



Aspects of Litigation Practice in the Caribbean



LLM Flexible Study



Games & Interactive Entertainment Law at CCLS



Teaching around the world



 Queen Mary  
University of London  
Centre for Commercial Law Studies



Centre for  
Commercial  
Law Studies

# Alumni Bulletin

Twelfth Edition  
Summer 2017

## Welcome from the Head of CCLS



### Dear CCLS Alumni

Welcome to the latest edition of the CCLS Alumni Bulletin. We have had a busy 2017 and seen the launch of a number of new initiatives and courses.

In this edition:

- Dr Bernard Schneider and Dr David Southern QC update you on the School of Tax Law.
- Dr Gaetano Dimita talks about his work in Games and Interactive Entertainment Law.
- We launch the LLM Flexible Study. This programme allows students to combine modules from any or all of our campuses around the world, and our distance learning programmes, to build a truly bespoke LLM.
- We brief you on our new Masters in Regulation and Compliance.
- We update you on our international activities, notably in Paris, Piraeus and China.
- In “Ask the Professor”, Uma Suthersanen, Professor of Intellectual Property Law and one of the Co-Directors of the Queen Mary Intellectual Property Institute, discusses her current research and future directions for teaching IP.

- We extend our call out to international alumni who would like to provide career advice, work experience and internship opportunities for our students.

We are extremely grateful to Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, who has generously donated his Global Energy Studies Library to CCLS. We look forward to making this valuable resource available to our scholars and making the library an integral part of CCLS.

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

With best wishes,

**Professor Spyros M Maniatis**

Head of Centre for Commercial Law Studies  
Queen Mary University of London



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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.

# Games and Interactive Entertainment Law at CCLS

Dr Gaetano Dimita, Lecturer in Intellectual Property Law, offers insight into teaching and research in Interactive Entertainment Law.



Games and interactive entertainment have become the most successful and the fastest growing of the Creative Industries (valued at 80 Billion US Dollars in 2016). The games and interactive entertainment industries are estimated to be bigger than the music and film industries combined. In this environment, creativity meets the latest technologies, thereby spawning cutting-edge law issues.

CCLS is at the forefront of teaching and research in Interactive Entertainment Law. We are at the centre of a network of researchers, practitioners and industry experts which grew out of collaboration on our innovative postgraduate teaching. At present, we are the only institution in Europe to offer LLM modules on Interactive Entertainment Law and we have been doing so since 2013: two LLM modules in London (Interactive Entertainment and Intellectual Property Law and Interactive Entertainment Law: Contracts and Regulation), plus a distance learning module (Advanced IP issues: Video Games). The modules are taught by Dr Gaetano Dimita and a number of guest lecturers from industry and practice. Students reading the modules are automatically enrolled as student members of UK Interactive Entertainment, the trade

association of the UK games and interactive industries, and can take advantage of a vast range of events, networking and internships opportunities.

## More than Just a Game

In addition to the taught programmes, Dr Dimita organises 'More than Just a Game', the only international academic-led conference on Games and Interactive Entertainment Law and part of the Fringe of the London Game Festival. The 2017 conference was held at Stationers' Hall London. It was sponsored by Frankfurt Kurnit & Selz, Beiten Burkhardt, Allen & Overy, Banner & Witcoff, The British Literary and Artistic Copyright Association (BLACA) and Osborne Clarke. The next conference will be held on 5th and 6th April 2018.

Now in its fourth year, the conference is a well-established platform to exchange ideas, discuss challenges, explore solutions and map the Intellectual Property, contract and regulatory issues that must be addressed for a more appropriate understanding, promotion and protection of interactive entertainment. Leading international academics, practitioners and industry experts explored the state and

future of VR/AR, how these technologies impact on our behaviour and the way we interact with each other and our surroundings. Over two days we addressed the challenges that these technologies pose to our current legal and regulatory framework, including intellectual property law, privacy, consumer protection, advertisement regulation, licensing and business strategies.

The full programmes of previous conferences are available at [www.morethanjustagame.london](http://www.morethanjustagame.london), together with videos of the last edition entirely dedicated to Virtual, Augmented and Virtual Reality.

## Interactive Entertainment Law Review

As an emerging field of law, Interactive Entertainment Law creates challenges both for academic discourse and for its practical application. We are therefore launching a new peer-reviewed law journal, Interactive Entertainment Law, to focus on dissemination of research in the field from a global perspective, as well as a platform to discuss this emerging field holistically and with an inter-disciplinary approach. Interactive Entertainment Law Review is published by Edward Elgar and the inaugural issue will be out in early 2018.



