

Welcome from the Head of CCLS



Dear CCLS Alumni

Welcome to the 10th, Anniversary, edition of the CCLS Alumni Bulletin. In this edition:

- we shine a spotlight on our Intellectual Property Law activities and new developments, and introduce you to some of our IP staff and alumni students;
- you can read the latest about our international LLM programmes in Paris, France and Piraeus, Greece, as well as find out about a new programme – Dual LLM in Commercial Law (Singapore and London);
- there are articles from our alumni about the Budapest Cybercrime Convention entering into force in Sri Lanka, and Slovakia's new Arbitration Act one year on;
- Professor Julia Hornle shares her insights into the ever-changing world of Information and Technology Law

We also introduce a new section – Alumni Events – where we update you on our latest alumni activities and reunions. As our cohort of alumni students around the world rapidly expands, we hope to offer more opportunities for you to come together for networking, sharing of memories and simply to have a good time at events in London and abroad. Please get in touch if you would like to organise something in your country and we hope to also see you soon at one of our events!

As always, I would like to thank all our contributors and to invite more news and articles from you. I hope you enjoy reading this issue and continue to keep in touch.

With best wishes,

Professor Spyros M Maniatis

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Please contact us if you have any comments or if you would like to write an article for the bulletin.

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All views represented in these articles are those of the writers and contributors.

CCLS Around the World

CCLS has been expanding its programme of educational activities around the world and establishing links with some of the leading legal institutions in Europe and Asia. Here are some of the highlights of our exciting current developments and news from recent and established international programmes.



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NEW for 2016 – CCLS Singapore

Dual LLM in Commercial Law (Singapore and London)

Following the launch of LLM programmes in Piraeus, Greece and Paris, the Centre for Commercial Law Studies enhances further its international profile with the introduction of the Dual LLM in Commercial Law (Singapore and London). With a view towards educating legal talents who are well-versed in both Eastern and Western legal systems, who understand both the law and local business culture, and who are able to offer a highly nuanced service to their multi-national clients, the Singapore Management University (SMU) and Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) have developed an innovative Dual Master of Laws (LLM) in Commercial Law (Singapore and London) programme, which both universities will jointly offer from July 2016.

The programme provides a unique opportunity to study commercial law in two of the world's major business and financial hubs, Singapore and London, and the specially-designed curriculum features a major focus on international and comparative issues, and on the importance of legal principles, rules and laws underlying business and commercial relationships. After going through a very robust admissions

process, the students will spend the first six-months of the intensive 15-month programme studying in the Singapore Management University (SMU), developing a broad overview of Asian commercial law. The successful completion of the Singapore leg of the programme, will take the students to QMUL's campus in Holborn, London, where they will have the chance to attend specialised modules taught by leading commercial law experts. The students will benefit from a high level of integration, as they will stay connected with both

universities throughout the 15 months, and instructors from both universities will be available to them, regardless of which campus they are in. The varied knowledge-base, coupled with the specialist expertise, will make them very attractive to potential employers, particularly multi-national firms.

The online application for the programme is now open. More information at www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/llm/singapore



Singapore
Management
University

CCLS in China

CCLS have been working closely with high calibre institutions (Tsinghua, Peking, Renmin, ECUPL and Xiamen) to develop knowledge networks and promote CCLS as a world class commercial law centre in China.

Renmin, Tsinghua, and QMUL organise Annual Research Conferences (interchanging on an annual basis between Beijing and London) on competition law and corporate law. An Annual Conference will also be organised in Beijing, bringing together the professional and academic communities with policy and enforcement authorities (Ministry of Commerce, National Development and Reform Commission, State Administration for Industry and Commerce).

CCLS is also cooperating with Renmin University to establish an EU-China IP Research Centre to generate high-quality substantive research outputs and to act as a network hub for IP academics in China and the EU. CCLS is also hosting an EU-China Forum in London in November 2016. Furthermore, co-operation in teaching and research activities on International Financial Law area with East China University of Political Science and Law has been established.

The School of International Arbitration has been working closely with the Beijing Arbitration Commission in the last 5 years to develop independent institutional commercial dispute resolution in China. In London, QMUL has hosted the 2014 and co-organised the 2014 and the 2015 Summit on Commercial Dispute Resolution in China. QMUL and the Chinese University of Hong Kong were awarded a research grant to study corporate attitudes towards dispute resolution in China.

CCLS will explore co-operation with Xiamen University on Tax and IP matters, and explore possibilities in developing an IP training base in Xiamen FTZ.

A Memorandum of Agreement had been signed with the School of Law in Peking University on 1+1+1 model. Under this model students will complete the first year of their Masters study at Peking, second year at QMUL on a normal 1 year Masters programme, and the third year back at Peking. In addition to an agreement on a 4+1 model, which allows students to complete the first three or four years of their LLB in Peking, and then join the CCLS on a masters level course based on their backgrounds.

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CCLS Around the World

CCLS in Paris – Update

The Paris LLM programme continues to grow and develop. Our students form a close-knit community, sharing experiences and support across nearly 40 nationalities and a variety of backgrounds. We are very proud of the impressive grades that we see, as well as the paths that our recent graduates have chosen to take – whether embarking on a new career, receiving a promotion, starting in-house or in a law firm, in Paris, back home or elsewhere.

The programme itself is now in its fourth year. We are continually developing it, incorporating student feedback, input from academics, as well as ideas from alumni and friends. Building on the success and experience of the specialism in Energy and Natural Resources Law in London, this is also now offered in Paris.

For more information, please visit our website: www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/llm-paris or contact llm-paris@qmul.ac.uk

Paris Events Highlights

'The Future of the Energy Industry'

The September 2015 Opening Lecture, generously sponsored by McDermott Will & Emery, was presented by Jonathan Marsh, International General Counsel of Total Marketing Services, and moderated by the Paris LLM Programme Director, Dr Maxi Scherer. To a packed audience of students, alumni, and other practitioners,

Jonathan outlined the varied challenges and opportunities for the legal profession, within a sector which must adapt to a rapidly changing business environment.

'Arbitration in Africa'

On 9 December 2015, Queen Mary University of London, SciencePo Law School Paris and ICDR Y&I jointly organised a conference on 'Arbitration in Africa'. Panellists from arbitral institutions, law firms, industry and academia discussed trends in arbitration proceedings on the African continent.

