placed third by a narrow margin.

"Sophie and I are so happy to have placed third in the UH/Blackstone's National Criminal Advocacy Competition 2016, after progressing to the semi-final and narrowly missing out on the final by a point or two," Alice said.

Nottingham Law School is delighted by Alice and Sophie's achievement and continues to encourage student engagement in mooting and advocacy opportunities available to students of law.

## College students enjoy Criminal Court Day 2016



This year's Criminal Court Day proved to be another success, as college students experienced a day in the life of a law student at Nottingham Law School. The day was facilitated by Nottingham Law School academic Simon Parsons who guided the students through the day.

The focus of the day was to provide the students with an insight into trial advocacy and provide them with experience in a mock trial. During the morning the students were introduced to Nottingham Law School, followed by a Q&A session with a current LLM Bar Professional Training Course (LLM BPTC) student, to give them further insight into life at Nottingham Law School. They were then taken through each aspect of a trial including the various tasks involved for the advocates within the trial. During the afternoon the students were split into two teams, prosecution and defence, to prepare for their mock trial.

The students were introduced to their mock trial case which was a case of GBH. The case involved a farmer who was on trial for shooting an alleged burglar and the defence were tasked with arguing self-defence to warn the intruder off.

Each team had to examine the legal documentation for the trial and decide how they would handle the case. They shared out the main jobs for the trial (speeches, examination-in-chief and cross examination). Following this, the students then participated in a mock trial where they also received the benefit of having His Honour Judge John Samuels QC as their judge.



# The latest in Law

## Third cohort starts dual LLM programme



September 2016 saw the start of the third cohort of the dual LLM programme at the Grotius Building, home of the Nijmegen Law School on the campus of Radboud University. Two members of the Centre for Business and Insolvency Law at Nottingham Law School, Professor Paul Omar and Mrs Jenny Gant, went to Nijmegen to start the teaching on this programme. This programme sees students graduate with an award from both institutions, an LLM in European Law and Insolvency Law from Radboud University and an LLM in Corporate and Insolvency Law from NTU.

The programme is academically rigorous, but designed to ensure that students are able to complete the requirements for both degrees in the space of a single year. To achieve a successful result, students begin their studies in Nijmegen in the autumn term, studying a suite of subjects including European Corporate Law as well as Finance and Security. They then come to Nottingham in the spring term to attend insolvency-themed courses, hosted in the Centre for Business Law and Insolvency. In the summer term, students then complete a dissertation, jointly supervised by staff at both institutions, containing a strong comparative law element. Alongside their substantive courses, students are also required to complete two full-year modules, largely supported by online materials, which focus on Research Methodology and Comparative Law as well as Workout Strategies.

Both law schools hope that the third cohort on this programme will emulate the success of their predecessors and that it will continue to be a sign of the close co-operation between both institutions.

## Communities must play greater role in police hate crime training after rise in incidents

Communities need to play a greater role in police training following the rise in reported hate crime incidents following the EU referendum, says the author of a report into how officers are trained to deal with hate crime.

The study by Dr Loretta Trickett, senior lecturer at Nottingham Law School, suggests that current training is not aligned with the needs of different communities and does not help officers to deal with people on the street who have been affected by hate crime.

Dr Trickett questioned police officers from Nottinghamshire on their perceptions of hate crime training – which is similar to the training all UK forces offer. She found that current training is considered piecemeal and is often carried out online or via PowerPoint presentations, with little or no exposure to the people most affected by hate crime.

The report was first published in 2015, and Dr Trickett has now released an updated version after a year which saw incidents of hate crime rise. The findings show that little progress has been made nationally in the last 12 months.

She said: “The current situation of people feeling scared when going about their daily business is untenable – they need to feel safe in Britain again. Hate crime was on the rise even before the referendum and the need to train

the police effectively to provide robust responses to hate crime and to reassure the public is more important than ever.

“At the moment, the way the training is delivered does not create any real connection with the subject and the victims, and does not take into account the specific needs of each community. The best way to improve this is to involve these communities in the design and implementation of the training – so officers are dealing with real people and realistic scenarios.”

The report also highlighted the important role of other agencies in providing the police with effective assistance and ensuring that victims receive the right support after reporting a hate crime.

Dr Trickett added: “The responsibility isn’t just on the police. Outside agencies need to play a greater role in helping to signpost officers to the right resources and support for victims. For example, officers need to know who they can turn to at 11 pm on a Friday night when a member of the public reports a hate crime and is scared.”

Go to [www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsnews](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsnews) for more news, information and to read the full articles.

## Freshfields Stephen Lawrence Scholarship awarded

Nottingham Law School undergraduate, Akil Hunte, has been awarded a Freshfields Stephen Lawrence 2016 Scholarship. This prestigious award, aimed at first-year undergraduate law students, seeks to address the disproportionate under-representation in large commercial law firms of black and black mixed-race men from low-income households. The scholarship is provided by global law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer.

Having secured the award, Akil will have access to a development programme, mentoring and a bursary. Freshfields also offer their students the opportunity to spend time at the firm during university holidays, as well as a guaranteed interview for a training contract at the firm.

Akil Hunte, LLB (Hons) Law (full-time), said: “The scholarship will mean I will receive a greater insight into the legal profession through mentoring, interview coaching and other development opportunities, commercial familiarisation during the holidays and an alternative route to a training contract with the firm.”

As well as successfully securing the scholarship, Akil also started a new society called The New Black during his first year at university. Akil told us that his favourite memory



at NTU so far was when this society received approval from the Nottingham Trent Students’ Union: “I have made a lot of progress this year but because of the scholarship and approval for The New Black, I now know I’m not on my own and have a team of positive people who are willing to work with me to move forward.”

For further information on the various careers opportunities and schemes available to Nottingham Law School undergraduates, students can contact their careers consultant, Edward Mosley, or visit the [City Employability Hub](#).

# Thoughts of a Visiting Professor

## His Honour John Samuels QC



Circuit Judge 1997 – 2006, Co-opted member Council of HM Circuit Judges, lead tutor and advocacy trainer, Lincoln’s Inn. Visiting Professor, Nottingham Law School.

Can you tell us how you became a Visiting Professor?

Lincoln’s Inn, of which I have been a member for more than half a century, holds an annual dinner for law tutors. At one such dinner I sat next to an enthusiastic young lecturer at Nottingham Law School. She asked me if she could be my marshal. That was the beginning of a warm friendship. Fast forward to 2011: my friend introduced me to the Dean; and in February 2012 I found myself addressed, to my amazement, by a respectful receptionist as “Professor Samuels”.

What does your role as a Visiting Professor entail?

As time went by, I was asked to deliver a few set piece talks on soft topics, such as ‘How to please the judge?’ and ‘Why do we send people to prison?’ In time I grew in confidence; more particularly when a third-year LLB student quoted back to me, with flattering accuracy, what I had said in the lecture during her first year.

My visits to Nottingham Law School have included one-to-one advice sessions for those on the GDL and BPTC, focusing on the pursuit of pupillage and scholarship applications. Similar advice was dispensed in seminars. I expanded this role by inviting those who wanted a more sustained mentoring relationship to apply for a slot as my mentee for the year.

Can you tell us more about this mentoring opportunity for Nottingham Law School students?

Applicants are invited succinctly to explain what they hope to achieve from the role. They are told that I am a retired judge and a Visiting Professor at Nottingham Law School; and they must then, by necessary implication, sell themselves convincingly. Over the years some of my mentees have, to my great pleasure, remained in contact. A mentee who was the successful leading counsel in the inter-provider mooted championship which I observed in the Supreme Court was a high point; and we remain in touch as he embarks on pupillage.

My mentees receive focused feedback on their individual pupillage applications, as well as learning of specific educational opportunities available in their Inn of choice, of which I shall necessarily be better informed if the mentee has already joined Lincoln’s Inn.

How else have you got involved with the Nottingham Law School?

Other opportunities for engagement have included the biennial International Advocacy conference, meeting with the students from the Attorney General’s office in Malaysia who are undertaking the LLM programme in advocacy skills, and also informal meetings with the Dean, Deputy Dean and senior members of the Law School.

It has also been a pleasure to meet a range of talented students at prize-giving events, such as the annual celebration of collaboration and achievement.

## Top tips for securing pupillage

Getting pupillage is tough, so how do you tackle that first step and craft a successful pupillage application?

Tom Sherrington, Nottingham Law School BPTC graduate and current pupil at **Kenworthy’s Chambers**, offers his advice...

**Top five pupillage application tips:**

- 1. Make yourself stand out:** CVs are all similar at this level. Make what is different about you stand out, but keep it relevant.
- 2. Be selective:** Be selective where you apply. It is difficult to juggle lots of areas and lots of sets. You won’t be able to please them all!
- 3. Proofread:** Spelling mistakes show sloppiness and laziness, not great barrister skills.
- 4. Show your advocacy skills:** Applications are a form of written advocacy. This is a chance for you to show your skills before interview. A useful tool.
- 5. Use the word limit:** Don’t just concentrate on the questions in applications. There is a big word limit on the experience and other sections for a reason.

You’ve got your foot in the door and secured that all important pupillage interview. What can you do to make sure it goes well?

**Top five tips for your pupillage interview:**

- 1. Know your application:** Go into an interview knowing what you put on your application form backwards. Many questions are based on it.
- 2. Pause to think:** Never blurt out an answer! Logical answers work. Bad answers are lethal. There is nothing wrong with pausing to think.
- 3. Don’t make things up:** If you don’t know the answer to specific questions, better to say so. Making it up very rarely works.
- 4. What would you change in law and why?:** Expect a question about what you would change in law and why. Rehearse your answer and think of possible follow-ups.
- 5. Keep up-to-date:** Look up recent developments in the law. Watch some Supreme Court judgments. Talk about them, but only if you actually know them!



