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Message from the Dean

I would like to congratulate the Oxford Human Rights Hub (OxHRH) on an immensely successful first year.

The Hub has lived up to its name, not only bringing new coordination to the study of the theory and practice of human rights within the University, but also making new connections among people around the world. Thanks to the website and, in particular, the blog, the resulting community involves people on six continents.

The seminar series has welcomed speakers from New York, Melbourne, Sussex, London, Kent, Auckland, Dublin, Vancouver, Victoria, Minneapolis, Erlangen, Cape Town, and Geneva. And one particularly notable success has been the Hub’s role in bringing students and faculty together with lawyers working in non-governmental and inter-governmental organisations (including the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Equal Rights Trust, and Geneva Call), and in the UN: the Hub has hosted speakers from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the UN Special Rapporteurs on Freedom of Religion, on the Human Rights of Migrants, and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions.

Professor Sandra Fredman and the whole OxHRH team have done wonders over the past year to bring about this opening-up. I commend the team on their efforts. Just as the Hub itself has grown, the possibilities for the future have grown too, and I look forward to seeing what they will come up with in the year ahead.

Timothy Endicott
Dean of the Faculty of Law

Director’s Review

The Oxford Faculty of Law has long been the centre of a global human rights law network. We launched the Oxford Human Rights Hub (OxHRH) in April 2012 with the aim of strengthening and growing this network. In little over a year, OxHRH has rapidly become the focal point of human rights activities in the Faculty and has succeeded in strengthening links with human rights academics, practitioners, and policy-makers around the world.

We have launched a broad range of initiatives to facilitate the exchange of ideas and resources, including a termly seminar series, an annual conference, a website, a blog, a growing social media presence, and a fortnightly newsletter.

Our seminars and conferences aim to break down the divide between the theory and practice of human rights law. We have brought together leading human rights academics, judges, practitioners, UN Special Rapporteurs, and activists to share their experiences and ideas. These events have sparked lively debates and have fostered greater connections between academics and practitioners.

We have also broken new ground in the Oxford Law Faculty by establishing a strong online presence. Our website showcases human rights activities in the Faculty and has provided a model which other subject groups have sought to emulate. In July 2012, we launched the OxHRH blog in parallel with the website. It has been a stunning success, featuring over 180 posts written by experts on human rights issues from around the world and gaining a total readership of over 85,000 since its launch. We have also complemented these activities with a growing social media presence on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn, and a fortnightly e-newsletter.

OxHRH has established a firm foundation in its first year and we look forward to growing and expanding in the years to come. I would like to thank the Dean of the Law Faculty, graduate students, Oxford colleagues and our global network of participants for their continuing support and invaluable contributions.

My special thanks go to the wonderful team of postgraduates at the centre of the Hub whose energy and enthusiasm have done so much to make the Hub into a real human rights community: Chris McConachie, Laura Hilly and Meghan Campbell. Special thanks too to our editorial team on the blog: Miles Jackson and Dhvani Mehta who were part of the founding team, and Greer Fleck, Celeste Robinson; and Angelica DeGaetano, who have recently joined us.

Particular thanks are also due to the University of Oxford Higher Studies Fund, which provided the generous funding that has made the Oxford Human Rights Hub possible. Thanks too to Steve Allen for helping with the website. I look forward to another exciting year ahead.

Particularly warm thanks to Laura Hilly for taking the initiative on this publication and then making it happen; and to Gullane & Gullane and Hart Publishing for their very generous contributions to its design and publication.

Sandy Fredman
OxHRH Director
Rhodes Professor of the Laws of the
British Commonwealth and the USA
Our mission
The Oxford Human Rights Hub (OxHRH) aims to bring together academics, practitioners, and policy-makers from across the globe to advance the understanding and protection of human rights and equality. Through the vigorous exchange of ideas and resources, we strive to facilitate a better understanding of human rights principles, to develop new approaches to policy, and to influence the development of human rights law and practice.