A first panel focused on international commercial arbitration and debated, among other things, issues relating to recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards in African jurisdictions and sovereign immunity of States. A second panel addressed investment arbitration in Africa with the audience. The panellists also considered possible future instruments, such as a Pan-African Investment Code.

Isaiah Bozimo, a QMUL alumni and now a practicing lawyer in Abuja, Nigeria, commented about his experience as a speaker: *"It was great to see an excellent turn-out for this event, and the attendees were clearly very interested in the topic of arbitration in Africa."*

Maxi Scherer, the Director of QMUL's LLM programme in Paris added: *"We have a*

very strong number of students from African countries in our LLM programmes, both in London and in Paris, and therefore are delighted to host a conference on this topic. We are also grateful to our sponsor, the law firm Lazareff Le Bars, for kindly supporting us this evening."

Tunde Ogunseitan, Counsel at the ICC International Court of Arbitration, congratulated the organizers of the conference: *"It was a great pleasure to participate in this very topical and important event and to see such a lively debate."*

'Debt, Debt and More Debt: Where From – Where To?'

The January 2016 Opening Lecture involved a roundtable discussion with Hubert de Vauplane and Georges Affaki, Avocats à la Cour and Associate Professors at Sciences Po and Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas, respectively, alongside Alex de Daranyi of Sanofi. Professor Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal of QMUL/CCLS moderated a lively debate on the topic amidst an audience of students from the three universities, alumni and others.

CCLS Paris Alumni

We would like to invite alumni to join activities in Paris – whether the biannual drinks in January and July, or lectures and other events which we hold here. If you would like to hear more and/or be involved, please contact Anna Gray on anna.gray@qmul.ac.uk.



2015 Graduation Ceremony

More than 15 Paris LLM students came to London for the graduation ceremony in December. It was great to catch up with those who flew in from Venezuela, Nigeria and elsewhere, or popped across the Channel.

Congratulations! The 2015 Franco-British Lawyers' Prizes have been awarded to Olivier Herbreteau and Aude Leveau, both of whom completed their studies with Distinction. Olivier is a Senior Patent Counsel with Sanofi. He undertook his studies on the LLM in Paris part-time over two years, managing these commitments around those of a full-time job with Sanofi. Aude undertook the programme in parallel with her commitments to the Paris Bar School for qualifying as an Avocate. She is now working with Hogan Lovells in Paris.

The Franco-British Lawyers Society awarded its 2013 Academic Prize to the Centre for Commercial Law Studies for the LLM in Paris. This allows us, over a three-year period, to award prizes to students from each of the January and September intakes of the programme, who demonstrate both academic excellence and a positive contribution to the cultural and legal exchange between French and British lawyers.

About the LLM in Paris

The LLM in Paris is an innovative Master of Laws programme, which brings CCLS expertise to Paris. Sometimes referred to as a "boutique LLM", the programme caters to students from a wide variety of ages, nationalities and experience, who decide to take up the programme based in Paris, either studying full-time or managing both work and studies on a part-time basis.

LLM in International Shipping Law in Piraeus, Greece – Update

It has been over a year since the launch of the LLM in International Shipping Law programme in Piraeus, Greece, and the first cohort of students are about to finish their second semester of the course. The programme follows on from the success of the London-based LLM in International Shipping Law, offering the opportunity for students to develop academic and professional expertise in specialised areas of Wet Shipping Law, Marine Insurance, Maritime Arbitration, P&I Clubs, Carriage of Goods and Charterparties. The classes are designed to meet the needs of professionals who would like to specialise in areas of global maritime law and are taught in intensive monthly blocks by academic staff from the Centre for Commercial Law Studies of Queen Mary University of London, at the Hellenic Management Centre (HMC) in Piraeus, Greece.

Apart from the physical teaching that takes place in Greece on regular basis, students are engaged in e-learning activities that are supported and facilitated by CCLS' lecturers, which enhances their in-depth understanding of subjects. Students are also given opportunities to participate in seminars of relevant interests, which are run by HMC as part of their existing education and training programmes. The Head of CCLS, Professor Spyros Maniatis,



told students in his recent visit to Piraeus, 'The LLM in International Shipping Law in Piraeus is just a part of broader, long-term project of creating a highly-connected network of global shipping law specialists. We want you to be part of this network and active agents of our vision'.

More information at www.law.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/items/142362.html

About the LLM in Piraeus

This programme is taught by CCLS academic staff at the Hellenic Management Centre (HMC) in Piraeus, Greece. It is aimed at lawyers and professionals with relevant work experience and is taught in two intensive blocks, that can be fitted with other commitments.



Budapest Cybercrime Convention Enters into Force in Sri Lanka – Made possible by a Chevening Scholarship to CCLS

Jayantha Fernando LLM in Information Technology Law and Telecoms Law, Chevening Scholar, Class of 2003, Sri Lanka.



On 1st September 2015, the Budapest Cybercrime Convention entered into force in Sri Lanka. This is a historic ICT policy achievement, because Sri Lanka became the first country in South Asia (and second country after Japan in Asia) to become a state party to this European Cybercrime Convention.

The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, also known as the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (ETS 185 of 2001), is the only available international treaty effectively addressing Internet and computer crime by harmonizing national laws, improving investigative techniques, and increasing criminal justice cooperation among nation states to effectively combat the

threat against cybercrime. According to the records of the Council of Europe, this was the fastest ever accession to the Cybercrime Convention recorded by any country. Accession was no easy task to accomplish. What made it possible?

Sri Lanka prepared the ground over many years, laying the foundation by putting in place the correct legislative framework, consistent with the Council of Europe regime. As a precursor to becoming a state party to the Convention, the Computer Crimes Act No. 24 of 2007, the principal statute governing IT related crimes, was drafted in a manner consistent with the Budapest Cybercrime Convention. In addition, Sri Lanka enacted a series of other legislation, such as the Electronic Transactions Act No. 19 of 2006 and the Payment Devices Frauds Act No. 30 of 2006, which paved the way towards Sri Lanka's fast-track accession.

When we initiated the process to draft Legislation on Computer Crime in early 2000, we had not heard of the Budapest Cybercrime Convention. It never existed then and it was neither brought to our attention nor even remotely considered during the extensive review of the Computer Crimes Bill undertaken by the Sri Lanka Law Commission, in the latter part of the year 2000. The first exposure to this Convention was when I read for my specialised LLM in IT & Communications Law as a Chevening Scholar (2002-03).

