Research is at the heart of the Law School’s mission and underpins all of the School’s academic activities, including undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. Our legal, socio-legal and criminological research enjoys national and international renown. Through academic publishing, informing policy processes, advisory work, knowledge exchange, activities for government departments, public agencies and regional, national and international bodies, our research has local, regional, national and global impact.

The results from the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) rank the School of Law in joint 10th place for research excellence, along with the Universities of Oxford and Warwick.

90% of our research outputs are judged to be world-leading or internationally excellent. Our vibrant research environment is rated as 75% world-leading and 25% internationally excellent.
Welcome to our new researchers

We are pleased welcome visiting scholars and new researchers to the School of Law. We are delighted that they wish to spend time working at the here, and to contribute to the vibrant intellectual life of our School.

Centre for the Study of Law in Society

Dr Wei Gong is a visiting fellow at the School of Law, University of Sheffield. He holds a PhD in Law from Renmin University, China. He is an expert in civil law, especially in property law, tort law, contract law and corporate law. He had practised law for more than 12 years in China before coming to the UK. He used to work as a Research Fellow at Asia Research Centre, the London School of Economics on an EU FP7 project on urbanisation in China. He held visiting positions at the LSE and Queen’s University Belfast. He also holds visiting positions at Chongqing University, China and University of International Business and Economics, China.

Research Interests

- Chinese law
- Laws and regulations of China and EU
- Transformation of Chinese society (urbanisation in China)
- Governance in China

Sheffield Institute of Corporate and Commercial Law members

Ms Frances Coppola

Frances used to work for banks and now writes about them, and about finance and economics generally.

Professor Edward Kane

Professor Ed Kane is a past president and fellow of the American Finance Association, a former Guggenheim fellow, and a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Dr Rongrong Yuan

Dr Rongrong Yuan a lecturer in civil and commercial law at Shandong University.

Dr Hong Zhou

Dr Hong Zhou is lecturer in social stability and risk at Shandong University, China.

Our new research partners from Renmin University Law School

We are delighted to announce that the Sheffield Institute of Corporate and Commercial Law will be working with researchers from Renmin University Law School.

Our new research partners and their areas of research are...

Professor Zhu Daqi
- Economic Law
- Fiscal and Tax Law
- Financial Law

Professor Yao Haifang
- Economic Law
- Company Law
- Consumer Law
- Industrial Law
- Law and Economics

Professor Xu Yangguang
- Economic Law
- Corporate and Bankruptcy Laws
- Tax and Financial Law
Research Events

Our research events bring together the researchers and other stakeholders in the research process to discuss the latest issues facing academia and society as whole.


Thursday 17th December 2015 marked the 60th anniversary of the first decision on a human rights case relating to sexual orientation discrimination. This one-day workshop on LGBT rights under the European Convention on Human Rights reflected on and debated the past, present and future of LGBT Human Rights.

Presentations

- Paul Johnson (University of York): “17 December 1955: the birth of LGBT international human rights law”
- Loveday Hodson (University of Leicester): “LGBT Applicants: The Sexed Subject of Strasbourg”
- Damian Gonzalez-Salzberg (University of Sheffield): “Deconstructing the Court’s conceptions of homosexuality and transsexuality”

Debate

A public debate was held in the afternoon focused on three current topics concerning LGBT rights and the European Convention on Human Rights:

- Same-sex marriage
- Adoption of children by LGBT individuals
- Requirements imposed for gender transition
Joint Roundtable on The Mediterranean Refugee Crisis: Views from Europe, Africa, and the Middle East

This roundtable was hosted via live video link and included panellists at the Sheffield Centre for International and European Law, Migration at Sheffield and University of Wisconsin - Madison. The panellists provided a broad view of the refugee crisis by offering European, African, and Middle Eastern perspectives.

