

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON GLOBAL LEGAL CLINICS

SPRING NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

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Reminders

- Keep an eye on your inbox for upcoming talks/panel events!

Upcoming Events

- Please look out for events coming up in the new academic year!

Contact Info

Instagram: @uoslegalclinic

LinkedIn: University of Southampton Legal Clinics

Created by Lizzie Brooke and Izzy Casey

Association of Law Teachers annual conference 2026: 'Reimagining Legal Education for the Future of Law'

By Cecily Luther

I recently had the pleasure of attending and presenting at the Association of Law Teachers annual conference alongside Supervising Solicitor Keagan Smith and Wellbeing Lead Muaz Gull. Our presentation was centred around 'Moral and relational autonomy in Clinical Legal Education', which explored the model of autonomy promoted across all aspects of the Global Legal Clinic ("GLC").

We spoke about how the moral and relational understanding of autonomy is promoted in the GLC, how as student advisors we have been impacted by the model of autonomy and how it impacts our approach to working with clients.

I enjoyed hearing other presentations from legal academics and law teachers from across the globe speaking on the introduction of artificial intelligence into legal education and how practitioners are encouraging students in clinics to develop their reflective capacity across different jurisdictions.

The conference featured insightful keynote contributions, including an engaging educational address by Kirsty Brimelow KC, Chair of the Bar 2026 who gave an educational speech on peaceful protest and Sir Geoffrey Charles Vos, Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice for England and Wales who spoke compellingly about how the legal profession will change and develop in what he described as 'the machine age'.

Visit to the University of Portsmouth

By Isabelle Casey

On the 22nd of April, five GLC students and I had the opportunity to visit the University of Portsmouth to gain insight on their Law in Practice module, which is a curriculum-based module which is taken by third years instead of a dissertation to gain practical legal skills through pro bono work, under supervision.

The clinic runs for four sessions each week, where the students conduct a 15-minute discussion on arrival to prepare for their case. Then, students conduct interviews with their client with the goal of gathering all the relevant information within 30 minutes. Next, the client is asked to leave the room and students, with their supervisor discuss the issues within the case and conduct research. Once they have completed their research, usually within 45 minutes, the client is then brought back into the interview room and provided with advice based on the research. Finally, all the session's students gather in their communal area following their meetings and discuss their cases as a group.

During the session, we had the opportunity to observe cases involving executorship, private nuisance, education, and employment. It was fascinating to experience a different approach to pro bono work, particularly the collaborative model in which small teams of students worked with individual clients under the guidance of a supervisor with expertise in the relevant area of law.

Legal Clinic Prizegiving Event

By Lois Williams

The Prizegiving Event, held on 1 May 2026 at Garden Court on Highfield Campus, was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the clinic and recognise the hard work and dedication of those who have made a significant contribution throughout the year.

One of the highlights of the evening was the opportunity to network with our partners from Hodge Jones and Allen Solicitors and Casecraft AI, along with guests from Womble Bond Dickinson LLP, Biscoes Solicitors and Church's Solicitors, and engage with other student advisors, staff, and the committee outside of the usual clinic setting.

The event also provided a showcase of the valuable work carried out by the clinic over the past year. It was inspiring to see the positive impact that the clinic has had on clients and the wider community, as well as the dedication shown by everyone involved. The insight into the GLC's future ambitions and development plans was also exciting and demonstrated the continued commitment to growth that I believe inspires and motivates many of the clinic's student advisors. The recognition given to individuals who had been nominated for their outstanding contributions was especially meaningful and highlighted the commitment, professionalism, and enthusiasm that makes the clinic such a rewarding organisation to be a part of.

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Overall, the Prizegiving event was a thoroughly enjoyable evening that celebrated achievement, strengthened relationships, and left attendees feeling proud of the GLC's accomplishments and optimistic about its future.



