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Welcome from the Head of School

Dear friends and colleagues,

I very much hope that you enjoy the fifth edition of our UL School of Law Newsletter. I am very grateful to Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly for coordinating its production, and for presenting us with such a splendid publication.

The 2018/19 academic year has been an outstanding year for the School of Law. I was delighted to see so many conferences, CPD events, seminars and workshops taking place, ensuring that the School was a repository for scholarly debate and lively discussion with staff, students, visitors and members of the wider legal community. These events included lectures by Mr Justice Peter Charleton, Mr Justice Richard Humphreys, and Mr Justice John Edwards. It also included excellent conferences and workshops on topics as diverse as travel law, sexual offences, consent and capacity, domestic violence, animal welfare, dispute resolution in sport, police leadership, the call it out initiative, and criminal law pedagogy. All of these interactions have permitted us to welcome a wonderful range of speakers to UL.

There has also been excellent engagement with stakeholders, including visits from senior members of the judiciary, the Secretary General of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Community Law and Mediation, the Centre for Youth and Criminal Justice (Scotland), Victim Support Europe, and CEPOL. We are also very proud to see that so many of our engagements, outputs and activities in the School speak to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which are an urgent call for action by all countries. What is so pleasing for me is too see that so many of our engagements, outputs and activities in the School speak to these goals, whether it be the reduction of inequality, social protection, social inclusion, improvements in health and education, the regulation of economic activity, or the promotion of individual rights, peace and justice. Staff and students in the School are taking progressive roles in raising awareness and mobilising efforts to achieve these goals, helping – directly and indirectly - to improve the lives of people. Their contributions to these goals are set out in this newsletter.

The School also did a lot of work with secondary school students in the region, and our Law for a Day initiative proved to be immensely popular. Our students have also performed very well this year. They continue to make us proud in their clinical experiences with employers. They also impressed in the A & L Goodbody and Cambridge mooting competitions, in internships with the Irish Superior Courts, in immersion and clinical programmes in Los Angeles, and in Erasmus and North American exchanges. I was particularly impressed this year by the development of Apps by students, under the guidance of Sinead Eaton, and in association with McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors and Neota Logic. Our students won the UCC Matheson Moot competition, an Iveagh Fellowship and a Lord Denning Scholarship. The also had a number of IRC funding successes, and were the recipients of a number of prestigious internal prizes from Holmes, O’Malley Sexton Solicitors, Mathesons, Eversheds Sutherland, Sweeney McGann and Bloomsbury.
We have made a number of new lecturing and teaching appointments - Dr Hope Davidson, Dr Norah Burns, Dr Luke Danagher, and Dr Caroline Sweeney. They are all very welcome additions to our community of scholars, and are already contributing significantly to student and academic life in the School. Dr Lydia Bracken, School of Law, has also been appointed as Assistant Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Warm wishes

Shane Kilcommins
Professor, Head of School
Events in the School of Law

Visit of the Secretary General of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs

In March the University of Limerick welcomed Dr Fergal Lynch, Secretary General of the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to discuss the progress of the REPPP project located in the School of Law, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Dr Lynch was accompanied by Assistant Secretary Michelle Shannon and Principal Officers Tony O’Donovan and Conor Rowley.

Commenting on the Research Evidence into Policy, Programmes and Practice (REPPP) project, Dr Lynch said: ‘This is a very interesting and worthwhile experiment for the taxpayer. The REPPP project takes research and policy partnerships to another level focussing as it does on applying high quality research activity to our policy issues on an ongoing basis. The REPPP project has focussed on youth crime policy and is making real gains in our knowledge about how to deal with real-life complex problems. However the model is one which could hold a broader appeal in applying better evidence to getting better outcomes for citizens.’

Pictured L-R Back Tony O’Donovan, Kerstin Mey, Fergal Lynch, Sean Redmond
Pictured L-R Front Mary Shire, Michelle Shannon, Conor Rowley, Shane Kilcommins

‘Thoughts on Homicide’: A Lecture by Mr. Justice Peter Charleton

On Monday, 24 September 2018, the School of Law at the University of Limerick hosted a special evening lecture by Mr. Justice Peter Charleton of Ireland’s Supreme Court. The lecture, which was entitled ‘Thoughts on Homicide’, focused on the causes and consequences of hatred in society. Drawing on his personal and professional experience as a defence barrister, as prosecuting counsel, as a member of the judiciary and as an academic, Mr. Justice Charleton gave the sold out audience, an engaging and enlightening account of the ideological factors which have contributed, throughout history, to crimes of homicide.

The proceedings were chaired by Professor Paul McCutcheon who led an engaging Questions and Answers session following the lecture. The event was co-ordinated by Dr. Alan Cusack of the School of Law and it was hosted by the Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies (CCJVS) at the University of Limerick.
‘Perspectives from the Bench’ – Mr Justice Humphreys

On Tuesday 6th November, the School of Law hosted an event in the appellate courtroom in the library featuring Mr Justice Richard Humphreys, Judge of the High Court, in conversation with Dr Laura Cahillane about aspects of judging in Ireland. The salon-type format covered topics such as training for judges, judicial criticism, advocacy, and judicial decision-making. The event was attended by students, staff and practitioners, who were all invited to contribute questions from the floor. The School would like to thank Mr Justice Humphreys for his generosity and for providing a fascinating insight into the judicial mind.

A & L Goodbody Appellate Moot Court Launch

A&L Goodbody, together with the School of Law, hosted an executive briefing on Brexit to launch the ALG Moot Appeal Court in the University of Limerick on Wednesday 20th March 2019. Dr Vincent Power, Partner at A&L Goodbody and Professor Raymond Friel, Associate Professor of Law at University of Limerick lead a discussion on what Brexit means for Irish businesses, and where we go from here. The former Chief Justice, the Hon. Mr Justice John Murray, chaired the discussion.

Roundtable on Implementation of the Victims Directive


Attendees at the round-table included representatives from An Garda Síochána, the Office of the DPP, Advic, CARI, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, OneinFour, Rape Crisis Network of Ireland and Rape Crisis Midwest. The keynote speaker at the round-table was Levent Altan, Executive Director of Victim Support Europe. The event was chaired by Ellen O’Malley-Dunlop, Adjunct Professor, Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies and was organised by Dr Susan Leahy (co-director, CCJVS). The round-table organising committee also included Dr Alan Cusack and Louise McNeil.
**International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia**

On 16 May, Dr Lydia Bracken organised two events to mark International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia 2019 in the A&L Goodbody Appellate Moot Court Room. In the morning, Paula Fagan, CEO of LGBT Ireland, delivered LGBT+ Awareness Training to staff from across the University. The purpose of the training was to enhance participants’ understanding of the terminology and issues facing the LGBT+ community and develop their capacity to support LGBT+ staff and students in an affirmative way. A seminar on ‘LGBT+ Justice and Safety’ subsequently took place in the afternoon. Paula Fagan, Dr Lydia Bracken, Alena Kiel (AHSS PhD Candidate and UL Student Council LGBTQIA+ representative) and Cillian Flynn (Operations Manager with GOSH - Gender Orientation Sexual Health HIV) spoke at the seminar on issues relating to the theme of ‘Justice and Safety’.

**Investigating and Prosecuting White Collar Crime**

On Monday 17th June, the Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies in the School of Law hosted a CPD seminar on ‘Investigating and Prosecuting White collar Crime’ for local practitioners and others with an interest in the area. Professor Liz Campbell, Francine McNiff Chair in Criminal Jurisprudence, Monash University, delivered a very insightful paper entitled “Trying Corporations: Why not Prosecute” which inter alia examined the proposed Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPA) for the Irish criminal justice process. This was followed by two presentations on the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB): Chief Bureau Officer, Detective Chief Superintendent Pat Clavin, provided a detailed overview of the functions and objectives of CAB and this was followed by a presentation on the legislative framework and some recent white collar crime cases by Kevin McMeel, Principal Solicitor, Criminal Assets’ Section, Chief State Solicitor’s Office. The event was chaired by Mr Justice John Edwards, Judge of the Court of Appeal and Adjunct Professor in the School of Law.

