



Institute of International
Shipping and Trade Law



Making waves in shipping and trade for over 20 years

Internships

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STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

The Institute of International Shipping and Trade (IISTL) enjoys close links with many international law firms. This puts our LLM students in an excellent position to take advantage of internships offered by the commercial sector.

Internships play a valuable role in exposing our students to the workplace, allowing them to develop their networks and gain real life experience in their chosen areas.

Each year, particularly over the summer, our students spend their time as interns with various organisations.

In the following pages, you will read about the internship experiences of several students from our most recent cohort (2022-23).



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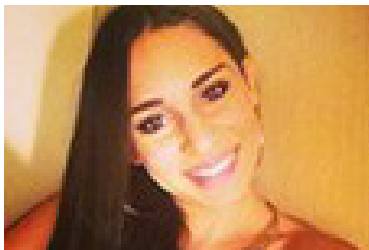




THE AMERICAN P&I CLUB

Established in New York in 1917, the American Steamship Owners Mutual Protection and Indemnity Association, Inc. (the American Club) is the only mutual Protection and Indemnity Club domiciled in the United States – indeed, in the entire Americas.

MARIA-ISAVELA FYTROU



The American Club offered a 3-month internship opportunity to one of our students, Maria-Isavela Fytrou (1 month in London and 2 months in their Greek offices) during the summer.

She found the working environment to be very friendly and professional. During her time at the Club, along with administrative tasks, she undertook legal research for the team working on cases involving cargo damage, repatriation and injury of the crew. Speaking afterwards, she stressed that the opportunity offered her a great experience on how a first-class marine insurer functions, as well as the shipping industry in general, and that she received priceless guidance on the skills needed to become a successful maritime lawyer.

HANNAFORD
TURNER LLP

HANNAFORD TURNER

Hannaford Turner LLP is a London law firm specialising particularly in ship finance, ship building, sale and purchase.

VISHESH BARJEEV TYAGI

My internship with Hannaford Turner LLP was both insightful and informative. It provided me with relevant and essential experience to shape my future career goals. Following on from the internship, Hannaford Turner offered me a 6-week paralegal contract. This is an amazing



opportunity for me and I am excited to start the position. I am sure that this will help me perform well in the firm. I would like to take this opportunity to specially thank the IISTL for all the support I received throughout the year. It has been a year where I learnt a lot and grew, both as a person as well as a young professional. I am always grateful for all the opportunities that the IISTL has provided.

I look forward to a new start and will look back at my year with IISTL with great admiration!



BIMCO

BIMCO has offices in Houston, London, Copenhagen, Athens, Brussels, Singapore and Shanghai. It is the world's largest direct-membership organisation for shipowners, charterers, shipbrokers and agents, and aims to be at the forefront of global developments in shipping.

JIANG ZIHAN



I was selected by the Asia office of BIMCO in 2023 as an intern. I will spend six months with the team and started Autumn 2023. My main responsibilities include documentary and research support work.

I enjoy visiting the various members of BIMCO and building a broad network in this industry. This internship provides a great opportunity for me to explore my future career direction.

YUYANG SUN



BIMCO's Asia office offered an internship opportunity to Yuyang Sun in Shanghai. Yuyang excelled in her LLM studies and was provided with an internship opportunity as a result of her excellent performance in the Ship and Other Asset Finance module.

Yuyang worked in Shanghai Office of BIMCO under the supervision of Mr. Wayne Zhuang. She enjoyed her time at BIMCO, which gave her an opportunity to assist in the documentary work of the organisation and also learn about shipping practice and finance first hand.

BLOOMFIELD LAW PRACTICE

Bloomfield is a specialist commercial and dispute resolution law firm with a comprehensive broad-based approach to service clients on all aspects of their needs.

LEMEA WAYIH



Lemea was the recipient of the inaugural Bloomfield Law Practice Prize which presented him the unique opportunity of working as an intern at Bloomfield Law Practice in Lagos (Nigeria).