## Cover story

# Mediation or Litigation

## A fresh perspective from Nottingham Law School

By Joy Davies, Director of the Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution



There is an anecdotal tale often told to trainee mediators and to law students studying mediation. It concerns a consignment of oranges on a ship tied up at a quayside. Two parties turn up and both claim the consignment as their own. The paperwork is incomplete and the shipper cannot determine which party is entitled to the oranges. The parties go off to court and, in due course, one of them is successful. Returning to the quayside the successful party finds that because of the delay while the court proceedings were completed the cargo of oranges have rotted and are now useless. Discussing the outcome with the shipper it emerges that one of the parties bottled fruit juice and only wanted the juice from the oranges whereas the other needed just the pulp and the skins to make marmalade. The intended moral of the story is that if the parties had got together with a mediator their different needs would have become apparent and they could have negotiated a deal to share the consignment: a 'win-win' outcome.

Some readers may be familiar with the biblical story of Solomon when faced with deciding which of two women was the mother of a baby brought before him. Solomon suggested a compromise – giving half of the child to each woman. One of the women agreed with this solution but the other withdrew her claim stating that it was better the child lived with someone else than that it was killed. Solomon, recognising that the true mother's best interest was that her child should live, determined that the one who had withdrawn her claim was the child's rightful mother.

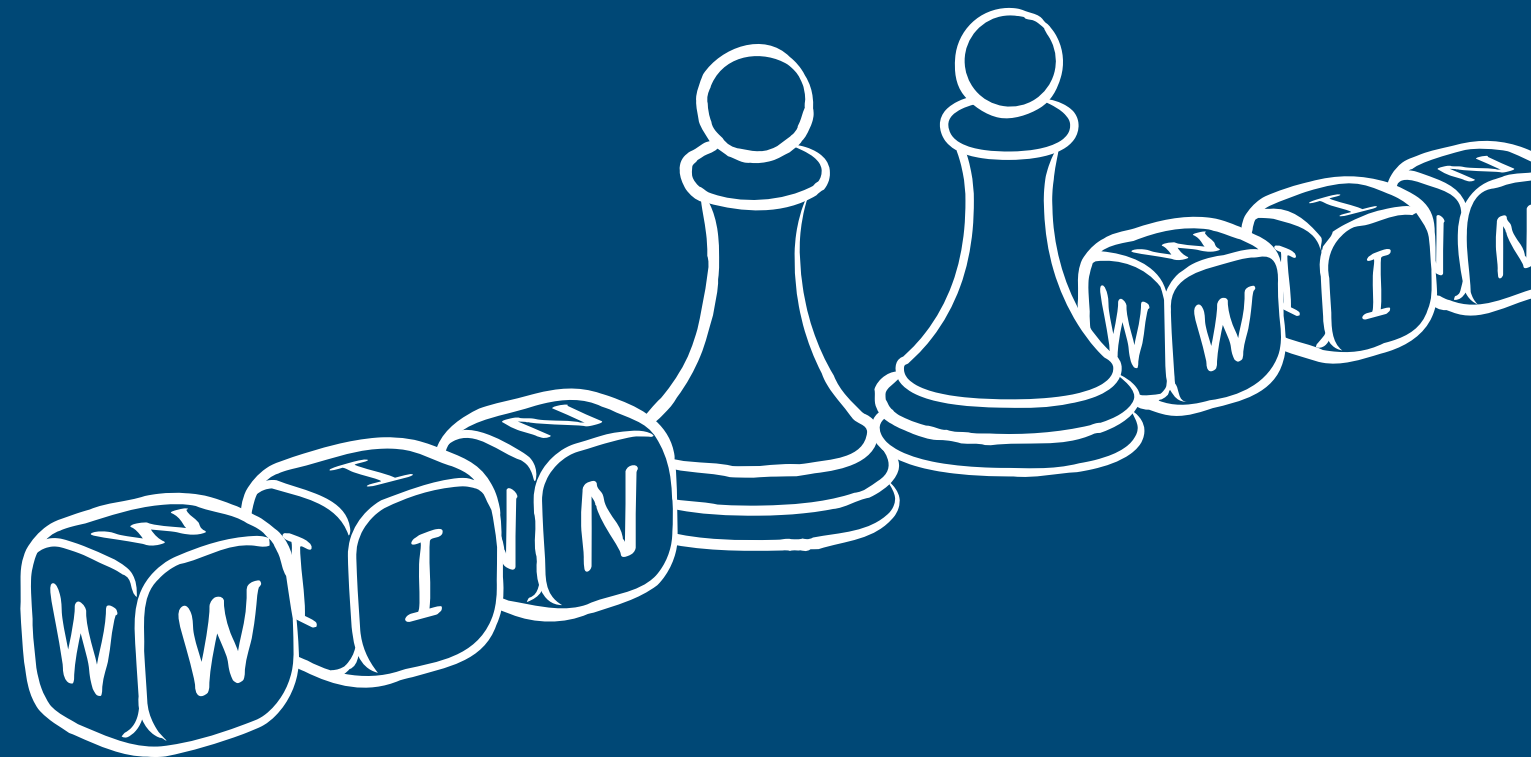
Both of these stories show what mediation can offer that the courts cannot. A way of solving a dispute based on the needs and interests of the parties not just their legal rights. They also suggest that mediation can offer much quicker outcomes than litigation.

According to the EU Mediation Directive (2008/52/EC, 21 May 2008) modern mediation is described as "any structured process, however named or referred to, whereby two or more parties to a dispute attempt by themselves, on a voluntary basis, to reach an agreement on the settlement of their dispute with the assistance of a mediator."

Most mediations involve two (occasionally more than two) individuals or organisations who have a dispute which they have not been able to resolve between themselves. Mediations can involve everything from complex commercial disputes between global companies to seemingly simple disagreements between neighbours over a boundary.

Mediation, as a method of commercial and consumer dispute resolution, has been practised in England and Wales for the last 30 years. During that time various organisations and informal groups have been established as training bodies; mediator accreditation agencies; marketing orientated mediator groupings and mediation service providers.

In May 2016 one of these organisations, the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR), published the results of their 2016 Mediation Audit. CEDR was established in 1990 as an independent charitable body to promote the use of mediation and now describes itself as 'the largest conflict management and resolution consultancy in the world'. CEDR estimates that there are currently 10,000 civil and commercial mediation cases a year in the UK, an increase of just over 5% from the estimate at the time of the last Audit in 2014. Seemingly the overall success rate of mediation remains constant, with an aggregate settlement rate of around 86% including 67% that settle on the day of the mediation.



On 1 September 2016 the Ministry of Justice published Civil Justice Statistics Quarterly, England and Wales, April to June 2016. In the three-month period covered by the report 397,000 court claims were issued and 70,000 defences made. Across the same period there were 8,367 small claims trials and 3,742 fast and multi-track trials. On average the small claims trials occurred 32 weeks after the claim was originally made and the fast and multi-track claims took 54 weeks to come to trial.

The two sets of figures set out above, even allowing for all the necessary caveats and limitations in interpretation and comparison, suggest that despite all the potential benefits including flexibility, cost effectiveness, speed and efficiency and even with the efforts of all the institutions that promote mediation, it still lags well behind trial as the most used dispute resolution process.

Currently the training and accreditation of mediators, the provision of mediation services by institutions and the quality and professionalism of mediators is not subject to any formal regulation or supervision. Such limited quality control as exists is achieved mainly by:

- a) Mediator organisations informing nomination decisions from feedback by previous users;
- b) Repeat players (e.g. law firms) capturing feedback on mediators internally to inform colleagues.

There is no monitoring of quality and user satisfaction beyond these closed and some might say haphazard mechanisms. There are no agreed standards of training or of competence and qualification and anecdotally it seems that settlement rates and rapidity of outcome rank as primary indicators of 'quality'.

The equipping of lawyers going into practice and those working in house with the necessary skills to represent their client and protect their clients' interests is piecemeal and inconsistent.

If users and the wider community are to gain the full benefit of and the opportunities to enrich society from the use of mediation, research is needed into these areas.

It is against this background that Nottingham Law School, part of Nottingham Trent University, has set up the Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution.

The Centre has been established with the intention that it will offer independent, research-led commentary and innovative contribution to:

- The role and training of lawyers to be effective as representatives of clients in mediation;
- The most effective and efficient styles of mediation practice with a particular focus on the user perspectives;
- The development of ethical standards and performance indicators as a step towards institutional acceptance and codification;
- The methods of selecting, training and developing individuals as effective mediators with particular regard to current training practices and the validation of institutions.

We will look to develop practical as well as academic research to provide thought leadership to the various individuals, organisations and informal groups operating in the field of mediation.

In time we will enhance the training of lawyers in the competencies they need in a mediation context:

- Procedural competencies: familiarity with ADR options and methods and their suitability for specific types of dispute; familiarity with mediation practices in different areas and work types; familiarity with organisations offering associated services and criteria for selection.
- Skills-based competencies: negotiation skills in a third-party facilitated context; representation skills as applied to mediation – rapport building, risk assessment techniques, settlement drafting skills in the specific context.
- Legal knowledge competencies: legislation at EU and national levels; case law on these primary sources and on costs issues, case management, privilege, witness compellability, settlement vitiation factors, mediator immunity, enforceability of settlement agreements.

