

Vol.6 March 2021

University of Exeter Law Society

INTER ALIA



TABLE OF CONTENTS

03. Presidents Update

04. Upcoming Events

05. LawCareers.Net Awards

06. Committee Elections

08. Bar Group

11. Mooting

12. In Conversation with Gina Miller

13. Diversity & Inclusion

14. LGBTQ+ History Month

17. International Students' Directory

18. Partner Highlight: LexisNexis

19. Our Committee

20. Our Partners

PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Welcome to our March edition of Inter Alia.

We are excited to share that UELS has been nominated for 3 LawCareers.Net Society Awards. It has been fantastic for our Committee, who have all worked so hard, to be recognised in this way, and we thank all our members for your continued support - particularly those who took part in the LCN Survey that contributed to our nominations!

Our Bar Group has been very busy last month putting on 5 different events, including the Inaugural Bar Dinner. This was a great success and we hope it will be continued annually for years to come. The Pro Bono teams have been similarly busy with the JUSTICE auction and STRAVA running challenge! There are lots of challenges and events coming up in March, so keep an eye out on our social media to find out how you can get involved.

This month we are holding our elections for the new committee who will take over for the 2021/22 academic year. Please join us to “Re-Meet the Committee” on March 3rd if you are thinking of running to find out more about what it means to be on the UELS Committee.

- Jess and Lucy



UPCOMING EVENTS

March

Wednesday 3rd

**Re-Meet the
Committee**

**Monday 8th
Women's Day
Panel with
Women + Law**

Wednesday 10th

AGM

**Tuesday 16th
Revision Tips
Event**

LAW SOCIETY AWARD NOMINATIONS '21

We're delighted to share that UELS has been nominated for three LawCareers.Net awards in recognition of the hard work the committee has put into the society this academic year.

The awards, which are sponsored by Willkie Farr & Gallagher (UK) LLP, seek to celebrate the brilliant work of student law societies, especially during a difficult year of remote learning and social distancing. The nominations received are for the following awards:

- Best society for non-law students
- Most committed to increasing diversity
- Best society for aspiring barristers

The Student Law Society Awards ceremony will take place virtually on the evening of Thursday 18 March 2021, bringing together representatives from the prestigious sponsor firms and nominated student law societies.

STUDENT LAW SOCIETY AWARDS 21

**Most committed to
increasing diversity**

University of Exeter Law
Society

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**Best society for aspiring
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**Best society for non-law
students**

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COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

University of Exeter



Law Society

HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

Head to the UELS Student guild page after 6pm on March 3rd. Please be aware nominations close at 6pm march 9th. You **MUST BE A MEMBER OF UELS TO NOMINATE YOURSELF.**

READ THE ELECTION POSTS AND ENSURE YOU UNDERSTAND THE ROLE REQUIREMENTS BEFORE NOMINATING YOURSELF FOR THAT POSITION.

submit a slogan (max 20 words), a picture of yourself, and a manifesto (max 500 words). Please be aware that when you add a picture of yourself you must also press 'attach' otherwise this will not be added to your candidate profile.

You may run as a candidate for more than one position, but you must submit separate manifestos for both roles. Please be aware if you win more than one position you are unable to hold more than one position and will be asked to choose which position you wish to hold.

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

University of Exeter



Law Society

AGM - 10TH MARCH

AGM attendance is not mandatory for candidates, however, it is recommended to give you an opportunity to demonstrate why you are the best candidate for the role.

Candidates for each position will be asked the same 3 questions from members, each question will be asked to candidates in a different order to give everyone an equal opportunity to answer as best they can. For each question you are asked, you will have 30 seconds to answer. This is in the interests of fairness as well as time keeping.

If candidates have any questions about the election prior to the AGM, please email the Returning Officer, Jessica Phillips at jp738@exeter.ac.uk.

BAR GROUP

Bar Dinner

On February 23rd we held one of the most important events for the Bar calendar, UELS' inaugural Bar Dinner. It was an event we had been planning for a while and one we desperately wanted to deliver on. With a wide range of barristers across many chambers, practices, and areas of the country, our members were able to network with six barristers throughout the night. Rotating breakout rooms every thirty minutes with book giveaways to fill the intermissions, it was an event that wasn't only fulfilling from an operational standpoint, but one that was invaluable to attend as well.

I personally gained a lot from it, from obtaining scholarship interview tips, to hearing about a property lawyer's perspective on how Grenfell will change forthcoming litigation, to listening to two Commercial Head of Chambers discuss how a barrister's own protection has been improved with progressive Contract Law. Gaining direct, pure, unfiltered advice and knowledge distinguished by each barrister's personal flair made for an equally productive and charming atmosphere. A huge thank you to our members and the barristers for attending as well as the dedicated Bar Committee for helping create such a successful event, which will hopefully feature as a cornerstone in UELS calendars to come!

