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Briefing from the Chair



It is only a few weeks until one of the most important events in ALTA's calendar takes place – the ALTA Annual 2006 Conference on the theme 'Legal Knowledge: Learning, Communicating and Doing'. The Conference and the planned meetings will no doubt be an outstanding success. This year the Conference Organising Committee has developed a program that focuses on key issues on legal academia including fundamental questions about the meaning of legal knowledge. Practical matters are also covered including the emerging research agenda and explorations of what it means to be an academic. Publishing options are covered with direct involvement by publishers. The Interest Groups provide an opportunity for in-depth discussions and workshops. The program looks exciting, relevant and applied. We are also providing an opportunity for refereeing of papers after the Conference. I congratulate the Victoria University Conference Team on their excellent work, especially Associate Professor Raff, Professor Arup and Ms Vanessa Mitchell. The measure of the success of this Conference is whether you have found the presentations and discussions relevant and useful for your career, and legal scholarship generally. I welcome your feedback.

In the Spring 2005 Newsletter I referred to initiatives designed to improve and enhance the benefit of your membership and the relevance and responsiveness of ALTA within the Australasian and international arena. Apart from increasing institutional membership, we have worked hard to increase dialogue with other important bodies such as the Australasian Professional Legal Education Council (APLEC) and the Council of Australian Law Deans (CALD). In this regard, Professor Lipman attended APLEC's Heads of Course Meeting and a new PLT Interest Group is planned.

I was able, in my capacity as Chair, to participate in the March CALD Meeting in Tasmania. It is obvious that CALD and ALTA share many interests and a joint meeting for CALD and ALTA's Executive is planned for July to explore collaboration and also to encourage dialogue (see page 18 – The Chair Reports on ALTA's ties with CALD).

In terms of the next twelve months it is clear that we need to ensure relevance and focus on core issues for ALTA. We are of course a 'professional body that advances the interest of law teachers and seeks to advance legal education'. How can we best do this? What should our objectives and priorities be for the next year? In July, the Secretariat and Executive members will be developing objectives, a mission and a business plan for a three year cycle. This will be available in draft for comment and I would encourage you to provide feedback to any members of the Secretariat or Executive at any point in this process.

As we draw closer to the AGM I wish to record my thanks for the dedication of colleagues on the General Executive – Mr Andrew Tuch, Associate Professor Prue Vines and Executive members Professor Adams, Professor Barker, Ms Hutchinson and Professor Lipman. They have all contributed in significant ways to ALTA's success. These colleagues work tirelessly for the members and ALTA's achievements this year are a reflection of their efforts. Mr Andrew Tuch finishes in July in his role as General Secretary. Our thanks to him for his important contributions. Nominations and expressions of interest for this position are welcome at the AGM. We have benefited greatly from the institutional support from UTS generally, and Professor McKeough, Dean of Law (UTS). I would also like to thank Samantha McGolrick, ALTA Administrative Coordinator for her work over the past year. She has worked tirelessly to her usual very high standards providing excellent administrative support for ALTA's functions.

I look forward to seeing all of you at Victoria University!

Professor Paul Moyle
ALTA Chairperson
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ALTA Update

Universities receive funding from the Department of Education Science and Training (DEST) for E1 conference papers. E1 papers are weighted at 1 point. Whereas rules regarding non-refereed publications are regulated internally by each university and may differ from one university to the next, most universities will give academics some recognition for E2 (non-refereed conference papers) and E3 (non-refereed conference abstracts).

E1 papers must be refereed and must be published (eg. outside conference attendees). Under DEST guidelines, these papers must be presented at conferences, workshops or seminars of *national or international significance*. Generally, the same requirements apply to E2 and E3, except they need not be refereed.

If a university gives credit for abstracts, delegates may be able to claim their ALTA conference abstract as an E3 publication, in addition to their full paper, because ALTA will publish abstracts on the ALTA website after the annual conference. However, as mentioned above, considering an ALTA abstract as an E3 is university specific.

An ALTA Referee Committee has been established and comprises members of the ALTA Executive. The referee process will be jointly coordinated between the ALTA Referee Committee and the ALTA conveners. Although it is not a requirement of DEST to have blind referees, ALTA will attempt not to disclose the identity of the author.

The refereeing process will start approximately one month after the ALTA conference, which will give those who presented their paper at the ALTA conference, and who wish to have their paper refereed, a chance to amend their paper if needed based on feedback from their presentation. It is not a requirement to have your paper submitted to the Conference Committee (for inclusion in the Conference program) to have your paper refereed, these two processes are separate. The ALTA Secretariat will email all delegates a few weeks prior to the deadline for submission (approximately one month after the conference).

Papers will be published in a document on the ALTA website. As you can see, publishing a document of papers on the ALTA website, which is a website that has national and international significance, complies with the DEST guidelines for an E1 publication.

Good luck!

For your interest...(copyright issues)

Academics may be interested in the Australian Copyright Council's training sessions for Educational institutions. We are confident that most academics are interested in copyright issues, therefore we are pleased to promote their next training sessions in this current Issue of the *ALTA Newsletter*. The training sessions are directed to anyone who works in an educational institution (including a library in an educational institution). You can find more information on these sessions at www.copyright.org.au/training

**ALTA will
now referee
ALTA
Conference
papers**

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www.alta.edu.au



ALTA Conference Info

At this year's Conference there are some changes taking place within a few ALTA Interest Groups:

1. The Legal Research and Communication Interest Group will look at amalgamating with the Law Librarian Interest Group – a new name is for the group to decide.
2. The Gender Issues and the Law and Women and Law Interest Groups will also look at amalgamating. Due to the lack of papers presented in both of these groups in the last few years, suggestions for a new name are welcome – a new name is for the group to decide.
3. The Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Interest Group with new convener Simon Rice, will look at a name change to promote the focus of human rights in this Group.
4. The Ethics for the Legal Profession Interest Group will hold its first session at this year's Conference, and will confirm a name that the group agrees on – a new name is for the group to decide.
5. The Constitutional Law and Government Law Interest Groups will look to see if the two Groups agree on amalgamating or continuing with two separate Interest Groups. If amalgamation is warranted, the decision will need to be made on finding a new name that is suitable and interesting – a new name is for the group to decide.
6. The Law for Non Law Students will hold its first meeting with its new name which was adopted at the 2005 ALTA Conference. The group changed its name from Law for Non Law Schools to the above.

ALTA Interest Group Sessions

The ALTA Secretariat has put together a new session for this year's conference, called the '*Legal Academic Job Network*'. It is to be held on the **5 July**, between **4pm – approx 5:30pm**.