In addition, the Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution will also have a practice profile which, it is hoped, will provide a means by which students at Nottingham Law School, via the Legal Advice Centre, will be able to take part in mediations alongside local mediators offering a pro bono element to their mediation practice.

If you have an active interest or involvement in mediation, contact Joy Davies, Director of the Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution or visit [www.ntu.ac.uk/cmdr](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/cmdr) for more information.



# Legal Advice Centre

## Celebrating ten years of free legal advice



In 2006 Nick Johnson and Stephanie Wright launched the Legal Advice Clinic. This transformed Nottingham Law School's pro bono activity, meaning students could work on real legal problems in house, under the supervision of qualified lawyers.

In 2014 the clinic was relaunched in new premises as the Legal Advice Centre and later granted an Alternative Business Structure (ABS) licence by the Solicitors Regulation Authority.

Over the past decade pro bono at Nottingham Law School has gone from strength to strength. Student advisers are now supervised by in-house solicitors and provide legal services on a range of areas, including employment, housing, welfare rights and intellectual property. Last year more than 230 Nottingham Law School students worked on an impressive 185 cases.

In its tenth year, pro bono at Nottingham Law School has been acknowledged with prestigious awards. The Legal Advice Centre recently won the LawWorks Award for Best Contribution by a Law School and the Access to Justice Foundation Award 2016. Pro bono was also one of the reasons Nottingham Law School was named Legal Education Provider of the Year at the *Solicitors Journal Awards* 2016.

This month staff and students will be invited to an event celebrating ten years of free legal advice at Nottingham Law School. As well as finding out more about the Legal Advice Centre and the importance of pro bono, students will hear from alumni outlining how their work as a student adviser has helped their career.

### Get involved

The multi-award-winning Legal Advice Centre on the first floor of Chaucer offers a range of pro bono projects. Find out how you could get involved and put your legal skills into practice.

- Look in the **Nottingham Law School Legal Advice Centre and Pro Bono Learning Room** in **NOW** for more information.
- Follow **@NLSProBono** on Twitter for the latest news and events.
- Attend the Recruitment Lecture on **Monday 28 November at 6 pm**. This lecture is compulsory for anybody who wants to work in the Legal Advice Centre in terms two and three.

## Callum Scott, Legal Assistant Studied: Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL)

**What made you apply for the role? Have you been involved with the Legal Advice Centre before?**

Whilst studying on the GDL during the last academic year, I was involved with the Legal Advice Centre (LAC) and also represented clients at employment tribunals with the Free Representation Unit (FRU).

As a student adviser, I advised clients on employment, regulatory, environmental and intellectual property matters, as part of a student trio. In my capacity as a FRU Volunteer Representative, I also successfully acted for clients in a case of unlawful deduction of wages and race discrimination.

I was conscious of the need to enhance my CV from a legal perspective, particularly as I have a scientific background. When the chance to build on the invaluable experience I gained with the LAC last year arose, it seemed like too much of a good opportunity to pass by!

**What sort of work will you be doing as a legal assistant?**

Brogan and I will continue to represent clients in the employment tribunal, and in addition this year we will also represent clients in the social security tribunal. We will continue to provide advice to our own client-set through the LAC, supervise the student-led trios, and act as a liaison with our external partners. Additionally, we have been allocated time and resources to kick-start and run our own projects over the next 12 months.

**What are you most looking forward to?**

I am most looking forward to the expansion of the LAC into commercial law, as I hope to practise intellectual property or commercial law following completion of the LPC. I am also looking forward to renewing links with external legal partners in Nottingham as I have personal experience of the benefit they bring to the LAC and to the student advisers themselves.

**What do you hope to get out of the experience and what are your plans for the future?**

Following my year as a legal assistant, I am hoping to do the LPC with a view to practising as a commercial or intellectual property solicitor.



# Legal Advice Centre

## Brogan Roache, Legal Assistant Studied: Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC)

**What made you apply for the role? Have you been involved with the Legal Advice Centre before?**

I saw the legal assistant role as the perfect opportunity to continue developing the range of skills that will be crucial to my future career, in a setting that I really enjoy and value being a part of. Having volunteered both in the Legal Advice Centre (LAC) and as a Free Representation Unit (FRU) representative, I know the importance of the work that is undertaken to both clients of the centre and to the people working within it. I also know the feeling of satisfaction and reward that comes from completing cases for clients who had nowhere else to turn.

The work at the LAC is always varied, and the opportunity to get involved in many different projects connecting many different areas of law was, and is still, exciting to me. Further, I valued the opportunity to continue working on real cases for real people, to give something back to the community and to hopefully make a difference in people's lives at the time they needed it the most.

The legal assistant position offered me the opportunity to continue working with real clients, and to gain further exposure to and experience of the legal profession. It also offered me the chance to have and to manage my own caseload for the first time. The opportunity to continue representing clients at tribunal hearings was also a large part of why I applied for the role. However, I was also interested in the other opportunities that the role offered, such as working closely with the students volunteering in the centre, as I thought that I could provide a fresh perspective on this having been in their position only the year before.

Overall, the most important factor in why I applied for the position was that I wanted to continue working in an environment that I relished being a part of and that gave me a sense of satisfaction after each case I worked on. The role is also of utmost relevance to my future career in terms of the skill set that I will develop over the coming year.

**What sort of work will you be doing as a legal assistant?**

As a legal assistant, I will continue taking on FRU and LAC cases. These cases entail meeting with clients, handling evidence, preparing legal documents and witness statements, researching the relevant area of law, providing clients with advice and representing clients at their tribunal hearings.

I also hope to be supervising some of the student volunteers in the LAC, and I hope that students will feel some benefit from being able to speak to somebody who has been in their position and knows what it is like to volunteer, and to juggle this with their academic commitments. For similar reasons, I will also be involved in the University's mentor scheme.

I will be involved in the set up and delivery of training to students, and I hope again to be able to input certain aspects into that training that I feel would be of benefit to students. This would include, for example, tips for researching new areas of the law, training and advice on maintaining client confidentiality, and guidance on how to effectively manage your time as a volunteer.

The other project that I will be responsible for is the development of the LAC's exit survey. I will be working with and mentoring undergraduates on the Acceler8 scheme to come up with new ways to improve the data collected from students leaving the centre. This is with a view to collecting more usable data on the relationship between volunteering in the centre and future employability on the job market, in an effort to encourage more students to get involved with the many different projects that the Centre offers.

Finally, I am hoping to be involved in other aspects of the Centre's business. I will be directly involved in the set up and development of the Centre's new Business Law Clinic. I will also be involved in the marketing of the LAC, and hope to use both new and existing channels to develop the engagement of the centre with both the local and student communities. This will hopefully include press bulletins and blogs, social media updates, open days, lectures and articles for legal magazines.



**What are you most looking forward to?**

I am greatly looking forward to continuing to work on the sort of cases that I was involved with as a volunteer in the centre, as this is why I applied for the job to begin with. However, I am most looking forward to the opportunities to get involved in the other projects that the Legal Advice Centre runs that I did not have chance to participate in last year, as I feel that this will be of benefit not only to me personally but also to the local community as a whole.

**What do you hope to get out of the experience and what are your plans for the future?**

I am hoping to continue to develop the skill set that I began developing during my time as a Nottingham Law School student and pro bono volunteer.

As a former BPTC student, I hope to become a barrister, and I feel that the experience that I will get during my time as a legal assistant will be integral to my future aspirations.

First and foremost, the experiences of managing my own caseload, communicating with real clients in real situations, and offering tribunal representation at the hearing stage are skills that I will apply throughout my career. However, I also know that I will get a feeling of reward and satisfaction from the work that I undertake within the Centre, after having helped the people in my local community who needed assistance and who had nowhere else to turn.



# Meet our staff

## Mark Thomas

Joined Nottingham Law School in 2016



Mark Thomas

### What is your job role at Nottingham Law School?

I am a Lecturer in Law. My role entails the provision of teaching across a multitude of mediums ranging from lecturers, seminars and workshops. A large part of my role involves the supervision of students across different year grounds. For instance, I act as a Personal and Academic Tutor for a group of first year students and act as a Work Placement Supervisor for students in their third year of a four-year sandwich course.

In addition to this, I am also responsible for attendance monitoring of second-year students and for the development of new and innovative modules in the Law School.

### What path did you take to your current position?

I previously studied as an Undergraduate at the University Of Sheffield, School of Law in 2010 and graduated with a first-class honours degree in 2013. I then proceeded to study the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC) at Nottingham Law School in 2013, graduating in 2014.

I was called to the Bar in 2014 by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, having been awarded the prestigious 'Baron Dr Ver Heydon De Lancey' prize for the highest result in the Inn of Court for that year.

In 2014, I became a Guest Lecturer at the University of Sheffield in Criminal Law and Criminal Evidence, before formally joining the Law School as a Teaching Associate in 2015.

### What are you research interests?

I am heavily research based in several areas of law and enjoy sharing my research and experiences with fellow colleagues and students. In particular, my research interests are focused in the areas of:

- Criminal Law
- Law of Evidence
- Criminal and Civil Procedure
- Medical Law and Ethics
- Family Law

### What do you do in your spare time?

Outside of university life, I am a qualified snooker referee. I am an amateur ballroom and Latin dancer and occasionally teach dance at my dance school in Sheffield. Prior to taking up my studies in law, I trained as a tailor in my hometown and continue with my passion for tailoring to this day.

