

LLB NEWSLETTER

Edition 8, 2008 (21 August 2008)

Welcome to the eighth edition of the Melbourne LLB Newsletter for 2008. The purpose of this publication is to inform you of key issues and events related to your studies. If you need any further clarification on anything, please contact the Melbourne Law School Student Centre on 8344 4475, or the contact listed.

meetings with the Associate Dean (Undergraduate)

Every two weeks for the rest of the semester, the Associate Dean (Undergraduate), **Associate Professor Maureen Tehan**, will be available to answer questions and discuss any issues students may have in relation to any aspect of the LLB.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to obtain information on your course, discuss difficulties, make suggestions, and generally contribute to ensuring the LLB program works well and meets your needs.

The meetings will be very informal and you can come along at any time between 1:00 and 2:00pm.

The meetings will be held on **Wednesdays** between **1:00 and 2:00pm** in **Room 109** on the following dates:

- **27 August 2008**
- **10 September 2008**
- **8 October 2008**
- **22 October 2008**

A report on the student information session of 30 July 2008 is available [here](#).

get ready for work series

The Law School's new Legal Research Skills Adviser, **Natalie Wieland**, is offering LLB students who are in their last semester (or planning to undertake a clerkship over summer) an opportunity to advance their legal research skills in preparation for work in a Law firm (see below for details). All students who complete the short course will receive a certificate detailing the research skills they have learned and demonstrated. Places are limited.

Also, Natalie is available for individual consultations (bookings can be made through the Student Centre or Law Library loans desk). Students on exchange to Melbourne, or those undertaking their first 5,000 word research essay will find it useful to consult Natalie about planning their research tasks, the best databases to use, and efficient techniques to find the latest Australian and international cases.

The four part **Get Ready for Work** series helps prepare you to work in a firm. This will provide you with the skills you need to be both effective and efficient when taking on research tasks. When completing a clerkship or traineeship, you will

be required to complete numerous research tasks. By having the necessary skills you will become a highly valued employee and will be called on regularly to participate in client matters.

Each session will consist of a one-hour lecture and a research task to be completed in-class working in groups.

At the completion of the four workshops you will receive certification that you have successfully attended and completed the tasks.

Dates: **Monday 25 August, Monday 1 September, Monday 8 September, and Monday 15 September 2008**

Time: **10.00am to 12.00pm**

Venue: **Small Computer Lab (except 8 Monday which is in the Large Lab), Law Library**

Further details are available [online](#).

Make a booking by emailing nwieland@unimelb.edu.au

guest lecture series

Promoting Human Rights Within a Strong Legal Framework

Speaker: **The Honourable Robert McClelland, MP, Commonwealth Attorney-General**

When: **Thursday 21 August 2008 at 12:45 to 1:45pm**

Where: **GM15, Melbourne Law School**

Rights and Responsibilities: Can Justice be Delivered for First Nation's Peoples?

Speaker: **Ms Patricia Turner, Chief Executive Officer, National Indigenous Television**

When: **Tuesday 26 August 2008 at 12:45 to 1:45pm**

Where: **G08, Melbourne Law School**

Life as a Judge: A Career Option

Speaker: **The Honourable Justice Ronald Sackville, Federal Court of Australia**

When: **Tuesday 2 September 2008 at 12:45 to 1:45pm**

Where: **G08, Melbourne Law School**

The Guest Lecture Series is a series of weekly lectures in law and legal practice for Melbourne Law School students. Details of all forthcoming guest lectures for Semester 2, 2008, are available [here](#).

allen hope southey memorial lecture

The Torture Team: The Responsibility of Lawyers for Abusive Interrogation

Speaker: **Professor Philippe Sands QC, Professor of Law, University College London**

In this lecture, Professor Philippe Sands lays out the story behind the human-rights abuses sanctioned by the most senior lawyers in the Bush Administration and the terrible consequences of their actions. Who were the men and women who constructed the policy and provided the rationale for the one-page memorandum signed by Donald Rumsfeld on 2 December 2002 authorizing interrogation techniques prohibited by the Geneva Conventions and amounting to torture under international law?

Drawn from his book *Torture Team*, Philippe Sands has traced the origins of the memorandum through interview and investigation, and assesses the possibility that lawyers who are complicit in a policy of abuse may expose themselves to the risk of war crimes investigations.

When: **Thursday 21 August 2008 at 6:00 to 7:00pm**

Where: **Melbourne Law School**

RSVP: law-rsvp@unimelb.edu.au

immigration: profiles in leadership (public lecture)

Speaker: **Sir James Gobbo, AC CVO (former Victorian Governor and Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria)**

The Daniel Mannix Memorial Lecture will be held on the evening of **Wednesday 27 August 2008 at 8pm** in the **Public Lecture Theatre, Old Arts Building, University of Melbourne**.

The lecture is a free event that is open to all, and will be followed by supper in the Newman College Dining Room.

RSVP: Patrick Tehan, tel 03 9342 1789, email p.tehan@ugrad.unimelb.edu.au

do investment attraction incentives create decent jobs?

A Study of Labour Conditions in Industry Assistance Contracts (Labour Law Seminar)

Speaker: **Dr John Howe, Senior Lecturer, Melbourne Law School**

Governments at all levels in Australia offer financial assistance in one form or another to private corporations in order to encourage and facilitate business investment in their respective jurisdictions. This disbursement of public funds is often justified on the basis of the number of jobs that will be created by the assisted firm. From a labour law perspective, this

rationale begs the question of whether governments seek to influence the quality of jobs to be created by corporations receiving assistance.

This seminar presents preliminary findings from research conducted by John Howe and Ingrid Landau on how three state governments in Australia (NSW, Queensland, and Victoria) use industry assistance to pursue public policy goals relating to job quality and the character of employment relations in assisted corporations. The seminar will explore the promises and pitfalls of this approach, drawing on developments in the United States.