The roundtable featured comments from:

- Basak Yavcan, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University and University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Paul James Cardwell, School of Law, University of Sheffield
- Bríd Ní Ghráinne, School of Law, University of Sheffield
- Sharon Hutchinson, Emeritus Professor, UW-Madison

Centre for the Study of Law in Society Co-Hosts International Conference on Judicial Appointments

Earlier this month the Centre for the Study of Law in Society (CLIS) co-hosted a major international conference on Appointing Judges in an Age of Diversity. The conference was timed to coincide with the tenth anniversary of the Judicial Appointments Commission. Lady Hale, Deputy President of the UK Supreme Court, gave the keynote lecture on ‘Appointing Judges to the UK Supreme Court’. In a lecture that was widely reported in the national and legal media, Lady Hale noted that six vacancies will arise on the Supreme Court between September 2016 and December 2018 and suggested that ‘if (we) do not manage to achieve a (much) more diverse Court in the process of filling them we ought to be ashamed of ourselves”. Over 400 people attended the lecture. Other speakers at the conference included Christopher Stephens (Chair, JAC), Lord Justice Bean (Chair, Law Commission), Karon Monaghan QC (Matrix Chambers) as well as academics from Australia, Canada, South Africa and across the UK. Delegates included several members of the JAC as well as officials from the Ministry of Justice, the Judicial Office and the Supreme Court. Professor Graham Gee (University of Sheffield) and Professor Erika Rackley (University of Birmingham) co-organised the conference. Professor Gee also presented a paper at the conference which ask “How Much Judicial Influence Over Judicial Appointments is Too Much?”. Other participants from the School of Law included Professor Tamara Hervey, Professor Paul Knepper, Dr Dimitrios Tsarapatsanis and Dr Tara Lai Quinlan.

The conference was generously funded by CLIS, the Socio-Legal Studies Association and the University of Birmingham.
## Seminar series: October to December 2015

Our seminars are open to anyone interested in Criminology and Law. Also as a modern law school we are committed to the long term training and support of people in practice and the public sector.

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<td>Dilemmas in promoting global economic justice through law: A case study of the 'Maastricht Principles on the Extraterritorial Obligations of States in the area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' and their associated Commentary</td>
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<td>Dr Richard Danbury, University of Cambridge</td>
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Sheffield Centre for International and European Law

University of Glasgow
External Relations and Impact

Our research is of interest to the media and social commentators who seek to inform people about issues that affect them and their communities.

Working beyond the academy our researchers work with key stakeholders in the research process such as public, private and third sector organisations. We aim to work in partnership to have our research create an impact and confront major societal challenges.

We also value our connections to the wider research community and aim to build on our partnerships to gain insights into the latest research taking place in our research areas. Here we show case our new partnerships.

Graham Gee to sit on selection panel to recommend candidates for the ECtHR

The Lord Chancellor, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, has asked Professor Graham Gee to sit on the panel to recommend candidates for appointment as the UK’s judge on the European Court of Human Rights. The other members of the panel are Dame Rosalyn Higgins (former President of the International Court of Justice), Lord Reed (UK Supreme Court), Lord Dyson (Master of the Rolls), Richard Heaton (Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Justice) Iain MacLeod (Chief Legal Adviser at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Baroness Onora O’Neill (currently chair of the Equality and Human Rights Commission).

Generation Right: Documentary wins gold.

The 2015 film Generation Right examines the impact of Thatcherism on crime in the UK and is based upon the work of Stephen Farrall, Professor of Criminology and his colleagues.

The film has now won Gold Award in the Documentary Short competition at the Oregon Film Awards (2015)

Professor Farrall is pictured here answering questions following a screening at Sheffield Doc/Fest.

Learn more about the film here.

Learn more about the project here.
Dr Ting Xu interviewed on BBC Radio 4

Dr Ting Xu was interviewed on BBC Radio 4’s programme on Britain and China last night. BBC Radio 4’s China’s Editor Carrie Grace examined the past and future of the relationship between China and Britain ahead of the State Visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Listen to the Programme

Dr Ting Xu spoke about how the differences matter at around 6m - 7m 45s and then between 14m:07s - 16m

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Tara Lai Quinlan's Research Examining Approaches to Post-9/11 Counterterrorism Achieves Wide Coverage

Law School Lecturer in Law & Diversity Tara Lai Quinlan, recently achieved wide coverage for her piece on ‘UK and US Approaches To post-9/11 Counterterrorism’ having been posted on the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) esteemed British Policy and Politics blog.

