



UCL LAW SOCIETY

FRESHERS' BOOKLET

2012/13

IN ASSOCIATION WITH DLA PIPER



UCL MAP



CONTENTS

2 A brief note from the President of the UCL Law Society

4 Introduction for international students from the Overseas Representative

5 Welcome and introduction from the Social Secretary

6-12 The Events

13 Tiffany's final thought

15-16 Law Society Committee 2012/13

17 About DLA Piper

A BRIEF NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UCL LAW SOCIETY

Dear newly appointed Benthamites!

Congratulations. 15 years of blood, sweat and tears have finally paid off. It is an honour to welcome you to one of the world's premier Law Faculties. Now, take a breather, put the last year behind you, and relax. It is time that the fun finally begins.

Over the summer, we, your dedicated Law Society Committee, have been working like dogs to give you the best introduction to university you can possibly hope for. Tiffany, our heroic Social Sec, has got two weeks planned that will introduce you to your future best friends, business partners, or even spouses, before you have to read a single word.

When that is done, we will meet your every need throughout the year. From careers events to competitions, sports teams to socials, and pretty much everything in between, you will not be short of any extra curricular activities to put on your CV. You could be meeting a Supreme Court Justice within your first month of being here, exercising your sense of social responsibility on one of our Pro Bono programmes, or have two mini pupilages in the bag before

Christmas. Whatever your interests, we can cater for it here.

Coming up to Uni can be a scary time – new city, new people, new subject, and I have no doubt that a lot of you reading this now will be more than a little nervous about September.

Firstly, don't worry. We will take care of you here. Every person in the Law Society has been through exactly what you are going through now, and we also remember how great it was to have such an awesome group of older years who guided us through life in Bentham House. Whether they were directing us to the socials, or staying up to help us finish an essay, the second and third years cared about us, so we will care about you. Hannah, our scarily organised Secretary, is even now matching you up in groups of two or three with veteran Benthamites, who have volunteered to mentor you throughout your first year here.

Secondly, there are so many of you coming up, and you are all so different, that I will promise you now someone, somewhere will share your interests. We have over 40 countries represented, and were the first Uni to take students

exclusively on merit. This still has a lasting impact today, as it means that there is no typical UCL Laws student. From the quietest bibliophile to the people who spend more time in clubs than lectures, you will fit in here.

Finally, the one overarching lesson that I have learned from these past three years is get involved! There is so much to do here, and it will affect so much in ways that you cannot understand yet, that the only way to get through it is to do what you enjoy. If you have always harboured a secret desire to do ballet, or become the worlds premier cheese expert, give it a go. If it works out, perfect. If it doesn't, who cares! Whether you are a runner, actor, or deep sea diver, University is best time of your life, and one of the best things about it is that it's all down to you.

Trust me Freshers, this is just the beginning.

I look forward to meeting you all in September

Nick Grant
President
UCL Law Society

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION FROM DLA PIPER

Dear Freshers

Welcome to UCL!

You may not be thinking, as you arrive for Freshers' week bright eyed and bushy tailed, about the fact that what you do over the next three years may have a real affect on your career. In fact, you've probably not even thought about careers. However, if you use your time at university (relatively) wisely you can help make your life easier once you graduate.

We understand that during your first year your academic studies are unlikely to be your top priority! For many of you it'll be your first time living away from home and although exciting, it can also be relatively daunting. This can affect your work as you may not feel totally settled for a while.

You'll find that the style of teaching is very different to that at school or college and you are likely to be left to work independently and with a lot less guidance than you're used to. You'll also be told that your first year grades don't count towards your degree.

All of these factors mean that first year exams are often not taken particularly seriously and you aren't overly concerned about their result as they don't carry any final weight in your degree mark.

However, the bad news is that when it comes to applying for summer schemes at law firms during your second year, your first year grades will be the only marks recruiters have to gauge what degree grade you're likely to achieve. It's no good having marks of 43, 48, 52 & 51 and saying you're on course for a 2.1 as the evidence says otherwise.