## Alternative dispute resolution in the digital age

### Mark Thomas

Lecturer in Law, Nottingham Law School

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) has long been available in England and Wales as an alternative to litigation and remains an important factor for parties considering their options. Indeed, since its establishment in 1998, the Civil Procedure Rules has laid down a duty on the courts to encourage 'the parties to use an Alternative Dispute Resolution procedure if the court considers that appropriate' and to facilitate 'the use of such procedure' (CPR, r.1.4(2)(e)). The benefits, and potential drawbacks, of ADR are numerous and are detailed quite helpfully in the Jackson Handbook of ADR, which came into existence post the recommendations made by Lord Justice Jackson in his Review of Civil Litigation Costs. It remains a practical resource for judges, litigators and others involved with ADR.

Compared with their public counterparts, the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in private dispute resolution has developed radically in recent years, with a greater use and focus on resolution of disputes over the internet as opposed to a traditional face-to-face setting. This form of resolution, known as 'Online Dispute Resolution' (ODR); 'Internet Dispute Resolution' (iDR) or 'Electronic ADR' (eADR), allows for disputes, disagreements and general bickering to be resolved privately in an online setting. Techniques such as e-negotiation, e-mediation and e-arbitration are commonly employed to resolve matters across a range of issues, such as sale of goods and personal injury. In the private sector, these techniques have been successfully operated for a number of years by such corporations as eBay, Cybersettle and Modria, to name a few. eBay in particular handles over 60 million disputes each and every year using their own ODR system. The disputes focus primarily over non-payment of money owed by buyers or complaints that items sold and delivered did not match the description stated. The 'parties' are first directed to undertake a form of e-negotiation requiring them to resolve the matter personally with clear guidance provided on avoiding misunderstandings and reaching resolutions. Should e-negotiation fail, eBay then operates an e-adjudication process whereby a member of staff trained to deal with resolving disputes assesses the merits, and potential downfalls, of a particular complaint and reaches a decision on the matter. eBay's resolution policy is subject to strict time frames, requiring the claim to be escalated within 30 days of the complaint arising, to allow the swift resolution of disputes.

In June 2013, the European Commission published a Directive on ADR (Directive 2013/11/EU) for consumer disputes. This was supported by a Regulation (Regulation (EU) 524/2013) on ODR. The Directive requires Member States to promote and establish a system for ODR to enable consumer disputes to be dealt with effectively and quickly. The Regulation came into force in January

2016 and obliges the European Commission to "establish an ODR Platform to facilitate communication between consumers and traders involved in a dispute and a certified ADR provider." The Regulation is designed to help consumers identify an appropriate ADR provider suitable for cross-border contractual disputes. The difficulty faced by the use of ADR is that citizens and businesses do not wish to engage in ADR and would rather settle their dispute in court or use the Small Claims Mediation Service (a mediation service, often conducted via telephone, operated by the Civil Courts as part of their procedure)... which is free.

The civil court structure is, itself, going through some radical proposals which may have a drastic effect on the use of ADR by aggrieved individuals. First, in 2014, Professor Richard Susskind, IT Adviser to the Lord Chief Justice, was tasked by the Master of Rolls, Lord Dyson, to review the potential operation of ODR in our civil court structure. Professor Susskind led a Civil Justice Council (CJC) advisory group to consult specifically on the use of ODR in low-value civil claims (less than £25,000). His report was published in February 2015 and was described by Lord Dyson as "an exciting milestone in the history of our civil justice system." The Report recommended the creation of a new, internet-based court service, known as HM Online Court (HMOC) operated by HMCTS. Second, in 2016, Lord Justice Briggs published his final Report of the Civil Court Structure Review. Briggs LJ proposes an "online court" which will allow for disputes to be resolved by the courts in an online and interactive fashion.

## What effect will these online courts have on the use of ADR?

Within his Final Review, Briggs LJ reports that much concern was raised, at the consultation stage, that the online court, specifically Stage 2, would "deter litigants from pre-issue ADR". Stage 2 involves a form of online conciliation supervised by a judicially trained Case Officer. Briggs LJ responds to these concerns by stating that "It is certainly not the intention behind the design of the online court to deter would-be court users from seeking any available ADR, and treating the civil court as a last resort." He justifies his response in the following ways:

- Stage 1 of the online court process is designed to give both parties a sufficient level of information about each other's case (a lack of which deters individuals from undertaking ADR).

- Stage 2 of the online court process will emphasise that litigation should be regarded as a last resort, after using all available means of pre-issue ADR.

Although Briggs LJ is to be commended for his justifications and apparent belief in the use of ADR, it would appear that the online court would have the feared result of deterring individuals from seeking ADR outside of the courts. This is so for a number of reasons:

- The use of the term 'conciliation' in Stage 2 suggests that the online courts are, themselves, offering a form of ADR to individuals. Thus, why would someone go elsewhere when it can all be dealt with in one place?
- Further, the various types of ADR are broad and encompass a number of different methods, for example negotiation, mediation, adjudication, arbitration etc. Many individuals are unsure as to which form of ADR they wish to undertake (and what the difference is) and the use of conciliation in Stage 2 will provide individuals with a single option; thus avoiding the stress of agreeing on the form that ADR should take.
- There is a certain insecurity as to the cost of ADR. The providers of ADR services are high in numbers, with each offering varying rates of costs. Furthermore, there is uncertainty to the potential costs of e-ADR, dependent again on the service providers and their terms. The online court is clear in the sorts of fees individuals would be expected to pay, if applicable, and thus diminishes the thought of unknown costs from the individual.

It is not the contention of this article that the online court is to be preferred as a result of these observations. Rather, it is simply apparent that should the legal system still seek to 'encourage' (or force as the case may be) the parties to 'consider' ADR, it may have to reconsider the approach taken by Briggs LJ and his online court structure.

## Conclusions

In his Final Report, Briggs LJ observes that it remains "practically inevitable" for the future to involve the creation of a single online portal for the issue and conduct of all court proceedings. This portal is likely to have the effect of reducing the number of individuals seeking ADR outside of the court structure and promoting litigation but simply through a different, and more modern, medium.

It is commonly said that "technology is going to take over the world"... perhaps that is the future of our legal system.



# LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company)

## Introduction

The UK, as the leading exporter worldwide of financial services, has a huge, successful, varied and dynamic financial services industry. Nottingham Law School's LLB (Hons) Law (full-time) and LLB (Hons) Business Law students now have the opportunity to integrate legal study with paid professional employment in banking, insurance or investment companies in their third and final year.

Nottingham Law School is a leading provider of work placement courses and pioneered the first Law Sandwich degree in 1968. Over the years the School has developed strong links with employers and an outstanding support system for students.

The LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company) degree is accredited by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Bar Standards Board as a Qualifying Law Degree, which means if students choose this pathway the option of a traditional legal career remains open for the future.



# LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services (In-Company)

## Overview

The course runs in tandem with the standard LLB (Hons) Law (full-time) and Business Law Degrees for the first two years.

In the final year of this degree, students will undertake paid work-based learning with an employer within the financial services sector. Whilst working, students will continue academic study and receive structured support from the Law School.

This includes two one-week intensive study blocks which will underpin and enhance work-based learning. The study blocks will take place in September and March at a venue chosen by the University.

Nottingham Law School has a number of business partners attached to the programme, however students can also secure their own in-company placement. Nottingham Law School's dedicated Employability Team provide plenty of help and advice to students wishing to do a work placement. They help students through all stages of the process, from submitting a good application to completing a successful interview or assessment centre.

Students who do not obtain an in-company work placement will go on to complete the final year of their degree at NTU in the normal way, but with the benefit of valuable transferable employability skills and subject knowledge.

### Modules

This pathway's knowledge and skills-focused modules have been designed with the aim of applying theory to practice whilst developing important skills required in the workplace. Students are expected to commit approximately five and a half hours per week to the various modules.

During the in-company year students will study the following modules:

1. Applied Law for Financial Services (ALFS)
2. Law for Financial Services Workplace Functions (LFSWF)
3. Applied Financial Services Law Research Project

### 4. Professional In-Company Skills Reflective Portfolio

#### Benefits to companies

Recruiting students in this way allows companies to:

- Recruit individuals capable of applying their law degree studies to banking, insurance and investment transactions and keen to have knowledge and skills nurtured by valuable experience for their financial services careers.
- Grow their own graduate pool of talent, reducing future graduate recruitment costs through higher retention rates.

## Harriet Parkin

### LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services



#### What first attracted you to the degree pathway?

I was first attracted to the degree pathway because of the opportunity to work with and complete my law degree whilst working within a professional company.

#### How did you find the application and interview process with the companies? What did it involve?

The initial application for Admiral involved submitting a CV alongside a cover letter and for Allianz a CV and answering multiple questions put together by Allianz as an alternative to a covering letter.

The telephone interviews for both companies were similar, they involved an informal conversation with the graduate programme leaders for Admiral and Allianz regarding why I wanted to take part in the pathway and join their business, explaining my CV and scenario questions for the companies to gain a better understanding about myself. The face-to-face interview at Admiral firstly involved an assessment centre where I sat a maths and English test, followed by an interview with my manager and graduate programme leader at the company, which contained logic-based and scenario questions. The whole application-to-interview process was very quick and engaging. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to experience both interviews as it gave me a lot of practice for future interviews.

#### Did you find the pathway preparation teaching helped you with this?

Yes! The pathway preparation module provided me with a thorough guide with regard to 'buzz' words and a clear layout to use when putting together my CVs. The module also enabled me to practice answering interview questions and receive feedback.

#### What are your first impressions of Admiral? What does the job involve?

Admiral is a great company to work for! Everyone is extremely friendly and passionate about their work and the company. Currently I am in training – doing data protection, compliance and health and safety assessments to comply with Admiral's standards.

#### What are your hopes and expectations for the year?

I am hoping to get a well-rounded view of the claims department within Admiral and secure a permanent role on Admiral's graduate programme.