During the first quarter of 2002, Sri Lanka was planting the seeds for an ambitious ICT Development program, known as "e-Sri Lanka Development Initiative", which eventually became a flagship project of the World Bank. I was fortunate to be invited to serve in the steering committee of this initiative, chaired by Eran Wickramaratne, along with other eminent professionals and academics, to design and establish the Institutional framework, which eventually led to the establishment of ICTA.

During the early gestation period of the e-Sri Lanka initiative it was determined that Sri Lanka also needed a robust policy as well as legal and regulatory reforms, as essential catalysts for ICT development. It was during this time that I was awarded the Chevening Scholarship. In view of the significance of law & policy reform towards ICT development, the focus of my attention naturally turned towards the completion of a LLM degree, specializing in Information Technology Law and Telecoms Law at CCLS. Queen Mary (especially its CCLS) is known for its expertise in this area of the law and it was during this period of research and study that I learnt of the Budapest Cybercrime Convention. Details on the background to its provisions and working papers were also made available to me, thanks to the generosity of my mentor, Professor Ian Walden. During that time discussions were gathering momentum in UK about its adoption.

On my return I was invited by ICTA's founder Chairman, Eran Wickramaratne, to lead the Country's ICT legal reforms initiative. This work resulted in the enactment of Electronic Transactions Act No. 19 of 2006, the Computer Crimes Act No. 24 of 2007 and other legislation. These statutes have changed the traditional parameters of the law in Sri Lanka. During the final stages of drafting the Computer Crimes Act (2004-06), I was able to convince policy makers to consider adopting the features of the Budapest Cybercrime Convention, hoping that one day Sri Lanka would be able to become a party to the said Convention. I was fortunate to have had the support of Mr Suhada Gamlath (current Solicitor General), who was Secretary Justice at the time, to achieve this objective. Since then, a lot was accomplished for the country, thanks to the support extended to ICTA by the Council of Europe, especially its Head of Cybercrime Division Alexander Seger and his dynamic team.

Cybercrime offences are transnational and multi-jurisdictional in nature. Therefore, the

effective fight against cybercrime requires any country to obtain evidence stored on computer systems and networks in other countries. The Budapest Cybercrime Convention is the only instrument which facilitates international cooperation to this effect. The Convention will greatly enhance the gathering of electronic evidence, the investigation of cyber laundering and other serious crimes. Accession to the Convention will significantly help in the successful investigation of Cybercrime offences. It will also help in law enforcement and judicial cooperation at international level, while ensuring adherence to human rights safeguards in the investigation process.

Sri Lankan Computer Crimes Act No. 24 of 2007 was founded on the Budapest Convention on Cyber Crime. Joining this Convention will help Sri Lanka to become a South Asian hub for cybercrime enforcement and hopefully lead to the

establishment of a Centre of Excellence to train law enforcement professionals on cybercrime issues.

The Chevening Scholarship together with the comprehensive LLM program offered by QMUL were opportunities, that paved the way for my detailed study of the Budapest Cybercrime Convention and its subsequent adoption in Sri Lanka. As such, I consider the scholarship as well as my entry to Queen Mary to be "well timed intervention", which eventually contributed towards the ICT law reform effort in Sri Lanka.

You can read more about the Convention at Laura Davies's blog, Deputy High Commissioner to Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

<http://blogs.fco.gov.uk/lauradavies/2015/09/01/welcoming-sri-lanka-to-the-cybercrime-convention/>



Ask the Professor

Professor Julia Hörnle, Professor of Internet Law, Director of Taught Programmes at CCLS. Interviewed by Saxon Shaw, LLM in Computer and Communications Law, CCLS.



After training and practicing as a solicitor at an international law firm, you made a shift to the world of academia. What attracted you towards the career path of an academic as opposed to a practicing lawyer?

In many ways, I think, the independence and the luxury to sit back and think about issues as a neutral. Practicing lawyers represent the interests of their clients and, more generally the businesses they advise. It is rewarding to see legal issues through the eyes of multiple stakeholders. From this point of view, academics are able to engage with policy, clarify law and create perspectives for future practitioners and judges. Academia is one of the very few fields of work for lawyers where you can be independent in this sense.

What makes a good professor?

It's a difficult question – where do you start? Perhaps, if you put two academics in a room they would never agree on an answer. There is an assumption that a good professor does everything: research, teaching, be a government advisor and

shape policy and be a manager. All require different skill sets and we all excel in different areas. Take teaching, for example. A good professor may be deemed as such because of the accuracy in which they disseminate knowledge or because they prepare students for careers, or simply because they inspire students to think, build theories, and advocate. Making sure that my students are engaged and motivated during their studies is important to me.

How do you stay engaged within the ever-changing field of Information and Technology law?

Aside from teaching and research, I have found that working within co-regulatory schemes has provided me with exposure to industry and professionals across the board. While working as a board member for The Authority for Television on Demand (now subsumed into Ofcom), our role was to prevent hate speech, and to prevent hardcore pornographic videos and explicit materials reaching children. Engagement comes from understanding; and legal compliance with the regulation did not only implicate obligations for service providers. Legal issues are multi-dimensional due to varying interests at stake. Balancing competing interests in an advancing field of law never ends – and the excitement resides in the unfolding of it all!

Your inaugural lecture, “Unclaimed Territories in the Clouds: Where are the Limits to Internet Jurisdiction?” is just around the corner. Are there any particular themes or messages that you are hoping to get across to the audience?

I find it fascinating how governments have not yet fully woken up to the realities of the Internet and effectively, the reduced enforcement powers they have. As a consequence attitudes to illegal materials, say drugs and pornography are changing. Jurisdiction and internet technologies have always come head to head. The Internet crosses borders, and in many online cases, activity requiring legal intervention must first satisfy principles of jurisdiction. The availability for sale of illegal products and services on the Internet offers users a portal into the Wild West. Lack of effective enforcement mechanisms make it harder for states to assert their authority. Whether this state of affairs brings greater freedom to individuals, or, on the contrary restricts their liberty as a result of the weakening of the rule of law, depends on one's ideological position.

From organizing conferences to speaking with news broadcasters, the protection of children online is a prevalent focus of your research. How can parents, regulators, service-providers and private companies

collaborate to envisage a safer internet-ecosystem posing minimal risk to children?

