



JUNIOR LAWYERS
DIVISION



Call for Junior Lawyers: Legal Innovation Dragons' Den Pitch Team – Twin Bars Event 05 June 2026

Event: Legal Innovation Dragons' Den – Twin Bars Academic Day



Date: Friday 05 June 2026

Location: University of Exeter

Background

The DASLS International Relations Committee are hosting the Annual Twin Bars Event in Exeter on Friday 05 June 2026 to Sunday 07 June 2026. We are looking forward to welcoming lawyers from our 6 Twin Bars across Europe.

To reflect the DASLS President Ben Darby's keen interest in legal innovation, this year's Academic Day for the Twin Bars Event will be a series of pitches. Each delegation is invited to present a 6 minute innovation pitch.

This session is designed to stimulate discussion, share best practice, and strengthen professional ties across our partner bars.

Introduction

This year, we are forming a team of junior lawyers to represent Exeter, our Bar, at our Twin Bars Academic Day at the University of Exeter where the Dragons' Den Legal Innovation Pitch Event will take place on Friday 05 June 2026.

The final pitch team is expected to consist of approximately 4 to 6 junior lawyers. Successful applicants will work collaboratively on a shared pitch idea rather than individual ideas.

The selected team will:

- Develop and refine a 6 minute innovation pitch

- Face questions from the Dragons, who have an impressive range of backgrounds (please see Our Dragons information Sheet)
- Represent junior lawyers from Devon and Somerset on an international stage
- Collaborate with peers from different legal systems and backgrounds

We are looking for ideas, energy, creativity, and collaboration, not polished final products.

Training

We are working closely with DASJSL to ensure the Pitch team are well supported by DASLS and DSJLD, and accordingly our selected team will be provided with a fantastic opportunity - pitch training with Exeter Innovation. We have attached their Pitch Guide for more information.

What We're Looking For

We are interested in innovative concepts that explore areas including (but not limited to):

- Legal technology and digital transformation
- Access to justice initiatives
- AI applications in legal services
- Practice management or process innovation
- New legal service delivery models
- Cross-border working or working across different professions or practice areas
- Client-centric or community-focused legal solutions

No coding or technical expertise is required, clear thinking and problem-solving matter more than technical depth.

Who Should Apply

- Junior lawyers (e.g. trainees, paralegals, newly qualified solicitors, junior barristers, legal researchers); and
- Interested in innovation, collaboration and pitching ideas.

Time commitments

- A short development phase leading up to the event; and
- Full academic day on Friday 05 June 2026 at the University of Exeter.

Preparation is expected to involve occasional virtual and/or in person meetings over [NUMBER] weeks, scheduled flexibly to accommodate work commitments.

Applications will be assessed on:

- ·Quality and originality of thinking
- ·Enthusiasm for collaboration and innovation
- ·Ability to communicate ideas clearly
- ·Commitment to the preparation process

- Prior pitching or innovation experience is not required.

Estimated completion time for application: 20 to 30 minutes

Application deadline: [DATE]

Successful applicants chosen: [DATE]

Please use the enclosed Application Form if you wish to apply to be a part of this exciting opportunity. Please note the deadline is [DATE], and we will contact the successful applicants by [DATE].

We look forward to receiving your application. Happy innovating!