



**UNIVERSITY OF
LIMERICK**
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

School of Law Newsletter

December 2020

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Welcome from the Head of School

Dear colleagues,

I am really pleased to introduce you to the latest edition of the UL School of Law Newsletter. I am very grateful to Dr Laura Cahillane for coordinating its production, and for presenting us with such a splendid publication. It has been an eventful year for the School. I should begin by acknowledging the outstanding work of staff in managing the circumstances presented by Covid. They moved seamlessly to online delivery last March when the virus first struck, ensuring that our students continued to receive an excellent legal education. I would like to thank them in this regard for their professionalism, dedication and hard work – it is estimated that online delivery, at least in the initial set-up phase, takes three times longer to prepare and deliver than traditional face-to-face engagement in lecture halls. They have carried this increased workload with remarkable selflessness and good grace, and continue to do so. The students themselves, and the Student Law Society, have also been very impressive, particularly through their understanding, resilience, engagement and support. It augurs well for the future as they make their ways in to professional communities of practice. Executive management at the University has also been very proactive and supportive, making it possible to plan and coordinate activity efficiently and effectively.

Despite the challenges presented by Covid, we have had another excellent academic year. Our relations with external stakeholders is something of which I am particularly proud. These include our work with employers on excellent co-operative work placements and internships; our clinical engagement activities such as advanced lawyering projects; the organisation of numerous conferences/workshops/CPD events in UL; funding successes (large or small); the continued development of international links; and the maintenance of prestigious student prizes and sponsorships. We have also had a variety of successful interactions with solicitors' firms, barristers, the judiciary, government departments, State agencies, the media, secondary schools, guidance counsellors, employers, and NGOs. Many of these engagements and interactions are consistent with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which are a blueprint for all of us to achieve a better and more sustainable future. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, gender equality, environmental degradation, peace and justice, decent work and economic growth, sustainable cities, quality education in communities, and developing partnerships in achieving these goals.

The School's focus on student-centred learning has also been very apparent. This is numerically evident

in the high demand for our programmes – as reflected in CAO points, CAO applications, undergraduate numbers, and postgraduate numbers. It is also evident in the increasing diversity of student numbers, co-curricular engagement with agencies such as CAB, innovative teaching/ projects, staff nominations for teaching prizes, and staff completion of teaching and learning courses, student successes, and funding for teaching initiatives. We are, of course, a community of scholarship and it has been wonderful to see the publication outputs of staff, which are detailed in the newsletter. Research extends far beyond publications – it also includes funding successes; the completion of policy reports; submissions that relate to law reform; the delivery of conference papers and invited papers; and growing PhD enrolments and completions. I am also delighted with our rankings success. The School is now ranked in the top 250 Law Schools in the world, something which, I think, confirms the exceptional quality of our staff and students.

As I finish my tenure as Head of the School of Law at the University of Limerick, I would like to extend my thanks to all of you. Each of you supported the activities of the School, helping to create a dynamic learning environment for our students, and a vibrant and outward looking Law School.

Warm regards

Professor Shane Kilcommins
Head, School of Law



Events in the School of Law



Restorative Justice Conference Co-Hosted by the CCJVS

The Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies was delighted to join the Probation Service in co-hosting the 'Restorative Justice: Strategies for Change' conference which was held at the University of Limerick on Friday November 22nd, 2019. The event was organised by Dr Ian Marder (Maynooth University), Ms Ursula Fernee (Probation Service) and Dr Susan Leahy (CCJVS). The event featured contributions from a number of international experts and was attended by 120 delegates from various key criminal justice system stakeholders.

Regulatory Compliance Fact Finding Investigations Conference

On 24th of October 2019, the conference: "Regulatory, Compliance, Fact-Finding Investigations: Best Practice, Common Challenges and Future Direction" was hosted by the School of Law, University of Limerick, in association with FITS Ltd. Keynote speakers were Ms. Justice Mary Ellen Ring, Mr. Ian Drennan, Chief Superintendent Clavin, Dr. Geraldine Noone, Mr. Kevin Foley, Mr. Robert Smyth, Professor Ray Friel, and Prof. Shane Kilcommins. These keynote addresses were further complimented with a host of morning and afternoon workshops which covered a variety of regulatory and fact-finding issues. These were delivered by highly respected speakers from private practice and various departments within, and related to, an Garda Síochána. The conference attracted over 50 attendees, who came from various private industry and public departments, including:



Policing Human Rights and Critical Decision Making Seminar

On 23rd of October 2019, the University of Limerick hosted senior leaders of An Garda Síochána for a seminar which was opened by Deputy Commissioner

John Twomey and coordinated by D/Superintendent Alan Mc Govern. The attendees included 20 Chief Superintendents and 40 Superintendents all of whom are involved in making critical decisions at command level. Speakers included speakers included Deputy Commissioner John Twomey, Detective Chief Superintendent Brian Sutton, Ms Justice Mary Ellen Ring, D/Superintendent Alan Mc Govern, and Professor Shane Kilcommins



Workshop on Promoting Inclusivity through Universal Design for Learning



In November, Dr Lydia Bracken hosted a workshop on 'Promoting Inclusivity through Universal Design for Learning,' which was delivered by Karen Buckley, Academic Developer, Dublin City University. The workshop introduced participants to the principles of universal design for learning (UDL) and provided practical guidance on how participants can integrate UDL principles into their own teaching and learning practice to promote and implement an inclusive teaching and learning environment that engages all learners. The workshop formed part of the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education's 2019/20 National Seminar Series.

Law and Technology ICEL Lunch and Learn Series



A number of 'Law & Technology, Lunch and Learn' seminars were held this year. The series is hosted by the International Commercial and Economic Law research group, and featured a presentation from Eddie Keane of the School of Law on how technology has changed the landscape in which our laws operate in one session. A further event featured Barry Robinson, FCA, an expert in Forensic Accounting with BDO Limerick, who gave a talk on using Data Analytics in investigations eDiscovery and Compliance. Many practitioners from the legal and business worlds of the Mid-West enjoyed the events.

Seminar on Using Mediation in High Conflict Cases with CPD Philanthropies

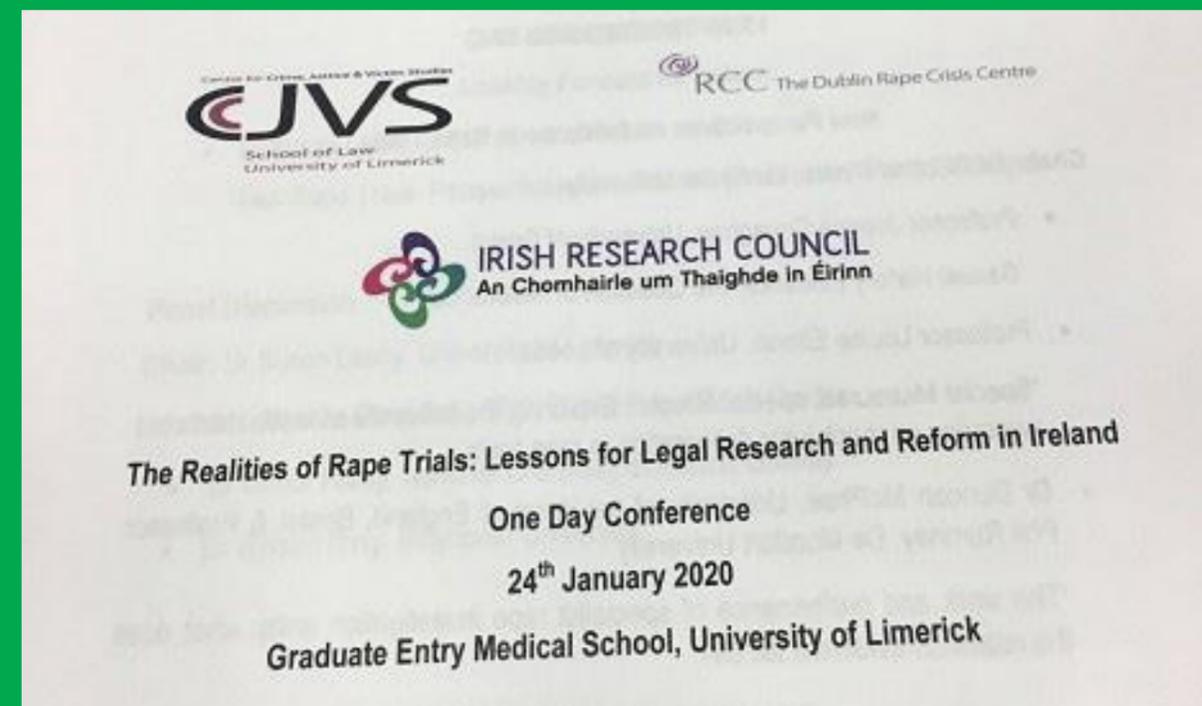
Ms Majella Foley-Friel BCL, BL, MA presented a paper on the use of mediation in high conflict cases as part of the CPD Philanthropies event held on November 1 in the A&L Goodbody Appellate Moot Court. Ms Foley-Friel was called to the Bar but has been practicing as a Mediator in family, workplace and commercial mediation for over 20 years. During that time she has developed a number of techniques in bringing parties together to form an enduring agreement, whilst at the same time working to ensure that the parties can continue to work together in the future.