**Visit from the Centre for Youth & Criminal Justice (CYCJ) Scotland**

Wednesday 4th October saw the visit of Fiona Dyer, Deputy Director CYCJ Scotland, and Nina Vaswani, Head of Research, CYCJ Scotland to the School of Law for collaborative discussion with the REPPP team. CYCJ Scotland is located in the University of Strathclyde and funded by the Scottish Government. They undertake research to inform youth justice policy and practice, work directly with practitioners and policymakers in developing, supporting and coordination activities and support the sharing and dissemination of knowledge in the area of youth justice.
Sexual Offences: Research and Practice Perspectives

On Thursday 1st November the School of Law hosted an event on Sexual Offences: Research and Practice Perspectives. The speakers included Dr Siobhan Weare from Lancaster University, who delivered a paper on ‘Female to male sexual violence in the UK’, Ms Lily Buckley BL, who presented on the topic of Applications to cross examine complainants on past sexual history, and Dr Susan Leahy UL, who reflected on ‘Reform of the Rape Shield in Irish Law’. The event, which was well attended, was organised by Dr Susan Leahy and Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly.

Consent and Capacity Seminar

On Saturday 6th October, UL School of Law in conjunction with Sweeney McGann ran a seminar titled ‘Consent and Capacity in Practice: Clinical and Legal Concerns’. The event was coordinated by Professor Raymond Friel, Director of ICEL (International Commercial & Economic Law Group) and seminar speakers included Aine Flynn, Director of Decision Support Service, Mental Health Commission, Caomhne Gleeson, a National Specialist in Accessibility in the HSE, Dr. Eimear Spain & Dr. John Lombard from the University of Limerick School of Law, and Aoife Hennessy, Partner at Sweeney McGann Solicitors. The event was attended by over 120 people and included a mix of doctors, surgeons, nurses, and solicitors.

Reflections on the Domestic Violence Act 2018

The Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies hosted a seminar for practitioners on the Domestic Violence Act 2018 on Thursday, 27th of March. The event was attended by local practitioners, members of An Garda Siochana and representatives NGO groups, as well as other members of the UL community. Speaking at the event were: Detective Sergeant Vincent Brick; Ms Deirdre Barrett (ADAPT Domestic Abuse Services); Ms Sinead Nolan (solicitor, Mark Murphy & Company), and; Dr Susan Leahy (CCJVS). The event was chaired by Judge Tom O’Donnell, Adjunct Professor in the School of Law and was organised by Dr Susan Leahy.
ICEL was delighted to host a seminar on 7 March that brought together two experts, Dr Lynn Hillyer, Chief Officer, Head of Anti-Doping at the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board and Patrick Kennedy, Partner, PJ O'Meara Solicitors, Thurles. Dr Hillyer spoke about the equine anti-doping rules in Irish horseracing and the welfare of the horse. Mr Kennedy discussed the legal issues, in particular, the law of tort and its application to horse riding establishments. The event was chaired by Eoin Quill (left) and organised by Dr Laura Donnellan.

In April, ICEL at the School of Law was delighted to host a seminar on Dispute Resolution in Sport: Keeping the Courts out of Sport. Gareth Farrelly, a former Aston Villa, Bolton Wanderers and Everton player with a number of caps for Ireland, spoke about Dispute Resolution in Professional Football. Pat Barriscale, BL, Arbitrator in the Court of Arbitration for Sport and Judicial Chairman/Appeal Chairman with World Rugby discussed World Rugby’s Regulation 17. Andrew McCormick partner in Brandts- Giessen McCormick Lawyers, Christchurch, New Zealand, gave a paper titled: ‘The Sports Tribunal of New Zealand-A Practitioner’s Perspective.

Pictured: Gareth Farrelly, Prof. Paul McCutcheon and Pat Barriscale.

Lessons for Leading

Professor Steve Morreale, head of the Criminal Justice Department at Worcester State University, and Dr Johnny Connolly, a staff member in the REPPP programme at the School of Law, UL, gave really interesting and insightful talks at a seminar held in the A&L Goodbody Appellate Moot Court in UL on Thursday 8th August. The title of the seminar was Lessons for Leading - Implications for Policy and Organizations: Comparing Government Reports on Policing in Ireland and the US. Professor Morreale was on a Fulbright exchange at the School of Law at the University of Limerick. The event was organised by Dr Ger Coffey, Carol Huguet, and Josephine Conway.

International Criminal Law Teaching Pedagogy Workshop

In July, the School of Law hosted a Teaching Pedagogy Workshop on International Criminal Law for students and staff in the AHSS Faculty. Dr Noelle Higgins (Senior Lecturer, Maynooth University), Dr Amina Adanan (Lecturer in Law, Maynooth University) and Professor Katie Boyle (Associate Professor in International Human Rights, University of Stirling) presented papers on teaching and learning International Criminal Law from both criminal law and protection of human rights perspectives. The workshop was organised by Dr Ger Coffey (Lecturer in Law and Course Director of the LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice) and funded by the AHSS Faculty Teaching and Learning Board. Students and staff benefited greatly from the extensive knowledge, expertise, and exchange of ideas with the guest speakers.
**Call it Out**

On the 30th May the Hate and Hostility Research Group, welcomed a team from Transgender Equality Network Ireland to a reception in the Glucksman Library, to launch the ‘Call It Out’ campaign. ‘Call It Out’ is a civil society campaign to highlight and address the harm caused by homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in Ireland. The campaign is being led by the Transgender Equality Network of Ireland (TENI) and the Hate and Hostility Research Group at the University of Limerick. Despite recent positive changes for LGBT+ people in Ireland, many still experience harassment and intimidation simply because of who they are. The results of a survey conducted by HHRG showed that while only 36% of respondents believed that violence against the LGBT+ community is a serious problem in this country, it reported that in actuality, one in five, or 21% of those surveyed, have been punched, hit or physically attacked in public for being LGBT+. Of the 1,395 people who replied, one in three members of the LGBT+ community have been threatened with physical violence.

**Senior Investigating Officer Programme Workshop**

The School of Law was delighted to facilitate a workshop for participants on the Postgraduate Diploma in Serious Crime (Senior Investigating Officer Programme) on Tuesday the 16th October. The programme was coordinated by Sgt Andrew Lacey, Crime Management Training, and focused on the topics of sexual offences and consent (with Dr Susan Leahy) and recent updates on the law of evidence (with Professor Shane Kilcommins). The event was really well attended and involved excellent interaction and discussion.

**CCJVS Host Information Session for Community Group**

The Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies hosted an information session for the Midwestern Drug Task Force representatives on May 29th. Speakers at the event included: Dr Margaret Fitzgerald-O’Reilly (CCJVS); Inspector Pádraig Sutton; Inspector Andrew Lacey, and; Detective Sergeant Kieran Goulding (CAB). The speakers provided information and a Q&A session on a number of issues, including: spent convictions; sentencing for drugs offences and the practical operation of the Criminal Assets Bureau. The event was chaired and organised by Dr Susan Leahy (co-director, CCJVS).
Traveller accommodation roundtable at UL School of Law

The School of Law at the University of Limerick was delighted to host an extremely interesting roundtable discussion considering the experiences of and difficulties in accessing Traveller accommodation. The event which was co-organised by Community Law and Mediation saw Siobhan O’Donoghue, Solicitor with CLM (Northside), present her research on the Traveller Loan Scheme to approximately 20 attendees. The presentation was followed by a discussion on the experiences of advocates working in the area of Traveller Accommodation.

University of Sanctuary Inaugural Lecture

On the 21 February 2019, the UL University of Sanctuary Inaugural Lecture, which was organised by Dr Mairead Moriarty and Eamonn Cregan, was delivered by Professor Philippe Sands. Professor Shane Kilcommins delivered the introduction to this lecture. The lecture was entitled East West Street: on the origins of genocide and crimes against humanity. In this lecture Professor Sands QC explores how personal lives and history are interwoven. Drawing from his prize-winning book - part historical detective story, part family history, part legal thriller, winner of the 2016 Ballie Gifford (Samuel Johnson) Prize – he explains the connections between his work on ‘crimes against humanity’ and ‘genocide’, the events that overwhelmed his refugee family during the Second World War, and an untold story at the heart of the Nuremberg Trial.
Research and related activity in the School of Law

Dr Laura Cahillane, Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality

Dr Laura Cahillane was invited to address the Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality on 19th September 2018 as part of the pre-legislative scrutiny of the general scheme of the 38th Amendment of the Constitution Bill on the woman in the home provision of the Constitution. Dr Cahillane was joined by the Irish Human Rights Commission and the National Women’s Council of Ireland in making contributions. Dr Cahillane’s comments were reported afterwards in the Irish Times, the Examiner, thejournal.ie and on rte.ie.