The purpose of this session is to explore issues relating to a legal academic career and to provide a forum for early career academics to see presentations from academics of different levels and experience on developing a successful legal academic career. Issues that may be relevant for more senior academics will also be touched upon.

This session will also offer a forum for members of ALTA to ask questions and receive feedback on building an academic career. Therefore our intention is to allocate approx 30 minutes of the session for questions & answers from the floor.

We have asked Michael Coper and Rosalind Croucher to speak regarding their role as both a Professor and Dean in a law faculty. We've also asked Judie Lancaster to speak on behalf of her role as a senior academic in a law faculty. Presentation will last approximately 10-15min each, following with questions and observations from the floor.

Whilst the content of each presentation is flexible and from personal experience, we hope to explore issues such as: Work life balance (increased workloads and pressures; timing and choices); The role of a legal academic in a law faculty (is this the career for me? – accident or design); My responsibilities – the professional academic/academic in a professional discipline; My style – teacher/writer/ administrator; My future/my place – sink/swim/torpedoing in the legal academe); and What to expect from a career in legal academia (career progression issues; publishing & research).

Convener of this session: ALTA Chairperson Professor Paul Moyle

Legal Academic Job Network



ALTA Conference Info, *con't*

ALTA Publishers Plenary – *'Future Direction and Challenges of Legal Publishing'*

The ALTA Secretariat will also be hosting a panel session at this year's Conference called *'Future Direction and Challenges of Legal Publishing'*. Our guests will be senior representatives from four publishing companies, as well as prolific author, Paul Latimer. The session will be held on the **6 July**, between **4pm – approx 5:30pm**.

The session will involve the above speakers addressing:

- Copyright Issues
 - Who owns the rights to books when they become electronic, the publisher or the university?
- Textbooks are not considered scholarly under the current DEST publication rules.
- A balance is needed between support issues when academics complete a textbook. Completing the textbook is a huge undertaking in itself; however, more often than not, academics are then expected to produce the following:
 - The study guide
 - Electronic issues
 - Question books
- Direction in content area, the balance between what the academic feels is important and the market research conducted by the publishers which may provide different outcomes.
- Are publishers aware of the challenges facing academics from the introduction of the Research Quality Framework (RQF)?
 - Perhaps more provision for refereeing and reviewing may increase academic publishing.
- Support for authors
 - Electronic manuscripts sent to authors who are undertaking subsequent editions are generally sent to authors in a format that cannot be easily amended, is a change necessary?

The remainder of the session will be a Q&A for publishers and delegates. We look forward to seeing you there!

Convener of this session: ALTA Executive Member Professor Michael Adams

APLEC represents all the practical legal training (PLT) courses in Australia and New Zealand. Since most law students seek a professional qualification whether they intend to practice or not, ALTA and APLEC believe it is essential for law teachers and PLT teachers to have a forum in which they can discuss recent developments in education and develop mutual research interests.

ALTA Executive member, Zada Lipman, represented ALTA at the APLEC Heads of course meeting in Melbourne on 12 May 2006 where APLEC affirmed their interest in a closer involvement with ALTA.

A preliminary measure suggested, was that APLEC promote ALTA membership with their members with a view to achieving the necessary number of individual memberships of ALTA to establish a new ALTA Interest Group on PLT.

The ALTA Executive welcomes this initiative.

**ALTA supports
a closer
relationship
with APLEC
{Australasian
Professional
Legal
Education
Council}**



ALTA New Zealand Executive Update

**Straight
from
Waikato**

The handover of ALTA NZ to the Waikato Law School from Victoria University of Wellington is now complete. Since the last ALTA Newsletter, there have been some changes to the NZ Executive due to the departure of Dr John Hopkins from Waikato. Jacquelin Mackinnon has taken over the role of Secretary, and Ken Mackinnon has joined the Executive as a Member. Our priority now is to consult the NZ membership on the types of activities we can undertake in supporting legal scholarship in New Zealand, and as part of the Australasian legal education community.

The NZ Executive may be located in one law school, but it needs to represent the interests of the whole of the membership in NZ. Ideas already received include having an ALTA NZ liaison person for each institution with NZ members, and setting up an ALTA NZ website linked to the ALTA website. We would encourage members from both sides of the Tasman to discuss the role of the NZ Executive with the Executive members who are able to attend the 2006 ALTA Conference at Victoria University, Melbourne – Professor John Farrar, Ken Mackinnon and Wayne Rumbles. Anyone not attending the Conference can contact Jacquelin Mackinnon at jim2@waikato.ac.nz

Performance-Based Research Fund

In light of the changes to University funding in Australia, ALTA has introduced processes for the review of conference abstracts and for publication of refereed ALTA Conference papers. Colleagues may wish to know of the situation in New Zealand. New Zealand tertiary sector funding has also undergone change. The New Zealand Tertiary Education Commission implements and monitors the Performance-Based Research Fund system, which is progressively replacing the current EFTS (equivalent full-time student) 'top-up' funding for research.

The PBRF model has three elements:

- The Quality Evaluation - 60 percent of the fund
- Research Degree Completions - 25 percent of the fund
- External Research Income - 15 percent of the fund.

The Quality Evaluation component of a Tertiary Education Organisation's (TEC) research funding is based on an evaluation of its researchers' performance in 3 categories. These categories are "research outputs", "peer esteem" and "contributions to the research environment". The weightings assigned to each category are 70% for "research outputs", and 15% for each of the other 2 categories. Evidence of quality in these categories is submitted in the form of an individual researcher's Evidence Portfolio. In 2003, Evidence Portfolios were internally assessed by the researcher's TEO and each portfolio was given a "quality category" of A, B, C, or R (not able to achieve a C). All but R graded portfolios were submitted to TEC for consideration by "peer review panels".

The "research outputs" component of the Evidence Portfolio is made up of 4 nominated research outputs (the researcher selects her or his "best work") and up to 30 other outputs. Each research output must be classified as "quality-assured" or "non-quality-assured". A quality-assured research output is one which has successfully completed a formal quality-assurance process prior to publication or presentation. A formal quality assurance process is one in which the output has been subject to "formal independent scrutiny by those with the necessary expertise and/or skills to assess its quality..." (*PBRF Guidelines* 2006, 47) Formal quality-assurance processes include blind peer review or refereeing processes used by journals and book publishers; review processes used by editors, editorial committees or publishers; and refereeing processes used for conferences papers.