With an attendance of over 50 local practitioners, the presentation was very well received and forms part of the ICEL research group's expertise.



Realities of Rape Trials Conference

On January 24th, the Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies hosted a one-day conference entitled 'The Realities of Rape Trials: Lessons for Legal Research and Reform'. The event was organised by Dr Susan Leahy and was held as part of her Irish Research Council funded project on the realities of Irish rape trials. The conference featured presentations from leading international experts who have conducted empirical research on rape trials, including jury research and trial observations. 140 delegates from a variety of criminal justice stakeholders attended on the day, providing a variety of perspectives on the need for ongoing research on and reform of the law relating to Irish rape trials.



Seminars at Institute of Advanced Legal Studies



Dr Andrea Ryan, Director of the Centre for Crime, Justice and Victim Studies, organised two seminars at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London as part of the ECLA (UK) Seminar Series. In the first seminar, on Monday 4th November, 'Criminal law measures after Brexit Part 1: Mutual Legal assistance, extradition & investigation', papers were presented by Andrea and by Harvey Palmer, CPS Policy Directorate and by DCI Steve Collins, International Section, Metropolitan Police. The Seminar was chaired by Mike Kennedy CBE, former President of Eurojust. On Dec 4 the second seminar examined: 'European Investigation Orders and European Supervision Orders'. Papers were given by Frank Cassidy, the Irish member of Eurojust, Mike Drury CMG from BCL LLP and by Dr Andrea Ryan to consider how these instruments are working. The seminar was chaired by Judge Michael Hopmeier, Southwark Crown Court.



Brexit discussion chaired by Mr Justice Murray launches new A&L Goodbody Appellate Moot Court

Former Chief Justice, Mr Justice John Murray joined other leading legal figures to discuss the impact of Brexit on Ireland at an event marking the launch of a new moot appeal court at the University of Limerick. The new court, sponsored by A&L Goodbody, is used by School of Law students to run mock tribunals and court cases to hone their academic legal skills into practical legal skills in a simulated environment.

Mr Justice Murray chaired the launch event, which heard from Dr Vincent Power, partner at A&L Goodbody, and Professor Ray Friel of the School of Law on the impact of Brexit for Ireland and businesses in Munster.

The sponsorship reflects the strength of the relationship between ALG and UL and reinforces ALG's commitment to improving the experience and learning of Irish law students. Ronan Lyons, partner responsible for ALG's Trainee Solicitor Programme, said: "A&L Goodbody is delighted to sponsor the new moot appeal court at the University of Limerick. This state-of-the-art facility will enhance the students' practical court room skills and reflects A&L Goodbody's values of innovation and market leadership. Every year we recruit a number of high quality trainees, summer interns and co-op students from the University of Limerick and we look forward to our relationship with the University continuing to grow over the coming years."

Research and related activity in the School of Law

Marie Curie Funding for Hate Crime Research

Dr Jennifer Scheppe in the School of Law and Dr Amanda Haynes in the Sociology Department have been selected for funding for a Marie Curie Initial Training (PhD) Network for NETHATE. The vision for the NETHATE (Network of Excellence of Training on HATE) ETN is to bring together an interdisciplinary team of world-leading European researchers to tackle a highly ambitious and relevant research project on the nature of hate. It will also examine the dynamics of its spread in both offline and online fora, mitigation and reconciliation strategies, and the impact on victims and bystanders. The research and training

programme will deliver doctoral training of 15 ESRs and high-impact research outputs. The complementary research skills and training expertise within this inter-sectoral ETN will ensure that the ESRs trained will become Europe's next generation of researchers, teachers and practitioners in understanding the roots and impacts of hate, as well as mitigation strategies, which will support the development of a sustainable democratic culture across the EU.





Eoin Quill appointed Member of the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law

Eoin Quill has been elevated from a Fellow to a Member of the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law, based in Vienna. ECTIL produces a wide range of publications on tort law across European jurisdictions, with additional contributions from around the world. Fellows provide research contributions to those publications. Eoin has been a contributing researcher since 2001. Members are involved in the administration of the organization, with voting rights at the annual meetings of the General Assembly. Eoin accepted the invitation to become a Member in July 2020. He continues to be a contributing researcher also.

CCJVS Team Lead Consultation on Revised Victims



The Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies was delighted to lead a consultation on the next edition of the Victims' Charter at the Department of Justice on December 18th. The consultation was attended by a range of criminal justice agencies and victim support organisations. The consultation was coordinated by Dr Susan Leahy (co-director, CCJVS) and was chaired by Professor Shane Kilcommins. CCJVS members Dr Alan Cusack, Dr Norah Burns and Ms Blaithe O'Shea acted as rapporteurs at the event. Dr Susan Leahy compiled a report on the consultation which was presented to the Department of Justice in January 2020.

IRC Recognises Impact of Youth Justice Research



John Reddy and Prof Sean Redmond's work on data collection in the area of Youth Justice was identified by the IRC in its strategic plan as 'excellent research generating long-term policy impact'. It will be used by the Department of Justice and Equality to inform changes in data collection practices across the youth justice system with the objective of providing better evidence to enable the design of more effective youth diversion services.

Funding award by the Health Research Board

Professor Sean Redmond from the School of Law along with co-applicant with Professor Alice Coffey, was successful in achieving a Covid-19 funding award by the Health Research Board which amounts to €200,000. The award will fund a personalised on-line information service for health professionals returning to the workplace to support Covid-19 connecting workers with up to date scientific evidence and best practice. Sean leads the work on evaluating the implementation and impact of the service.



Editor of the Irish Criminal Law Journal

Dr Ger Coffey has been appointed Editor of the Irish Criminal Law Journal. The Journal is published by Round Hall, Ireland's leading law publisher. Dr Coffey brings extensive expertise and experience in criminal law and procedure and his publications contributions in this area aligns well with the focus and scope of the Journal. Issue 1 includes an obituary of the late Dr Paul Anthony McDermott SC, RIP (formerly School of Law, UCD) by Tom O'Malley, School of Law, NUIG. The Issue also includes articles by Professor Paul McCutcheon, School of Law, UL and Luke Noonan, School of Law, UCC.



National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Funding Success

Dr Norah Burns Co-Director of Clinical Legal Education was recently awarded competitive funding by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education to host a seminar on 'The Future of Clinical Legal Education in Ireland'.



The seminar will be part of the National Forum's 2020/2021 National Seminar Series. Dr Burns was previously a recipient of funding from the National Forum in 2016/2017.

REPPP Activities



The REPPP Data Study – How can we show whether the work we undertake with young people in the youth justice system makes a difference?

The REPPP Data Study continued its work to make better use of evidence generated routinely in the youth justice system to inform youth justice policy and practice. In 2019 and 2020, the study researched data processes and reporting practices in the youth justice system in Ireland focusing on providing understandings of what is required to build on and augment current data processes to maximise the use of data routinely collected in the Irish youth justice system. The study's 'Ireland Report' and summary report are under review by the Department of Justice. In 2020 REPPP has studied outcome measurement in youth programmes and particularly ways of measuring change in the social and emotional capabilities (soft outcomes) of young people participating in programmes. The study follows on from REPPP research of data processes in international youth justice (Reddy and Redmond, 2019) and is to provide useful information about measuring outcomes for young people in Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) in Ireland. A report reviewing research and practice evidence will be published in the final quarter of 2020 and will inform a trial 'soft outcomes' measurement process in 16 GYDPs.



Serious and Organised Crime and Child Exploitation (SOCCE): UK & Ireland Networking and Research Initiative – A Focus on Children Exploited by Criminal Gangs and Networks

REPPP hosted the first a round-table meeting Serious and Organised Crime and Child Exploitation (SOCCE): Networking and Research Initiative on November 5th 2019. SOCCE aims to increase awareness, information sharing, and research collaboration between the UK and Ireland around the problem of children's involvement in serious and organised crime and their exploitation by adult criminal networks. The first SOCCE brought together academics/criminologists, youth justice practitioners and youth justice policy makers from the youth justice systems of Scotland, England and Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland. Participants represented academic institutions in the jurisdictions – the School of Law at UL, Queens University Belfast (QUB), Strathclyde University Glasgow, and the University of Bedfordshire England – and from youth justice and children's public and community/voluntary sector bodies – the Irish Youth Justice Service, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, the Youth Justice Board of England and Wales, Co-operation Ireland (NI), and Action for Children (Scot). The event provided a forum in which participants shared information, experiences and ideas about supporting children and young people who are involved in serious crime. This was followed by an invite to REPPP to give a keynote presentation and workshop at the Serious Organised Crime and Child Exploitation conference hosted by Strathclyde University in November 2019. Further network collaborations are planned for 2021.





Action Research Project: Practically Improving Effectiveness in Garda Youth Diversion Projects

The REPPP Action Research Project (ARP) is funded by the Department of Justice to identify best practice in relationships between young people and youth justice workers in Garda Youth Diversion Projects. Garda Youth Diversion Projects are specialist services to assist young people to desist their offending behaviour and take up pro-social opportunities. They are located in communities across Ireland.

