## Giving advice via remote access systems



# Open Justice Law Clinic



- Opened in September 2017
- · Virtual law clinic
- Range of legal advice including contract, tort, consumer, small claims and employment
- Generate cases via our website
- Cases are triaged, if suitable for the clinic allocated to a firm of students
- Interviewed via Adobe connect- evenings/weekends
- Cases are managed through Clio case management system
- Advice only- 21 days from the interview

# BPP Enterprise Clinic



- Opened in March 2017 Manchester and London
- Aimed at start-ups and small enterprises
- Initial-advice only
- Fact-finding meeting followed by emailed advice within 14 days
- Partnerships with The Entrepreneurial Refugee Network
- Meetings in person and via Skype approximately 25% of appointments conducted via Skype
- Paperless clinic Intralinks (Document Management System),
   Trello & Slack.

# Why have a virtual law clinic?

Wanted to reach clients who could not travel to a faceto-face clinic. Help students to develop online collaboration skills, familiar with technology.

Manage waiting times between sites

### Rise in Virtual Law Firms

Advances in technology driving the rise of virtual law firms in the sector wanted to give students the same opportunity to collaborate on cases wherever they are.

### **OU students study remotely**

essential to be able to deliver services to clients at a distance using technological means of communication.



### Suits modern client

Virtual meetings suit client type who are familiar with online platforms and technology

## More volunteer opportunities

Supervising solicitors outside of cities can participate.

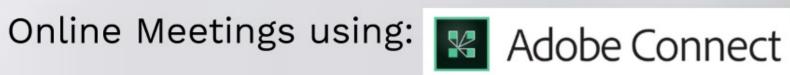


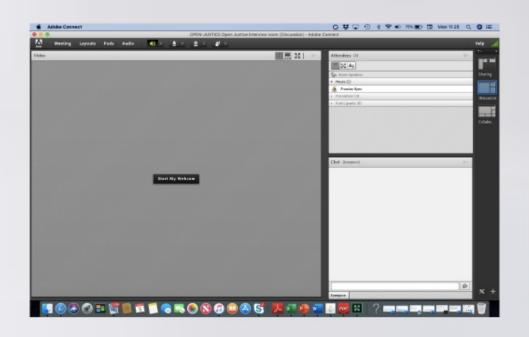
- Anyone with an internet connection can access the clinic
- Accept cases regardless of geographical distance.
- · Open all year around
- Offer interviews around client's availability

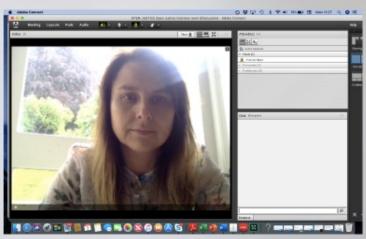


- Clients in or around Manchester and London
- Skype appointments where client can't attend in person
- Open September July
- Appointments offered at either 5 or 6pm.



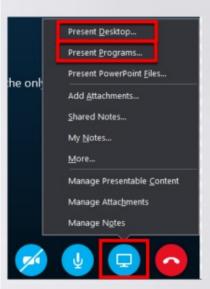




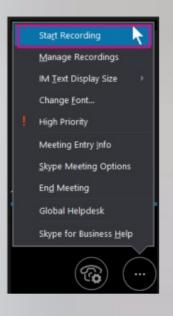


## Online Meetings using:









# The 2 platforms compared:

Features	Adobe Connect	Skype
<b>Brief Description</b>	Online Meeting Room	Video Conferencing Software
Cost	Licence Fee	Free
Ease of use	Client receives a link – simply click	Requires install – login details provided if not already a member
Devices	Both mobile and desktop use supported	Both mobile and desktop use supported
Security	Highly secure communication with advanced security	End-to-end encryption of both calls and text messages / GDPR compliant
Video	Yes	Yes
Recording facility	Yes	Yes
Chat boxes	Yes	Yes
Screen-sharing	Yes	Yes
Note-taking	Yes	No

# Tips for using video conferencing in clinic

## **Technology**

Plan for the unexpected!