It's worth getting involved in different societies and clubs as this will help you to meet a range of different people and get the most out of life at university – it's honestly not all about Pot Noodles and Deal or no Deal! Keeping yourself busy will help to develop your time management skills, something that law firm recruiters view as very important. At UCL you're really lucky because you have a very well organised and pro-active law society who are likely to arrange a variety of events.

You'll find, as a first year student, that many formal work experience schemes will be closed to you, however there are other ways you can gain insights into the legal profession. Firstly, the law fair. Although this may seem a little overwhelming use it as a way to collect brochures (and some useful freebies!) which will help you understand the different types of firms that are out there.

Secondly, many firms will run open days in their offices. These can be an excellent way to find out more about individual firms as you'll get to speak to their employees and get a feel for their working environment. Keep an eye on the websites of the firms you're interested in and also on your law society notice boards. Some firms, including DLA Piper, recognise the difficulty facing first years in trying to get experience and will run events specifically for you. DLA Piper will be hosting a first year event in June and further details of it are the back of this booklet.

Finally, work experience. During the summer you could try and gain work experience at a smaller high street firm. This will help you to understand basic legal procedures, learn client interview technique etc.

Good luck with your first year. Enjoy it and make the most of your time at university as it will fly by, but the friendships and associations you will form will be very important for the future and provide a framework for whatever career route you decide to go down.

I wish you all the very best.

Sally Carthy

Head of Graduate Recruitment
DLA Piper UK LLP

INTRODUCTION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Dear International Freshers,

Congratulations on making it into UCL Laws! You're about to embark on a pretty amazing few years so I hope you're all excited! You've chosen to shift sticks to the bright lights of the cosmopolitan, bustling and vibrant city that is London; and a good choice it is indeed! All the dreaming is soon to become a reality and London awaits you.

The build-up to September and the start of term in a new University, city, and country can seem daunting. This is where the Law Committee comes in. We are here to ease your transition to London and to UCL. In particular, as Overseas Representative I am here to help you in any way that I can to ensure you get the most out of this fantastic opportunity of living and studying in London at UCL. I will be there every step of the way to answer any queries or worries you may have throughout the year and am only ever a quick email away.

The beauty of UCL is that the main campus is situated literally in the heart of London – one of the most diverse and multi-cultural cities in the world. You will never need to go too far to get a taste of home. In fact, the Law Faculty represents alone over 40 different nationalities which makes for a great diverse mix of people from all different walks of life. You are bound to feel at home here in London.

As you will have gathered from this booklet, we have a jam packed first two weeks planned for you. One of the highlights is undoubtedly the trip to France, for which you will need a Visa – what are you waiting for? Get on it Fresher!

If you feel like being adventurous and branching out from the “Law-hub”, the Fresher’s Fayre which takes place in the main UCL building isn’t to be missed. The UCL Union has over 180 different clubs and societies which are so culturally and ethnically diverse that communities from all over the world are represented. You are bound to find something that you’ll want to be a part of.

On that note, I look forward to meeting you all on the 20th September, where we are holding an informal meet and tour of Bentham House, followed by a few drinks in order to start to get to know one another. If you have any problems or questions before them, however trivial you feel they may be, I am only an email away!

Until then, enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to meeting you all in September!

Jess Horner
Overseas Officer
UCL Law Society

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION FROM THE SOCIAL SECRETARY

My Dearest Fresher,

Let me start by saying, congratulations. To gain a place at UCL Law is no easy feat; so take a moment to reflect on all your hard work....

Ok that's enough of that now. Today I extend to you a massive welcome into UCL Laws, one of the most prestigious Faculties in the world. The Law Society is a close knit community, and the friends you make here will stay with you for a lifetime.

You belong here. Every Fresher will have that moment of doubt where they will say to themselves 'what am I doing here' but let me put your worries at ease. Before you have even started you have 15 charming members on the Law Society Committee as your friends, all who will be happy to answer any questions or worries you may have. You are not alone!