#### What are your future career plans and how will this help towards them?

Before the pathway I set my mind on undertaking the LPC course with the intent to become a qualified and practising family law solicitor. However, since my success with obtaining a job role at Admiral, I am now looking forward to growing with Admiral and hopefully continuing a career in insurance with Admiral.

#### What advice would you give to students thinking of applying this year?

First off, definitely apply! Do not be put off by the fact your potential employers may be asking for a 2:1. Although you are doing a law degree make sure you tailor your CV, covering letter, interviews and experience to the banking / insurance industry and highlight what you want to get out of the scheme and what you can give to the employer. Most importantly, make yourself stand out!



## Joe Wigmore

### LLB (Hons) Law for Financial Services



#### What first attracted you to the degree pathway?

Ultimately, there were two deciding factors that attracted me to this degree pathway. Firstly, the chance to work within a Financial Times Stock Exchange (FTSE) 100 company and gain commercial experience.

To get anywhere these days, experience is key. I felt this opportunity helped me put my foot in the door on the way to starting a career once leaving university.

Secondly, I wanted to go out into the world of work and instead of classroom-based learning, I wanted to put what I had learnt into practice.

#### How did you find the application and interview process with the companies? What did it involve?

I found the application process smooth. The NTU staff were more than helpful, helping me write my covering letter and making sure my CV was of an appropriate standard.

The interview process itself was all new to me, I had done interviews before, but never a phone interview. The NTU workshops leading up to applications were really helpful.

After passing the phone interview stage, I was invited down to Cardiff to Admiral's head office for a face-to-face interview. I remember walking away after the interview saying to myself that it verged on actually being a pleasant experience rather than being nervous.

The interview was semi-informal. Whilst they asked questions to test me, it became more of a conversation and by the end, it didn't feel like an interview.

#### Did you find the pathway preparation teaching helped you with this?

The pathway preparation teaching was very helpful, they helped me prepare my CV and written statement, followed by helpful advice on interviews.

#### What are your first impressions of Admiral? What does the job involve?

My first impressions are that people genuinely love working at Admiral – I have yet to speak to someone who does not enjoy it. My job involves taking and dealing with claims.

#### What are your hopes and expectations for the year?

My hopes are to learn more about the insurance industry, whilst also obtaining my degree, and then take my knowledge to secure a graduate programme, either with Admiral or another big financial firm.

#### What are your future career plans and how will this help towards them?

I would like to move into the financial sector and possibly into risk or underwriting.

#### What advice would you give to students thinking of applying this year?

If you are prepared to work hard and be disciplined, then there is no reason why you can't make a success of the programme, it offers great commercial experience without taking a year out to do placement. Be positive and confident in yourself and that will shine through in interviews. They love positive people at Admiral, and if you can show them that, then you're on to a winner.



# Student articles

## Sophie Price

### LLB (Hons) Law (full-time)



#### What is the Blackstone's National Criminal Advocacy Competition?

I had the pleasure of taking part in the Blackstone's National Criminal Advocacy Competition with the president of the moot team, Alice Radford. Each university competing automatically takes part in two rounds as the prosecution and subsequently the defence addressing different case papers. These papers present the factual scenario you are faced with as a competitor; it involves application of the law to the facts, which is a requisite of any moot competition. Competitors are awarded marks on a number of factors such as courtroom etiquette, knowledge and awareness of rules of procedure and evidence, and content of speech. It is axiomatic that requirements such as courtroom manner and articulation are marked under a moot environment, however, advocacy differs in the requirement of handling witnesses and structuring the appropriateness of the questions to either advance your case (as the prosecution) or insulate your witness (as the defence). Whereas moot focuses on an academic point of law which is, in my opinion, a more technical and perhaps ridged task to face. Advocacy allows a developmental and personal approach as you are appearing as a more professional and formal version of yourself, essentially they are different academic disciplines.

#### What fears did you have about moot?

I cannot express how much I appreciate the opportunity to take part in such competitions. Before coming to NTU I would never have dreamed of taking part in anything which involved public speaking and being put on the spot. In contrast, I would now jump at the chance to put myself forward, the skills that moot provides are invaluable and applicable to any profession. The confidence and competence element that it instils in a person is necessary in all walks of life. Any employer will want their employees to have the ability to converse with clients in an appropriate manner.

The term 'mooting' to any non-lawyer sounds alien, and I imagine that a lot of students are put off by this. However, this is simply a case of 'mind over matter', nothing is ever as bad as you personally build it up to be, so take the plunge.

#### What did you enjoy about the experience?

Personally I really enjoy the actual competitive element, winning any competition or exceeding in performance is the best feeling. Winning for your University is an added bonus; this is something which NTU exceeds in, and I urge future students to take advantage of the opportunities in our law faculty. These are the activities that 'get you noticed', any informed student will be aware that a career in the legal sector is highly competitive. After all, as an individual you are competing with your peers in your own university and the thousands of others from other universities. This is where networking is highly advantageous in this regard, you just never know who you may meet and what connections you will gain. For example when I competed in a human rights moot against Sheffield Hallam University, not only did I, and my partner win, we also had the pleasure of meeting Baroness Helena Kennedy.

#### What challenges did you face and how did you overcome them?

The most challenging aspect of doing these types of extra-curricular activities is time management. Most competitions take place within term time so you have to balance your studies with any other commitments. These problems are easily overcome if you make the most out of your day, being a stereotypical student with late nights and late risings won't earn you many points. If you keep to a structured routine, these competitions shouldn't cause much added stress. That being said nerves are inevitable but these are easily managed when you are well prepared.

#### Has moot helped you develop any skills, if so, which ones?

Besides the confidence boost, moot has particularly developed my eye for detail as the law is a very precise endeavour. This will become evident in preparing your skeleton arguments for competitions and the two compulsory assessed moots in your first and second year of study. Having already taken part in competitions, I did not fear the assessed moots, particularly the criminal moot where it is compulsory that your tutor sees your skeleton argument in advance. In my first year after just one competition, I achieved 89% in my contract moot. The moot part of the assessment is worth 50% of the module, if it is done well it's easy marks gained. 10-15 minutes speaking is arguably a great deal easier than writing for three hours in an exam. The main advice taken from all professionals and academics involved in the competition was to always be yourself and prepare!

### Get involved

See what opportunities and events you could get involved with by regularly visiting the **Nottingham Law School Employability NOW Learning Room and FutureHub**.

**NOW**  
NTU ONLINE WORKSPACE

**FutureHub**

## Want to become a barrister?

### Here is my advice...

By Brian Sanya Mondoh,  
LLM BPTC



I decided to do the LLM BPTC because I have wanted to become a barrister for a long time. The main reason is because I am motivated by the prospect of assisting others and it will enable me to make a meaningful impact on future generations. My advice to aspiring barristers like myself is as follows:

**1. Be sure of your career path:** It is important to be sure that this is who you want to be. It is very important to understand that the Bar profession is extremely competitive and to qualify as a barrister you have to stand out from the crowd. This requires you to build up your CV with the relevant experience e.g. mini-pupillages, marshalling, internships and voluntary work. I would also advise you to get involved in debating, moot and negotiation activities so that you can easily develop your advocacy and analytical skills, and the ability to think on your feet.

**2. Be unique:** You will come to notice that most law students have similar looking CVs i.e. from academic achievements to legal work and voluntary experience. This means that the only way for you to stand out during interviews and to catch the panel's attention is to go the extra mile and involve yourself in other enjoyable alternatives. This also enables you to pick up transferable skills that can enhance your abilities and dedication to the Bar.

**3. Don't be put off:** The Bar profession is surrounded by endless rumours, mostly about the difficulty of the course and the cost of the fee, pupillage rates, tenancy and the list goes on. However, it is not your role to worry about things that are beyond your control. Surely, it may be tough but you have to take a leap of faith, if it really is what you want to do. Besides, many have succeeded to the Bar before you so use this as motivation.

**4. Work hard:** It is easier said than done! However, if you put in the time you will reap the fruits of your labour. Try to establish good rapport with your tutors and seek their advice when stuck. Also, hang around like-minded students with whom you will invest collective effort and cultivate success.

In conclusion, don't leave any stone unturned and don't count the hours in the library as wasted! In addition, the Nottingham Law School Employability Team are there to assist you if you need any advice concerning career choices, mock interviews and trips to the Inns of Court in London.

# Student ambassador

## Become a student ambassador

Our student ambassadors are current students who:

- Represent their area of study at open days, visitor events and in other activities.
- Are happy to meet and talk to visitors about their course and student life.
- Show, inform and help prospective students and families to learn more about studying at NTU and living in Nottingham.
- As a student ambassador, you need to be enthusiastic and friendly, a good communicator with a positive attitude.

You will get hourly pay at competitive rates above minimum wage and can expect to work in short blocks of time during weekday and weekend open events and conferences, as well as occasional evening events.

#### What might your role be?

You will help with a range of activities:

- Meet-and-greets, and leading campus tours at open days, conferences and commercial events.
- Student profiles.
- Social media.
- Print photography.
- Videos.

#### How can you benefit from this?

- This is a great opportunity to gain some paid work experience that will look fantastic on your CV.
- It offers you a chance to meet students from other courses and make new contacts.
- You'll learn more about NTU and get involved in new activities.