The study involves 16 Garda projects working with three REPPP researchers to blend international evidence with GYDP practice wisdom to co-design new guidance on relationship building for the GYDP service. A practitioner's handbook was initially developed to guide the process, and the researchers presented this to the wider GYDP network at the GYDP National Conference in November 2019.

In January, the Researchers facilitated three regional co-design workshops with practitioners, including one in the A&L Goodbody Appellate Court, to generate ideas for evidence-informed relationship based practice to support better outcomes for young people. The researchers supported the projects through an initial ideation period to develop and implement agreed actions in their own project sites over a period of several months. The findings from this phase of the research will culminate in a guidance document on the effective use of relationships in GYDPs prepared for the Department of Justice by the end of the year.

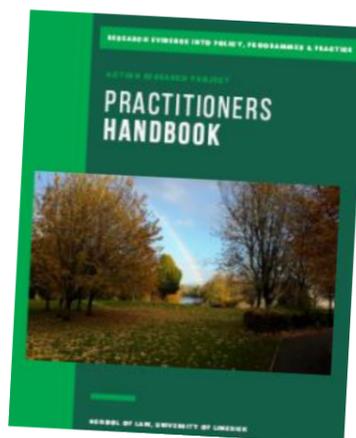
In addition, the Department of Justice funded 16

youth justice workers to undertake the Masters in Human Rights and Criminal Justice and they have successfully completed year one of the programme. In conjunction with the researchers, the MA students are now conducting local implementation evaluations in their own project sites to inform their final year dissertations. The REPPP team researchers are routinely collecting data through a series of reflective conversations with GYDP practitioners over several months to track the experiences of each project implementing new guidance. This is time stamped to document key internal and external events. The implementation studies will chart the projects' experience of co-design and transforming guidance into practice and this will ultimately support a broader process evaluation by the REPPP. The study will continue into the New Year when all 16 projects will embark on a trial implementation of the co-designed interim guidance.

The Department of Justice is once again making the substantial offer of sponsored places for GYDP professionals on the part-time online MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice in the School of Law. There was significant interest in the programme this year with places offered to 17 eligible candidates who commenced their studies in September.

The next phase of the ARP research will involve the continued collaboration of researchers and practitioners to co-design observable GYDP outcomes and associated measurement tools.

The ARP project delivered an oral presentation titled *Deliberation before implementation: Co-designing and co-producing effective relationships in youth justice settings* at the 3rd Annual UK Implementation Science Research Conference. The virtual conference provided an international platform for the ARP to present its research approach (July 2020).



Covid-19 Related Research

How are young people participating in Garda Youth Diversion Projects responding to the Covid-19 public health measures? – A local to national qualitative profile

From April to June 2020 the REPPP team built on their relationship with Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDP) to conduct research on the young people who are engaged in GYDP response to COVID-19 threat. From the perspective of youth justice workers, we assessed the young people's compliance/non-compliance with public health measures. We also investigated and changes in GYPD practice, young people's behaviour change in terms of pro-social and anti-social or offending behaviour during the initial lockdown and Phase 1 and 2 of restrictions. The research team provided two policy reports to the Department of Justice to help inform on-going policy decisions.

The development of a resource repository for health professionals working in a Covid-19 context.

REPPP is supporting the development of a comprehensive resource www.rapidinfo4u for health professionals seeking information to support practice related to COVID-19 and its impact. The Rapid Response Repository is a service knowledge management system for health professionals. Its focus is on providing a useful and searchable source of knowledge, maintained and verified by people with expertise in relevant areas of health professional practice. The resource includes discipline specific information and information that is useful across health professions. The Rapid Response Repository project has been funded by the Health Research Board Ireland and the Irish Research Council. The research team are members of the Health Implementation Science and Technology cluster of the Health Research Institute at the University of Limerick and the Centre for Effective Services, Dublin. REPPP is specifically leading on the work associated with the implementation and impact of the project.

Executive Leadership Programme – Grappling with complex problems in the real world.

The Executive Leadership Programme is designed and delivered by staff from the REPPP project. The Programme is for people with responsibility for addressing complex problems. While the causes of such problems are structural and rooted in poverty, inequality and deprivation, they also involve difficulties or limitations with services or facilities, and feature people whose behaviour causes difficulties to themselves and others. The Executive Leadership Programme for Limerick city and county took place in the Galway Bay Hotel between September 2019 and January 2020. The programme brought together 25 people from the community, voluntary and statutory sector throughout Limerick City and County to consider complex problems. The programme involved a collaboration between the REPPP and the Limerick Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC). Following rigorous problem analysis, co-designed proposals for new strategies and practices in relation to the following problems were developed:

- The effects of staff turnover on the quality of service delivery
- Lack of supports for some children in terms of engaging in education
- Issues affecting children living in homeless accommodation
- Problems associated with the over-reliance on compliance governance in local service provision

The programme culminated in Block Three in a presentation to a panel of experts in a 'Dragons Den' type of setting. The 'Dragons' were Professor Raymond Friel, School of Law, University of Limerick, Professor Kerstin May, then Vice President Academic Affairs & Student Engagement, University of Limerick; Professor Donncha O'Connell, School of Law, National University of Ireland, Galway, and Sinéad Tierney, Practice Development Manager, Crosscare.



Launch of new Greentown Project

The Greentown Project, which identified a serious yet previously hidden problem of children caught-up in in criminal networks in Ireland could be described as REPPP's first major project. The REPPP team has since conducted replication case studies in two additional locations anonymised as Bluetown and Redtown and a national prevalence study to build on and strengthen the evidence base.

This primary research informed a deliberative design process to develop an intervention programme for children caught up in criminal networks in Ireland. The Greentown Project now enters an exciting stage; the trial of the intervention programme has received funding of €4.2 million from the Dormant Account Fund and will operate over three years. The REPPP team will be responsible for providing practical scientific support to inform the implementation of the trial programmes and evaluate their impact.



Awards and Appointments

LLM Programmes Shortlisted for Grad Ireland Higher Education Awards 2020

The LLM/MA Human Rights in Criminal Justice (co-ordinated by Dr. Ger Coffey) and the MA in Serious Crime Investigation (co-ordinated by Dr. Alan Cusack) were both shortlisted for the award of 'Best Postgraduate Course in Law' at the gradireland 'Higher Education Awards 2020'. This is the third year in a row that the LLM/MA Human Rights in Criminal Justice has been shortlisted for the prestigious award. While the MA in Serious Crime Investigation was shortlisted in the 'Best New Course' category at the gradireland Higher Education Awards in its first year in operation in 2019.



Awards for Bail Supervision Scheme

An evaluation of the Pilot Bail Supervision Scheme completed by REPPP was launched by Dr Katherine Zappone, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in December 2019. The outcome and process evaluation identified that collaboration between multiple stakeholders provided an enabling environment that facilitated improved parental skills, supervision and young people's increased attendance at criminal justice and clinical appointments. The programme works with young people who would ordinarily be detained and focuses on improving their pro-social behaviour. Dr Sean Redmond from the School of Law led the design team for this programme while serving

as an official in the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. The scheme received two significant awards: an International Community Corrections Award from the International Corrections & Prisons Association (ICPA) in Buenos Aires, Argentina (November 2019) and a national excellence through Collaboration award at the Civil Service Excellence and Innovation Awards (November 2019)

The evaluation findings provided the primary evidence to secure the funding to mainstream the pilot programme in Dublin (Children Court, Smithfield) and extend the Bail Supervision Scheme to two other locations in Ireland (Limerick and Cork). REPPP have been contracted to facilitate the implementation of the scheme in the two locations.



Education Awards

Ms. Sinead Eaton was shortlisted for The Education Awards in the category 'Best Business & Third Level Institution Collaboration' for 2019. Sinead organized a Lawyering project earlier this year for final year law students on AI in the Delivery of Legal services. Sinead liaised with and got support from McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors and Neota Logic to create this opportunity for twelve Law Plus students. This was the first LegalTech module in an Irish University law school and matched developments in the area in large corporate law firms in Dublin and London. Having met with Limerick Chamber and sought their views on Apps that might be useful for their members, Sinead arranged training on how to build the Apps using the Neota platform and the Law students developed four business - relevant Apps on areas such as Directors duties and Fire regulation compliance, as well as one on Company Secretarial requirements.



Award for the Call it Out campaign

Jennifer Schweppe of the Hate and Hostility Research Group was delighted to accept the Silver Award in the "Best in Government and Not for Profit" category at the 2020 Digital Media Awards in February. She accepted the award along with colleagues at 'We The People' on behalf of the HHRG and the Transgender Equality Network Ireland for their work on the Call It Out campaign. The Call It Out campaign was funded by the European Union, and part of a ten country project which sought to raise awareness of homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia.

Patricia Gilheaney appointed adjunct Professor in the School of Law



The School of Law is delighted to announce that Patricia Gilheaney has been appointed as an adjunct Professor in the School. Patricia is the Inspector of Prisons in Ireland. She is responsible for the inspection of all Irish prisons.

