



qLegal



Ask the Professor



News and Events



CCLS International Programmes



Queen Mary
University of London

Centre for Commercial Law Studies



Centre for
Commercial
Law Studies

Alumni Bulletin

Thirteenth Edition
Spring 2018

Welcome from the Head of CCLS



Dear CCLS Alumni

Welcome to the latest edition of the CCLS Alumni Bulletin. We had some exciting developments since the beginning of the new academic year.

In this edition:

- We talk about the official launch of the Institute of Transnational Commercial Law.
- qLegal tell us about their new module and the workshops they held in the UK, France and Estonia as part of their eHealth Hub initiative.
- We brief you on the latest developments in our international programmes in France, Greece and Singapore, as well as the Global MBA.
- Professor Olivares-Caminal writes about his research in the area of sovereign debt.
- We give you an update on our Mentoring Programme and one of our alumnus talks about taking part in this programme and the positive impact it had on his job prospects.

- Professor Leal-Arcas writes about his research on WiseGrid, a multimillion project funded by the EU Commission on competitive low-carbon energy.

I would like to thank all of our alumni and legal profession associates, who continue to volunteer their time and expertise on our Mentoring Programme, and enhancing our students' career development prospects.

Lastly, my term as Head of CCLS comes to an end at the end of this academic year. I have had the opportunity to work with wonderful colleagues and teach and meet incredible and talented young lawyers embarking on their legal careers. This has been the best ten years of my working life and I thank you all for being a part of it.

With all good 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.

The QMUL-UNIDROIT Institute of Transnational Commercial Law

CCLS established a new institute to oversee the international harmonisation of commercial law in partnership with International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT).

September 2017 saw the official launch of the QMUL-UNIDROIT Institute of Transnational Commercial Law (the Institute) at the Centre for Commercial Law Studies (CCLS). The Institute was established last year by a concordat between Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT). The official launch was celebrated with a stimulating inaugural lecture by Professor Alberto Mazzoni, Professor Emeritus of Commercial Law at the Catholic University of Milan and President of UNIDROIT, on the subject of “International Commercial Law Today: Old Habits and New Challenges”.

The term “transnational commercial law” is broadly conceived to capture the diversity of expertise and areas of research work in commercial law currently pursued at CCLS and is central to the work of UNIDROIT in its efforts to promote the international harmonisation of commercial law. The Institute has therefore been established as a joint effort for the purpose of collaborating in and promoting CCLS’s advanced research and scholarship in these areas and, through UNIDROIT, to encourage the design, preparation and promotion of instruments

that will lead to further international harmonisation of commercial law. It is expected that the Institute will push the boundaries of knowledge and scholarly inquiry for the development of legal solutions to contemporary problems of cross-border commercial activities.

As Patrick Trostle says:

“The new Institute has great potential to strengthen the development of transnational commercial law as it will undertake its work in collaboration with a wide range of public and private stakeholders such as international and inter-governmental organisations, professional associations and bodies as well as other interested parties.”

The Institute has already established the Transnational Commercial Law (TCL) series of public lectures and the Global New Voices in Commercial Law series of seminars. They stand at the heart of a bespoke programme of academic events run by the Institute throughout the year and they host contributions from eminent experts and talented early career academics. Confirmed speakers for the 2017-2018 TCL series of lectures include Professor Christine Chappui (University of Geneva); Professor Spyros Maniatis (CCLS, QMUL) and Professor Louise Gullifer (University of Oxford). A recent academic event includes a conference on the theme of “Developing Finance in Emerging Markets: Challenges, Innovations, and Results” in association with the Commercial Law Centre, Harris Manchester College University of Oxford. In November 2019 we are planning the organisation of the Annual Transnational Commercial Law Teachers Meeting and Conference. The Institute also plans the publication of the first issue of the Transnational Commercial Law Review in summer 2018. This publication boasts a prestigious editorial board and the support of many public and private organizations. It will be the first in house, peer-reviewed, and fully open access legal periodical of CCLS.

The launch of the Institute, attended by about 100 guests in the historic Hall of the Honourable Society of Gray’s Inn, opened with a welcoming speech from Professor Sir Roy Goode, the founder of CCLS and the new Institute. Introductory remarks were also offered by Mr Patrick Trostle (Partner, Thompson & Knight, New York, US), the Chair of the International Advisory Board of the Institute, and by Professor Spyros Maniatis, the Head of CCLS. Following Professor Mazzoni’s inaugural lecture, concluding remarks were delivered by Dr Miriam Goldby (CCLS, QMUL) and Dr Andromachi Georgosouli (CCLS, QMUL), the Academic Directors of the Institute. Mr John Taylor, the Institute’s Executive Director, thanked the participants and the audience and encouraged them to support the new Institute. The evening ended with a very enjoyable drinks reception and dinner.