Prizegiving Event Award Winners

- **HJA and the Legal Clinic Director's Award for Best Personal Contribution:** Maddy Nicholl
- **Best Public Legal Education Team:** Nilana Manimaran and Saleema Flynn
- **Most Outstanding Contribution to the Newsletter:** Sadhana Lingeswaran and Lizzie King
- **Best Contribution to Client Care:** Ray MacHado and Lois Williams
- **Best Team Collaboration:** Maria McRobb-Roldan, Aurelie Vieux, William Lowe, Muaz Gull, Neelu Karimian, Neha Pothineni, Leyla Mammadova, Lilly Maddox, Yasmeen Raynor, Olivia Wise
- **Outstanding Dedication to Promoting the Clinic:** Maria McRobb-Roldan
- **Best Overall Engagement:** Nusaba Kazi
- **Best Overall Client Case Work:** Leah Potter
- **Best Contribution by a 1st Year:** Riley Schlackl
- **Best Contribution by a 2nd Year:** Cecily Luther
- **Best Contribution by a Final Year:** Neelufar Karimian

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- **Student Advisor's Award for Best Personal Contribution (peer nominated):** Lizzie Brooke
- **Ultimate Student Advisor of the Quarter:** Izzy Casey
- **Ultimate Student Advisor of the Quarter- Special Mention:** Lilly Maddox
- **Best Contribution by a Newcomer:** Jacob Gray
- **Award for Strengthening Links with Partners:** Callea Wearn and Jess Bosworth



Mazur v Charles Russell Speechlys in the Court of Appeal

By Diana Pylyuhina

On the 25th of February, we had the opportunity to observe an engaging, yet at times tense hearing at the Court of Appeal, in the Mazur and others v Charles Russell Speechlys LLP [2026] EWCA Civ 369 case before Sir Geoffrey Vos, Chancellor of the High Court, Lord Justice Birss and Lady Justice Andrews. Mazur raises significant anxieties about the interpretation of the Legal Services Act 2007 and the wider impact on the legal profession.

The courtroom atmosphere was notably tense, with counsel on both sides presenting lengthy and detailed submissions before the bench on the implications of the earlier judgement. Law Society's position was heavily scrutinised and, Judges sought immense amounts of clarification surrounding the interpretation of the Legal Services Act 2007, interesting metaphor of Postman Pat used. Judges also raised concerns that you cannot apply laws retrospectively, and that every "unauthorised" person conducting "reserved" dealings, years back would be criminalised. Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEX) counsel noted that the judgement had already created profound consequences for many CILEX professionals, and only the beginning of a much larger wave of issues. Diversity within the profession and access to justice is being threatened, also heavily discussed how an "authorised" person is not allowed to take a holiday as Law Society's counsel highlighted authorising, reserved actions cannot be done over the phone. Which seems unreasonable.

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By Diana Pylyuhina

As students observing the proceedings, the hearing offered a valuable insight into how appellate courts grapple with complex statutory interpretation and the broader policy implications that can arise from a single judgement.



Student Experience and Academic Awards

By Lizzie Brooke

On Wednesday 29th April, I had the pleasure of attending the Student Experience Awards, where a number of our Legal Clinic students had been nominated for various awards. The nominations were as follows:

One Southampton Award:

Maria McRobb-Roldan (our International Lead) and Saleema Flynn Abassi and Nilana Manimaran (our JLAP Leads).

Sustainability Champion Award:

Legal Clinic- Aidan Keogh and Jessica Bosworth (our Environmental Law Leads).

Committee Member of the Year:

Shann Jalaly (one of our Student Advisors).

SUSU Recognition Award:

Isabelle Casey (one of our Media and Publicity Leads).

Student Experience and Academic Awards

By Lizzie Brooke

These nominations demonstrate the impact our Legal Clinic students have on, not only the University of Southampton community, but also the wider community. This was a lovely evening to celebrate the hard work of our students and the end of another successful year. Congratulations to all those who were nominated!

Academic Awards

Our Media and Publicity Lead, Isabelle Casey was also nominated for the Academic Awards and won both the Rep of the Year and Best Contribution awards! Izzy has worked tirelessly on many projects in the Legal Clinic, live client cases, in her role in the committee, and in her role as Law School President.

These awards are a testament to her dedication and hard work across this year, and on behalf of the Legal Clinic we would like to extend a huge congratulations to Izzy!