Who we are
OxHRH is based in the University of Oxford Faculty of Law and was launched in 2012 with funding from the Oxford Higher Studies Fund. Oxford academics, research students and visiting academics form the core of our network, while our reach extends to over 25 countries through our growing network of human rights academics, practitioners and policy-makers.

What we do
OxHRH facilitates the exchange of ideas and resources through six primary channels:

- **The OxHRH website**: Our website provides a portal for human rights activities and research at Oxford University, as well as providing access to human rights resources and publications.
- **OxHRH Blog**: Our blog provides a space for human rights academics, lawyers and policy makers from across the globe to share and discuss recent human rights developments.
- **Social media**: OxHRH is on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. Join our growing online community and contribute to the conversation.
- **Newsletter**: Our fortnightly newsletter contains a roundup of OxHRH news and events as well as featuring news from our wider network.
- **Seminars**: Our termly seminar series focuses on issues at the intersection between human rights theory and practice.
- **Annual conference**: Our annual conference facilitates deeper engagement between human rights lawyers from across the globe on key human rights issues.

Overview

Professor Sandra Fredman and Meghan Campbell welcomed Chris Mburu, Senior Human Rights Advisor at the UN, to Pembroke College, Oxford, July 2013.
Staff and Directors

Director

Professor Sandra Fredman
Sandra Fredman is the Rhodes Professor of the Laws of the British Commonwealth and the USA at Oxford University. She is Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Cape Town and a fellow of Pembroke College Oxford. She was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2005 and was made an Honorary Queen’s Counsel in 2012.

Associate Directors

Dr Liora Lazarus
Liora Lazarus is a University Lecturer in Law, Member of the Centre for Criminological Research, and Fellow of St. Anne’s College.

Dr Cathryn Costello
Cathryn Costello is the Andrew W. Mellon University Lecturer in International Human Rights and Refugee Law.

Dr Nazila Ghanea
Nazila Ghanea is a University Lecturer in International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of Kellogg College. She serves as a member of the OSCE Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

Blog Editors

Administrators

Meghan Campbell
Meghan is in the second year of her DPhil in Law in Pembroke College. Meghan has been the primary organiser of seminars and conferences since September 2012.

Chris McConnachie
Chris is in the second year of his DPhil in Law at Lincoln College. He was the sole administrator of OxHRH from April to August 2012, when he was joined by Meghan and Laura.

Laura Hilly
Laura is in the third year of her DPhil in Law at Magdalen College. She is the managing editor of the OxHRH Blog, our photographer, and an administrator.

Zoe Davis-Heaney
Zoe joined the OxHRH as an administrator in 2013. She is also the programme administrator of Martin School Programme on Human Rights for Future Generations.

OxHRH in figures

17
The number of seminars hosted, featuring 19 global leaders in human rights law, and two conferences.

500
The number of subscribers to the newsletter, from more than 26 countries.

85 000+
The number of visitors to the OxHRH Blog, with 11 600 unique visitors in September 2013.

1600+
followers gained

250
members on the OxHRH group

90
in group members
Professor Sandy Fredman, Director
Sandy prepared and presented a number of international reports including:
• She spoke on Transformational Constitutionalism to Judicial Forum for High Court and Court of Appeal Judges in South Africa, February 2013.
• Sandy was the Co-Chair of the Equality and Diversity Forum Research Network; the Chair of the Steering Committee of the British Academy initiative in response to the Commission on a British Bill of Rights; and was junior Counsel for the applicant in a case before the European Court of Human Rights on prison officers’ right to strike; and Counsel for third party intervener (Liberty) in a case before the European Court of Human Rights on right to take secondary action (pending).

Publications include:
• The Legal Construction of Personal Work Relations and Gender (2013) Jerusalem Review of Legal Studies (with Judy Fudge).