Tara’s research examines the post-9/11 policy formation of community engagement and partnership programmes with Muslim communities in the UK and US. In the blog, Tara outlines some of the key similarities and differences in how each country has approached post-9/11 counterterrorism.

The piece was tweeted to LSE’s 42,000 followers and widely retweeted. Read the full blog on the LSE website.

Follow Tara Lai Quinlan @QuinlanTL

Follow LSE @LSEpoliticsblog
Dr Bríd Ní Ghráinne Interviewed on Irish Radio Stations

Dr Bríd Ní Ghráinne gave two interviews in Irish to Irish national radio stations last week.

The interviews were broadcast on Raidió na Gaeltachta's AthMhaidin morning programme on Thursday 3rd December, and Newstalk's 'Splanc' evening programme on Friday 4th December. Both interviews concerned the recent decision of the UK Parliament to engage in airstrikes in Syria.

Dr Vicky Chico nominated as an academic legal representative for healthcare research consortium

Dr Vicky Chico has been nominated by Anne Carter Director of the UK Tissue Directory and Coordination Centre, to be the academic legal representative on the UK Common Service Ethical, Legal and Social Issues (ELSI) Work group of the Biobanking and Molecular Resources Research Infrastructure - European Research Infrastructure Consortium (BBMRI-ERIC). The group will engage with BBMRI-ERIC to explore relevant legal and ethical issues within the UK and the UK's position in the European infrastructure of BBMRI-ERIC. Each European member state has a Common Service ELSI group and as a collective, the aim of Common Service ELSI is to facilitate and support cross-border exchanges of human biological resources and data attached for research uses, collaborations and sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices. Ultimately BBMRI-ERIC states its aims as follows:

`....to facilitate collaboration between researchers, biobankers, patient advocacy groups, and the biotech and pharma industry is essential in addressing both common and rare diseases. Sixteen Member States and one International Organisation have thus joined forces in establishing BBMRI-ERIC, which is one of the largest health Research Infrastructure in Europe today. [BBMRI-ERIC] primarily aims at establishing, operating, and developing a pan-European distributed research infrastructure of biobanks and biomolecular resources. This will facilitate the access to biological resources as well as biomedical facilities and support high-quality biomolecular and medical research.....leading to better prevention, diagnostics, and therapy for all.'

BBMRI-ERIC is one of the largest health research Infrastructures in Europe. It consists of Sixteen Member States and one International Organisation.
Professor Sarah Blandy advising Norwegian Research Council Project

Professor Sarah Blandy has been appointed to the Advisory Board for a research project on Materializing Kinship: Cycles of life at the Norwegian ‘hytte’, 2016-2020, funded by the Norwegian Research Council.

Dr Ting Xu is the new Secretary of the UKVI

Dr Ting Xu has held the role of new interim Secretary of the UK IVR (the UK branch of the International Association of Legal and Social Philosophy) since November 2015.

Dr Ting Xu joins editorial board

Dr Ting Xu joined the editorial board of The Oriental Law Review in November 2015.
Research Grants and Project updates

A new project is the start of something significant in the world of research. Any new project that is funded by a research council is expected to have an impact on academia and society as a whole.

Resarch to inform the development of restorative policing and improve engagement with victims secures major new award

A research team based at the University of Sheffield and the University of Leeds has secured £336,000 of funding from the Police Knowledge Fund to develop greater understanding of restorative justice principles relevant to policing and the research evidence base that informs good practices that are sensitive to the needs of victims.

The 18 month project lead by Professor Joanna Shapland and Professor Adam Crawford will assist the police in identifying means for front-line officers to assess which paths to use to facilitate restorative policing and how best to introduce restorative principles to victims of crime.

The project partners include three police force areas in which the research will be conducted - South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside – as well as Remedi, a specialist voluntary sector organisation providing restorative responses. The Police and Crime Commissioners and senior command teams in the force areas are committed to ensuring the greatest impact and value from the research.

The initiative, launched by the College of Policing, the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Home Office aims to strengthen collaboration between academia and police forces in order to increase evidence-based knowledge, skills and problem-solving approaches within policing.

