

**DVC Lecture Series – Inaugural Lecture**  
**Des Voeux Chambers Oxford-Cambridge-HKU Visiting Fellowship Lecture**  
**Dr Brian Sloan (Cambridge) and Dr Jordan English (Oxford)**  
**Two Perspectives on *Guest v Guest***



**Monday, 8 September 2025**



**5:30 PM Registration**

**6:00 PM Talk**

**7:00 PM Drinks Reception**



**Des Voeux Chambers**

38/F, Gloucester Tower, Landmark

15 Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong



**English**



\*CPD Accreditation from the Law Society of Hong Kong is being applied for. RSVP by clicking the button to the right or by email ([pd@dvc.hk](mailto:pd@dvc.hk))

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## Synopsis

*Guest v Guest* [2022] UKSC 27 is now the leading authority in England and Wales on the appropriate remedial response to a successful plea of proprietary estoppel. Where a claimant had relied to their detriment on informal representations that they would be granted an interest in land, there had previously been considerable debate about whether the claimant should have their expectations fulfilled or generally be limited to having their detriment reversed. In *Guest v Guest*, a majority of the United Kingdom Supreme Court expressed a preference for the expectation-based approach, subject to some exceptions. While the decision can be regarded as settling the debate in England as a matter of positive law, the full implications of its approach are both unclear and controversial.

In this joint lecture, Dr Brian Sloan and Dr Jordan English will discuss the decision in *Guest v Guest* and its potential implications for Hong Kong law. The lecture will consider recent decisions on proprietary estoppel in Hong Kong case law (eg, *Ng Sew Hoi v Chong Yin Sing* [2024] HKCFI 414 and *So Kwai Chung v Wong Wai Ying Anita* [2025] HKCFA 8) and whether Hong Kong courts have adopted, and should adopt, the reasoning of the majority in *Guest v Guest*.

## Speakers



**Dr Brian Sloan**

DVC Cambridge-HKU Visiting Fellow;  
Assistant Professor in Property Law  
University of Cambridge



**Dr Jordan English**

DVC Oxford-HKU Visiting Fellow;  
Associate Professor of Law  
University of Oxford



**Jenkin Suen SC**

Senior Counsel  
Des Voeux Chambers



## Speakers



**Dr Brian Sloan**

DVC Cambridge-HKU  
Visiting Fellow;  
Assistant Professor  
Property Law  
University of Cambridge



Individual Profile

Brian Sloan is an Assistant Professor in Property Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, and a Fellow of Robinson College. He teaches Equity, Family Law, Land Law and the Law of Succession. Brian's publications include *Informal Carers and Private Law* (Hart, 2013, a winner of the University of Cambridge's Yorke Prize), *Borkowski's Law of Succession* (4th edition OUP, 2020), *Landmark Cases in Succession Law* (ed., Hart, 2019), and *A Research Agenda for Succession Law* (ed., Edward Elgar, forthcoming). Brian is an academic member of the Property Litigation Association and an honorary academic member of the Property Bar Association in the UK. As well as being a Des Voeux Chambers-Hong Kong University Visiting Fellow in August-September 2025, he was previously a Visiting Fellow at City University of Hong Kong.



**Dr Jordan English**

DVC Oxford-HKU Visiting Fellow;  
Associate Professor of Law  
University of Oxford



Individual Profile

Jordan English is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Oxford and a Tutor and Fellow in Law at Magdalen College. Jordan's research focuses on private law, with a particular emphasis on contract law and property law. He is the author of *Discharge of Contractual Obligations* (Oxford University Press, 2025), which has recently been shortlisted for the SLS Peter Birks Prize for Outstanding Early Career Scholarship, and the co-author of the *The Law of Tracing* (Federation Press, 2021). His research has been cited widely, including by the High Court of Australia, the New South Wales Court of Appeal, the Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia, the England and Wales High Court (Commercial Court), and the Grand Court of the Cayman Islands.

## Moderator



### Jenkin Suen SC

Des Voeux Chambers  
LLB (HKU) BCL (Oxon)  
MLACS (HKU)



Individual Profile

Jenkin Suen SC is a prominent civil silk who specialises in international arbitration, company and insolvency law, regulatory practice, public law, and land law. He studied international arbitration and dispute resolution in Oxford University, often represents foreign and Chinese enterprises in commercial arbitrations, including those conducted in both English and Chinese (Mandarin), and has appeared as advocate in injunctions and enforcement proceedings for arbitrations. He is on the panel of arbitrators of SHIAC, BAC and BIAC. He was also appointed as a Recorder of the Court of First Instance of the High Court in August 2024.

## Des Voeux Chambers HKU Visiting Fellowship with Oxford/Cambridge

Since September 2015, Des Voeux Chambers has proudly sponsored and facilitated prestigious visiting fellowship schemes with both the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. These schemes promote vibrant academic exchange and collaboration with HKU, enabling esteemed faculty members from each university to spend a month as visiting fellows at the HKU Faculty of Law. The initiative has strengthened international ties and fostered collaboration between the institutions.

## DVC Lecture Series

The DVC Lecture Series is a new initiative designed to foster ongoing professional development and knowledge-sharing within the legal community. Scheduled to take place regularly at our Chambers, this series provides a dedicated platform for members of the legal community to deliver and discuss timely legal updates, insights, and expert perspectives with fellow practitioners. Committed to enriching the profession, the series aims to facilitate meaningful dialogue, support continuous learning, and uphold our responsibilities to society through high-quality legal discussion. Email [pd@dvc.hk](mailto:pd@dvc.hk) to be added to the mailing list for the DVC Lecture Series.