Dr Nazila Ghanea, Associate Director
Nazila was appointed to a three year term as a Member of the OSCE Advisory Panel of Experts on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

In the last academic year, Nazila completed work on the co-authored monograph resulting from the AHRC/ESRC Religious and Society large grant. ‘Religion or Belief, Discrimination and Equality: Britain in Global Contexts’ is due out by Bloomsbury in November 2013.

Nazila served as consultant to the UN Independent Expert on Minority Issues between February and September, and contributed to the expert workshop and research for the Independent Expert Rits Izsak’s report to the UN General Assembly on religious minorities A/68/268.

Nazila also continued her research as co-lead Primary Investigator looking into ‘The Domestic Effect of International Human Rights Treaty Ratification in the Member States of the Gulf Cooperation Council’. Interviews and workshops with governmental and other stakeholders from the 6 member states were held in Doha over the past academic year.

The Oxford Masters Programme in International Human Rights Law and the Joint Oxford-GW Summer School in International Human Rights Law continued with great success.

Dr Cathy Costello
Cathryn’s monograph on The Rights of Migrants in European Law will be published by OUP next year. OUP has also accepted her edited collection, Migrants at Work, to be co-edited with Mark Freedland exploring the intersection of migration and labour law. She also completed her contributions to the forthcoming Commentary on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (edited by Steve Peers, Tamara Hervey, Jeff Kenner and Angela Ward, to be published by Hart Publishing, Oxford) on the scope of EU human rights obligations (with Dr Violeta Moreno-Lax) and on the right to reconcile family and professional life.

In 2013, UNHCR published the research paper based on Cathryn’s empirical research on alternatives to immigration detention in Toronto and Geneva (with Esra Kaytaz). She presented the research at the UNHCR North American Roundtable (September 2012), the Swiss Asylum Symposium (January 2013), and the UNHCR Regional Consultations in Geneva (June 2013), and at the European Commission’s first set of consultations in Brussels on the implementation of the recast EU Reception Conditions for asylum seekers, which imposes a legal requirement to use alternatives to detention when appropriate (September 2012). It has been featured in the latest edition of the Forced Migration Review (http://www.fmreview.org/detention/costello-kaytaz).

Cathryn established a link between the OxfHR and Oxford’s Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), convening a joint lecture series on human rights and migration with Dr Martin Ruhs in Trinity Term. She contributed to the series with a talk entitled ‘Security of Residence as a Human Right, or How Courts Should Regularise those Migrants Who are Here to Stay’, (March 2013). This academic year she also gave academic papers at a Conference on Fundamental Rights In Europe: A Matter For Two Courts, at Oxford Brookes University; at the Oxford Refugee Studies Centre 30th Anniversary Conference; and at a Seminar on The Role of Evidence in Migration Law Cases From an International and EU Law Perspective, at the VU Amsterdam.

Snapshot of the Directors’ Activities

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She also contributed to a short course on European Refugee Law of the Refugee Law Initiative, University of London and gave the Plenary Presentation on the role of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) at its Consultative Forum in Malta in November 2012.

In November 2013, she will deliver an invited Current Legal Problems Lecture at University College London on the rule of law and migration.

In October 2013, Cathryn has taken up the Andrew W. Mellon University Lectureship in International Human Rights and Refugee Law at the Refugee Studies Centre. The appointment is in association with the Faculty of Law and comes with a Fellowship at St Antony’s College.

Dr Liora Lazarus

Liora spent the year on a British Academy Mid-Career Research Fellowship conducting research for her book Juridifying Security in New York and Washington, US, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, Israel; Sydney and Canberra, Australia; Brussels, Belgium; Strasbourg, France and Vienna, Austria. The book will be completed next year.


Liora worked with Chris McCrudden, Nigel Bowles and Laura Hilly to complete a comparative edited collection entitled Reasoning Rights: Comparative Judicial Engagement.


