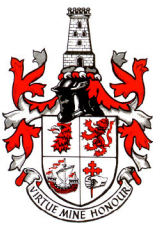


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The National Centre for Business Law invites you to attend a lecture with

**Doreen McBarnet, Professor of Socio-Legal  
Studies, University of Oxford, and Visiting  
Professor, University of Edinburgh**

**Legal engineering and the financial crisis:  
bankers, lawyers and responsibility**

**Thursday, November 24, 2011**

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

**Room 122, Faculty of Law at Allard Hall**

Drawing on empirical research on bankers and major law firms, this paper examines issues of responsibility in and for the banking crisis, and demonstrates the business and professional cultures and practices which contributed to it. It focuses on the practice of 'financial engineering' underlying the crisis and demonstrates how this crucially involves 'legal engineering'. It shows how this shift of focus to *legal* engineering also crucially shifts the attribution of responsibility for the crisis. The paper considers the wider implications for corporate and professional ethics, and for the regulation of banking, and indeed of business in general.

**Doreen McBarnet** has for many years been Professor of Socio-Legal Studies at Oxford University and is also long term Visiting Professor at Edinburgh University Law School. After early work on criminal justice (*Conviction*, Macmillan, 1981, paper 1983), her main research interest for many years has been business regulation and business practice, based on empirical research in areas such as corporate governance, corporate finance, tax, accounting and banking, and with a particular focus on the practice and culture she has termed 'creative compliance'. Her publications on corporate governance include *Creative Accounting and the Cross-eyed javelin thrower* (with Chris Whelan, Wiley, 1999, paperback), many of her articles on tax avoidance and business regulation have been collected in the book, *Crime compliance and control* (Ashgate, 2004), and her most recent book sets the legal regulation of business in the wider context of corporate social responsibility (*The New Corporate Accountability: corporate social responsibility and the law*, edited with A Voiculescu and T Campbell, Cambridge University Press, 2007, paperback 2009).

Please RSVP to [Burchill@law.ubc.ca](mailto:Burchill@law.ubc.ca). Lunch will be provided.