As the amazing members of the Law Society Committee, we have worked relentlessly over the summer to devise for you, what can only be described as the greatest Freshers' Fortnight ever, compiled into one neat little package – you are welcome.

But we did not do this for the glory, nor even for the chance to relive our fresher's experience (OK maybe a little). The fortnight will be your introduction into a whole new glorious chapter of your life. From day one you will be meeting new people from all corners of the globe. Don't be shy, we have all been there before! Everyone will be in the same boat, and it only takes one brave fresher to break the ice.

The Freshers' package will go on sale from 01 September, and can be found on our website at www.ucllawsociety.co.uk, or on our facebook group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ucllawfreshers2012/>. The pack is not designed to give you liver damage, but to throw you together with the people who will become your best friends. It includes something for everyone; whether you can chug five beers, or just want to explore London, we will look after you. I promise you now, it will be one of the most memorable periods of your life.

For the first time this year, we have introduced a most exclusive award. One that will take even more hard work and commitment than gained you a place at UCL Laws: those of you who think you are man enough, watch this space.

By purchasing the package you are both guaranteeing yourself the best two weeks of your life, as well as membership of the UCL Law Society for the duration of your studies, and believe me, Freshers' is just the tip of the iceberg. Did I mention you also get an awesome Tshirt? That's right, so don't delay.

Finally, all that is left to say is good luck! Both Bentham House and I await your arrival.

All my love

Tiffany Georgallides
Social Secretary
UCL Law Society

THE EVENTS – LET THE MAYHEM BEGIN!

23RD SEPTEMBER

– WELCOME TALK & THE ROCKET

♪ Now Playing: 'I'm into Something Good'

– Herman's Hermits

Welcome one and all! This talk is where we, the committee, introduce ourselves to you and give you a rundown of the next two weeks. Furthermore our esteemed President will be offering you valuable words of encouragement and wisdom. This is also where you will pick up a pack from the faculty and [if you have purchased a Freshers' Fortnight package] your t-shirt and wristband.

Afterwards we will head over to a UCL hotspot, The Rocket, for a few casual drinks where you can start to mingle with your fellow freshers.

Venue: Bentham House

Time: 16:30



24TH SEPTEMBER

– TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD PUB CRAWL

♪ Now Playing: 'Teenagers' – My Chemical Romance

Here we go! Kit up in your fresher's t-shirt and meet outside Bentham House for your exclusive tour of the TCR's finest pubs. We will begin by teaching you "Burlington Bertie" before proceeding to another Benthamite favourite - The Court. From then on we will do as students do, and swarm the street swapping introductions and names along the way. Don't like to drink? Have no fear, with over 150 students and the bright lights of the city, there is more to the TCR bar crawl than the public houses.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 18:00



25TH SEPTEMBER – CLUB NIGHT

♪ Now Playing: '**Bust a Move**' – Young MC

Now to inject an element of mystery... We will be taking you to one of London's best Student Night Clubs. Which one will it be? Well, unfortunately I have to go and visit them in my search for the perfect night out *deep sigh* Oh how hard this job can be.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 20:30

26TH SEPTEMBER – ‘MEET THE PARENTS’ & BLOOMSBURY BOWL

♪ Now Playing: '**U Can't Touch This**' – MC Hammer

Each student will be allocated two second or third year students to act as 'law parents' and will help your transition into higher education. Use them as a support system, we have been in your shoes before and are happy to help. Later that evening we have hired out a bowling suite where you will have an opportunity to meet more of the senior years. Show off your skills or have a dance and a chat by the bar – this event is always one of the highlights of the fortnight.

Venue for meeting the parents: Bentham House

Time: 15:30

Meet point for Bloomsbury Bowl: Bentham House

Time: 19:15



27TH SEPTEMBER – PROUD, CAMDEN

♪ Now Playing: ‘Louder’ – DJ Fresh ft Sian Evans

My personal favourite, Proud has a little something for everyone. Set in the old stables market in Camden Town, it is an experience every London fresher should indulge in. With performance artists and a live band, Proud turns from a great chill out venue to a raving club. We will have our own stable, complete with a platform and a pole, so we look forward to the brave freshers (and Committee members) who fancy a go at it!

