First launched in 2010 Lex:lead is currently underway with its eighth annual essay competition; but with internship placements, awards, and this year a mentoring program, here’s our news from 2018!

This Year’s Winners! In February we made a new high of 12 awards bringing us to a total of 57 (with internships over US$30,000 awarded). All answering: How can bank regulatory law reduce poverty and support economic development?, we congratulate our most recent winners:

1. Ms Nkandu Kunda Chota, Zambia - Sponsor: Allen & Overy
2. Mr Frederick Abu-Bonsrah, Ghana - Sponsor: DLA Piper
3. Ms Chitalu Yalobi, Zambia - Sponsor: DLA Piper
4. Mr Allabi Mailosi, Malawi - Sponsor: Linklaters
5. Mr Mathews Chione, Malawi - Sponsor: Linklaters
6. Mr Abel Yemaneab Zeru, Eritrea - Sponsor: Philipp Fischer
7. Ms Bertha Selemam Nanyaro, Tanzania - Sponsor: Travers Smith
9. Mr John Chaula, Malawi - Sponsor: IBA Fdn.
10. Mr Itael William Kimaro, Tanzania - Sponsor: Claude Moore Ch. Fdn.
11. Mr Hakimu Ngobi, Uganda - Sponsor: Claude Moore Ch. Fdn.
12. Mr Denzel Malikwa, Zimbabwe - Sponsor: Claude Moore Ch. Fdn.

With a special grant from the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation this year saw our first award to Zimbabwe. 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. Our winners are invited to join as Lex:lead Ambassadors representing our program in their countries and encouraging new applicants. Meet the winners, p.4.

Internships—With carryover funding we arranged more internships:

1. First in June scholarship winner Ms Nkandu Kunda Chota (Zambia) was accepted for a six-month paid part-time internship with German development aid agency Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Zambia. Lex:lead provided a US$500 stipend in honour of former Allen & Overy partner Stephen Denyer who has supported the group since inception (thank you!). In November Lex:lead made a further grant to Nkandu of US$300 for her studies.

2. In August we placed scholarship winner Mr Frederick Abu-Bonsrah (Ghana) with Advocates for Community Alternatives Ghana for a four-month assignment that included casework to the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice. Frederick’s stipend was funded by Friends of Lex:lead also with sincere thanks—the experience is invaluable.
World Bank LJD Week—In November we hosted Lex:lead dinners in New York and Washington DC to thank our judges and donors while attending the World Bank’s Law, Justice and Development (LJD) Week. Lex:lead is a partner to the World Bank Global Forum on Law, Justice and Development. Even better, 2016 Scholarship Winner Ms Mawunya Etsa Kudu (Ghana) was one of two winners selected by the World Bank in its LJD Week student competition presenting her project at the Bank in Washington DC. Congratulations Mawunya!

More Lex:lead Events!—1 In July and October we had London events with judges and prospective members; our October event welcomed scholarship winner Ms Redeat Kassahun Seifu (Ethiopia) on secondment to donor law firm DLA Piper. 2 In September First VP Rudy Ezeani (also Executive Director of the African Bar Association and attending a conference in Zambia on their behalf) and Advisory Board Member Sabine Midderhoff (with GIZ Zambia) hosted our Zambian winners at a reception in Lusaka—a highlight for the group!

Mentoring—Matching our judges and members with our students, Lex:lead introduced mentoring this year to help identify opportunities:

• Simone Scott-Sawyer (judge) with Ivan Allan Ojakol (Uganda)
• Lakwame Anyane-Yeboa (director) with Mary Musoni (Rwanda)
• Daniella Geller (treasurer) with Nagasa Tujuba Erba (Ethiopia)
• Zara Watkins (advisory board) with Galindo Ruhyyah Aliyo (Uganda)
• Yvette Dzakpasu (advisory board) with Lumela Lumela (Zambia)
• Haja Brimah (advisory board) with John Chaula (Malawi)
• Nankunda Katangaza (judge) with Frederick Abu-Bonsrah (Ghana)

Thank you to our mentors who each worked 1-to-1 with students to help them identify opportunities and how to achieve them. The pilot program earned high praise from students and will be repeated in 2019.