Professor Joanna Shapland, the Principal Investigator on the project, said: “We are delighted to be awarded this grant by the Police Knowledge Fund and to be working with the three forces to help them develop restorative policing and to improve their work with victims of crime”.

Mark Burns-Williamson, Police and Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire commented: “This project is particularly timely and important given recent changes and developments in the commitment to police organisations and the delivery of restorative justice. The proposed collaboration with the Universities of Sheffield and Leeds will enable us to better understand and improve our practices in delivering restorative justice and improve engagement with victims.”

Justine Curran, Chief Constable of Humberside Police said: “We are delighted to be involved in this pioneering partnership and innovative programme of research and development work. We look forward to helping ensure its successful
implementation and to maximising the benefits and lessons that derive from the research and knowledge it will generate.”

Matthew Grove, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Humberside added:

“This research will hopefully help to demonstrate the benefits and evidence base for restorative justice in practice and, when used appropriately, show how it can improve community safety and wellbeing and strengthen civil society.”

In affirming his support for the research project Dr Alan Billings, Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire noted:

“This research project fits in with the development and policing plan for restorative justice that is already financially supported through my office.”

Steve Jones, Director of Remedi, added:

“We feel this research will act as the catalyst for change in ensuring both the quality and effectiveness of restorative policing and, by doing so, enable the full potential benefits of RJ for victims of crime and offenders to be realised.”

The Police Knowledge Fund

Following a rigorous assessment process, 14 bids involving 39 forces, 30 universities, the British Transport Police, Police Service Northern Ireland and the National Crime Agency, have been awarded funding. The successful bids range from the establishment of collaborations to achieve evidence-based regional and national centres for professional development, to key strategic areas of policing, to innovative research work in areas such as cybercrime, mental health issues and digital policing strategies.

HEFCE’s Director of Research, Education and Knowledge Exchange, David Sweeney, said:

“HEFCE is delighted by the response from the higher education sector to the Police Knowledge Fund. All of the bids identified exciting new opportunities for collaborative working and innovations with police forces and other partners. The 14 bids awarded funding will provide high-quality teaching and research activity, and add to the evidence and knowledge base to support current national priorities in policing and crime reduction.”

College of Policing Director of Knowledge Research and Education, Rachel Tuffin, said:

“We received 72 excellent bids and it was great to see the appetite out there for improving policing through research and evidence-based practice for officers and staff. The successful bidders have presented a wide range of ideas and initiatives aimed at building the evidence base in policing to help frontline officers and staff develop their skills and knowledge... I’m looking forward to seeing these 14 bids put into practice and continuing to develop and promote what really works in policing and crime reduction.”

The N8 Policing Research Partnership

The research connects well with and complements the work of the N8 Policing Research Partnership of which the research team are members. The N8 Policing Research Partnership is working with eleven police forces and eight universities across the north of England to transform relations between universities and policing partners, strengthen the evidence base, and foster innovation in approaches to policing and crime reduction. Professor Crawford who is also the Director of the N8 Policing Research Partnership said:

“This important new research into restorative policing is a further example of the manner in which N8 universities are collaborating with policing partners in novel ways to co-produce
knowledge that will inform future policing strategies and help ensure police practices that conform with the best research evidence available.”

For further information about the N8 Policing Research Partnership see: [www.n8prp.org.uk](http://www.n8prp.org.uk)

**For further information contact:**
Joanna Shapland – [j.m.shapland@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.m.shapland@sheffield.ac.uk) – Tel: 0114 222 6712
Adam Crawford – [a.crawford@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:a.crawford@leeds.ac.uk) – Tel: 0113 343 5045
For information about the Police Knowledge Fund visit: [http://whatworks.college.police.uk/Involve/Pages/Knowledge-Fund.aspx](http://whatworks.college.police.uk/Involve/Pages/Knowledge-Fund.aspx)

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**Professor Graham Gee launches new website on ‘Judicial Power’**

On 20th October, [Graham Gee](mailto:graham.gee@exeter.ac.uk) (Professor of Public Law in the School of Law) and Richard Ekins (St John’s College, University of Oxford) launched a new [website](http://whatworks.college.police.uk/Involve/Pages/Knowledge-Fund.aspx) for Policy Exchange’s Judicial Power Project. To mark the launch of the website, Policy Exchange and the Judicial Power Project hosted a lecture at Gray’s Inn on ‘Judicial Power: Past, Present and Future’ by Professor John Finnis, one of the most eminent legal and political thinkers of the last fifty years.