Dr John Howe is a Senior Lecturer in Melbourne Law School. His research interests include regulatory theory, labour law, and corporate accountability. He has written extensively on various mechanisms of labour regulation, and the intersection between state-based regulation and corporate governance. John is co-editor of the book *Labour Law and Labour Market Regulation* published by Federation Press in 2006, and his book *Regulating for Job Creation* will be published by Federation Press in late 2008.

When: **Friday 29 August 2008 at 1:00 to 2:00pm**

Where: **Room 0920, Level 9, Melbourne Law School**

Register online via the [CELRL website](#).

Enquiries: Charlotte Morgans, tel 03 8344 8924, email c.morgans@unimelb.edu.au

privacy awareness week lecture

Privacy vs Security - Where Do You Draw The Line?

When human rights and state security interests compete, who sets the balance, and how? How much should we be told?

Privacy is a human right. The Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities sets human rights as a priority for government, ensuring it takes human rights into account when making laws and delivering services. But sometimes these individual rights may clash with community security needs. These include law enforcement processes and the ability to respond effectively to emergencies and engage in intelligence gathering on questions of national security. If so, are these 'competing' rights necessarily incompatible? When they clash, what should we be told? Where do we draw the line if we have to choose between privacy and security? Should we have to choose at all?

Chair: **Helen Versey, Victorian Privacy Commissioner**

Panellists: **Julian Burnside QC** (Liberty Victoria), **Simon Overland** (Deputy Commissioner, Victoria Police), **Bruce Esplin** (Emergency Service Commissioner), **Helen Trihas** (Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages)

When: **Friday 29 August 2008 at 12:00 to 2:00pm (includes free light lunch at 1:30pm)**

Where: **Treasury Theatre, 1 McArthur Street, Melbourne (entry behind State Treasury Building)**

RSVP by 26 August (for catering purposes), tel 1300 666 444 or email training@privacy.vic.gov.au

This Privacy Awareness Week event is sponsored by the Office of the Victorian Privacy Commissioner, Victoria Police, and the Victorian Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

aurora project native title legal internship program

The **Aurora Project** legal internship program introduces students to career opportunities in the areas of native title and Indigenous affairs by facilitating placements at Native Title Representative Bodies, Land Councils and Indigenous policy organizations.



Applications for summer 2008-09 internships are now open.

Past interns will be available to speak about the application process and their internship experience on:

- **Monday 25 August 2008 at 1:00pm in Room 106, Melbourne Law School**
- **Thursday 28 August 2008 at 1:00pm in Room 106, Melbourne Law School**

Please email any enquiries to **Laura Berta**.

2008 human rights medals and awards

Nominations are now open for the **Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission** 2008 Human Rights Medals and Awards.

This year's theme is *Dignity and Justice for All of Us* to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Since 1987, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has recognized the often extraordinary contribution to Australian society of a wide variety of men and women committed to issues of human rights, social justice and equality through the annual Human Rights Medals and Awards.

Each year we receive outstanding nominations for the Human Rights Medals and Awards categories. They may have made an outstanding contribution within their communities or through the practice of law, through writing books about human rights issues or through their work in the media.

The 2008 winners will be announced at the Human Rights Medals and Awards luncheon ceremony to be held on Wednesday 10 December 2008 in Sydney.

Further details and application forms are available **online**.

administrative law examination review session (for semester 1, 2008)

Administrative Law students from Semester 1, 2008, may view their exam papers at a session on **Thursday 21 August at 1:00 pm** in the **Large Computer Lab of the Law Library**. Students who wish to view their exam papers must bring their student card to the session - students will not be able to access their paper without a student card. Students should note that a copy of the exam paper and a document on general feedback are available on the Administrative Law (Semester 1) subject page.

equality handbook 2008/2009: submission deadline extended to 5 september

Want your view on current issues to be heard? A chance to share your experiences with others?

The **LSS Equality Handbook**, to be launched late in Semester 2, is inviting you to submit an article. Every year, the handbook showcases a variety of student opinions and experiences in the realm of social justice and equality. The handbook almost entirely consists of student contributions and aims to provide you with the opportunity to express yourself and have your ideas published.

Articles should ideally be 500 words or more, although we will consider all entries. Please send them to **lss-equality@unimelb.edu.au** by 5 September 2008.

been or going on exchange? need \$5,000?

Dr John Kearney, AM, QC, who graduated from the University of Melbourne with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1968, and his wife, Mrs Alison Kearney, who graduated from the University of Melbourne with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1956, have generously established a scholarship program to assist Melbourne Law School students to study overseas.

Five **John and Alison Kearney Overseas Scholarships** valued at \$5,000 each will be awarded annually.

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic results and financial need.

Applicants must:

- Have been enrolled in the Melbourne Law School undergraduate or Juris Doctor program for at least one year, and
- Have undertaken an approved course of study at a university overseas in 2008.

Applications should include:

- A brief statement – no longer than one A4 page – supporting their request
- Proof of financial need (i.e. being in receipt of Centrelink benefits or other demonstrable need)
- An outline of academic performance
- A copy of letter of acceptance into an approved course of study at a university overseas or any other supporting documentation of their study abroad/exchange status.

Applications should be lodged by email with:

Elena Goodey
Results and Assessments Coordinator
Student Centre
Tel: 03 8344 6169
Email: **e.goodey@unimelb.edu.au**

Applications close: 29 August 2008

feedback/comments

Please send any feedback/comments or suggestions you have about this newsletter to **Tom Hewitt-McManus**.

previous editions of LLB newsletter

Previous editions of the newsletter are available on the **Melbourne LLB website**.