Community policing discussed at Oireachtas Justice Committee

Dr Johnny Connolly was invited to address the Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality on 3rd October 2018, about community policing and rural crime. Committee Chairman Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin TD said: “We understand that there is a sense of fear, frustration and vulnerability among many living in both rural and urban areas at the level of crime in their communities. At our meeting we will consider the issue and how policing and a strong Garda presence in communities can help deal with the problem.” The Committee also heard representatives from Muintir na Tire and representatives from Foróige.
Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly, Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality

Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly was invited to address the Oireachtas Committee on Justice and Equality on Wednesday 28th November as part of the pre-legislative scrutiny of the general scheme of the Government’s proposed Sex Offenders (Amendment) Bill 2018 and a Private Members Bill to regulate and restrict sex offenders from travelling abroad. Contributions were also heard from the Probation Service, Rape Crisis Network Ireland and the Police Service of Northern Ireland. Dr Fitzgerald O’Reilly’s comments were reported afterwards in the Irish Times, the Irish Examiner and Independent.ie.

Dr Lydia Bracken, Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health

Dr Lydia Bracken presented to the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health on behalf of LGBT Ireland on 27 February 2019. The meeting formed part of the Committee’s pre-legislative scrutiny of the general scheme of the Government’s proposed Assisted Human Reproduction Bill 2017. Dr Bracken authored LGBT Ireland’s submission to the Joint Committee in relation to the Bill and co-presented to Committee in her capacity as legal advisor to the organisation alongside Paula Fagan, CEO of LGBT Ireland.

Constitutional Change

On Sunday 30th September 2018 Dr Laura Cahillane contributed to a debate on constitutional change on Oireachtas TV. Barrister and political commentator Noel Whelan was also a panellist. The debate centred on whether Bunreacht na hÉireann is still fit for purpose and on what reform is needed.

Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies Join EU COST Action on Victimology

The Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies were invited to join an EU COST Action entitled ‘Cultures Of Victimology: understanding processes of victimization across Europe’. The project involves partners from a number European countries, including: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Croatia; France; Germany; Greece; The Netherlands; Israel; Latvia; Poland; Serbia; the UK, and; Romania. The project will run for a period of 4 years and provide a significant opportunity for the CCJVS to network and engage with other international centres of excellence for research on victims’ rights. The CCJVS representatives for this project are Dr Susan Leahy (co-director, CCJVS) and Dr Alan Cusack.
Two members of the School, Dr Susan Leahy and Dr John Lombard, were successful in securing funding for their respective research projects under the prestigious Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme.

Dr Susan Leahy received funding from the Irish Research Council New Foundations Scheme for her project, ‘Realities of Irish Rape Trials: Perspectives from Practice’. In light of recent controversies regarding the treatment of complainants during rape trials, this project seeks to uncover the realities of Irish rape trials by interviewing legal professionals and those who provide court accompaniment services for rape victims in court. The central objective of these interviews is to fill the current gap in knowledge regarding the practical operation of Irish rape law. The results of this research will provide authoritative data upon which current failings in Irish rape law and policy and best practice recommendations for further reform can be identified. Participants will be asked for their views on the impact of societal attitudes on juror deliberations in rape trials, as well as questions about the operation of the current law, most notably, the new statutory definition of consent and the provision of special measures to aid complainants in giving evidence.

Dr John Lombard secured funding through the Irish Research Council New Foundations scheme for his project which explores healthcare decision-making and the older person. Through the use of empirical research and engagement with Age Action John is exploring the older person’s understanding of autonomy in healthcare, familiarity with decision-making practices, and awareness of forthcoming decision-making supports. The project will produce a report for Age Action, and research will be disseminated through seminars, conferences, and journal articles.

The New Foundations scheme supports eligible researchers who intend to pursue research, networking and/or dissemination activities within and across the diversity of disciplines. This scheme provides support for research actions, the development of networks and consortia, conference and workshop development, and creative approaches to the communication of scientific concepts and/or complex societal challenges for a lay audience.

Dr John Lombard was awarded a Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant. The Charlemont Grant is named after the Academy’s first President and notable Grand Tourist, James Caulfeild, the 1st Earl of Charlemont (1728–99). The Charlemont Grants are unique in offering funding for short international research trips, to support primary research in any area. The title of John’s research project is ‘The Reconceptualisation of Palliative Care as a Human Right in International and Regional Human Rights Systems’.
School of Law Successfully Obtain Research Tender

The School of Law secured a tender to complete the analysis of the responses to mid-term review of the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016-2021. School of Law faculty involved in this tender include: Professor Shane Kilcommins, Dr Alan Cusack, Dr Susan Leahy and Dr Eimear Spain. The School of Law team will report on the findings from the review later this year. Minister for Justice, Charlie Flanagan announced the review and the involvement of the University of Limerick.

The REPPP Project - REPPP highlights in 2019

The Research Evidence into Policy, Programmes, and Practice (REPPP) project is a strategic research partnership between the Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) in Ireland and the School of Law, University of Limerick. Instead of commissioning individual research studies, DCYA decided to tender to third level institutions for research capacity in youth crime policy areas directly linked to its own Youth Justice Action Plan. Each element of the REPPP research work programme has a priori buy-in by policy makers. 2018/19 has been an extremely busy year for the REPPP team (pictured above). REPPP worked on a number of strategically important projects in 2019.


Initially an exploratory case study into the influence of criminal networks on children’s offending behaviour in a certain locality in Ireland, this case study has now been replicated twice (Bluetown and Redtown) to test a methodology developed for the Greentown study to non-invasively examine crime networks. REPPP has also conducted a national survey of specialised Garda to gauge the prevalence of the phenomenon. From this it is estimated that up to 1,000 children across the state are at risk of involvement in criminal networks. All these follow studies will be published in quarter 4 of 2019. REPPP will be co-leading with DCYA, the trial of the first intervention programme to improve outcomes for children caught up in criminal networks. The programme will incorporate both welfare and law enforcement elements and will be a world first. The project is lead by Sean Redmond, Catherine Naughton and Eoin O Meara-Daly.

2. Improving the utility of data held across the youth justice system in Ireland in terms of making judgments about system performance (2017-2019)

This multi-stage study researches data collection and recording practices in the youth justice. The purpose is to study how to make better use of evidence generated routinely in the youth justice system – in administrative and operational reporting and review processes – in order to inform youth justice policy and practice. Baseline research, ‘Making it Count: Improving the Measurement of Effectiveness in the Irish Youth Justice System’ (2019) https://ulir.ul.ie/handle/10344/7684 – presented case study analyses of the data processes used to measure effectiveness in youth justice systems worldwide – Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, England & Wales, the Netherlands, and the U.S. states of Pennsylvania and Washington. The current stage of the study provides an analysis of data collection and reporting by Irish youth justice stakeholder agencies and institutions, identifying how best administrative data processes can be utilised in order to harness the information required to report on the effectiveness of youth justice responses in Ireland. The project is lead by John Reddy.

3. Impact and process evaluation of a Bail Supervision Scheme for young people (May 2018 – September 2019)

DCYA has invested in a high end evidence based programme to reduce the need for children involved in chaotic criminal and self-harm behaviour. REPPP has been commissioned to conduct a detailed impact and process evaluation. The methodology is distinctive because it triangulates experimental and realist design that we hope to use for other complex evaluations. This report will be published in Quarter 4 2019. The project is lead by Catherine Naughton.

REPPP estimate that 60-70 percent of professional time (or up to €8 million) spent in programmes across Ireland targeting youth in trouble with the law, relates to building professional relationships with young people. The objective of this relationship is to bring about positive change and encourage/motivate young people towards pro-social trajectories. The youth professional is therefore a key change agent, co-producing government policy with the young person. However, ‘relationship’ is a very elusive term meaning that under the same cover, a young person in one part of Ireland may get a very productive relationship, in another part, less productive. This systematic evidence review examines a wide range of interventions and gets under the bonnet to identify the most potent mechanisms within the best relationships. The findings from this study will be published in Quarter 3 of 2019 and will directly inform REPPP project 5 (below). The project is lead by Deirdre Fullerton.


There are 105 GYDP’s based in communities across Ireland. 16 of these projects are now engaged in an evidence informed Action Research Project led by REPPP on behalf of the Dept of Justice and Equality (DJE). This project uses the Systematic Evidence Review as a starting point for potential reform and involves co-designing with practitioners, new guidance on relationship-building to improve the effectiveness of ‘on the ground’ practice. This project plans to capacity build with practitioners to support their own evaluation of performance while also focusing on the important and unique situation of combining practice wisdom with scientific design to create something new and useful for other practitioners. As an added innovation, DJE and the School of Law in UL has arranged bursaries for 16 youth justice professionals to undertake a part-time Masters in Human Rights and Criminal Justice. The dissertation element for the programme will involve each student undertaking a process evaluation of the reform effort in their local project using a common methodology in different case study sites. This will be very valuable in terms of adding to the body of governance knowledge on programme reform but will also see a direct impact on outcomes for young people engaged in criminality. The project is lead by Eoin O’Meara-Daly, Jackie Dwane and Caitlin Lewis.

