Happy new (academic) year to all readers and visitors at IALS Library.

The Library team is looking forward to supporting you in your studies, research and teaching in the coming twelve months. Don’t hesitate to get in touch if we can be of assistance or if you have any questions about our resources, services or collections. I would like to remind anyone reading this Newsletter outside of London that access to the IALS Library is free for all postgraduate research students and academics from anywhere in the world. We look forward to welcoming you here in Russell Square.

Lisa Davies, Access Librarian

Hands-on training this autumn

This autumn we are running a range of hands-on training sessions to help you get started with your legal research. PhD/MPhil researchers, academics and students with a valid IALS Library card or SAS-card are all welcome to attend. Booking is essential as there are only 18 spaces available per session. All training will take place on the 4th Floor of IALS Library, at 17 Russell Square. Contact us to book your place by emailing ials@sas.ac.uk.

Introduction to Lexis Library and Westlaw. These databases are essential for legal research. At this session you will learn how to find UK legislation and cases, legal journal articles and sources of foreign & international law. Spaces are still available for the sessions that will take place between 10:15 and 12:00 on 7, 8, 9, 10, 14 November.

Introduction to EU law databases. At this session you will learn how to find EU
guides to finding legislation and cases, as well as guides that summarize the key law resources for foreign jurisdictions and for international law. To view these help guides please visit http://libguides.ials.sas.ac.uk.

Survey of academic law libraries in the UK and Ireland

The report on the latest annual survey of academic law libraries in the UK and Ireland (http://sas-space.sas.ac.uk/6439/#undefined) is now published online. Conducted for the Society of Legal Scholars (SLS) and the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL), the report provides a snapshot of the collections and services offered by 93 universities and colleges in the 2014/2015 academic year. It is the only survey of its kind and the report is written by IALS Deputy Librarian, David Gee.

OSCOLA Support

The Oxford University Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) is a citation system used by many law schools across the country. If you are not familiar with this standard don’t worry; the Library will support you in a number of ways. First, take a look at our online OSCOLA guide which summarizes the basics of effective citation using OSCOLA: http://libguides.ials.sas.ac.uk/oscola. Second, come to one of our introductory lectures where we will introduce you to the fundamental rules of OSCOLA and you will have the chance to ask questions. The lectures will take place in the IALS Council Chamber on the ground floor of the IALS building at the following times:

- 7 December 2016 (14.30-15.30)
- 13 December 2016 (14.30-15.30)

There is no need to book a place, just turn up. All are welcome. Finally, don’t forget that you can ask us questions about OSCOLA at the Issue & Enquiry Desk, by emailing ials@sas.ac.uk or calling 0207 862 5790.

Online Help Guides

The Library has written a range of free online help guides to assist you with using the Library, and with different aspects of legal research. You will find legislation & cases using EUR-Lex, CURIA and Westlaw, find details of the national implementation of Directives, and find journal articles on matters of EU law. The sessions will take place between 18:00 and 19:45 on 28 November and between 10:15 and 12:00 on 30 November.

Sources of public international law. In this session you will learn how to find treaties from authoritative sources, use a treaty index to find a citation, find international law decisions and domestic cases on points of international law. The sessions will take place between 18:00 and 19.45 on 21 November and between 10:15 and 12:00 on 23 November.

Changes to Research Support Services

The following changes have been made that we hope will improve the services we offer researchers:

- We have increased the number of books that can be borrowed by readers.
- We have increased our regular opening hours on Sundays. Our new Sunday opening hours are: 12.30pm to 8.30pm. Please note however that there is no Enquiry Desk service or access to short loan materials or depository items on Sundays.
- We have installed new space-efficient desks and adjustable chairs on one of our library floors and thereby increased the total number of seats available to readers.

Online access to Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly

Here are just a small selection of our new books here in IALS Library. To see the full list, see our IALS Library New Additions page at: http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/ials-collections/new-additions-library/acquisitions.

John Bell and Marie-Luce Paris

This collection provides an overview of developments in the role of constitutional courts in a broad set of jurisdictions. Constitutional review has become an essential feature of modern liberal democratic constitutionalism. In particular, constitutional review in the context of rights litigation has proved to be most challenging for the courts. By offering in-depth analyses on changes affecting constitutional design and constitutional adjudication, while also engaging with general theories of comparative constitutionalism, this book seeks to provide a heightened understanding of the constitutional and political responses to the issue of adaptability and endurance of rights-based constitutional review.

These original contributions, written by an array of experts and illustrated by up-to-date case law, cover Australia, Belgium, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, and includes constitutional systems that are not commonly studied in comparative constitutional studies. Providing structured analyses, the editors combine studies of common law and civil law jurisdictions, centralised and decentralised systems of constitutional review, and large and small jurisdictions.

*The Theory of Self-determination* (CUP 2016)
Fernando R Teson (ed)

When can a group legitimately form its own state? Under international law, some groups can but others cannot. But the standard is unclear, and traditional legal analysis has failed to elucidate it.

In the Theory of Self-Determination, leading scholars chart new territory in a theoretical conception of self-determination. Drawing from diverse scholarship in international law, philosophy, and political science, they attempt to move beyond the prevailing nationalist conceptions of group definition. At issue are such universal questions as, when does a group qualify as a ‘people’? Does history matter? Or is it a question of ethnic status? Are these matters properly solved by popular vote? This book is anchored in modern analytical political philosophy, with implications for a wide range of scholarship covering international law, global justice, and international relations.