Dr Gaetano Dimita.

# Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani Global Energy Studies Library

His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani donates to CCLS his library from the Centre for Global Energy Studies.

In May 2017, His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani donated to CCLS, the library from the Centre for Global Energy Studies' (CGES).

Sheikh Yamani served as minister of Oil and Mineral Resources in Saudi Arabia from 1962 to 1986 and minister in the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) for 25 years. From its establishment in 1989, the CGES provided an insight into the energy market. Rather than looking to the short-term, the Centre was known for its insightful long-term geopolitical perspective. The Centre's research and analysis was valued by oil companies, governments, banks and international organisations.

Sheikh Yamani's work as a statesman is significant. It is his intellectual vision we want to develop further at CCLS. He

famously said, 'Stone Age did not end for lack of stone, and the Oil Age will end long before the world runs out of oil'.

## The Library

The CGES library started as a reference archive and grew rapidly into an exceptional collection of texts. The collection principally covers material relating to the world oil and energy industries.

The library includes:

- The CGES subscription reports: Monthly Oil Report, Global Oil Report, Oil Market Prospects, Annual Oil market Forecast and Review.
- A comprehensive collection of CGES one-off, specialised studies includes reports on the Middle East oil-producing countries, other OPEC and non-OPEC countries and regions.

- Technical reports including Futures and Hedging, the Geopolitics of Oil, World Gas, Upstream Oil.
- Energy-related periodicals including Middle East Economic Survey (MEES), BP Statistics and the OPEC Bulletin.
- A wealth of other books and studies on the world energy industry.
- Various Energy Industry Almanacs and Listings.

The library is a valuable part of the intellectual legacy of CGES and we are honoured to hold such a unique collection of texts. We look forward to making these texts available to our academics and students.



Following the gift of the library to the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, a celebratory lunch event was held at The Lanesborough Hotel in London on 16th May, 2017.

Speeches were given by Sheikh Ali Al-Sabah (former Minister of Finance and Oil in Kuwait), Professor Simon Gaskell (Principal of QMUL), Lord Howell of Guildford (former UK Secretary of State for Energy) and Professor Spyros Maniatis (Head of CCLS). The event provided an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Sheikh's diligent dedication and contribution to the energy and oil industry.

# The School of Tax Law

Dr David Southern QC, Director of the School of Tax Law, and Dr Bernard Schneider, Director of the LLM in Tax Law, provide an overview of the School of Tax Law at CCLS.

The School of Tax Law at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies (CCLS) offers an LLM in Tax Law and a Postgraduate Diploma in Taxation, as well as a thriving PhD programme.

The LLM in Tax Law at CCLS is the pre-eminent Tax LLM in the UK and one of the leading programmes in Europe. This year, the School had 45 students from 23 jurisdictions specialising in tax. A similar number of students following other specialisms also studied tax modules. The cohort included home students and students from about two dozen foreign jurisdictions across Europe; East, Southeast and South Asia; Africa and Latin America. More than 50 students are expected in the coming academic year. The School of Tax Law also promotes a broad range of research, academic collaboration and public engagement activities in London and around the world.

The LLM in Tax Law at CCLS has a strong international and comparative focus. Its size and strength can be seen in the module offering, which covers international and comparative taxation, important jurisdictions like the UK, the US, China and the EU and specific subject areas such as Transfer Pricing and Intellectual Property Taxation.

Overall, the LLM offering is twice the size of its closest UK competitors and CCLS is the only academic institution on this side of the Atlantic to teach US International Taxation as a full academic module.

#### Members of the School of Tax Law are:

- Dr David Southern QC, Visiting Professorial Fellow and Director of the School of Tax Law
- Prof Christiana HJI Panayi, Chair in Tax Law
- Dr Bernard Schneider, Lecturer in International Tax Law and Director of the LLM in Tax Law
- Joy Svasti-Salee, Visiting Professorial Fellow
- Richard Walters, Teaching Fellow, Department of Law

In all of the modules, students acquire a strong understanding not only of tax rules but also of tax policy and how tax regimes operate in practice. Practitioners from law and accounting firms, companies and government give guest lectures and bring cutting edge issues and practice to the classroom. Recent guest lecturers include:

- Dr Philip W Baker QC, Field Court Tax Chambers
- Dr Murray Clayson, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP
- Dr Daniel Beeton, Managing Director, Duff & Phelps
- Paul Morton, Tax Director, Office of Tax Simplification
- Anne Fairpo, Temple Tax Chambers
- Paul Smith, Partner, Blick Rothenberg



Dr David Southern QC.