6. Evidence informed local planning, dealing with ‘Wicked problems’ and the development of new Masters level teaching materials

The most recent research collaboration relates to an initiative sponsored by DCYA Quality and Capacity Building Initiative. This initiative seeks to translate high level policy ambitions contained in ‘Better Outcomes Brighter Futures’ (The all of government strategic ambition led by DCYA) into practice using a range of implementation mechanisms. Policy areas which have consistently been elusive to more general progress have been called ‘Wicked Problems’. REPPP was requested to design and deliver a pilot Executive Programme to work with a leadership team of professionals from the North East Inner City of Dublin (NEIC) selected by DCYA to co-design new solutions to their ‘Wicked Problems’. The REPPP intervention took the shape of a 6 day residential programme which worked with the leadership team on three selected problems (Drug Dealing in Liberty Park, improving the level of pro-social community leadership, and creating a space for local programme innovation which is underpinned by ‘trust’ between the state and local community and voluntary sector as opposed to ‘compliance-only’). The programme has been very well received by participants, governance structures within NEIC and DCYA officials. The new collaboration envisages six more of the Executive Programmes to be delivered in locations or in response to policy themes selected by DCYA. The next Executive Programme delivered in the 3rd / 4th quarter-2019 will be offered to a leadership team selected from Limerick. In addition this research collaboration requests UL to design a new MA programme which envisages equipping the modern public administrator (NGO, relevant private sector) to engage purposefully and critically with ‘evidence’, to acquire skills in using new tools and make better judgments in the interests of better societal outcomes. The project is lead by Johnny Connolly, Sean Redmond and John Bamber.
On Thursday, 14 February 2019, Dr. Alan Cusack, together with Prof. Séan Redmond and Prof. Eoin Devereux (Department of Sociology), Dr. James Carr (Department of Sociology) and Dr. Amanda Haynes (Department of Sociology) attended a Networking Event organised by the Policing Authority at the Aisling Hotel in Dublin 7.

The event offered a valuable opportunity to showcase the dynamic research that is currently being pursued across the School of Law in the areas of policing and policing oversight. A key feature of the Networking Event was a cross-institutional, panel discussion where Dr. Cusack gave an account of the School of Law’s recent research achievements at the forefront of policing pedagogy and research. In addition to speaking about the School of Law’s new undergraduate BA (Applied Policing) programme, and the School’s MA (Serious Crime Investigation) degree, Dr. Cusack elaborated on a number of research projects currently being pursued by the CCJVS, REPPP and HHRG within both the School of Law and the Department of Sociology in the University of Limerick.
New Books

Minority Religions under Irish Law: Islam in National and International Context (Brill, 2019), Kathryn O’Sullivan

“Minority Religions under Irish Law”, edited by Kathryn O’Sullivan, focuses the spotlight specifically on the legal protections afforded in Ireland to minority religions, generally, and to the Muslim community, in particular. Although predominantly focused on the Irish context, the book also boasts contributions from leading international academics, considering questions of broader global importance such as how to create an inclusive environment for minority religions and how to regulate religious tribunals best. Reflecting on issues as diverse as the right to education, marriage recognition, Islamic finance and employment equality, Minority Religions under Irish Law provides a comprehensive and fresh look at the legal space occupied by many rapidly growing minority religions in Ireland, with a special focus on the Muslim community.

Arrest, Detention and Questioning: Law and Practice (Clarus Press, 2019), Kevin Sweeney

Arrest, Detention and Questioning: Law and Practice, examines the legislation, rules and regulations that protect the rights of a suspect in custody for interrogation. These include the detention provisions themselves, the custody regulations, audio-visual recording and the role of solicitors in the process. It is within this framework that Gardaí must work to solve crime and prosecute those responsible before the courts. The interview training method available to Gardai and efforts by successive governments to rebalance the criminal justice system are all explored. Dr Sweeney served his career in An Garda Síochána before retiring in 2017, having worked primarily in detective branch including anti-terrorism. In 2017 he also received his doctorate from the University of Limerick, and he currently works with Professor Sean Redmond as part of the REPPP project in the School of Law.
New edition of the Judicial Studies Journal

In June a new edition of the Irish Judicial Studies Journal was published, the third to be handled by the School of Law at the University of Limerick. This edition includes a range of articles on topics as diverse as the centrality of truth in the pursuit of justice, children in the Irish criminal justice system, judicial discretion in sentencing, judicial reasoning in sentencing, the appointment of academics to the Irish judiciary, the techniques and statutory phrases which regulate court proceedings in family law and child law, the changing role of the solicitor in the Garda station, and unfair contract terms in managing possession cases. The authors come from both communities of legal scholarship and practice, including judges, barristers, solicitors, researchers, Ph.D. scholars and academics. There is also a book review section. The editorial team comprises of Prof Shane Kilcommins (acting general editor), Dr Laura Cahillane (general editor) Dr Lydia Bracken, Dr Alan Cusack, Dr. Susan Leahy, Dr John Lombard, Dr. Jennifer Schweppe, and Eoin Quill. Lucy Davis was copy editor and was assisted by copywriter, Briana.

Uses and Consequences of a Criminal Conviction: Going on the Record of an Offender (Palgrave MacMillan, 2018), Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly.

This book examines the increasing retention and use of previous criminal record information, within and beyond the criminal justice system. The impact of a criminal conviction extends far beyond the de jure sentence. Criminal records are relied upon by key decision makers at all stages of the formal criminal process, from the police to the judiciary. Convictions can affect areas of policing, bail, trial procedure and sentencing, which the author discusses. Furthermore, with the increasing intensifying of surveillance techniques in the interests of security, ex-offenders are monitored more closely post release and these provisions are explored here. Even beyond the formal criminal justice system, individuals can continue to experience many collateral consequences of a conviction whereby access to employment, travel and licenses (among other areas of social activity) can be limited as a consequence of disclosure requirements. Overall, this book examines the perpetual nature of criminal convictions through the evolution of criminal record use, focussing on the Irish perspective, and also considers the impact from a broader international perspective.
**Visitors and Guest Lectures**

**Fulbright Project hosted in UL School of Law**

The School of Law is delighted to host Professor Steve Morreale on a Fulbright project proposal which has been approved by the U.S. Department of State. Stephen A. Morreale is a Professor and Chair of the Criminal Justice Department at Worcester State University in Massachusetts, USA. Professor Morreale is a second career academic, having served with the U.S. Army, in the Military Police Corps, a New England police agency and retiring as a manager with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration. He will work with the UL Law School on a team to conduct an academic assessment of training curriculum for An Garda Síochána. In 2001, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Secretary of U.S. Health and Human Services for his role in responding and leading a team of agents to assist in disaster relief and recovery at the site of the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. Professor Morreale has research interests in Leadership Development, Organizational Change, Decision-making, and Integrative and Active Learning. Dr. Morreale holds a doctoral degree in Public Administration from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale.

**Street Law Teaching Project**

The School of Law was delighted to welcome Professor Richard L. Roe of Georgetown University Law Centre to Limerick from 28 January to 1 February. Professor Roe was working with Dr Lydia Bracken as part of a Street Law teaching project that she is supervising. As part of this project, six final year law students will teach law at a local DEIS secondary school over the course of the semester. The law students are participating in the Street Law project as part of a final year UL Engage Practicum. Professor Roe worked with the students during his trip to train them in the learner-centred, non-directional teaching methods that are used in Street Law. The Street Law teaching project is generously supported by the AHSS Faculty Teaching Board Fund and is delivered in collaboration with the UL Access Office.
University of Alicante Law Professor on Research Time in UL

The School of Law, UL, was delighted to welcome Professor Fernando Ballester of the Universidad de Alicante to be a visiting researcher for the academic year 2018-19. Professor Ballester, an expert on Labour Law, reflects on his experience:

“I have nothing but good things to say about my sabbatical year at the University of Limerick, School of Law. One year on, I think back with nostalgia to the fantastic academic year that I spent there, on one of the most beautiful modern campuses I know and in a climate of true collegiality. I am most grateful to Prof. Shane Kilcommins (Head of School of Law), Dr. Kathryn O’Sullivan (Director of International Education) and Eddie Keane (expert in Labour Law), who welcomed me with open arms and encouraged my inclusion into the School from day one. I was able to develop my research with all material and human resources at my fingertips. For me and for my children, who accompanied me on this adventure, it was a rich and vital experience that we will never forget. A big thanks to all the staff, academic and non-academic, for making it so”.