Members may also be interested in the "re-birth" of the New Zealand Society for Legal and Social Philosophy. Professor Jim Evans has been working towards the revival of this once-lively Society. A Special General Meeting of the Society is part of the provisional programme for the Australian Society of Legal Philosophy Annual Conference to be held in Auckland, from 23rd to 25th June. Professor Evans can be contacted at pj.evans@auckland.ac.nz. Selected papers from the 2005 ALTA Conference at Waikato Law School have been refereed and are presently being formatted for publication in the next volume of the *Yearbook of New Zealand Jurisprudence*. The (2006) 9 *Yearbook of New Zealand Jurisprudence* will be available in August. Information for new subscribers is available from Brenda Markham, brendam@waikato.ac.nz

New Zealand ALTA Executive



**VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY**

**A NEW
SCHOOL OF
THOUGHT**

The 61st Annual ALTA Conference will be held at Victoria Univeristy

Queen Street Campus
[4-7 July 2006]

Legal Knowledge: Learning, Communicating and Doing

This year Victoria University hosts the Conference at its historic Queen Street premises. The Conference runs Tuesday 4 July to Friday 7 July.

The Conference theme is *Legal Knowledge: Learning, Communicating and Doing*. This theme has been chosen to highlight current practices in legal education and research and the effect of changes we can expect to see in research funding, professional requirements, employment conditions and publishing media. It will enable a conversation to take place between law academics (new, old, LLB, other), law publishers, legal practitioners, law reporters and law policy makers about the nature of their common 'knowledge work'.

At each annual ALTA Conference some 150/200 participants present papers on research and teaching in the various ALTA Interest Groups.

There will be three plenary sessions at this Conference, the first concerning the conditions for improving legal knowledge both locally and worldwide, the second the opportunities for researching law fruitfully, and the third the demands for educating layers for practice and public service.

For example, the research plenary will consider the problems of fit between university research, the preferences of government and private sponsors, and the needs of law publishers and law reformers. We will need to look closely at the Commonwealth Government's Research Quality Framework, which as we know, is about to change the rules on research funding.

With Victoria currently undertaking a review of legal education services, the education plenary will consider the best possible way to divide education tasks between university, practical legal training and continuing legal education.

The Conference keynote speaker is Professor Bryant Garth. Bryant is now Dean of the School of Law at Southwestern University, Los Angeles, California. Until recently he was the Executive Director of the American Bar Foundation, the research arm of the American Bar Association in Chicago.

Bryant is one of the leading researchers of the legal profession and legal practice internationally. He combines extensive empirical work with sophisticated theoretical insight into law and business, law and the state, and the emerging global legal order. His interests are wide. He has researched dispute resolution, including a wonderful study of international commercial arbitration, the internationalisation of legal practice, competition between law and accounting firms, the career paths of recent law graduates, the work of lawyers in NGOs and human rights, and law and the state in the developing countries of Latin America and East Asia.

In addition to Bryant, the speaker line-up is strong, including; Professor Michael Coper (Council of Australian Law Deans), Professor Hilary Charlesworth (ANU and Australian Research Council), Professor John Farrar (University of Waikato), Mr Chris Holt (Federation Press), Professor Richard Johnstone (Griffith University), Professor Kathy Laster (Victoria Law Foundation), Dr Peter Cashman (Maurice Blackburn Cashman), Mr Neville Carter (College of Law) and Professor Carl Monk (Association of American Law Schools).

2006 ALTA Conference Committee

*For more
details:*

[2006 ALTA
Conference -
Victoria](#)

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*Members
receive a
**discount on the
Annual
Conference fee
inclusive of
their ALTA
membership.***

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VU Conference Program

Conference Program

Tuesday 4 July 2006

Evening

Cocktails, Law Deans, conference registrants, hosted by Thomson Legal & Regulatory

Convener social event, hosted by VU and the ALTA Secretariat (City Flinders Street)

Wednesday 5 July 2006

Conference Opening, 9.30 am

Justice Hon Marcia Neave, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court of Victoria

Opening Plenary Session: Legal Knowledge, 9.45 – 11.00 am

Chair: Professor Paul Moyle, Foundation Professor in Law and Justice, Edith Cowan University, Chairperson, ALTA

Keynote Speaker: Dean Bryant Garth

Professor Michael Coper, Chair, Council of Australian Law Deans, Dean, Faculty of Law, Australian National University

How is legal knowledge learnt and communicated? Who gains legal knowledge and is it important to participation in society? To what extent is legal knowledge local and to what extent international or global? What are the implications for law teaching and research?

Morning Tea, 11.00-11.30 am

Interest Group Sessions, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm

Lunch, 1.00 – 2.30 pm hosted by CCH Publishers
ALTA Executive Meeting

Interest Group Sessions, 2.30 – 4.00 pm

ALTA 'Legal Academic Job Network', 4.00 – 5.30 pm

Convener: Professor Paul Moyle, ALTA Chairperson

Special Interest Group session – Constitutional Law, 5.00 – 5.30 pm

Evening

Informal Publishers Dinner, hosted by Routledge-Cavendish Law Publishers
Old Melbourne Gaol

Ned Kelly and the Law in Literature and Film

Thursday 6 July 2006

Plenary Session: Researching Law, 9.30 – 11.00 am

Chair: Professor Rosalind Croucher, Dean, Division of Law, Macquarie University

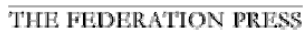
Keynote Speaker: Professor Hilary Charlesworth, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University and ARC College of Experts

Professor John Farrar, Dean, School of Law, University of Waikato, NZ, Host School 2005 ALTA Conference

Mr Chris Holt, Publisher, Federation Press

Professor Richard Johnstone, Associate Dean (Research), Griffith University

ALTA Conference Sponsors:



Victoria University Conference Program, *con't*

What do changing definitions and rankings of research mean for law schools and legal academics, individually and in collaboration? How do we make the most of the changes to further law and justice research? How do they fit with the needs of law students, law publishers, law reformers and legal practitioners?