In her role she also investigates the circumstances surrounding all deaths of persons in prison custody and within one month of temporary release from custody. Her interest in the protection of human rights stems from her psychiatric and general nursing background. Her postgraduate education includes an MSc in Health Services Management from Trinity College and an

MSc in Executive Leadership from Ulster University. She also studied at the Global Leadership Institute in Boston College. Immediately prior to her current role Patricia served as Chief Executive of the Mental Health Commission (MHC) from 2011. She was appointed the MHC's first Director of Standards and Quality Assurance in October 2003 and led the development and implementation of the regulatory system for mental health services including the development of the first set of standards for mental health services in Ireland. She also developed rules and codes of practice for the use of restrictive practices and other interventions under the Mental Health Act 2001. Patricia was involved in the establishment and implementation of mental health tribunals in 2006, which provided for the first time in Ireland, an automatic independent review of a person's detention for the treatment of mental disorder. Patricia has contributed to the development of a range of national health related policies and was a Ministerial appointee to the following: Expert Group tasked with developing Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide 2015-2020; Expert Group tasked with reviewing the Mental Health Act 2001; National Clinical Effectiveness Committee 2010-2015; National Patient Safety Advisory Group 2011-2016. She is currently serving a second term as a member of the Board of the Association of Chief Executives of Non-Commercial State Agencies (ACESA).



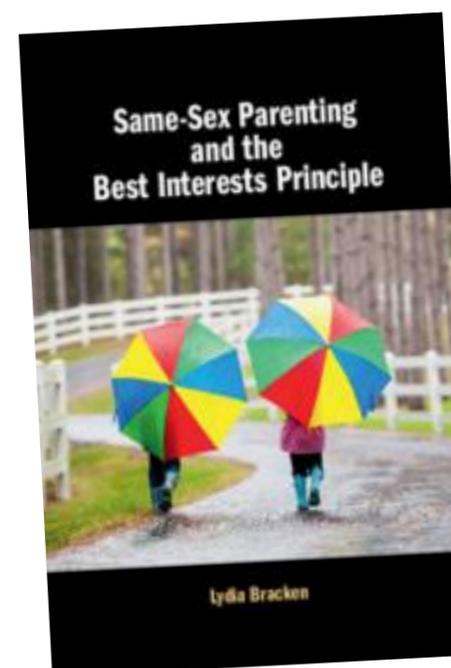
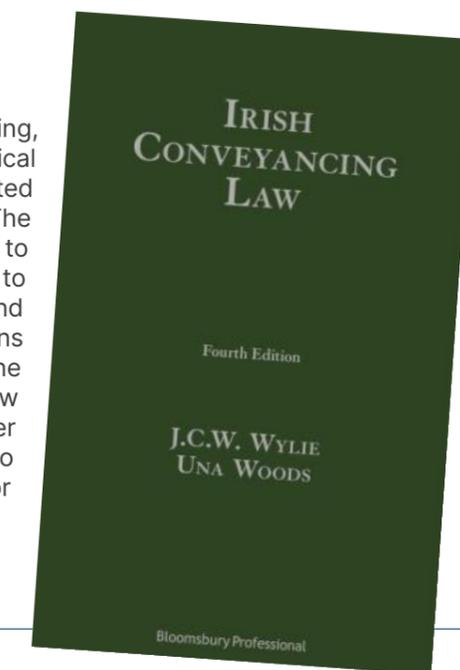
Luke Danagher wins Teaching Excellence Award

Congrats to Dr. Luke Danagher, who was selected as the faculty winner for the UL Teaching Excellence Award last February.

New Books

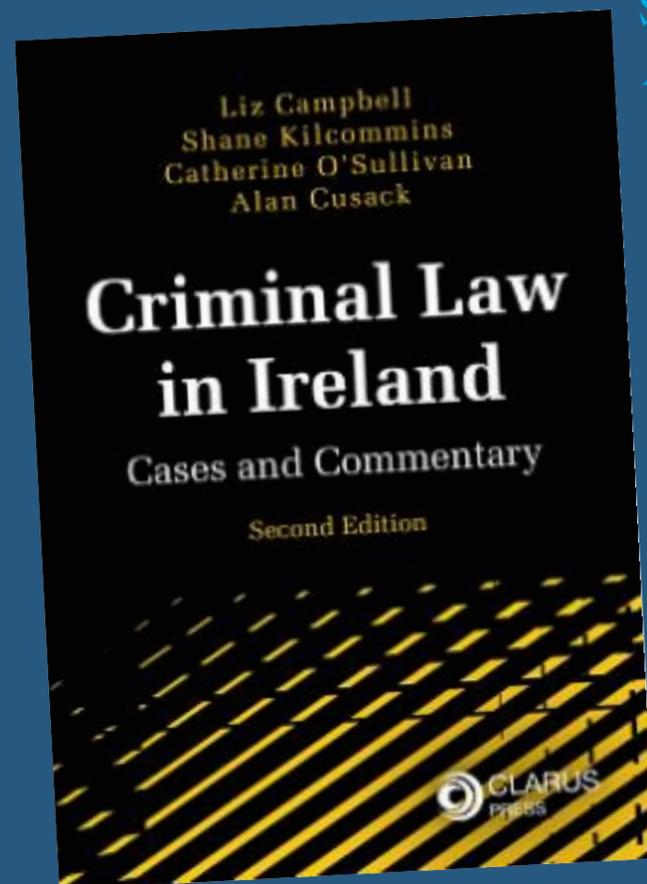
Una Woods: Irish Conveyancing Law

Dr Una Wood's book, Irish Conveyancing Law 4th ed (Bloomsbury Publishing, 2019), which she co-authored with J.C.W. Wylie, is an essential and practical guide to Irish conveyancing law and practice that has been frequently cited in court rulings and has long been considered authoritative in the area. The new edition has been substantially re-structured, with much re-writing, to reflect major changes in law and practice. The text has been revised to reflect changes in practice resulting from the pre-contract deduction and investigation of title system introduced by the Law Society's Conditions of Sale 2019 Edition and Requisitions on Title. The book also explains the changes resulting from key legislation like the Land and Conveyancing Law Reform Act 2009 and Property Services (Regulation) Act 2011 and further incorporates the substantial case law since the last edition. The book also recently won the prestigious Dublin Solicitors Bar Association award for Law Book of the Year Dublin.



Dr Lydia Bracken: Same-Sex Parenting and the Best Interests Principle

Dr Lydia Bracken's new monograph Same-Sex Parenting and the Best Interests Principle was recently published with Cambridge University Press. The book presents arguments in favour of the legal recognition of gay and lesbian families that are based on consideration of the best interests of the child. In this context, 'best interests' is informed by reference to children's rights and to social science data. Applied in this manner, it is argued that the best interests of children can be used to demand that same-sex parenting arrangements are afforded legal recognition and protection. Suggestions are also presented as to the most appropriate manner of providing for this recognition in the areas of parental responsibility, adoption, donor-conception and surrogacy. These suggestions are drawn from comparative case studies, focusing on England and Wales, Ireland and South Africa, that are used to facilitate assessment of the best interests principle.



Shane Kilcommins and Alan Cusack: Criminal Law in Ireland – Cases and Commentary (2nd edn)

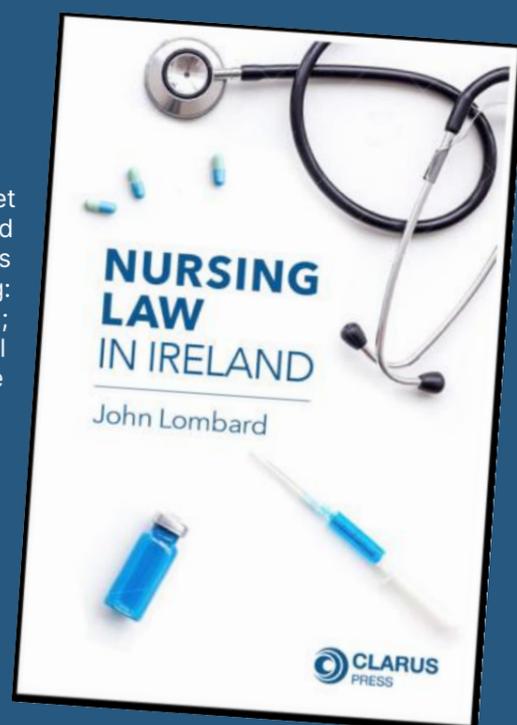
Criminal Law: Cases and Commentary, Second Edition is a thoroughly revised, updated and expanded edition of this now established criminal law text book staple. This Second Edition includes new chapters on the following topics: Road Traffic Offences, Drugs Offences, Regulatory Offences and Victims' Rights. Recent legislative changes are considered including the Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017 and the Criminal Justice (Victims of Crime) Act 2017, as well as significant Supreme Court cases in the areas of the presumption of innocence (Forsey), reasonable access to a lawyer (Doyle), joint enterprise (Dekker), the right to silence (Sweeney), the exclusionary rule (JC) provocation (MacNamara), duress (Gleeson) and mistake (Casey). The book is approximately 1300 pages in length (including prelims and index), and will be available in October 2020. The authors are Professor Shane Kilcommins and Dr Alan Cusack from the School of Law, UL, and Professor Liz Campbell (Monash) and Dr Catherine O'Sullivan (UCC).

