

qLegal

The small print for BIG IDEAS

REVIEW 2019

More students than ever applied for and participated in qLegal programmes this year, made possible through the support of our longstanding and new partners.

That our work supporting the start-up community was recognised through a LawWorks and Attorney General's Student Pro Bono Award is icing on the cake.

I would like to say a big thank you to all involved.



Ian Walden

Professor of Information and Communications Law and Head of CCLS



The chance to join qLegal was too good to miss. It provides a rare combination of head and heart, with a collaborative approach where the outcomes are positive for everyone - students, clients and partners alike. I am excited to join a team with so much ambition to take things even further.

Karen Watton

Barrister (non-practising) and qLegal Director

qLegal is about constant growth and iteration to keep offering the best learning experience to our students.

This year I was delighted to help lead qLegal after coordinating the project for 3 years. We look forward to taking qLegal to its next development!



Clémence Tanzi

qLegal Interim Manager



It has been a great pleasure to be a part of the professional development of our students and to witness their growth throughout the year. I look forward to welcoming the next cohort of enthusiastic students.

Anchala Indrakumar

qLegal Coordinator

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PROGRAMMES

Our mission is to help our students become great practitioners by developing their legal and business skills to facilitate innovation and economic development.

qLegal helps the next generation of lawyers help the next generation of clients to create value in the world.



qLegal Law Clinic

Students provide free legal advice to tech start-ups, entrepreneurs and creatives on a range of complex issues. Written advice is provided on a 1-1 basis and students advise groups, presenting workshops and publishing online resources.



LawTech Externships

Students undertake 3 or 6-month external work placements within lawtech start-ups to gain first-hand experience in legal and technology services.



Entrepreneurship Law Clinic Module

Students have the option to take a credit-bearing module which focuses on experiential learning, legal skills and practice.



qLegal x CoachBright

Students receive coaching skills training from CoachBright in preparation for their coaching of secondary school pupils in under-represented areas.



Teach Tech Law

Students deliver lessons to Years 8-9 and 12-13 pupils in schools and colleges on entrepreneurship and the law, and how to develop their business ideas. At the end of the programme, teams of pupils present their ventures to an expert panel of judges to win our Pitch It competition.



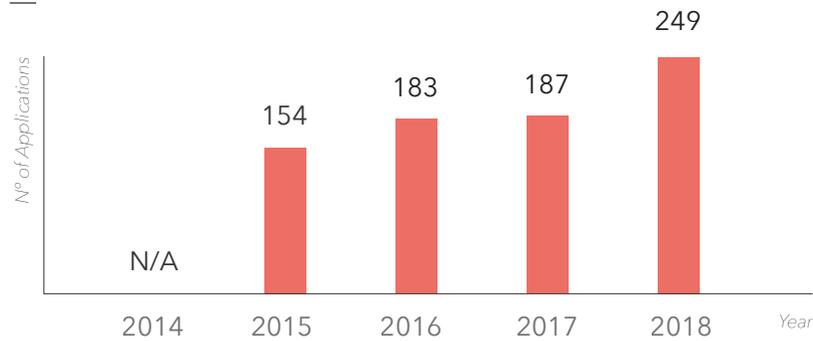
eHealth Hub

An EU funded Horizon 2020 Project in which qLegal supports innovative European eHealth start-ups. qLegal helped create the eHealth Hub platform, which provides access to legal and regulatory experts across EU jurisdictions.

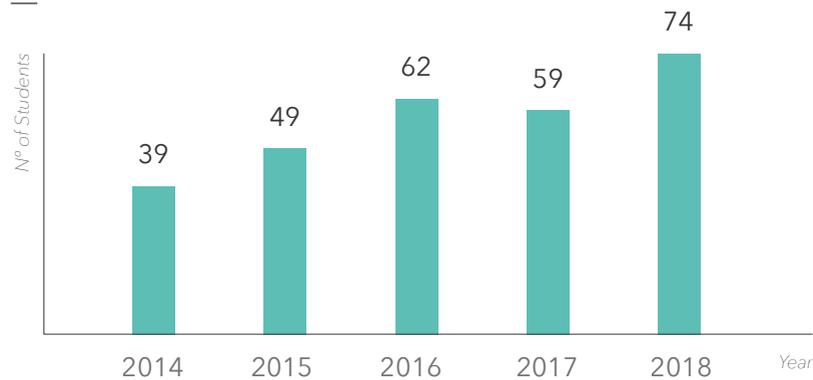
STUDENTS

qLegal students are postgraduate law students from the Centre for Commercial Law Studies at Queen Mary University of London, including our Paris campus. Most of them are volunteering their time alongside their studies in one of our programmes. They were selected after a competitive application process.