Morning Tea, 11.00 – 11.30 am

Interest Group Sessions, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm

Lunch, 1.00 – 2.30 pm hosted by CCH publishers
ALTA AGM

Interest Group Sessions, 2.30 – 4.00 pm

ALTA 'Future Directions and Challenges in Legal Publishing', 4.00 - 5.00 pm
Convener: Professor Michael Adams, ALTA Executive Member

Evening
Formal Publishers Dinner, hosted by LexisNexis
Victoria Club, Rialto Towers

Friday 7 July 2006

Interest Group Sessions, 9.30 – 11.00 am

Morning Tea, 11.00 – 11.30 am

Plenary Session: Educating Lawyers, 11.30 am – 1.00 pm
Chair: Professor Roman Tomasic, School of Law, Victoria University
Keynote Speaker: Professor Kathy Laster, Executive Director, Victoria Law Foundation

Dr Peter Cashman, Consultant, Maurice Blackburn Cashman, Lawyers (product liability and public interest lawyer)
Mr Neville Carter, Managing Director, College of Law (practical legal training)
Are the technical and entrepreneurial demands of practice increasing? Are cross-cultural sensibilities and social responsibilities important, both in the community and commercial sectors? What would a contemporary curriculum include and what changes would be needed to the current education and training requirements at state and national levels?

Lunch, 1.00 – 2.30 pm

ALTA Issues Session, 2.30 – 3.30 pm
Chair: Professor Paul Moyle, ALTA Chairperson

ALTA Executive Members – Professor Michael Adams, Assoc Professor Prue Vines, Andrew Tuch, Terry Hutchinson and Professor David Barker AM
Professor Carl Monk, Association of American Law Schools

Summary of the ALTA Plenary sessions – 'Legal Academic Job Network' and the 'Future Directions and Challenges in Legal Publishing'; Discussion of issues for the future and linkages – ALTA Business Plan and collaboration with CALD; ALTA Referee process.

ALTA Conference Sponsors:



A Message from a few ALTA Conveners

Discrimination and Equal Opportunity

I have put myself forward to convene this interest group, a reflection of my interest in the area, and my concern that much more research could be done in the area. The group appears to have been quiet of late. Some related activity might be taking place in the Law and Social Justice group convened by Rick Sarre.

In January I sent out a note to the DEO group members, asking for or suggestions about the way the DEO interest group could/should work. It was, of course, a quiet time of year and I received only a few replies (It is now a *busy* time of year, so replies to the same query at this time might be just as few).

One comment I received was that the group be renamed as a **Human Rights Interest Group**. I had made the same proposal informally to ALTA when I agreed to convene, so it was pleasing to see it coming as well from an established member of the group.

I suggest that such a change of name would:

- reflect a rapidly increasing area of research and teaching in Australasian law schools
- considerably broaden the coverage of the group
- encompass Discrimination and Equal Opportunity
- bring in more members
- raise the currently very low level of activity

A name change could be approved by the ALTA AGM at the Conference, if there is support for it from within the group. In anticipation of a possible name change, your proposal for a paper might extend beyond DEO to Human Rights and human rights education. As well, you might invite colleagues who would come within this proposed broader area of interest to join the group. Please get in touch with me with your thoughts and ideas. Abstracts (no more than 250-300 words) will be circulated and published on the ALTA website, after the Conference, as E3 publications.

Thank you, I look forward to meeting you in Melbourne in July.

Simon Rice

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Law and Economics

Hi there, my name is Dr Anthony Gray and I have inherited the Convener position for Law and Economics in ALTA. Those of us who enjoy the insights that cross-disciplinary work can provide are encouraged to be part of this group. Any number of legal areas can be the subject of economic analysis, but the question of industrial relations is of course particularly topical at present.

Scholars may also be interested in mooted trade practices reform or recent company law reforms, however the list of possible topics in which law and economics are legitimately concerned is endless.

At the ALTA Conference in Melbourne in July, we will be able to share our perspectives and consider looking at legal issues in a different light. Please address any queries you may have to me.

Dr Anthony Gray

Head of Department of Law
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A Message from a few ALTA Conveners, *con't*

Ethics for the Legal Profession

The Ethics for the Legal Profession Interest Group has now sprung into life after discussions stimulated by the last Annual Conference at Waikato University and deliberations of the ALTA Executive. It is hoped you will be able to contribute to this important and interesting area of scholarship and practice.

Scholarly inquiry into the legal profession and legal practice in Australia and New Zealand is very much in its infancy and there is a huge scope to have considerable impact. This interest group covers all aspects of the legal profession. Academics researching or teaching in the theory or philosophy of lawyering, the sociology of the profession, professional ethics, legal obligations of lawyers, regulation and discipline of the profession, skills and competence of lawyers, teaching ethics, or any other aspect of ethics, lawyers and legal practice are welcome to become members of and contribute to the interest group.

The legal professions of Australia and New Zealand are in an apparent state of constant flux and the generation of rigorous scholarship in these areas can only enhance the reforms that our respective professions are undergoing. Similarly the existence of this interest group is a great opportunity to build networks with other scholars and teachers that will benefit our own capacity to teach and research effectively.

The inaugural meeting of this interest group, which will occur at the 2006 ALTA Conference, is sure to be a lively affair and I for one am looking forward to meeting a large number of colleagues interested in ethics and the legal profession at that event. I hope you will be able to attend and contribute. In any event, if you have an interest in this area, please make sure you sign up as a member now, or when you renew your membership for 2007.

Duncan Webb

Associate Professor
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Gender Issues and the Law – Women and Law

We are fortunate that the members of our two groups, Women and the Law and Gender Issues and the Law, comprise a strong cohort of teachers and researchers whose interests inevitably extend into areas as diverse as employment and workplace law, banking law, contract law and family law, to name but a few. Members have, however, a common focus on women and gender-related issues and include those with national and international reputations in these areas as well as emerging researchers. Given this depth of talent it is timely to consider the future of our group/s. Although members are active within their research areas, the level of participation as group members at ALTA Conferences has slowed down and is a matter of concern. There were no papers presented by either group at the Hamilton Conference and very few are expected at Melbourne.

Therefore I would urge those group members who possibly can, to attend the Melbourne Conference and participate in the discussion concerning the groups' future and proposed amalgamation at the ALTA General Meeting in Melbourne in July. As members would be aware the ALTA Executive decided in November 2005 that the two groups should be amalgamated, a decision which needs to be confirmed at the forthcoming AGM in July. Members were advised about this in previous e-mails.

Both groups have had several changes in convenerhip in recent years and due to unforeseen circumstances I will not be able to attend the Melbourne Conference. However, the amalgamation issue may provide an opportunity for group members to rethink their commitment and consider participating as presenters at future conferences. The value of networking and collaboration with peers in our areas of mutual interest cannot be under-estimated. The recent changes, enabling papers to obtain DEST E1 status (fully refereed conference paper) is obviously a welcome incentive. So I would encourage all of you to attend if at all possible.

