

Dear

As the new Head of Warwick Law School, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to our alumni newsletter. I hope that you will enjoy this opportunity to find out more about developments in the School and ways of getting involved. Our current students in particular greatly appreciate hearing from their predecessors – only last month one of our former students was delivering a lecture to our student community!

As you're probably aware, 2015 was marked by various celebrations of the University's 50th anniversary. The Law School will celebrate its own 50th anniversary in 2017, and we look forward to welcoming back many of our alumni to the events we are planning.

Professor Rebecca Probert



A MONUMENTAL LOSS



We are deeply saddened by the death of our colleague, Dwijen Rangnekar, who passed away on 30 October 2015 in Delhi, India.

Dwijen was a highly respected and well-liked colleague. He joined the University in October 2003 as a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for the Study of Globalisation and Regionalisation before being promoted to Assistant Professor and then Associate Professor. His research interests lay in agricultural intellectual property rights, latterly focusing on genetic based resources and gene-based inventions. His work had a significant impact on the policies of the UN Conference on Trade & Development and his ESRC-funded project on Feni had attracted wide attention. Dwijen was also popular with our students who valued his engaging teaching style and he will be greatly missed by his colleagues and students alike. Since his death many people have been in touch with the School from across the globe to pay tribute to his generosity of spirit, his brilliant scholarship and his capacity for friendship.

[Read the full obituary and other memories of Dwijen on the Law School webpages.](#)

LAW SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS



With the new university branding now in place, the Law School also has a number of exciting developments to tell you about.

- **New Extension**

The Law School has a brand new look with a welcoming reception area and administration office, new teaching rooms and a fantastic new student hub.

- **New Website**

We are in the midst of updating all our webpages so they fit in with the new brand and image of the University. We think it looks great!

- **New [Funding Opportunities](#) for Incoming Students**

We are delighted to announce up to four new full fee scholarships available for our LL.Ms. We also have other awards available such as the Women of Pakistan and GREAT India awards.

- **New LL.M in Commercial Law**

We will be launching an exciting new LL.M for 2017 which will include a range of fresh module options for our students.

NEW LL.M in International Commercial Law – September 2017

The new degree programme will provide an opportunity to study how law works in large commercial deals. Modules may include: how finance contracts support mergers and acquisitions; how debt financing works to support the commercial deal; how cross-border contracts differ from domestic contracts; Islamic finance, as well as commercial conflicts of law and taxation of domestic and cross-border transactions. But what makes our new programme unique? As part of the degree, you will take at least two modules designed to introduce you to the wider legal and policy questions affecting the commercial deal. For example, how dominant companies like Microsoft and Google need to take account of global competition law when they are making their deals or how labour and environmental standards must be written into the contract. As pioneers of this 'Law in Context' approach, exploring how law works in the 'real world' is at the core of what we do. We are excited to add this new LL.M programme to our existing offering and we look forward to sharing our cutting edge research and innovative teaching with you.

LAW SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

- [Andrew Williams' new book](#) will be released in May 2016.
- [One of our very own law students was granted the Queens Young Leader Award.](#)
- We ranked in the top 10 in the [2014 REF results](#)
- We were [praised by the Vice-Chancellor](#) for our consistently high PTES results
- We ran another year of the [Death Penalty Internship programme](#)
- [Professor Alan Neal delivered a keynote speech in China](#)
- The Criminal Justice Centre hosted an event as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science on [Prisoner Wellbeing](#)
- We will host a symposium this year in memory of Dwijen Rangnekar: ['Beyond Development? New Imaginaries in Social Justice', 21-23 April 2016.](#)
- We recently launched a [Writing Wrongs essay competition](#)

WARWICK NEWS

2015 was a truly outstanding year for Warwick. Here are just a few reasons why...

- The Times and Sunday Times declared Warwick to be its University of the year for 2014/ 2015 and Warwick is now in the top 100 of every major [university world ranking](#)
- It was a year of [changes on campus](#)
- [Warwick agreed to offer scholarships for refugees](#)
- [Warwick celebrated its 50th Year](#) with a host of exciting activities
- Warwick hosted this year's successful SLSA Conference as well as the [Festival of Social Sciences](#) and [Festival of the Imagination](#)
- 12 PG law students were granted awards for their studies in 15/16 as part of the [Widening Access Scholarship Scheme](#)

WELCOMES & FAREWELLS



The School bid a fond farewell to Professor Julio Faundez. Julio worked at the Law School since 1974 and in that time contributed immensely to its development, specifically in the creation of one of our longest standing programmes, the LLM in International Economic Law. He will be greatly missed by staff and students alike and we wish him all the very best in his retirement.

After over 20 years working in the Law School we said a big goodbye to Jennifer Mabbett. Jen was instrumental in the administration of our LLM and PhD programmes and was a mother figure to many of our students during their time with us, always on hand to impart her advice and wisdom. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the PG Team Jen, enjoy your well earned retirement.



We also said a fond farewell to our colleagues Marc Mimler who took up posts at Queen Mary and UCL, Manuel Penades-Fons who went on to LSE and Kimberley Brownlee who moved over to our Philosophy department. We also said goodbye to Anastasia Tataryn who left us to join the University of Liverpool and Johanna Jacques who has moved on to Durham. Thank you for all you contributed to the School.