Brazilian Researcher Joins Law School

The School of Law was delighted to welcome back Dr Luiz Geraldo do Carmo Gomes from UniCesumar (centre), Brazil to be a visiting scholar for 2019. Before joining us in the School of Law, Luiz Geraldo taught Family Law at the University of Lisbon, Portugal, in December 2018.

US Guidance Counsellors Visit

The School of Law was delighted to host a visit from guidance counsellors from the US on Tuesday 26th February. The event was organised by Niamh Kavanagh in the International Education Office. The counsellors received an interactive Tour of the UL Campus and the School of Law including a presentation by Professor Shane Kilcommins in the A & L Goodbody Moot Appeal Court in the Glucksman Library.

Visiting Scholar

The School of Law was delighted to welcome Ana Eduarda Bazzo Pupim, a student of the Law School at Cesumar University, as a visiting scholar to the School where she undertook research on the Domestic Violence Act 2018. Pictured with Professor Shane Kilcommins (right) and fellow visiting researcher Dr. Luiz Geraldo do Carmo Gomes (left).
The School of Law was delighted to welcome many other guests and speakers during the academic year:

- The Hon. Mr. Justice John Edwards, Judge of the Court of Appeal
- Dr Mary Tumelty, UCC
- Tom Curran, Exit International
- Mr Pádraig Mawe, State Solicitor for Limerick City
- Garda Siobhán Madden, Garda Victim Service Office, Clare Division
- Paul Bradfield, Barrister at law
- Dr Kevin Sweeney
- Dr Agnieszka Pilch, Senior Lecturer, Jagiellonian University
- Ms. Clara Thornton, Competition and Consumer Protection Commission
- Elizabeth Spelman, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission
- Professor Liz Campbell of Monash University, Australia
- Dr Eithnre Dowds, Queen’s University Belfast
- Professor Stephen A. Morreale, Worcester State University
- Muiris O’Connor, lawyer-linguist, Court of Justice of the European Union
- Julie O’Farrell, lawyer-linguist, Court of Justice of the European Union
Staff Publications

**Books**


**Book Chapters**


**Edited Collections**


**Journal Articles**


Cahillane L. ‘Principles, policies and fair procedures after O’Sullivan v Sea Fisheries Protection Authority and Crayden Fishing Company Ltd v Sea Fisheries Protection Authority’, (2019) Irish Supreme Court Review.


**Conference Papers**


Bracken L, "Gender Equality as a Human Right", *Holmes O'Malley Sexton Solicitors International Women's Day Event*, 6 March 2019


Bracken L, "Pathways to Parenting: Proposals for Reform", *LGBT Ireland Consultative Event*, 21 October 2018


Cahillane L, Principles, policies and fair procedures after O’Sullivan v Sea Fisheries Protection Authority and Crayden Fishing Company Ltd v Sea Fisheries Protection Authority, Irish Supreme Court Review Conference, TCD, October 4th 2018.


Opinion Pieces


Donnellan, L ‘British Horse Racing: New Senior Steward at the Jockey Club’ Sport and Taxation, 22nd July 2019.


Donnellan, L ‘Equestrianism: Every Breathalyser you take the British Horseracing Authority will be watching you’ Sport and Taxation, 25 June 2019.

Donnellan, L ‘British Horse Racing: The Gaming Machine (Miscellaneous Amendments and Revocation) Regulations 2018 and how will they affect the Jockey Club?’ Sport and Taxation, 22nd July 2019.

Donnellan, L ‘Equestrianism: The showjumper and fraud – Bringing the sport into disrepute’ Sport and Taxation, 20 January 2019.

Donnellan, L ‘Flat racing under the influence: Kieran Shoemark and his alleged doping’ Sport and Taxation, 17 December 2018.


Lombard J. ‘Is access to palliative care a human right?’ RTE Brainstorm, 6 September 2019.

Lombard J ‘Palliative Care as a Human Right’ All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care Research Blog 18 February 2019.

Book reviews


Reports


Appointments

New appointments

Dr Hope Davidson, Lecturer in Health Law

Dr Hope Davidson is a solicitor and lecturer in health law. She has a BA in History from Trinity College, an LLM in Health & Care Law from University College Cork, and a PhD from the University of Limerick. Hope has presented and published nationally and internationally on dementia and in the areas of children and medical treatment, research ethics, and involuntary detention.

Mr Paul Bradfield, Teaching Assistant

Paul Bradfield is a graduate of NUI Galway (BA, LLB), University College Cork (LLM in Criminal Justice), the Honorable Society of Kings Inns (BL), and is a doctoral candidate at the Irish Centre for Human Rights at NUI Galway. After being called to the bar in 2009, Paul was a Defence lawyer at the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague, and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in Arusha, Tanzania. He helped to represent Milivoj Petković and Radovan Karadžić at the ICTY, and Idelphonse Nizeyimana at the ICTR, each accused of various counts of war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

In 2013, Paul worked for Irish Rule of Law International in Lilongwe, Malawi as a Programe Lawyer. From 2013-2018, Paul worked as a lawyer for the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court in the Hague, working on cases from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Uganda. In this role, he was a courtroom advocate in the Dominic Ongwen case, questioning witnesses in course of the trial. In 2016, Paul was awarded a NUI Travelling Studentship to fund his doctoral research, which examines the use of amnesty as a response to the civil war in northern Uganda. As part of this research, he conducted fieldwork in Uganda, interviewing former combatants in the Lord’s Resistance Army and the communities in which they live.
Dr Norah Burns, Teaching Assistant LLB, LLM, PhD

Dr Norah Burns holds a Bachelor of Laws in Law and European Studies (2010) and a Masters in Law in Human Rights in Criminal Justice (2012) from the University of Limerick. She graduated with a PhD in law from the School of Law Trinity College Dublin in 2017. She also completed postgraduate studies in human rights at Kings College London. While completing her PhD Norah was awarded the Irish Association of Law Teachers Conference Bursary. Norah recently completed a Graduate Diploma in Third Level Teaching Learning and Scholarship at the University of Limerick. Dr Burns was chosen from 13,000 young people under 30 to participate in the Asia Europe Heads of State Summit in Brussels in October 2018 as a future young ethical leader in Europe. Dr Burns was also personally invited by her Majesty Queen Mathilde of the Belgians to discuss her research at the Castle of Laeken during her time in Brussels. She is now a member of the education panel and works on an EU funded project with partners from China, India, Kazakhstan, Germany, Spain and Latvia.

Dr Luke Danagher, Teaching Assistant

Luke is a graduate of the University of Limerick (LLB 2011; LLM 2013) and of King’s College London (PhD 2018). His PhD thesis, which was funded by the Centre of European Law, was entitled “A Normative Theory of Cartel Crime”. Luke’s general research interests lie in the area of regulatory crime and the criminalisation of regulatory offences. His work in the field of cartel crime has been published in international journals. Prior to joining UL, Luke was a visiting lecturer of EU law at King’s College London. Luke is also a member of the Society of Legal Scholars.

Dr Caroline Sweeney, Teaching Assistant

Caroline is a graduate of NUI Galway (PhD, 2018; LLM in International Human Rights Law, 2010) and UL (LLB in Law and European Studies, 2003). Prior to her appointment, Caroline worked as an Assistant Lecturer in Law at the Institute of Technology Carlow and as a Part-time Lecturer in Law at Athlone Institute of Technology. Caroline also worked as a doctoral fellow at the Irish Centre for Human Rights at NUI Galway whilst completing her doctoral studies. Her doctoral thesis investigated the relationship between international law, international politics and the state using Syria as a case study. She was awarded a Hardiman Research Scholarship and a Write Up Bursary by NUI Galway to complete her doctoral studies. Caroline has taught in areas, including Human Rights Law, Farm Business Law, Introduction to the Irish Legal System and Employment Law. Caroline has also worked as a Human Rights Legal Assistant at the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN, Geneva and as a Senior Company Secretarial Administrator with Northern Trust.
Our staff have been busy this year contributing to important debates in the media. There are too many to list individually but our staff have featured on radio and TV programmes such as:

- Oireachtas TV
- Newstalk
- Newstalk Breakfast
- Limerick 95 FM Today Show,
- Marian Finucane show on RTE
- Morning Ireland, RTE Radio 1
- RTÉ Radio 1
- RTÉ Radio One’s Today with Sean O’Rourke
- Virgin Media One
- BBC World Service, BBC World Business
- East Coast FM Morning Show
- Clare FM

and have written and contributed to numerous newspapers including the,

- Irish independent
- Irish Times
- Sunday Times
- Irish Examiner
- Garda Review
- Law Society Gazette Ireland
The School of Law’s Internal Moot Court Competition, kindly sponsored by A&L Goodbody solicitors, took place on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th February 2019. The preliminary rounds were judged by Sinead Eaton, Hope Davidson, Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly, Eoin Quill, Professor Paul McCutcheon, and Dr Norah Burns. All judges commented on the high standard of mooting displayed by students throughout the preliminary rounds.

