

**CCLS Postgraduate Law Taught Programmes  
Postgraduate Student Staff Liaison Committee  
07 April 2021**

**Minutes**

**Staff members present:**

Anne Flanagan (AF) (Chair)	LLM Director
Mark Van Hoecke (MVH)	LLM Director
Rodrigo Olivares-Caminal (ROC)	Joint Programmes Director
Gaetano Dimita (GD)	Senior Lecturer in International Intellectual Property Law. Director of E-learning.
Laura Edgar (LE)	Senior Lecturer Director of Taught Programmes
Michelle Dean (MD)	Teaching and Learning Services Co-ordinator Student Support and Engagement
Sue Fitzgerald (SF)	Teaching and Learning Services Co-ordinator Student Records and E-learning
Jack Osborne (JO)	Quality Manager
Olumide Popoola (OP)	Academic Skills Co-ordinator – Library Services
Pia Cronin (Secretary)	Teaching and Learning Services Administrator Student Support and Engagement

**Student members present:**

Art, Business and Law LLM	Chloe-May	Champion
Banking and Finance Law LLM	Sakshi	Kharkar
Commercial and Corporate Law LLM	Gunjit	Madra
Comparative and International Dispute Resolution LLM	Raina	Mahapatra
Comparative and International Dispute Resolution LLM	Ana	Sanchez Silva
Criminal Justice LLM	Ilvana	Dedja
Energy and Natural Resources Law LLM	Mirian	Madubuko
Environmental Law LLM	Linus	Chu
European Law LLM and Competition Law LLM	Martina	Marchetti
General Law LLM	Jahnavi	Mocherla
General Law LLM	Aishwarya	Bhonsale
Human Rights and Immigration Law LLM	María	Barraco

Insurance Law LLM	Hursh	Singh
Intellectual Property Law LLM	Vaishnavi	Mootha
Intellectual Property Law LLM	Ana Cristina	Ortega
International Business Law LLM	Radhika	Thiagarajan
International Business Law LLM	Jia	Liu
International Economic Law LLM	Fatema	Buhazaa
International Shipping Law LLM	Dimitrios	Vazelakis
Law and Economics LLM	Zaakir	Tameez
Law and Finance (MSc)	Dhwani	Viswanath
Law and Finance (MSc)	Joanna	Glowaska
Public International Law LLM	Daniela	Piovesan Tochetto
Regulation and Compliance (LLM/MA)	Amanda	Robinson
Tax Law LLM	Fathema	Rahman
Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law LLM	Justine	Naessens
Technology, Media and Telecommunications Law LLM	Hassan	Khaled Abdelmagid Ali Elrashidi

**Apologies for absence:**

Anthea Chou	Deputising for Richard Evans
Lucas Sperka Velasco	Commercial and Corporate Law LLM Course Rep
Christiana HJI Panayi (CP)	LLM Research Director

<b>Part 1 – Preliminary Items</b>	
1a	<b>Welcome and introduction for new members</b>
1b	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>  Noted as above
1c	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>  The minutes of the meetings on the 28 <sup>th</sup> February and 10 <sup>th</sup> March were approved.
1d	<b>Report on matters arising and actions taken</b>  All actions were reported as complete
1e	<b>Terms of reference and membership</b>

	<i>Comments invited on documents re-distributed with agenda for new members</i>
<b>Part 2 – Programme Delivery and other matters</b>	
<b>2 (a)</b>	<p><b>Programme/module developments and amendments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JO confirmed that exams will remain online for the coming academic year.</li> <li>• Some modules have been approved for addition to the LLM, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Legal Tech</li> <li>○ Public Affairs Advocacy</li> <li>○ Advocacy in Commercial Disputes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The course rep raised the issue of SOLM160 Energy and Climate Change SOLM243 Trade, Climate Change and Energy EU and International Perspectives not being available on Environmental Law but the programme director has said with the addition of a new module SOLM262 Climate Justice, she feels there is adequate coverage on those topics with the modules already approved on the programme for 21-22.</li> </ul>
<b>2 (b)</b>	<p><b>Learning and teaching matters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An issue was raised regarding SOLM019 regarding lecture recordings disappearing from QMplus. PC confirmed that the QMplus team are looking into this and are speaking with Blackboard Collaborate to resolve the issue.</li> <li>• There was some discussion around the Art and Money module and whether there could be a SGT for it. ROC said he would be happy to run a session on essay topics but asked that Chloe Champion (course rep for ABL) could encourage students to participate fully.</li> </ul>
<b>2 (c)</b>	<p><b>Assessment and Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern was raised about the exam dates and it was asked that Course Reps have some say in fixing them. AF explained that exam dates are set centrally and this would not be possible. JO confirmed this. Where there are scheduling problems Course Reps can raise this but a university wide setting of dates from Course Reps would not be possible.</li> <li>• A student raised the point that exam dates and essay submission are sometimes due on the same day. AF explained that the essay submission date was moved so that it was not at the beginning of the exam period at the request of students. The essay date is the last submission.</li> <li>• JO confirmed that the essay submission date has been moved to the 15<sup>th</sup> May. (note: on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April it was confirmed that</li> </ul>