Speakers: Patrick Trostle, Professor Alberto Mazzoni and Sir Roy Goode QC

Development Finance in Emerging Markets: Challenges, Innovations, and Results.

On April 13-15 international experts from around the world came together at this three day conference at the Blavatnik School of Government and Harris Manchester College in the beautiful City of Oxford to explore the innovations and challenges in providing development finance in emerging markets and developing economies (EMDEs). The conference programme was organised by Sir Roy Goode, Professor Rosa Lastra, Patrick Trostle, John Taylor and Professor

Louise Gullifer. Key speakers included general counsel and senior officers from leading international, regional and national organisations, as well as top figures from private practice, industry and academia, including several CCLS/QMUL and Oxford alumni.

EMDEs have become laboratories for innovations in development finance. Using new financial structures and risk-mitigation tools, both public and private investors are facilitating improved infrastructure and commercial development, thereby enhancing employment rates, financial

inclusion, and general wellbeing in many EMDEs. That said, many systemic issues remain, including sovereign risk, political uncertainties, natural catastrophes, credit risk, high transactional costs and enforcement concerns. The conference discussed how innovative financial structures and strategies can address these issues, thereby facilitating increased EMDE investments from banks, sovereign wealth funds, insurance companies, private equity funds, public and private pension funds and other institutional parties.



For more information on how you can become involved with the QMUL-UNIDROIT Institute of Transnational Commercial Law, for example by giving a guest lecture or offering an article on a cross-border commercial law topic, please contact Dr Miriam Goldby, Reader in Insurance and Commercial Law at m.goldby@qmul.ac.uk, or Dr Andromachi Georgosouli, Senior Lecturer in International Commercial Law at a.georgosouli@qmul.ac.uk

qLegal

The small print for BIG IDEAS



eHealth Hub Report on International Legal Workshops

qLegal provides free legal advice to entrepreneurs and start-ups and is based at CCLS, Queen Mary University of London. qLegal is also part of eHealth Hub, a new Horizon2020 EU-funded initiative focusing on supporting eHealth and digital health businesses across Europe. As part of this

project, the qLegal team presented four workshops in 2017 which gave a diverse audience across Europe concrete and actionable points to consider ahead of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming into force on 25 May 2018 in all EU jurisdictions, which is expected to impact all companies handling personal data.



15th June - London, UK

This workshop took place as part of London Tech Week and the MedCity conference "Addressing today's health demands: Fit for patients, for investment", with support from Tom Gummer, Kennedys Law LLP.

It focused on the key legal considerations for SMEs in the eHealth space, providing insight into the main legal issues on data protection (and the changes in the GDPR), intellectual property, regulation and commercial contracts. Attendees were mainly eHealth start-ups, whose concerns and follow up questions focused on the GDPR implications for their business.

5th July - Castres, France

The presentation was kicked off by Armin Kruse, Marketing Director Critical Information Systems & Cybersecurity at Thales, the Defence and Space French multinational manufacturing company. The eHealth Hub team presenting on the day included Clemence Tanzi and Charlotte Lavery (QMUL); and Veronic Sijstermans and Max Rozendaal (University of Amsterdam). The presentation was followed by a lively Q&A session, with questions about obtaining patient consent on personal data storage and how to handle data gathered prior to the new Regulation, amongst many others.

17th October - Tallinn, Estonia

The workshop was held at the European Conference dedicated to health in the Digital Society, hosted as part of the Estonian European Presidency. It was attended by government officials from Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and the Netherlands, and Kersti Kaljulaid, the President of Estonia, Mr. Xavier Prats Monné, Director-General of the European Commission, Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner for Health & Food Safety, European Commission, as well as executives from the industry such as Gilles Litman, VP of Sanofi, Henrique Martins, Chairman of the Board Digital Europe (Portugal), Laurance Stuntz, Director of Massachusetts eHealth Institute (US).

22nd November - London, UK

The workshop took place in the Health Foundry. It was presented by LLM students: Michael Chung, Wolfgang Guggenberger, Fernanda Berezovsky, Lauren Webb, who were supervised by Professor Ian Walden. The workshop, attended by dozens of eHealth start-ups, looked at the key notions of data subject, data controller, and data processor and the key changes brought by the GDPR.



