

Lex:lead

Lawyers for Economic Advancement and Development

December 2023

Launched in 2010 with our first award, Lex:lead reached 131 awards this year. We again published all our winning essays this year, made new internship placements, continued our mentoring program, and pushed for other ideas as well. All our winners and news here!

Judges

(Sat January 2023)

Dr Michael Addo (Ghana)

Mr Anurag Bana (India)

Ms Paige Berges (USA)

Dr Petra Butler (Germany)

Mr Cuthbert King Chanetsa
(South Africa)

Ms Michela Cocchi (Italy)

Dr Carolin Crabbe (USA)

Dr Laura-Stella Enonchong
(Cameroon)

Ms Helen Fovargue (UK)

Mag. Stefaan Ghesquiere
(Belgium)

Mr Abdallah Gonzi (Tanzania)

Ms Elsie Hayford (Ghana)

Mr Tyler Holmes (USA)

Mr Stuart Kerr (USA)

Ms Harjeet Lall (India)

Justice Susan Lamb
(New Zealand)

His Lordship Mr Justice
Iain Morley KC (UK)

Professor John Mukum Mbaku
(Cameroon)

Judge Aminatta LR N'Gum
(Gambia)

Ms Sun-Hee Park (Korea)

Dr Nicole Pierce (Jamaica)

Ms Simone Scott-Sawyer
(UK/Sierra Leone)

Mr Francis Ssekandi (Uganda)

Ms Nancy Kaymar Stafford
(USA)

Mr Phillip Tahmindjis AM
(Australia)

Chief Charles Taku (Cameroon)

Ms Deniz Tamer (USA)

Dr Guan Tang (China)

Mr John Taylor (Australia)

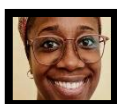
Ms Maria (Mayee) Warren
(Philippines)

Ms Ariel White-Tsimikalis
(Greece/USA)

Patron

Hon Dame Linda Dobbs DBE (UK)

Lex:lead reaches 131 awards—In February, we made **14 new awards** reaching **131 winners** (with internships, over **US\$70,000**). With essays answering: *How can developments in Fintech impact upon economic development and how should it be regulated?*, **we congratulate:**



Uchizi Carien Manda—*University of Malawi, Malawi*

Our top award and top female named in honor of Lex:lead judge Dr Violet Odala Phiri. **Honoree: Dr Violet Odala Phiri**



Bryan Mutalya—*Law Development Centre, Uganda*

Experience from Macb & Co Advocates and the Chief Magistrate's Court Buganda Road. **Sponsor: Allen & Overy**



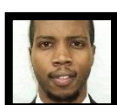
Firaol Lechisa Eba—*Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia*

Fifth-year law student interested in company law, investment law and tax. **Sponsor: Linklaters**



Sagni Ketema Bekele—*Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia*

Legal service officer at Kegna Beverages and intern at Kiya and Associates, interested in finance. **Sponsor: Linklaters**



Samuel Mugabi—*Law Development Centre, Uganda*

Legal Aid experience specialized in social justice and community service. **Sponsor: LEX:Africa Alliance**



Katongo Kalimaposo—*University of Zambia, Zambia*

Award-winning student interested in digital technologies and aviation law. **Sponsor: LEX:Africa Alliance**



Stanley Nabongo—*Law Development Centre, Uganda*

Award winning student including from the Red Cross international essay competition. **Sponsor: Travers Smith**



Davie Manjawila—*University of Malawi, Malawi*

Language teacher and public education officer at the Anti-Corruption Bureau. **Sponsor: Travers Smith**



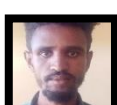
Lois Osei-Sekyereh—*University of Ghana, Ghana*

Research assistant with experience from Yaw, Barima & Associates. **Honoree: Hon Dame Linda Dobbs DBE**



Edward Coker—*University of Makeni, Sierra Leone*

Legal intern at Fornah-Sesay, Cummings, Showers & Co. with environmental and arbitration law interests. **Sponsor: BCLP**



Leta Teferi-Kumara—*Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia*

Law student interested in public law opportunities. **Sponsor: Mayer Brown International**

