

AI, LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FESTIVAL

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

TUESDAY 1ST JULY

REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS

10:15am–11:00 am



SEMINAR

PROF PAUL KRAUSE

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Challenges of Conversational
Aspects in LLMs: legal examples

11:00am–1:00 pm

Paul Krause graduated in 1977 with First Class Honours in Pure Mathematics and Physics from the University of Exeter and completed a PhD in Geomagnetism. He has worked at the National Physical Laboratory, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and Philips Research. His career spans quantum metrology, AI in healthcare, argumentation theory, fraud analytics, and ecological modelling. Now at the University of Surrey, he leads research on explainability and bias in AI, promoting human-machine collaboration to tackle complex global challenges through intelligent systems.



SEMINAR

PROF RYAN ABBOTT

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Artificial Inventors & New
Paradigms

2:00–3:30 pm

PARALLEL SESSION

Ryan Abbott, MD, JD, PhD, is Professor of Law and Health Sciences at the University of Surrey and Adjunct Associate Professor of Medicine at UCLA. He has published widely on life sciences, AI, and law, and authored *The Reasonable Robot* (CUP, 2020), edited *Research Handbook on Intellectual Property and AI* (Elgar, 2022), and co-authored *International Intellectual Property in an Integrated World Economy* (Aspen, 2024). He has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, and prominent academic journals, including *Nature*. As licensed U.S. physician, patent attorney, and solicitor advocate in England and Wales, Ryan has advised the UK Parliament, European Commission, WHO, and WIPO. *Managing IP* named him among the 50 most influential in IP in 2019 and 2021. www.ryanabbott.com

About the session

Increasingly sophisticated and autonomous AI is being used in the generation of creative and inventive output, raising significant economic, social, and legal implications. Intellectual property offices, courts, and lawmakers worldwide are now grappling with whether to provide intellectual property rights for AI-generated outputs, how much and what sorts of human input may be needed for rights to subsist, and arriving at varied conclusions. In this session, our own Professor Ryan Abbott will discuss the evolving landscape of AI and intellectual property, focusing on subsistence of intellectual property rights for AI-generated content, and he will discuss a series of ongoing legal cases he is managing as part of his research at University of Surrey.

Register here for Day 1:

<https://shorturl.at/z6T0k>

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SEMINAR

DR FEJA LESNIEWSKA

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

**AI, Environmental
Governance and Access to
Justice**

2:00 – 3:30 pm

PARALLEL SESSION

Dr Feja Lesniewska is a senior lecturer in sustainable transitions and environmental law at Surrey Law School, University of Surrey. She holds a PhD from SOAS, University of London, on forests, law, and sustainable development. Her research includes fieldwork in Central and West Africa, China, Europe, and Russia, as well as engagement with international forums such as the UN. She is currently exploring the impacts of digital technologies, including AI, on the transition to a circular economy, particularly in the bioeconomy and built environment. Feja has published on forests, climate change, digitalisation, critical infrastructure, and the circular economy. She is a Sustainability Fellow at the Institute for Sustainability and co-director of the Surrey Centre for International and Environmental Law.

About the session and the panel

This seminar session explores how AI and digital technologies can both support and transform the enforcement of environmental law. Collaborative AI systems can generate diverse data sources—including visual and audio inputs—that assist law enforcement actors, both state and non-state, in more effectively implementing existing environmental laws.

However, AI systems also carry the risk of excluding or marginalizing certain stakeholders, whether intentionally or unintentionally, especially citizens. Such marginalisation exacerbates an already troubling trend of undermining environmental justice, in violation of principles set out in the Aarhus Convention, particularly access to information and participation in decision making.

The seminar brings together four leading experts and practitioners who are actively engaged in examining how AI and digital systems such as satellite earth observation data can be used to support environmental justice.

Presentations will cover current applications of AI in this domain and critically assess both the positive and negative impacts on equitable access to justice. The seminar will also reflect on how AI can be more effectively and inclusively integrated into environmental law and governance frameworks.



