

FRIDAY FROLICS

Newsletter of UWS Law School

Edition 4, April 2012

Introduction

This fortnight there are a number of events that have been occurring connected to the School of Law.

Good News: Student Matters

Congratulation to our doctoral students – known as “HDR” (higher degree by research candidates) Law Student Xiaobo (Bob) Zhao who is eligible to Graduate in April 2012. His thesis is entitled “Developing an Appropriate Contaminated Land Regime in China (Lessons Learned from the US and UK).

Justice Bill Preistly QC visit to UWS lecture

Mr Priestley was invited to a lecture recently and eruditely covered the state of the common law in Australia on Barristers'/Advocates' immunity; he also answered student questions on the policy rationale for the doctrine and explained why it has remained in Australia.

Mr Priestley also commented on the likelihood of the doctrine's eventual demise. The subject of Professional Responsibility and Legal Ethics and indeed legal profession regulation altogether, is a hugely important global issue today in the study and practice of law across jurisdictions.

Snippet from letter from student to the Dean

Dear Dean of Law,

I would just like to say a huge thank you to my lecturer Magdelene De'silva for inviting the honourable Justice Bill Preistly QC to our Lecturer on Thursday 5th April.

I felt extremely honoured as a student to be in the class room as the honourable Justice Bill Preistly QC who has dedicated his life to the law which has made this fine country of ours a much better place for us all to live. I was completely taken aback by the honourable Justice Bill Priestly QC's brilliance.

I could not believe the brilliance of his mind and the way he quoted the law on Barrister's Immunity.

I knew from then on, It didn't matter how hard the law subjects would be. Or how impossible it will become I will be here till the end, I knew then it was for me.

Research & Scholarships

Professor Michael Adams

On Tuesday 27 March, Professor Adams spoke at a breakfast for the law firm Ashurst (previously Blake Dawson Waldron) on “Overcoming Compliance Training Hurdles” – there were approximately forty people from the bigger corporations to discuss compliance issues, with three speakers. There was very positive

feedback on the importance of a quality university education and the need for flexible approaches with training and professional education

Professor Steven Freeland

Commentator (by invitation) at seminar ‘Insurance of Satellite Activities from Cradle to Grave: Legal Aspects’, sponsored by the European Centre of Space Law and the European Space Agency (ESA), ESA Headquarters, Paris, 16 March 2012

Faculty presentation (by invitation) ‘Crimes against the Environment under International (Criminal) Law’, Faculty of Law, University of Maastricht, The Netherlands, 22 March 2012

External referee (invited) of article on Space Tourism for the *Asian Journal of Air and Space Law*

Attended Meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Institute of Space Law, Paris, 17 March 2012

Appointment by Australian Research Council as Peer Reviewer for ERA 2012

Associate Professor Michael Blissenden

Presented a conference paper at the Association of Law Teachers Association (UK) at Oxford University on April 3rd “Assessing Group Work - is there a right way to do it?”

He has also been invited Referee for submitted journal articles for the Sydney Law Review and Australian Tax Forum

Sue Field

Sue Field is part of the recently announced first Partnership Centre to be funded by The National Health and Medical Research Council. The theme of the Centre is ‘Dealing with Cognitive and Related Functional Decline in the Elderly’ and the Chief Investigator is Assoc. Professor Sue Kurlle from the University of Sydney. Funding of \$25 million is for a five year period.

Dr Louise Thornthwaite

Dr Thornthwaite gave the Keynote Address to the Australian Public Service Commission's ECONet Forum, a Forum on Ethics, on the subject of *Social Media and the Law*. The address discussed the implications of social media for employment relationships, with particular reference to Fair Work Australia's decisions in unfair dismissal cases, the growing blurring of the boundary between employees' public and personal lives, and recent American case law on employees' social media use.

Dr Marina Nehme

Dr Marina Nehme has been just appointed on the Humanities and Social Science Peer Review Committee.

FRIDAY FROLICS

Newsletter of UWS Law School

Edition 4, April 2012

Research Seminar Series

This fortnight we had two presentations that took place:

- On 28 March 2012, Jason Harris, from UTS, presented a paper on: PPSA reforms.
- On 4 April 2012, Dr Thalia Anthony presented a paper on: Addressing the 'Crime Problem' of the Northern Territory Intervention: Alternate Paths to Regulating Minor Dicing Offences in Remote Communities.

I would like to thank all the people who attended these seminars. The next seminar will take place in Campbelltown on 2 May 2012 from 9.30 to 10.30. Our colleague, Elen Seymour, will be presenting a paper on: "Charitable Purpose- To-morrow, and to-morrow and to-morrow".

Publications

Professor Steven Freeland

Publication of book, Steven Freeland, Rada Popova and Solomon Passy (eds), *Contemporary Issues for National and International Space Law: Commentary and Source Materials*, AMG Publishing, Bulgaria (ISBN 978-954-9696-39-4 (also translated into Bulgarian) (254 pages)

Publication of 'The Development of National Space Law' in Steven Freeland, Rada Popova and Solomon Passy (eds), *Contemporary Issues for National and International Space Law: Commentary and Source Materials*, pages 12-35, AMG Publishing, Bulgaria (ISBN 978-954-9696-39-4) (also translated into Bulgarian)

Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl

Publication of 'The Use of Student Feedback on Teaching to Evaluate Academics' Teaching in Higher Education in Australia', *The International Journal of Learning*, 2012, Volume 18, Issue 5, pp95 to 108

Dr Daud Hassan

Control of Land Based Sources of Marine Pollution in the South China Sea: Applications and Shortcomings (part I) (2012) 42 *Environmental Policy and Law* (in print).

Dr Michelle Sanson

In *Joel Passlow v Butmac Pty Ltd* [2012] NSWSC 225 Adamson J's judgment handed down on 16 March 2012, uses Rana and Sanson's book on international commercial arbitration as an authority in determining an issue regarding legal costs in an arbitral award.

Community Engagement

Professor Michael Adams

On Tuesday 20 March, Dr Stephen Janes and Professor Michael Adams were invited to the opening of Shine Lawyers new offices at Parramatta and to meet Erin Brockovich, one of their consultants. The NSW Attorney-General, Hon Greg Smith and the local member for Parramatta, Dr Geoff Lee, as well as about 40 practitioners were present. Ms Brockovich gave a short speech and had given a longer one at Sydney University the previous night. She indicated a willingness to speak at UWS Law School next year.



Professor Michael Adams
Dean of the School of Law, UWS