Professor Muireann Quigley
Muireann Quigley joined Newcastle Law School in 2015 as Professor of Law, Innovation, and Society. Previously she has worked at the Centre for Ethics in Medicine at the University of Bristol and the Centre for Social Ethics and Policy at the University of Manchester. Before becoming an academic she practiced (briefly) as a medical doctor in general medicine and accident and emergency. In the intervening years she has forgotten more medicine than she ever learned. Her research is explicitly interdisciplinary and often focuses on the philosophical analysis of law and policy in medicine and the biosciences. This includes elements of doctrinal legal analysis combined with matters of practical ethics. She is interested in the regulatory and social contexts in which scientific and medical innovation takes place. Her current research focuses on two main strands. The first is the use of the behavioural sciences in law and policy. The second is on property rights and human biomaterials. She is in the process of finishing a monograph on this second area. The book offers a philosophical and legal analysis of the relationship between the concept of self-ownership and ownership of separated biomaterials.

Jennifer Stephens
Jennifer joined Newcastle as a lecturer in October 2015. Jennifer has previously worked as a solicitor in private practice specialising in Environment & Safety Law and she joins us from Northumbria University where she established ‘The Environmental Law Project’, a pro bono legal clinic for environmental cases, and taught on the undergraduate, LLM, LPC and BPTC programmes. In 2015-2016, Jennifer will be the Senior Tutor and the Advisory Board Coordinator. She will be teaching the law of evidence, land law, biodiversity, legal simulation, and running the Partners Summer School Programme. Jennifer is also a part-time PhD student at Newcastle Law School investigating the changing nature of legal duties in flood risk management law on nature conservation sites.

Equality and Diversity News
In December 2014, the Law School established the role of ‘Equality and Diversity Officer’ in the law school and appointed Dr Christine Beuermann to this position. In 2014/2015 Christine worked in conjunction with colleagues in the law school to draft the Law School Equality and Diversity policy which was launched on the 22nd October, 2015. The launch event featured a guest lecture by Dr Yvonne Ridley, an award-winning author, journalist and campaigner. While reporting for The Sunday Express on an undercover assignment in Afghanistan immediately after 9/11 Yvonne saw herself become the subject of international headlines when she was held by the Taliban. Yvonne spoke on the night about her personal story of entering Afghanistan as a journalist in disguise, being captured by the Taliban and, on her release, her remarkable reversion to Islam. This thought provoking lecture was well attended by staff and students, and prompted lively discussion afterwards.

Alongside, these initiatives, the Eldon Society has also established the position of Welfare Officer which is currently held by Abi Marshall. Abi will be organising a wide range of equality and welfare events seeking to continue to promote the welcoming and inclusive environment at Newcastle Law School in 2015/2016. The Eldon Society kick-started its welfare events in April 2015, when it held its first ‘Wellbeing Week’ with a focus of mental health and wellbeing. The exam period can be a stressful time for students and the Eldon Society wanted to organise a range of events to help relieve this stress. The highlight of the week for many was the ‘De-stress with dogs’ session, where a number of members of staff brought their dogs into the law school to allow the students to play with the dogs and take an all-important break from revision.
We are delighted to announce that the Law School won two prestigious awards at the Northern Law Awards in June 2015. The Law School's student-led Excelsior Academy Mentoring Scheme was awarded the Pro Bono/Community Initiative Award. The Scheme beat strong competition from law clinics at Northumbria, Sunderland and Teeside and community schemes from local law firms. Under Newcastle Law School's Mentoring scheme Law School students serve as mentors to approximately thirty year 10 and 12 students at Excelsior Academy. The scheme is run by the Law School, the Academy and local law firms, including Ward Hadaway, Bond Dickinson and Sintons. In presenting the award the judges said they were impressed by the fact that the scheme was student-led, innovative and made a great contribution in changing young people's lives.

