



Edited by Vanessa Langford

# Brunel Law School

## Student Newsletter

OCTOBER (VOL. 3, ISSUE 2) 2012

## Message from Dr Dimitrios Giannouloupoulos, Deputy Head (Learning & Teaching)

What a fascinating start of the academic year! Our inductions and 'welcome back' sessions had, of course, given us a glimpse of what to expect, but the way in which you have already engaged with the various activities offered has truly surpassed our expectations. For instance, students' engagement with mooting, debating and the new professional development short courses is quite unprecedented. It has also been a pleasure to see many of you spending time in our new building, having conversations with peers and staff or doing some quiet reading here. We are very happy to observe that you seem to like the new building and are treating it as your new intellectual home. I was very impressed the other day, when I overheard a group of students in the atrium having a lively discussion about trusts!

### BLS students will MOOT at the UK SUPREME COURT!

I have some very exciting news to share with you. The finals of our internal mooting competition this year will take place at the UK Supreme Court. We have secured for our finalists the rare opportunity to moot in the highest court in the land, an opportunity that very few



lawyers will have in their careers. The final will take place on February 26, 5-6.30 pm. Another 40 BLS law

students will be given the chance to visit the court and be in the audience for the moot. I cannot emphasise enough how excited we are for this development. On this note, can I please ask all students who want to enter the internal mooting competition to do so asap by emailing James May at [1007234@my.brunel.ac.uk](mailto:1007234@my.brunel.ac.uk).

### BLS teams for the external mooting competitions

This year we have a full programme of internal mooting competitions running (two levels), which will be taking place every other Wednesday evening 5-7 pm. In addition there are now going to be three external competitions, including two national ones (OUP and BPP), as last year, and we have already held selection events for those competition teams. The selection event was extremely impressive and showed a great deal of talent on show that bodes really well for Brunel mooting for this year and the coming years. There are at present two external competitions and for each competition four individuals have been selected for the team, from which particular roles (senior advocate, junior advocate, clerk and researcher/reserve advocate) will be determined at a later stage. The decision was extremely difficult to reach, but the panel consisting of Dr. Craig Reeves, Dr. El-Enany, Dr. Danov, Dr. Korotana and Dr. Ghazaryan, selected the following teams:

### OUP and BPP National Mooting Competition:

**Katriona Burt**  
**Henna Malik**  
**Stanley Lees**  
**Jade Doswell**

### UKSLA National Mooting Competition:

**Kerrar Al-Chayat**  
**Tayo Oguntade**  
**Jake Lewis**  
**Mohammed Rafiq**

Congratulations to those selected, and well done to all who took part. For those selected, the Law Society Mooting Officer Jimmy May will be in contact shortly. For more information contact Dr Craig Reeves at [craig.reeves@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:craig.reeves@brunel.ac.uk) and Dr Olufemi Amao at [Olufemi.amao@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Olufemi.amao@brunel.ac.uk)

### Pro Bono, Advocacy and Legal Professionals Masterclass

We had more than 100 students registering with the Client Interviewing & Pro Bono short course, while another 60 students will be participating in Advocacy and the Legal Professional Masterclass.

The Legal Professionals Masterclass started this week. There was a fantastic turnout here as well (more than 50 students). The course will be taking place in weeks 3-6, 2-4 pm, in the 'moot court' room in Elliott Jaques. This means that during these four weeks there will be one-hour long sessions for Pro Bono, which will then go back to the 2-4 pm slot for the remainder of term. Advocacy starts in week 7. For full details see overleaf.

## Brunel Law Film and Reading Group

Many of you have been asking me about Law Film and the Reading Group.