Dr Bernard Schneider.

The Tax LLM programme is meticulously designed to cover the complex international tax regime from a multinational and comparative perspective. The teachers have both years of practical experience and deep knowledge of their subjects. The LLM has been my most enriching academic experience yet.

**Abhishek Deepak Tilak, LLM in Tax Law Student 2015-2016, Associate, Direct Tax Litigation, Advaita Legal (India)**

As befits an area of the law that affects so many aspects of life and business, the impact of the Tax programme at CCLS extends beyond the specialism; tax lectures will feature in the new LLM in Art, Business and Law and in the LLM and MA in Regulation and Compliance, all of which will commence this Autumn Term.

The existing module offering will be supplemented in the near future by a new module on Taxation in Developing Countries. The module will focus on the legal, policy

and compliance aspects of taxation in countries at various stages of development. This new module will help ensure that the LLM remains at the forefront of international taxation and will further distinguish it from other tax programmes.

#### **Career Development**

The Tax student body includes individuals with a wide range of professional and business backgrounds as well as recent graduates. After graduation, they go on to interesting jobs in law, accounting and consulting firms, government and think tanks in the UK and abroad. The students are supported by the School of Tax Law with career events and panels such as the annual careers evening at EY. They also receive help in finding internships.

#### **PhD Programme**

The PhD programme is of high quality, with most students commencing a PhD after many years' experience in practice. Many have done the PhD on a part-time basis. Recent and current PhD theses have covered transfer pricing, tax competition, EU fiscal state aid and the development of the international tax treaty network.

#### **Research, Collaboration and Public Engagement**

CCLS tax academics are engaged in a wide range of research and public engagement activities. They publish in academic and other journals around the world, present at conferences and advise government agencies and other institutions. In addition, the School organises a range of guest lectures and academic events. A recent such lecture was the discussion of Tax Transparency by Prof Joshua Blank of the New York University School of Law.

#### **Tax Modules**

- International Tax Law
- International Tax Law: Advanced Topics
- Principles of Taxation
- US International Taxation
- US International Taxation: Advanced Topics
- Transfer Pricing
- Intellectual Property Taxation
- UK Taxation
- UK Business Taxation
- UK Taxation of Corporate Finance
- UK Taxation of Savings and Wealth
- EU Corporate Tax Law

The School of Tax Law also hosts foreign delegations. Most recently, Dr Bernard Schneider and Dr David Southern QC welcomed a delegation from the Chinese State Administration of Taxation and discussed the Chinese, UK, US and Canadian approaches to tax legislation.

As part of its focus on Asia, the School of Tax Law is developing joint research and teaching programmes with Xiamen University's Centre for International Tax Law and Comparative Taxation. It is also discussing potential areas of collaboration with institutions in India.

For more information on how you can become involved with the School of Tax Law, for example by giving a guest lecture, becoming a mentor or offering an internship, please contact Dr David Southern QC, Director of the School of Tax Law, at [d.southern@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:d.southern@qmul.ac.uk) or Dr Bernard Schneider, Director of the LLM in Tax Law, at [s.b.schneider@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:s.b.schneider@qmul.ac.uk).

## Aspects of Litigation Practice in the Caribbean – Perspectives from an Alumnus

Tim Prudhoe, Partner and Barrister at Kobre & Kim, international disputes specialists, discusses aspects of litigation practiced in the Caribbean.

It had long been my intention to obtain an LLM, both to keep my substantive legal knowledge current and also for the intellectual discipline of academic study.

I had been in practice as a lawyer for almost 20 years by the time I had sufficient scope to take the part-time QMUL LLM. I am certainly glad I did. The course content – in particular the module including anti-suit injunctions and contentious insolvency issues - has been directly relevant to my work. Choosing comparative litigation and insolvency was a direct result of my day-to-day workload. They also reflected my wish to “refresh” on specific technical skills. Reading around the subject was much more possible with that improved base knowledge.

The British Virgin Islands have a multi-faceted history, leaving it with a wide spread of influences based mainly around the English common law. The English flavour to legal systems within the Region is especially true in the British Overseas Territories (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Monserrat and Turks & Caicos Islands). It is also largely applicable in much of the English-speaking Caribbean in general. Some of the most complex commercial litigation in the world is played out here – including the fallout from the Madoff and Stanford frauds respectively.