New qLegal Course – Entrepreneurship Law Clinic

qLegal have developed a new credit bearing module, Entrepreneurship Law Clinic, which is a unique opportunity for students to advise start-ups and entrepreneurs, as well as develop their legal professional skills under supervision from lawyers from leading law firms and industry partners from Tech City. In this new module, students will attend classes on legal skills (drafting, research, interviewing, and presentation), understand the environment that start-ups work in and the challenges they face, and learn how to approach practical legal and

ethical issues. Students will also counsel and provide written legal advice to clients in the tech sector at qLegal. We have 12 eager students enrolled on the course.

qLegal LawTech Externships

Our cohort of postgraduate students is the primary drive of qLegal's vision. After completing their externships, participating students can boast of experience in a commercially driven work environment, which sees them trained and working alongside industry experts, advising on a range of complex legal issues.

qLegal Teach Tech Law

qLegal also facilitated its fantastic street law project this year with St Paul's Way Trust School and St Gabriel's High School. 12 students were selected for the project, undertaking classes on lesson planning, behaviour management, legal nuts and bolts and presentation and public speaking skills. The highlight of the project was the Teach Tech Law final where pupils from the schools heard from Phil Sanderson, a partner at Ropes & Gray, and the judges who had deliberated over the winner and runner up. Congratulations to all involved.

To find out more about qLegal, please visit www.qlegal.qmul.ac.uk



Hadiyah Amirullah, joined qLegal during the 2015/16 academic term whilst studying her LLM in International Business Law.

Recalling her experience as a LawTech Externship student at Lexoo, Hadiyah expressed the significance not only of soft skills but also of having confidence in yourself: "by having been in a start-up environment, I learnt that

"office culture" and work environments can vary greatly. It was a great opportunity to discover the start-up environment, one of which I had not been in before.

qLegal enables its student participants to grapple with commercial issues. From day one this was crucial in my ambition to become a successful commercial lawyer capable of meeting the needs of businesses.

By joining a tech start-up in the legal industry, I gained awareness of the

innovation taking place in the areas of law and technology. I also realised the benefits and challenges of working for a start-up. While the lack of job security and unpredictability of a start-up successes are a reality, I am glad I got to experience the flexibility, casual work culture and close relationship that everyone has with senior management during my externship."

Hadiyah has accepted a training contract from Simmons & Simmons in London in September 2018.



Saxon Shaw, joined qLegal during the 2015/16 academic term whilst studying her LLM in Computer and Communications Law.

"qLegal is by far the most rewarding extra-curricular programme I have participated in. There is authentic work to be done with the rewards to match.

Geared specifically towards students at a Masters level, qLegal provides a vast array of opportunities for participants to take advantage of. Whether it is meeting clients from London's technology start-up community, or networking with solicitors from City law firms and advising on a number of relevant areas of law, qLegal offers participants a platform to connect and interact on a professional basis, while completing the LLM programme.

As a qLegal adviser, you also receive training on drafting and interviewing skills along with the practical experience of working with clients. qLegal helps participants to live their learning!"

Since qLegal, Saxon has completed an internship with Promontory on Privacy and Data Protection team and secured employment as a paralegal and investigator within the Serious Fraud Office.

CCLS International Programmes

LLM in Paris

The Paris LLM programme has now entered its fifth year. Its hallmark of international, high-calibre students forming a close-knit community in the heart of Paris continues, with the programme welcoming its first Kenyan and Estonian students this year.

We were also very pleased to welcome our first Double-LLM students in January 2018 (see box on page 9).

Congratulations!



The 2017 CCLS-MWE-AFJE scholarship was awarded to Laetitia Becq-De Lencquesaing. Laetitia has joined the LLM in

Paris whilst taking advantage of the partnership with the EFB (Paris Bar School) to enable her to undertake her studies in parallel with training to become an avocate. Thanks to the sponsors – McDermott Will and Emery and the AFJE (French Association for In-house Lawyers) – for their continued support of aspiring young lawyers.

CCLS also awarded partial scholarships to Maria Luiza Hoaghia in the September 2017 intake and Nielson Pangan in the January 2018 intake.

Paris Events Highlights

“Current Issues in Competition Law – A Comparative Perspective”

The September 2017 Opening Lecture in Paris was once again kindly hosted by McDermott, Will and Emery. CCLS’ Professor Ioannis Kokkoris and Mr Lionel Lesur, Partner at MWE raised a number of pertinent issues for debate, and then discussion over drinks afterwards.