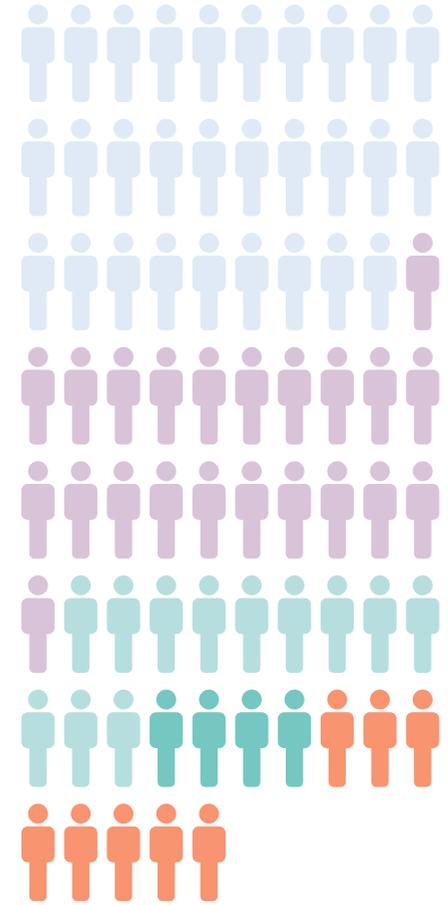
Number of applications received to participate in qLegal



Number of qLegal students



29
+
22
+
12
+
4
+
8



74*
Students

**This year one student took part in our qLegal x CoachBright programme in Semester 1, and was selected to take part in our LawTech Externship programme in Semester 2.*

- qLegal Law Clinic and eHealth Hub
- LawTech Externship
- Entrepreneurship Law Clinic
- qLegal x CoachBright
- Teach Tech Law

qLegal international cohort of postgraduate law students



This year we welcomed 33 different nationalities across our 5 programmes. Working in multicultural teams is an additional benefit which exposes students to different cultures, teaches them multiple perspectives, encourages critical thinking and helps them build an international network.

STUDENTS



qLegal Law Clinic

"I chose to apply to qLegal so I could gain practical experience in the rapidly evolving technology sector in the UK.... I enjoyed the responsibilities as a Student Adviser, especially working with other students who were equally passionate about developing their commercial awareness and helping businesses grow."

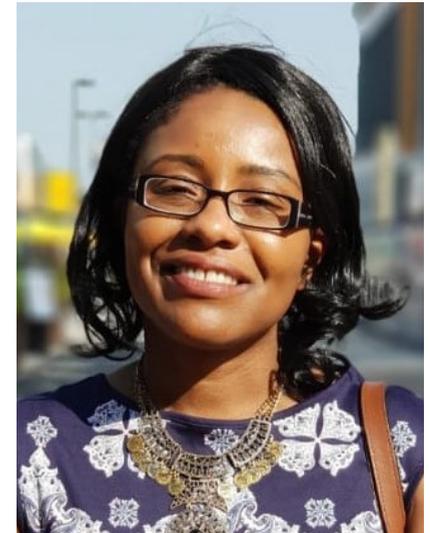
Arif Faiz
qLegal Law Clinic Student



Entrepreneurship Law Clinic Module

"My time on the Entrepreneurship Law Clinic module was both intensive and fun. We received a lot of individual attention and feedback from everyone - the qLegal staff, other student advisers and qualified solicitors from partnering law firms."

Eunice Benjamin
Entrepreneurship Law Clinic Module Student



Teach Tech Law



"Through participation in Teach Tech Law, I certainly challenged myself. The experience has taught me to confront my perceptions, helped me become a confident public speaker, and empowered me with important practical skills."

Disha Vaghela
qLegal Teach Tech Law Student



LawTech Externships



"I've always wanted to work in the tech industry. Thanks to qLegal, I was able to volunteer with a tech start-up in the UK, make new friends, meet a lot of experienced practitioners (both in the legal and technological sectors in the UK) and work hands-on with a company creating useful and inventive solutions using AI."