This internship experience enabled him to find out more about the practical aspects of maritime and shipping issues at his home jurisdiction. He found the whole experience a rewarding one.

He is grateful to the Law School at Swansea and Bloomfield Law Practice for this excellent professional and personal learning experience, and also Mr. Adedoyin Afun (Partner) for being so welcoming.

CHINA P&I CLUB

China P&I Club is the largest P&I insurer in China.

YAXIN LI

Yaxin Li is a graduate of Shanghai Maritime University (SMU) who completed her LLM at Swansea.



During her summer break, she was offered a two-week internship at China P&I Club in Shanghai following an interview process. During her time at the Club, she worked both at the Claims Department and FDD &TCL Department of the Club.

The internship enabled her to gain in depth knowledge and insight on the claim handling process.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The European Commission is the EU's politically independent executive arm. It is responsible for drawing up proposals for new European legislation, and it implements the decisions of the European Parliament and the Council of the EU.

RAPHAËL RAUCH



Raphaël undertook a 5-month traineeship at European Commission (Bluebook Traineeship).

During his time at the Commission, he worked on various transport law related matters (especially on road and aviation). He found his experience at the Commission to be complimentary to his studies at Swansea and he thoroughly enjoyed his time.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament is one of the legislative bodies of the European Union and one of its seven institutions. Together with the Council of the European Union, it adopts European legislation, following a proposal by The European Commission.

MELISSA OSWALD

Melissa Oswald undertook a 5-month traineeship at the Legal Service of the European Parliament in Brussels.

During this time, she mainly worked on preliminary rulings and action for annulment cases involving a broad range of topics concerning EU Law, including law of the sea and intellectual property law.



The internship enabled Melissa to put what she learned at Swansea into good use. During her time in Brussels, she had the opportunity to gain unique insights into the work of the European Parliament, and also had the opportunity to learn from the lawyers working in her unit.



HFW

HFW is an international law firm which employs over 600 lawyers working across the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia.

KIKI AKRITA



My time at HFW was so productive. I shadowed several top lawyers and learnt a lot as to how to deal with new cases and challenges that a lawyer could face on a daily basis.

I am grateful to Swansea Law School and my tutors for providing us this opportunity. My Swansea experience was remarkable! I am proud to be part of this large, caring and international family.

SAGUN SUDHIR



I thoroughly enjoyed my work experience at Ince & Co. Working closely with Partner, Ted Graham, I got invaluable exposure to how a top law firm functions. During my time at Ince & Co, I assisted the dry shipping team, and also got an opportunity to attend the Young Maritime Professionals event 'Sunshine & Shipping Seminar: An update on Shipping and International trade law' at 20, Essex Street

It was a fantastic networking opportunity to meet professionals from different sectors. I am grateful to the Team at Swansea for providing me with this opportunity. I shall certainly take back fond memories, high-profile contacts and important lessons which will help me in my development as a practitioner.

INCE
& CO.

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HAO WU



Hao studied her LLB degree at Shanghai Maritime University, and was an intern at Ince & Co.

She found the experience to be very useful. She decided to come to Swansea due to the positive feedback

she heard from various employers in China. Hao is of the opinion that our LLM degree is very practical, preparing students in the best possible manner for the job market.

ZENOS JIN



Shortly after completing his LLM degree with distinction at Swansea University, Zenos joined the HFW Shanghai office as a shipping law paralegal.

His key responsibilities included assisting senior associates in advising clients and

in preparing cases for litigation.

Zenos was delighted to find out, when working at HFW, that his Swansea LLM degree was highly valued by his employers.

He is keen to be trained as a competent common lawyer and is registering at NUS for a two-year Juris Doctor programme.

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION

The International Maritime Organisation is a specialised agency of the United Nations responsible for regulating shipping.

JIANCUO QI



Jiancuo had the opportunity to observe the meetings of the Maritime Environment Protection Committee and the Technical Cooperation Committee.

Commenting on his experience at the IMO, Mr Qi said:

“Undertaking an internship at IMO has been a very good experience and has benefitted me in many aspects, including some ways that I did not foresee. I am really grateful for the help, encouragement and kind support the staff have provided me during my studies at Swansea University.”