Dr Erick G. Sperandio Nascimento Dr Erick G. Sperandio Nascimento is Associate Professor (Reader) in AI for Clean Air at the Surrey Institute for People-Centred AI (PAI), member of the Global Centre for Clean Air Research (GCARE) and Sustainability Fellow at the Institute for Sustainability (IfS), both at University of Surrey, UK. He is also Associate Professor at SENAI CIMATEC, Brazil. Currently, he is the Programme Lead of AI and Sustainability, and has been teaching the Natural Language Processing, Practical Business Analytics and the new AI and Sustainability modules. He is University Ambassador and certified instructor of the NVIDIA Deep Learning Institute. He has published over 90 research papers and filed five patents. He attracted, led and participated in R&D projects totalling over £18M.

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Paul Collins is a Senior Associate in the Business Risk & Regulation team at Ashfords, specialising in environmental law. His broad experience spans private practice and senior legal roles at Defra, the Department of Energy and Climate Change, and the Environment Agency. He is a member and former trustee of the UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) and a member of the Institute of Regulation (IoR). Paul is actively exploring the role of AI in environmental compliance, delivering training on its risks and opportunities for business and government. He has written on the topic for LSE and spoken at the 2024 UKELA Conference and the Academy of European Law's 2025 Annual Conference in Trier.



Dr Ray Purdy, co-founder of Air & Space Evidence, was a senior environmental law academic at UCL, Imperial College, and the University of Oxford for nearly 30 years. His research focused on using satellite Earth observation data to monitor and enforce environmental laws, contributing to European and international guidance and editing Evidence from Earth Observation Satellites (Martinus Nijhoff, 2013). In 2014, he co-founded Air & Space Evidence with an Earth observation professor and a former defence intelligence satellite expert. Using AI and satellite data, they developed a waste crime detection model that won the European Earth Observation Product of the Year (2017) and was named a World Changing Idea by Fast Company. Ray is now Head of Research and Legal Analysis at the Office for Environmental Protection (since 2023) and a visiting legal academic at University College Dublin.



Professor Adrian Hilton is Director and co-Founder of the Surrey Institute for People-Centred Artificial Intelligence as well as the Director, Centre for Vision, Speech and Signal Processing (CVSSP), University of Surrey. Adrien's research focuses on pioneering the next generation of 4D computer vision, capable of sensing both 3D shape and motion, to enable seeing machines that can understand and model dynamic scenes.



Dr Mary Stevens co-leads the Experiments Team at Friends of the Earth (England, Wales and Northern Ireland), helping the organisation navigate uncertainty through research and practical trials. Since 2018, she has explored the risks and opportunities of AI, and in 2023 received a Green Screen Coalition grant (backed by Mozilla) to develop AI guidance for civil society (full report here). Her background spans community, public, and research sectors, including six years at Defra. She is especially interested in futures thinking and resilient local communities, combining systems approaches with hands-on local action. She holds a PhD from UCL and has studied environmental decision-making with the Open University.

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TUESDAY 1ST JULY



ADVANCED SEMINAR
PROF. PAUL KRAUSE

LLMs in Law: case studies
2:00–3:30 pm
PARALLEL SESSION

About the session

Large Language Models (LLMs) are becoming pervasive. It is hard to argue against their value, but there are risks associated with using them. As with some humans, if an LLM does not have relevant knowledge in its training set, it may make up plausible yet erroneous statements. These “hallucinations” are of deep concern in legal reasoning. In a recent judgement (Royal Courts of Justice, 6th June 2025) Dame Victoria Sharp stated that the associated referral arose “out of the actual or suspected use by lawyers of generative artificial intelligence tools to produce written legal arguments or witness statements which are not then checked, so that false information (typically a fake citation or quotation) is put before the court.” When developing an experimental tool to assist with queries on insolvency law, a team of five of us quickly found that LLMs could generate cases and statutes that seemed genuine but did not actually exist. To overcome this, we implemented a triage system using the natural language processing (NLP) techniques of pattern matching and zero-shot classification based on sentence embeddings to process a user query and identify relevant statutes, case law, and HMRC forms. This was then added to the user query in a prompt engineering phase before passing it to the LLM.

After an introduction to the issues, this seminar will describe the approach taken to the development of this “insolvency bot”, present the results of the evaluation and provide an opportunity for attendees to experiment with the bot. After that, we will come back to the issues referred to in the introduction and discuss the options for using tools like this to enhance access to justice.