- Internet speed check
- Wired connection better than wifi
- Spare laptop / headphones

### **Clients**

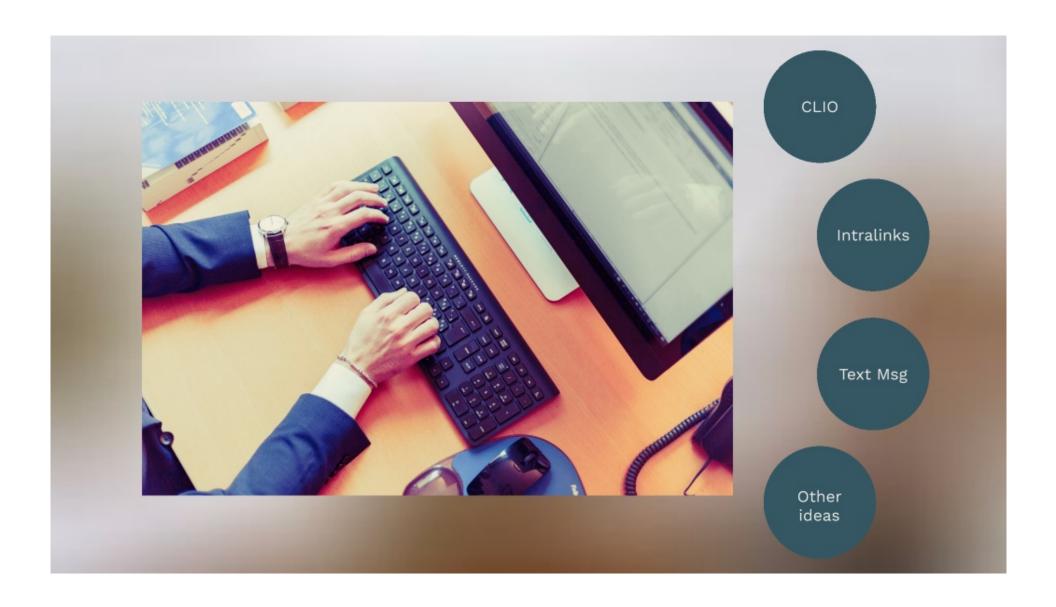
Do they know what to expect?

- Skype test day before?
- Ask them to be somewhere quiet
- Troubleshooting guide

### **Students**

Take the lead

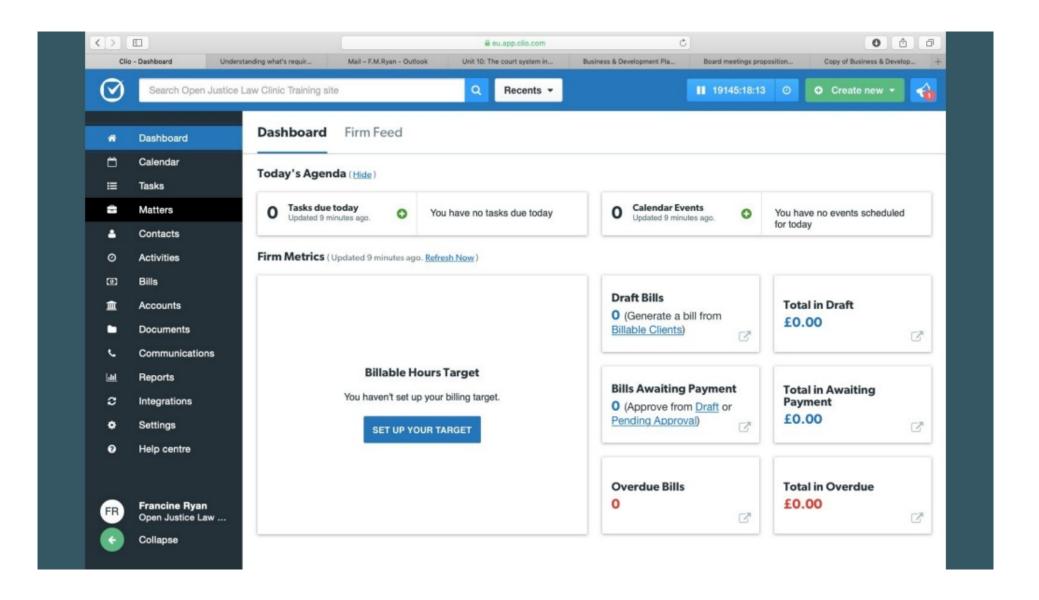
- Work harder to form a rapport
- Slow down!
- Test call before appointment