CAPT PHILLIP CORSANO

I attended the technical sessions of the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) plenum, and was struck by the deep levels of industry expertise within IMO and its consultants.



I was particularly impressed with the head of the MSC, Mrs Sandra Allnutt, who is one of the few women in the industry to achieve senior status.

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FAUDZAN FARHANA

The opportunity to participate as a research intern in the International Maritime Organisation was one of extreme value for me since it is a specialised agency of the United Nations, with responsibility for the safety and security of international shipping.

My internship was about the legal framework of piracy and armed robbery; new effective measures to repress modern piracy and the role of Private Contracted Armed Security Personnel (PCASP). My staying in the Maritime Knowledge Centre with some of my fellow Swansea University LLM peers gave us the opportunity to enlarge our research fields. Undoubtedly, the internship in IMO was a unique and highly recommended experience in order to expand my knowledge in maritime law.

NIKOLAOS KARAMPATZOS

I had an amazing three week internship in the IMO. It was such a privilege to meet wonderful people from various backgrounds, being able to discuss and talk with representatives of my country in IMO, and get access to the IMO extensive library for the purpose of writing my dissertation.

Everyone is so helpful and friendly. Words could not describe my gratitude for this opportunity. It exceeded my expectations.

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AURÉLIA PYNEEANDEE



Being a research intern at the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) for a full month was a unique experience.

I firstly started by working on the open registries question then extended my

research to other contemporary issues such as autonomous vessels, pollution (greenhouse gas emissions), maritime safety (piracy). I also had an opportunity to be part of the IMO's 'Women Empowerment in Maritime' project. The internship enabled me access to the IMO's Center of Knowledge. As a result, I not only managed to consolidate what I learned at Swansea but also had the opportunity to experience the maritime community from a more practical perspective.

NIKOLA MARKU



This experience has significantly improved my practical and academic knowledge in maritime law and affairs.

Especially, the debates I had with the Secretary General, Mr. Kitack Lim, High Commissioner of South Africa, Mr. Siph

Mbatha, and many other experts helped me to expand my understanding and as a result I have developed different perspectives on current problems affecting the maritime sector.

In addition, the research work I undertook on piracy and greenhouse gas pollution and various interviews with different organisations such as REMPEC, PPR will undoubtedly help me in shaping my professional future in maritime world.

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) is an independent judicial body established by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

AURÉLIA PYNEEANDEE



Aurélia was selected among several candidates from around the world to spend 3 months as an intern at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea in Hamburg. Her daily tasks consisted of assisting legal officers during the court hearings and researching on cases dealt with by the Tribunal. She additionally supported the judges and newly elected President by researching various aspects of the Law of the Sea.

Commenting on her internship Aurélia said: "Overall, I can positively attest that this was a valuable experience that enabled me to expand my technical and global knowledge, and presented me with an opportunity to work with professionals and highly qualified experts with years of practice in different fields of maritime law."

Kennedys

KENNEDYS

Kennedys Law LLP is a global firm with expertise in sectors such as insurance and reinsurance, aviation, banking and finances, marine, shipping and international trade.

LAYESH PREMRAJ

As part of a partnership between the IISTL and Kennedys, I worked as an intern in Kennedys' marine insurance department.

I embarked on this journey with the goal of deepening my understanding of maritime law and its practical implications, and Swansea exceeded my expectations in every way.



Trips to P&I clubs and law firms in London were experiences that allowed us to network with industry professionals and gain firsthand insights. These experiences helped bridge the gap between theory and practice, enhancing our understanding of the field. Swansea University maintains strong connections with employers. Throughout the year, they consistently shared various job opportunities, offering a remarkable chance to secure employment before even completing the program.

MARSH

Marsh is the world's leading insurance broker, with a highly visible presence in the London insurance market.

DANIEL SEPTIANO



Daniel Septiano undertook an internship with Marsh Marine in London. He was first introduced to Marsh when he attended a seminar on the role of insurance brokers in general at the company's offices in London.