For more information and to apply email:  
**BLSSambassadors@ntu.ac.uk**

*"I became a student ambassador so I can encourage others who are considering a career in Law to take advantage of the various opportunities offered by the Law School at NTU."*

Hann Alexyz Leonardo-Cruz,  
Graduated from LLB (Hons) Law (full-time)  
now studying LLM Bar Professional Training Course (LLM BPTC)

## Artiom Romanovskij

### LLB (Hons) Law (full-time)



#### What area of law do you study?

As a law student at Nottingham Law School whatever course you are doing, you will have to complete eight core modules in order to graduate with the LLB qualification. These eight modules are: Law of Contract, Public Law, EU Law, Legal Method, Law of Torts, Law of Trusts, Criminal Law and Land Law. However, my LLB Law course allows me to select additional modules based on my career aspirations, so I have chosen to study the ones related to the commercial area of the Law.

#### What made you choose to study a law degree?

Law is a very flexible and highly respected degree. It gives you the solid foundation of knowledge which can apply in many industries, for example law students are used to analysing long and complex text documents. They are used to remembering a lot of information and have an excellent skill of establishing key facts of the legal and non-legal matters.

Nottingham Law School itself provides students with an opportunity to experience how it actually is to be a practising barrister or a solicitor, because during their studies for an LLB degree, students are able to participate in a variety of practical activities, such as contract and criminal moot, negotiation, working for the Nottingham Law School Legal Advice Centre and much more.

#### Do you know what you want to do after you graduate?

I would like to set up my own business projects and to work for myself.

#### Are you a member of a society and if so which one?

I am the member of NTU Investment and Trading Society, NTU Politics and International Relations and NTU Motorsport Society.

#### Why did you become a student ambassador?

I wanted to put additional work experience on my CV and also gain skills which will benefit me in my future career, such as public speaking, time management and networking.

#### What have you done in the ambassador role so far?

As a student ambassador I have participated in a variety of events including open days for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

#### What is your favourite thing about being a student ambassador?

I find this role useful, as I get a lot of valuable experience and I meet many fantastic people.

#### What is your favourite thing about Nottingham?

Nottingham is very multicultural city. You can meet many great people here and discover many different cultures. The city's location is good, because it is in the centre of the United Kingdom so you have easy and relatively cheap access to the major cities such as London, Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool. This gives Nottingham students opportunities to gain work experience and apply for vacation schemes not only in Nottingham but across the United Kingdom.

Nottingham's night life is famous across the United Kingdom for its unique choice of the night clubs which offer relatively cheap prices.





# Alumni

## Sarah Moor

**Course:** LLB (Hons) Law and Professional Practice  
**Position:** Medical negligence claims solicitor  
**Employer:** Hudgell Solicitors  
**Graduated:** November 2013



Newly qualified Sarah Moor says her passion and love of the legal profession has been key to her becoming the youngest fully qualified solicitor at personal injury and medical negligence specialists Hudgell Solicitors.

The 25 year old from Beverley, East Yorkshire, has received her practising certificate in the senior courts of England and Wales from the Solicitors Regulation Authority almost three years after joining the firm for experience.

Sarah has spent seven years working towards the qualification, graduating through Nottingham Law School and completing a legal practice course alongside a training contract with Hudgell Solicitors.

Part of the medical negligence department, Sarah is targeting further rapid progress in her career, but says it is was the opportunity and continued support of her employers that has given her the platform to succeed.

“I was absolutely delighted to finally become a fully qualified solicitor as it has been a long and challenging seven years to reach this stage, but certainly feels worth all the hard work now,” she said.

“I am really grateful for the opportunity I was given at Hudgell Solicitors, as I was able to come in and gain experience after studying at university, and that gave me the opportunity to learn the role and show my abilities.

“I know people who have studied law that have struggled to get a training contract. Many require you to go through lengthy interview sessions to even be considered, but Hudgell Solicitors gave me the chance to come in and work alongside experienced people.

“It was therefore a different route for me as I was given a chance to impress after completing my degree in the new claims team in Hull. After 18 months I was offered the training contract, which was the opportunity I had been seeking.

“The training contract has enabled me to learn all the processes and how injury claims progress, with supervision and guidance from senior solicitors at all times. That puts you in a great position as you work towards your qualifications.”

With a natural passion for the subject, Sarah achieved Law Grade A at A-Level, a first-class honours degree in her LLB at Nottingham Law School, and a distinction in her Legal Practice Course. Sarah gained experience in three areas of work during her training contract, handling cases in clinical negligence, claims against the police, and criminal injuries compensation, work which saw her spend some time in the firm’s Leeds office, finally receiving her full qualification on Thursday 1 September 2016.

Sarah says it has been a long journey to where she is today and believes other young people starting out need a number of qualities to succeed.

“It’s not an easy route to becoming a solicitor and there is a lot of hard work and dedication required.

“There were a few people who started with me who dropped away and looked for other careers, but if you have a genuine interest in law and a real desire to make it, it is certainly achievable and a great career to pursue.

“I very much enjoy the job and I am really passionate about doing the best for the people I represent. I get to know my clients very well, and that really helps me do the best possible job for them.”

Simon Wilson, senior solicitor at Hudgell Solicitors and head of the new claims team where Sarah gained her first experience of life at a legal firm, said:

“Sarah is a great example to any young person considering a possible career in the legal profession.

“Complete dedication and a passion for the job has taken her to where she is today and she has a great career ahead of her.

“We pride ourselves on being as supportive as possible to young people who are seeking a legal career, and our door is open to those like Sarah who have real passion, commitment and desire to forge a successful legal career.

“We have been delighted to give Sarah her opportunity, and to provide her with a route towards becoming a fully qualified solicitor.

“She has grasped the opportunity with both hands and we look forward to supporting her in further developing her promising career.”

Go to [www.hudgellsolicitors.co.uk](http://www.hudgellsolicitors.co.uk) for more information about Sarah’s career and Hudgell Solicitors.



The overarching aim of the exercise is to gain a basic working knowledge on how negotiations operate in practice. Keen to impress our team supervisors, we all got involved, all the while bearing in mind that we were under strict instructions from our respective clients. From a learning perspective, I learned that negotiation was or is an underrated skill and method of dispute resolution; and maybe the lack of procedural formalities is partly to blame. Nevertheless, negotiation is one of the most pivotal forms of dispute resolution that is most accessible to both parties, both at a national and international level, especially when dealing with disputes between two sovereign states; a successful negotiation can make the difference between peace and a declaration of war. This makes negotiation a very important skill to master.

At undergraduate level, I was able to further practice my negotiation skills through the Student Law Office module. The module allowed me to explore both the

# Student experience

## My placement year at a criminal law firm: Bhatia Best Solicitors

### Anthony Cheung, LLB (Hons) Law (sandwich)

Initially, I took a year out on placement to expand my understanding of my degree. We are always told that the theories we learn in university do not always directly reflect that of the real world. Therefore, I felt that a placement year would teach me the skills I needed to be successful in my professional career and in the classroom.

The Nottingham Law School Employability Team were great during my search for a placement. The wealth of knowledge and support provided by the team assisted my search and decision substantially. Moreover, the chance to have a one-on-one mock interview with the Employability Team gave me an insight as to what to expect in my interview.

I chose to work for Bhatia Best Solicitors because they predominately work in criminal law. Additionally, as a highly regarded law firm in Nottingham, they offered several opportunities to work on serious cases at the Crown Court and to observe a high standard of advocacy whilst I attended court.

A key skill that I developed in my placement, which will increase my graduate employability, is the ability to speak with people of all upbringings. Whilst working for a criminal law firm, I came into contact with people from various backgrounds; learning to speak in the correct manner and being empathetic at times allowed for greater rapport to be built. This skill is fundamental,

theoretical and the practical side of negotiation as part of the Law School’s ‘learning by doing’ initiative. It was then when I was able to fully appreciate the importance of negotiation into our everyday lives. Negotiation is not only a legal skill but a social skill, because it assists in the reduction of conflict and allows us to improve our relationship with everyday individuals.

Theoretically speaking, one of the first things I was taught revolved around the single golden rule in negotiation – do not disclose your bottom line. However, speaking from experience, I would question the continuing relevance of this rule. Negotiation is mainly about compromising and finding a middle ground to resolve a dispute. The non-disclosure of your bottom line arguably encourages the attachment of ‘I must win’ mentality, which is counterproductive in real-life practice. You win a negotiation when you have represented your client’s best interests to the



especially when the legal sector relies heavily on human interaction.

My academic studies have benefited greatly from taking a placement year. I developed many practical skills such as being able to comprehend information quickly and accurately, the manner in which to speak, especially in court, and how to develop persuasive arguments. This was refined through observing compelling advocates and speaking to them after to understand their reasoning to their strategies. An example where these practical skills translated to my academic studies was in my Mooting module. I was able to adopt many of the techniques into my moots. I felt that consequently my arguments were made more persuasive.

My placement also made my modules more relatable. For example, in Evidence Law I merged legal theories with my placement experiences to understand my subject more deeply. This was reflected in the way I engaged with my tutors during seminars.

A placement may seem like a big investment of time for many students, but the skills and confidence one gains afterwards is invaluable. A year of experience is highly regarded by many employers and for good reasons. There are experiences to draw on which cannot be attained in a university environment. I highly recommend all aspiring lawyers to grasp the opportunity if offered.



## Getting to the bottom of negotiation

### Hann Alexyz Leonardo-Cruz, LLM Bar Professional Training Course (LLM BPTC)

Negotiation is a form of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), and remains to be the form used predominantly. Its relaxed nature and lack of set procedural rules provides a less intimidating environment, which paves the way for parties to settle their dispute amicably.

As the oldest sibling, negotiating with my younger siblings (and parents), surrounding every aspect of our domestic life has somewhat become a norm for me. But of course, it is not exactly the same when you are a lawyer acting in your client’s best interests, rather than your own.

