

# The Lex:lead Group

Lawyers for Economic Advancement and Development

December 2019

## *This Year's News from Lex:lead*

First launched in 2010, all-volunteer Lex:lead is underway with its **ninth** annual essay competition; but with internship placements, awards, mentoring and publications, here's our news from 2019!

### **Judges**

Professor Uma Balakrishnan  
(India)  
Judge Sir David Baragwanath KNZM  
(New Zealand)  
Ms Paige Berges  
(USA)  
Dr Carolin Crabbe  
(USA)  
Dr Elimma Ezeani  
(Nigeria)  
Mr Günter Fischer  
(Germany)  
Mr Ganiyou Gassikia  
(Benin)  
Dr Abdallah Gonzi  
(Tanzania)  
Ms Imrana Jalal (Fiji)  
Ms Nankunda Katangaza  
(Canada)  
Ms Dianna Kempe JP QC  
(Bermuda)  
Ambassador Peter Maddens  
(Belgium)  
Dr Dina Mansour-Ille  
(Germany/UK)  
Professor John Mukum Mbaku  
(Cameroon)  
Hon. Justice Iain Morley QC  
(UK)  
Hon. Aminatta LR N'gum  
(Gambia)  
Ms Sun-Hee Park (Korea)  
Dr Marta Pertegas  
(Spain)  
Ms Simone Scott-Sawyer  
(Sierra Leone/UK)  
Justice Francis M Ssekandi  
(Uganda)  
Dr Phillip Tahmindjis AM  
(Australia)  
Chief Charles Taku  
(Cameroon)  
Ms Maria (Mayee) Warren  
(Philippines)

*With great thanks for their time and expertise, our judges sat in January 2019 in teams each independently assessing about 10 of the essays.*

**This Year's Winners!** In February we made 11 new awards bringing our total to 68 (with internships nearly **US\$40,000** awarded). All answering: *How can laws affecting the free movement of people reduce poverty and support economic development?*, we **congratulate:**



**Mawusi Eyi Kudu**—*Ghana School of Law, Ghana*  
**Leading the way** with one of our top essays this year.  
**Sponsor: Allen & Overy**



**Kasanga Ngulube**—*University of Zambia, Zambia*  
Selected to intern with German development aid (**GIZ**).  
**Sponsor: Claude Moore Charitable Foundation**



**Kiddus Merkorios Gebreamlak**—*Addis Ababa Univ., Ethiopia*  
A master's candidate in law at Addis Ababa University.  
**Sponsor: DLA Piper**



**Victor Nsoh Azure**—*University of Ghana, Ghana*  
**Contributing researcher** to the American Bar Association (ABA) Year in Review (Africa). **Sponsor: Linklaters**



**Nana Adwoa Baiden**—*Ghana School of Law, Ghana*  
Lex:lead intern with **Advocates for Community Alternatives** and IBA published. **Sponsor: Linklaters**



**Chimango Nyasulu**—*University of Malawi, Malawi*  
Participated in our mentoring scheme with Haja Brimah (Advisory Board). **Sponsor: Travers Smith**



**Innocent Zimba**—*University of Malawi, Malawi*  
Worked with Lex:lead judge Maria (Mayee) Warren in our mentoring scheme. **Sponsor: Philip Coulson**



**Andrew Kakanda**—*University of Zambia, Zambia*  
Mentored by Advisory Board member (and donor) Jérôme Poitou. **Sponsor: Skrine**



**Stella Amanuel Araya**—*Adi Keih College, Eritrea*  
Contributing researcher to the American Bar Association (ABA) Year in Review (Africa). **Honoree: Stuart Kerr**



**Ivy Akuzike Nkhata**—*University of Malawi, Malawi*  
Law student at Chancellor College, University of Malawi.  
**Sponsor: IBA Foundation**



**Momodou Manneh**—*Univ. of the Gambia, Gambia*  
Published by the ABA (International Criminal Law) on Gambia's Truth Commission. **Sponsor: IBA Foundation**

Having carried over awards reserved for **Asia** and for **Zimbabwe**, we are hopeful of making these awards this year. The **US\$500 awards** pay up to half the student's share of their degree (e.g. under Ethiopia's

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### **Patron**

Hon. Dame Linda Dobbs QC  
DBE (UK)

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Stuart Kerr (USA)  
Nankunda Katangaza (Canada)  
Dr Dina Mansour-Ille  
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Ari Rentsen  
(Mongolia)  
Martha Haile (Ethiopia)  
Olukayode Majekodunmi  
(Nigeria)

**Winners (cont'd)** cost-sharing program); half a year or semester elsewhere. Winners are invited to join as **Lex:lead Ambassadors** representing Lex:lead in their countries and encouraging new applicants.