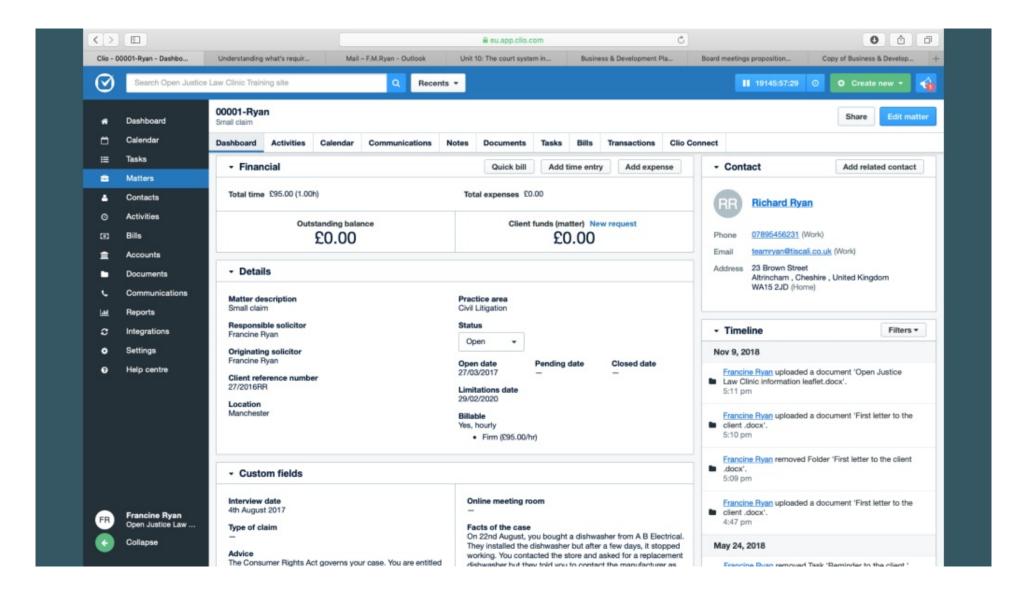


# Clio- case management system (Y) Clio



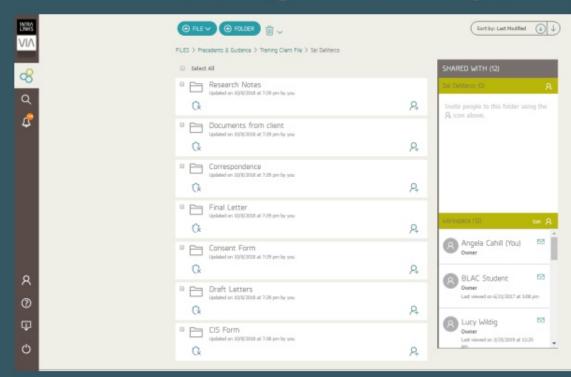
- Free via academic access programme, Law Society endorsed
- GPDR compliant
- Two versions- training site and live site
- Clio's cloud-based practice management software gives you access to everything from one place
- Manage cases, clients, documents, bills, calendars, time tracking, reporting, and accounting, all from one platform.
- All case interaction takes place within Clio.