- Nathaniel Guerreiro, Bar Group Coordinator

The Bar team truly outdid themselves with the inaugural Bar Dinner. Similarly to all of Society's Bar offerings, the event was meticulously organised and the selection of speakers was superb. I had the opportunity to network with barristers from a massive range of different backgrounds and practice areas, who happily clarified all my doubts about pursuing a career as a barrister.

All the speakers I interacted with were extremely charismatic and appreciated all their insight stemming from their individual practice areas. I also appreciated the opportunity to network and catch up with my fellow aspiring barristers, and enjoyed the chance to interact with students with like minded interests. Huge thank you and a massive well done to Nathaniel and Jade for organising such a fantastic event and I'm excited to see what else the Bar team has to offer this year.

- Rawan Alsamawi

BAR GROUP

Meet the Barristers from Lincoln's Inn

The Bar team started off February with an event in collaboration with Lincoln's Inn all about what the inns are and their role within a career at the bar. We were joined by Beth Williams, Lincoln Inn's outreach coordinator and three of the Inns members, Kyah Mufti, Richard Ive and Laura Searle. The panel started off discussing what factors influenced their decision to join Lincolns and what types of considerations our students should take into account when deciding their inn. They also discussed the way the role of the inn develops and changes throughout one's career – with the Inn being mainly involved in the early stages of one's career during the BTC and pupillage. They gave a useful discussion on the scholarship options the Inns provide and how to secure a scholarship for the BTC.

Students then got the chance to ask their own questions regarding the Inns and what they can be doing as students in relation to the Inns. The event gave a helpful insight into the sometimes bizarre concept of the four Inns of court and helped to debunk some of the confusion and myths around these institutions. A big thank you goes out to all our members who attended the event and to our speakers for giving up their time to join us!

- Jade Lee, Bar Group Coordinator

At the start of February, I joined the event: meeting barrister from Lincoln's Inn held by law society. This event gives me a great insight of the life of a barrister and an introduction of Lincoln's Inn. It gives aspiring lawyers a chance to get to know one of the Inns of Court. It provided many detailed information about becoming a member of Lincoln's Inn, the huge and variety scholarships that Lincoln's Inn offers to both national and international students and the support that Lincoln's Inn gives out to students on their law journey.

- Angel Lai

BAR GROUP

Non-traditional Routes to the bar

On the 15th February, Adithi and I hosted a “non-traditional route to the Bar” panel event. Through this event, we hoped to de-mystify the Bar for students who might think a career as a barrister is not accessible to them.

Our panel consisted of Tanya Beck, Carl Buckley and Sophie Kenny, who all had an unconventional journey to the Bar. One thing that shocked and surprised me the most was how all three were told by their career advisors at school that being a barrister was just something people from their backgrounds didn't do. It was extremely interesting to hear about the struggles they faced and how they got to where they are today. As a non-law student thinking of becoming a solicitor myself, this talk was certainly eye opening. It made me realise that with lot of resilience, a career at the Bar is open for everyone.

We were delighted to see so many students tuning into this event, and I would like to thank our speakers for their time and participation!

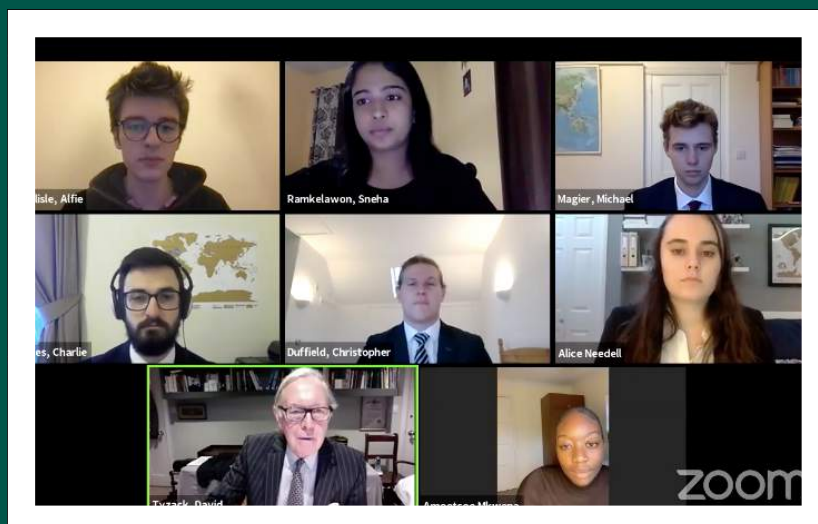
- Haowei Shi, Non Law Officer

MOOTING

Mooting Final

I didn't get involved in mooting in the typical way. I was a second year history student considering a career at the Bar who got drunk at party and ended up being convinced by an acquaintance to sign up for the mooting competition she was running. I almost didn't show up to the first round I was so nervous, but I'm glad I did. It was a very steep learning curve, but that first year I was able to get to the quarter finals. This was my third and final year competing so to win the competition has been so exciting for me. One top tip for people preparing for moots is to look at the Westlaw journal article on the topic, as it always gives you good cases to take as a starting point. My second tip would be to go in with a list of ways to respond to the judges which meet the etiquette of mooting, as it always feels so unnatural but it's how you get those few extra marks. I can honestly say that I would recommend mooting to anyone interested in a legal career.