**Internships**—We were **asked back** for **four more interns** this year: **1 First**, in February **Chileke Sakala** (Zambia) (2016) was accepted for a six-month paid internship with German development aid agency *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)* Zambia; **2** followed in October when **Kasanga Ngulube** (Zambia) (2018) was also selected. As paid internships Lex:lead is not providing a stipend for these placements, but is happy to have facilitated them.



**1** 2016 Scholarship Winner Chileke Sakala at GIZ Zambia



**2** 2018 Scholarship Winner Kasanga Ngulube (Zambia) at GIZ, Zambia

**3 Advocates for Community Alternatives** Ghana was so pleased with its first Lex:lead intern that they asked for a second and in June **Nana Adwoa Baiden** (Ghana) joined them for a three-month role that included casework with the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice. Nana Adwoa's stipend was funded by **Friends of Lex:lead**. **4** In November, the **World Bank** asked for more Lex:lead interns too, following which **Moses Baguma** (Uganda) was selected for a four-month part-time remote assignment also funded by the **Friends of Lex:lead**.



**3** Scholarship Winner Nana Adwoa Baiden (Ghana) (second from left) at Advocates for Community Alternatives



**4** Scholarship Winner Moses Baguma (Uganda) at work for the World Bank (Kampala, Uganda)

**Publications**—**1** In June, the **International Bar Association (IBA) Foundation** published our latest winning essays; the Foundation has published **all our winning essays to date** (see *Scholarships* page), an accomplishment of which we—and our winners—are very proud. **2** Published in July, a number of Lex:leaders contributed to the **2019 American Bar Association (ABA) Year in Review** (Africa) synopsis of legal developments, including award winners **Stella Amanuel Araya** (Eritrea), **Victor Nsoh Azure** (Ghana) and **Chileke Sakala** (Zambia); Lex:lead judge **Professor John Mukum Mbaku** (Cameroon/USA); and Lex:lead President/Founder **Anne Bodley** (Australia). **3** In December, the **IBA** published **Nana Adwoa Baiden** (Ghana)'s essay applying to their International Human Rights Law e-Learning Course. All on the website!

**DLA Piper Fellow, American Bar Association**—**1** In February, Scholarship Winner **Amanda (Mandy) Sindila** (Zambia) joined the ranks of Lex:leaders selected by international law firm **DLA Piper** for

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**Honorary Ambassador**

Graciela (Guetty) Da Cruz  
(Timor-Leste)

**Lex:lead Ambassadors**

2010

Lemlem Fiseha Minale (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 Ruhiiyyah 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 Kiflemariam 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)

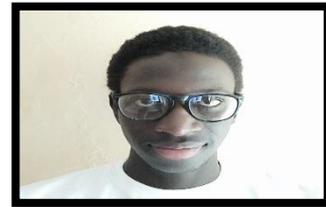
*All winning students are invited to become ambassadors of Lex:lead representing the program in their countries to other students.*

*Eligibility also depends on our receipt of all mandatory forms in respect of the scholarship award.*

**DLA Piper, ABA (cont'd)** their two-year fellowship program, gaining work experience and training in Dubai, London, Tanzania and Zambia with their support in completing her qualifications at the Zambia Institute of Advanced Legal Education (ZIALE). **2** In November, award winner **Momodou Manneh** (Gambia) was invited to present to the ABA (Africa Committee) on his country's **Truth, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission** following which his presentation was accepted for publication by the **ABA International Criminal Law Committee** in its Year in Review submission.



**1** DLA Piper Fellow Amanda (Mandy) Sindila, December 2019



**2** Scholarship Winner Momodou Manneh (Gambia), published by the ABA

**ABA award, fundraising success—1** In July, President/Founder **Anne Bodley** was presented with the **American Bar Association (ABA) Outstanding International Corporate Counsel Award** for her work with Lex:lead. The award recognized the group's nearly 10 years working to bring opportunities to Lex:lead countries to showcase their talent. **2 Another achievement** of which the group was proud this year was supporting Lex:lead winner **Nkandu Chota** (Zambia) to raise the funds she needed to complete her law studies. Nkandu and the group owe particular thanks to patron **Hon. Dame Linda Dobbs DBE QC** whose efforts were transformative in raising the balance.