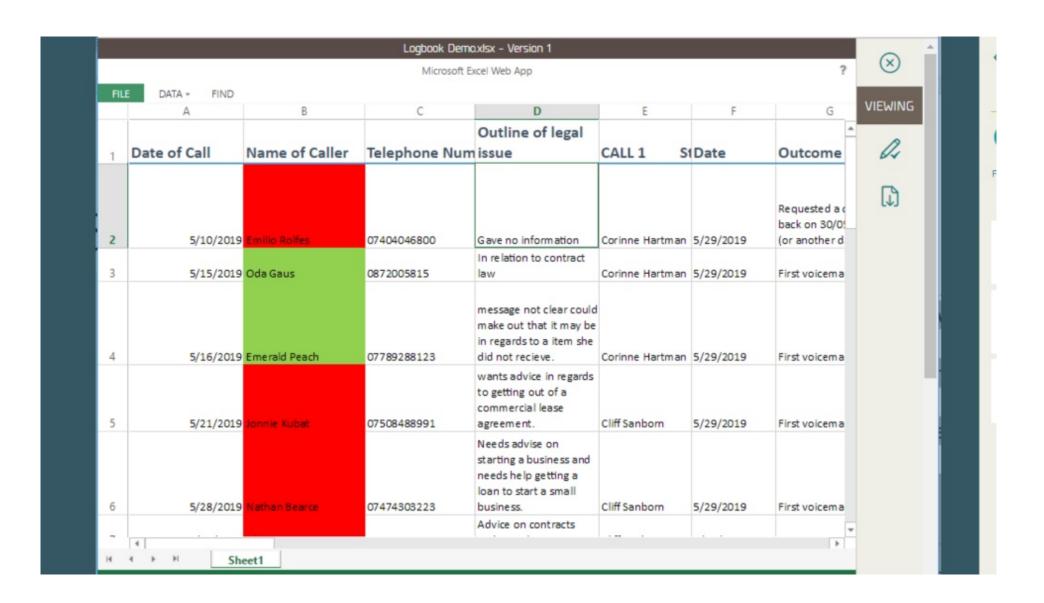


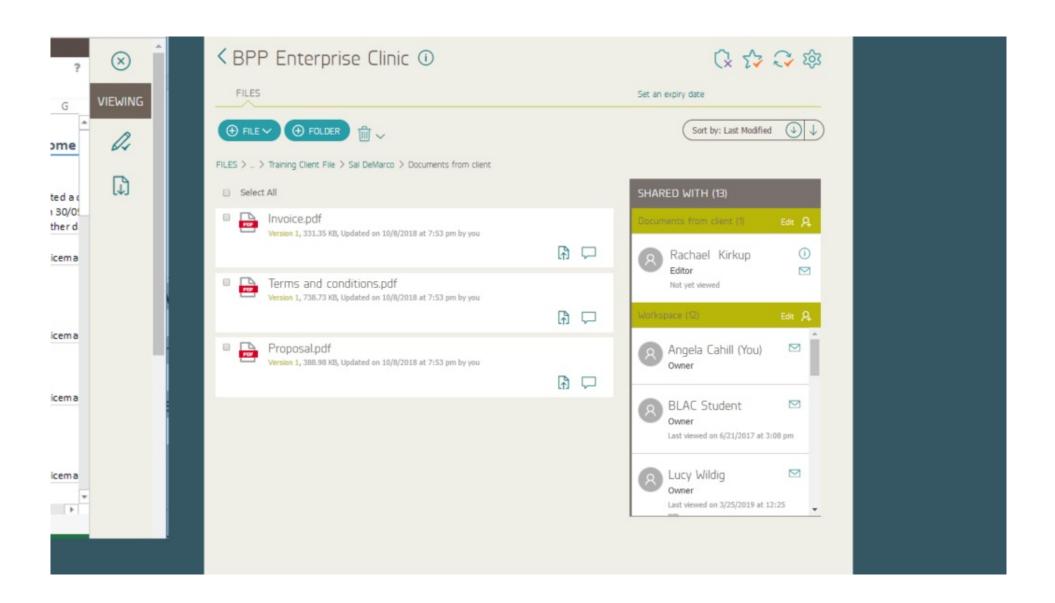
# Intralinks Via – Document Management System