Visitors and Guest Lectures

The School of Law was delighted to welcome many guests and speakers during the academic year. Speakers included: Mr Justice George Birmingham, President of the Court of Appeal, who delivered a talk on the topic of 'Consent in Criminal Law', Mr Justice David Barniville, Judge of the High Court, who spoke on 'The Increasing Internationalisation of the Commercial Court', Mr Justice John Edwards, Judge of the Court of Appeal, who delivered a guest lecture on 'The Judicial Council Act 2019, Sentencing Guidelines and Information Committee - Great Expectations', Professor Fiona Cownie and Professor Anthony Bradney of Keele University who gave a session entitled 'Managing a Career in Academia and Research', focused on imbuing the School of Law's PhD candidates with strategies for architecting a successful and rewarding career in academia, Dr Noelle Higgins, Senior Lecturer in Law, NUI Maynooth, who delivered a guest lecture on 'Defences in International Criminal Law', Mr Tony Murphy of the European Court of Auditors, Garda Síobhán Madden, Garda Victim Service Office, Clare Division, who delivered a guest lecture on 'The Relationship between An Garda Síochána and the Victim of Crime', Dr Kevin Sweeney who delivered a guest lecture on 'Crime Investigation in Ireland'.

John Lombard: Nursing Law in Ireland

Nursing Law in Ireland provides an accessible yet thorough overview of the key legal, ethical, and professional dimensions of nursing in Ireland. This book addresses a wide range of topics including: professional regulation; negligence; decision-making; confidentiality; the role of the nurse prescriber; legal aspects of pregnancy; legal aspects of end-of-life treatment; and research ethics. The author draws on case law, legislation, human rights instruments, and professional standards in order to provide a holistic and detailed analysis of these topics.



Staff Publications

Books:

- Lydia Bracken, *Same-Sex Parenting and the Best Interests Principle* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020)
- Laura Cahillane, *Constitutional Law in Ireland* (Second edition), (with Ó Conaill) (Wolters Kluwer International publishing, 2020).
- Ray Byrne, Paul McCutcheon, Laura Cahillane and Emma Roche-Cagney, *The Irish Legal System*, 7th edn, (Bloomsbury 2020).
- Alan Cusack, Liz Campbell, Shane Kilcommins and Catherine O'Sullivan (2020) *Criminal Law in Ireland: Cases and Commentary*, 2nd ed. (Dublin: Clarus Press)
- John Lombard, *'Nursing Law in Ireland'* (Clarus Press 2020)
- Una Woods and JCW Wylie, *Irish Conveyancing Law* (4th edition, Bloomsbury Professional).

Peer Reviewed Articles:

- Lydia Bracken and Conor O'Mahony, "The Child's Right to Family Life: Shifting Sands and Social Science" *European Yearbook on Human Rights* (in press, 2020)
- Lydia Bracken, "Surrogacy and the Genetic Link" *Child and Family Law Quarterly* (in press, 2020)
- Lydia Bracken "The Pre-conception Best Interests Assessment—Part 2: Implications for the Irish Legal

Framework" (2019) 22 (2) *Irish Journal of Family Law* 2-7

- Lydia Bracken "The Pre-Conception Best Interests Assessment – Part 1: Suitability and Feasibility" (2019) 22 (1) *Irish Journal of Family Law* 16-22
- Laura Cahillane, *Ireland as a Learning Experience for the Scottish Citizens' Assembly*, (2020) 24(1) *Edinburgh Law Review* 95.
- Laura Cahillane, *An Analysis of the Judicial Council Act 2019*, (2020) *DULJ* forthcoming.
- Ger Coffey, "Deconstructing ECtHR Jurisprudence Governing Periodic Review of Life and Long-term Sentences" (2021) 6 *International Review of Human Rights Law*.
- Alan Cusack (2020) 'Addressing Vulnerability in Ireland's Criminal Justice System: A Survey of Recent Statutory Developments' *International Journal of Evidence and Proof*, 24(3) 280-306.
- Alan Cusack (forthcoming) 'Beyond Special Measures: Challenging Traditional Constructions of Competence and Cross-Examination for Vulnerable Witnesses in Ireland' *Irish Judicial Studies Journal*, 3(1)
- Gautam Gulati, Alan Cusack, Shane Kilcommins and Colum Dunne (2020) 'Intellectual Disabilities in Irish Prisons: Could Article 13 of the UNCRPD Hold the Key?' *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 68, 101540.
- Gautam Gulati, Alan Cusack, Brendan Kelly, Shane Kilcommins and Colum Dunne (2020) 'Experiences of People with Intellectual Disabilities Encountering Law Enforcement Official as the Suspects of Crime – Anarrative Systematic Review' *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 71, 101609.

- Gautam Gulati, Brendan Kelly, Alan Cusack, Shane Kilcommins and Colum Dunne (2020) 'The Experience of Law Enforcement Officers Interfacing with Suspects who have an Intellectual Disability' *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 72, 101614. Luke Danagher, "Strict Liability and the Mens Rea of Cartel Crime" (2020) *Criminal Law Review* 789.
- Luke Danagher, "On Reforming the Mental Element of the Cartel Offence" (Forthcoming) *The Irish Jurist* Laura Donnellan, 'The Fédération Equestre Internationale Speaks for the Horse Who Has No Voice and the Court of Arbitration for Sport Listened: Equine Welfare and Anti-Doping in Equestrianism' (2019) 31 (1) *Denning Law Journal* 41-76
- Laura Donnellan, 'Trademarks and Phrases in Sport: Whose Line is it anyway?' (2019) 10 (3) *Global Sports Law and Taxation Reports* 8-11
- Eddie Keane, 'The Meaning(s) of Academic Tenure in Ireland' (2019) 62 (2) *Irish Jurist*, 99
- Ballester Laguna, Fernando y Keane, Eddie: "La estabilidad en el empleo del personal docente e investigador de las universidades irlandesas. Aproximación comparativa al modelo español", *Derecho de las Relaciones Laborales*, Francis Lefebvre, Madrid, nº 5, 2020, pp 720-730
- Eddie Keane, 'Gigging in Ireland' (2020) 31(2) *King's Law Journal*, 301.
- Susan Leahy, 'The Media and Rape Trials: Achieving Best Practice in Northern Ireland and Ireland' in Killeen et al (eds), *Sexual Violence On Trial: Local and Comparative Perspectives* (Routledge: 2020). (forthcoming)
- Susan Leahy, 'Female Sex Offenders in Ireland: Examining the Response of the Criminal Justice System' (2020) *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*, (available online, 29 June 2020).
- John Lombard, "Bridging the Divide between Law and Palliative Medicine" (2020) 34(1) *Palliative Medicine* 3
- John Lombard, "Caricature, Parody, and Pastiche in Copyright Law" (2019) 26(10) *Commercial Law Practitioner* 183
- Caroline Sweeney, 'Accountability for Syria: Is the International Criminal Court now a Realistic Option?' (2020) 17 *Journal of International Criminal Justice* 1083.
- Una Woods, 'Protection for Owners under the Irish Law on Adverse Possession: An Inconsistent Use Test or a Qualified Veto System?' *Osgoode Hall Law Journal* (2020) forthcoming.

Book chapters:

- Lydia Bracken, "Law" in Crawford, P., Brown, B., and Charise, A. (eds), *The Routledge Companion to Health Humanities* (London: Routledge, 2020)
- Lydia Bracken and John Lombard, "Legal Aspects of Healthcare from the Beginning to End of Life" in Crawford, P. and Kadetz, P. (eds), *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Health Humanities* (London: Palgrave, 2022, forthcoming)
- Laura Cahillane, 'Popular Sovereignty under the 1922 Constitution: Theory and Reality' in Cahill, O'Cinnéide, Ó Conaill & O'Mahony (eds), *Constitutional Change and Popular Sovereignty: Populism, Politics and the Law in Ireland* (Routledge, 2020)
- Coffey, G., "The European Ne Bis in Idem Principle" In Moldovan, R. (edn.), *The European Union: Perspectives, Policies, and Politics* (Nova Science Publishers, New York, 2020).
- Alan Cuack (2020) 'Reforming Ireland's Adversarial Trial for Victims of Crime with Intellectual Disabilities' In: O. Lynch, L. O'Connell and J. Windle (eds.) 'Giving Voice to Diversity in Criminological Research' (Bristol: Bristol University Press).
- Laura Donnellan, 'Animal Welfare in the European Union: The Cosmetics Regulation' In: Raluca Moldovan (ed). *The European Union: Policies, Perspectives and Politics* (US: Nova, 2020)
- Laura Donnellan, 'The Impact of COVID-19 on Horseracing in Britain and Ireland' in Jörg Krieger, April Henning, Paul Dimeo, Lindsay Parks Pieper, Phillip Kalantzis-Cope (eds). *Time Out-The Next Steps* (US: Common Ground) (December 2020)
- Laura Donnellan, 'Chasing the Fox Around the World' in Ross Davies (ed). *Fox Hunting: Regulation and Imagination* (US: Green Bag) (December 2020).
- E Quill, Ireland, in E Karner & BC Steininger Eds., *Tort and Insurance Law Yearbook: European Tort Law 2018*; Berlin: De Gruyter 2019.