Introducing Professor Finnis, the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, the Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, commented that there were few constitutional challenges more important than to explore the proper reach of and limits on judicial power. The Lord Chancellor praised the Judicial Power Project for doing vital work to promote public debate. In an introductory post on 'Debating Judicial Power', Professors Gee and Ekin explain their vision for the website and how they hope to foster debate about the proper bounds of judicial power.

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**Professor Sarah Blandy has seminar on Enduring Property Relations funded by the Modern Law Review**

Professor Sarah Blandy has been successful in obtaining funding from the Modern Law Review for a seminar on Enduring Property Relations, to be held in Oxford, May 2016. The application was made jointly with Professor Susan Bright, Oxford, and Professor Sarah Nield, Southampton.
The Centre for Criminological Research at the American Society of Criminology conference in Washington DC, 18-21 November 2015

The Centre for Criminological Research had a major presence at the American Society of Criminology meeting in Washington DC, the key North American conference for criminology and criminal justice research. Seven members of CCR gave papers and we organised two conference sessions and a roundtable, as well as hosting a reception, which was very well attended.

**Dr Matthew Bacon** organised a roundtable discussion on ‘Working with the police on policing: experiences of police-academic partnerships’, which links to the work being done at the University on the N8 HEFCE Catalyst grant on working with the police. Speakers, in a very full session, were Professor John E. Eck (University of Cincinnati), Professor Cynthia Lum (George Mason University), Professor Wesley G. Skogan (Northwestern University), Professor Jenny Fleming (University of Southampton), and Matthew himself. The roundtable was chaired by **Professor Joanna Shapland**. Matthew also gave a paper in a separate session on ‘Detecting change: the impact of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 on the everyday realities of detective work’.

**Dr Bart Claes** gave a paper on ‘Desistance from crime and restorative justice in prison’, as well as chairing a conference session on ‘Correctional quandaries across continents’

**Professor Stephen Farrall** organised a session on ‘Crime and politics in the US and Britain’, in which he gave a paper on ‘Theorising and exploring the Thatcherite legacy for the criminal justice system’, whilst **Dr Emily Gray** presented a paper in the same session on ‘Can we detect “Thatcher’s children” in data on attitudes to crime?’

**Professor Paul Knepper** gave a presentation on ‘Stupid ideas, worldwide appeal: the puzzle of Lombros’s influence in criminology’ in a thematic panel on the history of criminological thought. **Professor Knepper** was also a ‘critic’ in an ‘Author meets critics’ session on a special issue of the European Journal of Criminology, with the participants being Professor Michael Tonry (University of Minnesota), Professor Alex R. Piquero (University of Texas at Dallas), Professor David P. Farrington (University of Cambridge), Professor Michael Rocque (Bates College), Professor Gary LaFree (University of Maryland), Professor Chad Posick (Georgia Southern University), Professor Susanne Karstedt (Griffith University), Professor Ineke Haen Marshall (Northeastern University), Professor Richard E. Tremblay (University of Montreal/University College Dublin), Dr Antonia Linde (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya), Professor Gerben Bruinsma (NSCR), Professor Klaus Boers (University of Muenster) and Professor Michael G. Maxfield (John Jay College of Criminal Justice), with the session chaired by Professor Marcelo F. Aebi (University of Lausanne).

**Professor Joanna Shapland**, as well as chairing the policing roundtable, gave a presentation (jointly written with **Dr Angela Sorsby**) on ‘Promoting quality in probation supervision: the SEED training programme evaluated in England and Romania’.

**Dr Philippa Tomczak** gave a paper on ‘The voluntary sector, penal policy and payment by results: expanding the carceral net’.