ROUNDTABLE CHAIRED BY
JACOB TURNER
BARRISTER FOUNTAIN COURT
CHAMBERS

**Who is Responsible When AI
Causes Harm?**
4:00 – 5:45 pm

Jacob Turner is a barrister at Fountain Court Chambers. He is the author of ‘Robot Rules: Regulating Artificial Intelligence’ (Springer, 2018) and a joint author of ‘The Law of Artificial Intelligence’ (Sweet & Maxwell, 2nd ed. 2024). Jacob has acted in some of the world’s most significant AI-related cases, including as counsel for Dr Thaler in the UK Supreme court in *Thaler v Comptroller-General of Patents* (the ‘AI Inventor’ case) and defending the first company investigated by the UK data protection regulator for alleged AI bias. Jacob is on the Attorney-General’s Panel of Counsel and has the Government on various aspects of AI regulation. He has been described in the Legal 500 directory as ‘the leading barrister in the AI space’ and is listed by Chambers and Partners as a ‘Global Leader in AI’.

About the session

This session, led by Jacob Turner along with **Michael Workman from the Law Commission**, will consider liability for harm caused by AI. It will cover the purposes of liability regimes and the potential treatment of AI-caused harms under existing regimes such as contract, tort including professional negligence, product liability, and vicarious liability. The speakers will then look at gaps in the current regime and possible legal reforms, including the apparently now-paused EU AI Liability Directive. The session will conclude by considering future directions for UK liability structures, and whether common law developments are sufficient to cope with the potential novelty of AI.

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WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY



SEMINAR

GREG BAKER

LINKLATERS

AI and skills for the future lawyer

9:30 – 10:30 am



SEMINAR

DR CARLA BONINA

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

**A New Vision for Global Digital
Powers, AI and Regulation**

11:00 – 12:00 pm

Dr Carla Bonina is a globally recognised expert at the intersection of technology, entrepreneurship, and public policy, focused on digital innovation for sustainable development. As a social scientist and author, she empowers tech and public sector leaders to harness responsible AI and digital platforms for transformative outcomes.

Her research has informed organisations such as the World Bank, OECD, and IDRC on digital transformation, open data, and digital economy sustainability, with a strong focus on Latin America. She has earned accolades, including Mid-Career Researcher of the Year (2021) and the Impact Award (2020) for her role in digital government reform. A founding member of the Surrey Centre of Digital Economy and a fellow at the Institute for People-Centred AI, she also contributes to ILDA and other global innovation networks.

About the session and the panel

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Register here for Day 2:

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WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY



Professor Annabelle Gawer is one of the world's leading experts on the business strategy of digital platforms and ecosystems. Her expertise includes digital strategy and business models, digital platforms and connected ecosystem strategy. She was the UK's most-cited female academic in business and economics for two consecutive years (2022 and 2023).

She is a Chaired Professor of Digital Economy and the Director of the Centre of Digital Economy at the University of Surrey. She has held faculty positions at INSEAD and Imperial College London and visiting faculty positions at Harvard Business School, University of St Gallen, London Business School, and Oxford University, where she has taught and directed executive education programs. She is currently a Visiting Professor at IMD in Lausanne.



HARRY FARMER
THE ADA LOVELACE
INSTITUTE



GASTON WRIGHT
CIVIC COMPASS



CECILIA GALVAN
CIVIC COMPASS

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WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY



HACKATHON
GREG BAKER
LINKLATERS WITH
BRYTER

AI x A2J
1:15 – 5:00 pm

Greg Baker is a senior lawyer at Linklaters, responsible for AI, innovation and broader practice transformation for Linklaters' global M&A practice. Within the global M&A practice, Greg is piloting and rolling out a range of technology solutions, including AI-powered enhancements for ReportiQ, Linklaters' next-gen due diligence platform. Greg's previous role was as global head of innovation where he implemented a suite of systems and infrastructure to drive a whole-firm approach to transformation and digital adoption. Greg was previously a finance lawyer at a US law firm in London, and prior to that an analyst at a large European investment bank.