Non Peer-Review Articles:

- Alan Cusack and Gautam Gulati (2020) 'Suspects with Intellectual Disability: Relevance of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities' *Garda Review*, 48(4).
- Alan Cusack (2019) 'Addressing Vulnerability in the Irish Justice System: A Reflection on the Future of Policing in Ireland' *Garda Review*, 47(4). Ger Coffey, 'Covert Surveillance in Serious crime Investigation' (2020) 48(3) *Garda Review*

- Ger Coffey, 'Regulating Undercover Investigations' (2019) 47(6) Garda Review
- Laura Donnellan, 'Europol's Report on Match Fixing: The Garda Review (September 2020)
- John Lombard, 'Defining the Limits of Public Health Law during COVID-19' (2020) The Law Magazine

Opinion Pieces:

- Laura Cahillane, 'As a judge, should Séamus Woulfe have been anywhere near the golf dinner?', (with David Kenny), Irish Times, 1st September 2020.
- Laura Cahillane, 'Woulfe controversy: How wide should the gap be between politicians and the judiciary?', (with David Kenny), Irish Examiner, 31 August 2020.
- Laura Cahillane, 'Golfgate' shows that we need an independent body to investigate complaints against judges, (with David Kenny), the Journal.ie, 25th August 2020.
- Laura Cahillane, Abortion Protests and Exclusion Zones, the Journal.ie, 11th January 2020.
- Laura Cahillane, Why Judicial Reform is Necessary, December 2019, www.constitutionproject.ie
- Laura Donnellan, 'COVID-19 and Horseracing: Royal Ascot 2020'. Sports and Taxation. May 2020.
- Laura Donnellan, 'COVID-19: Its Impact on Horseracing in Britain and Ireland'. Sports and Taxation. Apr. 2020.
- Laura Donnellan, 'Honesty and Integrity in Horseracing: The case of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum'. Sports and Taxation. Apr. 2020.
- Laura Donnellan, 'Gambling and Sport: The Ethical Issues'. Sports and Taxation. Jan. 2020.
- Laura Donnellan, 'Horseracing Bettors Forum Survey 2018: Emerging betting trends!' Sports and Taxation. Nov. 2019.
- Caroline Sweeney, 'Tragedy Beckons: Syria's Lack of Readiness for Covid 19' (RTÉ Brainstorm, 20 May 2020)
- Caroline Sweeney, 'Justice for Syria: time to move beyond "specious pretences"' (Criminal Justice in Ireland blog, 24 February 2020)

Conference Presentations

- Lydia Bracken, "The REAL project - A case study on a collaborative teaching project to integrate and facilitate experiential learning in law" with Brónagh Heverin and Siobhan Cullen, Global Alliance for Justice Education 10th Worldwide Conference, 7 December 2019.
- Lydia Bracken, "Street Law at UL", Irish Association of Law Teachers Annual Conference, 24 November 2019
- Lydia Bracken, "Using collaboration to facilitate experiential learning in law" with Brónagh Heverin and Siobhan Cullen, Irish Association of Law Teachers Annual Conference, 24 November 2019
- Alan Cusack, 'Special Measures and Vulnerable Victims of Crime in Ireland: A Survey of Recent Statutory Developments' Irish Association of Law Teachers Annual Conference 2019, Strand Hotel, Limerick, 23 November 2019.
- Alan Cusack, 'Policing Vulnerable Communities: The Pre-Trial Position of Crime Victims with Intellectual Disabilities in Ireland' The European Society of Criminology Annual Conference 2019, University of Ghent, Belgium, 20 September 2019
- Alan Cusack, 'Crime Victims with Intellectual Disabilities in Ireland's Criminal Process: Confronting Challenges of Communication, Competence and Credibility' The European Society of Criminology Annual Conference 2019, University of Ghent, Belgium, 19 September 2019
- Alan Cusack, 'Ireland's Criminal Justice System and its Response to Crime Victims with Intellectual Disabilities: A Review of Recent Developments' North/South Criminology Conference 2019, University College Cork, 2 September 2019
- Alan Cusack, 'Addressing Vulnerability in Ireland's Criminal Justice System: A Lot Done, More To Do' The Advocate's Gateway 3rd International Advocacy Conference, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, 21 June 2019
- Alan Cusack, 'Beyond Special Measures: Addressing the Needs of Victims of Crime with Intellectual Disabilities within Ireland's Criminal Trial' Lay Participation in Criminal Proceedings Symposium, LSE Department of Law, London, 6 April 2020 [invited paper]
- Alan Cusack, 'Access to Justice for Victims of Crime with Intellectual Disabilities in Ireland' HSE National Safeguarding Office Learning and Development Seminar, Strand Hotel, Limerick, 15 October 2019 [invited paper]
- Eddie Keane, 'Depoliticising Industrial Relations in the Irish Public Service', paper presented at the Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference, Preston (UK), 5/9/2019

- Eddie Keane, 'Academic Tenure: more about where you are than what you are', paper presented at the Irish Association of Law Teachers Annual Conference, Limerick 23/11/2019
- Kilcommins, S (2019) 'The Rule of Law and Decision Making' Regulatory Compliance, Fact-finding investigations: best practice, common challenges and future directions, University of Limerick, 24th October, 2019
- Kilcommins, S (2019) Overview of Victims' Rights in Ireland and the Irish Criminal Justice System, Victims' Rights and the Role of the Prosecutor, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, 15th November, 2019.
- Kilcommins, S (2019). The Victim in the Irish Criminal Process, 16 Days of action to end violence against women 2019: from ratification to implementation of the Istanbul Convention: creating a safer Ireland for Women, 6th December, 2019, The Morrisson Hotel, Dublin.
- Kilcommins, S (2019) Re-imagining safer space: disability, hostility and the meaning of community safety. Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, 6th December 2019.
- Kilcommins, S (2020) The Presumption of Innocence in Ireland, The Presumption of Innocence' Online Experts Workshop, 24 July, Hanoi, (jointly organised by the Asian Law Centre, University of Melbourne, and School of Law, Vietnam national University, Hanoi
- John Lombard, 'Advance Care Planning: Issues raised by the COVID-19 Pandemic', The Palliative Care Research Network Webinar Series, 28 May 2020
- Una Woods, "The Long and Winding Road of Prescriptive Easements and the Registration Requirement" November 2010 IALT Annual Conference

Reports

- Harris, Cahillane, Farrell, Stone and Suiter, Country Report: Ireland, Constitution-making and Deliberative Democracy, (EU COST Action CA17135, 2020)
- Alan Cusack, Susan Leahy and Shane Kilcommins (2019) Review of Services to Assist in the Finalisation, Promotion and Circulation of the New Victims Charter (Dublin: Department of Justice)
- Susan Leahy, Alan Cusack et al. (2019) Analysis of Text for the Mid-term Review of the Second National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2016-2021 (Dublin: Department of Justice)

- John Lombard, 'Healthcare Decision-Making and the Older Person' (Age Action, 2020)
- Dwane, J. Lewis, C. Naughton, C. Reddy, J. and Redmond, S (2020) How are young people participating in Garda Youth Diversion Projects responding to the Covid-19 public health measures? – A local to national qualitative profile: Report 1.
- Dwane, J. Lewis, C. Naughton, C. Reddy, J. and Redmond, S (2020) How are young people participating in Garda Youth Diversion Projects responding to the Covid-19 public health measures? – A local to national qualitative profile: Report 2
- Naughton, C., Redmond, S., Coonan, B. (2019) Evaluation of the Bail Supervision Scheme for Children (Pilot Scheme), Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

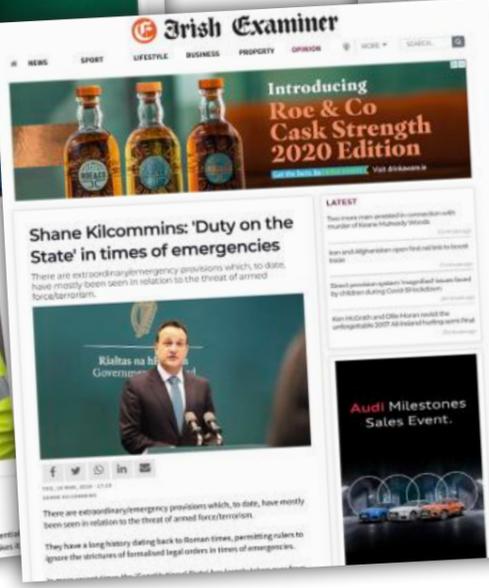
Workshop

- John Lombard, Human Rights Challenges Associated with Palliative Care, Milford Care Centre, 2 March 2020.

Staff in the Media

RTE News at One

newstalk.com 106-108fm



Our staff have been very busy this year contributing to important debates in the media. There are too many to list individually but our staff and their research has featured on TV programmes such as the Six One News, radio programmes such as, RTE's Morning Ireland, Drivetime with Mary Wilson, The Sean O'Rourke Show, News at One, Newstalk's Pat Kenny Show, Newstalk Breakfast, Newstalk Drive, Newstalk between the lines, Ivan Yates on Newstalk, Lunchtime Live with Ciara Kelly on Newstalk, Newstalk News roundup, Joe Nash on Limerick 95 FM, and have written and contributed to numerous newspapers including the Irish Times, Irish Examiner, Irish Independent, Journal.ie and more.

