

# Northumbria Law School

# NEWSLETTER



Law School

- JAN 2024 - ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 / 2024 -

## LAW SCHOOL AWARDS AND ACCOLADES



### Student Law Office wins Pro Bono/Community Initiative Award at the Northern Law Awards

The Student Law Office (SLO) is known for its pioneering approach - where law students undertake free legal work under professional supervision to support real clients. It was praised by the judges who described a "highly engaged team offering real support to the community in all aspects of legal advice." Kayleigh Richardson, Co-Director of the SLO, said: "Winning the Pro Bono/Community Initiative category at the Northern Law Awards is a superb achievement and recognises the fantastic work of the staff and students in the provision of legal advice and assistance to the North East community and facilitating access to justice."

[READ MORE HERE](#)



### 'A Place for Us' wins University Inclusivity Award

In July 2023, the project 'A Place for Us' won the Inclusivity Award at the Northumbria University annual Shine Awards. The project, ran by Dr Elisabeth Griffiths, is a collaboration between Northumbria Law School staff, students and the Student Accessibility & Technology Enhanced Learning teams. It was one of only five projects shortlisted for the Inclusivity Award and recognises outstanding contribution to Northumbria's success by practising and promoting fairness, transparency, celebrating diversity and mutual respect and collective expertise.

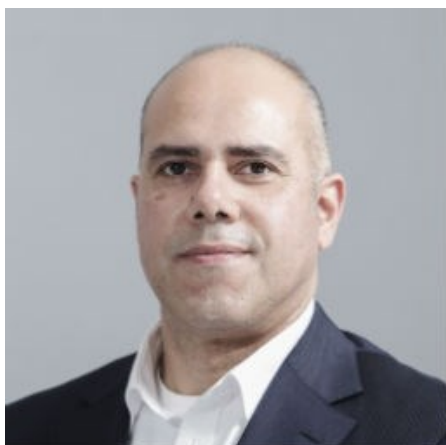


### Professor Alan Reed tops the Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly most read list

Deputy Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellor of Research, Alan Reed, recently made it the top of NILQ's 'Most Read' list for 22/23. The research, co-authored with Professor Heather Douglas from Melbourne University, was published in September 2021 and has amassed over 1,500 downloads. The paper, 'The role of loss of self-control in defences to homicide: a critical analysis of Anglo-Australian developments' can be read [HERE](#).

## LAW SCHOOL AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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### **Professor Mohamed Badar receives International Criminal Court recognition**

Professor Mohamed Badar has been the Chief Editor of the Arabic version of the commentary on the 'Statute of the International Criminal Court' for the past two years. In June 2023, the Arabic version of the ICC Commentary was commended by the International Criminal Court Prosecutor, Mr Karim Asad Ahmad Khan KC, who explained the significance of Lexisplus and the convenience of its accessibility online for practitioners, scholars and students of international criminal law around the globe.

## RECENT STAFF APPOINTMENTS

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### **Dr Elisabeth Griffiths appointed to Law Society's Disabled Solicitors Network Committee**

The Disabled Solicitors Network is one of four Law Society diversity and inclusion networks. The networks provide a forum for marginalised groups in the profession to share, discuss and support each other, whilst also providing the Law Society with expertise and experience as well as creating a more diverse and inclusive profession. The interview panel were particularly interested in the research Elisabeth did for her doctorate on the lived experience of disability in the Law School and the toolkit she has been creating with the Accessibility & Inclusion Team.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



### **Helen Rutherford appointed editor of Hexham Historian**

Helen has recently taken over the editorship of the peer reviewed local history journal 'The Hexham Historian'. The journal, which is published annually, has a reach of 400 members and is stocked in libraries such as Newcastle's own Lit & Phil and is available to purchase online.

[PURCHASE](#)

## RESEARCH NEWS & UPDATES

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### **Professor Christopher Newman interviewed by CNBC**

In November 2022, Professor Chris Newman was approached by CNBC for an interview to discuss how the U.S. GPS system compares to other satellite-based navigation systems around the world, particularly to China's BeiDou constellation. During the interview, Chris discussed how the United States are revamping its GPS satellite system and why this is necessary. His interview forms part a documentary which can be viewed on CNBC's YouTube page.

