



## Moot Court

Our Moot Court in Luton Campus routinely hosts lectures and workshops, with participants benefiting from:

- video projection and sound facilities fed from the installed computer and DVD player or from participants' laptops and displayed on a 90" electronic screen
- video-conferencing equipment, allowing any event to be transmitted and viewed in any similarly-equipped room
- voice enhancement for speakers from invisible ceiling speakers
- interactive whiteboard for smaller presentations

Recently the Family Justice Conference, organised by the Judiciary at Luton County Court, was held in the Moot Court. Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker, Head of the School of Law, said: *"This is the second consecutive year we have hosted this important event and we were once again delighted to welcome members of the local legal profession to the University."*

The room is, undoubtedly, at its most impressive when used as a Moot Court. A moot is a legal debate involving the formal presentation by two teams of students of opposing arguments on a particular point of law in front of a judge.

For these purposes the room is equipped in a similar manner to a real-life court – with a podium and seating for up to three judges, lecterns, and seating for opposing counsel.



## Students rest their case in mooting competition

Gowns and gavels were out for the University of Bedfordshire's annual Knowles Benning Mooting Competition.

After tough qualifying rounds, the final was won by Kamran Malik and Zahra Fatima, both in their second year at the University. Sarah Rose and Jeanette Newton were runners-up in the contest which was judged by His Honour Judge Sir Gavyn Arthur, the Presiding Circuit Judge for Bedfordshire.



Held in the University's own Moot Court, with a mixed audience of staff and students, the teams argued a fictitious legal appeal case.

The students were coached by Sandra Warfield, Senior Lecturer in Law, and the Knowles Benning Prize for the best overall mooter was awarded to Kamran Malik.

Head of the School of Law, Professor Janine Griffiths-Baker, said: *"The standard this year was exceptional and all the students involved have gained valuable experience in legal analysis and interpretation."*

Kamran and Zahra recently represented the University's School of Law in a national mooting competition. The rounds against the University of Hertfordshire and University of Warwick brought victory to our aspiring lawyers, and they are currently preparing to take on their next opponents.

## Why study law at the University of Bedfordshire?

**Interview with Kamran Malik, Preseident of the Student Law Society, LLB Law Hons, Year 2**

### What was it that attracted you to the course?

I have always liked to keep myself in touch with new legislation which affects me personally and professionally. I enjoy helping colleagues with employment issues, and friends and family in dealing with their legal affairs. So I decided it was time to get a legal qualification and pursue a professional career in law.

### Do you think this course is going to enhance your job prospects?

Definitely. An LLB will open many doors of opportunity and with excellent grades, good work placements and plenty of extra curricular activities hopefully I will get a training contract with a leading law firm in the City.

### What's most interesting thing about the course?

All of it – it's so varied. One day you'll be reading plenty of weird and wonderful case law and some really great articles. The next, seeing law in action within the courts and understanding how much clients really need excellent lawyers. Finally, standing up and pretending to be a barrister in a debate or mooting competition is a fantastic experience.

### What would you advise prospective students?

if you really want to make it as a solicitor or a barrister, regardless of your A level grades, you need to get a 2:1 overall in your first year, get legal work experience in your summer break and participate in as many extracurricular activities as you possibly can.

### Sum up your experience at UoB...

Friendly, fun and challenging... but highly rewarding.

## Law Ball

This year's annual Law Society Ball, named the Millionaires Diversity Ball, was definitely a blast! Gentlemen put on their best suits, ladies dressed up from head to toe, and everybody headed to the Auction House to relax after the first term of intensive studies. As well as students and staff, many local lawyers also attended the chic event.



Champagne on arrival and live jazz music made it a great reception. After the delicious meal, some went to shake it out on the dance floor, whilst others were drawn in the casino with poker, roulette and blackjack tables for entertainment.

## Students share their views with Parliament

Students from the University Law Society had a chance to visit the House of Commons in London. They learned about the history, traditions and functions of the institution. After viewing the facilities, students were invited to talk to a few MPs and discuss pressing legal issues in what turned out to be a hot debate!



## Graduate profile

### Andreas Costa Yiannaros

#### How does this course prepare you for your future aspirations?

The course prepared me for continuing my studies in Public International Law. The next step was to obtain my LLM from King's College London. I am now writing my PhD in Public International Law and I currently teach at the University of Bedfordshire as a visiting lecturer.

#### What has been the most challenging task you've accomplished in your degree?

Undoubtedly the completion of my dissertation was the most challenging part of my course. It was a demanding task which involved months of legal analysis of case law and international instruments, in order to understand whether political considerations may indirectly affect the recognition of newly-created states under international law. My research involved a number of case studies such as Northern Cyprus, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and Kosovo.

#### Apart from studying, what else about university do you enjoy?

I enjoy meeting my colleagues, going out with friends and travelling. The university has a lot to offer in terms of socialising. The Students Union will ensure that you have a memorable stay on campus.

#### Any advice for people thinking of studying at the University of Bedfordshire?

If you enjoy being part of a diverse community of people from all backgrounds and you expect a student-focused approach by your University, then this is the right place for you to start. Your hard efforts will be rewarded.

#### What skills do you think you have learnt as a result of your studies at the University?

As a result of my studies at the university, I have developed essential legal skills, worked effectively in multi-national groups conducting research and presenting my findings to my colleagues. Moreover, as every other student, I have developed significant communication skills, working with colleagues and members of the Law Society of the University of Bedfordshire, while holding the position of the Secretary in 2008-9.

#### Why would you recommend the University of Bedfordshire to others?

I would recommend the University of Bedfordshire because it is a highly progressive institution with an excellent potential in higher education. The warm and friendly atmosphere of the departments, and the sense of providing equal opportunities for everyone, make the University of Bedfordshire a unique place to study and a place to achieve your goals with the support of a highly experienced team of experts.



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