

FACULTY OF LAWS



UCL

THE SIR HUGH LADDIE



**CHAIR IN INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY LAW**



Professor Sir Hugh Laddie, who died in November 2008, was perhaps the leading judge and academic in the field of intellectual property law. He had a formidable reputation within the UK and around the world. Quite simply, Sir Hugh was one of the foremost and inventive lawyers of his generation. After retiring from the bench in 2005, he was appointed Professor of Intellectual Property Law at UCL where he founded the highly respected Institute of Brand and Innovation Law (IBIL).

To continue the legacy of Sir Hugh, UCL is creating an academic Chair funded by charitable contributions in his memory. The Sir Hugh Laddie Chair will be part of a living, practical IP academic centre at UCL and will offer direct value to practitioners and major law firms. Like Sir Hugh, the Chair will be one of the most respected voices in the legal world.

Private giving is sought to fund the Chair at the £1.5 million level. This will ensure that Sir Hugh's name will forever be associated with world class legal thinking.

About UCL

UCL (University College London) is London's leading multidisciplinary university. Founded in 1826, UCL was the first university in England to welcome students of any class, race or religion, and the first to welcome women on equal terms with men.

Based in the heart of London, with over 8,000 staff and 22,000 students from over 150 countries, UCL's excellence extends across all academic disciplines. In the recent Times Higher Education / QS World University rankings UCL was placed seventh among world universities. In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE), UCL was rated as the best research university in London and third in the UK overall.

UCL is London's global university. Students are given opportunities to excel and to find their place in the world. Our students are prepared for roles as 'global citizens' through an international curriculum, local volunteering opportunities and cross-disciplinary research-led teaching.

UCL has many strengths, among them research excellence in a number of fields for which intellectual property and other regimes promoting innovation are particularly relevant. UCL is one of Europe's largest and most productive centres for biomedical science. The environment for clinical translation is exceptional offering unique opportunities for engagement between intellectual property lawyers and scientists at the leading-edge of research and knowledge transfer.

The UCL Faculty of Laws

The Faculty of Laws is internationally recognised as being excellent and is consistently rated in the top three law schools in the United Kingdom. In the UK government's 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, UCL Laws was placed joint 1st in the UK for the proportion of its research activity in the top two star categories and was ranked ahead of both Oxford and Cambridge. Under the leadership of Dean Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE, QC, its students go on to highly successful careers, not just in the Law but in the business and commercial worlds as well as in academia.

The Faculty has 55 members of full-time academic staff, including 29 professors, many visiting professors and distinguished judicial and other visiting academic staff. It has a student body comprising over 450 undergraduates, 350 taught graduates and some 40 research students.

A London Centre

The Faculty's location in the centre of London provides unique advantages to its students, enabling them to draw on the resources of a city that is the UK's centre of government, law, commerce, finance and culture. Leading judges and lawyers teach in UCL's classrooms and evaluate students in mock trials. Students have abundant opportunities to meet the widest possible range of potential future employers, including the legal profession in all its forms, leading corporations and financial institutions. In short, the Faculty of Laws at UCL provides a quality of teaching and a student experience unrivalled elsewhere.

The Case for a Sir Hugh Laddie Chair

Hugh Laddie's vision was to establish a globally recognized centre of excellence in the heart of London in the UCL Law Faculty. This vision had a number of aspects.

First, to recognise the potential strength of UCL in London as a centre for intellectual property practice and scholarship. In terms of commercial significance of practice in this area, London is probably unrivalled in Europe in its relevance for intellectual property.

London has one of the busiest and best regarded specialist courts in this area. It is the leading European centre for the creative industries, many of which depend on intellectual property rights. It is the source and location of some of the leading brand-dependent industries. It is a well-established centre of excellence (in UCL and elsewhere) in the economics of industry. It is the centre of government which is committed to an agenda for the creative industries.

Second, to build upon the significant links between academia, the judiciary, the professions and users of the intellectual property system. One aspect of key importance to Hugh was to make learning and scholarship as relevant to students as possible by incorporating contributions from diverse sources.

Third, to enhance the international aspects of IP scholarship and forge links with countries, particularly India, China and other emerging economies, who are grappling with IP issues from sometimes different perspectives.

