

SOCIETY OF CONSERVATIVE LAWYERS

THE LYELL SCHOLARSHIP

The Society of Conservative Lawyers is offering a scholarship in the sum of £4,800 (known as the Lyell Scholarship) to reward the successful candidate for assistance given to the Society in its research activities on legal issues arising from the decision to leave the European Union for a six-month period between 1 February 2018 and 31 July 2018.

The Scholarship is named after the Rt Hon Lord Lyell QC, the UK's longest serving law officer and former Chairman of the Society. It is funded by a legacy to the Society from Pamela Thomas.

Beyond the financial award the Scholarship represents an excellent opportunity for a person interested in law and politics to engage with contemporary issues at a senior level and work with lawyers with expertise in a range of fields. The Scholar will be closely involved with the work of the Society at a time of huge challenges in both government and the legal profession.

Scholarship conditions

The Lyell scholar will be asked to undertake research of a high quality involving the preparation of draft research papers and collating relevant materials from internet and library sources.

An average commitment of 12 hours a week will be expected.

The Society proposes to pay the scholarship of £4,800 in monthly instalments. The Society retains the right to withdraw the Scholarship at any time if the conditions are not being met.

The research will cover contemporary legal and political issues. At this stage it is envisaged that the scholar would be asked to assist with research papers on legal issues which arise from the decision to leave the European Union in conjunction with, and under the direction of, a senior practising lawyer. The scholar may also be asked to assist with other society research projects and flexibility is required.

The location and hours are flexible.

The Lyell scholar will be reimbursed for all reasonable expenses incurred during the course of his/her research for the Society. A comprehensive record will need to be maintained and receipts produced.

The Lyell scholar will need to have access to his/her own computer, internet and electronic library facilities.

Requirements

1. As a general rule a minimum 2:1 degree in any discipline is expected although we will consider other applicants exceptional circumstances who can demonstrate the ability to handle the work required.

2. Postgraduate degree in law and / or professional legal qualification plus legal practice experience, will be an advantage. Experience of, or a developed interest in, EU law, public international law, and/or international trade law and practice, would be welcomed.
3. Exceptional research and analytical skills; ability to meet deadlines; strong attention to detail; and ability to work independently with minimum supervision and on occasions, under pressure.
4. Excellent written communication skills, with the ability to write clearly and succinctly.
5. Strong IT skills using Word, Powerpoint, Excel programmes, and the ability to use internet search engines and legal resource platforms such as LexisNexis / Westlaw / Lawtel / PLC to maximum effect.
6. Hard working, enthusiastic and dedicated to a career in the legal profession at the highest level.
7. Able to exercise good judgment, sensitivity and tact with regard to needs and situations.
8. The Lyell scholar must support the objects of the Society which include the upholding of principles of justice and democracy and of the individual freedom and liberty of the subject, and supporting the Conservative Party. Previous involvement in politics and / or the Society will be considered but is not a necessity.
9. The Lyell scholar will have to sign an agreement which includes a confidentiality term.

Award process

The Lyell scholarship will be advertised during November 2017 on the Society's website and free websites operated by careers services departments at London University (Imperial College London, Kings College, LSE, QMW and UCL), City University London, the College of Law and BPP. Notices will also be posted on the noticeboards of the four Inns of Court and the Law Society. The scholarship may be advertised elsewhere.

Applications will be made by email to Anthony Speaight QC at SCLLyellscholar2018@aol.com attaching a curriculum vitae and a covering letter explaining why you would make a good candidate and what areas of research you are interested in pursuing. Applicants should include details of their research experience.

Please include information on how you were made aware of the Lyell Scholarship in your covering letter.

The deadline is 5pm on 1st December 2017.

A short list will be compiled and interviews held. It is envisaged that applicants who are invited to interview will be notified by e-mail by Friday 15 December 2017. Please note that we cannot offer feedback to unsuccessful candidates. It is envisaged that the interviews will occur on Wednesday, 10th January 2018 in London. Please note that these dates may change. Reimbursement of travel expenses could be available on request for candidates invited to the interview.