Liora spent September at the Gilbert and Tobin Centre at UNSW as a Visiting Fellow where she worked at developing links with the Oxford Human Rights Hub.
OxHRH has helped to grow the Faculty of Law’s social media presence by creating a thriving online community. Participants from around the world can now follow us on Twitter, Facebook, and Linkedin, as well as signing up to our fortnightly e-newsletter.

Our official OxHRH Twitter feed has been a great success. We now have over 1600 ‘followers’ who sign up to receive our short, 140-character updates on OxHRH Blog posts and news from across our network. Our followers include global human rights organisations, senior barristers, academics and students from around the world who spread OxHRH news to their networks through ‘retweets’.

In June, we launched the OxHRH Facebook page to reach an even wider audience. We partnered with Hart Publishing to promote the page by offering new human rights books as prizes for ‘liking’ our page. We also continue to offer networking opportunities through our Linkedin group.

The fortnightly OxHRH newsletter continues to gain a wide readership, with over 500 subscribers and counting. The newsletter provides an overview of OxHRH blog posts, events, news, and opportunities from across our network.

Subscribe to the OxHRH fortnightly newsletter online

Social Media and Communications
Launched in April 2012, the OxHRH website is a portal for human rights research and activities in Oxford. We showcase human rights events in the Oxford Faculty of Law and across the University. We also provide links to human rights courses taught at Oxford and showcase the work of Oxford Pro Bono Publico (OBPP) and Oxford Legal Assistance (OLA) – the two leading pro bono and clinical legal education initiatives run through the Oxford Faculty of Law.

We feature the profiles of Oxford academics and students working in the field of human rights, together with their recent publications and current research.

We are continuing to experiment with new ways to make Oxford human rights events and activities accessible and relevant to our global network. To that end, we recently launched a series of podcasts from the OxHRH seminar series, allowing participants from around the world to access the discussions and debates. These podcasts are also available on the OxHRH iTunes U account, reaching an even wider audience. In the summer of 2013 we initiated a Human Rights Newsfeed on our homepage. This offers a bite-sized compilation of headlines and breaking news in the world of human rights from all over the globe and provides links to the primary source.
Since its launch in July 2012, the Oxford Human Rights Hub (OxHRH) Blog has fast become a leading source of human rights news and opinion, and our global network of participants now regards it as a key platform for expert discussion about human rights law and practice. It has featured contributions from over 200 expert commentators.

We have had contributions from global leaders in human rights, including Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand; Justice Edwin Cameron, Justice of the South African Constitutional Court; Professor Sir Bob Hepple, Chair of the Equal Rights Trust; Clive Stafford Smith, Director of Reprieve, and Professor Frances Raday, one of four members of the United Nations Working Group on Discrimination against Women in Law and Practice.

Our expert contributors have included leading UK barristers Conor Gearty QC, Helen Mountfield QC, Dinah Rose QC, Karon Monaghan QC, Ken McDonald QC, Michael Fordham QC and Robin Knowles QC. We also provide the opportunity for young scholars to write for a global audience, and the blog has featured outstanding contributions from graduate students in the Oxford Law Faculty and elsewhere.

The blog has developed a dedicated following, attracting over 85,000 readers since its launch.

In September 2013 we recorded over 11,600 new visitors to our page and readership continues to grow each month as our global network of participants continue to regard it as a platform for expert discussion about human rights law and practice.

The OxHRH Blog features news and opinions on recent human rights developments from across the globe, including case law, current litigation, legislation, and activism. All OxHRH participants are encouraged to contribute and we have featured a diverse range of contributions from around the world.

We have been at the forefront of coverage and analysis of legal developments in same sex marriage, whether in New Zealand, France, the UK or the USA; affirmative action in the US, South Africa, India and elsewhere; access to justice and legal aid cuts in the UK; and religious discrimination under the European Convention on Human Rights Topics have included racial discrimination in Burma; anti-terrorism measures in Australia; rape laws in India; the right to food in Bangladesh; and socio-economic rights in the Bahamas.