In accepting the award on behalf of the scheme, law students Isabelle Weston Goodman and Georgia Neaum Davis, (pictured above) said it was important to the students to be able to give something back to the community of which they are a part. Commenting on the award, Professor Chris Rodgers, Head of the Law School, said, "This is a fantastic reflection on all the work that students and colleagues have put into the scheme over the last couple of years".

The second award was received by Dr Alison Dunn who won the Law Lecturer of the Year Award sponsored by Echo Events. There was a strong field for this award with candidates shortlisted from the Universities of Durham, Northumbria, Sunderland and Teeside. The judges praised Alison's ability to both engage and challenge students in property law using innovative teaching techniques. Alison is also a recipient of the Vice Chancellor's Distinguished Teacher Award for Excellence in Teaching (2013).

The Northern Law Awards were presented at the Biscuit Factory on 11th June 2015 and the judging panels included representatives from many of the leading law firms in the North East, the Law Society of England and Wales, other public bodies, as well as the local Universities.

Further information is available at http://www.lawawards.co.uk/winners-2015-2/

Newcastle Law School expands the number of Erasmus Exchange Places for LLB Students

Newcastle Law School has recently expanded the number of Erasmus exchange places it offers students with the University of Copenhagen (Denmark) and KU Leuven (Belgium). These additional places complement existing Erasmus exchanges with both Universities and form part of our European Legal Studies (ELS) stream within our LLB degree. The ELS stream at Newcastle enables first year LLB students to apply to take part in an Erasmus exchange year in between the second and third years of their LLB, with one of our five partner European Law Schools. The other partners are the University of Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain), the University of Groningen, and the University of Oslo. Successful completion of the ELS year abroad will lead to students graduating with the prestigious LLB with Honours (European Legal Studies) degree.
On the 24th July 2015, Newcastle Law School hosted a one day symposium on ‘The Dark Side of Magna Carta’. Magna Carta’s legacy has been invoked in support of a range of highly contested historical and contemporary constitutional developments which were explored by this one-day symposium at Newcastle Law School. Amidst the celebrations of the 800th Anniversary of Magna Carta in 2015, a pause for reflection was necessary. In organising this event, the Newcastle Human Rights and Social Justice Forum set out to question just what is being celebrated and in the midst of these celebrations, what aspects of Magna Carta’s legacy is being forgotten.

The event considered: What is the Magna Carta’s relevance to contemporary developments in the UK Constitution?; How did a feudal bargain between an inept King John and his most powerful subjects come to be vested with immense symbolism within the United Kingdom’s legal and political order?; When the 1215 Magna Carta was quickly repudiated and the reincarnations of the instrument shorn of their more radical provisions, can it support the rule-of-law claims based upon it?; How did imperial narratives which justified the extension of Magna Carta to colonised peoples as part of the United Kingdom’s “civilising mission” come to be reimagined as “exporting British values”?; How can celebrating the Magna Carta be squared with the current threat to the United Kingdom’s commitment to the European Convention on Human Rights?

The event involved papers from six speakers: Ruth Houghton (Graduate Teaching Assistant and PhD Candidate, Durham Law School); Dr Se-shauna Wheatle (Research Associate, Durham Law School); Colin Murray (Senior Lecturer, Newcastle Law School); Dr Henry Jones (Lecturer, Durham Law School); Suryapratim Roy (PhD Candidate and Lecturer in the Faculty of Law, University of Groningen); Prof TT Arvind (Professor of Law, Newcastle Law School). The event was generously funded with support from the Newcastle Institute for Social Renewal and the Society of Legal Scholars. For further information see http://conferences.ncl.ac.uk/magnacartadarkside/

Recent Workshops on ‘Realising New Commons’ - July & November 2015

Two recent workshops in the “Realising new Commons” project, which is funded by the ERSC and led by Professor Chris Rodgers, have brought together expert opinion to examine the options for creating suitable new common rights and the legal structures required to register them and the re-purposed ‘new common’ land. Government policy has expressed an ambition ‘to strengthen the connections between people and nature’ and offer wider opportunities for people to engage with the natural environment near where they live. Robust research data has established that the vast majority of outdoor visits are made within just 2 miles of where people live. ‘New commons’ could, therefore, alongside other ideas, help deliver these policy ambitions.