Graduations



SIO Graduation

Professor Shane Kilcommins attended the conferring ceremony for the Serious Crime Investigation Class in Templemore on the 12th December 2019. When the University of Limerick partnered with the Garda College in Templemore on this postgraduate programme course three years ago, we had a vision to deliver best practice in education, and this programme, in essence, has allowed a 'community of scholars' at UL and a 'professional community of practice' in An Garda Síochána to pool their resources to build a challenging and innovative curriculum under the expert guidance of An Garda Síochána, and UL's Law faculty and the quality assurance processes approved by the Academic Council of the University of Limerick. This partnership between UL and An Garda Síochána is a pioneering one. It is very unusual for a criminal justice agency to engage in a collaboration of this kind, but it is in keeping with the national strategy for higher education, which calls on universities to engage more widely with business, industry, training colleges and communities.



Gráinne Jennings PhD Conferring

Congratulations to Dr Gráinne Jennings who was conferred with her PhD in Law at the UL Conferring Ceremony on Wednesday 22 January 2020. The title of Gráinne's thesis was Product, Process and Planning: Bridging the Theory-Practice Gap; Re-conceptualising Initial Police Education and Training through a Problem-based Pedagogy.



MA in Teaching and Learning for Dr Ger Coffey

Congratulations to Dr Ger Coffey (Course Director of the LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice and member of the Centre for Crime, Justice & Victim Studies) on his recent graduation with an MA in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education from University College Cork.

His dissertation was based on the benefits and challenges of experiential learning for criminal justice and sentencing students to bridge the pedagogical gap between academic knowledge and the practicalities of the criminal justice and sentencing processes. The dissertation was informed by a qualitative analysis of LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice masters students personal active learning experiences on a recent field trip to Limerick Prison. Students were able to apply their knowledge in a real-world setting that facilitated a deep and flexible understanding of the criminal justice and sentencing processes.

MA in Serious Crime Investigation Conferring

At the University of Limerick's Winter Conferring Ceremony, which was held on 22 January 2020, fourteen senior-ranking members of An Garda Síochána were conferred with the degree of Master of Arts in Serious Crime Investigation. As graduates of the second year of the MA programme, these graduates have joined an exclusive group of investigating officers across the country who hold this distinguished qualification. It was a great occasion and the School of Law wishes the graduates every success in the years ahead.



Student Successes and Events



Iveagh Fellowship Experience

From August to early October, John Healy, a third year Law and Accounting student, completed an internship with the Red Cross EU Office, as a fellow of the inaugural Iveagh Fellowship programme supported by Saothar and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The fellowship aspires to develop experience in International development or humanitarian aid and European or International policy. John was selected in May, following a selection by an Expert Panel led by Chief Justice Frank Clarke. Fellows are awarded a monetary grant and mentoring support from experts. The completion of an internship is inherent to the fellowship, with other fellows completing their internships with the World Bank, World Health Organisation and one even choosing to take up a research opportunity in Oxford. The Red Cross EU Office situated in Brussels, clearly offers no better place to gain experience in European policy, with the office beset in the scene of European Institutions, between the Berlaymont and the European Parliament. The experience

has been somewhat full circle for him, from a young cadet with Irish Red Cross – the Red Cross EU Office – now returning to work with the Irish Red Cross. John summed up his experience. *"I can definitely say that undertaking this fellowship has unearthed a lot of possible career opportunities. The ability to have relevant international work experience is a clear hurdle that I have overcome entering this area at a very early stage. The exposure in the internship and mentoring - to what is a very broad career prospect has been of particular benefit; in that this will give me plenty of time to plan ahead to further a career. Finally, the fellowship offers the other fellows, the coordinators and mentors as a very important network going forward, which should not be understated."*



School of Law Student Completes Internship at the Office of the DPP

Louise Kennedy, LLM student at the School of Law, recently completed an internship at the Office of the DPP. Below is a short review of her experience:

"Throughout my undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the University of Limerick, I developed a keen interest in the area of human rights and criminal justice. When an internship opportunity at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions arose, I knew it would be hugely beneficial to my understanding of the criminal justice system. I was situated in the Prosecution Policy and Research Unit, which plays an integral role within the office by providing a wealth of knowledge to solicitors, conducting vital research and producing policy documents for the office. I frequently attended the Criminal Courts of Justice where I gained a valuable insight into the criminal justice system. Through this internship, I experienced the

practical element of the research I have engaged in over the past year on the LLM programme. I wish to extend my thanks to the wonderful staff at the ODPP, who generously shared their time and knowledge with me. I would encourage every student to apply for this internship and avail of all the opportunities provided by the School of Law to students at the University of Limerick. This internship has confirmed my ambition to pursue a career in criminal law and I am indebted to the School of Law for facilitating this opportunity."

Arthur Cox contribution to University Life prize

Last December, Mr. Evan Fitzgerald was presented with this award by Arthur Cox Solicitors, at their offices in Dublin. Evan won the award on the basis of his excellent academic results coupled with extensive participation in the life of UL. Evan studies Law and Economics as a Law Plus student and achieved a strong QCA in both first and second year, finishing those years with a QCA of 3.76 and 3.4 respectively. In addition, Evan has a huge interest in traditional Irish music, and has been a member of the UL Music Society, has taught music for the past number of years, and successfully competed in the All-Ireland Fleadh, with a group and also as a soloist. Aside from his studies and music, Evan has supported events on campus, including workshops, seminars, and guest visits amongst others, especially Law Society events. While on Co-Op, Evan volunteered with the Mercy Law Centre and Focus Ireland and attended weekly clinics to give free legal advice to people who are homeless or at immediate risk of becoming homeless. Congratulations Evan on winning this superb Arthur Cox prize.



Law Plus Student is a National Winner of the Red Bull Basement University Competition 2019

Marcus Naughton, Law Plus 3rd year and Aenne Schmidt-Stohn, Applied Languages 2nd year, were announced as the national winners for the 2019 Red Bull Basement University competition for their project: ConnectUL.



The idea came about due to the restrictions introduced by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Previously, any user of the legacy UL timetable website would be able to access another student's timetable information by supplying that student's ID number. However, to comply with the GDPR, this functionality has been removed due to a lack of end-user consent.

Their solution was to develop a "middleware", which is a term to describe a service that sits between the end user and the content (being in this case, the UL timetable service). This will allow students in UL to freely associate their timetables for public lookup, or to create groups on the platform in which automatic synchronisation of available times are generated and pushed to the group. Once a student signs up, their timetable will be downloaded from UL resource systems and stored. By obtaining consent to comply with the GDPR, the service can restore the flexibility once offered to students.

This will be, if successful in development, the largest student-lead accumulation of data of the UL student body while fully satisfying privacy requirements imposed by the current legal landscape (in lieu of the Cambridge Analytica disaster). This will also provide insights into the student population to provide greater flexibility in understanding how to better improve the lives of UL students

Third year Law Plus student to undertake CRCC Asia Internship

Congratulations to Áine Cooke a third year Law plus student who has been selected for the prestigious CRCC Asia internship offered by the School of Law in conjunction with CRCC. Áine has just completed her cooperative work placement with the Immediate Office of the Registrar, Kosovo Specialist Chambers and will return to her studies in the School of Law in January. Áine has previously won the A&L Goodbody prize and was a recipient of the UL40 scholarships based on her Leaving Certificate results. Áine will complete a legal internship in China in summer 2020.



IALT Matheson Postgraduate Scholarship Winner 2019

Lucy M. Davis, an IRC Scholar in the School of Law, was awarded a PhD scholarship by the Irish Association of Law Teachers (IALT) to present at their annual conference which took place on the 22nd to 24th of November 2019 in the Strand Hotel, Limerick. Lucy's submission was selected from over thirty applications. She delivered a paper entitled 'Regulating Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNAR) Orders in Ireland – Lessons from policy makers and practitioners in England and Wales'

Field Trip to Limerick Prison

On Thursday 21st November, postgraduate students studying on the LL/M/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice masters programme gained a real-world insight into an operational prison during a field trip to Limerick Prison organised by Course Director, Dr Ger Coffey. Students experienced the prison environment and gained valuable insights into the workings of an operational prison. This served to remove discussion in academic seminars from the abstract and to facilitate students' understanding of the practicalities associated with criminal justice and sentencing processes. The field trip was a useful way of stimulating critical thinking and active learning that academic seminars could not accomplish on the same level.



Siobhan Comyns and Dara O'Brien presented with the 2019 Mark Sinclair medals at News UK and Ireland Dublin offices

The Mark Sinclair Internship is an annual award offered to a law and journalism student of a designated third level institution in Ireland. It was set up in memory of Mark Sinclair, the former editorial legal counsel at News Ireland, who passed away in 2013. In 2019 the internship competition was hosted by the School of Law at the University of Limerick and coordinated by Co-Director of Clinical Legal Education Dr Norah Burns. The two students were selected for internships following a competitive process which included an interview and the submission of a short article on a designated topic. News UK and Ireland were very impressed with



the standard of student opinion pieces and offered two students the opportunity to intern in their Dublin offices in January 2020. Siobhan is currently completing an MA in Journalism and studies Media Law and Dara is a Law Plus student. Dara's internship focused on familiarising himself

with Irish media law and he had the opportunity to attend court and legal consultations. Each year, the Mark Sinclair Internship allows students interested in media law and journalism gain some experience around the publication of daily and weekend newspaper titles.