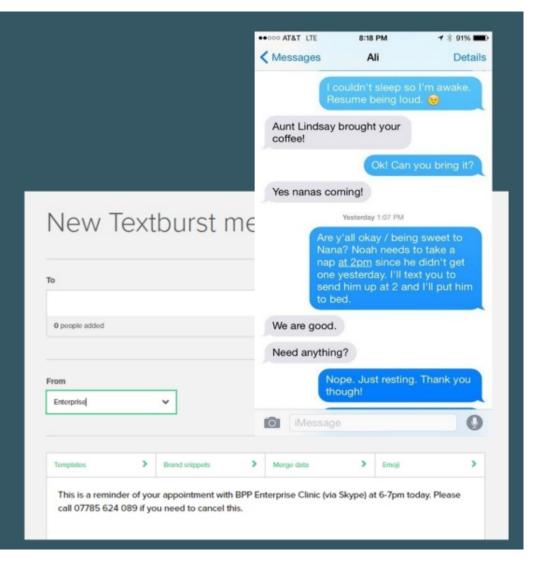
- Free through LawWorks
- Secure
- Intuitive
- Web-based, no installation / mobile compatible
- Limit access for different users
- Review previous versions of documents
- No CMS features e.g. no reminders or calendar integration.

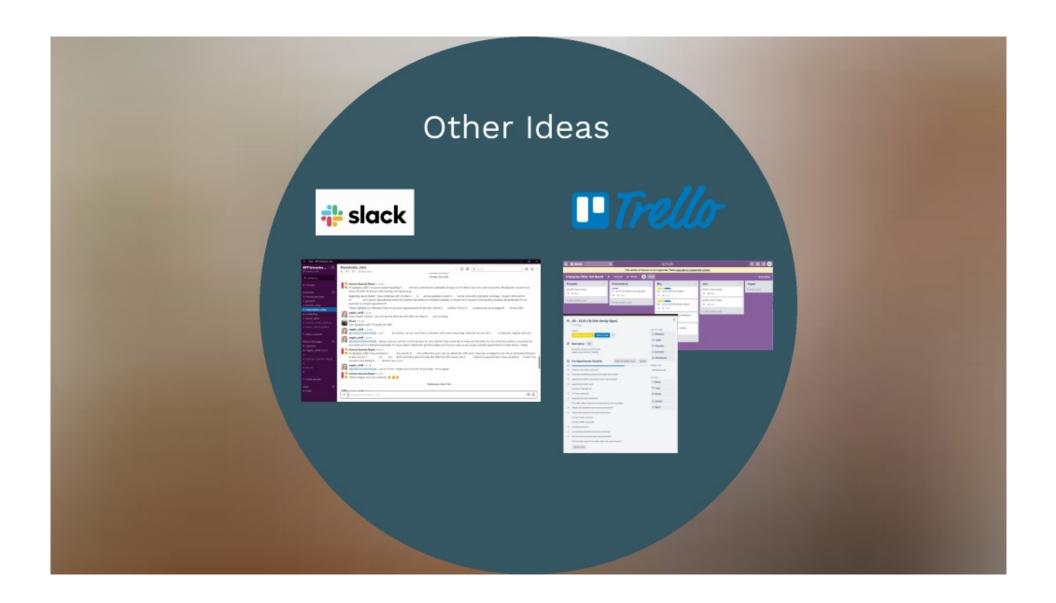


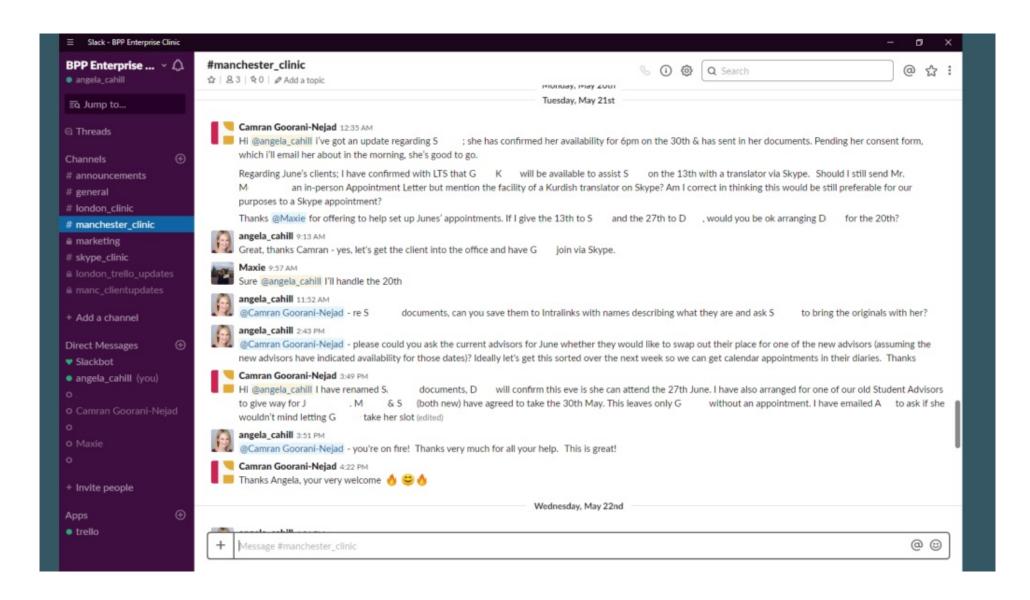


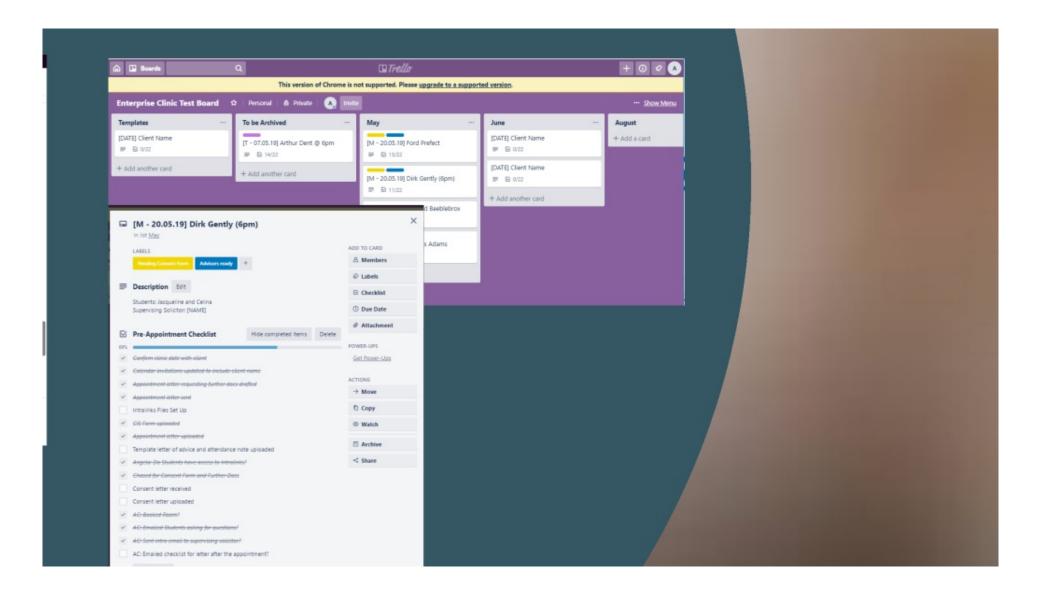
# Text Messaging

- Use a text service to send reminders to clients about interview appointments, or to chase documents.
- Not integrated into the CMS.
- Can be scheduled in advance.
- BPP TextBurst
- OU FastSms











## Practice makes perfect!

- Two manuals plus a recorded Adobe connect session on how to use Clio.
- Students undertake a simulated case before moving to the live clinic.
- Mock interview- check use of Adobe connect & preparestudents interview in groups but not in the same location.
- Need procedures, standards, & good communication
- Checklists, checklists



## Technology!

- Some clients need reassurance and support to use Clio.
- Online collaboration poses challenges for students and clients.
- Cases mainly generated via search engines- but often cases more complex.
- Search engines generate strange cases!!

## Giving advice via remote access systems

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