The seminar was organised by one of the LLM Employability Co-ordinators, Professor Leloudas, who made good use of his links in the market. During his internship, Daniel observed the work of brokers at Marsh's offices. Everybody at Marsh was very friendly and keen to show him what a broker's job entails and also answer any questions he had. Daniel also gained hands-on experience of how the Lloyd's market operates. Daniel really appreciated this invaluable internship opportunity, which gave him the chance to get an insight into the practicalities of insurance brokerage.

PREPARED INTERNATIONAL

Prepared International is an international organisation of experts in the field of disasters. The organisation works with public bodies, non-governmental organisations and private donors in order to reduce disasters' impact and improve resilience against them.

ALEXIS COVET



Prepared International are currently developing work projects on 'ports and harbour resilience' and 'ship evacuation' for the port of Hamburg. Alex was chosen as an intern to provide assistance on the work of the organisation. With regard to his internship opportunity, Alex commented:

"Working within this organisation is a challenging yet rewarding experience. I have acquired several technical and practical skills, and I am ever grateful to Swansea (IISTL) and especially to our dedicated teaching team for making that happen. I am delighted that I chose to come to Swansea for my LLM degree."

QUADRANT CHAMBERS

Quadrant Chambers is one of the leading international commercial dispute sets. Based in London, they have expertise in aviation, banking, commercial disputes, commodities energy, insurance, international arbitration and shipping.

OPEYEMI OMOLERE



Quadrant Chambers offers an internship opportunity to the best Mooting student from the Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law at Swansea University every year, in addition to a financial award.

Opeyemi was the best mooter in our internal moot this year and she will commence her internship under the guidance of commercial barristers later in October.

STEAMSHIP P&I CLUB

One of the largest and most diverse P&I insurers within the International Group

KIM ROSS

Ross Kim worked for a major shipping company in Seoul for 7 years before deciding to pursue a higher academic career at Swansea University.



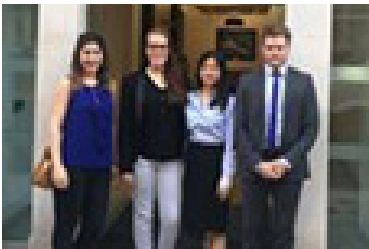
By making use of his previous work experience, and taking advantage of the employability initiatives Swansea University offered, he obtained an internship at Steamship P&I. At Steamship he was put in claims handling, underwriting and loss prevention teams.

The modules he took, such as Carriage of Goods by Sea, Land and Air, Marine Insurance, Admiralty and Charterparties were absolutely beneficial, and during his time there as he applied his knowledge to real cases.

STANDARD P&I CLUB

Standard Club (part of NorthStandard) is a specialist marine and energy insurer known for their diverse membership.

FÉLIX CAHAGNE



The internship at Standard P&I Club has been an outstanding experience for Félix in many respects. In only one week, this opportunity made him appreciate what working in a P&I Club entails. The internship involved a wide range of activities, such as attendance to a number of presentations on different P&I matters, workshops as well as shadowing underwriters and claims managers.

Félix particularly enjoyed the time spent at Standard P&I Club as he gained first-hand experience of day-to-day underwriting and claims work. Félix had the chance to meet many interesting people and chat with them about the shipping and insurance market over lunches organized for that purpose.

THEODORA KOSTARA

Theodora found this internship opportunity an extremely valuable experience. The intern week was well organised to ensure that the interns had hands-on experience of how a P&I Club (and Marine Insurance in general) operates in practice. To that end, Theodora attended presentations from all the departments of the Club (Claims Handling, Underwriting, Syndicates), mentoring sessions, as well as the tour of the Lloyd's Building and participated in interesting workshops.

On the last day of the internship, she was invited to present on a P&I-related topic. This opportunity worked as both a motivation for her and as a way for the P&I Club to assess how she progressed through the internship. Theodora noted that this experience made her more appreciative of how studying an LLM in a reputable University like Swansea builds up your professional career.