In terms of “place” in the litigation world, several parts of the Region punch “at” or



“above” their weight in joint venture and other shareholder disputes, and cross-border insolvency. Strong links with Asia result in many commercial disputes starting there and then focusing in on the country of incorporation of the joint venture vehicle: very often a BVI company that itself usually holds assets outside of the BVI. A common problem is the need to obtain injunctive relief here in BVI in support of overseas proceedings. This is now possible via what has become known as a “Black Swan” injunction (after the case in which it was first obtained) but still requires assets within the jurisdiction against which such an injunction can be enforced. An interesting current initiative is court-to-court communication protocols on cross-border insolvency issues; this reflects the prevalence here of an

insolvency invariably having an onshore (often US) element. There are strategic benefits: these include the US stay (i.e. suspension) of any proceedings against the company when Chapter 15 US Bankruptcy Code recognition of the foreign insolvency (here, BVI) procedure is recognized in the US.

Since the 2008/2009 economic crisis, and even earlier, the pace of complex cross-border litigation, in the world of what people like to refer to as ‘offshore’, has been relentless. An ability to see through to the core issues is highly valued by the client – who is often starved of time to devote to lengthy court battles. As mentioned above, co-ordination on multi-jurisdictional efforts is often key.

On several occasions during my time at Queen Mary, updates to class were of cases in which I had a direct involvement. I can think of many instances where studying an LLM has made a direct impact to my career. My primary regret on the LLM itself was to have been so tight on time that I made insufficient use of the clear scope for networking that the course presented. I would encourage anyone aiming for a specialist career in international dispute work in the Region to be persistent in seeking credible experience and also to leverage the LLM and wider QMUL experience.

## Alumni Profile Siffat Khan



**Siffat Khan, LLM in Corporate and Commercial Law – 2010/2011 – London**

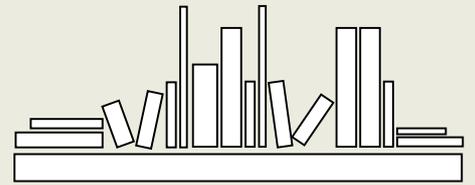
Siffat currently works for a global asset manager in London, in an advisory capacity in regulatory change in the area of financial services law. Prior to this, she worked in-house at Société Générale, London Branch.

“In 2011, I graduated from the LLM in Corporate and Commercial Law from Queen Mary University of London. My modules included Communications Law, International and Comparative Competition Law and the Law of Finance in Emerging Economies. I chose to complete my LLM at Queen Mary as I had graduated with an LLB from the same university and I was impressed with the high standards of teaching. Studying at Queen Mary was truly international - from my course colleagues who were from different parts of the world, to my tutors who had a wide breadth of international experience. The course was taught in a global context which was extremely beneficial especially for the purposes of working in a global financial centre such as London.

I wrote a dissertation on comparative competition law, where I assessed whether smaller competition law regimes in the South Pacific should adopt suggested approaches implemented by other countries. My dissertation supervisor, Dr Maher M Dabbah, advised me on how to approach the issues concerning local competition legal regimes in a wider global framework.

The academic training that I received from Queen Mary prepared me well for legal practice, and I will always be grateful to the academic staff for all their assiduous support. Having an LLM from Queen Mary has resulted in many more opportunities and has been a true asset for me in my career.

Finally I would like to express my utmost gratitude to the staff at Queen Mary, who have done an unbelievable job in encouraging me and inspiring other fellow students, especially Professor Ian Walden, Dr Maher M Dabbah and Dr Gabriel Gari.”



## On the bookshelves

### **Research Handbook on EU Energy Law and Policy**

Leal-Arcas, R. & Wouters, J. (eds.). Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017.

### **Research Handbook on Intellectual Property and the Life Sciences.**

Matthews, D. and Zech, H. (eds.) Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017.

### **Contemporary Maritime Piracy as a Threat to International Peace and Security**

Ntovas, A. Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2016.

### **Debt Restructuring**

Olivares-Caminal, R., Kornberg, A., Paterson, S., Douglas, J., Guynn, R. & Singh, D. (2nd ed.) Oxford: OUP, 2016.

### **Computer Crimes and Digital Investigations**

Walden, I. 2nd ed. Oxford: OUP, 2016.





### What are your main research interests today?

I am currently working on a major project, which consolidates the last 15 years of research. The primary purpose is to propose a new theoretical framework for intellectual property, based on stakeholder, heritage, innovation and property theories as influenced and shaped by the transnational framework of rules governing intangible property and societal rights, thereby going beyond the artificial legal prescription of the concept of property. Other projects involve the continuation of my research in the area of copyright and culture including working on a new edition of my book with my colleague Professor Graham Dutfield on Global Intellectual Property Law, working on a new edition with Professor Gillian Davies on her book Copyright and Public Interest: Historical & Comparative Analyses, as well as contributing as a consulting editor on the major UK copyright work Copinger & Skone James on Copyright.