The Grand Final of the competition took place at 5.30pm on Thursday 7 February in the Appeal Court, Glucksman Library. The Grand Final was adjudicated by Dr Stephen King (A&L Goodbody Solicitors), Prof Raymond Friel (UL) and Sandra Barnwell BL.

Congratulations to the winning team of Jemima Nugent and Norah O’Brien (counsel for the appellant) and to the runner up team of Jack Hennessy, Alex Casey and Cian Cremins (counsel for the respondent). The Best Speaker prize was awarded jointly to Jemima Nugent and Norah O’Brien.

The moot court competition was organised and co-ordinated by Dr Lydia Bracken, Director of Clinical Legal Education at the School of Law, and Niamh Walsh, UL Law Society Mooting Officer. The Grand Final was followed by a prize giving and reception in the Appeal Court.

April saw the launch of the 4 Apps created by final year law students from Law Plus. Judges included Dr Hugh O'Donnell of Ingenium TC who said he was ‘overwhelmed’ by the output of the Law students. The 4 apps had been developed in consultation with Limerick Chamber and faculty member Sinead Eaton and the students did marvellous work. Aisling Curtis, Commercial Director of Microsoft Ireland, another judge, praised the project highly and the School of Law gave heartfelt thanks to McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors and Neota Logic for offering UL the chance to be first law school in Ireland to offer such a legal tech module. The Apps allowed for Fire Safety compliance work to be done, Insurance needs to be identified, and Company Secretary / Annual Return information to be processed. The fourth App, which was deemed overall winner, is a tool to assess and learn Directors Duties. But the feedback from our visitors to the School was very much that all of the 12 students were winners.
Congratulations to second year Law Plus students Norah O’Brien and Jemima Nugent who won the UCC Matheson Moot Court Competition in October 2018. Norah was also awarded the Best Speaker prize at the competition.

A number of students were successful in their applications for a prestigious scholarship grant from the Irish Research Council. Anna Flynn, a Research Assistant with the University of Limerick and the Irish Prison Service (IPS), was awarded a PhD scholarship under the Irish Research Council Employment-Based Programme for her research on the sentence management of people serving life sentences in the IPS. Anna is based in the IPS Psychology Service headquarters in Arbour Hill Prison and is co-supervised by Dr Eimear Spain and Dr Emma Black (Head of Psychology, IPS). Beth Maeve Duane was awarded an IRC scholarship for her research into violence in Irish Prisons. Beth is a graduate of the MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice at UL. She is currently undertaking a PhD under the supervision of Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly and Dr Susan Leahy. Her thesis is titled "Assessing the Causes, Effects, and Potential Responses to Prison Violence in Adult Prisons in Ireland".

In March a second year Law and Accounting student, John Healy, was awarded an Iveagh Fellowship by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, in partnership with Saothar. The Fellowship helps Irish students identify and participate in high-quality internships in international policy organisations that could relate to international development, human rights, and humanitarian work. The scholarship allows fellows the opportunity to undertake these internships with a view to further their future careers in the area. From August to early October, John completed his internship with the Red Cross EU Office, situated in Brussels. The purpose of the Red Cross EU office is to represent some 28 European National Societies and the International Federation of the Red Cross, which in itself has given John great exposure to topic areas and programmes. John’s time was spent aiding and delivering welcome packs to MEPs in Parliament and promoting Red Cross priorities. He had input into legal projects and reports regarding topics as varied as: sexual violence in disaster and humanitarian contexts; and legal barriers to implementing cash programmes or the sui generis status of Red Cross National Societies in national provisions to act independently as an auxiliary.

In April former Law Plus student Seán Beatty was awarded a Lord Denning Scholarship by the Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn. The Lord Denning Scholarship is a Major Scholarship which enables students to undertake the Bar Professional Training Course, the vocational education course for barristers in England and Wales.
In April the School was honored to welcome Ms. Justice Isobel Kennedy, of the Court of Appeal, to present the Holmes O’Malley Sexton scholarship for 2019 to Law and Accounting student Mr. Patrick Carr. Mr. Harry Fehily and other Partners in Holmes O’Malley attended the event, including Mr. Robert Kennedy, Chair of the Limerick Bar Association. Mr. Justice Tom O’Donnell also joined us and the celebration of this very generous support by Holmes O’Malley Sexton was wholeheartedly embraced by all.

Students Erica McMorrow and Jatinder Virdi were the successful students this year in the Contract Law prizes sponsored by Matheson Solicitors. These two students won first and second prizes for their stellar performance in Contract law over the last academic year. Matheson Solicitors, headquartered in Dublin but with offices in North America, and recently in Cork, generously support these prizes for the UL Law students and this is a great achievement by these two students.

Mary Curtin, a Law and Accounting student, was awarded a Silver Medal award at a graduation ceremony held in UL on the 26th August. A total of 5 Silver medals are awarded annually – one to each faculty and one to interfaculty programmes in the University of Limerick. The medals are awarded to the undergraduate students within each faculty graduating with the highest overall QCA in their final year of study. Mary’s achievements to-date include the Mason Hayes & Curran Company Law prize; A & L Goodbody Solicitors Prize; the UL Law Essay Competition prize in 2015; and a UL scholarship based on top performance in the Leaving Cert. Mary started her PhD at the University of Limerick this September.

A very generous scholarship was awarded by Eversheds Sutherland, Solicitors to Ms. Tara Tierney who enrolled on the LLM in International Commercial Law and began her studies in September 2019. Eversheds-Sutherland is part of a large international corporate law firm with a truly global presence and the School of Law is grateful for the firm’s support. This is a wonderful achievement by Ms. Tara Tierney on foot of her outstanding undergraduate law degree results.
Inaugural Sweeney McGann Prize

Limerick firm of Solicitors, Sweeney McGann have generously offered a prize of an O’Mahony’s book voucher to the student who completes first year of the Evening Law degree programme with the highest grades. This is a wonderful opportunity and motivation for this busy cohort of students and the first winner of the prize was Mr. Seamus Shannon. Seamus is pictured here with Prof Shane Kilcommins and Mr. Shane O’Neill, Partner in Sweeney McGann and UL Law graduate.

Judge Catherine McGuinness prize

Mr. Alex Casey was this year’s winner of the Judge Catherine McGuinness prize, which is awarded to the student who scores the highest marks in the Introduction to Lawyering modules in their first year of Law Plus. The prize was established by a Law graduate and honours the Judge through its name. This is a great start to Alex’s second year at UL and we congratulate him heartily. Alex is pictured here receiving his prize from Prof Kilcommins.

Kate Fleming Memorial Competition

The School of Law and Graduate Entry Medical School hosted the 2018/19 Kate Fleming Mediation Competition in Medical Law on April 3rd. Sixteen students from law and medicine came together in inter-disciplinary teams to settle a claim of medical negligence in a case involving a patient with cauda equina syndrome. Many congratulations to the members of the winning team: Eilbhe Harrington (Law); Conor Tuohy (Law); Bridget Melley (Medicine); Favour Olufemi (Medicine). The standard of the completion was extremely high in this exciting competition, a fact commented on by the judges: Jack Nicholas (Barrister, Mediator and Adjunct Lecturer in the School of Law); Jonathan McCarthy (ADR Lecturer); and Eimear Spain (Senior Lecturer in Medical Law). The School is very proud to host this event each year in memory of a much loved former student, Kate Fleming, and we were delighted to welcome Kate’s Parents, Peter and Kathleen Fleming to the event.
The School of Law held an event to commemorate Garda Niall Cosgrave who was a member of the inaugural class to take the BA in Applied Policing and Criminal Justice at UL, commencing in September 2017. Sadly Niall passed away last October. As one of the pioneers on the programme, it is fitting that he is remembered for his contribution. Commencing this year, the best overall student on the programme will be awarded the 'The Niall Cosgrave Memorial Prize in Applied Policing and Criminal Justice', a prize sponsored by the Garda Representative Association. Members of Niall’s family were also presented with a Certificate of Attendance.