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BENTHE MENZFIELD

Benthe attended an internship with Standard P&I Club/Charles Taylor in the Club's offices in London. The internship, which was organised by the Department of Shipping and Trade Law, gave Benthe a practical insight into the P&I business through several presentations on different aspects of the P&I work, workshops and mentoring hours with employees from the Underwriting and Claims Departments.

Benthe made very good use of the modules she studied during her LLM degree, i.e. marine insurance, admiralty law and carriage of goods. Furthermore, the excellent working environment and the opportunity offered to her to make her own presentation made the internship a highly challenging, but especially valuable experience. This opportunity has certainly helped her appreciate the complexities of the P&I work and understand what lies ahead.

MIN SHEN

During this internship, Min enhanced her understanding of P&I Clubs and how they engage with the legal world. The internship included a number of activities such as lectures and workshops which furthered the existing knowledge that Min has gathered throughout the LLM course on a wide range of topics relating to underwriting, claims and so on.

All sessions were very practical and useful. In addition, the P&I Club organised a number of social events with employees from different syndicates; who were all happy to share their experiences and give advice on her future career. Also, Min attended mentoring sessions with mentors from different syndicates. In these sessions, she gained invaluable insight into the daily work of each department.

STEPHENSON HARWOOD

Stephenson Harwood is a law firm headquartered in London and with eight offices across Asia, Europe and the Middle East. They have an expertise in a wide variety of sectors, particularly in the fields of marine and international trade, finance and commercial litigation.

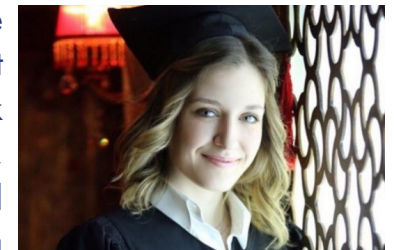
FARAH AZALIYA



It was a wonderful experience. I received in-depth exposure to day-to-day work and practice. The lawyers provided guidance and feedback on the work submitted to them which I found very useful for my future practice.

I must commend the internship programme, it was well organised and full of practical insights. The firm arranged a meeting for us with a marine manager who explained how ship arrest was conducted from the technical and practical aspects. We also participated in a High Court proceedings talk held by the firms' knowledge development lawyer. I found my internship very rewarding and practical for my future career.

ADA GOKSEL



I was placed in the marine insurance department and it was such a great experience. I had the chance to work on several cases on yacht insurance, time charters and general average, and I also had the chance to help with a report from a Turkish expert.

We were given informative sessions on interesting topics, and I feel I learned a lot during the week. I am thankful that this opportunity was given to me, even if it was scary in the beginning since I have no work experience in maritime law or in a large firm like this! I enjoyed the week a lot and thank IISTL for this chance.

Tatham Macinnes

TATHAM MACINNES

Tatham Macinnes is a specialist marine law firm with decades of experience in marine insurance, admiralty and casualty, offshore and international trade and commodities.

PRACHI AGARWAL



I truly enjoyed and valued my time at Tatham Macinnes. Working alongside experienced shipping lawyers provided me with a first-hand glimpse into the practical realities of dealing with complex shipping disputes.

During my internship, I was fortunate enough to work on a bunker dispute case, along with the opportunity to present in front of a partner. It was an incredible experience which allowed me to meet and learn from industry professionals. I am genuinely grateful to the Institute of International Shipping and Trade Law team at Swansea for this opportunity and providing me with such a positive and remarkable experience.

RALPH MOUAWAD



During my work placement, I had the privilege of gaining invaluable firsthand experience in the field of Maritime Law.

This experience was nothing short of transformative. I immersed myself in real-life cases, collaborating closely with the talented team at the firm. The exchange of ideas and insights within this professional environment was truly enriching.

I am immensely grateful to Swansea University for equipping me with the knowledge and skills that I could directly apply to real-world scenarios. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the institution and its dedicated staff for their unwavering support and guidance throughout this exceptional learning journey.



MILLS & CO.

