



GRIFFITH COLLEGE DUBLIN

LAW FACULTY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2009

Griffith Law Students Take Part in the World Universities Debating Championships

This year, Griffith College will take part in the World Universities Debating Championships. Worlds 2010 is one of the largest student events in the world and this year will take place in Antalya in Turkey. The event runs from December 27th 2009 until January 4th 2010. Over 1,000 people from different countries will be participating.

Each one of the 400 teams will debate nine times over three days on a wide range of issues including politics, law and economics. All of the world's major universities – including Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and Yale – will be represented as well as universities from developing nations. As a result, Worlds will provide the Griffith College team with a unique opportunity to experience a truly international atmosphere and differing perspectives on the globe's major issues.

This year, Worlds will accommodate participants in a five-star, all-inclusive resort. Meals and social events are provided as part of the registration fee, with a beach party organised for New Year's Eve. Worlds 2010 promises to be a once in a lifetime opportunity for the lucky team and for the College as a whole. For further details, go to www.kocworlds2010.com



Law Society Go on a Trip to the European Courts of Justice in Luxembourg

From 25th to 29th January 2010 Griffith College Law Society will go on a visit to the European Courts of Justice in Luxembourg. The trip is limited to 35 people as per court rules.

Furthermore, the Law Society are presently working on a number of guest lecture talks. Mr. James Hamilton, the Director of Public Prosecutions will launch the Law Society series with a talk on 21st October 2009 open to all Griffith College law students. David O'Hagan, the Chief State Solicitor, has also agreed to come and speak to Griffith College law students in March 2010. The details on the exact date and time are to follow.

News in Brief

- Griffith College Law School's first LLM in International Law / LLM in International Human Rights Law / LLM in International Commercial Law begin. All three programmes are validated by Nottingham Trent University and HETAC.
- Inter Griffith College Dublin and Griffith College Cork law debating is taking place in November 2009.
- Law Society Preparatory Course (FE1) registration is now open.
- Innocence Project starts in October 2009. Case workers are being presently selected.

Griffith College Holds E-Stamping Talk

As part of the Griffith College Law School guest lecture series, Mick O'Hanlon from the Revenue Commissioners will give a talk and a demonstration of the new e-stamping system being rolled out in November 2009. E-stamping is one of the most significant changes to the stamp duty taxation system since its inception many decades ago.

In association with IILEX, The Irish Institute of Legal Executives Griffith College Law School is the only Law School to be chosen to have a presentation made to the students on this new strategic IT development that will change the way duty is paid and processed for ever more.

The demonstration and presentation will be held on campus here in GCD on Tuesday 20th October at 6.30pm. It will last for one hour and be followed by a Q&A session afterwards.

It will be complementary to Griffith College students and their work colleagues. Griffith College Law School is currently looking at the possibility of a workshop in Munster as well.

It will be most beneficial to those who work or hope to begin work in a Solicitors office and to those who want an insight into how e-stamping will work.

By way of background to e-stamping, The Finance Act 2008 contained provisions to allow for the introduction of electronic stamping of instruments by ministerial order.

The e-stamping system will be introduced in November 2009 and tax payers and legal representatives will be able to file, pay and receive an instant stamp without Revenue requiring sight of the deed.

A detailed handbook on the new e-stamping arrangements can be seen by clicking on this link

<http://www.revenue.ie/en/tax/stamp-duty/e-stamping/new-stamping-arrangements.pdf>

Introducing the Public Interest Law Alliance, a project of FLAC

FLAC (Free Legal Advice Centres) has recently established the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA). The aim of the PILA project is to foster and promote a culture and practice of using law as a tool to benefit marginalised and disadvantaged people.

PILA involves a vibrant community of individuals and organisations committed to using the law in various ways in the public interest. It aims to facilitate exchange of information amongst many organisations and individuals active in this field in Ireland to consolidate and enhance current public interest law work. PILA also seeks to expand the volume and range of ways in which law is used to address marginalisation and social exclusion. The project operates under four main strands:

- Legal education of future/current lawyers;
- Community legal education;
- Strategic public interest litigation;
- Law Reform in the public interest.

PILA issues a bi-monthly bulletin on national, European and international public interest law issues currently received by over 500 legal practitioners, NGOs, academics and students. If you would like to receive this bulletin, please contact us at bulletin@pila.ie.

To find out more about PILA go to www.pila.ie.