‘Getting the most from pro bono experience’ U-Law Talk

By Maddy Nicholl

We were incredibly grateful to receive a talk from The University of Law on how best to present pro bono experience to potential employers, emphasising the skills and practical experience that we receive from the clinic.

We looked at how our pro bono experience has social gains, cognitive gains and learning gains, impacting lots of different aspects of professional practice. It was particularly interesting to hear how certain skills such as application of legal research, legal drafting, client interviewing, case management and time keeping are all professional skills are specific to our legal clinic and will help stand out to potential employers.

My key takeaways were:

- Quality over quantity – but try to be succinct (No longer than 2 sides of A4)
- Your best points should be at the top – if an employer skims over your CV you need to stand out quick
- Use the STAR structure when answering competency questions (Situation, Task, Action, Result)
- Tailor your experiences to the values, skills and traits that the company is looking for – each CV should be different
- If you have any publications – you can hyperlink them

The Peru Project (International Collaboration)

By Danica Custance

An International Learning Experience

The Peru Project was an international research collaboration involving students from the University of Southampton Global Legal Clinic (GLC), the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), and the University of Montpellier Legal Clinic. The project examined the potential impacts of the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) on Peru and compared these with likely effects in the United Kingdom and Colombia.

The research highlighted how differences in environmental regulation, business practices, and access to funding can significantly shape how global legal reforms affect countries and communities. A particular focus was placed on the disproportionate impact the EUDR may have on small and indigenous farmers, potentially creating new barriers to EU markets.

Approximately 16 students worked on the project over nearly a year, gaining valuable experience in international collaboration, comparative legal research, and commercial awareness. The final report was shared with the EU Delegation in Peru, the British Embassy in Lima, and several Peruvian ministries.

“The project showed how even well-intentioned laws can have unintended consequences for vulnerable communities.”

— Shann Jalaly, LLB, University of Southampton.

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By Danica Custance

The project also strengthened international partnerships, with further collaborative research already planned.

Skills and Future Collaboration

For student leaders, the project also offered valuable management and leadership experience, including coordinating international teams and allocating workloads effectively.

“The research, teamwork, leadership, and commercial awareness I gained have already supported my academic work and job applications.”

— Jake Dolendo-Hernandez, 2nd-year JD, University of Southampton

As the GLC continues to expand its global engagement, PUCP and Montpellier have become important and valued international partners, with further collaborative research projects already in development.

LawWorks Award Event

By Saleema Flynn

We were incredibly grateful to attend the LawWorks and Attorney General Student Pro Bono Awards 2026 at the House of Commons after being nominated as a JLAP team. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the impact of student pro bono work and recognise the dedication of those working to improve access to justice. Hearing about the innovative projects being delivered by legal clinics, student societies and volunteers from universities across the country was both inspiring and motivating. The evening highlighted the real difference that students can make within their communities, and we were proud to see the work of JLAP recognised alongside so many outstanding initiatives. Congratulations to all the nominees and winners on their well-deserved achievements!

Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter- Year 3 Winner

Danica Custance

The Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter Year 3 winner is Danica Custance!



Danica has been nominated by her peers for this award for “working tirelessly and puts so much effort into everything she does. She is always first to put herself forward to help with projects in the Committee as well as leading her own projects. Her hard work and dedication to the Legal Clinic deserve to be celebrated!”

A huge congratulations to Danica for this incredible achievement!

Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter- Year 2 Winner

Aidan Keogh

The Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter Year 2 winner is Aidan Keogh!



Aidan has been nominated by her peers for this award for being “very helpful and approachable as an environmental law lead. He is always there for support for the LSCA project, and provided great guidance for committee application process.”

A huge congratulations to Aidan for this incredible achievement!

Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter- Year 1 Winner

Sophie Lunnon

The Student Advisor of the Spring Quarter Year 1 winner is Sophie Lunnon!



Sophie has been nominated by her peers for this award for “Sophie’s interview for the Legal Clinic Committee was excellent, she really showcased her dedication to the Legal Clinic, her knowledge, and her experience. We cannot wait to have her join the committee and she deserves this award to recognise the commitments she has already made to the Legal Clinic.”

A huge congratulations to Sophie for this incredible achievement!