The blog is edited by a team of graduate students, working under the supervision of the Director. Blogs are short and incisive, making expert human rights news and commentary accessible to a global audience.
The founding editors of the OxHRH Blog (left to right) Chris McConnachie, Dhvani Mehta, Miles Jackson and Laura Hilly.
Overview
The OxHRH Seminar Series runs each term, featuring speakers at the forefront of human rights law across the globe. The seminars focus on issues at the intersection between human rights theory and practice, recognising that the solutions to human rights challenges require a combination of practical expertise and deep theoretical understanding. The OxHRH also collaborated with the Migration Law Discussion Group and COMPASS to present a series of seminars looking at the intersection between migration and human rights law. This collaboration will continue in 2013-14 and the OxHRH looks forward to forging deeper links with other Oxford based programmes such as the Martin School’s Human Rights for Future Generations Project through co-hosted seminars.

2012 – Trinity Term
- Nazila Ghanea-Hercock, University Lecturer in International Human Rights Law, Kellogg College, Oxford University, on ‘Identities in International Human Rights Law’.
- Justices Kate O’Regan and Claire L’Heureux-Dube, retired justices of the South African Constitutional Court and the Canadian Supreme Court, engaged in a ‘Judicial Conversation’.
- Kent Roach, Professor of Law at the University of Toronto, and Justice Robert Sharpe, judge of the Court of Appeal for Ontario since 1999 and is a Visiting Professor in the Oxford Law Faculty, on ‘Arbitrariness, Principles of Fundamental Justice and the Legitimacy of Judicial Review under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms’.
- Helen Mountfield, Queen’s Counsel at Matrix Chambers, London, on ‘Litigating the Public Sector Equality Duty: a view from the Front’.
- Geoff Budlender, Senior Counsel and one of South Africa’s foremost public interest lawyers, on ‘People and the Courts’.
- Martha Minnow, Jeremiah Smith, Jr Professor of Law and Dean of the Harvard Law School, on ‘The Implications of America’s Desegregation Landmark in the World’.

2012 – Michaelmas Term
- Phillip Alston, NYU School of Law on ‘The Progress Narrative in the New Historiography of the International Human Rights Regime’.
- Gráinne De Búrca, NYU School of Law on ‘The European Court of Justice’s Treatment of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights’.
- Justice Kevin Bell, Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria on ‘Taking Direct Discrimination Cases out of the Straightjacket of Crude Comparator Analysis’.

2013 – Hilary Term
- Kris Gledhill, Inaugural Director of the New Zealand Centre for Human Rights Law, Policy and Practice, University of Auckland, on ‘Interpreting Human Rights in New Zealand and the UK: Expansive but Narrow, Narrow but Expansive’.
- Dimitrina Petrova, Executive Director of the Equal Rights Trust, on ‘International Human Rights Law and National Equality Legislation: Mapping the Gaps’.
- Judy Fudge, Lansdowne Chair in Law at the University of Victoria, Canada; Visiting Senior Fellow at the European Institute in Florence and Leverhulme Visiting Professor at Kent Law School, ‘Placing Filipino Caregivers in Canadian Homes: Regulating Transnational Employment Agencies’.
- Aileen McColgan, King’s College London and barrister at Matrix Chambers, ‘Religion, Equality and Discrimination’.

2013 – Trinity Term
- Heiner Bielefeldt, Professor of Human Rights and Human Rights Policy at the University of Erlangen and United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, on ‘Responses to collective religious hatred: Elements of a human rights-based coping strategy’.
- Francois Crepeau, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrant, Hans & Tamar Oppenheimer Professor in Public International Law Faculty of Law, McGill University, on ‘Migration detention policies as an obstacle to the realisation of migrants’ human rights’.
- Hugh Corder, Professor of Public Law, University of Cape Town, on ‘South Africa’s Constitutional Court: Battling populist political pressure’.
- Justice Kate O’Regan, former Justice of the South African Constitutional Court and Oxford visiting Professor, on ‘Modernity and tradition in the South African Constitution: free speech, gender and association’.
- OxHRH was delighted to collaborate with the Migration Law Discussion Group to present a series of excellent speakers focusing on the intersection between migration law and human rights law. Special thanks to Dr Cathryn Costello for facilitating this link.