Directors

President/Founder
Anne Bodley (Australia)
First Vice President
Rudolf Ezeani (Nigeria)
Vice President
Lakwame Anyane-Yeboah
(USA/Ghana)
Vice President/Compliance Lead
Chioma Ayogu[©]
(USA/Nigeria)
Vice President
Dr Dina Mansour-Ille[©]
(UK/Germany)
Vice President/Compliance Lead
Catherine Maunder (UK)[©]

Officers

Treasurer
Daniella Geller (USA)
Deputy Treasurer
Lakwame Anyane-Yeboah
(USA/Ghana)
Senior Group Secretary
Mankah Fombang (Cameroon)
Deputy Group Secretary
Sipho Limbe (Malawi)

Senior Advisory Board

Günter Fischer (Germany)
(formerly UNCTAD)
Stephen Denyer (UK)
(formerly Allen & Overy)
Nancy Kaymar Stafford (USA)
(American Bar Association)
Stuart Kerr (USA)
(International Law Institute)
Yev Muchnik (USA/Russia)
(Launch Legal)
Pieter Steyn (South Africa)
Werksmans/LEX: Africa Alliance
Chris Edwards (UK)
(Travers Smith)
Matt Sparkes (UK)
(Linklaters)
David Dunnigan (UK)
(Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner)

Advisory Board

Dr Sabine Midderhoff (Germany)
Zara Watkins (USA)
Jérôme Poitou (Guadeloupe)[©]
Matthew Weldon (USA)
Francis Sinsai (Cameroon)
Ari Rentsen (Mongolia)
Martha Haile (Ethiopia)[©]
Olukayode Majekodunmi (Nigeria)
Fatima Paras (Australia)[©]
Guot Gabriel Manang (South Sudan)[©]
Anita Alfred Kyaruzi (Tanzania)
Akila Tilitho (Tanzania)[©]

Friends of Lex:lead

Pamela Chan (Singapore)
[©] Compliance Committee

This year's winners (continued):



Mukeya Chirwa—*University of Malawi, Malawi*
Formerly with the Malawi Electoral Commission, analyst at iRISE Affordable Housing. **Honoree: Leigh Middleditch Jr.**



Yikealo Ghebremedhin—*Euclid University, Gambia*
Eritrean law student studying long distance at Euclid University, Gambia. **Sponsor: Launch Legal**



Maame Aba Asiedu—*University of Ghana, Ghana*
Moot court winner with strong research and writing skills, and skills in music. **Sponsor: Launch Legal**

We made awards this year in honor of longstanding Lex:lead judge **Dr Violet Odala Phiri** (Malawi) to top award-winner **Uchizi Carien Manda** (Malawi) after Dr Odala passed away in January 2023; and in honor of the late **Leigh Middleditch Jr** to **Mukeya Chirwa** (Malawi) in recognition of Leigh's support through the **Claude Moore Charitable Foundation** over many years. All winning essays were again published by the **International Bar Association Foundation** and can be read on our website (*see 2022 Winners*). The **US\$500 awards** pay up to half the student's share of their degree (e.g., under Ethiopia's cost-sharing program); half a year or semester elsewhere. Winners who have submitted required documentation join us as **Lex:lead Ambassadors**, eligible for our internship placements and other opportunities.

Lex:lead in Malawi—We're a little late in including this, but **thank you** to **Lex:lead judge Tyler Holmes** (USA) who took Lex:lead Malawi out in September 2022 during a visit back to Malawi where he had worked for a number of years. It looked like a great night out, even if there are even more Lex:leaders from Malawi now!



Lex:lead Malawi (L-R): Chimango Nyasulu, Osman Yusuf, M Collins Banda, Tyler Holmes, Davis Sibande, Patrick Zindikirani, Andrew Gift Umali, Chawezi Phiri, Joel Elifala, Faith Sumani and Ivy Nkhata.

