

## LEGISLATION DRAFTING EXPERT LECTURES AT IMLI

IMLI had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Duane A. R. Allen (Assistant Parliamentary Counsel at Jamaica's Office of the Parliamentary Counsel) on 3 March 2014.

Mr. Allen's first lecture encapsulated the role of legislation in the legal order, the significance of domestic legislation on the international plane and the importance of adopting and domesticating international treaties. In his discussions, Mr. Allen delved in depth into the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.



*Mr. Duane Allen meeting the students of the IMLI Class of 2013/2014*

During his second lecture Mr. Allen focused on the process and style of drafting maritime legislation. In so doing he drew examples from both Common and Civil law systems.

In addition to serving in his primary role as a Legislation Draftsman, Mr. Allen presently serves as Head of Teaching at the Paralegal Training Institute in Kingston, Jamaica, where he lectures on a wide variety of subjects. In his primary role, he has been and continues to be heavily involved in the drafting of maritime legislation in Jamaica.

He was called to the Jamaican Bar in October of 2002. Mr. Allen commenced his career as a criminal prosecutor, a role in which he served for four years. Thereafter, he served as the sole and first ever Legal Officer of Jamaica's Consumer Affairs Commission where he advised primarily on the state of Jamaica's consumer protection legislation.

Mr. Allen studied law at the University of the West Indies and the Norman Manley Law School. In 2008 he was awarded with distinction a Postgraduate Certificate in Legislative Drafting by the University of Guyana in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat. He returned to Guyana in 2011 for a three-month period as a Draftsman at the Caribbean Community Secretariat.

Mr. Allen enrolled at IMLI later that year as an IMO Scholar and was awarded in 2012 the Masters of Laws (LL.M.) Degree in International Maritime Law with distinction as well as the Professor Walter Müller Prize for the Best Legislation Drafting Project.

The students of the IMLI Class of 2013/2014 were indeed appreciative of his very enlightening and practical lectures.

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