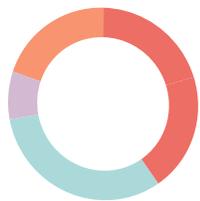
Uchechukwu Oluwatosin Ani
LawTech Externship Student

CLIENTS

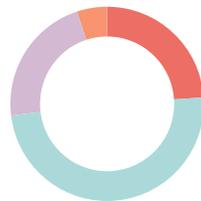
Our clients are tech start-ups, entrepreneurs and social enterprises who have great ideas but might not otherwise be able to access legal advice.

qLegal students provide advice on a 1-1 basis, but also through workshops and online Guides and Updates. In total, more than 550 clients received assistance from qLegal this year.

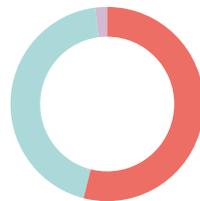
Who is seeking legal advice from qLegal?



- Employed (40%)
- Self-Employed (32%)
- Unemployed (8%)
- Student (20%)

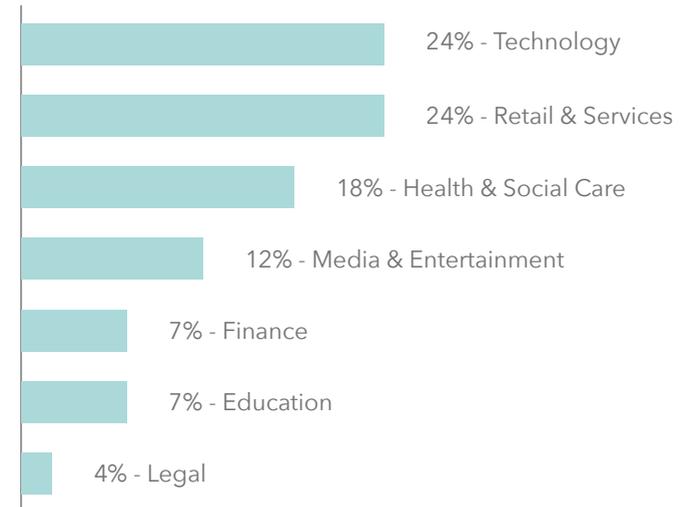


- Age 18-24 (24%)
- Age 25-34 (49%)
- Age 35-44 (22%)
- Age 45-55 (5%)

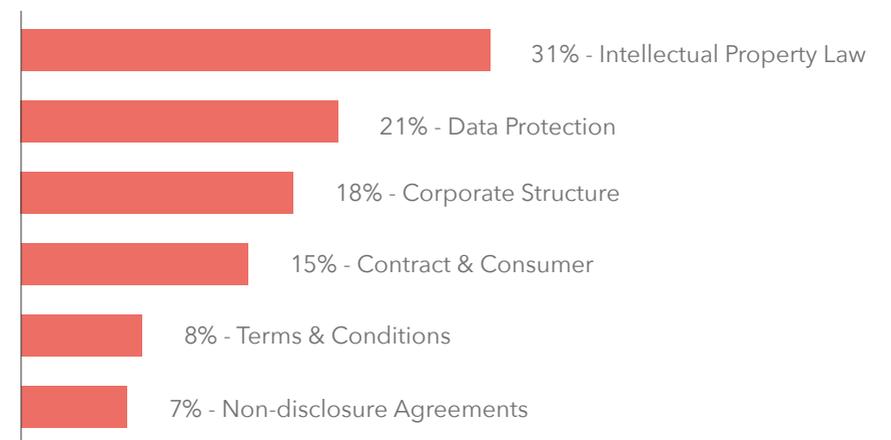


- Male (54%)
- Female (44%)
- Not specified (2%)

Which industries are qLegal clients looking to disrupt?



What kind of advice are we providing?



CLIENTS



“The qLegal Student Advisers have come in as the “legal experts” in our students’ projects. They tailored their workshop to the students’ needs and curriculum requirements, with special attention to what the students know and in which context they need to apply their legal understanding, which was really appreciated.”

Tina Götschi

Vice Principal and Head of Computer Science
Ada, the National College for Digital Skills

“We were very satisfied with qLegal’s service. They were prompt and professional in their communications at all times. We are fully confident that the advice obtained through qLegal is reliable, relevant to our needs, and of a very high standard.”

qLegal Client Feedback



“As a small mental health non-profit, we rely on services such as qLegal to help us further our mission. We are grateful to the qLegal team and their partners for all of their help, and strongly recommend qLegal to other non-profits seeking legal counsel that is as professional and thorough as it is warm and respectful.”

Daniel Mirny

Lean On Me Peer Support, Inc.