So you will be pleased to know that **Brunel Law Film** is back with its **2nd series of Human Rights Films!** The series commenced on **Thursday, October 18** with the Afghan film '**Osama**'. It is the first film shot in Afghanistan after the Taliban banned the film industry in 1996. It offers a realistic portrayal of the life of women under the Taliban regime. The film was presented by **Dr Eleni Polymenopoulou**. For more information about Brunel Law Film please contact Dr Narine Ghazaryan at [narine.ghazaryan@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:narine.ghazaryan@brunel.ac.uk)

The **Reading Group** starts **on Thursday, October 25**. Following the success of last year's Reading Group on the Eurozone crisis, we return with another session on the financial problems plaguing Greece: **Greek crisis No 2: the nightmare returns!** The session will be chaired by **Dr. Christian Heitsch** who is proposing a selection of short online articles for your reading pleasure:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/oct/08/greek-message-for-angela-merkel>

<http://greekleftreview.wordpress.com/2012/09/12/greece-is-not-a-dog-the-arrogance-of-the-austerians/>

<http://greekleftreview.wordpress.com/2012/09/12/is-the-u-s-election-keeping-greece-in-the-euro/>

<http://greekleftreview.wordpress.com/2012/09/17/greece-the-downsizing-of-a-country/>

<http://greekleftreview.wordpress.com/2012/09/09/greeces-golden-dawn-isnt-a-political-party-its-more-like-a-criminal-gang/>

[http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xqhns7\\_catastroika-english-subtitles\\_shortfilms](http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xqhns7_catastroika-english-subtitles_shortfilms)

The Reading Group will be held **on Thursday, October 25, in the Moot Court Room of the Law School**. We start at 1 pm, and we will round off the discussion with the **Catastroika film**.

For more information please contact Dr Andreas Dimopoulos at [Andreas.dimopoulos@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Andreas.dimopoulos@brunel.ac.uk)

## Professional development & extra-curricular activities in Term 1

<i>Short courses available:</i>	Weeks	Day	When	
			Time	Room, Building
<b>Client Interviewing and Pro Bono</b>	1-2	Wednesday	14:00-16:00	LC063, Lecture Centre
<b>Client Interviewing and Pro Bono</b>	7-10	Wednesday	14:00-16:00	LC064, Lecture Centre
<b>Client Interviewing and Pro Bono</b>	3-6	Wednesday	16:00-17:00	LC-B, Lecture Centre
<b>Advocacy</b>	7-10	Wednesday	16:00-17:00	ELTJ081, Elliott Jaques
<b>Legal Professionals Master Class</b>	3, 4, 5, 6, 8	Wednesday	14:00-16:00	ELTJ081, Elliott Jaques
<b>Mooting and debating</b>	1, 3, 5-6, 8	Wednesday	17:00-19:00	ELTJ081, Elliott Jaques

Timetable changes are updated via <https://teaching.brunel.ac.uk/SWS-1213/login.aspx>

If you have not registered for the courses above and wish to attend please log onto <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/law/society/short-course2/ nocache> to register. There are now very few places available in all courses.

## Bar Council of India recognition

Our LLB degree received recognition from the Bar Council of India (BCI) this summer. This means that students doing an LLB at Brunel will now be able to qualify as advocates in India (subject to a number of conditions of course). There are just around 80 Law Schools worldwide who have had their LLB degrees recognised by the Bar Council of India, including 35 from the UK. The list of foreign Universities recognised by BCI is

available here: <http://www.barcouncilofindia.org/about/legal-education/list-of-foreign-universities-whose-degrees-in-law-are-recognised-by-the-bar-council-of-india/> The delegates from the BCI visiting Brunel in January 2012 were most impressed with the expertise of staff, the enthusiasm of our students, the breadth and depth of our teaching and extra-curricular activities as well as the state-of-the-art facilities at Brunel.



## Skills

The Law School is one of the few Schools at Brunel to offer in house assistance with 'writing skills'. **Mr Paul Bracken**, a **Royal Literary Fund Fellow**, is offering **weekly sessions**, on **Tuesdays, 5-7 pm, in ELTJ 081 Moot Court**. The School's '**Skills Tutor**', **Dr Nadine El-Enany**, is also holding **weekly 'essay clinics'**, on **Tuesday's 3-4 pm**, in her office in the **ELTJ building**.