### What effects do you think the Brexit referendum will have on Intellectual Property Law in the UK?

My view is that the effects of Brexit will be seen about 4-5 years after the UK completes the process set in March 2019 (unless the UK negotiates an extension). For the time being, it is clear from the Great Repeal Bill that during the 2-year negotiation period, current EU rules will continue to apply in the UK. These rules may all still be applicable after 29 March 2019. The Bill will also convert EU law as it stands at the moment of exit into UK law before we leave the EU. This will allow businesses to continue operating, knowing the rules have not changed significantly, and will provide fairness to individuals, whose rights and obligations will not be subject to sudden change. Of course, it will then be up to the UK Parliament to amend or repeal any piece of EU law. I, however, doubt we will see this happening within the next ten years in the field of IP as much of

our law is anchored to the Community rights infrastructure namely the Community Trade Mark and the Community Design Right, not to mention the impending Unitary Patent Court.

### You will be teaching on the new LLM on Art, Business and Law, offered by CCLS in partnership with the Institute of Art and Law, starting this year. Can you tell us about the course, and in what aspects do you think art can contribute to society?

Art pushes boundaries in society, including legal doctrine. My earliest encounter with the notion of “art” was during my doctoral degree, which involved setting out theoretical parameters of “design” protection. The line between art, design and all other disciplines is ephemeral. In the new course, we explore all these inter-disciplinary boundaries, within a transnational setting: what is “art” for the purposes of VAT? When does “art” constitute free speech? When does copyright law denounce “art” as merely functional and industrial? Does a subsequent “art” work constitute an allowed parody, or a prohibited infringement? Do indigenous groups get special protection for their traditional “art”?

### If you were planning a CCLS conference dinner and could invite any four people in IP-related history, who would that be and why?

I would love to end my career by organizing a huge party on property, creativity and the law. And if I could transcend the space-time-fiction continuum, my dream guest list would be: William Hogarth (18th century engraver and painter, as to why he fought for, ostensibly, the first author’s right in the world); Data (from Star Trek, as to the rules of ownership of sentient beings and living organisms); Professor Sir Robin Jacob (retired UK Court of Appeal judge, as to why he held Star Wars Stormtrooper helmets not to be artistic works); and Amartya Sen (Nobel Laureate, as to the linkage between innovation, development and poverty).

## New Programmes for 2017:

2017 has seen the launch of a number of programmes, especially developed to suit those who wish to continue in work whilst studying.

### LLM Flexible Study

The School of Law has launched a flexible LLM programme allowing students to build their own qualification by selecting from all of the LLM modules offered by the School of Law, wherever they are taught in the world and by whatever method, giving students flexibility, and choice.

The new LLM Flexible Study programme is for individuals who wish to acquire an LLM without having to interrupt their career. As with our existing LLM courses, the LLM Flexible Study provides an in-depth immersion in commercial law from both comparative and international perspectives, within a common law framework. The distinctive feature of this programme is its flexible structure, the breadth of choice of modules, choice of locations of study, and the option to select from over 20 specialisms.

#### Programme Structure

Students can build their own LLM over time to take into account professional and personal circumstances, making it easier to work whilst studying. Offered over a two to four year period, the LLM Flexible Study programme brings together all of the LLM courses taught

by the School of Law and our distance learning courses. A Postgraduate Diploma Flexible Study is also available over 2-3 years.

Students have the option of studying solely in London or through a combination of locations, such as Paris or Piraeus, where intensive teaching is available, and Distance Learning. These options are selected annually by the student, and include:

- Up to 200 day and evening classes taught in London.
- Intensive block classes taught over the course of a week or a long weekend in Paris and/or Piraeus, Greece.
- Distance learning modules from the Computer and Communications Law and International Dispute Resolution specialisms.

In order to obtain an LLM, students are required to successfully complete 180 credits (135 credits of taught modules and a 45 credits dissertation). There is an option to complete a second dissertation in lieu of taught modules.

For more information, please visit: [www.qmul.ac.uk/llm-flexible-study](http://www.qmul.ac.uk/llm-flexible-study) or contact [PGDiploma-LLM-Flexible@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:PGDiploma-LLM-Flexible@qmul.ac.uk).

### Masters in Regulation and Compliance

As costs of compliance are rising, the industry is becoming increasingly concerned with recruiting highly-skilled professionals with a solid understanding of compliance. CCLS launches a new Masters' programme for lawyers and non-lawyers alike to meet this demand.