“We needed advice on shareholder agreements and protecting intellectual property. These matters are too complex for the layperson to research on their own. Following the advice obtained through qLegal, we do feel more confident in our understanding of the law and it has helped us to take the project forward.”

Steven Reid

Word U Limited

PARTNERS

Each year, professionals from renowned international law firms, patent attorneys and in-house teams volunteer their time to supervise qLegal students in our programmes. We greatly appreciate all their input and their continued support. This is what they have to say:

"Volunteering with qLegal is a very easy (and fun!) way of giving something back, as well as being a great way of getting to know colleagues and testing yourself slightly outside your normal comfort zone."

Josh Cronin
Associate, Ropes & Gray

"I have been judging the Teach Tech Law Pitch It competition for 3 years now. It is extremely important for young people to experience different working environments and get an insight into different careers. I am delighted to play a part in explaining what it takes to become a lawyer. **This year we were all inspired by the quality of the teams.** There is hope for us post-Brexit yet!"

Phil Sanderson
Partner, Ropes & Gray

"qLegal is a good way for me to work with types of clients that I wouldn't otherwise come across. The sessions are well organised, the advance materials are thorough and informative, and the students' work product is usually of a very high standard - which makes my job of supervising much easier!"

Sana Ashcroft
Associate, Morrison Foerster

"It is always good to give something back, and especially rewarding to be able to do so on two counts in one experience: helping to teach qLegal students about IP law, and helping to guide the free advice they provide to businesses and individuals."

Emily Collins
Associate, Kilburn & Strode

"Working as a supervisor to qLegal Student Advisers has been truly a great experience. They regularly advise on matters which are complex from a legal and technology perspective as **many of qLegal clients are start-up companies using cutting-edge technology.**"

Julia Bonder-Le Berre
Senior Privacy Counsel, HPE

"We very much enjoyed working with Thalia, Lucy and Ilaria. It was a great experience to help guide them in perfecting their legal advice skills. **qLegal students are so enthusiastic and eager to learn. It was also very satisfying to help entrepreneurs starting out.** George and I would love to volunteer next year."

Nichola Foley, Associate & George Taylor, Trainee
Solicitor, Morgan Lewis

"It's rewarding to assist with nurturing the students' professional skills and legal education. It's been really wonderful to see qLegal grow and develop, and we want to continue providing support to the programme as much as possible. ... **working with qLegal is a no-brainer!"**

Mercedes Samavi
Associate, Morrison Foerster

PARTNERS

Organisations supporting our advice-giving programmes:

In addition, Ropes & Gray is our partner for the Teach Tech Law programme

ROPES & GRAY

**MORRISON
FOERSTER**

Morgan Lewis


**Hewlett Packard
Enterprise**

Kilburn & Strode

For more on our partners, go to qLegal.qmul.ac.uk/about/partners


ORBRYNS

Organisations supporting the LawTech Externship programme include:

 **onfido**

**THE LAW
BOUTIQUE**

TOUCHSURGERY **HABIT_O**

Coachbright is our partner on the qLegal x Coachbright programme


COACHBRIGHT

qLegal students deliver technical workshops for these partners:

 **ada**
National College for Digital Skills

ual: university of the arts london

The participating schools in the Teach Tech Law programme are:

 **NEW CITY
COLLEGE**

 **St Paul's Way**
Education · Foundation · Trust

IMPACT

The benefits of participating in qLegal last beyond the duration of the programmes. Students gain confidence in addition to practical skills and commercial insights - a powerful combination to help them take the next steps in their careers.



"As a qLegal Student Adviser, I was able to manage real cases right from the initial client interview up until sending the clients their legal advice letters. My experience at qLegal played a role in my decision to pursue a legal career and I am now currently enrolled on the Legal Practice Course (LPC)."