**US Supreme Court Opinions and their Audiences**
Ryan C Black, Ryan J Owens, Justin Wedeking and Patrick C Wohlfarth

This book is the first study specifically to investigate the extent to which US Supreme Court justices alter the clarity of their opinions based on expected reactions from their audiences. The authors examine this dynamic by creating a unique measure of clarity of opinion and then testing whether the Court writes clearer opinions when it faces ideologically hostile and ideologically scattered lower federal courts; when it decides cases involving poorly performing federal agencies; when it decides cases involving states with less professionalised legislatures and governors; and when it rules against public opinion.

The data shows that the Court writes clearer opinion in every one of these contexts, and demonstrates that actors are more likely to comply with clearer Court opinions.

**European Contract Law and German Law** (Kluwer Law International 2014)
Stefan Leible and Matthias Lehmann (eds)

The newest volume in Kluwer's series of comparative analyses of Member State law and the Principles of European Contract Law (PECL), this book provides a comparison of the PECL with German law taking into account the Draft Common Frame of Reference (DCFR). The latter incorporates the PECL and adds special rules that respond to current needs, notably in the area of consumer protection. Using a straightforward comparative method, the analysis reveals a significant area of convergence but also highlights the main differences between the PECL, the DCFR and German contract law. The reasons for these differences, both legal and non-legal (historical, social, economic), are clearly set forth.
available for all students, postgraduate researchers and academics who are registered with us. Simply follow the link from the Electronic Law Library (or Catalogue record) and enter your name and barcode number when prompted.

How to Get a PhD in Law

IALS offers a popular programme of National Training Days to assist MPhil and PhD students in law registered at universities across the UK. This programme provides the chance for informative discussion, legal research guidance and opportunities for networking. MPhil and PhD law students from are warmly invited to attend these specially tailored days of presentations and networking opportunities. The 2016/2017 programme is as follows:

- How to get a PhD in Law: What legal research skills will I need? Literature reviews, qualitative and quantitative research and comparative law. 3rd December 2016.
- How to get a PhD in law: Meeting the key challenges. 17th March 2017.
- How to get a PhD in Law: Legal writing and preparing yourself for the vivas. Getting yourself known: presenting skills, publishing your work, and networking. 6th May 2017.

To find out more please visit http://ials.sas.ac.uk/study/research-training/how-get-phd-law-national-research-training-days-ials.

In addition to the training days, IALS will be running the annual two week course “Introduction to MPhil/PhD Legal Research Methods” from 9 January to 20 January 2017 – cost: £485.00 – contact: Belinda.Crothers@sas.ac.uk.

Spotlight on…

…Oxford Scholarship Online

Oxford Scholarship Online (OSO) is a database that offers abstracts and the full text of more than 4000 books from Oxford University Press. IALS Library’s subscription includes the full text of all of the books in the law subject collection, plus the abstracts and tables of contents of OSO books in other disciplines. Over 1100 full text books are available in the law subject collection, representing a diverse range of legal topics including human rights, digital copyright, French constitutional law, the law of international organisations and minority rights, to name but a few.

All titles in the law subject collection are listed on the IALS Library Catalogue. This means that when you are searching the Catalogue for books in the normal way – whether by title, subject or keyword – you will find e-books from OSO alongside printed books that are available in the Library. A link to OSO is provided from the Catalogue record for each e-book to make it easy for you to access the titles you need.

If you want to see a handy list of all of the OSO titles on the Catalogue, please see http://catalogue.libraries.london.ac.uk/search~S6/ftlist%5Ebib101,1,0,7/mode=0.

A further option is to access the OSO database through the Electronic Law Library at: http://ials.sas.ac.uk/library/legal-databases-and-digital-resources/electronic-law-library.

Once you have accessed the database you can then browse or search across the content of the law subject collection.

Anyone with a current IALS Library Card or SAS-card can access OSO in the Library and remote access is available for all students, postgraduate researchers and academics who are registered with us. Simply follow the link from the Electronic Law Library (or Catalogue record) and enter your name and barcode number when prompted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


OSO database showing where to find the search and browse options.
People News

We are pleased to welcome to the Library three new members of staff, Liz Murray, Lauren Cummings and Christopher Dyer.

Liz Murray, the new Information Resources Manager, has a wealth of experience in academic, legal and government libraries, most recently at King’s College London, looking after the law collection, and City University.

Liz also managed the law library at the Department for Work and Pensions/Department of Health for ten years, providing legal research services and developing the law collection, both electronic and print, improving and developing the services and collections for the lawyers there. Liz, along with her team, is responsible for managing the library collections, both electronic and print, developing them in a consistent and strategic way, which includes selection, discoverability and conservation. Liz is looking forward to working with colleagues, staff and students at IALS to ensure the library collection continues to develop in the best way possible for all.

Lauren Cummings and Christopher Dyer are the Library’s new Graduate Trainees.

Lauren graduated from the University of Glasgow this summer with a degree in German and History, and

Christopher is a keen academic with a degree in Zoology and experience in libraries, museums and working in cataloguing. He hopes to move on to a degree in librarianship or information management, with the aim of working in libraries, museums or archives, managing and preserving collections.

News produced in PDF format by Lindsey Caffin, Senior Library Assistant—Computing Services (Information Systems)

News compiled and distributed to UK law schools and libraries by:

Lisa Davies
Access Librarian
Institute of Advanced Legal Studies
University of London
17 Russell Square
London
WC1B 5DR

E-mail: Lisa.Davies@sas.ac.uk
Telephone: 020 7862 5790