Parents and teachers understandably expect safety. The Internet however, has been a big let down in terms of security mechanisms because there is a limit to what regulators can do. We've all grown up in a safety culture where we assume that the state will provide effective protection online, but law and regulation is only a small part of the solution. There are many actors who play a part in policing the Internet. I think education and media literacy is the most important part of the solution, but the question as to the extent that schools can address pornography is unanswered. Children may need space for sexuality, experimentation and information and the online world can provide for this, but probably too much of it. Adequate safeguards need to be in place preventing exploitation. Regulation, filtering, dialogue and education are all important here.

The LLM in Computer and Communications Law is offered as a London-based programme and by distance learning. How do the programmes differ and are there any advantages to one as opposed to the other?

The distance-learning programme is usually made up of a student community of people who are already working and

who are studying part-time. The delivery of this programme is extremely flexible in order accommodate the needs of the professional. Physically, they can be where they need to be. The class comes together only once a year at Cumberland Lodge, which is always popular amongst students. In London, the advantage stems from classroom interactions, networking and the availability of student support. In addition to learning, many people are attracted to the London programme because of access to networking opportunities with City law firms. What is common to both is that each programme attracts an international student body.

What sort of employment opportunities will graduates of the LLM in Computer and Communications law be exposed to?

Data protection, information security and digital forensics are burgeoning areas where lawyers educated in IT law (or even IT and law) are needed. IT law is a mainstream and pervasive service area not just in legal practice, but also in general business-consulting firms. If the General Data Protection Regulation comes in line, firms will need to employ data protection and information security experts in the highest layers of management. More generally, employees who understand the intersection between technology and the law are becoming increasingly valuable to employers.

Spotlight on Intellectual Property Law

Surprisingly, even though intellectual property law courses are now widely taught in British universities, the first UK academic Chair in the subject was only created just over thirty years ago. Its establishment, at Queen Mary, sprang from the endowment of Herchel Smith Chair of Intellectual Property Law. Herchel Smith was a distinguished organic chemist, with over 800 patents being registered in his name worldwide. After retiring in 1973 he wished to contribute to the development and study of the area through his philanthropic activities. In addition to funding the endowment of a Chair, Herchel Smith later provided further endowments for a research fellowship, a lectureship and scholarships. Upon his death he made a multi-million dollar bequest, which remains the largest donation made to the College.

The Queen Mary Intellectual Property Research Institute (QMIPRI), established in 1989, is now an internationally renowned research institution in intellectual property (IP) law and related areas of commercial law. Today it has over 25 permanent and visiting faculty staff members, who are regular speakers at international conferences and have acted as advisors for many international organisations such as WIPO, UNCTAD, the European Parliament, the European Patent Office and the European Commission, as well as for non-governmental organisations.

IP's 30-40 PhD students complement the vibrant research culture at the Institute. Our Masters programmes have over 90 students each year with a further 180 studying the Certificate in Intellectual Property Law, the

Certificate in Trade Mark Law and Practice and MSc Management of Intellectual Property – making IP and related topics the largest cohort of students at CCLS. With a choice of over 30 modules, there is no better place to study to be a specialist in this areas than at Queen Mary.

All of our students have access to QMUL's Intellectual Property Archive at QMUL – one of the finest specialist IP collections in Europe, with significant contributions from the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA). The Queen Mary Journal of Intellectual Property publishes full-length articles as well as analysis pieces and case reports. QMIPRI is a founding member of the European Intellectual Property Institutes Network (EIPIN), which was established in 1999 to facilitate and increase cooperation among IP institutions and students in Europe.

IP in China

The past year has seen CCLS deepen its IP-related activities in China.

Within the framework of our Partnership Agreement with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in May 2015 Professor Duncan Matthews taught at the WIPO-China Summer School at East China University of Political Science and Law in Shanghai. During the same visit, he spoke to an audience of 250 Chinese government officials and IP practitioners at a Forum hosted at the Suzhou campus of Renmin University of China and organized the EU-China IP Dialogue Mechanism (IP Key) with funding from the European Union in cooperation with the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM).

In July 2015, Duncan Matthews spoke on innovation policy to an audience of Chinese government officials visiting Brussels as part of the Chinese inter-ministerial visit to the EU. Thereafter, in October 2015, he chaired an IP academic workshop hosted by IP Key in Beijing and also gave a public lecture on parallel trade at the Beijing campus of Renmin University of China. This was as part of a research project on the Shanghai Free Trade Zone, funded by the Great Britain China Centre (GBCC).

In November 2015, CCLS hosted a delegation visiting London from Renmin University to discuss the role of specialist IP courts and the patenting of computer implemented inventions, funded by GBCC. January 2016 saw patent examiners from the State Intellectual Property Office of the People's Republic of China (SIPO) successfully completing the inaugural training programme that CCLS will run each year on behalf of SIPO in London. The year ahead promises to be a busy one for CCLS, involving further collaboration with IP Key, GBCC and SIPO on IP projects where there are many common interests between the EU and China.

State Intellectual Property Office
In October 2014, State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) of the P.R.C paid an official visit to CCLS to explore potential co-operation links. During the visit, CCLS introduced various research interests in IP and well-established popular academic programmes and SIPO expressed strong interests in sending members of staff to CCLS to attend training programmes, focusing on Patent administration and policy-making related studies. After intensive co-ordination, the first cohort of staff members arrived at CCLS and commenced their studies in CCLS from





September 2015. Their activities included: Attendance of Certificate in Intellectual Property Law Programme, monthly supervision meetings with Professor Duncan Matthews, private study visits with the following institutions: UK Intellectual Property Office, the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, Kilburn and Strode LLP Patent Attorneys.

Meanwhile, in November 2015, initiated by the UK Intellectual Property Office (UKIPO), another senior delegation led by the deputy commissioner Mr Tao Liao and Deputy Director General of International Cooperation

Department, Mr Jian Li, visited CCLS. During the meeting, all parties had a positive discussion focusing on the current hot topics in relation to IP and possible developments in building more training opportunities in the near future. The deputy commissioner also highly commended the opportunity given to SIPO members of staff for their study experience in the UK.

CCLS also paid a visit to SIPO in January 2016, reviewing the progress made between both parties and started discussing more co-operative matters with its affiliated training centre.

The Intellectual Property Research Cafes

The term-time Intellectual Property Research Cafés have been providing our postgraduate students with an opportunity to expand their knowledge and discuss their views on current IP issues in an informal and friendly setting. The Cafes are run at CCLS, where guest speakers are invited to present a topic and facilitate roundtable discussions with the students, whose feedback on the relevance of the sessions have been extremely positive. In particular, many believe it is a valuable addition to the lectures and their individual research. This academic year we had presentations on such topics as free speech and copyright, human gene patenting, live-streaming to IP based media models, free speech and industrial property, to name just a few.