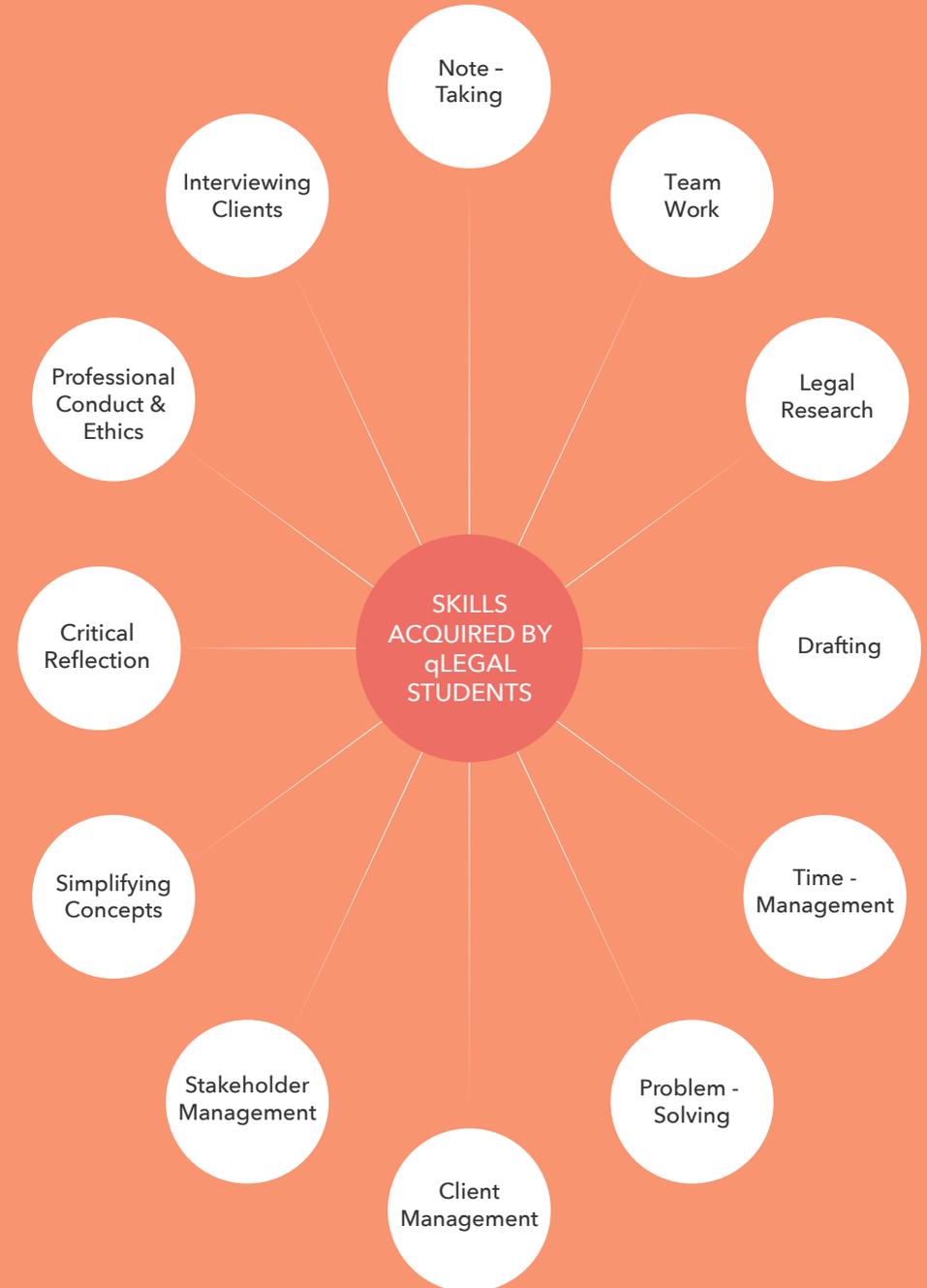
Aiya Al-Jabiri
qLegal Student Adviser

"Thanks to the skills and experience I acquired during my externship, I was recently offered a role at one of the Big Four in their technology consulting department."

Ashley Cheah
LawTech Externship Student at Onfido

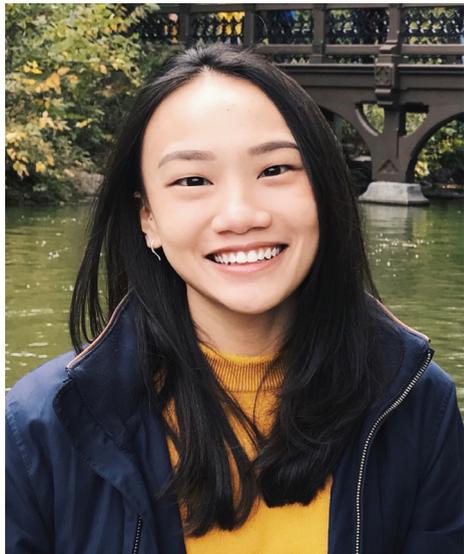
"qLegal was an integral part of my university experience and to my legal education. I developed important skills required to succeed in the legal industry which have been vital in equipping me with the requisite knowledge and skills for my current position as a Legal Analyst at The Law Boutique."

