There are three Ethel Benjamin Scholarship winners in 2014. The recipients of this year’s New Zealand Law Foundation award are Lani Inverarity, Elizabeth Chan and Zoe Fuhr.

Lani Inverarity graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with an LLB (Hons) and a BA in Political Science and International Relations. She was admitted to the bar in 2010.

She was a judge’s clerk for Justice Joseph Williams for two years, and then moved to Crown Law where she is presently an Assistant Crown Counsel in the constitutional and human rights team.

Lani’s professional goal is to contribute to a more informed, balanced debate on national security, intelligence and immigration issues both within New Zealand and internationally.

She plans to study towards an LLM at Yale University, where her two areas of intended specialisation will be intelligence law reform and the rights of citizens versus non-citizens.

Following post-graduate study she intends to take up professional roles involving national security and immigration law. In particular, she intends to seek employment as a legal adviser with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the New Zealand intelligence community, or both.

Information about Elizabeth Chan and Zoe Fuhr, the other 2014 winners of this scholarship, is available on the Law Foundation’s web site.

The Ethel Benjamin scholarship honours New Zealand’s first woman barrister and solicitor, who was admitted to the bar in 1897. Since the centenary of this event, the Law Foundation has awarded this scholarship annually to outstanding New Zealand women law graduates for post-graduate study. The award is worth up to $50,000 and details of the award and previous winners can be found on the Ethel Benjamin Scholarship page of the Foundation’s website.