The Centre for Criminological Research reception, American Society of Criminology conference, Washington DC, 20 November 2015
There is a tradition at the ASC of leading American universities holding a reception where it is possible to meet members of staff and find out about their courses and research. This is our second year hosting such a reception and we were the only UK university doing so (the University of Cambridge has done so in the past). There was considerable positive comment that we were doing this, and investing in this way. Other receptions were held by leading US universities, including Pennsylvania State University, University at Albany, University of Maryland, Michigan State University, Rutgers University, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and University of California Irvine. The only other non-US universities were Griffith University (Australia) and Simon Fraser University (Canada).

We had about 60-70 people coming to our reception, many more than last year (word had got around). They were particularly interested in the MOOC on Crime, Justice and Society. CCR people acting as hosts were Joanna Shapland, Stephen Farrall, Paul Knepper, Matthew Bacon, Philippa Tomczak, Bart Claes and Emily Gray.
Presentations

We present papers all over the world to share our research ideas and connect with our wider research community.

**Professor Sarah Blandy** presented ‘Collaborative governance or common property? New forms for managing urban green space in the UK’ (joint paper with Dr Simone Abram, Anthropology, University of Durham) at the conference *The city as a commons: reconceiving urban space, common goods and city governance*, University of Bologna, 6-7 November 2015.

**Professor Sarah Blandy** presented ‘Enduring Property Relations’ (joint paper with Professor Susan Bright, Oxford, and Professor Sarah Nield, Southampton) to the Oxford Property Law Discussion Group, 20 November 2015.

**Kate Bracegirdle** was invited to present a paper as part of a panel with Professor Jean Allain and Dr Luke Moffett of Queen’s University Belfast at the "Repairing the Past. Imagining the Future: Reparations and Beyond..." conference held at the University of Edinburgh 5-7 November 2015. Her paper was entitled ‘Developing Unjust Enrichment to Respond to Historical Claims.’

**Dr Bart Claes** presented his work on restorative justice and rehabilitation in prison at the expert seminar ‘sentencing, rehabilitation and perpetrators of international crimes’, hosted by the Center for International Criminal Justice at the VU University Amsterdam, 30 November 2015.

On 20th October **Professor Andrew Johnston** and **Dr Ding Chen** gave research presentations at [Renmin University Law School](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renmin_University) to staff, PhD students and Masters students.

Renmin is widely regarded as China’s top law school. Andrew presented his paper ‘Regulating Hedge Funds for Systemic Stability: the EU’s Approach’, whilst Ding presented an article jointly written with Simon Deakin, Mathias Siems and Boya Wang, ‘Law and Economic growth’, which is based on interviews carried out in China.

Following the seminars, Andrew and Ding discussed a number of ways in which SICCL and the Law School might collaborate with Renmin in the future.


Professor Tamara Hervey was invited to present at the 10th anniversary of Health Economics Policy and Law took place at the London School of Economics, 22 October 2015.

The programme began with some words about HEPL from Patrick McCartan of Cambridge University Press. There were then short statements from some of the members of HEPL’s International Advisory Board on what they think the biggest challenges will be in health care policy, either from the perspective of their own country or internationally, over the next 10 years. The presenters reflected the mix of disciplinary perspectives on which HEPL focuses (i.e. economics, political science and law). Professor Hervey presented ‘Reflecting on ‘Supporting health systems in Europe: added value of EU actions?’

The event was accompanied by publication of a 10th anniversary special issue of HEPL, where members of the International Advisory Board reflected on a selection of HEPL’s output over the past decade.

Professor Tamara Hervey was invited to give a special talk on Friday 13 November 2015 at Indiana University USA.

Her presentation was entitled ‘What did the European Union ever do for global public health?’

Learn more about her presentation and visit here

She is pictured here with Dean Professor David Orentlicher.

Dr Dimitrios Tsarapatsanis presented ‘Human Rights at the Epistemic Intersection Between the General and the Particular’ at an International Human Rights Conference in Ghent (Belgium) on Wednesday 9 December 2015.

On 24 November 2015, Yin Harn Lee gave an invited seminar at the Queen Mary School of Law entitled ‘Copyright Implications of Videogame Modifications’. It was attended by staff and students from the LLM module on Interactive Entertainment Law.