Workshop 1 was held at Newcastle University on 1st July 2015. It examined the legal options for Realising New Commons and identified potential problems, opportunities and strategies for creating suitable new common rights and registering “new” commons. Workshop 2 focussed on the practicalities of making “New Commons” a reality – its themes were Planning for New Commons, and Making New Commons a Reality. The Workshop brought together key stakeholders and members of the policy community to explore the practicalities of designating and protecting new commons for public recreation – and for reconnecting people and nature. Speakers included Duncan Mackay (Natural England), Dr Victoria Edwards (University of Reading), Pam Warhurst (Incredible Edible Todmorden), Euan Hall of The Land Trust, Nicola Hodgson and Kate Ashbrooke of the Open Spaces Society, Dr John Powell (University of Gloucestershire) and Nick Grayson (Birmingham City Council). Professor Chris Rodgers gave a presentation on the Legal Toolkits for Registering New Commons under the 1965 and 2006 Acts. Well known author Dr Rob Macfarlane, Cambridge University, concluded the workshop with a talk on “Whispers of a new future”. The Land Trust announced during the workshop its intention to dedicate the first new common in England for over 20 years, at Cudworth in South Yorkshire, on former colliery land.
As in other years, Mark George, QC, came to Newcastle Law School to talk to students about the death penalty in the US. Mr George is a trustee of Amicus, a small legal charity which helps provide representation to those facing the death penalty in the US. The lecture took place on Tuesday 10 November 2015 at 6pm and gave an insightful overview of the operation of the death penalty in the United States. There was also time at the end for questions/discussion from the audience. Mr George also discussed the Amicus internship scheme at the lecture. Further information on this can be found at http://www.amicus-alj.org/index.php

“Can we Catch-Up? How the UK is falling behind on Environmental Law" Lecture

Newcastle University Law School hosted a live-stream of the UKELA Garner Lecture entitled "Can we Catch-Up? How the UK is falling behind on Environmental Law" lecture on Wednesday 11th November. The lecture was hosted by international law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and was live-streamed into Seminar Room 5. For more information see: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/nuls/research/seminars/

Eldon Society - Update on Society Activities

Careers: Careers Officer – Abigail Kennedy
We have had a busy start to the year with careers at the Eldon Society; we have catered for both those who want to be a solicitor as well as those who want to be a barrister, with on campus events as well as a number of off campus events. Here is a list of some of the events we have had:

- Jones Day Question Time - held in the Raddison Blu in Durham
- BPTC - Talk for Barristers
- Clifford Chance - Intelligent Aid Workshop
- BPP - Commercial Awareness Talk
- Eversheds Office Insight Evening - as well as this, we will be hosting 1 on 1 sessions with a Trainee, Graduates Recruiter and Partner!

We also have a number of upcoming events which all students are invited to attend. Please check the Student Common Room noticeboard for updates on dates and times.

Sports: Sports Secretary – Adam McAvoy
The beginning of the 2015/16 academic year has been a very positive one for the Eldon Society Sports with an increase in participants across the board for the society sports teams. This has translated into some good results including: the Netball girls, our society netball team as usual storming up the table, dispatching the Medics and Architecture netball teams; Barca-law-na, the society soccer team securing some crucial wins in their Wednesday Intra-Mural League and the Law Blacks claiming their most impressive win in a number of years against the Engines with a 27-5 score line.

The Society is hoping to launch another football team (due to high demand for places!) in the coming semester and finally get a mixed hockey team up and running. But not before a hard earned Christmas meal for all of the teams in December!
Eldon Society - Update on Society Activities

Social: Social Secretaries – Chelsea Cullen & Nathan Fox

From a social point, we have been very busy organising various socials and events for the upcoming year. Perhaps most notably the Law Ball which will take place in early 2016 at the ever-wonderful Discovery Museum. In addition to this we have planned the Eldon Society trip abroad where we will take a group of 60 Eldon members to Berlin in March for three nights. We have some very exciting events planned in the next coming months so keep checking the Student Common Room noticeboard and the Society website (www.eldonsociety.com) for information about these.