Janine Pascoe

Senior Lecturer
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A Message from a few ALTA Conveners, *con't*

Legal Research and Communication – Law Librarians

In the latter half of 2005 after the Annual Conference in Waikato the ALTA Executive announced that it was desirous of amalgamating some of the interest groups that had smaller attendance at the annual conference. It was suggested that the Legal Research Communications and Law Librarians Interest Groups amalgamate because of size and similar interests. When put to the members of the groups via email the response was a positive one for amalgamation. At the AGM at the 2006 Conference in Melbourne in July, final approval will be given to a name for the amalgamated group. The following options have been suggested by members:

- Legal Research and Legal Information; or
- Legal Research and Legal Writing Skills; or
- that Legal Research and Communication be retained.

In considering a name for the amalgamated group I thought it might be appropriate to recount a little of the history of the two interest groups. The Law Librarians interest group has been in existence longer than the Legal Research and Communications Interest group. The Law Librarians Group had a very strong presence until the mid 1990s and was heavily involved in drafting the University Law Library Standards. Since the 1990s law librarians have attended the ALIA Specials, Health and Law Librarian's Conference and the Australian Law Librarian's Group has in recent years run a Law Librarian's Symposium in alternate years to the ALIA conference. At the 1994 ALTA Conference a separate Legal Research and Communication interest group was formed with the specific aim of addressing LLB curriculum issues in both legal research skills training and legal writing skills training. It was originally envisaged that communication could cover advocacy and mooting, that is the verbal communication of the results of legal research. With this background in mind and what you perceive to be the role of the group in the future, please let me know which of these options for the name of the new group you would prefer or if you have any other suggestions, so that I may advise the Executive of our decision at the July AGM.

Natalie Cuffe

Lecturer

Queensland University of Technology

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South Pacific Legal Studies

Recent Events

This year has been a very exciting one for South Pacific researchers. Developments include a referendum in Tokelau and elections in Solomon Islands and Fiji, which have all highlighted unresolved legal issues.

Interest Group Session at this Year's Conference

The SPLSIG is planning to hold two interest group sessions at ALTA this year, one of these will be a combined session with the Indigenous Peoples and the Law Group. We have already received five abstracts, and the sessions will include presentations on the recent events in Solomon Islands (with photographs taken during the riots!) and in Tokelau.

Interest Group Notice Board

We now have space on the Interest Group Notice Board on the ALTA Web at

http://www.alta.edu.au/sopac_noticeboard.html, where you will find news of recent publications and events. If you have any new publications or other items that would interest Group members, please send details to me.

Dr Jennifer Corrin Care

Associate Professor

University of Queensland

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New Convener Roles and Responsibilities

1. ALTA Constitution

The Constitution provides that "Interest Groups", to enable members to pursue particular academic interests in the law which they have in common, may be established at the request of no less than 20 members of the Association and by permission of the General Executive". The Constitution also states that "membership of an Interest Group shall be open to any member or associate member of the Association"

(www.alta.edu.au/constitution.html)

2. Appointment

The Constitution states "each Interest Group shall appoint a convener...". They must be a paid-up member of the Association. The practice shall be to elect/re-elect a convener annually at the ALTA Conference. The process will be as follows: Conveners will email their Group, one month before the conference, asking group members to consider the election process and to advise whether they, as convener, will stand for re-election at the Conference. At this time, conveners will also ask those members if anyone else is interested in the role. A second email will be sent to the group two weeks before the Conference, advising of any interested parties. Members will then have sufficient time before the Conference to consider the candidates. Conveners will then be elected/re-elected at the Conference in their Interest Group session. After the Conference, the ALTA Secretariat will email the convener, as the representative of that group, to see if he/she was re-elected or whether the Group elected a new convener. If the Group does not hold a session at the Annual Conference, for whatever reason, the convener will need to contact their Group, via email, after the Conference, and follow a similar process to the above. In this respect, the appointment process may involve a confidential election of interested parties, of which the Secretariat will organise. A convener may hold his/her position for three years, unless special circumstances arise within the Interest Group.

The ALTA Secretariat will provide conveners with a list of members in their particular interest group, and their email addresses, to assist him/her in communicating with group members. The conveners name and email address will be displayed on the ALTA website

(www.alta.edu.au/convenors.html)

3. Primary Duties

The convener's duties primarily focus around the Annual Conference. A convener's role is to review abstracts given to them from individual delegates via the Conference Committee. These abstracts are for papers that a delegate may wish to present at the Annual Conference. In reviewing the abstract, the convener should focus on the quality of the paper. Consideration should also be given as to whether the paper fits within the conference theme, but this is not essential.

Conveners need to remind delegates that it is a requirement that if a delegate submits a paper, they MUST attend the conference. If the paper is a joint submission, only one author need attend the Conference.

Conveners must be available to liaise with the Conference Committee and the Secretariat in the preceding months leading up to the Annual Conference; either by email, phone or fax. Communication before the Conference is vital in preparing for Interest Group sessions and conveners must communicate in a timely fashion.

The Constitution provides that each convener "shall report orally, or in writing, on the activities of the group to each Annual General Meeting of the Association"; however, the process at this time will be for the convener, after the Annual Conference and at the request of the ALTA Secretariat, to provide a written report on their Interest Group. See below, under point 5 – Reporting Arrangements.

The conveners duties are envisaged to develop over the next few years to include a role in the selection and possibly refereeing (allocating others to blind referee to comply with Government requirements for quality controls) of abstracts for the Annual Conference. The ALTA Executive will develop this as part of its publication programme and support for academic legal research and scholarship.

New Convener Roles and Responsibilities *con't*

4. Interest Group Meetings

Meetings will normally take place during the Association's Annual Conference and other such times that may be convenient for members within the Interest Group.

Conveners should expect to liaise with the Conference Committee with regard to their pending Interest Group meeting at the Annual Conference. Depending on each individual Conference, the conveners may need to advise on an appropriate meeting room, learning aids (such as PowerPoint facilities, overhead projectors etc), the distribution of any papers as may be provided by the delegates and the drawing up the Interest Group session order of presentations.

5. Reporting Arrangements

The ALTA Secretariat will provide each convener with an electronic copy of a *pro forma*, to be used as a template to simplify the reporting arrangements of each group. The convener shall complete the template and email it back to the ALTA Secretariat (alta@law.uts.edu.au) in a timely fashion. The report will be available on the ALTA website and an edited version inserted into the *ALTA Newsletter*.

6. Single Convener

Each Interest Group may only have ONE convener appointed and their email address listed on the ALTA website. It is also a requirement that a convener may only convene one Interest Group and that members of the General Executive may not be conveners (unless the Executive passes a resolution in exceptional circumstances).