Access to Justice Conference—Invited by **Lex:lead judge Dr Petra Butler** (Germany), Director of the **Institute of Small and Micro States (ISMS)**, in November, **Lex:lead President/Founder Anne Bodley** was a panelist at a **British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL)**, **ISMS** and **Wilmer Hale** London conference on small states and access to justice, speaking on its effect on economic development. Panelists have been asked to contribute to a publication on the topic, and we think we have our next essay question!

Anne Bodley speaking on 'access to justice: the uncharted territory' London November 2023



Lex:lead promotion—Recognizing the work and potential of one of our group, Lex:lead congratulates **Catherine Maunder** (UK) who was promoted from Advisory Board to our Board of Directors this year, overseeing our compliance committee. **Congratulations Catherine!**

Honorary Ambassador

Graciela Da Cruz (Timor-Leste)

Lex:lead Ambassadors

2010

Lemlem Fiseha Minala (Ethiopia)

2011

Edwin Webiro (Tanzania)

Sousena Kebede Tefera (Ethiopia)

2012

Rediet Zegeye Yigezu (Ethiopia)

Samrawit Getaneh Damtew (Ethiopia)

Redeat Kassahun Seifu (Ethiopia)

Hilina Berhanu Degefa (Ethiopia)

Masalu Elias Luhula (Tanzania)

2013

Galindo Ruhiyah Aliyo (Uganda)

Christopher Sengoga (Rwanda)

Anthony Peter Njau (Tanzania)

Milan Depakkumar Desai (Zambia)

Soreti Berhanu Workneh (Ethiopia)

Muchinda Muma (Zambia)

Gloria Ludigo (Uganda)

2014

Lulbahri Afeworki Araya (Eritrea)

Baye Tsegaw Asamro (Ethiopia)

Bereket Alemayehu Hagos (Ethiopia)

Nahom Abraham Weldeabzgi (Eritrea)

Pius Ntazinda (Rwanda)

Haftu Amare Girmay (Ethiopia)

Lumela Lumela (Zambia)

Walter Mandela (Uganda)

Mary Musoni (Rwanda)

Dieudonné Nzafashwanayo (Rwanda)

2015

Sara Kifleariam Abraham (Eritrea)

Moses Baguma (Uganda)

Tsidkenu (Paul) Moono (Zambia)

Ivan Allan Ojakol (Uganda)

Nsoftwa Puta (Zambia)

Ftsum Sbhatu Tewolde (Eritrea)

Negese Tujuba Erba (Ethiopia)

Binita Pandey (Nepal)

Tsebaot Getahun Kiflu (Ethiopia)

Marga Fekdu Angerasa (Ethiopia)

2016

Mateo Fatsani Chitha (Malawi)

Rahel Alemayehu Ayana (Ethiopia)

Chileke Sakala (Zambia)

Martha Okubai Ghide (Eritrea)

Eliya Zawanda (Malawi)

Mawunya Etsa Kudu (Ghana)

Henry Chizimba (Malawi)

Robera Haile Hamda (Ethiopia)

M Collins Banda (Malawi)

Amanda (Mandy) Sindila (Zambia)

2017

Nkandu Kunda Chota (Zambia)

Frederick Abu-Bonsrah (Ghana)

Chitalu Yalobi (Zambia)

Allabi Mailosi (Malawi)*

Mathews Chione (Malawi)*

Abel Yemaneab Zeru (Eritrea)

Bertha Seleman Nanyaro (Tanzania)

Melaku Getachew Halemariam (Ethiopia)*

John Chaula (Malawi)

Itael William Kimaro (Tanzania)

Hakiimu Ngobi (Uganda)

Denzel Malikhwa (Zimbabwe)

Three more internships—Lex:lead made placements again this year with NGOs **Protimos**, **Advocates for Community Alternatives** and with **GIZ**.

1 In August/September, Lex:lead winner **Josephine Ngulube** (Zambia) was selected for a month-long internship with NGO **Protimos**, working remotely on programming; **2** In September/October, West Africa-based **Advocates for Community Alternatives** selected **Victor Nsoh Azure** (Ghana) to work with them on local advocacy matters over a two-month internship. Both internships were funded by **Friends of Lex:lead**.