The programme is suited for graduates and professionals who are interested in obtaining a strong understanding of the discipline. More specifically, the programme is designed to provide students with an in-depth overview of regulatory framework as well as a more focused approach to Compliance in various markets. Students will have an exposure to the most up-to-date approaches in dealing with practical issues in compliance and regulation.

This Masters is a flexible programme aimed at accommodating existing professional commitments. The programme contains general and specialist modules as well as distance learning and can be tailored to the student's specific needs.

#### Students have the option of obtaining a specialist MA or LLM in any of the following sectors:

- Financial Institutions
- Data Protection and Intellectual Property
- Business and Insurance Law
- Energy and Natural Resources Law

#### Programme structure

The programme can be studied as an LLM or MA. The LLM option is designed for students who either have a legal background, or substantial legal work experience, whereas the MA option is offered to students without a legal background. To these students an additional pre-session course in legal system will be provided.



Both LLM and MA are available to study full-time for one year or part-time over 2-4 years, allowing students to progress at their own pace. This more flexible structure will cater for students and practitioners who would like to enhance their knowledge and career developments whilst working. Some of the modules are offered online and evenings.

**The programme consists of:**

- 4 core modules: Compliance systems in Practice; Principles of Regulation; Law and Ethics in Finance and Compliance in Global Markets
- 2 electives, from a range of elective 'specialist' modules
- Dissertation

To qualify for one of the named specialist awards, rather than a general LLM or MA, the core and elective modules and the dissertation must be relevant to the chosen specialism.

If you would like to find out more about this programme, please visit: [www.law.qmul.ac.uk/llm\\_ma\\_Compliance](http://www.law.qmul.ac.uk/llm_ma_Compliance)



## Global MBA in partnership with the University of London

### The new distance-learning Global MBA programme is now underway

The Global MBA Programme, in partnership with University of London, has welcomed its first cohort of students. Around 65 students, from all around the world, enrolled in April and we anticipate another 40 to commence their studies in July, with numbers expected to increase significantly towards the end of the year.

To celebrate the official launch, an event was held at City Hall in London, where we were pleased to welcome local organisations interested in the programme. A second launch event was held in Hong Kong at Sky100, International Commerce Centre, which generated a great deal of interest among local institutions, organisations and prospective students. We work continuously with external corporations to establish partnerships that will prove beneficial to our MBA students, particularly with regard to networking opportunities. Events such as these have also encouraged those organisations attending to sponsor their own staff to join the programme.

The programme development team are currently in the process of signing up local teaching centres who will offer face-to-face academic assistance. This means that students enrolled on the programme, who are based in Hong Kong or India for example, will now be able to meet with internationally-acclaimed professors in their home countries. A full list of approved local teaching institutions will be published in early January.

Feedback has been extremely positive from both students and staff and we look forward to expanding this programme even further. If you or your organisation would like to find out more about the Global MBA, please visit <https://uolmba.com>.

## Teaching around the World

CCLS continues to develop its international programmes in Europe and East Asia.

### LLM Paris update

The Paris LLM programme continues to build on its success. In January 2017, we welcomed students from 11 different jurisdictions. They contribute to a rich and varied classroom experience and have established an enthusiastic and pro-active student body. At the time of writing, we anticipate an intake of approximately 30 students in September 2017.

“The LLM at Queen Mary in Paris allowed me to significantly improve both my linguistic and English legal skills, which is of great help on a daily basis in my professional life as a lawyer and was also a unique personal experience with great fellow students with whom I shared a very good time.”

Julian Kisslinger, LLM International Law (Paris) January 2016 - January

### Sorbonne-QMUL Double LLM update

Colleagues at the Sorbonne and QMUL are preparing for the first intake of this exciting new Sorbonne-QMUL Double LLM and we are encouraged by the applications we have received and the interest that the programme is generating. Double LLM Academic Co-Directors are currently preparing to interview applicants and scholarship candidates.

### CCLS in China

CCLS has partnered with a number of well-known universities (Tsinghua, Peking, Renmin, Xiamen, SUFE, ECUPL and Sichuan) on a range of commercial law disciplines. The academic collaborations include joint research, conferences, students' exchanges, programme progression and summer schools. Apart from academic institutions, CCLS has also worked closely with Government agencies, such as the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) to provide training to their patent examiners every year, as well as its subsidiaries on training activities, research projects and conferences.