Diana Renuka Dukhia is a second year PhD student at CCLS writing on the intersection of intellectual property and finance. Guest Editor of the current Alumni Bulletin edition.

Prior to attending Queen Mary, University of London, I had completed a BSc in neuroscience and health studies from the University of Toronto and a LLB from the University of Leicester. I had also qualified as a barrister and solicitor in my home jurisdiction of Ontario, Canada and was a practising lawyer. However, I wanted to advance my studies and completing my LLM at QMUL in intellectual property in 2013 served to fuse my background in science with my legal experience. The expertise of the academics and the opportunities available were unparalleled. It broadened my horizons to various facets of intellectual property law on an international level and after having such a great experience, it was the catalyst to my pursuing a PhD in this area.

My research is focused on assessing intellectual property as an asset to be held as collateral for the purposes of raising financing. The thesis aims to scrutinize transactions which have taken place whether this be by way of secured loans, bond issuances or commodity trading and to assess their successes and shortcomings with the objective to provide recommendations on how to improve the use of intellectual property as an asset to facilitate financing.

I am extremely pleased to be able to act as the alumni guest editor in this intellectual property centric edition of the Alumni Bulletin and thank all those who work tirelessly to make this publication possible. I hope that you all thoroughly enjoy this issue!



Dr Marina Perraki is the Intellectual Property Partner at Tsibanoulis and Partners law firm in Athens, Greece. In 2012 she was awarded a PhD in Trade Mark Law, under the supervision of Professor Spyros Maniatis.

I was awarded a degree of Doctor of Philosophy for a dissertation analysing the legal protection of famous trade marks in different jurisdictions (common law and civil law) on the basis of the CJEU and General Court case law. I examined how this case law was applied by national courts in different countries. My practical experience as lawyer and litigator helped me pinpoint the practical implications of the European jurisprudence and case law on national trade mark law practice and the harmonization process. It also helped me formulate and propose a new interpretation of the trade mark dilution theory. The contribution to my thinking and the guidance by my supervisor were invaluable throughout.

My PhD on trade mark law not only allowed me to take off on the career of my dreams as an IP lawyer and trade mark specialist, but also opened the door of academia. This probably explains why I publish more articles in English language journals and books than in their Greek equivalents. I am regularly invited to participate in expert committees, speak at workshops, conferences and

seminars, and to teach in post graduate university courses. Today I am lucky enough to work in my favorite field of trade mark law dealing daily with complex issues and court cases, in which I can apply the valuable knowledge, methodology and legal thinking I acquired through my studies with the CCLS. As my PhD was on famous marks, I served as Chair of the Europe and Central Asia Sub-Committee on Famous and Well Known Marks of the International Trademark Association and I am currently member of the International Amicus Committee of the same organization entrusted with preparation of amicus interventions on major cases of trade mark law before the CJEU and the General Court.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that my PhD from Queen Mary University functions as my passport (and my trademark!) verifying (and immediately conveying information!) not only on my expertise and legal knowledge, but also on my high level qualifications. I owe all of this, in large part, to my studies at the CCLS.



Athena Mavroyiannis studied with CCLS in Paris, graduating with an LLM in Intellectual Property Law in 2015. She has since undertaken an internship in the Intellectual Property department of Allen & Overy LLP in Paris, and is preparing for the French Bar Exam in September 2016.

As a trainee at the European Court of Human Rights, in Strasbourg, I found myself sneaking into an IP conference held at the court at the time. Up until then, my primary interest within Law was human rights. Yet, this conference enthralled me by exposing me to a dimension of human rights I had never before truly pondered upon, the role of patents in the human right to health. Specifically, I was captivated by a lecture given by Queen Mary's Professor Duncan Matthews.

Following this experience, Queen Mary was always on my radar. I knew that when the time was right I would go and learn from the leading edge intellectual property professors at QMUL. I applied for the QMUL LLM right out of my LLB in the UK but after having also been accepted to do a Masters in Paris, I deferred my QMUL acceptance by one year. When it was finally time to enter Queen Mary, I wasn't ready to leave Paris and move to London. The QMUL LLM Paris Programme was perfect for me. It allowed me to access everything I wanted from QMUL while

remaining in Paris. Beyond this, the small scale of the programme meant that there was more direct contact with the professors who made their way to Paris every couple of weeks. This created a cosier atmosphere and made the whole experience more personal, indeed I imagine the friends I made will stick with me. The QMUL Paris team made the process quick and easy. The flexible nature of the program, which focuses on intensive weeks, allowed me to pursue in tandem the real world of IP by working at such a firm and follow the rigorous theoretical lectures at QMUL. I even got the honour to write my LLM dissertation under Professor Matthews' supervision. Perhaps the most enriching experience was being selected to attend the EIPIN (European Intellectual Property Institutes Network) conferences in Maastricht and Munich.

Being part of the Queen Mary community has allowed me to flourish both personally and professionally.

Did you know?

New Course - LLM in Art, Business and Law.

A new LLM programme in Art, Business and Law proposed by CCLS was recently approved and we look forward to welcoming our first cohort in September 2017. The programme aims to provide students with a unique opportunity to acquire a comprehensive understanding of the intersection that brings together art, business and law. Modules will be taught in seminars by teams composed of law academics from Queen Mary University of London and instructors from the Institute of Art and Law (IAL) with many years of professional experience in the relevant field, many of whom have also written and published on the subject. The approach will encourage debate and critical analysis and expose students to alternative and complementary ways of engaging with this fascinating field of knowledge.

We envisage this as a first stage in the development of a community of expertise in art law, including the intensification of funded research activity in this area, in order to establish ourselves in the near future on the cutting edge of knowledge creation and dissemination in this field. One of Queen Mary's contributors to the programme, Dr Saskia Hufnagel, has recently published an edited collection together with Professor Duncan Chappell, University of Sydney on 'Contemporary Perspectives on the Detection, Investigation and Prosecution of Art Crime' (Ashgate, 2014) and received an Arts and Humanities Research Council Network Grant on Art, Crime and Criminals: Painting Fresh Pictures of Art Theft, Fraud and Plunder.