IBA Foundation; other publications—1 In June/July the International Bar Association Foundation published our 2016-2017 winning essays bringing us back to a full set; the Foundation has published all winning essays to date, an accomplishment the students like almost as much as winning the award in the first place! All essays posted to our Scholarships page.
**Lex:lead Ambassadors**

2010
Lemlem Fiseha Minale (Ethiopia)

2011
Edwin Webiro (Tanzania)
Sousena Kebede Tefera (Ethiopia)

2012
Rediet Zegeye Yigezu (Ethiopia)
Samrawit Getaneh Daritew (Ethiopia)
Redeit Kassahun Seifu (Ethiopia)
Hiilna Berhanu Degefa (Ethiopia)
Masa Jukielu Degefa (Ethiopia)

2013
Galindo Ruhiyiyah Alyo (Uganda)
Christopher Sengoga (Rwanda)
Anthony Peter Njau (Tanzania)
Milan Depakkumar Desai (Zambia)
Soreti Berhanu Workneh (Ethiopia)
Muchinda Muma (Zambia)
Gloria Ludigo (Uganda)

2014
Lubahri Afeworki Araya (Eritrea)
Baye Tsegay Asamro (Ethiopia)
Bereket Alemayehu Hagos (Ethiopia)
Nahom Abraham Weldeabirgi (Eritrea)
Pius Ntazinda (Rwanda)
Haftu Amare Girmay (Ethiopia)
Lumela Lumela (Zambia)
Walter Mandela (Uganda)
Mary Musoni (Rwanda)
Dieudonné Nzafesihanayo (Rwanda)

2015
Sara Killerman Abraham (Eritrea)
Moses Baguma (Uganda)
Tsidkenu (Paul) Moono (Zambia)
Ivan Allan Ojakol (Uganda)
Nsofwa Puta (Zambia)
Patsum Sbhatu Tewolde (Eritrea)
Negese Tujuba Erba (Ethiopia)
Binita Pandey (Nepal)
Tsebaot Lumela (Zambia)
Marga Fekdu Angerasa (Ethiopia)

All winning students are invited to become ambassadors of Lex:lead representing the program in their countries to other students. Eligibility also depends on our receipt of all mandatory forms in respect of the scholarship award.

**IBA Foundation; other publications cont’d—** Published in July, several Lex:leaders contributed to the 2017 American Bar Association (ABA) Year in Review (Africa) synopsis of legal developments worldwide including scholarship winners Mr Lumela Lumela (Zambia) and Mr Ivan Allan Ojakol (Uganda), judges Professor John Mukum Mbaku (Cameroon/USA) (then-co-chair of the ABA Africa Committee) and Mr Ganiyou Gassikia (Benin), along with board member Ms Anne Bodley (Australia) and group secretary Ms Mankah Fombang (Cameroon). In November, scholarship winner Mr Moses Baguma (Uganda) was invited as a guest speaker on an ABA Africa Committee call presenting his paper Taxation in Digital Space.

**Meet the judges!—The first of many to come** Lex:lead this year posted interviews with two of its judges: 1 Our very first judge who has volunteered his time each year, Mr Justice Iain Morley QC (UK); and 2 Another great friend of Lex:lead who has mentored as well as assessed essays, Ms Simone Scott-Sawyer (UK/Sierra Leone). Full interviews on the website (Internships page). Watch this space as more of our judges deserve recognition and will be featured soon!

**Leadership Updates**—While a few Lex:leaders had to step down this year (special thanks to departing member Mr Bert Denolf (Belgium)), we promoted our first winner Ms Lemlem Fiseha Minale (Ethiopia) to the board as well as advisory board member Ms Chioma Ayogu (Nigeria/USA). We also welcomed new members Ms Yvette Dzakpasu and Ms Haja Brimah (both Ghana/UK), and welcomed back Ms Ari Rentsen (Mongolia).

**New Competition Underway: More Winners in February 2019!**

As always we were out there fundraising to offer more scholarships to more students raising 12 more sponsorships this year for our 2018 competition now underway. With thanks also to Stephen Denyer for his efforts on our behalf we thank this year’s sponsors:

1 Allen & Overy, London UK
2 Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, USA (two awards)
3 DLA Piper, London UK (two awards)
4 Linklaters, London UK (two awards)
5 Travers Smith, London UK
6 Mr Philip Coulson, Nairobi, Kenya (new sponsor)
7 Skrine, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (new sponsor)
8 International Bar Association Foundation, USA (two awards).