The Niall Cosgrave Memorial Prize

Mr. James Redmond is a final year Law student and won the Bloomsbury Labour Law prize for his stellar performance in that subject area last academic year. The prize, generously sponsored by Bloomsbury publishing, entitles James to stock up on some Bloomsbury texts. This is a great achievement and we would like to congratulate James and thank Bloomsbury. James is pictured her with Prof Shane Killcommins.

Bloomsbury Labour Law Prize

Sinead Mulcahy, an LLM student, completed an internship programme with the Superior Courts. Sinead noted that: “The court service staff were very welcoming and the internship was structured to ensure students experience both the Four Courts and the Criminal Courts of Justice. I would highly recommend this internship programme to any law student as it affords the opportunity to hone one’s legal skills and learn the fundamentals from some of the best legal minds of the country.”

Chief Justice’s Summer Internship Programme for Law Students

The Annual Cambridge v Limerick Moot Court took place on 4th March. The competition was part of an international trip which was organised by the Law Society's Trips Officer James Devery. Twenty- one law students travelled to London in order to expand their knowledge of the legal world. As part of the trip, students attended tours of the renowned Royal English Courts of Justice, the Old Bailey and the Tower of London. At the Cambridge v Limerick Moot, Niamh Walshe represented UL as senior counsel alongside Pascal Morrissey who acted as junior counsel. The duo argued a contract case while acting as appellant. The UL team won the legal argument in the competition, while Cambridge were granted the winning team title.

Cambridge v UL Moot Court Competition
If you become homeless, remember that you will not receive any of your post. If you move to a new address, you must inform each of them. This might mean that you miss appointments, such as hospital appointments or social welfare appointments. If you miss a social welfare appointment, your social welfare payment might be stopped. You will need to tell services that you are homeless, and they will help you to get a new address for your post.

What do I do if I am under 18 years old?

If you are under 18 years old, you can contact the Child and Family Agency on 0800 454 454 or at your local area health office. Tell them that you are under 18 and you are homeless. If it is out of hours (after the health office closes) you can go to the Garda and ask for assistance. You can contact the Child and Family Agency on 01-771 8500.

Supplementary welfare payment

Many local authorities say that once you have been offered accommodation that you can ‘reasonably’ occupy, then they do not have to offer you any other accommodation. Different local authorities treat refusals in different ways. You may qualify for a social welfare payment called a ‘supplementary welfare payment’. You may be able to claim this if you have been refused accommodation. You will need to prove to your local authority that the accommodation they offered was unsuitable. You can do this by explaining in writing why it is unsuitable and ask for an alternative.

If you have been offered accommodation that is unsuitable you should explain in writing why it is unsuitable and ask for an alternative. You have to apply for this. You can ‘reasonably’ refuse accommodation if it is unsuitable. You can tell them why it is unsuitable and ask for an alternative. If you have been offered accommodation that is unsuitable you should explain in writing why it is unsuitable and ask for an alternative. You have to apply for this. You can ‘reasonably’ refuse accommodation if it is unsuitable. You can tell them why it is unsuitable and ask for an alternative.

Questions to ask

Pay slips

Social welfare receipts

Housing documents

Photo ID Other documents

Things to bring

What time?

Where should I go?

Checklist

On Wednesday 30th January, the School of Law was delighted to present a number of students who had completed its online Housing Law and Policy module with their Certificates of Completion. The online module, which is co-delivered by the School of Law at the University of Limerick and Community Law & Mediation, examines the provision of housing and the different types of housing supports available in Ireland. To date, advocates from organisations including Novas, Focus Ireland, the Human Rights and Equality Commission, Threshold, Cluid, MABS and Citizens’ Information have completed the course.
PhD Conferrings

Congratulations to Dr Eoin Guilfoyle who graduated with a PhD at the Winter Conferring. Eoin’s thesis was entitled ‘An Examination of the Community Service Order in Ireland: Recommendations for Change’. Eoin’s research was supervised by Professor Shane Kilcommins and Dr Susan Leahy (pictured above) and was funded by the Irish Research Council.

Congratulations to Dr Magdalena Duggan who graduated with a PhD at the Winter Conferring. The title of Dr Duggan’s thesis is ‘Position of an Embryo (Foetus) in Private Law: A Comparative Analysis’. Pictured with Magdalena is her supervisor, Eoin Quill.

Congratulations to Dr. Hope Davidson; Dr. Laura Donnellan; Dr. William Feeney; and Dr. Patrick Ryan who graduated with their PhDs at the August Conferring. The School of Law is indebted to Dr. Eimear Spain, Dr. Jennifer Schweppe, Professor Shane Kilcommins, Professor Ray Friel and Dr. Susan Leahy for supervising these PhD projects. Pictured: Dr. Laura Donnellan, Dr. William Feeney and Dr. Hope Davidson.

MA (Serious Crime Investigation) Conferring

At the University of Limerick’s Winter Conferring Ceremony, thirteen senior-ranking members of An Garda Síochána were conferred with the degree of Master of Arts in Serious Crime Investigation. As graduates of the programme’s inaugural year, these thirteen graduates are the first and only investigating officers in the country to hold this distinguished qualification.

Pictured: Dr. Alan Cusack, Director of MA (Serious Crime Investigation), with Detective Inspector Paul Costello, Detective Superintendent Tony Howard and Detective Inspector Dermot Drea.
Awards

Shortlisted for gradireland ‘Higher Education Awards 2019’

The School of Law was delighted to have not one, but two of its postgraduate programmes shortlisted for awards at the gradireland ‘Higher Education Awards 2019’. For the second year running, the LLM/MA Human Rights in Criminal Justice, co-ordinated by Dr. Ger Coffey, was shortlisted for best postgraduate course in ‘Law’ and in its first year of operation, the MA in Serious Crime Investigation, co-ordinated by Dr. Alan Cusack and Sergeant Andrew Lacey, was shortlisted for ‘Best New Postgraduate Course’. The nominations are recognition of the School’s determination to produce high quality programmes and deliver excellence in the service offered to students at postgraduate level.

School of Law shortlisted for School of Law of the Year Award 2019

The School of Law was delighted to be shortlisted for the School of Law of the Year Award 2019 at the Travelers Irish Law awards which took place in the Clayton Burlington Hotel on the 14th June, 2019. Now in their 8th year, the Travelers Irish Law awards aim to identify, honour, and publicise outstanding achievements, while also recognising those who have dedicated their lives to serving in the legal profession. This annual event is designed to recognise excellence in the legal profession of Ireland, commending the achievements of lawyers. The Law School of the Year Award celebrates a law school in Ireland that is regarded by the judges as having demonstrated during the period under review a significant degree of excellence in the teaching of the law.

Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund

A collaborative project led by Letterkenny Institute of Technology (Siobhan Cullen and Brónagh Heverin), partnering with UL School of Law (Dr Lydia Bracken) and the Institute of Technology Carlow (Sadhb Reddy) has been awarded funding under the National Forum’s Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund. The funded project is titled “The REAL Project (Reimagining Experiential Academic Learning): Using Experience to Teach & Learn in Law—A Framework for Engagement, Assessment and Transferability.” This collaborative project will develop a model of experiential learning for law students, which will be transferrable to other disciplines.
Dr John Lombard completed a two-week research visit to the College of Law at Georgia State University in December. John was hosted by the Center for Law, Health and Society. This Center was established in 2004 and represents the culmination of strong research, educational, and community outreach initiatives developed in the health law field over many years at Georgia State University’s College of Law. During his visit, John met with several members of the Center faculty as well as staff from the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) legal services clinic. The research visit was supported by the International Activity Challenge Fund 2017/18.
Visit to the University of Padua, Italy

In April Dr Lydia Bracken completed Erasmus+ teaching mobility at the University of Padua, Italy. As part of the visit, Lydia participated in the examination of a dissertation presentation and delivered lectures at the School of Law, collaborating with Professor Elisa de Belvis in the area of family law.

Professor Shane Kilcommins attended the NACAC Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in September, along with Niamh Kavanagh from the International Education Division, and Ray Holihan, a graduate of the Law and Accounting degree (2016). The conference was attended by 6,000 delegates. During this visit, Professor Kilcommins delivered a presentation on understanding Irish education and studying at UL to US college admission and counselling professionals dedicated to making higher education accessible to all.