Kaveesha Thayalan
qLegal Student Adviser



IMPACT

It is hard to gauge the full impact of qLegal's programmes as the reach extends to the people in the businesses, colleges and schools we work with.



"For someone with no formal work experience, gaining client management and interviewing skills was invaluable. Preparing resources for start-ups also allowed me to get a handle on trendy topics, such as building a digital finance future."

Yvonne Wan Qing Khoo
qLegal Student

"Each year qLegal Student Advisers provide pro bono legal advice to guide our students through the process of creating contracts with industry partners, which is invaluable in order to protect their creative intellectual property."

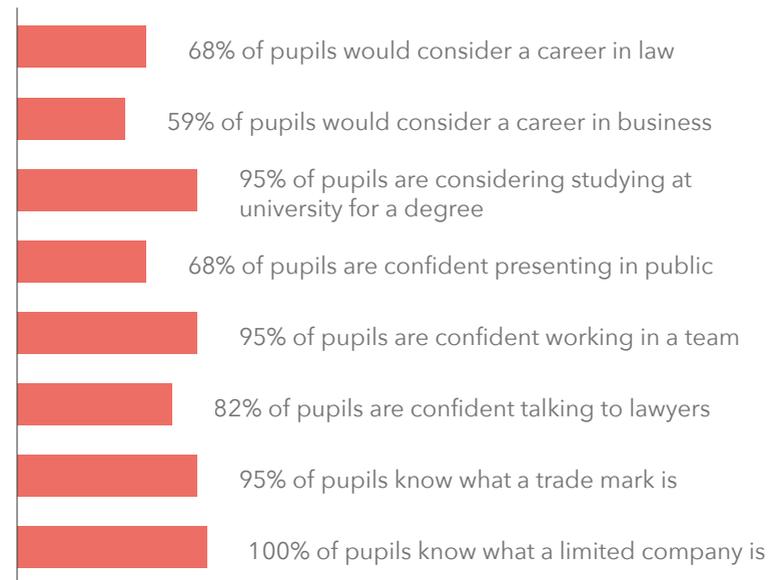
Tiff Radmore
Collaborative Unit Coordinator, University of the Arts, London

The culmination of Teach Tech Law this year was school pupils pitching their business ideas to Partners **Phil Sanderson** and **Michael Hitchings**, and Associate **George Croft** of Ropes & Gray; **Patrick Cahill**, Associate Legal Counsel at Onfido; and **Andre Lewis**, Managing Director of People Like Me Academy.

"The programme has helped me build my confidence in presentations along with having a better idea on my career path."

Abid Rahman
New City College pupil

After taking part in our Teach Tech Law programme this year:



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & AWARDS

Each year, qLegal takes part in community events in partnership with LawWorks to help raise funds for their charity and support the pro bono ecosystem.



QM School of Law pro bono team members present:

Frances Ridout - Karen Watton - Rachael Theophile -
Kyriaki Christoforou - Solicitor General Robert Buckland QC MP -
Racheal Busingye - Matthew Evans - Clemence Tanzi.

qLegal and the QM Legal Advice Centre (LAC) won Best Contribution by a Law School in the 2019 LawWorks & Attorney General Student Pro Bono Awards.



qLegal participated in The Great Legal Bake on the 27th of February 2019 and raised **£261.02** which will go to support local advice agencies and charities throughout the UK in order to protect those who need it most.



The annual London Legal Walk promotes access to justice by raising funds to support 100+ charities in London and the South East. Once again this June, qLegal is looking forward to joining this year's walkers alongside the QM LAC team.

OUR VISION



WE'D LIKE TO SHAKE THINGS UP

Law can be done differently, better, and we'd like to play our part.



WE WANT TO MEET UNMET NEED

Spreading legal literacy and supporting entrepreneurs is one way, our way, of addressing economic inequalities.



WE HOPE TO CHANGE THE WORLD!

qLegal students and alumni take their practical and pragmatic lawyering skills across the globe.

JOIN US

We are always interested to hear from potential collaborators. There are many ways you could get involved. These include:

- Supervising qLegal students, in client appointments, workshops or online resources
- Offering externships or internships
- Giving a keynote speech or hosting events
- Partnering in competitions / hackathons: judging and/or providing prizes
- Providing knowledge exchange opportunities for our students to present in workshops and classes
- Collaborating on specific projects: the scope is wide, let us know what you have in mind

We'd love to hear from you. Please do get in touch:

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