There are two Ethel Benjamin Scholarship winners in 2016. The recipients of this year’s New Zealand Law Foundation award are Holly Hedley and Bree Hunytley.

Holly Hedley graduated from University of Otago with an LLB (Hons) and BSc in psychology in 2010.

While undertaking postgraduate study at Victoria University Ms Hedley won the 2014 Quentin Baxter LLM Prize in Public and International Law. This prize is awarded for the best piece of research on public law, international law, or law relating to indigenous peoples or the laws of the Pacific.

At the time of this award she is working in the specialist health law and employment team at Buddle Findlay in Wellington where she is a senior solicitor with the firm. Since 2010 she has been co-teaching an Otago University course on health systems law.

Ms Hedley will be undertaking an LLM in global health law at Georgetown University in Washington DC, where she will further her interest in international human rights and women’s health law topics.

Her elective papers will include: health and human rights; international trafficking in persons; assisted reproductive technologies and the law; comparative reproductive technologies and reproductive tourism; and sexual orientation and the law.

Information about Bree Huntley, the other 2016 winner 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.