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Too cool for (law) school? Using technology to engage students in legal skills

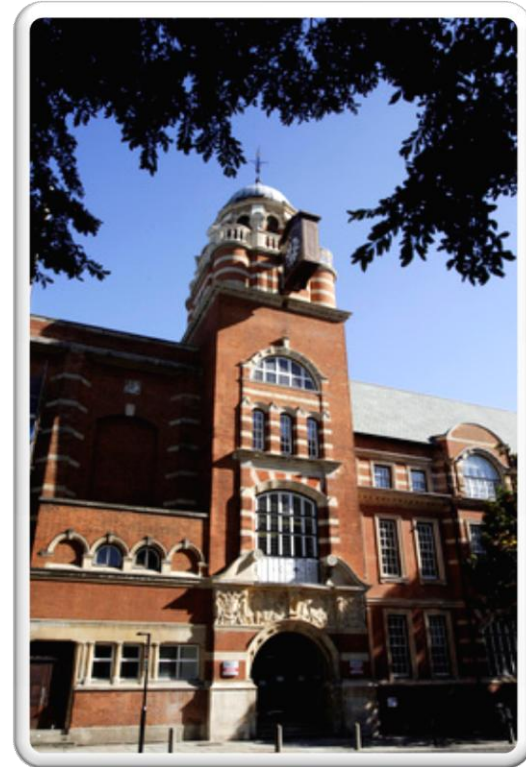
Emily Allbon



Sanmeet Kaur Dua
George Buchanan

Where did it all start...?

- ▶ My role
- ▶ Lawbore elements
 - ▶ Topic guides
 - ▶ Hub
 - ▶ Future Lawyer blog
 - ▶ Learnmore



CITY UNIVERSITY
LONDON



Learning legal skills: what worries me



Better and targeted research



- ▶ Search engine holding all the answers?
- ▶ Surface learning
- ▶ Internet stealing away our capacity to concentrate
- ▶ Spence (2004) *'we're on the web all the time. We can find the information we need'*



What worries them?

writing | research | exams | mooting | law careers



Existing problems for engagement

- ▶ Skills gap A-levels to degree
 - ▶ Lecture/tutorial model
- ▶ Managing student expectation – helping them see it informs all learning
- ▶ Subject can seem dull in comparison with substantive

MIND THE GAP



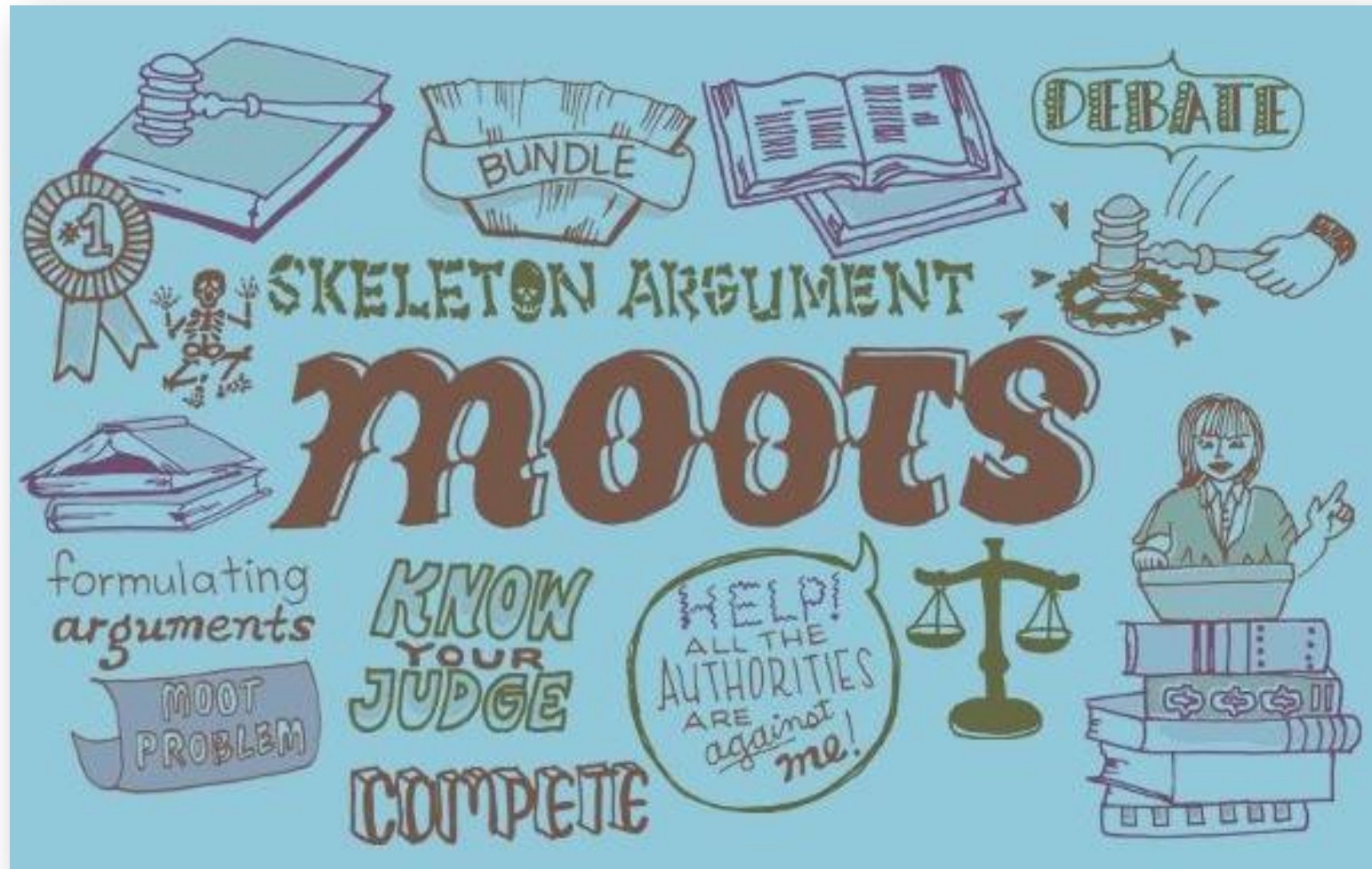
So what did our resource have to be/do?