In March, CCLS welcomed a delegation from the Shanghai Municipal Commission of Commerce (SCOFCON) and organised a roundtable focusing on services in trade, creative industries, innovation and professional services. Further to this event, CCLS also worked with SCOFCON and launched its first voluntary SINO-UK executive course on International Trade IP,

providing in-depth discussions on the contemporary issues of IP and offering a holistic view of the universe of law within which IP law operates and evolves.

Several visits to China were made by CCLS staff members to strengthen existing partnerships, explore further collaborative opportunities and to engage alumni and offer holders in various events across Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

### LLM in International Shipping Law in Piraeus, Greece.

The LLM in International Shipping Law in Piraeus, Greece, is now in its second year. It has an established presence in the Greek educational market as well as the potential to attract students outside the EU. The programme has had a steady and positive increase in student numbers and attracts applicants of a high calibre, mostly already practicing law. This confirms the initial assumption that the programme would appeal to young professionals seeking to specialise in areas of global maritime law.

The programme strives to equip the students with the necessary skills and knowledge that will give them a competitive advantage in the challenging shipping market. At present, we are working towards increasing flexibility of the programme by offering it on a part-time basis, mirroring the corresponding format offered in London, in order to attract more applicants from the industry.

## Mentoring and Networking

This year, the School of Law has been able to double the number of mentoring opportunities we offer to our LLM and PhD students. We are now keen to expand this programme further.



“My mentor, who is a Partner at Baker & McKenzie LLP, gave me an insight from the industry that would be very difficult to obtain in any other way. Her professionalism, enthusiasm, grace and good-humour are contagious and motivated me to work hard and with dedication. It has been a game-changer in my LLM journey.”

Sandro Bruno Sandri da Rocha, LLM in Computer and Communications Law.

### Networking into Alternative Careers

CCLS students leave us to go on to successful careers in law, but a significant number use their legal background to branch into new roles and sectors, from risk management to policy to private banking. In celebration of this, and to expand current students' career thinking, the professional development team ran an “Alternative Careers” event earlier this year.

CCLS alumni and others gave honest first-person accounts of their experiences. The students grasped the opportunity to network with alumni working in organisations such as

EBRD, PwC, and AIG; and to find out about roles they had not previously considered. The panellists had a similarly worthwhile experience.

For the next academic year, we would like to introduce more alumni role models to our current student body. If you would be happy to share your personal career path with our students, please contact [pglawpdteam@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:pglawpdteam@qmul.ac.uk).

#### Mentoring without borders

Following a successful pilot of the new Postgraduate Law Professional Mentoring Programme in 2016, the number of mentoring opportunities offered to students has more than doubled for 2017/18. Currently, over sixty legal professionals offer advice and guidance

to students. Participation in the mentoring programme and benefitting from their mentor's knowledge and experience has made these students feel much more comfortable in making their own career-related decisions.

#### How you can help

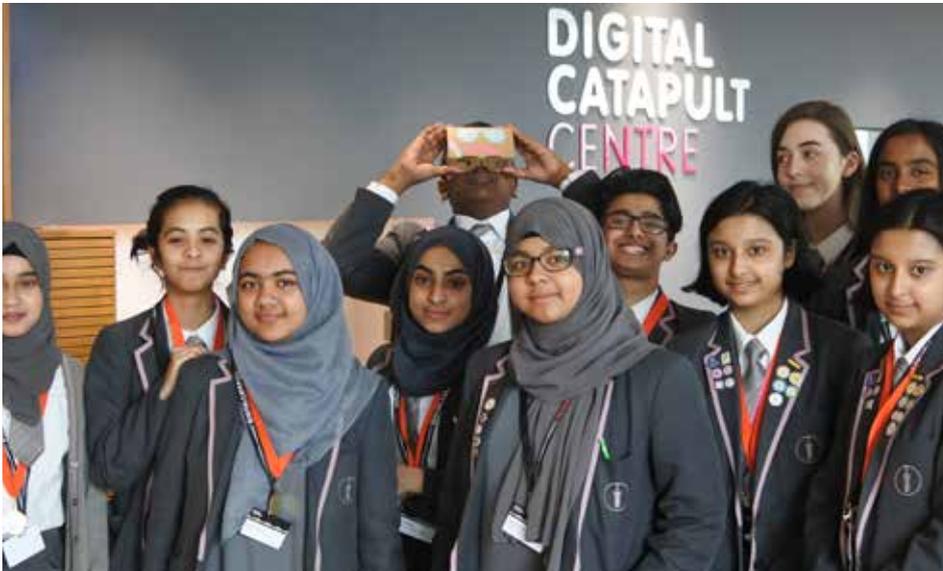
We are now extending this scheme to mentors based across Europe and to a number of other locations worldwide. To enable us to take the next step in providing students with the opportunity to form a connection with a mentor overseas or when back in their home jurisdiction, we are extending our call to international mentors. Please contact Jacqueline Steinmetz, Mentoring Co-ordinator, [j.steinmetz@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:j.steinmetz@qmul.ac.uk) to find out more.