If a convener is unable to attend the Annual Conference, the convener must appoint an alternate convener to administer their Interest Group meeting at the Conference. The alternate convener MUST be a member of that particular Interest Group. The convener must then advise the Conference Committee and the Secretariat of the alteration.

Conveners should advise the alternate convener, before their acceptance, that they must provide the convener with the report, as per item 5 above, 'Reporting Arrangements'. The convener will send the report to the Secretariat.

7. Annual Conference

There is an expectation that the convener or the alternate convener shall attend the convener social event at the Annual Conference. This function will serve as a "thank you to the role of conveners" from both the Secretariat and Conference Committee. This will also provide a formal opportunity for conveners to raise issues with the ALTA Executive and Secretariat relating to their particular Interest Group, as is felt necessary.

What are conveners looking for when reviewing your conference abstract?

- Consideration should be given as to whether the paper fits within the Conference theme, but this element is not essential. However, conveners should advise their group of this suggestion.
- The abstract should describe the content of the paper. It should properly introduce the topic, describe the body and comment on conclusions reached.
- The abstract should be coherent and have appropriate punctuation.
- The paper should adhere to the MULR guidelines for citation (if required).
- Abstracts should be no more 250-300 words. Abstracts should not be less than 200 words (this is important now that ALTA will be publishing abstracts).
- Conveners need to remind delegates that it is a requirement that if a delegate submits a paper, they must attend the Conference. If it is a joint paper, one author must present at the Conference.

Publications included in your ALTA membership

Legal Education Digest

The *Legal Education Digest* is a quarterly digest of articles and other publications on legal education. Over 200 journals are kept under review. All the materials digested have been categorised in accordance with the subject headings which can be found on the website for the *Digest* at <http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/finding/collections/cle>. Where there is no material in the Issue under a particular subject heading, the heading will not appear.

A yearly ALTA membership includes 4 Issues of the *Digest*. In your 2006 ALTA membership you will receive Volume 13 Issues 3 & 4, and Volume 14 Issues 1 & 2. You should have already received the final two Issues of Volume 13, if not, please contact the ALTA Secretariat. You can expect Volume 14(1) in July and 14(4) in October.

ALTA members can receive a hard copy of any of the Issues included in their membership for \$11 AUD (incl GST). ALTA members may also receive a full Volume of the *Digest* (in hard copy) at a substantial discount off the annual subscription of \$55 per year (incl GST). Please email the *Digest* if you have any queries regarding this arrangement LED@law.uts.edu.au

We thought we would give you an update on what the latest Issue includes (remember, that this is not the Issue that a 2006 ALTA member will receive). As a 2006 ALTA member, you will receive Vol 13(4). Below is the Editorial from Volume 14(4).

There are 15 articles in this issue of the *Digest* which, apart from three on developing courses to teach the law on national security and terrorism in the US, do not reveal any abiding issues that are occupying the attention of legal educators at the moment. Furthermore, we have not been able to locate any recently published monographs dealing with important legal education matters and, as a consequence, there is once again no review article in this issue.

There are three articles under the heading Individual Subjects/Areas of Law from a recent issue of the *Journal of Legal Education*. Kayyem discusses the design and delivery of a course for nonlawyers on the law relating to the war on terror. Dycus outlines the processes involved in developing a course on national security law and the lawyer's role in the formulation and execution of national defence policies. Finally, Banks reflects on a new course carved out as a sub-set of national security law focused on the legal dimensions of countering terrorism.

Under Students Francis & McDonald look into the growing significance of part-time students as a proportion of the undergraduate student cohort and argue that legal educators and the profession should be more responsive to their distinctive needs. Schmidt & Iijima report on an evaluative research study they conducted into the impact of an academic support program on the grades of at risk students.

Publications included in your ALTA membership, *con't*

Legal Education Digest, con't

Context, Criticism & Theory has an article by Boon, Flood & Webb on the fragmentation of legal education and the legal profession, which they argue will result from the adoption of the UK Law Society's Training Framework Review. Under Curriculum Gervutz & Others discuss a workshop held on the design of the curricular changes to ensure that the vast majority of law school graduates have had some exposure to issues of international, transnational and comparative law.

Binder examines the impact on the finances and mission of the public universities of the serious decline in state funding. Underwood reviews the current status of judicial education, advocating the need for the fostering of a collaborative learning environment in which knowledge is shared and built on in a constructive way.

Morgan contends in the one article under Law Schools that the shape of today's law schools should best be determined, not by what today's lawyers are expected to do, but by the shape of the world the next generation of lawyers will face. Under Legal Ethics Palermo & Evans discuss their survey research into the values which are characteristic of the mass of Australian law students in their last year of law school and their impact on the students' ethical decision-making.

The trials and tribulations of an Australian university designing and delivery a course to teach common law to students in China are canvassed in an article by Blay, Young & Li under Planning & Development. Silver under Postgraduate Programs provides a detailed analysis of the landscape of graduate programs for foreign-educated lawyers in US law schools and the motivations for them to study in the US.

In a rather whimsical but humorous essay under Teachers Croucher draws parallels between the recipes contained in two universal cookbooks and the personal development of women in the legal academy. She maintains that academia is no different from the kitchen in the understanding of the social, gender and management issues which underpin human behaviour. In the last article, allotted to Teaching Methods & Media, Macduff reflects upon the effectiveness of different teaching methods in motivating students to take responsibility for social and legal change.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Angus Young to the *Digest* through the high quality both of his research and the compilation of the first drafts of the condensed articles. Angus has recently retired as research assistant after being involved in the production of the last nine Issues over more than two years. Samantha McGolrick, Angus' successor, has ably continued this tradition in this, the first Issue upon which she has worked.

Publications included in your ALTA membership, *con't*

Legal Education Review

The *Legal Education Review* was established in 1989 with the support from a grant from the Law Foundation of NSW. The *Review* is financed by its subscribers and ALTA. The objective of the *Review* is to encourage and disseminate research into legal education and to stimulate discussion, debate, research and experimentation on topics related to legal education. The Editors of the *Review* are appointed by ALTA. They are Allan Chay (QUT); Nan Seuffert (Waikato); Nick James (UQ); Paul Moyle (ECU); Samantha Hardy (Tasmania); and Editor in Chief, Terry Hutchinson (QUT).

The *Review* has two sections, full articles and Teaching Notes. All papers published in the *Review* are double blind peer refereed. The *Review* uses *The Australian Guide to Legal Citation* style guide and authors should ensure their papers conform to this style prior to submission.