Eye catching visually

- ▶ Resource-based
 - ▶ Focused around the students
 - ▶ Available 24/7
 - ▶ Promote independence and academic confidence
 - ▶ Lots of multimedia
-



Let's take a look...



Why does multimedia help?

- ▶ *I'm that type of learner/everyone learns by different methods – closes the learning gap*
 - ▶ *More interesting medium*
 - ▶ *Get the chance to watch it again*
 - ▶ *More fun to work so I concentrate more/get us students working with a greater passion*
 - ▶ *Makes it stick more in my mind/ideal for people who are more 'hands-on'*
 - ▶ *Able to visually see things*
 - ▶ *Variety of resources is refreshing, not dull and boring like a book*
 - ▶ *Breaks up lectures/visuals can be beneficial from the daily monotonous lecturers talking*
-



What methods did we chose...?

The law report hierarchy

- ▶ Top spot is held by the originally named **The Law Reports**.
- ▶ Don't get confused between these and the many other series of law reports.



Everything you wanted to know about Law Reports



Emily Allbon
Law Librarian
[Bio](#) | [Contact](#)

Outline	Thumb	Notes	Search
Slide Title		Duration	
Everything you wante...		00:13	▲ ☰ ▼
What are law reports?		00:11	
Random facts about l...		00:43	
How do we know wha...		00:35	
Help is here		00:09	
▶ The law report hierar...		00:27	
Importance of The Be...		00:12	
Significance of this?		00:08	
Practice Direction adv...		00:12	
Is this always possible?		00:23	
How do you find very ...		00:30	
7 Minutes 26 Seconds Remaining			



Slide 6 / 33 | Playing

00:05 / 00:27



Research on Learnmore



Law profs....yawn...

- ▶ “Law professors’ personal stories about *‘how I learned it’* – somewhat meaningless and antiquated...Novice peers, are perfect mirrors to help each other reflect and regulate law student learning” (Herndon, 2010)

And then in
1974...



=



“Felt inspired by reading about what others in our position have achieved”



What do the students think about Learnmore as a learning resource?

'It helps to have lots of different types of resources to learn from, not being reliant on always learning by reading!'

'Different resources – online tutorials, slideshows and videos – present the information in a fun and stimulating way...'

'It gets intense going through textbooks as reading can become a chore – nice to have something to lighten it'

'Suits different people and how they study'



An app?

JISC funded until end of
May 2012

- ▶ Interactivity
- ▶ On the move
- ▶ Visual crispness
- ▶ Wider reach
- ▶ Try something new



Challenges?



- ▶ Mainly concern info architecture
- ▶ Need to be Tactile
- ▶ Consistent
- ▶ Compatibility
- ▶ Established feelings to web version
- ▶ Future-proofing
- ▶ Ensuring the students like it!



Sneak
preview



LearnMore
EXPAND YOUR LEGAL MIND

CAREERS

The Careers category is the best place to start when looking to get that foot in the door, whether it be learning about the establishments which are important, how to get going with some pro bono work or where to find help..

Check out this article about gaining valuable experience in work placements during your studies....

Getting some experience



law tutorials by
lawbore™



- ▶ New content creation
- ▶ ...look for more funding!
- ▶ Template for text pieces
- ▶ Illustrations
- ▶ Activities
- ▶ Re-recording audio
- ▶ Testing, testing testing!
- ▶ Roll out

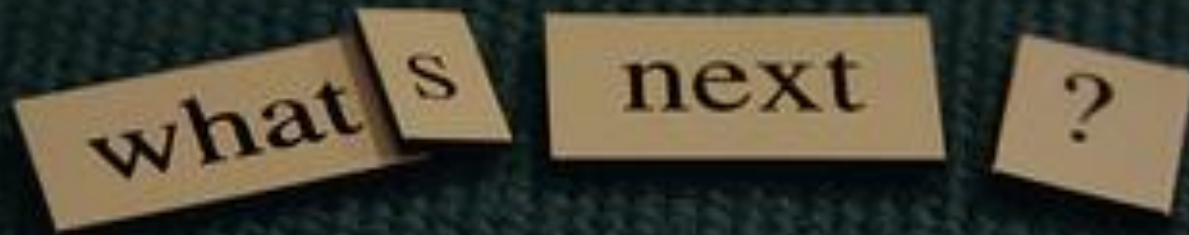


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