1 Josephine Ngulube (Zambia) interning remotely with Protimos.



2 Advocates for Community Alternatives intern Victor Nsoh Azure (Ghana).

3 In November, German development aid agency **GIZ** selected Lex:lead award-winner **Busiku Simoonga** (Zambia) for a six-month internship working with them. **Congratulations Josephine, Victor and Busiku!**

3 GIZ intern Busiku Simoonga (Zambia)



Mentoring—We continued our **mentoring program** this year, matching our judges, donors, board and advisory board members with our students, meeting monthly to help them identify opportunities and achieve them.

Thank you to every mentor who volunteered their time this way:

- **Rudy Ezeani** (Director)—*mentoring Edward Coker (Sierra Leone)*
- **Lakwame Anyane-Yebo** (Director)—*mentoring Maame Aba Asiedu (Ghana)*
- **Chioma Ayogu** (Director)—*mentoring Yikealo Ghebremedhin (Eritrea)*
- **Dina Mansour-Ille** (Director)—*mentoring Uchizi Carien Manda (Malawi)*
- **Catherine Maunder** (Director)—*mentoring Katongo Kalimaposo (Zambia)*
- **Daniella Geller** (Treasurer)—*mentoring Davie Manjawila (Malawi)*
- **David Dunnigan** (Senior Advisory Board)—*mentoring Sagni Ketema Bekele (Ethiopia)*
- **Harjeet Lall** (Lex:lead judge)—*mentoring Mugabi Samuel (Uganda)*
- **Pamela Chan** (Friend of Lex:lead)—*mentoring Brian Mutalya (Uganda)*
- **Pamela Fapohunda** (Friend of Lex:lead)—*mentoring Stanley Nabongo (Uganda)*
- **Charity Mafuba** (Friend of Lex:lead)—*mentoring Mukeya Chirwa (Malawi)*

Lex:lead publications—In addition to this year's winning essays again being published by the **IBA** (*see 2022 Winners*), **1** In July, the 2022 **American Bar Association (ABA) Year in Review** was published with Lex:leaders contributing to the *Africa* section including award-winners **Yerro Bah** (Gambia), **Mowbray Jones-Nelson** (Ghana), **Andrew Muyunda Matakala** (Zambia), **Tupalishe Mulwafu** (Malawi), **Emenyo Afi Nutakor** (Ghana) and **Andrew Gift Umali** (Malawi) along with President/Founder **Anne Bodley** (Australia) and Lex:lead judges **Tyler Holmes** (USA) with **Michela Cocchi** (Italy). **2** Lex:leaders then contributed to the 2023 **ABA Year in Review** (*Africa* section) that will come out next year including award-winners **Yerro Bah** (Gambia), **Mateo Fatsani Chitha** (Malawi), **Mowbray Jones-Nelson** (Ghana), **Tupalishe Mulwafu** (Malawi) and **Eliya Zawanda** (Malawi) along with President/Founder **Anne Bodley** (Australia) and Lex:lead judges **Tyler Holmes** (USA), **Michela Cocchi** (Italy) and **Ganiyou Gassikia** (Benin). **Well done all!**

2018

Mawusi Eyi Kudu (Ghana)
Kasanga Ngulube (Zambia)
Kiddus Merkorios Gebreamlak (Ethiopia)*
Victor Nsoh Azure (Ghana)
Nana Adwoa Baiden (Ghana)
Chimango Nyasulu (Malawi)
Innocent Zimba (Malawi)
Andrew Kakanda (Zambia)
Stella Amanuel Araya (Eritrea)
Ivy Akuzike Nkhata (Malawi)*
Momodou Manneh (Gambia)

2019

Maame Yaa Boatemaa Ohene-Bonsu (Ghana)
Colman Ntungwerisho (Uganda)
Martha Laura Luhanga (Zambia)
Nsatusile Mgone (Zambia)
Phola Liyena (Zambia)
Fortunate Atuheire (Uganda)
Peter Sambani (Malawi)
Joel Elifala (Malawi)
Ruth Sandram (Malawi)*
Brima-Fullah Kebbie (Sierra Leone)
Sylvester Tolokosi (Malawi)
Chawezi Phiri (Malawi)
George Ocen (Uganda)
Andrew Muyunda-Matakala (Zambia)
Panashe Gombiro (Zimbabwe)