Negotiating: Negotiation Officers – Giulia Del Bianco & Kahwing Fung

As Negotiating Officers of the Eldon Society for 2015-2016, we have officially kicked off this year’s Negotiating Competition! The process started with our opening evening on Thursday November 5th which featured a talk given by representatives of our sponsoring firm, DWF. The two DWF representatives, Danielle Kelly and Francesca Lilley, spoke about the importance of negotiating skills as well as the application of such skills within a professional context. Francesca, a previous contestant of the International Negotiating Competition, also gave some useful hints and tips that students could adopt during their negotiations. The semi-finals of this year’s Newcastle Law School Client Negotiating competition are expected to take place February with the final taking place in April. We are very excited for this year’s competition, as we will be collaborating with DWF to offer feedback sessions and workshops to those students who progress in the competition. The feedback sessions are a new feature of the Negotiating Competition and we hope it will allow students to develop their negotiating skills to an even greater extent, as they will be able to learn from us Officers and from the representatives of DWF.

Mooting: Masters of Moots – Rebecca Riding & Benjamin Donnell

The mooting year has kicked off with the first round of the junior mooting competition which proved very successful with many talented mooters being discovered from the first years. 50 teams entered the competition, and although we had a few last minute drop outs to deal with, the first round of the competition ran mostly smoothly along 6 evenings from Monday 9th until Monday 16th November. 14 teams were selected for the semi-finals of the junior competition which took place in early December. Everyone who participated in the first round made a really good effort and all should be proud of themselves. We would like to thank the volunteer judges and clerks who helped out with the competition. We have also had some external mooting competitions including: ESU-Essex on Thursday 19th November at Northumbria, which Gregory Heis and Sam Roxborough participated in, and then OUP-BPP on Wednesday 25th November held here at Newcastle Law School, which Jon Flaherty and Emilie Coutin participated in. Finally, the first round of the senior mooting competition will be in February, and sign-up sheets will be going up soon in the student common room - keep an eye out!

Newcastle Upon Tyne Incorporated Law Society Academic Prize Winners

We extend our congratulations to Khavi Chetty, Paul Schmidt, Gabriel Pennington and Jessica Donnelly who were presented with awards at the recent Newcastle upon Tyne Incorporated Law Society Annual Dinner. The following awards were presented on the night:

- Joint best performance in the subject of Company Law - Mr Khavi Chetty
- Joint best performance in the subject of Company Law - Mr Paul Schmidt
- Best performance in the subject of Equity - Mr Gabriel Pennington
- Best performance in the subject of Criminal Law - Ms Jessica Donnelly
Research News

Below follows a selection of some of the current research being carried out in the Law School:

**Competition Law—Dr Jonathan Galloway**

Dr Galloway's research into the Google competition law case and wider regulation of online platforms resulted in presentations to the 24th Competition Law Scholars Forum (ClasSF) workshop in Lancaster in April 2015, and to the 10th Annual ASCOLA Conference, hosted by Meiji University in Tokyo in May 2015. Dr Galloway was also an invited speaker at the Workshop on Sport and Film Rights in the European Internal Market in May 2015, organised by the Europa Institute, University of Edinburgh. Dr Galloway's paper related to concentration and future trends in the media sector. Separately Dr Galloway organised a one day workshop, co-hosted by the London School of Economics and Newcastle University in London in September 2015, on the theme of Intersections of Antitrust. Professor TT Arvind and Dr Daithí Mac Síthigh also participated in this workshop. Dr Galloway presented a paper on the intersection of antitrust with regulatory compliance and deterrence theory. The workshop was part of a wider project that will lead to a book being published by Oxford University Press in 2016, entitled 'Intersections of Antitrust: Policy and Regulation'.