- Alice Needel, Winner of Mooting Final



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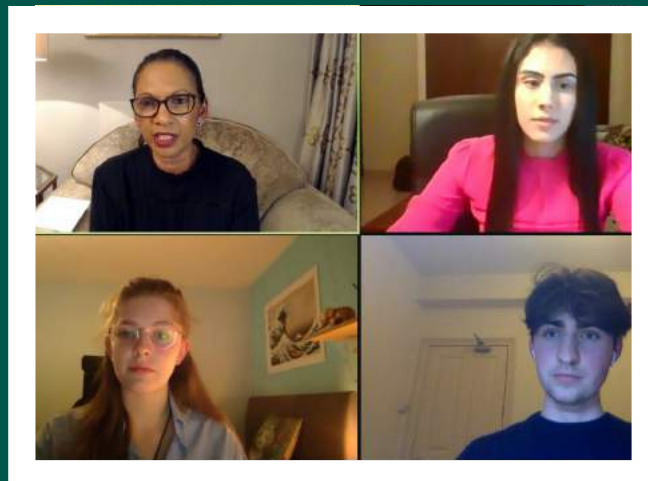
IN CONVERSATION WITH GINA MILLER

As law students, we have all read the Miller cases at length, but I never thought I would get the chance to hear first-hand from the woman behind it all. It was an honour to listen to Mrs Miller talk about her experiences with the cases and the various obstacles she was presented with in the process of bringing the two legal actions. It was really interesting to hear about the unseen side of judicial review cases; the lengthy preparation process, the partnerships with other activists who then ended up dropping out due to fear of repercussions from just bringing the case, and the torrent of abuse and threats that Mrs Miller faced. It was admirable to hear how she did not drop the legal challenges or lose faith in herself or in the cases despite the thousands of tweets threatening and abusing her for her activism. Overall it was a very insightful talk and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to attend it.

- Charlotte Cornwell

The event was very interesting and it helped me expand on my knowledge in constitutional and administrative law. I developed a better understanding of the different challenges she faced and how she overcame them. Her passion to ignite change was very motivational and I am grateful for having had the opportunity to listen to her speak.

- Shriya Sevlam



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

With elections looming around the corner and my time on committee as BAME Officer soon coming to a close, I thought it would be appropriate to answer the question, 'Why D&I?'

As a member of the Diversity & Inclusion team, my opportunities were limitless. I had the opportunity to gain experience planning speaker events, welfare events, socials and social media campaigns. Furthermore, I was also extremely active behind the scenes of UELS's operations, not only liaising with my fellow committee members to ensure that all our events and projects were diverse and inclusive, but also attending meetings with key external figures within the Law School and the College of Social Sciences and International Studies, to discuss how we could ensure equality and diversity on an institutional level. It was extremely rewarding to undertake a role where I knew I could make a difference and everything the D&I team has achieved this year has been a massive labor of love.

On a more personal level, I enjoyed being able to network with a huge range of legal professionals and like-minded students, the chance to work with such a brilliant team who I hold the utmost love and respect for, and being able to develop my skills in a position that was flexible enough to allow me to get involved in most aspects of the Society's operations. To anyone considering running for a role in the D&I team this year, I'd say; Do it. It doesn't matter if you aren't the most enthralling public speaker in the world or a whiz at all things commercial awareness. If you're a fast learner and passionate about creating changes that matter in the world, you'll pick everything else you need up along the way. Run for D&I, it'll be the best decision you'll ever make.

- Rawan Alsamawi, BAME Officer

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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

LGBT+ History Month

Over February, UELS have been celebrating LGBT Month. This year, we have focused on the history of our Trans community in the UK; starting from the first-ever Trans woman in the UK, Roberta Cowell, undergoing gender reassignment surgery in 1951, to the 2010 Equality Act recognising that gender reassignment should be a protected characteristic against discrimination.

While the history of the community is important, it is history, and several issues are facing the community today. Nothing in the law really stands completely still, and the Government promised that there would be a change to the 2004 Gender Recognition Act. However, we have seen this reform put on the shelf and has led to true equality for the LGBT community to be further down the line. Alongside this, we have seen the progress of equality through the court systems, with Bell v Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust highlighting that, as a society, we may still have some way to go to achieve true equality and representation for future generations.