“Inspiration of Business Rules from the Judgment of Supreme People’s Court of China on Michael Jordan and Jia Duo Bao trademark cases”

In November we were pleased to welcome a delegation from the China Intellectual Property Training Centre, and to hear the distinguished legal practitioner and scholar Mr Huajun Liu talk about the Michael Jordan and Jia Duo Bao trademark cases.

“Regulating Cloud Computing and the Internet of Things”

This successful seminar series, hosted in collaboration with the French Association of In-house Lawyers (AFJE), has continued in 2017/18 with events on: “Machine Learning: Technology, Law and Policy” and “Blockchain for Off-Chain Assets and the Need for Legal Impurities”, presented by CCLS’ Professors Christopher Millard and Chris Reed respectively, and with Jat Singh from Cambridge University.

Further events will be held in April, June and October 2018. Keep an eye on the CCLS events page for more information: www.ccls.qmul.ac.uk/events

2017 Graduation Ceremony

December 2017 saw the graduation ceremonies for students of the January 2016 and September 2016 intakes of the LLM in Paris. Students and families from across the world gathered to celebrate in the Great Hall, followed by a festive reception in the Octagon on the Mile End Campus in London.

Alumni Community in Paris

The alumni community in and around Paris is extensive and we invite our alumni to join activities in Paris – whether the biannual drinks in January and July, or lectures and other events. If you would like to hear more and/or be involved, please contact anna.gray@qmul.ac.uk

Launch of new website!

CCLS is delighted to announce the launch of a new website dedicated to CCLS Paris. We hope you will take time to visit it! www.cclsparis.qmul.ac.uk



LLM in Paris and the Double-LLM with the Sorbonne

Hailing from Turkey, Mauritius, France, and Germany, these students have embarked on the new bilingual degree programme offered in partnership with the Université Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne

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.

The Double LLM is a unique, 18-month, bilingual programme which offers the opportunity to benefit from combining the LLM programmes in Paris of:

- an LLM in International Business Law with QMUL, delivered and studied in the English language
- an LLM in French and European Law with the Sorbonne, delivered and studied in the French language

Developed by the CCLS and the Sorbonne Law School, this double degree programme leads to two prestigious qualifications from two globally recognised institutions.

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

LLM in International Shipping Law (Piraeus, Greece)

The LLM in International Shipping Law is currently in its third year. It has an established presence in the Greek educational market, attracting applicants of high calibre, the majority of them already in legal practice, from across the globe. This programme is designed to enhance students’ professional knowledge as well as provide a platform for developing their career prospects in the international shipping industry.

The course has a number of domestic practitioners from leading law firms co-teaching our students, alongside CCLS staff. For example, a guest lecture on the Carriage of Goods by Sea, was delivered by Konstantinos Kofopoulos, a maritime law dispute resolution lawyer based in Athens with Norton Rose Fulbright, who focuses on shipping litigation with particular experience in charter party, bills of lading, marine insurance, marine casualties, as well as cargo sale and purchase agreements.

Our recent workshop on P&I Clubs 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. In that context, the workshop featured two sessions led by eminent practitioners in the Greek shipping market.

Specifically, we were very pleased to have the participation of: Ms Dorothea Ioannou, Managing Director, from the American Steamship Owners Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association, Inc. She made a presentation on Collisions P&I cover, FDD and the interplay of Hull RDC, and of Mr Andrew Dyer, Partner – Hill Dickinson, who addressed Salvage Liability for Clubs, Direct Action issues, and LOUs/LOIs.

In response to the needs of our students and to our commitment in establishing strong professional collaboration with the shipping industry and legal practice, we have been participating in European Law

Students’ Association (ELSA) activities in Greece, such as organising workshops for ELSA’s members and taking part in their Summer Schools.

This programme is also now being offered on a part-time basis, over two years, to allow for more flexibility for our students.

In summer 2018 we are holding a conference in Greece on shipping law organised by Piraeus Programme Director, Dr Alexandros Ntovas.



Ask the Professor

Spyros Maniatis, Professor of Intellectual Property Law and Head of Centre for Commercial Law Studies, interviewed by Natalie Corthesy, PhD candidate in IP Law.

Would you recommend reading for a PhD in IP Law as an essential resource for IP practitioners who are not academics?

Yes, not as an essential resource though. A PhD is an opportunity to immerse into a specific area of the law. I see it as an opportunity to obtain a deeper and more rounded perspective of a specialist area.

How would you describe your experience teaching International IP Law in China? What three reasons would you cite to a Chinese graduate student on why CCLS is the International IP Law research institution of choice?