**Refugee Protection and Human Rights—Dr María-Teresa Gil-Bazo**

On 22nd October 2015, Newcastle Law School hosted an event on "Refugee Protection and Human Rights: Challenges and Opportunities in the Context of the European Migration Agenda". This event gathered multidisciplinary perspectives on refugee protection under a broader human rights framework and in the context of calls for the reform of inter-State agreements both among EU Member States, as well as between them and third States across the world. Papers explored calls for reform and their grounding on human rights in a context of policy developments and research on the reality on the ground. The event was convened by Dr María-Teresa Gil-Bazo and speakers included Ms Patricia Van de Peer (the European Parliament’s Coordinator on the European Migration Agenda), Dr Silvia Pasquetti (from the School of Sociology, Newcastle), and Professor Colin Harvey (from Queens University, Belfast). This event built on preliminary research which explores the role of international human rights law, and in particular its interpretation by international human rights monitoring bodies and international organisations, which was presented at a Workshop in Brussels in June 2013, funded by the Newcastle Institute for Social Renewal, and whose findings have been published as a Special Issue at the Refugee Survey Quarterly in March 2015. The papers by Professor Harvey and Dr Gil-Bazo in the Special Issue are among the most read papers in that journal and as such they have been made freely available by Oxford University Press (OUP). Several publications by Dr Gil-Bazo have also been selected by OUP as part of a free access collection in response to the refugee crisis in Europe, to assist those working with refugees on the ground, Dr Gil-Bazo was also appointed Expert by the EU’s European Asylum Support Office (EASO) in May 2015 and in this capacity she has participated in the development of the Agency’s official curriculum for the training of government and EU officials, including border guards, on human rights and asylum. For further information see here.

**Trademark Law – Professor Andrew Griffiths**

In June, Professor Griffiths was invited to participate in the Annual Trade Mark Scholars Roundtable on the "Construction of the Consumer" at the University of Oxford. In July, Andrew had a chapter on "Brands, Firms and Competition" in Desai, Lianos & Weber Waller on "Brands, Competition and IP Law" (CUP). In September, he delivered a paper on "Branding and Production" at the Annual Conference of the European Association of Law & Economics in Vienna. Professor Griffiths has also recently been appointed to the Impact Studies Committee of the International Trade Mark Association for a two year term with effect from 1st January 2016.

**Migrants at Sea: A Duty to Protect? - Dr Elena Katselli**

Dr Elena Katselli (Newcastle Law School) and Dr Vassilis Tzevelekos (Hull Law School) recently presented their joint article on ‘Migrants at Sea: A Duty to Protect?’ at the 18th Annual Irish European Law Forum. The theme of this inter-disciplinary conference was Europe's Shared Burden Collective Responsibility for Migrants at Sea and was held on 9 and 10 October 2015 at the University College Dublin. Dr Katselli’s and Dr Tzevelekos’ paper looked at the international legal framework relating to the obligations of states in situations that take place extra-territorially and result in serious human rights obligations. To this effect, the paper considered the situation in the Mediterranean and examined whether international human rights law may be utilised to effectively address the flee of thousands of people due to armed conflict as well as poverty at home. Dr Elena Katselli has also recently been invited to become a reviewer for the International Journal of Transitional Justice published by Oxford University Press.

**Keynote Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Manchester -Professor Muireann Quigley**

Prof Quigley was invited to deliver the Keynote lecture at the Postgraduate Research Conference, University of Manchester, School of Law on the 21st October, 2015. Her lecture was entitled 'Nudges as Health Policy Instruments: Or How to Do Law Without Doing Law'.
AHRI Belgrade Declaration on the refugee crisis in Europe

In reaction to the mass flows of asylum seekers in the Mediterranean and the tragic drownings of thousands of individuals including children, the Association of Human Rights Institutes (AHRI), to which the Newcastle Forum for Human Rights & Social Justice has been a member since 2010, issued in September 2015 a Declaration reminding states that the erection of insurmountable barriers, both physical and procedural, is neither in conformity with international law, nor is it an effective response to the current situation. Dr Elena Katselli who participated in the drafting of the Declaration stressed that the purpose of the Declaration was to remind EU Member States of their obligations under international law when implementing so-called border management operations, particularly in relation to policies and measures adopted to keep refugees and asylum seekers out of their territory. The Declaration is available at: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/media/wwwncaluck/newcastleuniversitylawschool/files/AHRI%20Belgrade%20Declaration.pdf

Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) Conference, York

Newcastle Law School was well represented at the Annual SLS conference in York 1st-4th September 2015. A number of colleagues attended and seven colleagues delivered presentations on a range of subjects. On Tuesday 1st September, Professor Richard Collier presented a paper in the panel on ‘Practice, Profession and Ethics’ entitled ‘Wellbeing in the Legal Profession: Reflections on Recent Developments (Or, What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Wellbeing?)’. On Wednesday 2nd September, Professor Richard Mullender presented a paper entitled “Tort, Tradition and the Pursuit of Justice” at the tort law panel. On Thursday, Aisling McMahon presented a co-authored paper with Dr. Brid Ní Ghráinne (Sheffield Law School) entitled ‘Whose Subjects and Subject to Whose Laws? Stateless Children in the Context of International Surrogacy Agreements’ at the medical law panel; and Derek Whayman presented at a joint session of the Property and Trusts/Restitution panel on the topic of ‘Election between Inconsistent Remedies in Three Party Cases’. Following this, on Friday 4th September, Professor Andrew Griffiths presented a paper entitled “Brands, Firms and Corporate Power” to both the Company Law and IP Law panels; Dr Daithí MacSíthigh presented a paper “‘I Bet You They Won’t Play This Song on the Radio’: What Future for Radio Policy in the UK?” in the Media and Communications law panel, and Professor Muireann Quigley presented a paper entitled ‘Persons, Property, and Implanted Devices: Some Challenges for the Law?’ at the medical law panel.

ATRIP Conference, Capetown - Dr Bronwen Jones

Dr Bronwen Jones delivered a paper on the 30th June, 2015 at the European Intellectual Property Teachers Network entitled ‘Knowledge Exchange and Collaboration in the Field of IP: Using the Web to Cross Cultures’. On the 30th September, 2015, she delivered a paper at the International ATRIP conference in Capetown, South Africa, on the topic of ‘Using Digital Tools to Facilitate Intercultural Knowledge Exchange and Collaboration in the Field of IP’. The activity developed over the course of these two papers, a debate about IP issues to foster knowledge exchange between law students at Helwan University, Egypt and Newcastle Law School over the internet, will be employed as part of the International Intellectual Property Law LLM module in semester two to discuss issues of Patents and Access to Medicines.

DiGRA Conference, and Law & Society Conference, Seattle—Dr Daithí MacSíthigh

Dr Daithí MacSíthigh gave a paper on copyright law and the video games industry, as part of a panel on ‘International Cultures of Creativity and Imitation’ at the annual conference of DiGRA (Digital Games Research Association) in Lueneburg, Germany, from 14-17 May. Daithí also presented two papers at the Law and Society Association’s annual conference in Seattle, 28-31 May: ‘A new framework for freedom of expression in copyright law’ (with Dr. Emily Laidlaw), and “Why Do We Do What We Do? Comparing Legal Methods in Five Law Schools Through Survey Evidence” (with Mathias Siems). Daithí has also been appointed to the Open data governance board and as a book reviews editor for the International Journal of Law and Information Technology. He recently sat on the inner assessment board for the Irish Research Council.

American Society of International Law (ASIL) Research Forum, Washington —Aisling McMahon

Aisling McMahon presented a paper with Dr. Brid Ní Ghrainne (Sheffield Law School) at the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Research Forum 22-24th October 2015 in Washington DC. The paper examined the potential for statelessness for children born as a result of international surrogacy agreements and the international human rights protections which are applicable. Aisling was also invited to deliver a paper at the PEALS 16th Annual International Symposium on ‘Donors, money and body parts: what are the issues?’ which took place in the Centre for Life, Newcastle on the 22nd-23rd September. Her paper was entitled ‘Human tissue donation and the patentability of downstream research: A double standard in the entitlements of donors and researchers, or a necessary compromise?’. 
Edinburgh Legal Theory Presentation, and Congress of Law and Mental Health—Professor Richard Mullender

In March, Prof Mullender delivered a paper entitled 'The Scattergun and the Owl: Brian Simpson on H.L.A. Hart', Edinburgh Legal Theory Research Group. Richard also delivered a paper in July on 'Privacy and a Blindsport in British Law', at the XXXIVth International Congress of Law and Mental Health in Freud University, Vienna.

