

NEWS AND EVENTS

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IALS News

2025-2026 Inns of Court Judicial Fellow

In January, the Institute welcomed Her Ladyship Justice Jennifer A Dadzie, Court of Appeal, Accra, Ghana. She will be undertaking research on “Evaluation of the Efficacy of the Corporate Insolvency and Restructuring Act 2020 (Act 1015) in Ghana (A Comparative Analysis with the United Kingdom)”.

Her Ladyship Justice Jennifer A Dadzie was appointed a Justice of the High Court on 1 April 2015. Prior to this appointment, she worked with several law firms in Accra including REM Law Consultancy, Reindorf Chambers and Fugar & Company. She has also worked with Lexcom Ubom Law Group PLLC and Dadzie & Associates, PC, Washington, DC, USA and First Renaissance Ventures also in Washington, DC, USA.

She was a Dean’s Fellow to Professor Daniel Bradlow, Director of the International Legal Studies Programme at American University, Washington College of Law, Washington DC. She pursued

her pupillage at Lexcom Associates and was a Teaching and Research Assistant at the Faculty of Law, University of Ghana, Legon.

Regarding *pro bono* duties, Justice Dadzie worked as a Legal Aid Counsel at the African Society of International and Comparative Law as well as an Attorney for the International Federation of Women Lawyers between October 1998 and December 1999. She was appointed to the Court of Appeal Bench on 1 December 2022. She also teaches the Law of Interpretation of Statutes and Deeds at the Ghana School of Law.

She will be giving a seminar on her research: at 5:00pm–6:30pm on Tuesday 24 March 2026 in the Council Chamber at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, 17 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DR.

William Lawrence Twining: 22 September 1934–9 October 2025—an appreciation by Professor David Sugarman

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Professor William Twining (aged 91) peacefully at home on 9 October 2025. William served as the Quain

Professor of Jurisprudence in the Faculty of Laws at University College London 1983–1996, where he became Research Professor of Law from 1996 to 2004 and Quain Professor Emeritus from 2004. He had previously held chairs in Belfast and Warwick and had numerous visiting appointments. At the start of his career, he taught for seven years in Sudan and Tanzania and maintained a strong interest in Africa and the Commonwealth.

A giant of an intellectual, William’s impact was profound. He inspired generations of students, law teachers and practitioners worldwide. While accepting that legal doctrine was important, he demonstrated that a diet of legal doctrine on its own was misleading. Law could only be understood in its larger historical, social, cultural, political and ethical context, and in the light of its operation in practice. A true Renaissance man, he drew freely on sources beyond law, notably, history, literature, anthropology and on Africa. The great importance that William attached to law in context, analytical rigour and conceptual analysis is evident throughout his hugely influential work on jurisprudence, legal method, evidence and proof, intellectual history, law and globalization, and legal education.

William is probably best known for promoting “law in context”,

and in advocating and advancing the teaching of “skills” as a major component of all legal education and training. As General Editor of the “Law in Context” series (1966-2020), William encouraged hundreds of authors, including many novice writers, to undertake legal scholarship in new ways.

An exceptional mentor, role model and friend to many from Australia to Zimbabwe, his support for students, colleagues and friends was legendary. As an activist law reformer, he served as a member of many national and international committees and bodies on legal education, and this included his longstanding and productive relationship with the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. See [website](#) for the full article.

Professor David Sugarman

Professor Emeritus David Sugarman has recently been awarded the Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA) 2025 prize for his “Outstanding Contribution to the Socio-Legal Community. This prestigious annual prize honours an individual who has made an exceptional and enduring contribution to the socio-legal community. It celebrates those whose sustained efforts have enriched the field of socio-legal studies and helped to strengthen, support and inspire those working in the field. The SLSA will make

a formal award at its Annual Conference this year at the University of Sussex (30 March -1 April 2026). Professor Sugarman is a Senior Associate Research Fellow, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London, and Senior Associate, Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, University of Oxford; and Professor of Law Emeritus, Lancaster University.

Law and the Humanities Hub

The Law and the Humanities Hub (LHub) has entered 2026 with significant expansion and new initiatives. Ten scholars have joined the [visitorship programme](#), representing a diverse range of law and humanities disciplines. They will participate in LHub Days and lead projects that extend scholarship and outreach.

Among the year's initiatives is the [Four Nations Law and the Humanities Forums](#), a new collaboration designed to promote humanistic legal scholarship beyond London's academic centres. In partnership with the universities of Glasgow, Dundee, Queen's Belfast, Cardiff, and Warwick, the project will bring together early career researchers for workshops to be held across the UK, supporting academic excellence, intellectual community, and career development. The initiative also includes online content and events, with Dr Lucy Finchett-

Maddock appointed as Fellow in consultation with the steering group. Also significant is the recently announced Research Networks Programme. A panel of experts has selected the [Dance and Legal Materialities Network](#), which has published an outline of its annual programme. The hub additionally offers a home to collaborative research led by IALS fellows and affiliates. One of them is Professor Emily Grabham's new project, Power, Justice, and Imagination: [Creative Writing and Legal Research](#).

The beta launch of the open-access UK [Law and the Humanities Infrastructure Map](#), developed in collaboration with the AHRC- and UKRI-funded Mapping the Arts and Humanities project, and enhanced through focus groups and field feedback, now provides rich visualizations and search tools for the UK community and its collaborators. Internationally, the hub and its partners have launched the [Global Law and the Humanities Mentorship Programme](#), led by eight organizations across the UK, Europe, North America, Latin America, and Australasia. Over 100 mentors have committed their support. Over 60 mentees have been accepted for this academic year. Activities will include one-on-one meetings, a joint plenary and online workshops on publishing and interdisciplinarity.

Selected Upcoming Events

In Media Lex: Authority and the Mechanization of Judgment in the 19th Century

Dates: 10 March 2026

Venue: IALS Conference Room, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Speaker: **Xavier Nueno**

See [website](#) for details.

Comic Pleading 1000-1600—Law, Comedy, Dialogue

Date: 28-29 April 2026

Venue: L103/104, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

This two-day workshop brings together eight scholars from a range of disciplines who tackle various aspects of comic pleading in legal, religious, poetic, and dramatic texts, and think together about the intersection of law, comedy, and dialogue in the long medieval period. See [website](#) for details.

Computational Communications and Freedom of Speech

Date: 19 May 2026

Venue: online

Speaker: Jennifer A Petersen, Associate Professor of Communication, University of Southern California.

See [website](#) for details.

17th International Disability Law Summer School: call for papers

Dates: 15-17 June 2026

Venue: Centre for Disability Law and Policy (CDLP), University of Galway and online

Theme: The UNCRPD Twenty Years On: New Horizons and Emerging Challenges

See [website](#) for details. Call closes: **19 March 2026.**

On The Right Side of History – And Lesbians: Public Art, Law, and Concepts of Normativity

Date: 30 June 2026

Venue: IALS Conference Room, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, London

Speaker: Martin Firrell, Public Artist

See [website](#) for details.

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](#).