

The Centre for Law, Crime & Justice at Strathclyde Law School

Presents

The second John Fitzsimons Memorial
Lecture in Criminal Law & Justice

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, FRSA Women In Justice

In the Chair:
Dr Frances McMenamin, QC.



Monday 14th November 2016

17:30 – 20:00pm

Refreshments served from 5.30pm for 6pm
Lecture and discussion followed by reception

John Anderson Building, Lecture Theatre 325
107 Rottenrow East, Glasgow G4 0NG ([map](#)).

All welcome.

The event is free of charge but booking is essential.

To book your place

www.womeninjustice.eventbrite.co.uk

2 Hours CPD for most professions

Helena Kennedy is one of Britain's most distinguished lawyers and active public figures. She has spent her professional life giving voice to those who have least power within the system, championing civil liberties and promoting human rights.



A leading barrister and expert in human rights law, civil liberties and constitutional issues, she is a member of the House of Lords and chair of Justice – the British arm of the International Commission of Jurists. A bencher of Gray's Inn, she has been the chair of Charter 88, the Human Genetics Commission and the British Council. She also chaired the Power Inquiry, which reported on the state of British democracy.

Helena has acted in many of the most prominent cases of the last 40 years including the Brighton Bombing, the Michael Bettany espionage trial, the Guildford Four appeal and the bombing of the Israeli embassy. She was the British member of the recent International Bar Association Task Force on Terrorism issues.

A prominent author and broadcaster, Helena was a seminal force in promoting equal opportunities for women at the Bar. Ahead of her time, she was a singular voice in the seventies and eighties, writing and broadcasting on the discrimination experienced by women in the law, as lawyers but also as users of the law - victims and defendants. She became a member of the Bar Council to champion women in the profession and called for research into the experience of women lawyers and particularly their absence on the Bench.

THE LAW SCHOOL

The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund

The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund honours the values of John Fitzsimons in two ways:

1. The Centre for Law, Crime & Justice holds a regular high profile John Fitzsimons Memorial Lecture in Criminal Law and Justice.
2. The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund helps talented mature Strathclyde Law School current or prospective students who are experiencing financial hardship.



John Fitzsimons motivated a generation of law students to realise their potential. A highly respected and gifted Lecturer, his brilliant teaching of Criminal Law and Jurisprudence was conducted in a lively and contemporary fashion.

John joined Strathclyde Law School in 1964 and dedicated

the next 20 years of his life to teaching and scholarship at Strathclyde before becoming a well-respected Sheriff.

As himself a former mature student whose family had also to make considerable sacrifices while he was a student, John always sought to inspire and encourage all of his students, especially those experiencing financial hardship.

How to Support the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund

Complete the accompanying
Gift Form

or

Log on to the John Fitzsimons
Homepage :

www.strath.ac.uk/clcj/jf

A regular (eg monthly, annual) contribution is particularly welcome as it helps in planning disbursements.

“



John would be really, really pleased to see what Strathclyde Law School is doing for mature students because this could be a family like us.

I know that John loved every one of his students. He was so proud of them all.

I would like to ask all of those who benefited from John's teaching and advice to support this new Memorial Fund.”

Pat Fitzsimons, John's widow

The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund

In the first three years of operation, five law students have been assisted by a John Fitzsimons part-Scholarship. But the need is great. With your support, we can provide more help.

Here three students explain what a John Fitzsimons Scholarship means to them.



James Hannah
Professional Legal Practice Student

“As a young child I suffered an illness which hampered my learning experience. I therefore left school at 16 years without fulfilling my full education potential. Years

later I returned to education as a mature student to study law. At the time I was able to work whilst studying, and care for my two sons as a single Dad, but as the recession kicked in I lost the job which was funding my degree.

I am very grateful for the help that the Memorial Fund has afforded me. Without the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund it would have been impossible for me to reach my full potential and for that I am eternally grateful. I hope to be in a position in the future to contribute to the Fund, so that other people in the same boat as myself can be given the chance that otherwise would have escaped them.”



Clare McBride
Part-Time LLB Student

“I am a working mother of three children. I also have a carer’s role for dependents within my family. My salary and my husband’s does not stretch very far, so finding the funding for the law course was very worrying.

I have always wanted to study law, but haven’t had the opportunity to do this up until now. The funding from the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund has made things a lot easier for me when trying to find payment for fees and books for the law course. Because of the family, and work responsibilities I have, my life can be very busy and very stressful. However, I really enjoy the law course, it’s something for me, and it makes me really happy. I have met a lot of interesting and learned professors and many friends, have learned an awful lot about law in this first year alone, and I always look forward to my interesting evening lectures. All of this has been assisted greatly by the fund I received from the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund. I am extremely grateful to the fund.”



Clarice Wambua
LLM Climate Change Law & Policy Student

“Being awarded a John Fitzsimons Memorial Scholarship ranks as one of the most life- changing things which has happened to me.

I am truly grateful for the financial support provided by the John Fitzsimons Memorial Scholarship, without which I would be unable to undertake this programme of study and combine with my parental responsibilities. My goal is to utilize the knowledge gained at the University of Strathclyde to devise legal strategies in the climate change field that further the goal of environmental sustainability in Sub Saharan Africa.

I am confident that I will in time be in a position to make a donation to the scholarship fund, and play a part in giving another student such a life-changing opportunity. Ultimately, just as these scholarships have done for me, I hope to encourage and empower women and young girls to keep working towards building their dreams and careers, no matter their age or stage in life.”

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