Mills & Co is based in Newcastle upon Tyne and was established in 1993, providing expert legal advice to clients engaged in shipping and international trade.

OLUWAFEMI ADENITIRE



My internship at Mills & Co. was exceptionally rewarding, affording me the privilege of working closely with Amy Nicolaou and Andreas Welz, directors at Mills & Co.

This work experience enabled me to apply the knowledge and skills I acquired from Swansea University, particularly in providing valuable insights on maritime law disputes. I really appreciate IISTL and Mills & Co. for this invaluable opportunity

THOMAS MILLER

THOMAS MILLER

Thomas Miller is an international provider of market leading insurance services.

MENXING ZHANG

Mengxin is a graduate of Dalian Maritime University and completed our LLM in International Maritime Law.

During her studies, she spent two weeks at Thomas Miller as an intern under the supervision of Ms Tan and Dr Wu.



She described her experience as “eye opening and very engaging”. She had the opportunity to understand commercial transactions better and engaged in research on contemporary issues and cases. Thomas Miller is an international provider of insurance services and manages mutual organisations and specialist insurance services businesses.

Zeiler Floyd Zadkovich (ZFZ) LLP

Zeiler Floyd Zadkovich is an international law firm with expertise in a wide range of areas, particularly finance & banking, tech, shipping & marine, commodities & trade, insurance and energy.

MARYANN NNAMANI



This week-long experience with an international law firm provided me with an opportunity to gain practical knowledge from experts in international arbitration and maritime practice. I found it rewarding to shadow lawyers and collaborate

with interns from other institutions in preparing an article, and peer-reviewing another on topical issues hosted on the firm's blog.

The art of public speaking was the highlight, where both I and other interns made presentations on commercially relevant topics before over 40 solicitors, including senior counsel and partners. Thanks to the reputation of the IISTL, I had this opportunity to hone the skills and knowledge acquired during my LLM programme.

ALEXANDROS PAPAZIOS

My participation in the internship at the law firm Zeiler Floyd Zadkovich (ZFZ) was a unique experience.



Through the daily tasks I had the opportunity to get in touch with the firm's lawyers and the other participants, developing my legal knowledge and enhancing my practical skills. I am grateful to have had this experience due to my studies on the postgraduate course in International Maritime Law at Swansea University.

WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The World Food Programme is an international organisation within the United Nations that provides food assistance worldwide. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization. Founded in 1961, WFP is headquartered in Rome.

AIKATERINI BALI



This internship enabled Aikaterini to be involved in a wide range of legal issues relating to WFP's supply chain: buying large quantities of food (grains, cereals, commodities, sugar, vegetable oil, specialist nutrition) from international trading houses or through regional

markets, chartering vessels to carry it to the countries where it was to be distributed vessels, arranging its overland transport, and arranging for stowage, distribution, and internal transport.

Commenting on her experience Ms Bali said: "The internship was a unique experience; it is indeed a great opportunity to undertake some valuable legal experience in the humanitarian field while applying my theoretical knowledge of maritime law."

KATERINA KOKKALA



My 3-month internship at WFP has been an amazing experience! I have had the chance to join the Maritime Transport and Insurance Law Branch and work closely with a team of interesting, helpful and hardworking colleagues.

During my internship, I was given the opportunity to get involved with the different stages of the supply chain, from the contract of sale to the transportation and the delivery of goods and realise how my theoretical knowledge applies in real life. On top of all however, I have had the pleasure, through my work, to assist people in need and promote WFP's good cause. The idea that your work can improve the everyday life of thousands of people is a great incentive to do your best.



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NADIA EL MALOUI



Nadia studied her BA degree at Lorraine University (France) and enrolled on our LLM Programme in Oil/Gas and Renewable Energy Law.

Nadia has previously had internships at various UN bodies and can speak French, English and Arabic fluently.

She has been offered an internship at World Food Programme to deal with international sale contracts and communication in certain countries affected from civil war.





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Institute of International
Shipping and Trade Law



Making waves in shipping and trade for over 20 years

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