Recent Staff Publications include:

Journal articles


R Collier, ‘Naming Men as Men in Corporate Legal Practice: Gender and the Idea of "Virtually 24/7 Commitment" in Law’ (2015) 83 Fordham Law Review 2387


K Patten, ‘Limitation Periods, constructive knowledge and the problem of corrective justice’ (2015) 23 Tort Law Review 120


Editorials

M Quigley, ‘Evidence & Ethics: Once More into the Fray’ (2015) 41 Journal of Medical Ethics 793

Chapters

N Godden-Rasul, ‘Retribution, Redress, and the Harms of Rape: The Role of Tort Law’ in Rape Justice: Beyond the Realm of Law (Palgrave Macmillan 2015)

E Katselli, ‘R2P As a Transforming and Transformative Concept in the Context of Responsibility as Liability’ in R Barnes and V Tzevelekos (eds) Beyond Responsibility to Protect: Generating Change in International Law (Intersentia: 2015)


Notes and reviews


A number of scholarships are available for Home/EU and International students to undertake LLM study in Newcastle Law School. These include, the Newcastle University International Postgraduate Scholarships available for international students (see [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/search/list/nuips](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/search/list/nuips)), the Sir Mark Waller Postgraduate Scholarships which are offered every year to both home/EU and international students (Details of opportunities for LLM study in 2016/2017 will be available shortly at [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/sources/allstudents/waller.html](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/sources/allstudents/waller.html)). Alongside these awards, there are also a number of country specific funding sources (see [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/search/list/css](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/search/list/css)).

Each year the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Newcastle University also awards a number of scholarships to high achieving recent Newcastle University graduates from the UK or EU who are commencing a postgraduate taught degree in Newcastle University. Details of scholarships under this scheme for students commencing their studies in 2016 will be released in January, 2016 (see [http://www.ncl.ac.uk/hss/postgrad/excellencescholarships.htm](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/hss/postgrad/excellencescholarships.htm)). If you require any further information please contact gemma.hayton@ncl.ac.uk

The Spring issue of our Law School Newsletter featured profiles of students from our LLM in International law and our LLM in Environmental Regulation programmes. You can find these here. Below, Nabhan Uddin offers an overview of his experiences on the LLM in International Business Law in 2013/2014.

**Nabhan Uddin, LLM International Business Law Student 2013-2014**

The LLM International Business Law has given me an incredible opportunity to further my personal and professional development. I was excited to study a postgraduate course which offered modules in Islamic Economics and Finance, as well combining practical legal training. I loved the camaraderie that this unique LLM offered. It gave a great opportunity to meet and become friends with different students from around the world. I was most impressed by the quality of teaching that we all received, especially in terms of planning the Dissertation. Studying modules such as Competition Law also gave us a practical sense of the business world, and classes in the Business School provided a different environment. The Robinson Library and Postgraduate Study Room demonstrate the quality of facilities which we were able to use throughout the year. The Careers Fair at St. James Park (Sports Direct Arena) further demonstrates the different opportunities offered. I genuinely loved living in Newcastle, interacting with Geordie people and culture, as well as the friends I made throughout the year. The LLM in International Business Law opened my mind to the professional opportunities that I could excel in. It gave me the confidence to work abroad in South America in the subsequent months in banking and finance, as well as the skills that are currently helping me in the FinTech industry.