A small number of Teaching Notes are published in each Issue. These have more limited objectives than full articles.

A teaching note differs from an article in that:

- It is not a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of a scholarly topic of legal education; it usually focuses on a particular teaching experience at a specific law faculty rather than a more general examination of practice nationally (in some cases, a short article may be submitted but this would be better presented as a "Note" rather than a Teaching Note).
- It need not be substantial in length.

A teaching note is similar to an article in that:

- it should be well written and include headings,
- it should contain reference to relevant current literature on legal education,
- it should evidence thorough research of literature on the same angle, but not necessarily on the same general topic, and
- it should be scholarly in its objectives, tone, referencing and approach generally.

A teaching note is based on a particular teaching experience and should encompass the following:

- Description of the previous teaching method, if applicable;
- Discussion of assumptions behind, and reasons for, moving to or attempting a new activity, with reference to relevant literature on legal education;
- Detailed description of the teaching project/new teaching activity undertaken or being undertaken, including aims or objectives, and method of assessment if applicable;
- Discussion of issues arising in the planning of the new activity or in its implementation or impact;
- If possible, a description of an objective evaluation of that activity which was undertaken;
- Analysis of that evaluation, with comparison to any existing literature;
- Discussion of implications of your experience for other legal academics in similar situations; and
- Appendix: any official documents used in the activity.

We would like to remind ALTA Members again that the *Review* will publish one Issue per Volume per annum.

Currently, as ALTA members, you receive an electronic copy of the *Review* as part of your ALTA membership and you receive a substantial discount on a subscription to the *Review*. A subscription to the *Review* is \$55 per annum; however, an ALTA member can receive a hard copy for only \$11 (incl GST).

LER is currently developing a website. The address will be: www.ler.edu.au

If you have any queries or would like to submit a paper for Volume 17, due out next year (submissions for Volume 16 closed on the 31 May 2006), please send your query or submission to LER@law.uts.edu.au

The Role of an Academic Lawyer / Legal Academic

This will be a continuing segment in the ALTA Newsletter.

If you know of someone who is an exceptional academic lawyer / legal academic – let us know at ALTA@law.uts.edu.au

One of the best things about being an academic lawyer is the freedom to choose your own path. The options include solo research focused on a discrete technical area of law through to a role in community debate about national issues of law and public policy.

While a legal academic is obviously someone who engages in teaching and research in law, it is not possible to be more prescriptive by saying what the role is or ought to be. This is best answered by each person based upon their circumstances and professional interests.

My starting point is that whatever contribution I make must be founded on excellence in research. That research plays a powerful role in informing my teaching and engagement in public debate. I am always reluctant to engage unless it relates to an area that is covered by my research.

From this base, I like the role of an academic lawyer who sees the law not as an end in itself, but as an instrument for achieving progressive social change. We live in a society in which few governments fully appreciate the connection between the law and social justice.

In tackling such issues I focus on the legal framework of our society and its governance arrangements. Hence, I work on topics like whether our Constitution needs to be amended, such as in regard to our federal arrangements, whether the law would be strengthened with a Bill of Rights and whether Indigenous health outcomes could be improved through new governance arrangements, such as through a treaty or the like.

I am also interested in a role as an academic lawyer as a team builder and collaborator. My most satisfying work has been in partnership with others. This includes a decade long collaboration with Professor Tony Blackshield on a constitutional law text and a number of Australian Research Council projects that have been undertaken with outstanding new scholars. For me, academic life should be fun, and to be fun it needs to be undertaken in with others.

I also see a particular role for academics in the media. At least in my field, debate can be dominated by political interests driven by electoral factors. This creates a need for other independent, credible voices that can analyse and explain matters such as High Court decisions.

Finally, I also see my role as involving legal practice. I have worked as a barrister from my first year as an academic at the Australian National University in 1995. Constitutional law contains many unexplored areas and a great potential to take part in the resolution of disputes, often through the provision of pro bono assistance and advice. I have been fortunate to have been involved in matters such as the Hindmarsh Bridge Case, the Lange decision, Plaintiff S157 and even a successful challenge to the 2000 coup in Fiji. These and other cases have had a profound effect on my teaching and research, and continue to provide me with a realistic perspective on the possibilities and, importantly, the limits of the law.

George Williams

Anthony Mason Professor and
Director of the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW
www.gtcentre.unsw.edu.au
and barrister at the NSW Bar



<http://www.cald.asn.au/index.htm>

The Chair Reports on ALTA's ties with the Council of Australian Law Deans

The Council of Australian Law Deans (CALD) is due to meet on the 4 July in conjunction with the ALTA Conference at Victoria University. This will be the second CALD Meeting for 2006. At its first Meeting held in March at the University of Tasmania, I provided a full report on ALTA's activities.

I kindly thanked Dean McKeough and UTS for their support of the ALTA Secretariat and noted ALTA is going through a process of review and change. ALTA's Executive supports a closer collaboration with CALD given the shared interests in a number of areas. It would seek to invite the Chair of CALD to selected Executive meetings of ALTA. I suggested that CALD and ALTA have a joint meeting and a resolution was passed that CALD and the entire ALTA Executive (not only the ALTA Chairperson) would meet on 4 July in Melbourne.

One of the items on the agenda for the forthcoming joint ALTA/CALD meeting will be optimal forms of association for Australian Law Schools, Law Deans, Law teachers and legal researchers. CALD has resolved to invite the Chair of ALTA on a regular basis to address the standing item dealing with ALTA. This provides an opportunity to fully participate in CALD and promote linkages in key areas of mutual interest. I would welcome feedback from members about topics for our July joint meeting.

In Tasmania, on behalf of the ALTA Executive, I brought forward a number of ALTA issues which needed attention, namely;

- Expansion of associate membership into secondary schools and TAFE;
- Building institutional membership to 100%;
- Expanding cooperation with the Australasian Professional Legal Education Council (APLEC) and the Continuing Legal Education Association of Australasia (CLEAA);
- Increasing involvement with conference hosts in planning and implementation for ALTA's Annual Conference – one of the features of the 2006 conference for consideration by Law Deans is the representation of 2-3 Deans on the Legal Academic Job Network panel to discuss academic and career issues. Professor Coper has agreed to join the panel for 2006;
- Finding a host University for the ALTA Conference in 2007; following ECU's withdrawal (UWA will now host the 2007 ALTA Conference);
- Alignment and closer cooperation with the International Legal Services Advisory Council (ILSAC);
- Developing mission objectives and an ALTA 2006-2007 Business Plan, which will be circulated for feedback to CALD members;
- Expanding international affiliations, especially with key Asian jurisdictions, to explore areas of collaboration;

The issue of ALTA's development was discussed and it was suggested that if, as its name suggested, teaching rather than research was the primary focus for ALTA, it should consider linking more closely with, eg, the Carrick Institute. However, it was pointed out that the name was somewhat misleading, because ALTA was in fact primarily about research, as its main purpose was to provide a forum, including specific interest groups, for the presentation of academic papers. It was suggested that, if ALTA was engaged in refocussing on its mission, it might also reconsider its name (it was once the Australian Law Schools' Association). Its general positioning within the profession, and its relationship to CALD, would be part of the discussion. CALD should consider these issues as well.