About the session

An opportunity to engage in a hackathon in collaboration with Bryter and Linklaters, focused on solutions which will expand the impact of local A2J organisations such as the East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services



SEMINAR
**DR MIKOLAJ
BARZENTEWICZ**
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Will Privacy Law Stop AI?
2:00 – 3:30 pm



ROUNDTABLE CHAIRED BY
PROF FELIX STEFFEK
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**How AI changes the way we
solve our conflicts**
5:15 – 6:30 pm

Register here for Day 2:

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AI, LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FESTIVAL

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THURSDAY 3RD JULY

How AI will shape the future of the legal profession

9:00 – 10:30 am

Nick Atkins is a highly experienced corporate partner at Stevens & Bolton, specialising in M&A, growth capital, and corporate advisory work. Since qualifying in 2008, he has developed expertise across sectors including technology, media, leisure, and logistics, with a strong focus on cross-border transactions. Nick is part of the firm's international practice group, working closely with key partners in Iberia, Germany, the US, Belgium, and Singapore. His recent highlights include advising CANCOM SE, ZEISER GmbH, ITP Aero, and the sellers of In-Space Missions and Starberry. Recognised in The Lawyer Hot 100 (2023), Nick is ranked in Legal 500 and Chambers UK.



Beverley Flynn is a partner and head of the commercial and technology team at Stevens & Bolton, with over 25 years' experience advising on contracts, IT, data protection, and cybersecurity. She leads the firm's data protection practice and has worked internationally, including in-house with major pharmaceutical and manufacturing clients.

Beverley advises on a wide range of commercial matters, including software licensing, outsourcing, procurement, and data compliance, particularly GDPR. Her sector expertise spans IT, retail, manufacturing, life sciences, and energy.

She is ranked in Chambers UK and The Legal 500, and is an expert contributor to LexisNexis and the New Law Journal.



SEMINAR

DR CAROLINE GREEN

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD |
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AT THE
OXFORD INSTITUTE FOR ETHICS IN
AI

AI and human rights of older persons?

11:30 – 1:00 pm

Register here for Day 3

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AI, LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FESTIVAL

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TUESDAY 1ST JULY:

Challenges of Conversational Aspects in LLMs: Legal Examples

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Prof Paul Krause (University of Surrey)

Artificial Inventors & New Paradigms

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Prof Ryan Abbott (University of Surrey)

AI, Environmental Governance and Access to Justice

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Dr Feja Lesniewska (University of Surrey)

With:

- Dr Erick G. Sperandio Nascimento (University of Surrey / SENAI CIMATEC)
- Paul Collins (Ashfords)
- Dr Ray Purdy (Office for Environmental Protection / University College Dublin)
- Prof Adrian Hilton (University of Surrey)
- Dr Mary Stevens (Friends of the Earth)
-

LLMs in Law: case studies

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Prof Paul Krause (University of Surrey)

Who is Responsible When AI Causes Harm?

4:00 pm – 5:45 pm

Jacob Turner (Fountain Court Chambers) and Michael Workman (Law Commission)

WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY:

AI and skills for the future lawyer

9:30 am – 10:30 am

Greg Baker (Linklaters)

A New Vision for Global Digital Powers, AI and Regulation

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Dr Carla Bonina (University of Surrey)

Panel for Dr Carla Bonina's session:

- Prof Annabelle Gawer (University of Surrey)
- Harry Farmer (The Ada Lovelace Institute)
- Gaston Wright (Civic Compass)
- Cecilia Galvan (Civic Compass)
-

Hackathon – AI x A2J

1:15 pm – 5:00 pm

Greg Baker (Linklaters) with Bryter

Will Privacy Law Stop AI?

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Dr Mikolaj Barzentewicz (University of Surrey)

How AI changes the way we solve our conflicts

5:15 pm – 6:30 pm

Prof Felix Steffek (University of Cambridge)

[Register for Day 1](#)

[Register for Day 2](#)

AI, LAW AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE FESTIVAL

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THURSDAY 3RD JULY:

How AI will shape the future of the legal
profession

9:00 – 10:30 am

Nick Atkins and Beverley Flynn (Stevens &
Bolton)

[Register for Day 3](#)

AI and human rights of older persons?

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Dr Caroline Green (University of Oxford)