China is now a mature jurisdiction in terms of intellectual property. I am impressed by the work of the State Intellectual Property Office and the work of the China Intellectual Property Training Centre. Students have adopted a critical approach and in many areas, taxation of intangibles is a good example, China can take a leadership role internationally. Why CCLS? First, because of our depth and breadth of expertise; second, because of our international and comparative approach; and, third, because of our liberal ethos, CCLS is a forum for discussion, a hub for knowledge creation and dissemination, not a promoter of a particular view.

What impact do you predict artificial intelligence will have on human intellectual creativity and output? Will it become necessary to rethink the mores of IP law, the precepts of authorship and the principle of IP as personal property right?

Artificial intelligence is still artificial, it lacks the human creativity input. There is a leap forward that technology has not yet taken! Still, we cannot ignore the changes technology introduces to the way we create, communicate, and consume intellectual property. Creativity has become more collective and interactive and intellectual property should at this stage adapt to accommodate this. Remember that property



rights are not absolute but rather the result of social negotiation, they must be acknowledged in order to be respected.

What have been the top three most memorable teaching moments of your career?

Every year there are dozens of brilliant student questions that can challenge fundamentally the way a teacher thinks. This is part of the academic's social contract and I wish I had recorded all of them! I will not forget my first teaching experience, a big, very well educated, group of scientists, part of the Certificate in IP, not restricted by the language of the law! Similarly, teaching

with Professor Alison Firth and Professor David Llewelyn, having encountered them at the other side of the teaching divide, such a rewarding experience. And, finally, the contagious enthusiasm of Uma Suthersanen when we were road testing our module on the politics and economics of IP. I love co-teaching obviously!

Given the opportunity to author a non-IP Law book, what would you write about? What would the working title read?

Insolvency, the other side of innovation in a way, focusing on how you transform failure to innovation and another path to success.

What advice would you give graduate students who have small children, on balancing a rigorous academic programme with the demands of parenthood?

Well, there is a saying that every baby comes with a load of bread under its arm. The two can work together and a child will always bring you back to the real world!

During your tenure, CCLS has expanded its teaching to Paris and Piraeus and set up a number of joint programmes with universities overseas, including in Singapore. What was your motivation for internationalisation of the CCLS offer?

The need to interact with local academic and practicing legal communities. CCLS in London is one of the most international hubs but this is not enough. Paris led to a collaboration with the Sorbonne, Piraeus with the Chartered Institute of Shipbrokers, Singapore to a potentially multi layered relationship with the Singapore Management University, and I can go on

and on. Academics on both sides have benefited immensely and CCLS has become a global player.

You have been working at CCLS for nearly twenty years now, ten of those as the Head of CCLS, how would you say the Centre changed over the last ten years?

Well, it has quadrupled in terms of size, keeps on attracting brilliant students and new members of staff, developed new areas of expertise, including shipping, energy, insurance, art, compliance, ethics, and regulation, strengthened its global impact and appeal, and maintained its research credibility and reputation. Most importantly it retained its liberal ethos, introduced by Roy Goode, as an open minded, forward thinking, creative, and entrepreneurial institution. I am now moving to a new role as Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, but, so far, these have been the best ten years of my working life!

Based on your experience, what advice would you give to Ian Walden, Professor in Information and Communications Law, due to take over as CCLS's new Head next semester?

Leading CCLS is a privilege and its success can be attributed to the goodwill and hard work of great students and inspiring colleagues. Enjoy your time as Head, Ian!

What challenges do you envisage for the law education sector in the near future and how well do you think CCLS is placed to deal with them?

Given its liberal, cosmopolitan, and progressive character, CCLS is well prepared to deal with the challenges of a fragmented world turning into itself. Our student audience has always been global and we will serve it well only if we remain open to new ideas. Overcoming intellectual isolationism is the big challenge!



Alumni Profile Oliver Lam



Oliver Lam, MSc Management of Intellectual Property – 2016/2017 – London

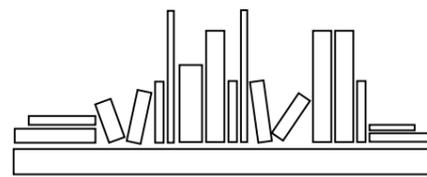
Oliver is currently a Technical Assistant at Kilburn & Strode LLP, specialising in drafting and prosecuting patents in the field of life sciences. He is working towards qualifying as both a Chartered UK Patent Attorney and a European Patent Attorney. Prior to his studies at Queen Mary University of London, Oliver worked for the global biopharmaceutical firm UCB. Whilst at UCB, Oliver played a key role in patient-focused research to discover new therapeutic antibodies.