Institute of Brand and Innovation Law

For all these reasons, Hugh founded and directed the Institute of Brand and Innovation Law (IBIL) which has already gained a reputation as a unique forum, allowing practitioners, academics and the judiciary to come together and exchange ideas on cutting edge intellectual property issues.

Leadership of IBIL

The Chair would be expected to lead IBIL's highly successful seminar series which has commanded the respect of the entire IP community. These seminars have attracted speakers from around the world and mixed audiences of practitioners, academics and students in excess of 350 people per event. Nothing like this has ever been seen in the UK before.

The holder of the Sir Hugh Laddie Chair will take over the Directorship of IBIL, continuing to lead thinking and shape the research agenda. He or she will be tasked with taking forward Hugh Laddie's vision of marrying academic research with the commercial reality.

He or she will lead IBIL in looking at issues of importance to both practitioners and academics, such as the optimal balance between the IP rights of different market-players. Hugh also had a keen sense of the impact of globalisation on intellectual property law. This is reflected in IBIL's focus on what European harmonisation means for the practicalities of the protection of IPRs and their enforcement and on the emerging IP systems of China and India.

Object of the Chair

Located within one of the world's leading multi-faculty universities, the Chair will be a powerful force in building bridges between academics, practitioners, industry, the judiciary, policy makers and the student community worldwide. The strong presence within UCL of biomedicine and life sciences offers a unique opportunity for the Chair to develop enduring cross-disciplinary links and to ensure that the work of IBIL properly addresses research questions at the

intersection of law and the sciences. As well as shaping the research agenda of IBIL, the Chair will develop leading-edge IP courses for academics, practitioners and industry, including programmes focusing on areas of emerging economic importance, such as India and China, where Hugh had strong links.

The Intellectual Case

The intellectual case for a chair which combines depth of scholarship with a real practical engagement is compelling. Experience at IBIL over the last two years has shown that a combination of academic, practitioner and judicial perspectives has delivered real benefits to all those involved.

One of the areas with which Sir Hugh was particularly concerned was the role of intellectual property rights in scientific and particularly biomedical innovation – an area in which UCL has great strengths. One of the purposes of the chair is to increase the intellectual engagement in this area as well as developing IP in core areas. The chair will lead IBIL's engagement with the difficult issues (technically, economically and otherwise) of the rights regimes. The industries that these issues affect are some of the most substantial global businesses and contribute substantially to the UK economy.

The Business Case

It is important that the UK – and in particular London - retains its strategic leadership in this area. The UK has never had the resources of centres such as the Max Plank Institute in Munich which, together with the EPO and the DPA have made that city the continental European powerhouse in IP. London is well placed to take that role and it is important that it continues to attract the most dynamic undergraduate and post-graduate populations. Those who have studied in London, are likely to continue to want to – and understand how to – conduct business here.

The Opportunity

UCL seeks £1.5 million to establish the Sir Hugh Laddie Chair in Intellectual Property. We invite a small group of leading legal professionals and law firms for their generosity to build a lasting legacy for Sir Hugh. A legacy built on his spirit of adventure and creativity – and one which will be of immense value to lawyers around the world.

The Sir Hugh Laddie Chair in Intellectual Property Committee:

The Rt Hon. Lord Justice Robin Jacob (Chair)

The Rt Hon. Lord Neuberger

The Hon. Sir Christopher Floyd

The Hon. Sir David Kitchin

The Hon. Sir Richard Arnold

Professor Dame Hazel Genn DBE QC, Dean, UCL Laws Faculty

Professor William Cornish, University of Cambridge

Daniel Alexander QC, IBIL & 8 New Square

Simon Cohen, Taylor Wessing

David Bradley, President, Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys

John Brown, President-elect, Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys

Gillian Deas, President, Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys

Tony Willoughby, Rouse Legal

Lady Laddie

Contributions

Contributions are welcomed for the establishment of the chair as a lasting memorial to Sir Hugh Laddie and his work in this area. A Gift Aid form is annexed and you can also give online to the Laws Sir Hugh Laddie Chair at: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/online-giving/>

Contact Us

If you would like to speak to us further about the opportunities presented by the Sir Hugh Laddie Chair in Intellectual Property Law, please contact:

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