## News and Events

### qLegal and Teach Tech Law

The recently established qLegal programme, Teach Tech Law, held workshops with several London-area secondary schools, focusing on entrepreneurship education, law and skills development (networking, drafting, public speaking). The 52 young entrepreneurs designed and presented their innovative start-up ideas, including contact lenses that can record video, a virtual reality relaxation app to reduce stress as well as a pen with built-in data storage and voice-recording technology.

“The competition was a great success,” said Patrick Cahill, the project’s co-ordinator. “The challenge helped them to develop their presenting skills and offered them the opportunity to discover different study and career options.”



#### • WTO ELSA Moot Court Competition

An LLM team from CCLS participated in the 15th WTO ELSA Moot Court Competition. Two hundred students represented 75 universities from 39 different countries. The QM team was coached by Dr Metka Potocnik and Dr Gabriel Gari. They pleaded in the European Regional Round in Cluj-Napoca, Romania from 10th to 14th March 2017 and performed very well.

#### • Impact of Brexit on UK-EU Trade Relations

In May, Dr Gabriel Gari presented a paper on the negotiation of a post Brexit UK-EU trade agreement at the conference, “Brexit, China and Other New Challenges to International Trade Law” organized by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. Leading academics and practitioners in the area of international trade law gathered to discuss the most current problems of international trade law,

the impact of Brexit on UK-EU trade relations, China’s role in the global trade system and trends in international trade treaty making. Dr Gari also discussed, “Possible scenarios for post-Brexit trade relations between the UK and the EU” at the Association Française des Juristes d’Enterprise in Paris.

#### • Brexit and the Unified Patent Court, Paris

In April 2017, CCLS hosted a seminar on Brexit and the Unified Patent Court (UPC) at the University of London Institute in Paris (ULIP). The event, chaired by Emmanuel Gougé (Pinsent Masons), included speakers Pierre Véron (Véron & Associés) and Professor Duncan Matthews (CCLS-QMUL), who explained the key features of the UPC and assessed the prospects for UK participation, focussing on possible arrangements allowing the UK’s continued participation in the UPC after Brexit.

#### • UK, EU and World politics giving rise to central themes, Paris.

In June 2017, CCLS and ULIP held an event entitled “Trump the Law? Presidential Power and the Politics of Immigration”, in which Professor Amanda Frost (AU, Washington DC) discussed the scope and limits of the President’s power over immigration policy. Commentary was provided by Professor Engin Isin (QMUL-ULIP) on the politics of global immigration, and Professor Etienne Pataut (École de Droit de la Sorbonne) on immigration law in the EU.

June 2017 also saw the event ‘Wine & Law’, organized by LLM Paris students Noemi Bilotta and Letizia Tomada, and Erasmus student Jan Dohnal, with the aim of strengthening relations between QMUL, European Law Students’ Association, France and International Trademark Association. Dr Gail Evans (QMUL) held an instructive presentation on the legal protection of Geographical Indications in EU and USA, which was followed by an inspiring speech about the registration of top level domain names “.wine”, “.vin” by Mr David Taylor (partner at Hogan Lovells Paris). Following this, during the INTA Careers Panel, speakers Vincent Denoyelle (Hogan Lovells), Raphael Chabaneix (Allen & Overy) and Dr Gail Evans provided the 70+ participants with inspiring advice for their future careers. The event ended with a wine tasting of Champagne offered by Hogan Lovells in honour of the French “sparkling” culture.

#### • Piraeus events

On 11 March 2017, CCLS organised a “Protection and Indemnity Clubs” workshop, which put emphasis on “wet” shipping law issues featuring a critical insight into the legal role of P&I Clubs in relation to collisions and salvage. Ms Dorothea Ioannou, Managing Director of the American Steamship Owners Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association, Inc., presented on Collisions P&I cover, FDD and the interplay of Hull RDC, and of Mr Andrew Dyer, Partner – Hill Dickinson, addressed Salvage liability for Clubs, Direct Action issues, and LOUs/LOIs.

Dr. Alexandros Ntovas, LLM International Shipping Law Director, participated in the panel of the 12th Annual Forum of the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers-Greece Branch, “Future Imperfect: Shipping’s route out of crisis”.