

FRIDAY FROLICS

Newsletter of UWS Law School

Edition 7 August 2013

Introduction

This fortnight there are a number of events that have occurred.

Good News: Staff Matters

Ass Prof Michael Blissenden

Michael has been reappointed as Chief Examiner of the NSW HSC Legal Studies Exam Committee for 2014 and 2015

Congratulations to Cathy McFall on completing her First Aid Certificate. Cathy will now be the First Aid Officer for the School of Law.

Good News: Student Matters

The UWS team was the winner at a **very competitive inter-university competition** called Univariate which was held last week.

Univariate is run during the July semester break where multi disciplinary student teams work with industry partners on a business project. Employers provide a real world problem and teams have three weeks to analyse the project, collect data, prepare a report and present their results to a panel of judges from senior management. Teams from competing universities make a presentation for each client and the client selects the best project.

The Univariate program gives students the opportunity to apply their course skills and knowledge to a real life business project and compete against other teams to produce high quality, innovative and practical solutions to current corporate decision making.

The competing teams were informed that the existing Grand Mercure and Sebel Apartments will re-brand to Sebel Premier Apartments by 2014 and they were tasked to educate the Australian consumer about the new brand via innovative and clear communication channels within the limited budget. Their winning project constructed a product launch and marketing campaign for the Accor Hotel group which received high praise from the judging panel and will be incorporated into the upcoming product launch and campaign of the Accor group.

The UWS Accor team members are listed below:

Team Leader:
Hardip Chahal 16999578 (Medical Science),

Team members:
Jacqueline Zinck 16323793 (Arts/Law),
Corissa Sauka 17491958 (Sports Management),
Sean Best 17202510 (Business & Commerce) and
Linda Tran 17261034 (Business & Commerce – Marketing).

Each member of the UWS winning team received one night's free accommodation at an Accor Hotel.



Research & Scholarships

Dr Bielefeld

Dr Bielefeld was invited to be part of a panel discussion entitled: 'Never-deserving citizens or ending the entitlement culture: The debate about the merits of conditionality in Australian income support policy' for the Australian Social Policy Conference to be held at UNSW on 17 September. I was asked to talk about the issue of conditionality with income management among Indigenous communities.

Ass Prof Michael Blissenden

Invited to participate in TEQSA's register of External Experts workshop in Sydney on August 27

Presenting paper at the Society of Legal Scholars in Edinburgh on September 3 titled "Student expectations and the transfer from school/college to University"

Professor Michael Adams

Professor Michael Adams was a commentator for a presentation by Professor Hui (Robin) Huang (Professor of Law at Chinese University of Hong Kong) at the University of Melbourne Law School on the 14th August. Professor Huang main paper was on "Insider trading regulation in China: Law and enforcement" and provides opportunities for future ARC applications and projects.

Ms Ingrid Matthews

On July 29-30, Ingrid Matthews was invited to present two sessions at the Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education with 20 Aboriginal students who travelled from rural NSW and Queensland for block learning. The unit, 'Human rights, human services and the law', is a contextualised introduction to Australian and international legal concepts and institutions, as part of the Bachelor of Community and Social Development. It was really great to see the sometimes notoriously 'shy' cohort stand up and speak about what they had researched about human rights issues from all over the world.

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Professor Steven Freeland

External examiner (by invitation) of PhD on Space Law submitted to University of Otago, New Zealand

Quoted in 'Verdict alone won't harpoon the hunt' *The Sydney Morning Herald* 20-21 July 2013, News Review page 10

Quoted in 'Anti-whaling push may backfire, Japan warns' *The Australian* 23 July 2013, page 8

Interviewed on Radio National '360 Degrees Documentaries' regarding off-Earth mining and space law, 11 August 2013

Publications

Ass Prof Michael Blissenden

Article titled "Deductions for education expenses- a revamped landscape for taxpayers and their advisers" to be published in *Taxation in Australia*, August issue

Community Engagement

Ms Francine Feld

Francine Feld organised and ran the Law Mini Moot workshops at the South Western Sydney Dept of Education and Communities (DEC)'s Student Ambassadors Day at Campbelltown Campus last week with assistance from eight of our students .

UWS Debating Workshop

On Friday the 26th of July, the University of Western Sydney held a day long debating workshop aimed at honing the skills of high school students participating in the Premiers Debating Challenge. The workshop was a great success, with approximately 70 students attending from various schools around Sydney.

Debaters were broken down into small workshop groups and were trained in advanced debating techniques with a focus on matter development and case construction.

As part of this focus, students ran through a variety of contextually relevant debating topics during their seminars including; Offshore processing solutions, criminalising the smacking of children, granting asylum to Edward Snowden and banning gambling on Australian sporting events. The workshop leaders from Masters Academy were very impressed with the attitude and level of engagement from all students involved in the program. During breaks, the coaches were bombarded with extra questions from students wanting to expand their debating knowledge. It was great to see that the students held such a passion for furthering their skills.

A very special thank you goes out to UWS for facilitating and organising the day. All of the coaches remarked that the facilities that were organised by David Swift and UWS were some of the most modern that they had seen from any university and provided a great learning environment for the students. Finally, thank you to the Arts Unit and Lloyd Cameron for their role in creating and promoting the program. It is great to see opportunities like this one provided to students involved in debating and public speaking programs around NSW.

Dr Murray Wesson

On Tuesday, 20 August, the School of Law and Whitlam Institute hosted Professor George Williams from the University of New South Wales for a public lecture on the question: 'Should Aboriginal Peoples be Recognised in the Australian Constitution?' Professor Williams spoke in the Female Orphan School to an audience of academic colleagues, students, and other members of the University and broader community. His lecture was accessible and interesting and enjoyed by everyone who attended. Professor Williams also answered a number of questions from the audience and spoke to students and staff informally after the lecture.



Professor Michael Adams
Dean of the School of Law, UWS