Scan to access

How to download the OxHRH seminars on iTunesU

A summary of Professor Dembour’s talk ‘State Sovereignty v Migrants’ Rights’
Oxford graduate students were an integral part of the OxHRH Seminar series – benefiting from in-depth discussions with international human rights experts to complement their studies. BCL students (left to right) Julian Ensbey and Max Harris.

Engaged in discussion following an OxHRH seminar (left to right) Dr Jonny Steinberg, Dr Liora Lazarus, Professor Sandra Fredman, Ruvi Zeigler, Dr Dominic Roser.

The ‘Judicial Converstation’ with Justice Kate O’Regan and Justice Claire L’Heureux-Dube
Front (left to right): Timothy Endicott (Dean of the Oxford Faculty of Law), Justice Claire L’Heureux-Dube, Sandra Fredman (Director of OxHRH), Justice Kate O’Regan, Barbara Havelkova, Meghan Campbell.
Back: Justice Robert Sharpe (judge of the Ontario Court of Justice), Emma Hoiberg, Anup Surendranath, Laura Hilly, Chris McConnachie.

Professor Sandra Fredman and Justice Kevin Bell.
Elusive Equalities, 11-12 September 2012
OxHRH hosted its inaugural workshop, “Elusive Equalities”, from 11–12 September 2012 at Pembroke College. The workshop explored current challenges to achieving gender equality, including economic uncertainty, austerity, cultural and religious constraints, and the limitations of litigation. Participants considered how human rights frameworks can be used to address these challenges. Speakers included leading academics and practitioners from the UK, Brazil, Botswana, Canada, India, South Africa, and Sri Lanka.

Conferences
Oxford-Harvard Video Conference on Gender Equality, 2 May 2013
Oxford-Harvard Video Conference brought together leading academics from Oxford and Harvard to discuss issues of gender equality via video link. The Conference featured papers by Dr Nicholas Bamforth and Professor Sandra Fredman from Oxford, and Professor Vicki Jackson and Professor Julie Suk from Harvard. Papers were presented in a novel format, as respondents first gave their comments on the papers and the authors were then afforded an opportunity to reply. Questions were then taken from the audience.

Upcoming conferences for 2014
The OxHRH has two exciting international conferences planned for 2014. The first will be a workshop in Brazil in March 2014 titled Gender, Race and Poverty: Addressing Multiple Identities Through Law. This will be run in partnership with the University of Sao Paulo. The second is a conference in Rwanda in April 2014 titled Women and Poverty: A Human Rights Approach. This will be run in partnership with the National University of Rwanda and the University of Cape Town and will bring together scholars from all over East Africa. Please see the ‘Conferences’ section of the OxHRH website for more details.

(Left to right) Professor Sandra Fredman, Dr Cathryn Costello, Professor Nicola Lacey, Professor Denise Reaume connecting via video-link in the Oxford-Harvard video conference.
In recognition of this work, OPBP received the 2013 LawWorks & Attorney General Student Pro Bono Award for the ‘Best Contribution by a Team of Students’. This is the second time that OPBP has won this prestigious award, having been a previous recipient in 2007.

OPBP has continued to expand its output of research projects, growing from an average of four projects a year to nine projects in the 2011-2012 academic year. In the 2012-13 academic year, OPBP is on track to exceed this output with seven projects completed and four near to completion. This research has assisted with pro bono litigation on issues including access to information in Hungary, education rights in South Africa, and biometric identification in India. Our research has also contributed to the policy-making and law reform initiatives, including research on comparative sexual violence laws for law reform efforts in India, international refugee law for a Tanzanian NGO working with Burundian refugees, and comparative competition law for Transparency International’s competition law reform initiatives in Georgia.