New Postgraduate Diploma in Language and the Law

This is a new and exciting postgraduate diploma programme that recognises the life of the legal professional and students of law is founded upon an ability to persuasively and succinctly deliver opinions about legal issues they may encounter. The programme promotes the enhancement of legal reasoning knowledge and skills through an examination of comparative legal systems, identification of legal issues, forensic analysis of court reasoning and other legal and social science scholarship, comprehensive application of supporting legal resources, and persuasive

communication of one's reasoning both in writing and orally. By way of broad overview, candidates will acquire knowledge of comparative legal systems including both common-law and civil law systems; legal reasoning; research theories, strategies and methodologies; legal argumentation and debating techniques including theories of logic and rhetoric; and will develop and enhance their written and oral advocacy skills. The programme combines theoretical and skills based learning. This extensive post-graduate programme will be the most comprehensive of its kind in the U.K. It will be invaluable to students both throughout their post-graduate studies and their legal careers, and also to legal professionals already in practice.

CCLS organises a vast number of events on topical commercial law issues, details of which can be found on our website. Here is a highlight of some of the most prominent:

On 4th December 2015 we held the third periodic conference with the aim of reviewing the most important judgments of the UK Supreme Court decisions on Commercial and Private Law. Coinciding with and influenced by the significant occasion of the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta, the conference explored how public policy and public interest has developed in UK Supreme Court decisions in respect of certain areas of private and commercial law.

Sir David King, the UK's Special Representative for Climate Change, gave the second annual lecture for the Energy and Natural Resources Law Institute (ENRLI) at Queen Mary University of London. Sir David talked about the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, which was adopted on 12th December 2015, and why he is optimistic about the future of renewable energy. The event took place on 13th January 2016 and was sponsored by Clifford Chance.

On 1st March 2016 Sir Roy Goode, CBE, QC, Founder and Honorary President of CCLS, gave The Roy Goode Inaugural Lecture in Commercial Law on the topic of: 'Private Commercial Law Conventions and Public and Private International Law: The radical approach of the Cape Town Convention 2001 and its Protocols'. The radical approach of the Cape

Town Convention 2001 and its Protocols'. The lecture was held at The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple and was chaired by the Rt Hon the Lord Collins of Mapesbury, Former Justice of the Supreme Court.

Financial policy, market transactions and products have become increasingly complex and diverse. Particularly in the wake of the Global Financial Crisis, financial law and regulation have developed exponentially along with the evolution of the global financial system. In recognition of his

seminal role in the academic study of these issues, the CCLS, Dedman School of Law of Southern Methodist University and the Asian Institute of International Financial Law of the University of Hong Kong are proud to announce a conference in honour of Professor Joseph J. Norton, 'Innovation in Financial Law and Systems'. It will take place in two parts, with Part I taking place in London on 6 May 2016, and Part II taking place in Dallas on 4-5 May 2017.

The United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines in partnership with the Lancet and in collaboration with the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London, organised a Global Dialogue on Promoting Innovation and Access to Medicines, Vaccines, Diagnostics and Related Health Technologies at Kingsway Hall Hotel in London on 10 March 2016.

Further information can be found online: www.unsgaccessmeds.org/ Given the expertise possessed by Professor Duncan Matthews in this field, he was appointed as a Thought Leader to the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel to submit evidence at a Thought Leader Forum, which was held in London on 9 March 2016.

IGLEF (Institute for Global Law Economics and Finance) holds two bi-annual end of term lectures with high profile guest speakers on topical issues, to which all IGLEF alumni are invited. On 11th December 2015 the Institute held a lecture titled 'The Brave New World of Sovereign Debt', Guest Speaker: Yannis Manuelides, Partner at Allen & Overy, London. CCLS hosted Professor Alexei Ivanov from Moscow State University presenting a lecture on 'Russia and the West in Globalised Economy'.

Slovakia's New Arbitration Act and the Situation One Year On

Katarina Simalova, LLM in Comparative and International Dispute Resolution, Class of 2013. Jenner & Block and International Arbitration Lecturer at the Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia.



2015 was a key year for Slovakia having enacted a new Slovak Arbitration Act No. 244/2002 Coll (SAA). It is based on the 2006 version of the UNCITRAL Model Law. Adoption of the new SAA forms a part of the current complex judicial recodification in Slovakia and aims to kick-start arbitration in Slovakia.

Despite Slovakia's proximity to Austria, a developed and renowned arbitration seat, Slovakia is perceived as a "Sleeping Beauty" as far as arbitration is concerned. To promote this significant step towards developed western-style arbitration legislation, the Comenius University and the American Chamber of Commerce in Slovakia organised the first Annual Arbitration Conference in Bratislava in April 2015. The need for such a conference has been increasing over the past few years given the undeveloped arbitration practice in Slovakia. The audience benefited from the wealth of experience of numerous speakers from UNCITRAL, VIAC, ICC, Miami International Arbitration Society, the Slovak Ministry of Justice, the Slovak Banking Association, Allen & Overy, PRK Partners, Barger Prekop, and Weinhold Legal.

The conference discussed in detail the key changes introduced by the new SAA, namely:

- broadening the definition of arbitrability;
- incorporation of an arbitration agreement by reference;
- stricter conditions for the establishment of permanent arbitration courts (PACs);
- introduction of negative kompetenz-kompetenz principle;
- interim measures based on Article 17 of the UNCITRAL Model Law;
- inclusion of a public policy ground for setting aside arbitral awards; and
- the separate regulation of consumer disputes.

The speakers concluded their presentations with recommendations aimed at the smooth functioning of arbitration in Slovakia. These included the importance of creating a well-functioning relationship between ordinary courts and the PACs, participation of representatives of the PACs and judges in such

GRAFICKÉ SYMBOLY UNIVERZITY KOMENSKÉHO V BRATISLAVE



conferences to discuss ways to improve the current arbitration environment in Slovakia. Moreover, parties should be more diligent in examining the reputation of the chosen PACs and arbitrators' competence, and a guide for foreigners contemplating Slovakia as an arbitration seat for their international disputes should be produced. Lastly, it was suggested that consumers' protection under the old regime had perhaps gone too far and that limits striking the right balance should be imposed.

One year on, the positive impact of the new SAA is slowly emerging in arbitration practice, mainly in relation to parties' dealings with the PACs and, in particular, allowing parties to appoint arbitrators with relevant skills outside of the PACs' lists.



However, there are still many issues that not even the introduction of the new SAA has managed to solve.