A&L Goodbody Moot Court Competition 2020

On Tuesday 11th of February, four teams participated in the preliminary rounds of the A&L Goodbody Moot Court Competition. A fourth year team of Conor Tuohy and Adam O'Shea took on a second year team of Jack Hennessy, Cian Cremins and Alex Casey in the Grand Final on Wednesday 12th of February. Eoin McGloin was the winner of best speaker. The winners of the moot were Conor Tuohy and Adam O'Shea. The judges for the final were Dr Stephen King (A&L Goodbody), Jack Nicholas BL and Prof Ray Friel. The competition was generously sponsored by A&L Goodbody. The competition was organised by Co-Directors of Clinical Legal Education Dr Norah Burns and Dr Hope Davidson.



Bar Council of Ireland Justice Week Debate 2020

On Wednesday 26th of February the Bar Council of Ireland hosted a university debate as part of the Justice Week initiative. The School of Law selected fourth year student Conor Tuohy as the UL representative for the debate. Conor was on a team with a student from both UCD Law School and Maynooth Law School and argued for the opposition on the motion of: "This house believes that law is politics by other means". The team for the proposition was victorious on the day. Conor was commended for an excellent speech and was mentored before the competition by Co-Directors of Clinical Legal Education Dr Norah Burns and Dr Hope Davidson.

Cambridge Moot

On Monday the 24th of February the UL v Cambridge Moot Court Competition took place in the A&L Goodbody Appellate Court Room in UL. UL School of Law was represented by Norah O'Brien and Jemima Nugent, and Cambridge was represented by Georgina Pressdee and Michael Nguyen. The Moot was organised by the UL Student Law Society, led by Auditor Sean Fahey and Mooting Officer Aoife O'Connor, with assistance from Co-Directors of Clinical Legal Education Dr Norah Burns and Dr Hope Davidson.

The Moot was judged by Prof Paul McCutcheon, Paul Bradfield BL and Dr Stephen King from A&L Goodbody. The competition was kindly sponsored by A&L Goodbody solicitors.



Holmes O'Malley Sexton Scholarship

Grace Rogan, a Law and Accounting student, was awarded the Holmes O'Malley Sexton scholarship prize on the 5th March 2020 in the School of Law. This prestigious and generous scholarship prize was presented to Grace by Mr Justice Michael MacGrath, judge of the High Court. Harry Fehily and Pat McInerney, Managing Partner and Partner respectively in Holmes O'Malley Sexton were also in attendance, along with Grace's parents, and Deirdre O'Connor from the Access Office in UL. Holmes O'Malley Sexton are one of the leading law firms in Ireland. The firm has a very long association with the School of Law and the University of Limerick

International Links

Students complete cooperative placements in Ghana

Two of our students, Katie Phelan and Una Brosnan spent their cooperative placement at the Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre in Ghana, West Africa, which is run by a UL Graduate, Dr Mark Mantey. They wrote about their experiences in blogs which were posted on the School of Law website. Some extracts below provide an insight into their experiences:

Una Brosnan

"Ghana West Africa is one of the world's secret treasures. The natural environment, culture and traditions will excite even the most travelled person. Learning to adapt to a new culture and to become independent did not happen straight away but it was made much easier by the support system we had around us. Our Ghanaian family made sure that we had the most delicious and fresh food to eat, something that the Fante tribe is renowned for. Our home in Abee, give a sense of African village life and the children in the village gave us endless entertainment. At work my colleagues thought us the local language and mannerisms and before we knew it we felt right at home. History, safaris, white sandy beaches and rainforests it is all there. So, if you are looking for a rewarding placement, go and discover Ghana, it is guaranteed to be an adventure you will never forget"

Katie Phelan

"I was extremely lucky to have undertaken my co-op placement in a non-governmental organisation based in Ghana, West Africa. While there, I worked in a centre that provides support and care to disadvantaged persons from local communities. The placement was a real eye-opener for me that presented a new outlook to life around the world and immersed me within a new culture. The knowledge gained, memories made and fun that was had will be something I will treasure for the rest of my life. This co-op placement offered by UL is an amazingly unique work placement that involves putting your learning into practice while living in a new part of the world and being involved in new experiences. This placement is one of my top highlights of my four years within UL and is something I would encourage every student in UL to consider as a possible co-op placement"



Winter School in Family Law for Brazilian Students

The School of Law was delighted to welcome a group of 14 Brazilian students to UL last January. The students took part in a Winter School on Family Law coordinated by Dr Susan Leahy and visiting researcher, Dr Luiz Gomes. The students were accompanied by Dr Debora Vanessa Caus Brandao. The Winter School runs for four weeks every year, during which time students are introduced to key areas of family law.



DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

UL – Dalhousie Student Exchange Agreement.

The UL School of Law has entered into a student exchange agreement with the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University. Dalhousie University is one of Canada's leading universities, and is widely recognised for outstanding academic quality and teaching. The Schulich School of Law is ranked 251-300 in the current QS World University Rankings for Law and Legal Studies. This agreement provides a foundation for the exchange of students and ideas for many years to come. The exchange agreement was overseen by Dr John Lombard.

Curriculum Development and Engagement with External Stakeholders



Launch of LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice Online

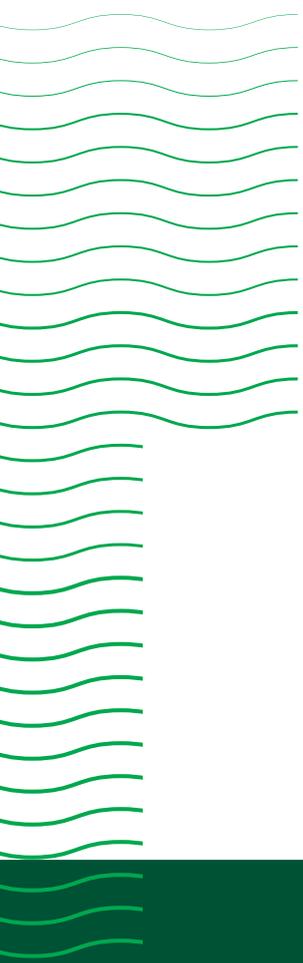
On Friday 31st January, the School of Law was delighted to formally launch the LLM/MA in Human Rights in Criminal Justice Online masters programme. Our first cohort of students studying online attended a half-day on-campus workshop and were welcomed

to the UL community of scholars by Professor Ann Ledwith, Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies. Professor Ledwith congratulated students on their commitment to the online master's programme, and highlighted the many benefits and challenges of studying online for a master's degree. Professor Shane Kilcommins, Head of School of Law, formally launched the online master's programme and gratefully acknowledged the commitment of the programme design team.



New Course with the School of Law and Criminal Assets Bureau

A new course launching at University of Limerick will provide training to law enforcement in the area of proceeds of crime investigation, asset identification, seizure, confiscation and recovery. The School of Law, (UL) and the Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) are to work together on the new Postgraduate Diploma in Proceeds of Crime and Asset Identification. Former UL President Dr Des Fitzgerald and Chief Bureau Officer Detective Chief Superintendent Patrick Clavin launched the programme in the University on Wednesday, 26th February. The objective of the postgraduate diploma is to provide a recognised standard of training for staff in CAB and other law enforcement, regulatory and administrative agencies in both Ireland and internationally who require academic and professional training in the field of specific investigations. Such training and education will help to establish standard operating procedures and identify established best practice in effective proceeds of crime investigations. It builds on an already strong relationship between UL and An Garda Síochána, which Dr Fitzgerald noted was "enabling a professional community of practice to engage with a professional community of scholarship." "The programme will enhance UL's position by continuing to build a critical mass in the areas of law enforcement and criminal justice," he said. "UL already accredits the Garda Síochána level 7 and level 9 training programmes; it provides an online level 8 top up programme in Applied Policing for members of An Garda Síochána, and an MA in Serious Crime Investigation for those serious crime investigators who have completed the postgraduate diploma in serious crime investigation. UL also has an undergraduate degree in criminal justice, and an LLM/MA in Criminal Justice and Human Rights." "The new programme also fits with UL's strategic objectives by engaging with a key stakeholder in the field," he added. The market for the programme will have an international reach given that CAB is a recognised leader in the field of asset forfeiture and it will have a very strong domestic reach given the hundreds of regulatory agencies that exist in Ireland. Chief Bureau Officer Detective Chief Superintendent Patrick Clavin said: "The Criminal Assets Bureau looks forward to building on our close working relationship with University of Limerick. The Bureau welcome this opportunity to upskill its Bureau Officers to meet the challenges posed, both nationally and internationally, in asset identification, asset confiscation and asset recovery. *"The course provides the opportunity to ensure that best international practices are adhered to and the transfer of knowledge to ensure effective continuity into the future,"* he added.



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