The opener

60-SECOND INTERVIEW
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We spoke to the Associate Dean and Chief Programs Officer of USC Gould School of Law about what’s on the Recognised Course Provider’s (RCP’s) radar in 2018.

How important is it for USC Gould School of Law to be a CIARB RCP?
Being an RCP is very important in our determination to be a leader in ADR education internationally and in aiding our students to become outstanding practitioners. To have the opportunity of ongoing mentorship and training from CIARB is extremely valuable for our students.

What is the appetite for ADR learning in the US at present?
With growing awareness in the US of ADR’s benefits in terms of lower costs, quicker resolutions and outcomes that often preserve relationships in comparison to litigation, the demand for ADR education has been increasing. To complement our long-standing ADR courses, in 2017 we launched a standalone ADR programme – with two degrees, one certificate and flexible enrolment options – to meet the current demand from working professionals to learn ADR at USC Gould.

What are the prospects for your graduates – and where are the greatest opportunities for ADR professionals right now?
Some of the greatest opportunities for our ADR graduates involve leveraging their prior experience with their ADR work. This is especially true for our international students who are fluent in multiple languages and/or have prior legal or business experience in another country. Exciting opportunities also exist for those who creatively use social media, communication, networking and marketing to connect their ADR skills with the ever-increasing demand for such services.

In your opinion, what are the greatest challenges to ADR professionals going forward?
Challenges for the future include promoting greater awareness of the processes and benefits of ADR to those who need such services but are not aware of them. There is also the challenge of establishing greater trust and credibility within the public for ADR practitioners, who are among the only professionals not subject to licensure in the US. We look forward to helping address these challenges as a leader within ADR education.

CIARB INDIA
Making an impact in India

Machukshekar Desai, CEO and Managing Trustee of the Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA), and Chandirakant Kamdar C.Arb, Director of Training of CIARB’s India Branch, have signed a memorandum of understanding that will see CIARB training courses held at MCIA throughout 2018. CIARB India is taking a number of steps to increase awareness of ADR in India, including working with chambers of commerce across India, the launch of a Young Members Group and an essay competition. CIARB’s India Branch has also submitted a pilot Student Project for CIARB approval, and plans to offer internships to its student members in India and other countries.

Diversity award for Greenwood

International arbitrator Lucy Catherine Greenwood C.Arb, Chair of the North America Branch, has received a 2018 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Diversity in ADR from the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR). The award was presented at CPR’s annual meeting in Atlanta in March. According to CPR, those nominating Greenwood noted her long-standing efforts to gather and analyse extensive data, used to monitor progress in the field of diversity.

Family ADR grows fast

There have been 194 family arbitrations since 2012 and 153 (79%) of these since May 2017

Source: FIA

So said Elissa Da Costa-Waldman MCIArb (New Court Chambers), just one of the expert participants who addressed the CIARB London Branch on the subject of “Family Arbitration – Is it stuck in the doldrums?” in February 2018. Find out more at bit.ly/FamilyADR