It was hoped that the new SAA would dramatically reduce the number of the PACs, many of which were previously established by private companies and used as private law enforcement tools by some businesses and law firms. The expected reduction has not materialised. One year on, the total number of registered PACs has in fact increased to 189 with 126

active PACs for Slovakia's population of just 5.4 million people.

Other persisting issues in Slovak arbitration practice include the unpredictability of court decisions interfering with the principle of finality of arbitral awards, non-existence of a concept of timetable or procedural order, inability of some PACs to conduct arbitration hearings and peruse documents produced in English, and the rather worrying absence of an arbitrator's duty to declare his/her independence and impartiality.

The leading arbitration court in Slovakia is the Court of Arbitration of the Slovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Bratislava. However, it is perceived as a suitable arbitration venue only for resolution of domestic or state-related disputes and its closed list of arbitrators prevents any entrance of new arbitrators.

We can now only wait to see what further impact the new SAA will have and whether it will improve the reputation of arbitration in Slovakia.

On the Bookshelves

Latest publications by CCLS academics

Energy Security, Trade and the EU: Regional and International Perspectives

Leal-Arcas, R., Grasso, C., Alemany Rios, J., (Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd 2016).

The European Energy Union: The Quest for Secure, Affordable and Sustainable Energy

Leal-Arcas, R., (Claeys & Casteels Publishing 2016).

The Role of Arbitration in Shipping Law

Goldby, M., Mistelis, L. (OUP 2016).

Advanced Issues in International and European Tax Law

Panayi, C. HJI., (Hart Publishing 2015).



Concise International Arbitration

Mistelis, L., 2nd edition, (Kluwer 2015).

Consumer Involvement in Private EU Competition Law Enforcement

Ioannidou, M., (OUP 2015).

Diversity in Intellectual Property: Identities, Interests, and Intersections,

Calboli, I. & Ragavan, S., (CUP 2015).

Domain Name Law and Practice: an International Handbook

Bettinger, T. & Waddell, A., 2nd edition, (OUP 2015).

Energy Law

Heffron, R. J. (Roundball – Thomson Reuters: Ireland 2015).

From Monetary Union to Banking Union, on the Way to Capital Markets Union – New Opportunities for European Integration. Contribution by Professor Rosa Lastra

(ECB Legal Conference 2015, European Central Bank 2015).

Intellectual Property Law and Human Rights

Torremans, P.L.C., 3rd edition (Kluwer 2015).

International Financial and Monetary Law

Lastra, R. 2nd edition, (OUP 2015).

Kritika: Essays on Intellectual Property: volume I

Drahos, P., Ghidini, G., & Ullrich, H., (Elgar 2015).

Landmark Cases in Property law Douglas

S., Hickey, R. & Waring E., (Hart 2015).

Moral Rights in the 21st Century: the Changing Role of the Moral Rights in an Area of Information Overload

Brisson, F., Dusollier, S., Janssens, M.-C. & Vanhees, H., (Larcier 2015).

Privacy and Legal Issues in Cloud Computing

Cheung, A.S.Y. & Weber, R.H., (Elgar 2015).

Research Handbook on Human Rights and Intellectual Property

Geiger, C., (Elgar 2015).

Sterling on World Copyright Law

Cook, T., 4th edition, (Sweet & Maxwell 2015).

The Sage Handbook of Intellectual Property

David, M. & Halbert, D., (Sage 2015).

New Postgraduate Law Professional Mentoring Scheme for CCLS Students

This year CCLS launched a new opportunity for the professional development of its postgraduate law students – a Postgraduate Law Professional Mentoring Programme. This exciting development complements our existing programme of opportunities and support for students, such as provision of internships, careers workshops and networking events.

Olufolahan, LLM in Banking and Finance Law

“The PG Law Professional Mentoring Programme is really helpful for networking and gaining practical insights into the English legal marketplace. I think that this is especially true for students like myself who have qualified and/or practiced in a foreign jurisdiction.”

At CCLS we recognise that having a mentor can have a significant impact on a young lawyer, giving them first-hand insight into the working of companies and law firms and the opportunity to make more informed career choices. The mentors benefit too by interacting with students from other and complementary jurisdictions and

by increasing their understanding of the expectations of students at the start of their career.

How it works: During the first semester, and prior to meeting, mentors and mentees are matched across a variety of specialist areas. Training for mentees is provided. Thereafter the pairs meet up or speak monthly. Mentors are asked to commit to give their mentee at least an hour a month. Law professionals share their experiences, and provide constructive advice and information to those entering the profession.

On announcing this programme, we had an overwhelming response from students seeking mentors with over 150 applications. For this pilot scheme, we matched 25 students to our volunteer professional volunteers. Our mentors come from all areas of the legal profession, ranging from current and former Lord Justices of Appeal to senior partners, sector heads and legal associates at leading firms. Companies and firms represented include: Allen & Overy, Cooley LLP, eBay (UK) Ltd, The Walt Disney Company, Shell, Preiskel & Co, Promontory Financial Group, and others.

At the launch of the initiative, which was organised by the PG Law Professional Development Team, Professor Philip Rawlings, Deputy Head of CCLS, welcomed

mentors and mentees alike and expressed the Centre’s pleasure at organising an initiative that, “...offers a chance for current leaders within the legal profession to reach out to the leaders of the future.”

Sahana, LLM in Intellectual Property Law

“When I met my mentor for the first time, he showed active interest in my background and future career goals. We had a very fruitful discussion – starting from practical advice on handling law firm applications to my LLM dissertation thesis. The fact that he was dealing in my subject area for the past 20 years also helped me to get some valuable insight into the “real deal”, which I doubt I could have got from anywhere else.”

Due to the success of this initiative, we will be expanding the number of mentoring opportunities offered to students. If you would like more information on becoming a CCLS mentor, please get in touch with our Mentoring Coordinator, Jacqueline Steinmetz, on j.steinmetz@qmul.ac.uk



Jonathan Moss, Partner at DWF LLP (Mentor)

“CCLS’ (unique) mentoring programme allows students to benefit from the experience and knowledge of specialist solicitors, barristers and industry executives working in a range of fields, allied to the students’ research areas. On a regular basis, postgraduates will have direct access to leading practitioners and business people who can broaden horizons and offer a range of different insights, assisting research and analytical techniques.”