A special thanks too to Friend of Lex:lead Stuart Kerr (Jones Day) whose support of our Washington DC dinner was the equivalent of an award.

**Current Competition:** Answering: How can laws affecting the free movement of people reduce poverty and support economic development?, in September we opened our latest competition to students across Africa, Asia and the Americas. Essays are due 31 December 2018 with our next winners announced February 2019!

Good luck to all applicants, and Happy New Year!
Meet the Winners! Our winning essays this last year came from:

**Nkandu Kunda Chota**—University of Zambia, Zambia
Our first intern with the German development aid agency (GIZ), Nkandu is vice chair of her university’s Law Focus Radio Show educating people in human rights.

**Frederick Abu-Bonsrah**—Ghana School of Law, Ghana
Doing his pupillage with Ab & David (Ghana), Frederick interned with Advocates for Community Alternatives and is a research/teaching assistant at KNUST.

**Chitalu Yalobi**—Zambia Inst. Advanced Legal Educ., Zambia
Best oralist at the African Court of Human and Peoples’ Rights Moot Competition, Chitalu is training at MC Mulenga and Co. and assisted with mobile legal app Apptorney.

**Allabi Mailosi**—University of Malawi, Malawi
A law graduate of Chancellor College (University of Malawi), Allabi has interned with the High Court of Malawi in Zomba.

**Mathews Chione**—University of Malawi, Malawi
Currently in his last year of law studies at Chancellor College (University of Malawi), Mathews spent his holidays working for legal aid to help disadvantaged members of the community.

**Abel Yemaneab Zeru**—Hahlale College, Eritrea
A student of public administration and law, Abel competed in the 15th International Humanitarian Law Essay Competition for East African Students.

**Bertha Seleman Nanyaro**—Law School of Tanzania, Tanzania
Legal Associate at Victory Attorneys & Consultants, Bertha was selected by the World Bank for a public-private partnerships course from an essay competition.

**Melaku Getachew Hailemariam**—Wolite Univ., Ethiopia
Gold medal graduate from Wolite University, Melaku teaches law at Wolaita Sodo University and won multiple international competitions. He provides legal aid to Wolite.

**John Chaula**—University of Malawi, Malawi
Trained as a teacher (producing the best results in national exams 2014-2015), John is earning his law degree and was one of our first mentees this year.

**Itael William Kimaro**—Tumaini Univ., Tanzania
A law graduate of Tumaini University and admitted to the Law School of Tanzania, Itael chaired the Tumaini Law Society Arbitration and Disciplinary Committee.

**Hakimu Ngobi**—Uganda Christian Univ., Uganda
Completing his law degree in 2019, Hakimu has interned with Okalang Law Chambers and with the Director of Public Prosecution’s Jinja regional office.

**Denzel Kumbirai Malikwa**—Midlands State Univ, Zimbabwe
A recent law graduate, Denzel has worked summers for Harare-based Chinawa Law Commercial Chambers and aims to join a commercial practice in 2019.

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Lex:lead Ambassadors (cont’d)

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<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mateo Fatsani Chitha (Malawi)</td>
<td>Nkandu Kunda Chota (Zambia)</td>
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<td>Rahel Alemayehu Ayana (Ethiopia)</td>
<td>Frederick Abu-Bonsrah (Ghana)</td>
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<td>Chileke Sakala (Zambia)</td>
<td>Chitalu Yalobi (Zambia)</td>
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<td>Eliya Zawanda (Malawi)</td>
<td>Bertha Seleman Nanyaro (Tanzania)</td>
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<td>Mawunya Elsa Kudu (Ghana)</td>
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<td>M Collins Banda (Malawi)</td>
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Friends of Lex:lead:
The group relaunched its Friends of Lex:lead program this year. Join our Friends program with donations up to US$100. Donations up to US$500 are Benefactors and over US$500 you get a scholarship named after you! Every donation—whether US$20 or US$200—helps us fund awards, internships and more; and joining our Friends program is easy—see our website at www.lex-lead.org (Donations).

Lost your spot on our Mailing List?
With an overhaul of data protection laws this year Lex:lead overhauled its mailing list. Sign up for our newsletters and communications at: www.lex-lead.org (About Us).

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302A W 12 Street No 280, New York NY 10014, USA
contact@lex-lead.org | www.lex-lead.org
Page 4