“I chose to study the MSc Management of Intellectual Property course at Queen Mary in order to build practical knowledge of patents and other related forms of IP. The course was highly regarded and recommended to me by several IP professionals. One of the most attractive

features of the course was the opportunity to sit the CIPA and CITMA professional qualifications, in addition to those required for the MSc. The lecturers were first class and made for an extremely insightful and interesting course.”

During his studies at Queen Mary, Oliver received various awards including the Herchel Smith Scholarship, the GSK Prize for highest mark in Patents, Director’s Prize for Best in Trade Marks and the Director’s prize for best overall candidate.

For his individual study project, Oliver chose to review the European Patent Office’s view on the patentability of monoclonal antibodies for which he was awarded a Distinction. The group project task enabled him to gain practical experience in



On the bookshelves

Beyond the Code: Protection of Non-Textual Features of Software, by Noam Shemtov (OUP 2017)

Contributions by CCLS academic staff:

Calboli, I. & Ng-Loy, W. L. (eds.), *Geographical indications at the crossroads of trade, development, and culture: focus on Asia-Pacific* (Cambridge University Press 2017)

Ghidini, G., Ullrich, H. & Drahos, P. (eds.), *Kritika: essays on intellectual property: volume 2* (Edward Elgar 2017)

Liu, K.-C. & Hilty, R.M. (eds.), *Remuneration of copyright owners: regulatory challenges of new business models* (Springer 2017)

Mangan, D. & Gillies, L.E. (eds.), *The legal challenges of social media* (Edward Elgar 2017)

Richardson, M. & Ricketson, S. (eds.), *Research handbook on intellectual property in media and entertainment* (Edward Elgar 2017)

Torremans, P. (ed.), *Research handbook on copyright law*, 2nd ed. (Edward Elgar 2017)

evaluating a patent portfolio, with an emphasis on assessing the substantive patentability requirements in both the UK and in Europe.

One of the highlights of the course for Oliver was his participation in the CCLS mentoring programme. This gave him the unique opportunity to meet regularly with an experienced mentor in his field of study. As part of this programme, Oliver was able to develop his professional network and benefited from the expertise of his mentor to help complement his studies. Oliver also took advantage of the numerous other career development opportunities including attending seminars, an internship at Calleja Consulting, career workshops and networking events.

Mentoring and Internships Programme at CCLS

The number of mentors for our students has tripled since the scheme’s launch in 2016. We now have nearly 80 mentor mentee relationships. Mentors come from a diverse range of organisations, including Allen & Overy, the Shell legal department, 20 Essex Street Chambers, Dentons, Ashurst, London Business Bank, Simmons & Simmons, Mills & Reeve, Baker McKenzie, the Commercial Court and the Court of Appeal.

This scheme has provided students with first-hand insights into the working of businesses and law firms. It gives them a better understanding of a law professional’s career journey helping them to make more informed career choices and plan their professional goals. Student mentees reported additional areas of learning such as gaining a better understanding of organisational and project management skills. A number of students explored the technological side of the modern legal practice with their mentors and even discovered new careers paths.

17 students gained work experience directly or indirectly through this scheme at organisations such as Promontory Financial Group, Norton Rose Fulbright, European Union Intellectual Property Office, Kilburn & Strode, Imperial Tobacco Limited, Ince & Co, Royal Bank of Scotland, Dentons, Ministry of Justice, Ashurst, Disney and Dentons.

NEW Mentoring without Borders Initiative

The current academic year mentoring programme has been extended to offer 14 current UK based students an opportunity to be mentored by international alumni mentors based across the globe. This new initiative called Mentoring Without Borders gives CCLS alumni legal practitioners from around the world the opportunity to share their expert knowledge with our current international student cohort.



Mentee

Mary Haruna, LLM Energy and Natural Resources Law

“Being mentored was an amazing experience. I thoroughly enjoyed it and would recommend it to every student. I’m not the same person I was a year ago when I applied. In April 2017, my mentor offered me some work experience in the Utilities and Infrastructure department, shadowing solicitors at Dentons. I was introduced to the firm’s graduate recruitment team, current trainees and partners. It made me more confident in who I am and with the career I am now pursuing. I will always be grateful to the CCLS careers service for the opportunity.”

Mentor

Francesco Dionisio, LLM Intellectual Property Law, The Walt Disney Company

“It has been a very exciting and productive mentoring year! All the meetings with my mentee went extremely well. We explored different career opportunities, worked on professional skills, attended seminar events and updated and improved upon both CVs and LinkedIn profiles. I am also very proud and happy to let you know that at the end of August my mentee will start working with me at Disney in the Anti-Piracy team on a full-time contract basis! A great result of a very successful programme.”