Meet point: Outside Camden Town Tube Station

Time: 20:00



28TH SEPTEMBER – 99 COMEDY CLUB

♪ Now Playing: ‘White & Nerdy’ – Weird Al Yankovic

As laughter really is the best medicine, we will be taking you to a comedy club where those who brave the front row will fall peril to the stand-up comedian. This is a fun, relaxing night out, though we will be sending you home early to bed, you’ll need your energy for what is coming next.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 19:00





29TH SEPTEMBER – FRANCE TRIP

♪ Now Playing: '**Ca Plane Pour Moi**' – Plastic Bertrand

This is a trip of a lifetime. No trip before nor after can ever compare to what will happen on this day. Legends will be made, and stories will be told and retold for years to come. With an early start, you will be herded onto three coaches as we make our way to Dover to catch a ferry. From then on, I am not a liberty to disclose any further information. What I can say is, pack a school uniform and your passport – and don't be late!

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 05:30

30TH SEPTEMBER – LONDON BUS TOUR

♪ Now Playing: '**London's Calling**' – The Clash

At this point it is quite possible that you would have seen more of France than London, so we will be hiring out a Tour Bus to show you the main sites. A few committee members will be providing you with a unique guide to the city that shall soon be your home away from home.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 13:00



1ST OCTOBER – INTRODUCTION TO CAREERS & MOONIES

♪ Now Playing: 'Day'N'Night' (Crookers Remix) – Kid Cudi

Don't panic!! This is only an introduction to the career events that will take place every Monday night. This will be orchestrated by our shrewd careers secretary, Emma Gough, who will be creating countless opportunities for you to liaise with some of the top international law firms. After what promises to be an inspiring talk, we will head to a popular club, where every Monday the student body flocks to release the stress of being an awesome UCL student.

Venue for Talk: Bentham House

Time: 18:00

Meet point for Moonies: Bentham House

Time: 21:00



2ND OCTOBER – COMPETITION OFFICERS TALK & BAR 55

♪ Now Playing: 'Working 9 to 5' – Dolly Parton

Wondering what mooting, debating and negotiations entails? Then come along to this talk where the Competition Officers will be giving a talk and demonstration. This is another great opportunity to get involved in the faculty and looks great on your CV. After the talk (which will most likely put you in a disputatious mood) we will go to Bar 55, a fun cocktail bar in Camden Town that offers an extensive list of both alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails. Best of all, their two-for-one happy hour is a welcomed bonus for any student.