This year, the OPBP Internship Fund has enabled seven graduate students to undertake public interest law internships in the United Kingdom, India and South Africa. Recipients are working on a wide range of issues, including the impact of payday lending practices on vulnerable people, women’s rights, judicial delays, and the rule of law.

Plans have been laid to grow and expand OPBP in the next academic year. We are in discussions with the University of Cape Town’s Democratic Governance and Rights Unit (DGRU) to launch a project to provide research support to under-resourced judges in Southern Africa.

In addition, we plan to grow the Internship Fund by awarding a larger number of better funded internship grants. This growth and development will be made possible by a generous grant from the Sigrid Raising Trust.

We look forward to another productive year working with the Oxford Human Rights Hub to further our mission of promoting the practice of public interest law on a pro bono basis.

For more information about OPBP please visit www.law.ox.ac.uk/opbp or email the OPBP Executive Committee at opbp@law.ox.ac.uk.

Oxford Legal Assistance

Oxford Legal Assistance (OLA) was established in 2009 and enables volunteers to engage with community justice work carried out in Oxford. OLA currently partners with Turpin & Miller, a local law firm, and the Citizen’s Advice Bureau. In the Turpin & Miller scheme, students assist new and existing clients through the initial stages of applying for legal aid in mainly immigration and asylum cases, principally by determining their background situation at interview and by processing important documentation. Additionally, volunteers support clients throughout the court process in largely child abuse cases whilst taking notes of the evidence, and also undertake project work with solicitors at the firm. In doing so, the students increase the impact of tight public funds.

In the CAB scheme, volunteers are trained as Social Policy Assistants - they take on a policy project in which they are interested. Social policy work involves looking at the effect of legislation or policy on the general public and trying to influence change.

In 2012 OLA established the annual OLA Immigration Law Mooting Competition.

In addition, 2012 saw the expansion of OLA activities to include the Oxford post-graduate community. Seven post graduate students volunteered to assist local law firm Turpin & Miller, on Exceptional Care Funding. This is a new procedure under the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishing Offenders Act. It allows for exceptional funding for legal services when it is necessary to prevent a breach of ECHR or enforceable EU rights.

To date students have taken down client statements and drafted personal statements describing the circumstances of the client leaving their country of origin, of entering the UK and the reasons she is unable to return. There is also an opportunity for students to conduct necessary background research for the application on immigration and citizenship.

Contact Us

oxfordhumanrightshub@law.ox.ac.uk
The year ahead sees us reaching out even more widely.

- We will be running the Gender, Race and Poverty: Addressing Multiple Identities Through Law workshop in Brazil in March 2014, in partnership with the University of Sao Paulo.
- Planning is underway for a conference in Rwanda in April 2014 titled Women and Poverty: A Human Rights Approach. This will be run in partnership with the National University of Rwanda and the University of Cape Town and will bring together scholars from all over East Africa.
- We are working closely with the Human Rights for Future Generations project, which is funded by the Oxford Martin School, on a fascinating seminar series.
- For our blog, we now have regional correspondents in various parts of the world, bringing us blogs from contributors in an even wider variety of countries.
- We will continue to be working closely with the Oxford Law Faculty pro bono programmes, Oxford Pro Bono Publico (OPBP) and Oxford Legal Assistance (OLA). Both are set to expand in the coming year. OPBP and the Hub will be working together with the Department of Democratic Governance at the University of Cape Town to provide research resources for the judiciary in South Africa. OLA is now assisting our partners Turpin and Miller to provide legal advice in areas badly hit by the cuts in legal aid. In addition to continuing our work with Oxford Citizen’s Advice Bureau, we are working on a new partnership with Bail for Immigration Detainees.