WinckworthSherwood

People, Culture and Law Conference 2023 Wednesday 15 November

Speaker Biographies



JULIEN CORNEBISE

Honorary Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, University College London

Julien is a passionate, impact-driven scientist in Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. He is currently an Honorary Associate Professor at University College London.

Julien was Director of Research, Head of Element Al's London Office, with a focus on Al for Good, for two years. He joined DeepMind Technologies Limited (later acquired by Google) in 2012 as an early employee. In his four years at DeepMind he:

- led some fundamental research directions used in early demos and fundraising
- helped to create and lead its Health Applied Research Team

Since leaving DeepMind in 2016 he has been working with Amnesty International. Julien also has several years of experience consulting for industry, and enjoys sharing his passion by teaching, ranging from undergraduate to professional continuing education.



CLAIRE POINTING

Executive Coach and Organisational Consultant, DML Consulting

Claire Pointing is an experienced executive coach and organisational consultant who draws on over twenty five years' of experience working in senior leadership roles as a lawyer, strategy consultant, a telecoms and media regulator and a founder and senior NED of a leading data analytics company in the UK. In the last 10 years she has focused her activities in the organisational development arena as a coach and consultant with a primary focus on professional service firms and the financial services sector..

Her particular focus is working with leadership teams and organisations that are navigating periods of complexity and cultural change. In working with clients, she draws on her extensive business experience – including senior roles at a number of leading City law firms and strategy consulting; as a Principal at OFCOM; and as a programme director for a number of large UK Government change programmes. Claire combines her extensive front line business experience with her understanding of the psychology of businesses to deliver focused and lasting solutions for her clients. In addition to her work portfolio, Claire currently sits on the Steering Committee for Oxford Women in Law and acts as a peer reviewer for the Harvard Business Review.



JANET LARSEN Business Psychologist

Originally trained as a psychologist at Oxford, Stanford and Copenhagen universities conducting academic research and clinical work in a variety of settings, Janet's research focused on meta-cognition - the psychology of thinking - and the role of emotions in thinking and behaviour. Her clinical work ranged widely, with a specialty in depression and suicide prevention.

Janet transitioned to the commercial world 30 years ago where her career comprised director-level experience in the SME space and advising large companies such as Britvic, Liverpool Victoria, Boston Consulting Group and St James's Place.

Janet currently provides leadership and organisational development through coaching, advisory and facilitation. She works with people in leadership positions wanting to achieve greater organisational impact and effectiveness, and to improve both performance and mental well-being in their organisations.

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MELANIE FRANCIS

Founder, Neuroinclusive HR and Director, Neurodiversity at Work, Do-IT Solutions

Mel is the Founder of Neuroinclusive HR and Director of Neurodiversity at Work at Do-IT Solutions. She is an accomplished HR Director with over 25 years' experience gained in the public, private and not for profit sectors.

Mel has gained her significant experience working in the HE, Edtech, Publishing and Telecoms sectors.

Mel is also Mum to a brilliant neurodivergent son and, following his diagnosis, she sought to increase her awareness and knowledge of neurodiverse conditions. To this end, she has been taught by Professor Amanda Kirby, a globally renowned neurodiversity specialist and achieved a qualification in neurodiversity.

As a neurodiversity champion and trainer, Mel now takes every opportunity to increase awareness and appreciation of the brilliance of neurodiverse talent and supports organisations to become neuroinclusive throughout the employee lifecycle. She is a regular guest speaker, trainer and podcast contributor and her regular content shares on LinkedIn are well received.



BLAIR ADAMS

Partner, Winckworth Sherwood

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Blair acts for numerous employers across a range of business sectors, including multinational companies and owner-managed businesses.

With the benefit of 25 years' experience, he brings a highly responsive, problem-solving approach to his working relationships with clients, helping them with challenges such as restructuring and redundancy exercises, performance and conduct issues, internal investigations, trade union relationships and industrial action, recruitment and departures and restrictive covenant enforcement. He has considerable expertise in employment litigation in the Employment Tribunal and the High Court. He often works on international projects, coordinating advice from lawyers in other jurisdictions.



CHRIS GARRETT Partner, Winckworth Sherwood

Chris advises businesses on all aspects of employment and partnership law as well as data protection law. He has particular experience of advising on the employment law aspects of M&A transactions as well as having considerable experience of advising both UK and global businesses on all areas of data protection compliance. He frequently advises companies on employee monitoring, privacy notices and policies, cybersecurity incident response matters, including dealings with data protection supervisory authorities and individual data breach notifications.



SUSAN KELLY Partner, Winckworth Sherwood

Susan advises on all aspects of the employment relationship, as well as the increasingly common flexible variations on that traditional model. Susan also acts regularly in partnership disagreements, boardroom difficulties and shareholder disputes. She specialises in the resolution of disputes arising in the workplace, often with compliance, safeguarding and regulatory angles. Susan has a particular expertise in Church matters and regularly advises in clergy discipline matters. She has advised dioceses and parishes on issues ranging from discrimination to redundancy, allegations of abuse and disciplinary action. Susan has advised one particular diocese over several years, on a wide range of employment issues. These matters have included race, religion, disability and sexual orientation discrimination claims, unfair dismissal, redundancy, part-time working issues, disciplinary matters arising out of misconduct, and the legal position of interns, particularly in relation to National Minimum Wage.

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LOUISE LAWRENCE Partner, Winckworth Sherwood

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Louise is a trusted advisor to UK businesses advising on all aspects of employment law from drafting contracts of employment to defending Tribunal claims. She gets to know her client, listens to them and uses her experience and commercial nous to create solutions to meet her client's needs. Louise values all of her client relationships, providing prompt, collaborative and pragmatic advice.



HARRIET CALVER

Senior Associate, Winckworth Sherwood

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Harriet is an employment law specialist who provides practical and strategic advice to businesses, employees and partners on a range of contentious and non-contentious employment matters. Harriet specialises particularly on complex and sensitive departures, unfair dismissal and contractual disputes and family friendly rights and discrimination. She also provides day to day HR support to help resolve issues employers face, including disciplinary and grievances matters, sickness absence and redundancy/ restructuring exercises.



ANDREA LONDON	
Partner, Winckworth Sherwood	

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Andrea is a very experienced employment lawyer who is responsive, clear, pragmatic and practical; aiming always to seek solutions based on what is best for the individual client or business in the circumstances. She advises both corporate employers and senior individuals on all employment-related matters. Andrea specialises particularly in contractual variations/breach of contract, restrictive covenant enforcement and team moves, TUPE, unfair dismissal and discrimination.