Sign up to be a mentor!

We are looking for alumni in mid to senior positions from law firms or business who are interested in helping our students to gain practical knowledge while receiving their LLM at QMUL in London. If you are an experienced law professional and are interested in getting involved in international or UK based mentoring, we want to hear from you!

Please contact: Jacqueline Steinmetz on j.steinmetz@qmul.ac.uk

CCLS Research Highlights Sovereign Debt Restructuring

Professor Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal tells us about his recent work in the area of sovereign debt in the UK and across the globe.



Recently, Professor Olivares-Caminal has been invited to coordinate the group of London Club creditors holding more than 50% of the total outstanding private sector debts of Cuba. These debts have been in default for many years and most of them are documented as syndicated loan agreements. The main objective is to reach an amicable understanding that can benefit all parties involved.

Professor Olivares-Caminal regularly appears in the print media (Financial Times, Reuters, La Nacion) as well as on radio and TV interviews. He has been cited in the *pari passu* litigation in New York between NML Capital and other creditors v. Argentina.

Professor Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal's research on sovereign debt extends across different areas, mainly the European Stability Mechanism, the *pari passu* position of creditors in sovereign debt and contractual sweeteners to enhance creditor participation in restructuring exercises. Based on his research expertise, Professor Olivares-Caminal has been invited to act as Sovereign Debt Expert at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and to join the Institute of International Finance Committee on Sovereign Risk Management.

Professor Rodrigo-Olivares also participates in the Bank of England's Financial Markets Law Committee scoping group on sovereign debt where he chaired a working group on *pari passu* and participated on a working group on Collective Action Clauses (CACs). These working groups have produced two papers addressing issues of uncertainty in the capital markets (Paper 1 Analysing the Role, Use and Meaning of *Pari Passu* Clauses in Sovereign Debt Obligations as a Matter of English Law, 13/4/2015 and Paper 2 on Single-Limb Aggregated Collective Action Clauses under English Law, 30/1/15). The above documents informed the paper published by the International Monetary Fund on strengthening contractual aspects of sovereign debt.



Moreover, he is currently working on a Sovereign Debt handbook that to be published by Edward Elgar. Some of the chapters and main findings will be presented in a conference to be organized by QMUL soon. A recent work by him entitled "The definition of indebtedness and the consequent imperiling of the *pari passu*, negative pledge and cross-default clauses in sovereign debt instruments" has been published in the Oxford Journal of Capital Markets.

WiseGrid Project

Professor Leal-Arcas updates us on his involvement in this EU commission funded project on competitive low-carbon energy.



Last year CCLS Professor Rafael Leal-Arcas participated in a 14 million Euro grant awarded to an interdisciplinary consortium of 21 institutions. 0.6 million Euros of this grant was allocated to CCLS.

This is a four year project funded by the EU Commission in the framework of Horizon 2020 on competitive low-carbon energy, called WiseGRID.

WiseGRID aims to demonstrate the real-life optimisation of intelligent electricity deployment, management, and consumption through the provision of a set of solutions and technologies that typify a smart, stable, secure and open, consumer-centric energy grid. The project is part of the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and will combine an enhanced use of storage technologies, a highly increased share of Renewable Energy Resources (RES) and the integration of charging infrastructure to favour the large-scale deployment of electric vehicles.

This report provides an analysis of the implementation of the WiseGRID project in the European Union (EU) with regard to a number of key areas in the context of WiseGRID Project 1 (WP1). It does so first by looking at the social and ethical implications of the project in Member States while considering the existing legislative and regulatory frameworks with the view of assessing the impact these might have on the strategic goals of the project. The report also presents the first steps toward the business modelling work of WiseGRID that aims to demonstrate the economic viability of the project and strengthen its exploitation potential. Moreover, the report also employs the selection of pilot sites by the project to demonstrate its specific implications of the project in different legal, socio-economic, political, market and geographic settings.



The first part of the report focuses on the impact the deployment of the future smart grid is likely to have on energy security and the electricity ecosystem as a whole. Given that the EU is not immune to the changing dynamics of the global energy trade - the 'unpopularity' of reliance on fossil; the growing support for 'greener' sources of energy; the decentralization of energy production; the redefinition of energy governance structures; and the introduction of new energy players, the reconsideration of the remits of the energy security needs of the Union could not be more timely.