Even with all of these issues, it is important to recognise how far the Trans community have come in terms of equality and how we can help to make society a better place for the community. This is why it is so important for all of our members to be active Allies towards our LGBT community as a whole. If everyone takes a moment to think of how they can support our wider community, we can make a positive difference to the immediate lives of our LGBT members, as well as laying the foundations for positive change in the future.

- Ben Gardner, LGBTQ+ Officer

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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

LGBT+ History Month

Trans-awareness

CURRENT ISSUES FACING TRANS PEOPLE IN THE UK

THE UK GOVERNMENT SCRAPPING THE REFORM OF THE GENDER RECOGNITION ACT

Less than 5000 trans people have managed to be issued with a Gender Recognition Certificate since 2004.

Consultation on this issue has had over 100,000 responses.

Stonewall's statement on this issue:

'The UK Government has fallen far short on its promise to reform the Gender Recognition Act, and has missed a key opportunity to progress LGBT equality.'

PUBERTY BLOCKER CASE- BELL V TAVISTOCK & PORTMAN NHS TRUST (2020) EWHC 3274 (ADMIN)

Judicial review case challenging the practice of prescribing puberty-suppressing drugs to under-18's. The Court held that under 18's would NOT be able to give informed consent to the process and its potential 'consequences'.

This case is being appealed by the NHS Trust.

Stonewall's statement on this issue:

'The court ruling about the prescription of puberty blockers is both deeply concerning and shocking. We're worried this judgement will have a significant chilling effect on young trans people's ability to access timely medical support. We welcome the Tavistock & Portman NHS Trust's stated intention to appeal this ruling.'

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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

LGBT+ History Month

Trans-awareness

Gendered Intelligence:

youthwork@genderedintelligence.co.uk

07511 614 834

Mermaids Youth Helpline:

0808 801 0400

LGBT Foundation:

helpline@lgbt.foundation

0345 330 3030

Proud Trust:

info@theproudtrust.org

0161 660 3347

Allsorts Youth Project:

01273 721 211

MindLineTrans+:

0300 330 5468

Switchboard LGBT+ Helpline:

0300 330 0630

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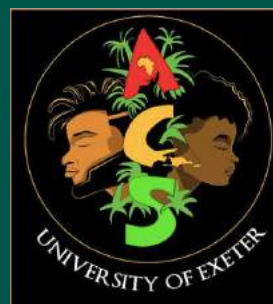
- The Hair Hide @thehairhide
- Amanthis Stationary @amanthisuk
- Emelie Monye/ Aanaya Beauty @aanayabeauty

Youtubers:

- PD @pmwamuka
- Zarah @always_zeee
- Nubuke @nubuke
- Shani Jo @shani.jo
- The L takers (podcast)

Out of the uni:

- @ghostybarber
- @bennybarber
- Caribbean 868



LEXISNEXIS UPCOMING EVENTS

5th - Lexis PSL for Applications and Interviews

8th - LexisLibrary Basic Certification

12th - LexisLibrary Advanced Certification

15th - Lexis PSL Certification

19th - How to use LexisNexis for exams and Assessments

24th - Lexis Commercial Awareness

All sessions are at 3pm. All certification sessions last one (1) hour, Commercial Awareness session will run between 30-45 minutes.

Zoom links will be available via Facebook events that will be shared on the day, or alternatively, email Ben Gardner (bdg202@exeter.ac.uk) for the link.

If you can't make a session, feel free to email Ben to arrange a 1-1 session.

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UELS COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Presidents: Jessica Phillips and Lucy Cole

Vice President: Luke Broadway

Treasurer: Toby Whitfield

General Secretary: Mireille Els

Academic Officer: Anya Bailey

Employability Officers: Evan John and Ben Ward

Publicity Officers: Izzie Bond-Mills and Rhea Agarwal

Community Officers: Eva Morris and Thomas Moser

Bar Group Co-ordinators: Jade Lee and Nathaniel Guerrerio

First Year Bar Representative: Lucy Cook

Second Year Bar Representative: Leah Barter

Third Year Bar Representative: Adithi Vendante

Mooting Officers: Alfie Carlisle and Sneha Ramkelawon

Pro Bono Officers: Lauren Hunt and Jasmin Cogin

Welfare Officer: Courtney Jones

Women's Officer: Amelia Bunce

BAME Officer: Rawan Alsamwami

LGBTQ+ Officer: Ben Gardner

International Student's Officer: Cherry Wong

Disabilities Officer: Lucie Jones

Non-Law Officer: Haowei Shi

Grad LLB Officer: Jane Helleman

Social Mobility Officer: Gabriella Mula

First Year Society Representatives: Zoe Bushby and Ania Hollinshead

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