Francesco Dionisio, Anti-Piracy Paralegal at The Walt Disney Company (Mentor)

“The PG Law Mentoring Program represents a valuable addition for students who are enrolled in a postgraduate course; it will help the mentees to have a better understanding of career prospects and learn more about the internal dynamics of a specific field. Particularly the programme will give them a chance to plan their professional goals and to realistically set their expectations. On the other hand, the mentor will have the opportunity to enhance some of the most important skills needed in the legal profession such as leadership, communication, planning and problem solving. It is indeed a beneficial program for both parties and I am very glad to be part of it”.

Alumni Profile



Bagdat Kuzhatov, LLM Public International Law, Class 2015

Bagdat Kuzhatov is a senior expert in the Department of subsoil use of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan. In parallel, he has been working as a junior researcher in the faculty of laws at al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

Last year, I was awarded a LLM from Queen Mary University of London. Primarily, the focus of my LLM was associated with the energy and investment law specialism and arbitration, which was a worthwhile choice in many regards. During my studies, I was deeply involved in the international energy specialism and gained an advanced and thorough understanding of the current key issues in the energy sector. My chosen programme combined views and experiences from different jurisdictions, which was valuable in obtaining relevant knowledge from different states’ perspectives. Particularly, I got an insight into theoretical and practical aspects of petroleum contracts, energy transactions and arbitration. This is due to the CCLS’s well-connected ties with the Magic Circle of law firms and big energy companies such as BP and Exxon. Thereby, I got the chance to attend exciting lectures by BP General Counsel

and Freshfields legal staff, amongst many others. Most importantly, I found a keen interest in petroleum law and arbitration. During the summer, I got an internship in a BG Group oil and gas company in London, which helped me acquire practical knowledge in corporate finance and upstream contracts. My LLM choice at CCLS assisted in finding my way in the energy industry. Currently, I am a senior expert in the field of oil and gas in the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, where I contribute my knowledge to the development of the energy sector. My position as a corporate lawyer is primarily focused on working out and stipulating petroleum contract terms, such as Production Sharing and Joint Operating.

I would like to express my utmost gratitude and acknowledgment to the academic and non-academic staff of CCLS, especially Dr Norah Gallagher, Maxi Scherer, Dr Gabriel Gari, Dr Angelos Dimopoulos, and Professor Rafael Leal-Arcas for their support, guidance and knowledge.

Alumni news

Aryaman Basu (LLM in Banking and Finance Law, class of 2014) is working at the Competition Commission of India as a research associate assisting the Commission in its task of Merger Control. He started this role in March 2015 and the position is based on a renewable term contract basis which allows young lawyers to work for a government agency, learning law from a regulator's perspective. Aryaman's responsibilities at the Commission include working as part of different case teams that are engaged in multiple cases.

Alumni Events

Recently we have been expanding the programme of our alumni reunion events with some exciting new and annual initiatives:

• PG Law Alumni London Drinks

On November 27, 2015 there was a meet up for some of our London alumni at Charterhouse Bar. The event was attended by a variety of our past students at all different levels of their career and served as a great opportunity for our past students to catch up with or meet for the first time some of the postgraduate law alumni who are still in London. Though very informal, it was great to see familiar faces and we look forward to hosting similar events in the future.

• Pre-Graduation Drinks Reception

In annual tradition, on 7th Decembe 2015, the Department of Law held a reception for those postgraduate law students graduating the next day. This event, which was held at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, was well attended by students who had travelled from all over the world not only to celebrate their graduation but to reunite with classmates who had become dear friends. Several students expressed how happy they were to be back at CCLS as the start to their graduation festivities. This event continues to be a highlight year after year and it was an absolute pleasure to share this special time with our 2015 graduates.

• 10 Years of Media Law at CCLS

On 9th December, CCLS held a drinks reception to celebrate 10 Years of Media Law with alumni, current staff and students. In December 2005, the first twelve students to take a media law course at QMUL, on the CCLS LLM programme, graduated. Ten years



on, we have a large postgraduate Media Law class, with a number of students following an LLM specialism to graduate with an LLM in Media Law. An undergraduate Media Law course has now been running for several years and continues to grow in popularity, with over fifty students signing up this year. Including distance learning options, we now have approaching one hundred students annually taking one of the media law options at QMUL. Our text, *Media Law & Practice* (OUP, 2009), is in the early stages of working towards a second edition.

• Greek Alumni Reunion in Athens

On 16th March 2016 we held our first Greek Alumni Reunion in Athens. The event was attended by over 100 alumni students, legal professionals and new students interested in studying at the CCLS.

The event started with a Welcome Speech by the Head of the CCLS, Professor Spyros Maniatis who outlined the history of CCLS, the current developments and future ambition. The Panel's Chair was Professor Ioannis Kokkoris, who oversaw presentations by leading academics of CCLS as well as by some of the eminent QMUL alumni in Greece. Professor Olivares Caminal spoke about the sovereign debt saga and Mr John Hadjiprodrumou, (Senior Partner, Hadjiprodrumou-Triantaphillou & Partners) commented on the Greek legislative developments in the last 6 years. Dr Noam Shemtov spoke about challenges in relation to copyright issues for content that is accessed online and Marina Perraki, (Partner, Tsibanoulis & Partners) commented on the Greek judgments that have addressed this issue. Dr Miriam Goldby spoke about

charterparty repudiations during the recent financial crisis and Ms Dimitra Capas (Senior Associate, Norton Rose) discussed the challenges faced by the shipping industry during the current period of global uncertainty. Finally, Dr Maria Ioannidou presented the Aegean Air/Olympic Air merger that was approved during the recent financial crisis, and Mr Dimitris Emvalomenos, (Partner, Bahas, Gramatidis & Partners) presented the decisional practice of the Hellenic Competition Commission during the crisis.

The concluding remarks of the alumni event were given by Zoe Lappa-Papamatthaiou, (Legal Director, Danaos Shipping Co Ltd) who discussed the challenges faced by an in house counsel of a major shipping company during the economic crisis. The event was concluded with a Drinks Reception, which gave our alumni an opportunity to network with legal professionals and to catch up with old friends.

• Annual Alumni Reunion in London

On 4th June 2016 we are planning to hold our Annual Alumni Reunion in London. The event will start with a lecture on topical law issues and will finish with a dinner and drinks reception to allow for networking opportunities. We hope that you have received our e-mail invitation to this event and that you will be able to join us. If you have not received the email, the details are available on our website www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/alumni/events/index.html

If you would like to organise an event in your country, please send your suggestions to our Alumni Manager, Katherine Taylor Bennett k.t.bennett@qmul.ac.uk