I first came across negotiation during my work experience at Allen & Overy, and it was at that point I recognised its substantive value in dispute resolution. Just to set the scene, the simulated exercise entailed the purchase of a football club. My team represented the buyer, and the other represented the seller.

best of your ability. Therefore, to state that ‘losing’ a negotiation equates to losing a case or an argument would be an unfair juxtaposition. Though in some cases there may be some truth in this statement, most of the time it does not provide an accurate image of the way negotiation operates in practice. Perhaps the only time this statement can be perceived as valid is when you have failed to do your job as a lawyer.

As a final note, the Law School offers various opportunities – both academic and extra-curricular to enable students to develop their negotiation skills: the Path to Professional Practice (a final-year module) teaches you the theory behind negotiation and the negotiation competition, amongst other things. I encourage everyone to get involved and take advantage of the amazing opportunities the Law School has to offer, both for personal and professional development.



# Summer schools

## Nottingham Law School International Summer Schools

Everyone in the Law School has the chance to take part in our International Summer School Scheme, and get a real taste of the profession from a European perspective.

Each of our week-long courses has a different legal focus, which is supported with a series of inspiring legal lectures. On these courses, you'll have the time to explore foreign cities, and socialise with students from our partner universities.

The 2017 summer school dates are:

**Geneva, 1–8 July 2017**

This summer school is designed with a focus on international humanitarian law, giving you an awareness of the work of:

- The United Nations
- The Red Cross
- The World Health Organisation

**Strasbourg, 8–15 July 2017**

This summer school gives you an introduction to human rights and EU Law, and includes visits to:

- The European Parliament
- The European Court of Human Rights
- The Council of Europe

**Berlin, 22–29 July 2017**

This summer school focuses on international criminal justice. You'll learn about:

- War crimes
- Crimes against humanity
- Genocide
- Crimes of aggression and victims
- Reparation

This course also includes a visit to Checkpoint Charlie, and Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp.

For more information visit:

NOW Learning Room – Nottingham Law School Summer Schools: <https://now.ntu.ac.uk/d2l/home/273881>

How to apply:

Application via NTU Online store: <http://onlinestore.ntu.ac.uk/>

*The summer schools are very popular and early application is advised.*

More information can be obtained from the summer school management team:

[John.hodgson@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:John.hodgson@ntu.ac.uk)

[John.tingle@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:John.tingle@ntu.ac.uk)

[Kalpana.chauhan@ntu.ac.uk](mailto:Kalpana.chauhan@ntu.ac.uk)



## Wioleta Dworak

### LLB (Hons) Law (sandwich), Berlin Summer School



It is a great time to start planning ahead of the upcoming year and the opportunities available to enhance your CV. One opportunity is the Nottingham Law School Summer School Scheme.

It is important to start planning such trips a little bit ahead as you have to cover the cost of the school fees and accommodation, along with travel and living expenses. Therefore, such a trip could turn out quite costly and so, it is wise to start planning your budget now.

Nottingham Law School offers summer schools in Berlin, Geneva and Strasbourg. Each destination has a different topic of law that is covered during the trip. The topic is usually associated with the history of each city. My close friend and I decided to go to Berlin to study international criminal law and explore the city.

The obvious reason why international criminal justice would be covered there is pretty straight forward – World War II triggered the development of this area of law, particularly crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. Lectures were given at the university in Berlin. We spent much more time visiting sites, which enabled us to put the topic into context. We visited the concentration

camp Sachsenhausen, based in Oranienburg, and the tour was truly eye opening. It is hard to put this experience into words and I would recommend anyone to visit and experience this for themselves.

We did a lot of sightseeing in Berlin and visited many of the popular attractions such as Checkpoint Charlie and the remnants of the Berlin Wall. There is also a boat trip available which puts the tourist experience in a much more relaxed atmosphere. On the last day we were surprised with the best attraction – Berlin zoo! Although this was not specifically related to the topic covered during the summer school, it was a very good time to bond with other students attending and just relax.

The summer school was not a strict trip. The students get a lot of independence and the afternoon time is free. We dined at many restaurants around Berlin and some students decided to experience the nightlife.

Overall, I would recommend such an organised trip abroad to anyone for many reasons: it is a great thing to put on your CV, it is also a nice city break and, most importantly, it really enables you to make the most of your time abroad.

# Summer schools

## Hannah Lopez

### LLB (Hons) International Law, Geneva Summer School



As an International Law student, I highly recommend participating in the Geneva Summer School course offered by the Nottingham Law School. The summer school was the perfect combination of discovering Geneva's breath-taking beauty; having the opportunity to visit the United Nations (UN); and learning about international humanitarian law, which was taught in an engaging and light-hearted way by lecturers from the Nottingham Law School itself.

The summer school lectures were primarily focused on international humanitarian law but also encompassed international arbitration, human rights, patient safety

and public health perspectives, making the programme quite diverse. It was my first time engaging in these topics and I found them all extremely interesting. There was not a topic discussed or activity I participated in that I did not enjoy. All the lecturers were very enthusiastic about the topics they taught and were constantly involving us, making the lectures much more captivating and turning them into group discussions.

A great advantage about going to the summer school with students from different cultural and academic backgrounds, such as international relations, human rights and public health (to name just a few), was that everyone could offer unique viewpoints, which really enhanced our learning experience. We participated in a group presentation where we acted as members of the United Nations Security Council and had to provide a solution to a problem given to us by our lecturers. In a short week, the course enabled me to gain an in-depth understanding of international law.

The summer school granted me the privilege of visiting the United Nations (UN) along with many of its agencies such as WHO, UNAIDS, UNHCR, OHCHR and the Red Cross. Discussions with the UN staff allowed me to get an in-depth understanding of how the UN works.

I was extremely impressed by the overall amiableness and friendliness of the group. On one afternoon the lecturers organised a barbecue, which was a fantastic way to bring us all together.

The Cité Bleue Universitaire is situated in a quiet and what appeared to me as a very safe area. Travelling around Geneva was very easy and so in our free time we were able to get the bus to Lake Geneva, visit the Jet d'Eau and enjoy the beautiful Old Town of Geneva.

The Geneva Summer School really does broaden your horizons, enlighten your mind and allows you to experience a new culture. I am very grateful for the opportunity offered to me by the Geneva Summer School to be able to go into depth in a subject that I would like to engage in professionally in the future.



## Lindsay Mitchell

### LLB (Hons) Law (full-time), Geneva Summer School



I was so excited for this opportunity, and anxiously counted down the days until arriving in Geneva. Over the seven-day period our lecturers, John Hodgson, John Tingle (affectionately known as 'The Johns') and Linda Green were actively involved in making sure that the curriculum

and planned trips went off without a hitch. I don't think it is possible to put into words how much of an amazing experience I had at the Geneva Summer School. I had a fantastic trip! It was more beautiful, eye opening and life changing than I could have ever imagined.

Whilst on the trip, it was more than just gaining an understanding of international humanitarian law; it was also about getting involved and enjoying the culture and the invigorating and intoxicating city of Geneva, which the staff graciously incorporated into the schedule.

During our time in Geneva we made trips to the famous Jet D'eau Fountain amongst other major tourist hubs. For me, the highlight of the trip was going to the United Nations (UN) building. Taking a picture outside of the UN was probably on my bucket list, but actual walking inside the building, getting a tour and sitting where the leaders of the world have sat previously – not to mention the swanky badge they give you before you enter – truly surpassed my expectations of the trip. Regardless of all the legal education, we still managed to schedule out time to go to CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research), which added a little scientific knowledge to our overall enlightening experience.

I would definitely recommend this experience to anyone who has an interest in international law, enjoys combining learning with a bit of traveling, or simply wants to make new friends to share this experience with.

Participating in this summer school was a great opportunity to learn a lot about international law, not just from lecturers but also from individuals who work within the sector, such as the UN, The Red Cross and other international organisations. It was, I think, one of the best summers I have ever experienced. It was a privilege to take part and I look forward to participating in the other two summer schools offered in Strasbourg and Berlin.



# Research

## Centre for Legal Education



The Centre for Legal Education at Nottingham Law School consists of a group of academics with a particular interest in researching, writing about and improving legal education. This takes a variety of forms. So, for example, Graham Ferris is currently working with a colleague in Psychology on problems surrounding wellness and distress in law students. At the same time, Pamela Henderson is writing about how SCALE-Up translates, from its origins in science classrooms, into the academic study of law. Helen Avis and

Helen Taylor have been sharing their work on learning and teaching of skills in the final-year LLB Path to Professional Practice module with academics from other law schools and other disciplines. Louise Taylor has been working on enhancing numeracy amongst law undergraduates. Matthew J. Homewood is currently engaged in research around the use of social media (including Twitter and Yammer) for peer-led study support with a view to enhancing undergraduate engagement and outcomes.

Research does not stop in the classroom, however. Building on the strong basis provided by the centre's work in 2012 on continuing professional development for solicitors, Jane Jarman works with legal practitioners to help them navigate the changes to solicitors' continuing development in England and Wales that require solicitors to focus on what they have learned, rather than how long they have spent in a classroom or webinar. Jane Ching and Pamela Henderson have been finding out, for the Solicitors Regulation Authority, what contribution work experience (clinic, placement, training contract, paralegal work) makes to the competence of newly qualified solicitors.

The Centre is working with several research students, LLM, PhD and professional doctorate, looking at issues of legal education as diverse as inclusion of Islamic law in the undergraduate curriculum, through to supporting legal project management in the workplace. Some of these students are, or want to be, teachers of law themselves; others have seen particular issues in their workplace that they want to understand and address.

