

# FRIDAY FROLICS

Newsletter of UWS Law School

Edition 11, November 2012

## Introduction

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

## Research & Scholarships

### Michaela Byers

Michaela Byers, from the School of Law, has featured on *Radio National* and *ABC Canberra 666* discussing current issues lawyers are facing defending asylum seekers.

In the interviews, Ms Byers says “recent obstacles and delays experienced by her clients were the result of a de facto freeze on the application process, perhaps intended to encourage people to retreat from seeking asylum in Australia or negate any advantage to arriving by boat”.

Ms Byers says while the onshore system is quite well established, the offshore system is ad hoc and detention centres such as Villawood and Christmas Island are at capacity and detainees are becoming despondent

Michael Byers was interviewed on 2GB and featured on page 2 of *The Australian* on 30 October about the recent deportation of Sri Lankan refugees. [See online](#)

### Professor Michael Adams

Professor Adams presented a paper entitled “Australian Corporate Law and Governance” at the Central University of Finance and Economics Law School on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012, in Beijing, China. He also visited the Schools of Law at the Central University of Political Science and Law (CUPL) on 8<sup>th</sup> October and Tsinghua Law School on the 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Professor Adams presented twice in Hong Kong on 12<sup>th</sup> October. First at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, with a paper entitled “Global trends in corporate governance” to law, accounting and economics academics, masters and doctoral students. Then on the Friday evening he gave a Public Lecture at the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law, entitled “Australian Corporate Governance”.

Professor Adams presented at the University of Notre Dame, Australia, School of Law on 24<sup>th</sup> October on the topic “The future of global governance”.

### Professor Steven Freeland

Invited participant in workshop to discuss Australia’s draft ‘Space Utilisation Policy’, sponsored by the Australian Government Space Policy Unit, Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education, Canberra 10 October 2012

Presentation (by invitation) of ‘The Relationship between the United Nations Space Treaties and the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties’ (with Ram Jakhu, Professor at McGill University) at 63<sup>rd</sup> International Astronautical Congress / 55<sup>th</sup> IISL Colloquium on the Law of Outer Space, Naples, Italy, 1-5 October 2012

Presentation (by invitation) of public lecture ‘Space, technology and International Humanitarian Law’ IHL Lecture Series sponsored by the Australian Red Cross and the Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong, Wollongong 24 October 2012

Presentation (by invitation) of ‘International Law and Justice in the Asia-Pacific Region – The Role of the International Criminal Court Treaty Regime’ at Joint Conference on ‘International Law and Justice’, sponsored by the Australian and New Zealand Society of International Law (ANZSIL) and the Asian Society of International Law (ASIL), Sydney 25-26 October 2012

Judge (by invitation) of the world finals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Manfred Lachs International Space Law Moot Court Competition, Naples, Italy, 2/3 October 2012

Interviewed on 2SER ‘Radio Atticus’ program regarding Australia’s bid for a Non-Permanent Member seat on the United Nations Security Council 11 October 2012

### Mr Simon Kozlina

Simon Kozlina delivered a guest lecture on 24 October 2012 at the University of Sydney on the WTO Dispute settlement system as part of the LLB/JD elective, ‘International Commercial Arbitration’.

## Publications

### Prof. Michael Adams & Dr Marina Nehme

Marina Nehme and Michael Adams “Section 18 of the Australian Consumer Law and Environmental Issues” (2012) volume 24(1) *Bond Law Review* pages 30- 59.

Michael Adams “Global trends in corporate governance” (2012) 64 (9) *Keeping Good Companies* pages 522 - 526.

### Professor Steven Freeland

Publication of ‘The Regulation of Space Activities and the Space Environment’ in Shawkat Alam, Md Jahid Hossain Bhuiyan, Tareq M.R. Chowdhury and Erika J. Techera (eds) *Routledge Handbook of International Environmental Law* 375-391, 2012 Routledge (ISBN 978-0-415-68717-1) (with Ulrike M. Bohlmann)

## Mooting Matters

### Sir Harry Gibbs Constitutional Law Mooting Competition

In the first week of October, with Canberra’s cherry blossoms still in bloom and kangaroos hopping across the UC campus, two UWS teams fought, strived and endured in what is perhaps Australia’s premiere domestic moot competition - the Gibbs Constitutional Law Moot. While neither team made it through to the finals, there were some outstanding performances by UWS students, who (in their coach’s opinion) suffered from some very ‘unusual’ scoring decisions.

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The teams, who by GPA are the heavy-hitters of the Law School and put in an enormous amount of effort in the lead up to the competition, were Paul Armstrong and Suzanne Mortimer (team 1) and Aleksandra Ilic and Mel Pudig (team 2).

Highlights were Paul and Suzanne's plaintiff written submissions that were judged equal first out of 22 teams (a tour de force in legal reasoning!) and Aleksandra and Mel's rampaging team score in their final moot that was the eighth highest team score out of more than 60 moots.

Despite the bitter disappointment of the outcome, these two teams performed brilliantly and were fantastic examples of everything our Law School strives to achieve.

## **Michael Kirby Contract Law Moot Competition**

With the sweet taste of success from last year's Kirby Contract Moot, student enthusiasm for this year's competition was high, with 27 students replying to the initial call for expressions of interest. Following a 'Saturday morning moot-out', two teams of three students were selected by co-coaches Simon Kozlina and Mel Pudig (runner up last year).

The teams were Kritika Rampal, James Zhao and Owen Roberts (UWS A) and Kieran Ryan, Elizabeth Tsitsos and Dean Astley (UWS 1).

The highlights were Kritika's placement in the top 10 speakers for the competition (out of more than 60 competitors) and Kritika, James and Owen making it through to the final 16. Although the timing of this year's competition made preparation difficult, the Law School is developing a strong pool of experienced mooters that augurs well for 2013.

Special thanks to Mel Pudig for her dedication to training and encouraging the teams despite many competing obligations.

## **Community Engagement**

### **Dr Stephen Janes**

Dr Stephen Janes attended the Opening Night for the College of Law's New CPD premises on Level 16 of the St James Centre. Dr Janes is a contributor to the College's CPD Seminar series.

### **Professor Michael Adams & Dr Stephen Janes**

Professor Michael Adams and Dr Stephen Janes attended the Academic Awards Ceremony for the College of Law on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 at Cockle Bay Wharf. The first graduate of the Masters of Applied Law (Wills & Estates) graduated, which Dr Janes was directly involved in the program's development. Also, the recipient of the Law Society of NSW Prize for Overall Excellence in the Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice, was a personal friend of the Dean, Mr Tony Frost (Managing Partner of Greenwood & Freehills tax experts). The guest speaker was Federal Magistrate Garry Foster. It was an excellent event and maintains the College of Law and UWS School of Law's positive relationship.

### **Mr Michael Brogan**

Michael Brogan, President of the Board of Management of the Blackheath Area Men's Shed Inc., was master of ceremonies of a public meeting to introduce the newly incorporated body on 18 October 2012.

Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl, Yvonne Daly, Karen Mammone and Natalie Smith attended the book launch "Global Islamophobia" held at the Boilerhouse on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Dr George Morgan (Institute for Culture and Society and School of Humanities and Communication Arts) was celebrating the launch of the book which he co-edited with Scott Poynting. The launch was attended by various staff including the Chancellor, Professor Peter Shergold.



**Professor Michael Adams**  
Dean of the School of Law, UWS