Professor Aurora Plomer was invited to present at an international conference on Intellectual Property (IP) and the Life Sciences organized by Queen Mary University and the University of Basel. The conference was held at the University of Basel, 13th – 14th November 2015. The conference provided an in-depth analysis of the boundaries between IP and the life sciences and the significance of IP for medicine, pharmaceutics, the agricultural sector, life sciences research, as well as detailed country case studies. Aurora’s presentation was on Stem Cell Research and Patents in the EU.

Professor Plomer was also invited by Sir Robin Jacob, retired Justice of Appeal and Sir Hugh Laddie Chair of Intellectual Property at UCL, to join the panel of speakers at an event on the impact of ethical consideration on the existence and enforcement of IP rights. The event was organized by UCL and the International Association for the Protection of IP on 18th November 2015. The other panel speakers were Mr Justice Carr (Judge of the High Court of England and Wales), Professor Pete Coffey (Professor of Visual Psychophysics, UCL Institute of Ophthalmology) and Professor Lionel Bently (Herchel Smith Professor of Intellectual Property Law, University of Cambridge).

Dr Ting Xu was invited by Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen University) Law School to give a public lecture at Zhongshan University's Guangzhou campus on 18 December 2015 and then to speak at the first International Young Scholars Forum at its Zhuhai campus between 19-20 December 2015.
Publications

Our researchers have been producing publications based on their research. Here are the latest publications available at the forefront of knowledge.


Dr Richard Kirkham has published a blog, Mapping the new world of accredited ADR schemes (19 October, 2015), which analyses the early impact of the implementation of the EU Directive on ADR in the UK. Richard argues that the manner in which the Directive has been implemented may successfully promote ADR in the short-term, but it has also created some big risks for the integrity of ADR.

Dr Richard Kirkham has published a blog, Judicial Neutering of the Powers of the Ombudsman (10 Nov, 2015), which critiques a judgment of the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal. The case, JR55, could have a profound impact on the ombudsman community of it is not overturned by the Supreme Court next year.

Richard is the author of the blog site Thinking About Administrative Justice.

Professor Aurora Plomer’s monograph entitled ‘Patents, Human Rights and Access to Science’ has been published by Edward Elgar Publishing.

The new millennium has been described as ‘the century of biology’, but scientific progress and access to medicines has been marred by global disputes over ownership of the science by universities and private
companies. This book examines the challenges posed by the modern patent system to the right of everyone to access the benefits of science in international law.

This book has already received critical acclaim from leading scholars. Students and scholars of international law, particularly those focusing on intellectual property and human rights, will find this book to be of considerable interest. It will also be of use to practitioners in the field.

The book is available now, however you and download the first chapter Patents, Profits and the Public for free now: [http://t.co/rJDVNcKAX](http://t.co/rJDVNcKAX)

The December 2015 issue of the *European Journal of Probation* is a Special Issue on 'Innovative methods for comparative research on offender supervision practice', which has been edited by Gwen Robinson and Kerstin Svensson (Lund University, Sweden).

This is the second special issue of the European Journal of Probation which has its origins in the ongoing work of a European academic network, the COST Action on Offender Supervision, which commenced in 2012 ([www.offendersupervision.eu](http://www.offendersupervision.eu)). In this special issue, the focus is methodological, and the papers it includes were commissioned from two of the Action’s Working Groups, whose members have been engaged in the development and piloting of innovative methods for studying aspects of offender supervision practice comparatively. As well as co-authoring the editorial introduction, Gwen is co-author of one of the articles included in the special issue:


Senior Lecturer Dr Ting Xu’s edited book (with Professor Jean Allain, Queens University Belfast) entitled "Property and Human Rights in a Global Context" has been published by Hart Publishing.

This collection starts the conversation between human rights lawyers and property lawyers and explores analytical approaches to the increasing relationship between property and human rights in a global context. The chapters engage with key theoretical and policy debates and range across three main themes: the re-evaluation of the public/private divide in the law; the tensions between the market and social justice in development; and the balance between the rights of individuals and those of communities.

The book is available now, further details can be found on the publisher’s [website](http://www.hartpublishing.com).
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