
NEWS AND EVENTS

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Upcoming IALS Events

W G Hart Legal Workshop 2023

The WG Hart Legal Workshop is a major annual legal research event organized and hosted by the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS). Over the years this eponymous workshop series, subsidized by funds from the [W G Hart Bequest](#), has focused on a wide range of comparative and international legal issues and topical interests.

This year's [Workshop](#) will be held on **29–30 June 2023**, in person at Charles Clore House in London on the topic of 'Theorists in Company Law'. The Workshop aims to rediscover forgotten and neglected authors of company law theory; to encourage thinking about the biographical element of an author's work and the placement of their work in its social, economic and historical context; and to cement an account of the distinctiveness of Company Law in the United Kingdom (UK). The Workshop will feature three distinguished invited plenary speakers: Professor David Cabrelli (University of Edinburgh); Professor Janette Rutherford (The

Open University); and Professor Charlotte Villiers (University of Bristol).

The workshop organisers are Professor Sally Wheeler (Australian National University School of Law), Professor Marc Moore (Faculty of Laws, University College London), and Victoria Barnes (Brunel Law School).

Book and Series Launch: *Law, Humanities and the COVID Crisis and the 'Reimagining Law and Justice'* Open Access Series

Date: 16 March 2023, 4:00pm–6:00pm

Venue: IALS, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DR

As we approach the three-year mark since the first Covid lockdown in the UK, the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and the University of London Press are pleased to announce the publication of *Law, Humanities and the COVID Crisis*, edited by the Director of IALS, Professor Carl Stychin. This book emerges from the Director's Series of online seminars held during the 2020–

2021 academic year. The occasion also marks the launch of the new IALS Open Access Series with the University of London Press, 'Reimagining Law and Justice'. The series will comprise an exciting collection of open access books focused on key issues, challenges and debates in legal studies today. *Law, Humanities and the COVID Crisis* will launch the new series, underscoring the commitment of IALS to open access publishing without author payment.

The event celebrates the launch of this important book and series and is open to all. It will provide an opportunity for potential authors to meet with the publishing team from IALS and the University of London Press and to learn more about the series. See [website](#) for details.

Positive Action Library Graduate Traineeships to Address Underrepresentation of Black, Asian, and Global Majority Library Staff

Date: 24 March 2023: 12:00pm–17:00pm

Venue: IALS Council Chamber, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DR

Chairs and moderators: Marilyn Clarke, IALS Librarian, Head of IALS Library; Nuala McLaren, Head of Reader Services and Academic Support, Goldsmiths University of London; Elaine Sykes, Head of Open Research, Lancaster University; and Tom Morley

This event is a collaboration between Goldsmiths University of London and Lancaster University to share knowledge and experience using positive action to recruit Library Graduate Trainees to address the underrepresentation of Black, Asian and Global Majority staff in libraries, and to work towards implementing such traineeships across many more libraries.

A [CILIP ARA workforce survey](#) conducted in 2015, found: 'Low ethnic diversity: 96.7% of the LARKIM [library, archives, records, information and knowledge management] workforce identify as "white" compared to 87.5% identifying as "white" in UK Labour Force Survey statistics.'

Case studies from Goldsmiths and Lancaster will be shared alongside other institutions' experiences. The legal aspect of using positive action will also be discussed by a Goldsmiths human resources staff member and a legal expert in equality law. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to network.

See [website](#) for details.

The Director's Seminar Series

Current Attitudes Towards International Law in Russia

Date: 3 April 2023, 4:00pm–5:30pm

Venue: online seminar

Speaker: Professor Tim Potier (Senior Fellow, Center for International Law and Governance, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University), IALS Senior Associate Research Fellow

Chair: Professor Carl Stychin (IALS)

Russia commands much attention right now. Its latest activities in Ukraine have caused considerable concern globally. Whatever the rights and wrongs, the fact remains that Russia regards international law with much seriousness and its international lawyers assert the importance of the subject as much as their colleagues in the rest of the world do. Professor Tim Potier's talk will be in two parts. First will be an outline of the views of international lawyers in Russia on a range of international legal topics; and second an account of the arguments international lawyers in the country use to justify Russia's actions (including since 2014) in Ukraine. See [website](#) for details.

Forensic Imaginaries: Visualising the Corpse in Law

Date: 7 June 2023, 5:00pm–6:30pm

Venue: IALS Council Chamber, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DR

Speaker: Dr Marc Trabsky, Associate Professor in Law and Australian Research Council DECRA Fellow on 'Socio-Legal Implications of Virtual Autopsies in Coronial Investigations' (DE220100064) at La Trobe University

Chair: Professor Carl Stychin (IALS)

Medico-legal investigations into sudden, unnatural, violent and accidental deaths occupy an important role in the common law system. They require coroners to ascertain the identity of the deceased, determine the cause of a death and, in many instances, make recommendations for reducing the occurrence of preventable deaths. A key element of the coronial investigation has been the invasive autopsy, which is performed by a forensic pathologist if a coroner deems it necessary for determining the medical cause of death. In recent decades, the invasive autopsy has become a site of contestation, especially for families of the deceased who oppose post mortem dissections due to religious or cultural beliefs. Since the late 20th century, forensic imaging

technology, particularly post-mortem computed tomography (CT), has offered the ideal of a virtual autopsy. Little is known, however, about how technological modifications to medico-legal investigations assist or hinder practitioners in fulfilling their responsibilities under coronial law. This presentation will analyse how forensic imaging technology has transformed medico-legal investigations since the 20th century and how it continues to affect the way coroners and other legal personnel working in the jurisdiction perform their roles in the legal system.

The paper will focus on how legal institutions have sought to visualize the corpse through forensic imaging technology since the 20th century. This has demanded that coroners, pathologists and lawyers acquire new skills in deciphering the meaning of pixelated shadows and interpreting CT scans as evidence of death causation. It has also problematized the 'mechanical objectivity' of the forensic gaze by embedding an optical device between the dead body, the medico-legal expert and the judicial observer. CT comprises both a mechanical instrument and a computational technique that virtualizes the interiority of the corpse by cutting it into sections without opening it up. It obfuscates the epistemological

boundaries between unique identifiers of a tomographic corpse, its representation as an undefined set of slices that could belong to any-body, and its abstraction in three-dimensional visualizations of data. In transmogrifying the materiality of organs, tissues and bones into multi-planar reconstructions, the technology offers judicial observers the allure of seeing 'corporeal evidence' with their own eyes. This paper argues that forensic imaging technology makes demands on legal institutions to question the truth of what they see and acknowledge the limits of their capacity to know the corpse. See [website](#) for details.

SAS IALS YouTube Channel

Selected law lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences hosted by IALS in the School of Advanced Study are recorded and accessible for viewing and downloading.

See [website](#) for details.