ALTA Institutional Members

An ALTA Institutional membership requires that 75% of the Faculty/School/Department join ALTA.

Many thanks are owed to our 23 Institutional members (2006) for their support, they are:

- The University of Auckland – School of Business & Economics
- The University of Auckland – Department of Commercial Law
- The University of Auckland – Faculty of Law
- The Australian National University – ANU College of Law
- Bond University – Faculty of Law
- Charles Darwin University – School of Law
- Edith Cowan University – School of Law and Justice
- Griffith University – Griffith School of Law
- James Cook University – School of Law
- La Trobe University School of Law
- Macquarie University – Division of Law
- Murdoch University – School of Law
- The University of New England – School of Law
- The University of New South Wales – ATAX
- The University of New South Wales – Faculty of Law
- The University of Queensland – TC Beirne School of Law
- University of South Australia – School of Commerce
- The University of the South Pacific – School of Law
- University of Southern Queensland – Department of Law
- Southern Cross University – School of Law and Justice
- The University of Sydney – Economics & Business
- The University of Sydney – Law Extension Committee
- The University of Sydney – Faculty of Law
- University of Tasmania – Faculty of Law
- University of Technology, Sydney – Faculty of Law
- Victoria University – School of Law
- Victoria University of Wellington – Faculty of Law
- Victoria University of Wellington – School of Accountancy and Commercial Law
- The University of Western Australia – Faculty of Law
- The University of Waikato – Law School
- University of Wollongong – Faculty of Law

Many thanks are also owed to the **ALTA Conveners**, who have taken on a larger role concerning their ALTA convener duties over the last year and have given the Secretariat a great deal of support.

There comes a time, however, when a convener decides to step down whether it be other commitments that require their attention, or perhaps they are interested in giving other members of the Group an opportunity to give the a different perspective. Whatever it may be, we thank those conveners who have been part of the ALTA Convener forum.

Conveners stepping down this year are:

- Dan Svantesson (International Law)
- Eileen Webb (Property Law)

If you would like the opportunity to convene one of these groups, please express your interest before the ALTA 2006 Conference, to either Dan or Eileen. A decision will be made on new conveners during those Interest Group sessions at the Conference.

(Please note: you must already be a member of the Interest Group to be a convener of the group).

2005-06 ALTA Interest Group Conveners

Clinical Legal Education

Pamela Morgan
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Commercial Law and Consumer Protection

Susan Watson
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Company Law

Anil Hargovan
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Comparative and Asian Law

Vivienne Bath
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Constitutional Law

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Criminal Law

Ian Dobinson
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Discrimination and Equal Opportunity Law

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Dispute Resolution

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Environmental Law

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Gender Issues and the Law – Women and Law

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Indigenous Peoples and the Law

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South Pacific Legal Studies

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Torts and Contracts

Penelope Watson
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Join us in congratulating Recent AM and AO Honourees

At the recent Queen's Birthday Honours Awards in 2006

ALTA Executive member Professor David Barker and Professor Ron McCallum and Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot were awarded these prestigious honours.

Professor Ron McCallum was awarded an AO (Officer of the General Division) for his service to the law, particularly as a tertiary educator and industrial relations policy adviser to government, and to the community through support for people with visual impairments and in the areas of social justice and human rights. Professor McCallum is Sydney University's current Dean of Law (an Institutional member of ALTA) and is one of the country's foremost experts in industrial relations, he was the first blind person to be appointed to a full professorship in Australia in 1993.

Professor David Barker was awarded an AM (Member in the General Division) for his service to legal education in Australia and the Pacific region, to professional associations, and to the community. David is a previous Chair and current ALTA Executive Member.

Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot was also awarded an AM for his service to the law in the area of law reform, education and access to legal services and through contributions to research, analysis and policy development on a range of public interest matters. Professor Weisbrot spoke at the 2004 ALTA Conference, held at Charles Darwin University, Darwin NT, as an Honorary Professor for Molecular Bioscience on behalf of the Law School at USQ and Division of Law, Macquarie University.

A Fond Farewell to Professor David Allan AM

Professor David Allan AM passed away on the 3 February 2006.

A message from Professor Duncan Bentley, Dean of Law, Bond University to Bond staff:

David was a colossus of the law in Australia, coming here to teach nearly 50 years ago from the Bar in England and teaching right up until 2005. He taught at UWA and held chairs at Victoria University, Tasmania, Monash, where he was Dean, Melbourne and Bond. He was instrumental in introducing the concept of internationalisation into Australian legal education while Dean at Monash. His lengthy fight for reform of Personal Property Security Law is legendary and finally last year he succeeded in enlisting the Commonwealth Attorney-General in supporting the project and made a success of it.

The Attorney-General also paid tribute to David Allan:

http://www.ag.gov.au/agd/WWW/MinisterRuddockHome.nsf/Page/Media_Releases_2006_First_Quarter_7_February_2006_-_Tribute_to_Professor_David_Allan_AM_-_0092006

On behalf of ALTA, we wish to express our regrets over such a great loss to the legal academe.

ALTA Credit Card Payments

Credit card facilities, via the ALTA website, are available for ALTA Individual members only. Institutional members and New Zealand members must pay by cheque, money order or electronic funds transfer (EFT). Individual members may also pay using cheque, money order or EFT.

ALTA uses PayPal for credit card payments, via the ALTA website, on the 'Membership' page (refer to the PayPal icon below on the ALTA website and follow the instructions). PayPal is a secure method of payment, similar to internet banking. There is a handling fee of \$2.22 per Individual. This will mean that a 2006 Individual membership fee, at \$80 per person, will cost you \$82.22.

If you have questions when processing your payment, you will need to contact the friendly staff at PayPal on their toll free number.

ALTA automatically receives notification of your payment and will in turn update our records and email you to confirm your membership.



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