Students on the 2015/2016 LLM in International Legal Studies programme will have the opportunity to take part in an optional fieldtrip to the International Criminal Court, and International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia in the Hague. This fieldtrip organised by Dr Elena Katselli and Jenny Johnstone, will provide interested students with the opportunity to attend trials scheduled before these courts giving them first-hand experience of international criminal proceedings. This fieldtrip will take place in the second semester of 2016. Please note that students who wish to attend this optional fieldtrip will have to pay full costs and make appropriate visa and travel arrangements.

For more information about the fieldtrip please contact Dr Elena Katselli at elena.katselli@ncl.ac.uk
Northern Bridge Programme
The Northern Bridge Programme is a doctoral training partnership between Newcastle, Durham, and Queen’s Universities. It brings together the cutting-edge expertise and exceptional resources of the Universities and their Strategic Partners. Each year they offer up to 50 fully-funded PhD studentships across the Arts and Humanities subjects. The partnership also provides specific training for successful candidates. The competition is open to UK and EU students and the deadline for student applications this year is **5pm on 11 January 2016**. Information for applicants can be found on the Northern Bridge website ([http://www.northernbridge.ac.uk/](http://www.northernbridge.ac.uk/)) If you are interested in pursuing a PhD in any area of Law (in which the School is able to offer supervision), please contact Professor Muireann Quigley at: [muireann.quigley@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:muireann.quigley@ncl.ac.uk).

North East Doctoral Training Centre Scholarships
Applications are now invited for the 2016/17 North East Doctoral Training College (DTC) studentships. The DTC is a partnership between Newcastle, Durham, and the ESRC. It is a centre of excellence for postgraduate social science scholarship. The DTC has 40 fully-funded PhD studentships available. A Masters is not necessarily required to apply for one of these as they have 1+3 awards available, as well as the usual 3 year ones. Applicants from the UK and EU are eligible to apply. The deadline for student applications this year is **5pm on Monday 1 February 2016**. More information can be found at [http://www.nedtc.ac.uk/](http://www.nedtc.ac.uk/) and [http://www.nedtc.ac.uk/studentships/apply/](http://www.nedtc.ac.uk/studentships/apply/). Alternatively, please contact Jenny Johnstone at [jenny.johnstone@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:jenny.johnstone@ncl.ac.uk)

I came to Newcastle Law School in 2011 to complete my LLM in International Legal Studies. I had a very positive experience throughout my LLM given the Law School's supportive and friendly atmosphere, so I decided to stay on board to pursue my Ph.D. in International Law. Being of Syrian origin, my academic and career paths have naturally been influenced by the ongoing conflict in Syria, and I have therefore taken to research, advocacy, and campaigning on Syrian issues. Academically, my dissertation explores the 'responsibility to protect' doctrine, namely the idea that States have a responsibility to protect their populations from the worst mass atrocity crimes, and that if they fail to do so, then the wider international community should step in and assume these protection responsibilities. My dissertation focuses on the case studies of Libya and Syria, and I examine the current international legal framework pertaining to the responsibility of third-party States in responding to these mass atrocity situations and extrapolate lessons as to whether the international legal framework is equipped to ensure civilian protection when a host State manifestly fails to do so.

In addition to my research on the area, I have been involved with Rethink Rebuild Society – a Syrian advocacy and community organisation – as their Advocacy and Policy Coordinator. This position allows me to apply my research for a cause that I feel very passionately for. Essentially, I network with policy makers and the media to influence the UK's decision-making on Syria and to ensure that the Syrian conflict is fairly and accurately portrayed to the wider British public. As part of this role, I worked with Syrian communities across the country to produce a policy document which we are using to collectively lobby policy makers to adopt measures for civilian protection in Syria. Although balancing full-time education alongside work can be trying at times, the Law School's support and flexibility have been instrumental in allowing me to maintain both commitments. The Law School staff – and most primarily my two academic supervisors – have been extremely supportive of my endeavours and have even networked me with individuals and groups to further my advocacy work, including MPs, journalists, and individuals in the NGO sector. My experience in Newcastle Law School, therefore, will not only provide me with a degree, but also with a wealth of experience that prepares me for what lies ahead.