Venue for Talk: Bentham House

Time: 18:00

Meeting point: Outside Camden Town Tube Station

Time: 19:00



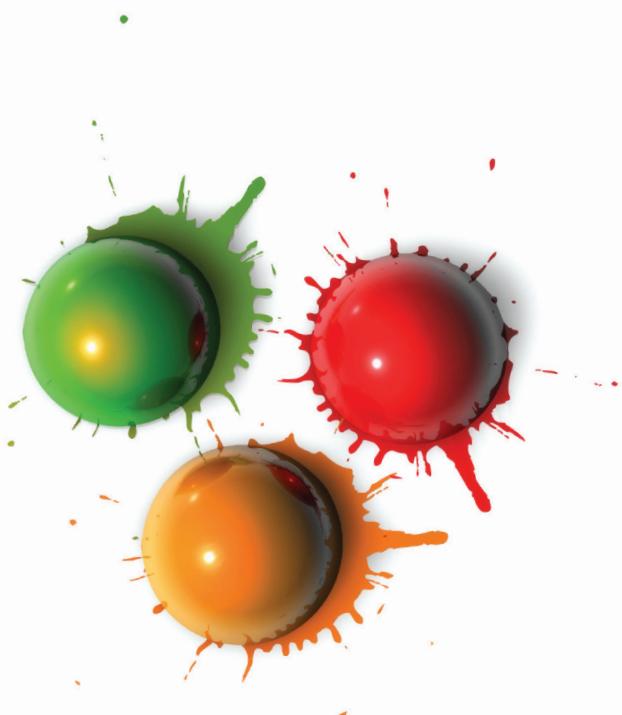
3RD OCTOBER – PAINTBALLING AT MAYHEM

♪ Now Playing: '**Warrior's Dance**' – Prodigy

This is survival of the fittest. Will you be a cadet, a commanding officer or lone gunman? This is war, and we take no prisoners. Whatever tactic you choose, this is a great day out for boys and girls alike! A little tip, find the people who have done national service – they tend to be quite good at this.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 14:30



4TH OCTOBER – SALVADOR AND AMANDA

♪ Now Playing: '**Volare**' – Gipsy Kings

Tucked away in Leicester Square is an amazing tapas bar that welcomes us with open arms, and litres of sangria. With great music and a dance floor, this is a relaxing opportunity to meet some more of the senior years, as well as enjoy the Hispanic atmosphere with friends.

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 18:30

5TH OCTOBER – THE BLACK-TIE BOAT PARTY

♪ Now Playing: 'I'm on a Boat' – The Lonely Island

As one of our more formal events, this is your opportunity to suit up for the society and enjoy a ride down the River Thames, with a spectacular view of London at night. Complete with a bar, DJ and dance floor, what more could you possibly need? Good company? Oh that will be there too, as once again the senior years will be there, looking their finest. This is another unforgettable event, so don't forget to bring your finest black tie attire.

Meet point: Embankment Pier [outside Embankment Station]

Time: 19:30



6TH OCTOBER – THE HOXTON PONY

♪ Now Playing: 'Bohemian Rhapsody' - Queen

To continue your education of London, we will head down to the Hotxon Pony, a great cocktail bar in Shoreditch. Nearby is the famous Brick Lane, so why not gather up some of your new law pals and book yourself into a 'bring your own alcohol' curry house? Remember, if the spice gets too much, its milk you'll want, not water!

Meet point: Bentham House

Time: 19:30

7TH OCTOBER – THE END OF THE WORLD IN REGENTS PARK

♪ Now Playing: 'Goodbye My Lover' – James Blunt

And now, alas, Freshers is drawing to a close. We have laughed and cried together, created memories that will last a lifetime. This final event is for those who need to console each other during this hard time, and to play ZOMBIE TAG. Yes – that's right, Zombie Tag. We will be in Regents Park with some sports equipment and speakers laughing about the good ol' times, so come and join us for a relaxing end to what would have been a fantastic fortnight. Wondering what Zombie Tag is? You'll just have to come along to find out [zombie attire recommended].

Meet Point: Bentham House

Time: 14:00

TIFFANY'S FINAL THOUGHTS

So there you have it, two weeks that are certain to have an impact on you and prepare you for the journey ahead. It's OK to still feel nervous – we all did! But take solace from the fact that every other person will be in the same position as you. The start of this new adventure will put most, if not all, out of their comfort zones. Just be yourself and don't be afraid to throw yourself into the deep end. After all, these are the moments that will shape the person you will be tomorrow. Seize this opportunity to grow, to explore and to discover things you may never have even considered.

Take this opportunity to show people who you really want to be – At UCL Laws we are more than a society, we are a community of individuals, each one as indispensable as the next.

University really is one of the most enriching times of your life, but the experiences too are unique and fleeting. Before you even know it, time will fly by and you will be in the real world working the 9- 5 – live in the moment and enjoy it for all its worth!

Don't fret if you fall behind on work within the first few weeks – your tutors will understand that you are busy settling in. It is not a sign that law is not for you, it happens to all of us! You have been selected from a large pool of capable candidates, and were found to be outstanding. This place is your place, and don't you forget that for a minute!

