



From the Dean

September 2014

Welcome to the 8th edition of the Law School Newsletter.

On the 9th of September I attended the First Year High Achievers Law Function in the Female Orphan School on Parramatta Campus which hosted approximately 60 guests.

The event was excellent and a big thank you goes to Jane Lindsay for organising the whole event. Also, thanks to Lucy Robinson for being MC and to Natalie Smith for also helping out.

Our law alumni, Daniel Petrushnko for the bar gave an inspiring speech and supporters from Coleman Greig were there plus a number of our academic colleagues from both Campbelltown and Parramatta campuses

This year we gave out certificates to the students, and they really enjoyed that part of the evening (with eating and drinking, of course).

My personal highlight was chatting to a student who came from Tamworth, who had received from a local law firm in Tamworth a scholarship (cash) plus two weeks guaranteed work experience each year and could go to any university and she selected Law at UWS.

Prof Michael Adams, Dean of Law



From the Deputy Dean

The September graduation ceremony for Law was held on Thursday 25 September. Of note was the awarding of PhD to Dr Biplop Saha (pictured below with the Dean who was his supervisor). Biplop is well known to many as a casual lecturer.

Congratulations to Biplop as well as Xiangbai He (who was unable to attend the ceremony) and all our LLB graduates who received their degrees at this ceremony. I would also like to thank the following staff for their attendance in support of our graduates; Michael Adams, Michael Blissenden, Susan Fitzpatrick, Daud Hassan John Juriansz, John McGrath, David Newlyn, Thilla Rajaretnam and June Wang.

One of the pleasures of attending graduations is not only seeing our students obtain their degrees after years of work but to meet their very proud families and friends. I wish all our graduates a bright and happy future.



Good News: Staff

Dr Stephen Janes, Acting Dean has been reappointed to the Law Society of New South Wales Specialist Accreditation Advisory Committee for Wills and Estates. The Committee is responsible for assessing solicitors who wish to become accredited specialists in this area of law. Assessment will take place during 2015. Solicitors seeking accreditation are assessed by way of a mock file, closed book written examination and a simulated interview. Dr Janes has been a member of this Committee since 2008.

Dr Angus Young has received an honorary appointment at the GRC Institute as an academic advisor to advise them, especially in the area of their accreditation of their certification of compliance professionals in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore and Hong Kong for a period of 2 years.

Congratulations to **Francine Feld** on her new fractional role as eDAP. This position will help co-ordinate the development in e-learning and especially online learning over the next couple of years within the Law School.

Research

Professor Steven Freeland

Conference presentation (invited) 'It's a Good Idea ... Isn't it? Complementarity under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and its impact on Domestic Law, Politics and Perceptions of Sovereignty' at conference 'International Courts and Domestic Politics', sponsored by iCourts Centre of Excellence for International Tribunals, Copenhagen, 11-12 September 2014

Interviewed in *Right Now* (online Human Rights magazine) 19 September 2014
<http://rightnow.org.au/topics/education/friday-chat-interview-with-steven-freeland/>

External referee (by invitation) of article on international criminal law for the *Melbourne Journal of International Law*, September 2014

External referee (by invitation) of article on space law for the *Australian Yearbook of International Law*, September 2014

Dr Shelley Bielefeld

Shelley Bielefeld, 'Neoliberalism and the Return of the Guardian State – Micromanaging Indigenous Peoples in a New Chapter of Colonial Governance', Engaging Indigenous Economy: Debating Diverse Approaches Conference, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, the Australian National University, 5 September 2014. (forthcoming book chapter with ANU Press).

Shelley Bielefeld Presented 'Income Management and Indigenous peoples, the Stronger Futures Law and Policy Package, and Further Expansion', School of Law, University of Western Sydney, 12 September 2014.

Ms Elen Seymour

Elen has been invited to attend an international tax conference "Finalising and Implementing the BEPS Agenda" to be held at the University of Sydney School of Law on 17-18 November 2014.

Publications

Professor Steven Freeland

Publication of 'Reimagining the Unimaginable? Reflections on Mark A. Drumbl's Vision of Child Soldiers' (2014) *Journal of Criminal Law and Philosophy* - published online

Dr Angus Young

Raymond Chan, Vincent Kwan and Angus Young, 'Should Hong Kong Follow the Experience of Singapore in Developing Its Business Trust Regime?' (2014) 25, *International Company and Commercial Law Review*, 302-7.