The evolution of the energy market is largely being spurred by the electricity sector and smart grids will undoubtedly have a large role to play in the new epoch of energy security. The expected growth in consumption in the next 30 years is likely to result in spill-overs into other sectors for which smart meters would be influential in, amongst others: spearheading economically optimal performance; fostering energy market competition; managing energy consumption and efficiency; achieving maximum possible carbon emissions reductions; maximizing the network efficiency; fomenting system and technology safety, security and resilience; altering and cleaning the energy mix; creating storage capacity and new technologies in the storage sector; expanding to the transportation sector through electric, plug-in vehicles; democratizing the energy systems; and empowering citizens/customers.

The turn of the twentieth century heralded a change in the electricity market through the unbundling of vertically integrated electricity companies which controlled the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. The roles of these previously monopolistic players, in the new era is yet to be seen. This is particularly true when viewed against the backdrop that the new energy landscape has presented opportunities for new actors such as aggregators and prosumers. However, it is obvious that, the energy policy of national jurisdictions will play a pivotal role in determining the way forward. It is important that national policy makers recognize that, the existing philosophy underpinning electricity governance may not lend itself to the new smart grid. For instance, the dynamic nature of demand and supply in a smart grid, coupled with the intermittent nature of RES generation do not lend themselves to the existing supply-centric dispatch policies. Similarly, it would be important to re-evaluate current risk scenarios which do not factor in demand response into demand and availability curves.

For more information on the WiseGRID project, visit www.wisegrid.eu

News and Events



Alumni Reunion in Bangkok

On 19th January 2018 we held an informal reunion in Bangkok for alumni of the School of Law. It was attended by a number of alumni students, who enjoyed catching up with their peers.

Alumni Reunions in Lahore and Islamabad

On 5th and 9th March the School of Law organised two alumni reunions in Pakistan, which were attended by alumni students from different law specialisations, which were very well received.

Alumni Reunion in Kenya

On 8th March old friends and new friends connected in Nairobi at our superb reunion evening with some of our School of Law postgraduates and Chevening scholars from Kenya, who are now successfully established in legal, banking, government, NGO's and consultancy sectors.

If you would like to organise an event or reunion in your country, or start an alumni chapter, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please get in touch with CCLS Alumni Manager, Katherine Taylor Bennett with your ideas k.t.bennett@qmul.ac.uk

Pierluigi Barbarisi, LLM in Banking and Finance Law 2015, works at the Italian Banking Association (ABI) - Supervision Department - in Rome, where he is dealing mainly with the EU crisis management framework and with the recent EU Commission Banking Reform Package. In his capacity as ABI representative, he regularly joins the Banking Supervision Committee and several working groups of the European Banking Federation (EBF), both in Brussels and Frankfurt, to promote the positions of the banking industry vis-à-vis the European Authorities.

Dominic Janßen, LLM in Commercial and Corporate Law with Distinction 2013. After completing his studies in London, Dominic returned to work at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum in Germany as a Research Assistant. In 2017 Dominic completed his doctoral thesis on the Payment Services Directive (PSD I) and the Implementation of its Supervisory Framework in the United Kingdom and Germany. The work is now published with the Publishing House, Duncker & Humblot, and available to download through their eLibrary.

Uzma Ashraf Barton has published her first book titled "Rethinking Regulation of International Finance: Law, Policy and Institutions" by Wolters Kluwer. Uzma mentions in her book's acknowledgement section that attending Queen Mary for her LLM at a critical time in the development of financial law triggered her interest in international finance, back in 2007. Ms Barton is currently a Fellow at the Asian Institute of International Financial Law, university of Hong Kong, and a Fellow at the Law & Economics Centre, George Mason University, USA. Prior to joining academia, she served as Assistant and Deputy Commissioner in the Government of Pakistan where she worked on various assignments implementing governance reforms. More recently, she has been engaged on a number of policy projects including at the Georgetown Law School, University of Hong Kong, and consults on fiscal and financial reforms with the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank.

Update: Global MBA

The Global MBA was launched by Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and the University of London in April 2017. It is an innovative distance learning programme developed around an extensive range of specialisms in law, finance, entrepreneurship & innovation, accountancy and leadership, with accreditations from professional bodies CMI and CIMA.

In its first year, the programme attracted students from 67 countries, forming a unique cohort with great diversity. Students on the programme benefit from the support of the Online Tutors and the Student Relationship Managers. With the launch of the Strategic Project in April 2018, students will be able to experience what it is like to run a business with colleagues around the world in an award-winning business simulation programme.

The programme operates 4 sessions per year and offers great flexibility. To find out more about the Global MBA, please visit our website: <https://london.ac.uk/courses/global-mba>