Remember, as with any community, each one helps the other. If you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to

contact me or any member of the Law Society Committee. More often than not we have asked the same questions, and there is no such thing as a stupid question!

And so, I leave you with one last piece of advice: Get involved, even if it scares you, after all – what is the worst thing that could happen?

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you!

Sincerely,

Tiffany

PEARLS OF WISDOM

PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE AGES

- Find out your UCL e-mail address as soon as possible and check it often. All Law Society events will be publicised here, and it's the main way in which the faculty and your tutors will contact you.
- Join the UCL Law Facebook page – many events, in particular the social events, are put up there along with details.
- Try and bring some passport sized photos for your first few days – they come in handy for joining clubs and societies throughout Freshers' Fortnight.
- Don't worry too much about the summer reading list. Providing you've given it your best, your tutors will be sympathetic if you're struggling to understand areas of it – Law is a tricky subject, after all.
- Attend the Careers events throughout your first year. It will give you a good base to work from when applying for those first year Vac schemes and insight days, and it never hurts to network with Senior Partners from the world's top Law Firms.
- The events in Freshers' Fortnight put on by the Law Society are always a lot more enjoyable than those put on by UCL Union, as they're tailored to the Bentham community, so bear this in mind when you plan how to spend your first two weeks.
- For France, REMEMBER YOUR PASSPORT! Don't get left behind in France, and definitely don't accidentally use an alternative method of transport to end up in Belgium.
- Remember some form of valid photo ID that proves you are over 18. Take this with you on all nights out, as some venues in London can be pretty strict.
- Overseas students beware – some places don't accept foreign IDs, even if they are valid.
- Get acquainted with the Oyster card system – it will save you a lot of money and hassle when travelling Underground or on the Bus.
- Get out there and meet people. Put yourself on the line whenever you can. From great risk, comes great reward.
- If you are worried or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any member of the Law Society – we're here to be a friendly face and support you in any way we can.
- Use your laptop to take notes in lectures from the start. You can download handouts from moodle, and will change and edit them so often that constant rewriting is a real pain. It also takes up valuable time you could be using for much more fun activities.

LAW SOCIETY COMMITTEE 2012/2013

Here is a list of the newly elected members of the UCL Law Society Committee for 2012/13. We will be here for you all year and for the rest of your degree. We hope that by the end of Freshers' Fortnight you will know us all better. Please feel free to contact any of the Committee if you have any queries, fears or doubts. We will always do our best to help you and point you in the right direction!

President



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Social Secretary



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Treasurer



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Secretary



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Bar Vocational Officer



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Overseas Representative

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Vocational Officer

Greg Mason
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Sports Officer

Kristian Diskerud
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Senior Student Representative

Rishik Menon
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First Year Representative

(Pending Election October 2012)



Greg Mason
greg.mason.11@ucl.ac.uk

COME & MEET DLA PIPER

AT THE FIRST YEAR INSIGHT DAY!

With 4,200 lawyers working in over 70 offices, across more than 30 countries in the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe and the Middle East DLA Piper is one of the world's largest law firms positioned to provide its clients with legal and business solutions locally, regionally and internationally.

We know that gaining work experience with a large international firm is difficult as a first year law student or second year non law student, so we are offering

the opportunity for you to gain an insight into what life is really like as a commercial lawyer.

Spend the day with us meeting trainees, associates, partners and graduate recruitment. You will find out about different departments, learn how to develop commercial awareness and be given the secrets to making a successful application!

Please note that only first year law undergraduate students are eligible to apply. The day will start at around 10 am,

end no later than 5.30 pm and lunch will be provided. Our London First Year Insight Day will take place in mid-June 2013.

For further details please visit the website www.dlapipergraduates.co.uk/events later in the year. Alternatively, follow us on Facebook to ensure you are one of the first to find out the exact date when the applications open (www.facebook.com/dlapipergraduates).

Sally Carthy
Head of Graduate Recruitment, DLA Piper