	<p>this has now moved to the 29<sup>th</sup> May 10am for all SOLM and IPLM modules.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JO will request that the essay submission date is not the same day as exam submission. MD asked that the submission date is not a weekend because if there is an issue with students submitting on QMplus there is no admin support on the weekend.</li> <li>• An issue was raised with International Human Rights module and the setting of exam dates. A student had asked in the first semester that the exam not be set on a particular date because she was getting married. AF confirmed that the university would not take a wedding date into consideration</li> <li>• Concern was raised about 14 May submission date clashing with Eid. The exams team have worked in collaboration with the British Muslim Council who confirmed that Eid is 12-13 May. The essay deadline was moved to 15 May for this reason however it was decided not to move exams because Eid would have finished by the 14 May. However it was pointed out that Eid is a different day in different places around the world however, AF explained that we can only schedule for this country. The student who raised the issue is in the UK however it was felt that by a student that the University should consider religious festivals around the world. It was decided to organise a short meeting with the student concerned to explain the rationale to her. Maria Baracco will send an email to arrange this.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2 (d)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PGTaught survey</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There has been a low response rate for this and so LE asked if course reps could encourage students to complete it.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Module Evaluations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LE feedback that students have commented that they have not found it difficult to access lectures.</li> <li>○ MD confirmed that module evaluations for 15 credit block D modules and 30 credit B20 modules have been released for completion. Students have been emailed with details.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>2(e)</b></p>	<p><b>Academic support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A student raised concerns that her dissertation supervisor holds group sessions and that they have asked for two paragraphs by the end of the semester. There was some objection to having to work on the dissertation now. However, AF explained that students work on their dissertation across the year, not just in one Semester and so it was appropriate for them to be thinking about it now.</li> <li>• OP informed students of workshops that are taking place. The details below have been emailed to students:</li> </ul>

	<p>1-2-1 support around writing, etc  <a href="https://www.qmul.ac.uk/library/academic-skills/onetoone/">https://www.qmul.ac.uk/library/academic-skills/onetoone/</a>  Master's dissertation workshops series  <a href="https://www.qmul.ac.uk/library/academic-skills/dissertation-support-for-masters-students/">https://www.qmul.ac.uk/library/academic-skills/dissertation-support-for-masters-students/</a></p>
<b>2(f)</b>	<p><b>Learning resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the discussion at the last meeting around Library services. Anthea Chou sent this statement response from the Library. "The library is still operating on a 2-metre social distancing policy. The stacks are very confined spaces, so it wouldn't always be possible to observe 2-metre spacing. This is not only an issue for students, but also for those staff who are shelving or roving. Also, we have a very limited number of staff working within the library at present, so actively monitor the situation to ensure 2-metre social distancing compliance is very difficult. Now that we have a roadmap for lockdown easing, we are planning to monitor and assess the situation on a monthly basis. The hope is that we could move to a 'book &amp; browse' model toward the summer, but this is obviously contingent on lockdown easing and government/university advice. "</li> </ul>
<b>Part 4 – Date of the next meeting</b>	
	<b>Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 13:30-14:30</b>

## Action Sheet: Student-Staff Liaison Committee

Minute	Action	Responsibility	Timescale	Action status	Issue resolved?
2 (c)	1. JO will request that the essay submission date is not the same day as exam submission.	Jack Osborne		Done	
2 (c)	2. Maria Baracco to arrange a meeting to discuss the setting of exams around religious festivals between AF, JO, Maria and the student concerned	Maria Baracco		Not done	