2020

Gloria Korankyewaa Nyarko (Ghana)
Divine Selase Agborli (Ghana)
Musenge Kapandula (Zambia)
John Siame (Zambia)
Jemimah Chisomo Banda (Zambia)
Josephine Ngulube (Zambia)
Getachew Bezu Gayzibayso (Ethiopia)
Busiku Simoonga (Zambia)
Tina-Fiona Mloza (Malawi)*
Hillary Mushota (Zambia)
Bwalya Milunga (Zambia)
Angellah Mwafulirwa (Malawi)
Clive Siankanga (Zambia)
Lincoln Majogo (Zimbabwe)
Faith Sumani (Malawi)
Natasha Kapuka (Zambia)
Muleta Korme-Negasa (Ethiopia)

2021

Mwendabai Kaitwa (Zambia)
Patrick Zindikirani (Malawi)
Osman Yusuf (Malawi)
John Senabulya (Uganda)
Joseph DG Matimba (Zimbabwe)
Davis Sibande (Malawi)
Andrew Gift Umali (Malawi)
Mowbray Jones-Nelson (Ghana)
Yerro Bah (Gambia)
Awoke Mitku Tamrat (Ethiopia)
Nathan Chola (Zambia)
Emenyo Afi Nutakor (Ghana)
Audrey Ofori Armah (Ghana)
Agatha Mutale Mulenda (Zambia)
Kudzai Bushu (Zimbabwe)
Gutema Kajela Ejeta (Ethiopia)
Tupalishe Mulwafu (Malawi)
*Pending

Meet the judges!—To recognize their efforts, we interviewed two more of our long-standing Lex:lead judges this year: **1 Professor Dr Petra Butler** (Germany) (Victoria University Wellington) and **2 Anurag Bana** (India) (International Bar Association). About Lex:lead Anurag writes: *'I feel this is a brilliant initiative as it gives a chance to each and every member of the legal community to contribute and engage in meaningful and impactful work that not only motivates us all but makes a huge difference in people's lives around the world.'* Both have been valuable supporters of Lex:lead and we are extremely grateful for their contributions. Read their interviews on our website (*see Internships*).



1 Anurag Bana (India), International Bar Association, London UK



2 Dr Petra Butler (Germany), Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand

Next Competition Underway with New Winners February 2024—As we draft this newsletter each year, our next competition is underway with essays coming in ahead of the 31 December deadline. We had another successful year fundraising for our current competition, with **sincere thanks to our sponsors for the 16 awards raised in 2023:**

- 1 **Allen & Overy**, London UK (*one new award*)
- 2 **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**, London UK (*one new award*)
- 3 **DLA Piper**, London UK (*one carryover award reserved for Asia*)
- 4 **Jérôme Poitou**, New York (*one carry-over award reserved for Haiti*)
- 5 **Launch Legal**, Denver USA (*two new awards*)
- 6 **LEX: Africa Alliance**, Johannesburg, South Africa (*two new awards*)
- 7 **Linklaters**, London UK, (*three new awards*)
- 8 **Mayer Brown International**, London UK (*one new award*)
- 9 **Nancy Kaymar Stafford**, Washington DC (*one new award*)
- 10 **Skrine**, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (*one new award reserved for Asia*)
- 11 **Travers Smith**, London UK (*two new awards*)

Special thanks to Linklaters which increased its donation to sponsor three awards this year, as the group reaches out to include more eligible Asian and Haitian candidates in the competition.

Our 2023 competition now underway has students writing on *How effective have laws protecting the rights of children been to reduce poverty and support economic development? How could they be improved?* With nearly 500 registrations to date, **we look forward to announcing our next winners in February 2024!**

Donate to Lex:lead

Join the **Friends of Lex:lead** with donations up to US\$100. Benefactors are up to US\$500 and after US\$500 you get an award named after you! **Every donation—whether US\$20 or US\$100—helps our programs—**
www.lex-lead.org (*Donations*).