So Tuesday is your 'skills day'. Make sure you use these services to their full capacity. You can also count on the excellent support of **ASK** in the Library (please contact [Claire.grover@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Claire.grover@brunel.ac.uk) for more information). So, really, no excuses this year if you get your referencing or structure etc wrong (which I am sure will not happen)!

Finally, Level 1's have a number of skills sessions added to their timetable. I hope they will all attend these group sessions. They are extremely valuable.

## Staff vs Students Football

Over the last few years a tradition has been created in the School, for our students and staff to face each other on the football pitch and basketball court. We continued with this tradition with our recent football match.

A very competitive game took place on Thursday night. The student team took an early lead which was soon pulled back by staff making it 1-1. Again the students carved out a lead at 2-1 but the staff team found their rhythm and extended a 2-4 lead. Amazingly the student team equalised in the dying minutes of the game. Thank you to all who participated especially to the 'borrowed' players who joined the staff team. **Final score: 4-4.**



## LLM Matters

### International Commercial Arbitration students:

Dr Matthew Parish, a partner at Holman Fenwick in Geneva, will be speaking on "Arbitrator Neutrality" and sharing his professional experience and insights with our PG International Commercial Arbitration students in Term 1, organised by Mr Tony Cole and Dr Faye Fangfei Wang.

## Brunel Law Student Society

Our student society (The Law Society) are organising a wide range of fascinating activities for this year: pro bono, debating, participation in an international moot, a mentoring scheme, study visits (there was a visit to the Inner Temple on October 18), weekly clinics etc. I understand 70 students have already joined the Society and paid memberships, which is fantastic. The Society are making a huge difference to the student experience this year, so I hope you will all partake in their activities.

To register for the Law society visit: [www.brunelstudents.com](http://www.brunelstudents.com)



Law Society visit Inner Temple

## Middlesex Law Society

**MLS** are organising visits to the Supreme Court, on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, and the House of Commons, on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Availability is very limited, so please contact Dr Rebecca Bates at [Rebecca.bates@brunel.ac.uk](mailto:Rebecca.bates@brunel.ac.uk) to secure a place.



### Twitter

Do not forget that you can set up a twitter page (or simply go to [www.twitter.com/brunelLaw](http://www.twitter.com/brunelLaw)) and closely follow developments as they happen. The Law School has a dedicated page there [@BrunelLaw](https://twitter.com/BrunelLaw) and so does our Law Society [@BrunelLawSoc](https://twitter.com/BrunelLawSoc)

Some of our staff and students are also actively engaging with twitter:

[@jadedoswell](https://twitter.com/jadedoswell) [@CatrionaBurt](https://twitter.com/CatrionaBurt) [@SarahRourke](https://twitter.com/SarahRourke) [@Sarah\\_Kneen](https://twitter.com/Sarah_Kneen)  
[@MartinaTL](https://twitter.com/MartinaTL) [@rebeccabates](https://twitter.com/rebeccabates) [@LawLibrn\\_Brunel](https://twitter.com/LawLibrn_Brunel) [@hadriantulk](https://twitter.com/hadriantulk)  
[@TheHennaM](https://twitter.com/TheHennaM) [@ASKBrunel](https://twitter.com/ASKBrunel) [@EmilyDanvers](https://twitter.com/EmilyDanvers) [@ProfDavidRose](https://twitter.com/ProfDavidRose)  
[@RachelWalker89](https://twitter.com/RachelWalker89) [@dimitriosatBLS](https://twitter.com/dimitriosatBLS) [@zahasalmanasif](https://twitter.com/zahasalmanasif)

These are just some of the 325 people following the [@BrunelLaw](https://twitter.com/BrunelLaw) account.



### Facebook

Join Brunel Law School's official Facebook page. This is an open group for anyone interested in learning more about the Law School, to receive regular updates, to post questions and to view the activities we organise throughout the academic year. This is a great way of meeting other students on your course and in different years, so feel free to join and share!

Please make sure to join our Brunel Law Society group too at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/13133522393/>

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