Dear Miss Beth Onslow,

Studying International Commercial Law at UCD, especially EU Competition Law, Corporate Governance, International Commercial Arbitration, Law of International Finance and International Tax Law, I am strongly convinced that ByrneWallace is the firm which reflects the most what I studied and I will study. I have been immediately fascinated by your law firm not only because you are the Finalist Law Firm of the Year 2017, which is very important to me, as I am a very ambitious person, but also you were awarded with Excellence in Client Service Award in 2017. I firmly believe that the right approach to clients makes the difference from the other law firms. Moreover, despite having graduated in Italy, under the Civil Law legal system, I also studied the Common Law legal system principles, following this up with a dissertation on the comparison of the different types of approach to corporate governance between the Common Law and Civil Law legal systems, focusing on the agency costs between directors and shareholders in Australia. Due to this, not only have I developed a high degree of knowledge in the corporate governance’s field but also a great interest in commercial transactions and business law as a whole. Finally, by the end of my masters, having taken relevant classes, such as Corporate Governance, EU Competition Law, International Tax Law and Law of International Finance, I will have attained the required knowledge to put in practice what I will have learnt.

Having been hit by a financial disaster, my family were not anymore able to support my studies and for this reason I had to drop out college. Then, I begun jumping from one job to another in order to make a living and saving up some money to finish my studies, since I am a resolute person who always finishes what they start. Throughout that period, I had a great number of work experiences, which helped me to gain a large variety of skills.

During my Australian experience, I broadened my horizons learning how to think outside the box and going beyond appearances. These, in my opinion, are fundamental skills for this profession. Having coped with a great number of diverse people throughout that year, thanks to the large variety of jobs done, I could improve my interpersonal and communication skills. When I was a door to door salesperson, for instance, had I not been able to persuade customers to switch their actual contract with what I was offering, I would not have received any pay slip.

During my last academic year, I was an intern at a criminal law firm for a 6-month period. There I was over motivated and stimulated as it was a very busy firm. Although at the very beginning it was not easy moving from books to the reality, after the first couple of weeks I understood how to manage time and work under pressure. Being Sicilian, there were a great number of criminal cases, quite often with multiple defendants represented by different lawyers. Once, the firm was involved in what is called “maxi-trial”, which is a trial with more than 10 defendants, and we had just few weeks to prepare the whole case, since the client changed his previous lawyer one month before the terms deadline. For this reason, two colleagues and I spent days and nights on reading papers and carrying on research in order to come out with the best solution for our client, which in the end was an exception which thwarted the prosecutor to present the witnesses list and, as a consequence, the judge stated there were no more grounds to proceed the trial.

After having graduated with a final grade of 107/110 (2nd Class Honours Grade 1) and qualified as Dottore in Giurisprudenza (Juris Doctor), I was involved in a project sponsored by the Presidency of the Council of the Ministers of Italy addressed to young people from a socially and economic disadvantaged background, aged between 15 and 30 years old. I was required to hold three seminars of four hours each regarding the right to study, the right to work and the right to health. As a lecturer, I was asked to involve individuals from different ages and with a scarce interest in such important life aspects in order to stimulate them in gaining the awareness of our right. I had to be creative in finding the right way to make it interesting, so I used power point presentations, organized working groups and a little competition in order to force them to be the protagonist of these meetings.

In November 2016, I qualified as Abogado at Ilustre Colegio de Abogados de Madrid and, subsequently my qualification, I moved to Ireland to study English. There I took the IELTS exam, which is an official document, worldwide recognized, attesting my English knowledge. My final score is 7, which is equivalent of C1. During my staying in Dublin, I worked in Zara as sales assistant. Not only I had the chance to improve my English, but also to better understand the Irish culture and Irish people.

Last summer, I worked as a lawyer in an international law firm in Catania (Italy) for a period of four months. Having been worked in a team of three lawyers, I had the opportunity to strengthen my team-working skill. Further, I was fully involved in several corporate cases regarding bankruptcy, moving abroad legal head office and signing contracts among privates or with the public administration. This gave me the opportunity to learn how to negotiate and deal with either clients and undertakings. Finally, in some circumstances I defended my clients before the Court of Justice of Catania.

For all these reasons, I hold the view that I am an ideal candidate for an internship at ByrneWallace.

Sincerely yours,

Federico Nicolosi