The Centre will be holding its third conference in June 2017. The theme for the conference is technology in education, training and legal practice, which we anticipate will be of interest to academics, practitioners and students at many different stages. For more details visit [www.ntu.ac.uk/legaleducation](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/legaleducation) and watch this space.

## The taming of insolvency law: Centre for Business and Insolvency Law plays host to Italian academic



The Centre for Business and Insolvency Law recently played host to Professor Claudia Sandei of the University of Padua, Italy, who visited Nottingham for three weeks.

At Padua, Claudia teaches company law and insolvency law. At the University, she is also responsible for internationalisation activities within the School of Law. Claudia collaborates closely with many academics in Spain, Germany, Austria and now the United Kingdom, and is a member of the editorial boards of some of the most important law reviews in Italy. Her primary research interests are in corporate governance, capital markets, banking law and corporate insolvency law. Besides an important number of articles in the company field

(some of which have also been published in foreign law journals), she is the author of an important monograph on the implementation of the Shareholder Rights Directive and the use of technology in company annual general meetings.

While in Nottingham, Claudia presented a staff seminar on reforms to the commercial law environment in Italy, including important areas of insolvency, company law and banking law. She will also be working on an article about regulatory competition and bank failure and will be meeting with members of the centre to discuss mutual research interests and possible collaborations.

We have six active research centres and groups.

For more information and news visit:

Centre for Advocacy  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/advocacy](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/advocacy)

Centre for Business and Insolvency Law  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/businessinsolvencylaw](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/businessinsolvencylaw)

Centre for Conflict, Rights and Justice  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/conflictrightjustice](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/conflictrightjustice)

Centre for Legal Education  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/legaleducation](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/legaleducation)

Centre for Mediation and Dispute Resolution  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/cmdr](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/cmdr)

Sports Law Research Group  
[www.ntu.ac.uk/centresportslaw](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/centresportslaw)

# Research

## Viva success for member of Centre for Business and Insolvency Law

The Centre for Business and Insolvency Law is pleased to announce that Jenny Gant has been awarded her doctorate on the successful conclusion of her viva on 28 June 2016. Jenny was awarded a pass without the need for any amendments.

Jenny was the recipient of a Vice-Chancellor's Bursary, an award only open to students who completed their Masters studies with distinction, and which enabled her to develop her project on the theme of Rescue before a Fall: An Anglo-French Analysis of the Balance Between Business Rescue and Employment Protection. Her research examined the historical, socio-economic, cultural and specific jurisdictional aspects contributing to the evolution of employment protection regulation and

its intersection with the goals of corporate rescue in the United Kingdom and France.

Jenny's research also attempted to provide an understanding of how the two systems developed different trajectories, with a view to understanding the obstacles within the European Union that could affect the alignment or coordination of employment protection rules across the member states. In addition to publications arising from her project, Jenny's research has also received acknowledgment through her being the first recipient of INSOL International's Ian Strang Founders Award, a prestigious international insolvency prize, for a paper titled *Studies in Convergence? Post-Crisis Effects on Corporate Rescue and the Influence of Social*

*Policy: The EU and the USA*. In September 2015, Jenny joined the Nottingham Law School as a lecturer, where she teaches modules at undergraduate and postgraduate level: Employment Law (LLB) and Comparative Corporate Rescue (LLM).

The centre, which has gained a reputation worldwide for the promotion of research and teaching in insolvency and is committed to fostering critical thinking in insolvency and business matters, particularly among younger scholars, is pleased to be able to congratulate Jenny on her well-deserved success.





# Awards

## The LawWorks and Attorney General Student Award

These awards celebrate innovation and excellence in student pro bono delivery and raise awareness of the valuable contribution of those students and law schools committed to enabling access to justice for some of the most vulnerable in society.



### Winner The Access to Justice Foundation Award

The inaugural Access to Justice Foundation Award recognises the work of individuals and educational bodies in promoting and supporting access to justice and charities that provide pro bono services.

“We were absolutely thrilled to win both awards as the competition was extremely high. It is great to be able to say we now have a multi-award-winning Law Centre as we continue to enhance our activities and move into new and much-needed areas of pro bono advice and assistance.”

**Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker,**  
Dean of Nottingham Law School



### High commended Best Contribution by an Individual Student – Natasha Ward

Natasha was a Student Adviser, who predominantly advised clients as part of the Legal Advice Centres outreach advice services. In August 2015, Natasha was recruited as joint project leader, and has since tirelessly organised and led the redeveloped Outreach Advice Project ('the Project'). The Project is a student-led project that offers fortnightly drop-in sessions at two outreach locations based in Nottingham, the St George's Community Centre in Netherfield and the Nottingham Women's Centre.

“Natasha showed an exceptional level of commitment to pro bono work during her time at Nottingham Law School and worked very effectively for both her clients and her fellow students while she was here. She made a great contribution to our work and was a highly deserving nominee for this award.”

**Nick Johnson,**  
Director of the Legal Advice Centre



### Winner Best Contribution by a Law School

The Legal Advice Centre won the award for the Miscarriage for Justice Project and being the only Free Representation Unit (FRU) branch outside of London working with FRU London. The Centre has also developed significant partnerships with local advice agencies and a national NGO (the Environmental Law Foundation); engages in fundraising events such as the Legal Walk and the Great Legal Bake; and provides student support to the Nottingham Personal Support Unit and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum.



### Runner up Best New Student Pro Bono Activity

The Legal Advice Centre's inFirinGeMent project was runner up for the best new student pro bono activity. The inFirinGeMent group works to educate communities, voluntary groups and professionals on how the law can be used for protection of victims and potential victims of FGM.

“We are privileged to work with an amazing group of dedicated and talented student volunteers in the Legal Advice Centre, and I am delighted that our student projects are getting national recognition.”

**Jenny Chapman,**  
Deputy Dean, Nottingham Law School

## More of our recent awards

### Winner Nottingham Law Society Contribution to the Community Award

Student advisers are supervised by in-house solicitors and provide legal services on a range of areas, including employment, housing, welfare rights and intellectual property. Last year more than 230 Nottingham Law School students worked on 185 cases.

The only Free Representation Unit outside London, the centre provides the local community with free representation, recovering more than £300,000 for its clients since April 2015.

### Best University for International Students Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2016

Nottingham Trent University was named the best for international students at the 2016 Whatuni Student Choice Awards and ranked in the top ten universities overall. The rankings are based on thousands of reviews submitted by students and published on the Whatuni website. ([www.whatuni.com](http://www.whatuni.com))

### Legal Education Provider of the Year 2016

Nottingham Law School has been awarded Legal Education Provider of the Year 2016 by the *Solicitors Journal*. The award was given in recognition of the School's innovative teaching and commitment to social mobility and diversity.

The School's commitment to making legal careers more accessible involves working with a number of partners, such as the Sutton Trust Pathways to Law Scheme, Freshfields Stephen Lawrence Scheme, and Aspiring Solicitors.



## ...and finally

### Upcoming events

Careers advice drop-in with Edward Mosley, Undergraduate Careers Consultant  
**Every Wednesday from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm**  
The Legal Advice Centre, Level 1, Chaucer building, City site.

Distinguished Lecture Series: Sir Peter Fahy QPM  
**Wednesday 9 November 2016**

**More of a social worker than a police officer**

Sir Peter Fahy is Chief Executive of Retrak. He was previously Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, 2008-15. This lecture will reflect on Sir Peter's 34 years as a police officer, the tension between punishment and rehabilitation and the position of policing in a more questioning society.

Careers advice drop-in with Sarah Kinton, Postgraduate Careers Consultant  
**Every Wednesday from 3 pm to 4.30 pm**  
Room 4501, Level 4, Chaucer building, City site.

Lead with Law: Life as a Legal Professional  
**Tuesday 22 November 2016**

If you are interested in finding out about different areas of law and would like the opportunity to speak to a broad range of legal professionals, this is the event for you.

Careers advice from the Employability Centre  
**Monday to Thursday from 9 am to 4.30 pm, and Friday from 9 am to 4 pm**  
Level 0, Newton building, City site.

Shoosmiths – Office Open Evening

**Monday 5 December 2016**

Shoosmiths offices Nottingham.

Students will need to register to attend this event.

Law, Human Rights and Religion: Flashpoints  
**Monday 12 December 2016**

The Centre for Conflict, Rights and Justice is hosting this one-day conference on themes which currently ignite debate in the fields of law, human rights and religion.

Applying for Training Contracts  
**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

Employer-led presentation.

Nottingham Law School Employability Resource

Our **NLS Employability Resource learning room** on NOW has lots of useful news items and content to support you throughout your time at the University. Make sure you check it regularly and keep an eye on your emails. Law students who are interested in the legal profession can apply to be involved in the NLS Mentoring Scheme.

Nottingham Law School, Law Fair 2017  
**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

This event will provide you with an opportunity to meet potential employers. The event is suitable for all years and to anyone who has an interest in working in the legal sector.

Life at the Junior Bar  
**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

Employer-led presentation.

Dates and timings are subject to change, visit [futurehub.ntu.ac.uk](http://futurehub.ntu.ac.uk), [www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsevents](http://www.ntu.ac.uk/nlsevents) or the **Nottingham Law School employability learning room** on NOW for the latest information.

### Get involved

Our Employability Team organise a whole range of events, some of which are displayed within this issue of All Things Law.

See what opportunities and events you could get involved with by regularly visiting the **NLS Employability NOW Learning room** and **FutureHub**.

**NOW**  
NTU ONLINE WORKSPACE

**FutureHub**



### Write for our blog

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



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