



FRIDAY FROLICS

Newsletter of Western Sydney University Law School

From the Dean May 2016

Welcome to the May edition of Friday Frolics – it is pleasing that so many of our academic and professional staff, as well as students and alumni, are involved in pro bono community engagement activities. The School of Law Review in 2012, noted outstanding contribution to this area of the law school's mission. That commitment continues today, with the guidance of our Director of Engagement, Michael Brogan. You will also note that we are strengthening our international ties with Chinese, Indian, Vietnamese and Bangladesh institutions, all led by the wonderful work of our Director of International, Dr June Wang. I hope you enjoy reading the May newsletter. During July 2016, we will be celebrating our 21st birthday as a law school, so please watch out for events.

Good News - Staff and Students

First Year News

The MATES mentoring program have nominated 10 Students Mentors for the NSW Premier's Volunteer Recognition Program. The Student Mentors have been selected because of their dedication to the program and the transition of new Students; they have been with the program for 4 or more sessions.

3 of the 10 Student Mentors are from the School of Law. The NSW Government is encouraging students to experience the benefits of volunteering and to have their volunteering recognised through their schools and universities. The First Year team holds an annual thank you night for the School of Law volunteers in the later part of the year.

Research

Associate Professor Michael Blissenden

Michael presented a conference paper at the 3rd Conference on the use of iPads in Higher Education - University of San Francisco.

Professor Michael Adams

Professor Michael Adams gave a key note opening address entitled “**A reflection on key governance failures of 2015**” on the 25th May at the *NSW Governance Forum*. This was hosted by the professional body, Governance Institute of Australia at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney. The paper will be published in the July edition of *Governance Directions*



Publications

Associate Professor Michael Blissenden

Publication: Law Student learning, storytelling and student device initiatives - Athens Journal of Law

Publication: High Court decides on retention of amounts to cover tax - clarity for liquidators, agents and trustees - Australian Tax Law Bulletin

Dr June Wang

Zhiqiong June Wang has been invited to speak at the 2016 SDN Encounter program at the University of Sydney. The opinion piece by June, "Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Campaigns in China", is published by [SDN](#)

Professor Steven Freeland

Publication of 'The Future Global Governance of Space Security: International Law and Armed Conflicts involving Space Technology' in Ram Jakhu, Kuan-Wei Chen and Yaw Nyampong (eds), *Global Space Governance*, 2015 McGill University Centre for Research in Air and Space Law, 163-178

Publication of 'Travaillons ensemble pour l'exploitation minière du système solaire', [The Conversation](#), 13 May 2016 (in French) (with Alice Gorman)

Publication of 'Crimes against the Environment' and Warfare', (2016) 1 *International Humanitarian Law Magazine* – *The Business of War: IHL and the Corporate Sector* 8

Media

Professor Steven Freeland

Interviewed on '[Spoke](#)' on [Radio Triple R](#) (Melbourne) on crimes against the environment during armed conflict, 10 May 2016

Interviewed on '[Eye Magazine](#)', Serbia's main news program (> 500,000 viewers) regarding international criminal justice, crimes against the environment and the forthcoming UN Secretary-General elections, 11 May 2016

Engagement

Dr Stephen Janes

Dr Stephen Janes attended The College of Law Academic Awards Ceremony on Monday 23 May 2016 held at Parliament House, Macquarie Street Sydney. The awards presented were for students graduating from the Master of Laws (Applied Law) program. Dr Janes is a member of the External advisory Committee for the Master of Laws (Applied Law in Wills and Estates).

Professor Michael Adams

Professor Michael Adams was asked to be the guest lecturer for the College of Law's *Masters of Applied Law* on 29th April. The seminar topic was "**Company secretaries role: Has the role changed?**".

Professor Adams was delighted to be part of a Panel discussion at the 2016 *Business Forum*, hosted by the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. The session was entitled "**Regulators and the future: How will they be fit for purpose?**" on the 24th May at the Hilton Hotel in Sydney. The other panellists included John Price, ASIC commissioner; Carolyn Ralph, partner at KPMG; Jost Stollmann, CEO of Tyro and Dr Deen Sanders, CEO of the Professional Standards Authority.



Mid Year Advising Day

We had a steady stream of potential students on Saturday 21s May from 10am until about 1.30pm – including a person enrolling in the LLM in International Governance. There was good interest in our graduate LLB, as well as combined degrees with social science and criminology.

Specific thanks to Jenny, Stephen J, June, Ralph and Natalie for coming into campus to help with the day.

Dr John Azzi

As part of the Fast Forward Program, on Thursday 26 May 2016 John Azzi made presentations to Year 11 students on why they should study law at WSU. The sessions were well attended with lots of positive feedback.

Professor Steven Freeland

Public lecture ‘Crimes against the Environment under International Criminal Law, sponsored by the Australian Institute of International Affairs, Melbourne, 16 May 2016

Public lecture ‘Crimes against the Environment and (the business of) Warfare’, sponsored by the Australian Red Cross and King & Wood Mallesons, Brisbane, 17 May 2016

Dr Catherine Renshaw - School of Law Public Seminar

On April 29, the Law School held the first of its Public Seminars for 2016. The topic was ‘Sports, Sexism and the Law’, and fittingly, the event was held in a pub – the Collector Hotel, Parramatta (home of the Western Sydney Wanderers). More than 50 people attended the event and speakers included WSU’s Professor David Rowe, WSU’s Dr Tom Hickie, journalist Erin Riley and Associate Professor Belinda Smith from Sydney Law School. The event was ably chaired by Lynda Holden. In a fascinating evening of discussion and debate, the audience heard about the many forms that sexism in sport take, the underlying reasons for sexism, and the potential policy and legal strategies that might be employed to address sexism. The evening was both informative and entertaining and huge thanks are due to all the law school staff who worked hard to make it happen (especially Rita) and to the staff who came out in force to support the event. There was coverage of the event in the media and the speakers are discussing further collaboration in the area.