**1** Lex:lead President/Founder Anne Bodley receiving the ABA OICC Award, Oxford University, July 2019



**2** Scholarship Winner—and soon-to-be University of Zambia law graduate—Nkandu Kunda Chota (Zambia)

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

- **Lakwame Anyane-Yebo** (Director) with **Mawusi Eyi Kudu** (Ghana)
- **Daniella Geller** (Treasurer) with **Victor Nsoh Azure** (Ghana)
- **Chioma Ayogu** (Director) with **Nana Adwoa Baiden** (Ghana)
- **Haja Brimah** (Advisory Board) with **Chimango Nyasulu** (Malawi)
- **Mayee Warren** (Judge) with **Innocent Zimba** (Malawi)
- **Jérôme Poitou** (Advisory Board) with **Andrew Kakanda** (Zambia)
- **Dr Dina Mansour-Ille** (Judge) with **Stella Amanuel Araya** (Eritrea)
- **Francis Sinsai** (Advisory Board) with **Momodou Manneh** (Gambia)
- **Nankunda Katangaza** (Judge) with **Mohammed Jemal** (Ethiopia)

**A sincere thanks to all our mentors** who each worked 1-to-1 monthly with students to help them identify opportunities and how to achieve them. The group aims to continue with this program next year.

**Lex:lead Ambassadors (cont'd)**

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)  
Abel Yemaneab Zeru (Eritrea)  
Bertha Seleman Nanyaro (Tanzania)  
John Chaula (Malawi)  
Itael William Kimaro (Tanzania)  
Hakiimu Ngobi (Uganda)  
Denzel Kumbirai Malikhwa (Zimbabwe)

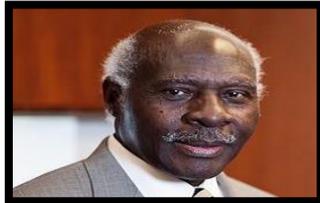
2018

Mawusi Eyi Kudu (Ghana)  
Kasanga Ngulube (Zambia)  
Victor Nsoh Azure (Ghana)  
Nana Adwoa Baiden (Ghana)  
Chimango Nyasulu (Malawi)  
Innocent Zimba (Malawi)  
Andrew Kakanda (Zambia)  
Stella Amanuel Araya (Eritrea)  
Momodou Manneh (Gambia)

**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](http://www.lex-lead.org) (*Donations*).

**Meet the judges!**—Following our introduction last year of interviews with some of our Lex:lead judges, we posted two more to the website this year: **1 World Bank Administrative Tribunal Judge and Columbia Law School Professor Francis Ssekandi** (Uganda); and **2** One of the inspirations behind Lex:lead in the first place, former **International Bar Association President Dianne Kempe JP QC** (Bermuda). The full interviews on our website on the *Internships* page. Many of our judges volunteer their time and expertise each year for which we are deeply grateful—we couldn't do this without them. **Watch this space** as many more of our judges deserve recognition and will be featured soon!



**1** Judge Professor Francis Ssekandi (Uganda), formerly General Counsel to the African Development Bank



**2** Dianna Kempe JP QC (Bermuda), possibly the inspiration to Lex:lead in the first place

For a full list of this year's judges (who will be thanked in next year's newsletter), please see our website at [www.lex-lead.org](http://www.lex-lead.org). This year's judges will sit in January 2020 for awards in February 2020.

**New Competition Underway: More Winners in February 2020!**

With the aim of achieving **100 Awards by Year 10 next year**, we were out fundraising to offer **15 awards this year** (to bring us to 83 awards) for our 2019 competition now underway, aiming at **17 awards next year** (to bring that up to 100). With sincere thanks, we received generous funding from the following sponsors of our next awards:

- 1 Allen & Overy**, London UK (*one award*)
- 2 Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**, London UK (*two awards*)
- 3 Claude Moore Charitable Foundation**, Virginia, USA (*one award*)
- 4 DLA Piper**, London UK (*two awards*)
- 5 Hon Dame Linda Dobbs DBE QC**, London UK (*one award*)
- 6 Linklaters**, London UK (*two awards*)
- 7 Launch Legal**, Denver USA (*new sponsor; one award*)
- 8 LEX:Africa**, Johannesburg, South Africa (*new sponsor; two awards*)
- 9 International Bar Association Foundation**, USA (*two awards*)
- 10 Jérôme Poitou**, China (*new sponsor; one award*)

Many of our donors have also sponsored us each year for which we are sincerely grateful.

**Current Competition:** While we're recapping this year, a new host of students has been working on the next essays. Answering this year's question: *How can access to justice reduce poverty and support economic development*, in September 2019 we opened our latest competition across **Africa, Asia** and the **Americas**. With reserved awards for Asia, Zimbabwe and Haiti, the next essays are **due 31 December 2019** with our **new winners announced February 2020!**

**Good luck to all applicants, and Happy New Year!**