WELCOME

Congratulations go to Claire Denney, our new PG Academic Administrator, and Hassan Nizami and Alison Struthers in their new roles as Teaching Fellows. We also welcome Andreas Kokkinis, Ben Farrand, Kirsten McConnachie, Henrique Carvalho and Tomaso Ferrando to the department as Assistant Professors, and will be welcoming Associate Professor Markus Wagner in June next year.



Globe welcomes its first visiting academic Dr Lorenzo Cotula

Dr Cotula is a principal researcher in law and sustainable development at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), where he leads the Legal Tools Team. Lorenzo leads research, capacity and policy work on issues at the interface between law and international development, with a focus on the law governing natural resource rights and investments in low and middle-income countries. This includes work on international investment law, human rights, land rights and legal issues related to 'land grabbing', as well as the political economy of natural resource investments. Lorenzo also leads IIED's work on ['Legal Tools for Citizen Empowerment'](#), an initiative to strengthen local rights and voices within natural resource investments in low and middle-income countries.



Before joining IIED in 2002, Lorenzo worked on assignments with the Legal Office of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. He holds academic qualifications in law, development studies and sustainable business from the University of Rome 'La Sapienza', the London School of Economics, the University of Edinburgh and the University of Cambridge.

Lorenzo has previously collaborated with other GLOBE Centre researchers, including contributions to the [Network on International Law, Natural Resources and Sustainable Development](#), and will be working with GLOBE to organise a workshop on international investment law under the upcoming International Law in Context Workshop Series. [Read his full profile.](#)

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Dr Philip Kaisary – Assistant Professor

Philip Kaisary received a Fulbright award for one year, commencing in August 2015 at Vanderbilt University, Tennessee. This project will focus on the constitutionalism of the Haitian Revolution (1791–1804) and the interpretative archive it generated in the United States through 1865. Philip will explore Haiti's early constitutions in order to examine how the former slaves of St Domingue sought to codify in law their vision of freedom. This project will thereby provide a more complete critical picture of how constitutionalism, nationality, and citizenship figured in the jigsaw puzzle of Haitian, U.S., and Atlantic politics in this period, arguing that the birth of the world's first black republic generated an enduring ideological inheritance and blazed a radical trail long into the 19th century Atlantic world.

LACUNA MAGAZINE

Filling the gap between the immediacy of daily journalism and long-term academic analysis


When it comes to human suffering and social injustice, human rights and the law undoubtedly help redress some of those wrongs. [Lacuna magazine](#) seeks to offer its readers a range of accounts by those who feel as strongly about human rights as we do at the [Centre for Human Rights in Practice](#).

Lacuna magazine warmly invites you to join our community of readers by following us on Twitter (@Lacunamagazine) and [Facebook](#). Or if you have a story to tell, a book/film you want to review, or an artist engaged in human rights that you want to interview, [get in touch](#) to write for us.

WHERE ARE YOU NOW?



Siddharth Raja, a founding partner of dynamic investment law specialists, Samvad Partners was the type of student which Warwick has always aspired to attract. He comes from a family which attached great value on educational attainment and was inspired by his father, who had himself studied in England.

Having excelled at the National Law School in Bangalore, known as the "Harvard of the East", Siddharth came to Warwick to read for his LLM in 1997, with the support of both a Chevening Scholarship and a J.N. Tata Scholarship. Although Siddharth notes that the physical campus has changed beyond recognition since those times, the fundamentals of the International Economic Law LLM which he took, have remained the same, and then, as now, the programme attracts aspiring international lawyers from around the world.

Looking back, Siddharth particularly values having had the opportunity to live amongst and interact with a community representing so many nationalities, cultures, backgrounds and perspectives. This experience has developed the *weltanschauung*, the ability to see issues from a world-wide perspective, which has profoundly influenced his professional practice and teaching.

Our very best wishes, on behalf of the Law School,

Sara

Sara Prestleton, PG Admissions & Recruitment Officer
School of Law

Since leaving Warwick, Siddharth has practiced in Hong Kong, London and Silicon Valley before returning to Bangalore. It is notable that so much of his professional work – venture capital transactions, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, and international corporate finance – reflect his areas of study on the IEL programme. Having gained so much from his own educational experiences, Siddharth now shares his learning and experience with future generations of lawyers by teaching specialist modules in University law schools.

Siddharth can be contacted at Raja.Siddharth@gmail.com. Read a [personal account](#) of his time at Warwick.

ALUMNI PUBLICATIONS

Two of our Alumni have had books published recently...

- Chikosa M. Silungwe, '[Law, Land Reform and Responsibilisation: A Perspective from Malawi's Land Question](#)', PULP: 2015
- Fauzia Knight, '[Law, Power and Culture, Supporting Change from Within](#)' Palgrave Macmillan: 2014

Had your work published? Tell us about it.

GET INVOLVED...

Join our [Alumni Facebook Group](#), visit our new [Alumni Hub](#) to interact with old classmates and the School and register for benefits at warwickgrad.net.