Dr John Lombard visited the International Observatory on End of Life Care in Lancaster University from the 29 April – 3 May. During this period of mobility, John met with researchers in the IOELC as well as the School of Law. On Wednesday 1 May, John delivered a seminar on the topic of double effect reasoning in ethics and law. This visit was part of the Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant which John received to support his research on the intersection of human rights and palliative care.
International Exchange Agreement with SUNY Broome

Professor Shane Kilcommins visited the State University of New York, Broome in November. The purpose of the visit related to an international exchange agreement, permitting students at SUNY Broome to transfer in to year 2 of our criminal justice programme. While there, Professor Kilcommins also delivered lectures on the topics of Juvenile Justice, Criminal Law, Criminal Justice, and Victimology. He met with students as part of SUNY Broome Transfer Day, SUNY Broome Open House. He also met with Dr Francis Battistiti, Executive Vice President & Chief Academic Officer. This development follows on from Dr Kathryn O’Sullivan’s visit to Canada in mid-October to meet with prospective Canadian law students interested in studying at the School of Law, UL. While there, she also met with the Director of the National Accreditation Committee, Ms Deborah Wolfe and with representatives from Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University.

Institutional links

UL-Nantes Announce Double Masters in Law

The School of Law, UL, is delighted to announce the launch of a new collaboration with the Faculty of Law and Political Science at the University of Nantes, France. As part of the Filière Intégrée Franco-Britannique, University of Nantes law students will now have the opportunity to undertake postgraduate studies at the School of Law, Limerick, before returning to Nantes to receive a second French diplôme. The Faculty of Law and Political Science at the University of Nantes was established in 1460 and supports 4,500 law students. In September, the School of Law welcomed Muriel Havas to UL to complete the LLM in International Commercial Law. Muriel is the first person to undertake the joint masters since it was introduced during the summer.
Student Visits

Los Angeles Superior and Federal Court Summer Externship 2019

One of our final year Law Plus students, Saoirse Enright, was chosen to represent the University of Limerick on the Los Angeles Superior and Federal Court Summer Externship 2019, organised by the Irish American Bar Association. During her time in LA, Saoirse completed orientation in the Superior Stanley Mosk Courthouse, visited the coroner’s office, the children’s dependency court, the Supreme Court and the Metropolitan Detention Centre. Saoirse also gained invaluable experience of assisting judges with ongoing cases through legal research and writing.

Saoirse said of her experience: “This highly coveted experience has given me the required confidence to further my studies at the University of Limerick by pursing a Master of Laws (General). I will never forget this experience as it has greatly enhanced my legal awareness and made me appreciate the importance of travelling while gaining a new insight on the world by meeting different people and exposing myself to new cultures and working environments.”

Terrorism, Crime and Justice Summer School Field Trip

Students on the Terrorism, Crime & Justice Summer School went on a class trip to Spike Island in Cork on May 28th. They were accompanied by Louise McNeil (PhD candidate at the School of Law). The students studied at the School of Law for three weeks and are lectured by members of the Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies during their time here. The Course Directors for the Summer School are Dr Susan Leahy and Dr Margaret Fitzgerald O’Reilly.

Summer School from the University of Kansas Law School

ICEL and the School of Law welcomed a Summer School from the University of Kansas Law School (KU) during August 2019. With KU faculty member Professor Suzanne Valdez, Professor Raymond Friel of ICEL and the School of Law taught a three week course to law students from KU.

Two weeks of the course were held at UL Law School in the dedicated teaching space with the final week in Trinity College Dublin. Valdez taught comparative family law where the students learned about Irish family law while Friel taught two courses one on US counter-terrorism in an international context and the other on Law and Technology. Mixed with visits to the Cliffs of Moher, a weekend in Galway and a visit to the Courts of Criminal Justice organised by Judge John Edwards it was an outstanding success which both faculty and students enjoyed immensely. The group also benefitted from guest lectures by Prof Stephen McAllister, US Attorney for the Kansas district.

The summer programme has a long tradition with the Law School in the University of Limerick, being in operation for more than 10 years and we are hopeful it will continue for many years into the future.

Technological University of Cologne

Professor Raymond Friel, Director of ICEL, School of Law University of Limerick, hosted a summer school from the Technological University of Cologne (TH Köln). Around 16 students spent a week in UL learning English Insurance law as a part of their Master in Insurance law offered by Cologne. Regardless of Brexit, English Insurance law and its closely related American Insurance law will remain crucial in the insurance world both within the EU and globally. This programme, taught in English, is an intensive course which covers English jurisprudence which provides a radically different perspective from that of German law. The school was very well received by the participants and continues a growing tradition for Cologne, second largest venue for Insurance companies in Germany, to see Limerick as a source of excellence with regard to English insurance law.
The School of Law was delighted to celebrate the graduation of the inaugural class of the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Applied Policing and Criminal Justice on Monday 26 August. The BA, which was first launched at the University of Limerick in 2017, is a two-year, part-time, blended learning programme specifically designed for members of An Garda Síochána. The BA forms part of the School of Law’s diverse catalogue of pioneering, student-centred initiatives. Dr Lydia Bracken, Course Director for the BA, and Professor Shane Kilcommins, Head of the School of Law, joined with members of the Garda Representative Association in congratulating the graduates at a reception at the School of Law in advance of the conferring ceremony. We wish all graduates every success for the future.
In September 2019, the School of Law at UL, launched the first ever programme of its kind in Ireland - the LLM in Human Rights in Criminal Justice Online. This is a two year programme, designed to give graduates an understanding of the interaction between human rights and criminal justice in the 21st century and knowledge of the legal actors, supervisory bodies and institutions central to the field. The programme is unique in that it is taught on a blended learning basis; that is to say, mostly online, but with one face to face workshop per semester. The online element of the course will incorporate a combination of self instructional materials, including online lectures, student guide, interactive learning elements, core readings and reflections. There will be regular tutor led interactions, tutor feedback and discussion boards. Students will also develop important transferable skills including analytical, research, communication and report writing skills.

The programme is open to talented graduates in law with an interest in the field of international Human Rights and Criminal Justice/Policing (LLM), to those working in youth crime and youth justice and to talented graduates in a related discipline (e.g. politics, international relations etc.) with an interest in working in the field of international human rights and criminal justice/agencies (MA). The Course Director for this new innovative programme is Dr Ger Coffey.

In October 2018 AI software provider, Neota Logic and leading law firm, McCann FitzGerald announced a partnership with the University of Limerick to deliver the first-ever third-level legal tech course from spring 2019. In what is a first for the legal industry and legal education in Ireland, students will have the opportunity to learn how to design, build and test digital legal solutions using the Neota Logic System, a no-code development platform for the automation of professional services. With Neota Logic as technology provider and McCann FitzGerald as sponsor, students will learn to develop solutions, or web applications, that will be built to the specifications of a local organisation acting as “client”. At the end of the semester, the students will aim to have a set of apps ready to be deployed for their “client” to use.

The University of Limerick is one of only three law schools in Europe, including the University of Manchester and London South Bank University, that will be running modules using the Neota Logic System. The three will join the ranks of over a dozen law schools globally to run legal tech modules with Neota Logic. In April the Apps were launched by final year Law students, taking this new innovative project. The judges including Dr. Hugh O’Donnell of Ingenium, Mr Josh Hogan , Partner in McCann FitzGerald Solicitors (UL alumnus) and Ms. Aisling Curtis, Director of Microsoft Ireland chose a winner from the set of apps: a tool to assess and learn Directors Duties.

Sinead Eaton, Commercial and Company Law Lecturer at the University of Limerick said: “We’re delighted to partner with Neota Logic and McCann FitzGerald. Our aim is to provide our students with a progressive curriculum that will develop their skills and prepare them for the modern workplace. The introduction of this module, a first in Ireland, is testament to that commitment and will provide our law graduates with the skills they need to pursue careers in an ever-evolving industry.”
In October 2018 Community Law & Mediation ("CLM") launched a new information leaflet on Homelessness – information for people who are homeless or at risk of losing their homes. This guide, which was produced by CLM following engagement with advocates working in the area of housing and homelessness, is an information guide which sets out to explain the law in user friendly language. It has been awarded the NALA "Plain English" mark.

The information leaflet is a national resource and will be distributed to organisations working in this field across the country. The launch hosted by the School of Law at UL, coincided with the delivery of an on-campus workshop for advocates undertaking Ireland’s only online housing Law & Policy module.

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**Homelessness Information Leaflet Launch with CLM**

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**Congratulations**

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**Assistant Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

Dr Lydia Bracken, School of Law, has been appointed as Assistant Dean, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. In this role, Lydia will work to advance the equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) agenda within the faculty, focusing on a range of areas including Athena Swan, staff training in EDI, broadening access to faculty programmes and supporting student progression and retention among other things.