Community Engagement

Macarthur Legal Centre Celebration

On Friday 12th September, eight law school colleagues, enjoyed a lunch at the Rydges, Campbelltown, to celebrate the 27th birthday of the Macarthur Legal Centre. This was a lovely chance for UWS to show our support for the community legal centre, of which a number of us have been directly involved over the years. The current director, Robert Pelletier, made a great presentation of the history of the legal centre and what haircuts looked like in 1987! UWS had its own table, amongst many local law firms and other supporters of the Macarthur Legal Centre. One of our former law graduates, Robyn Roelandts, made us especially welcome. UWS was represented by Francine Feld, Grace Borsellino, Michael Blissenden, Michael Brogan, Kathryn Adams, Elen Seymour, Stephen Janes and the Dean. The after lunch speaker was Peter FitzSimons AM, who was very funny and interesting, all in one. He did his speech pro bono and made it an extra special event.

It is good to build on our relationships with other community law centres, such as the Macquarie Legal Centre (where we have our joint project, being the Parramatta Community Justice Clinic) and the Toongabbie Legal Centre (which is having a fundraising dinner on 28th November and the Law School has bought a table).

Professor Michael Adams and Margaret Hyland

The Hon Justice Debbie Mortimer of the Federal Court of Australia invited Margaret Hyland and Professor Adams to attend a specialist Administrative Law Conference, hosted by the Federal Court and Law Council.

The conference had just ten academics, approx. 40 judges and 40 senior barristers, who specialise in administrative law. It was held in the Federal Court in Melbourne on 28th August 2014. The actual conference ran for two days, but Margaret and Professor Adams (and other academics) were only invited to the first day, which was a shame. The opening speech was by Hon Chief Justice James Allsop and the Hon Dennis Davis of the Western Cape High Court, in South Africa. Justice Davis gave a very interesting comparative paper between jurisdictional error in Australia and legality in South Africa, under our various Constitutions. Then the highlight was a major paper on rationality and reasonableness as grounds for review by Hon Professor William Gummow of the HCA. This was followed by two commentators, Justin Gleeson SC (Solicitor-General for the Commonwealth) and Kristen Walker (Victoria Bar and former academic).



UWS Open Day

UWS Open Day went very well on Sunday 31st August. Each of the student demo-Moots (Thanks LSA for arranging these) were full, with roughly 40-50 people watching. The law students did a good job and the Dean and Deputy Dean were MC on the day. The Dean also gave two repeat lectures on "Why study law?" and roughly 125-150 people attended the sessions.

Thank you to the following staff who attended Open Day from Law:

Stephen Janes, Margaret Hyland, Michael Blissenden, June Wang, Michael Brogan, Daud Hassan, Michael Head, Steven Freeland, Liesel Spencer, Lucy Robinson, Jane Lindsay, Natalie Smith, Grant Butterfield, Nelson Arias and Jim Patterson

Premiers Debating Challenge

On Friday 5 September, UWS School of Law sponsored for the third year, the Premier's Year 11 Debating Competition.

This took place between Sydney Girls High School and James Ruse Agricultural High School on the topic

of “mandatory sentencing for alcohol fuelled crimes”.

Having survived inter-zone and regional finals, the two teams were the last standing from an initial pool of 61 teams and faced off at UWS Parramatta Campus.

Sydney Girls High School put up a good fight but it was James Ruse Ag who won on the day.

Since 2012, the challenge has been sponsored by the School of Law, UWS, who provide venues for various rounds. In exchange, all students participating in this competition debate legal issues.

The Dean of the law school said that the school is proud to be part of the 2014 Challenge, in partnership with the NSW Department of Education and Communities.



Left to right- Kristy Webb (coach), Anisha Gunawardhana, Brendan Ma, Stephanie Wu, Evelyn Kuang



Alumni Volunteer Dinner

Alumni team hosted the Alumni Volunteer Dinner on 9 September to express its gratitude for the volunteering efforts by some of our alumni. We had Law alums Natalie Billard (Senior Associate Adams & Partners Lawyers) and Paul Foster (Partner- BTF Lawyers) attend this function with their partners.