[WATCH HERE](#)



### **Professor Alistair Rieu-Clarke discusses water law in Beijing and Joensuu**

In September 2023, Professor Alistair Rieu-Clarke participated at a panel session in the XVIII World Water Congress in Beijing exploring future challenges in the field of water law. He also attended the global launch of the International Water Law Academy at Wuhan University. He also participated in IUCN's Academy of International Environmental Law's 2023 Colloquium. The Colloquium provides a forum for legal scholars and experts come together to exchange knowledge, experiences and fellowship.



### **Dr Marion Oswald discusses ethics, law, social implications and AI**

In November 2023, Marion Oswald was a key-note speaker at the ADR UK Conference which brings together individuals involved in the use of administrative data for research for the public good. This included researchers, data scientists, civil service analysts and those involved in making this data available for research. During her talk, Marion presented on the theme of 'Ethics, Law and Social Implications'. Marion was interviewed by Beth MacDonald, Engagement Officer at the Office for National Statistics for their blog.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

## RESEARCH NEWS & UPDATES

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### **Dr Fabio Tronchetti presents at 'Space Resources - Chances and Legal Challenges' event**

On 6 June 2023, Dr Fabio Tronchetti presented at 'Space Resources - Chances and Legal Challenges' event which was hosted by University of Vienna and NPOC Space Law Austria. The event focused on one discussion in particular, the Artemis Accords. On this panel Fabio spoke alongside experts from Japan, Luxembourg, Rwanda and Italy to provide perspectives on the Artemis Accords, their relationship to other international agreements, such as the moon agreement, and the views of developing countries.



### **Professor Vanessa Bettinson discusses coercion, control and criminal responsibility**

Professor Vanessa Bettinson has collaborated with Professors Vanessa Munro and Mandy Burton on a coercive control project that explores the concept of coercive control amongst criminal justice professionals in England, Wales and Scotland. The article 'Coercion, Control and Criminal Responsibility: Exploring Professional Responses to Offending and Suicidality in the Context of Domestically Abusive Relationships' is the first to explore criminal justice professionals thinking about coercive control present in criminal justice, not as an offence, but as a reason for offenders' criminality where they are in domestically abusive relationships, or are the victim of coercive control and have committed suicide as a consequence of it.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



### **AI in sentencing and management of offenders**

In 2023, Northumbria University's Centre for Evidence and Criminal Justice Studies, alongside the Alan Turing Institute, hosted a seminar 'The use of AI in sentencing and the management of offenders' at the Turing Institute's London headquarters within the British Library. The seminar, organised by Dr Elizabeth Tiarks from Northumbria Law School and presented by Dr Marion Oswald, explored the current and proposed future uses of AI in sentencing and more broadly the management of offenders.

Following the seminar, a report has been published on the Alan Turing website.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

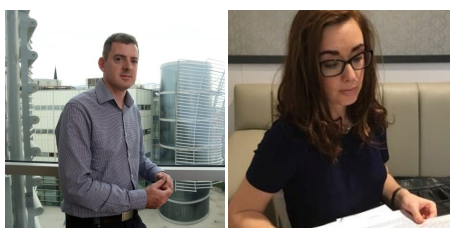
## RESEARCH NEWS & UPDATES

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### **Dr Helen Rutherford sheds light on 19th century Newcastle**

In July 2023, Dr Rutherford attended the inaugural 'Legal Records Jamboree', at The National Archive supported by The Journal of Legal History and British Online Archives. Helen discussed a coroner notebook from an inquest dating back to 1857, which shed light on coroners' practise in Northumberland during the 19th century. Helen's research was also recently featured in Newcastle's 'The Journal' over a two-page spread. Helen's research has spanned five years and has shed light on life in Newcastle during the 19th century.



### **Re-imagining step-down in children's residential care**

Professors Nicola Wake and Ray Arthur, co-organised with collaborators at Leeds Beckett University and Bournemouth University and supported by David Gibson, an in-person interactive knowledge exchange event designed to stimulate discussion around re-imagining secure residential care for children. The workshop identified factors for further research linked to developing step-down provision from residential care and assessing risks associated with child criminal exploitation. The work supports a broader programme by the team on re-imagining secure residential care for some of the most vulnerable children in society.



### **Law School staff present at 'Legal Histories, Local Histories' Conference**

Northumbria Law School staff Neil Harrison, Dr Helen Rutherford and Jacqueline Smart presented at the international 'Legal Histories, Local Histories' conference in November 2023. The team represented the North East at the event which brought international researchers into conversation with each other and explored the benefits of their different approaches and perspectives.



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Thank you for reading the Law School Newsletter. If you would like to submit an article please email:

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