Call for Papers

Embedding AI in Contract Law Pedagogy: An Equality Diversity and Inclusion Perspective

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming the way legal reasoning, drafting, and analysis are taught and practiced. However, legal education—particularly in foundational subjects such as Contract Law has been slower to adapt to this digital transformation. This conference seeks to address that gap by fostering critical dialogue and developing practical frameworks for the ethical, effective, and inclusive integration of AI within the traditional law curriculum.

The conference which will take place at Queen's University Belfast aims to create a collaborative platform for embedding Contract Law pedagogy through AI-enhanced teaching practices that are attentive to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). Through scholarly and practice-based contributions, the conference will work towards the development of a bespoke roadmap for curriculum transformation that reflects diverse learning needs, institutional contexts, and professional expectations.

Call for Contributions

An open call for papers and other contributions is invited from:

- All teachers of Contract Law in higher and further education institutions
- Early career academics and professionals
- Legal practitioners involved in Contract Law
- Learning technologists and IT officers
- Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) in the Curriculum experts
- Tutors and others engaged in small-group or skills-based legal education

Submissions should aim to strengthen law schools' capacity for Inclusion, digital and legal innovation, and in the teaching of Contract Law.

Topics on the suggested themes (non-exhaustive) are welcomed

1. Practical skills and simulation-based learning
2. Pedagogical innovations using AI in Contract Law
3. AI systems and developing inclusive pedagogical responses

Submissions may take the form of traditional academic papers, practice-focused presentations, workshops, or demonstrations of teaching tools and resources.

Bursaries and Accommodation Support

To support inclusive participation and reduce barriers to engagement, a limited number of bursaries will be available. These may cover:

- Travel expenses (subject to a capped amount)
- Accommodation costs for one night

Bursaries are particularly intended to support early career academics, postgraduate researchers, independent scholars, and others without access to institutional funding. Applicants wishing to be considered for financial support should indicate this by using the link to fill out the form Apply for a bursary- Embedding AI in Contract Law Pedagogy – Fill out form

Expected Outcomes

The conference seeks to deliver the following outcomes:

1. The strengthening of academic and professional networks focused on AI and legal education.
2. A post-conference publication, with selected papers considered for publication in a suitable peer-reviewed journal. (TBC)
3. The development of a practical toolkit to support the ethical and inclusive use of AI in legal education, with particular attention to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.

Please submit your abstract via this link Submit abstract

The deadline for abstract submission is February 16th 2026
The date of conference - 20th March 2026
Venue-Queen's University Belfast
For informal queries please contact Dr Gift Sotonye Frank g.sotonye@qub.ac.uk or Prof. David Capper d.capper@qub.ac.uk

Sponsors: Society of Legal Scholars (small projects and events funds)