Introduction

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

First Year Law Camp

During O-Week, the Law School again ran the First Year Law Camp, which is part of the School’s First Year Initiative to help students with the transition to university.

This year’s camp, which was the largest ever with 92 first year students, was run with the assistance of a team of excellent student volunteers, who put in a great deal of work in planning many aspects of the camp.

Highlights of the two-day camp included the ‘Wish Someone Told Me in First Year’ talks by UWS alumni Rachael Abboud (ColemanGreig), Brendan Searyson (NSW Police Force) and Jason Donnelly (Melbourne Chambers), the increasingly-famous First Night Trivia Night Competition and the Beach Sports Olympics (which was a very hard-fought affair).

Special thanks to Jane Lindsay for so much of the organising, David Sinfield (Trivia Grandmaster), Susan Armstrong (for running one of the academic skills sessions), and the student volunteers (‘Team Rocket’ - Kirstie Barfoot, Byrann Best, Brooke Bradley, Luke Hantzi, John Nolan, Andrew O’Malley, Matthew Overton, Rebeckah Patterson, Shikha Raviraj).

Good News: Student Matters

UWS Law student Mel Pudig has been accepted as the 2015 Tipstaff to Justice Elizabeth Fullerton of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.

PhD Completions

Dr Sarah Wilks

PhD students Syed Muhammad Adnan, will graduate in April having completed his thesis entitled “Exploring Management Issues of Cross-border R&D Alliances in the Australian Biotechnology Industry”

Professor Michael Jeffery

Gao Qi, supervised by Professor Michael Jeffery and co-supervised by Professor Donna Craig successfully completed her PhD with no revisions to her thesis required and will receive her degree at the Law School graduation ceremony on 17 April. Her thesis is entitled “Procedural Framework for Cooperative Sustainable Governance of Water Resources in the Mekong River Basin”. Qi will be returning to China following her graduation and hopes to obtain an academic position at one of the leading Chinese universities.

Manzoor Rashid, supervised by Professor Donna Craig and co-supervised by Professor Michael Jeffery also successfully completed his PhD with no revisions to his thesis required and will likewise receive his degree at the 17 April graduation ceremony. His thesis is entitled “Legal Framework for Community Participation in Governance: The Role of Co-Management in the Forest Protected Areas Management of Bangladesh. Manzoor returns to Bangladesh to resume his position as an Associate Professor at Shawjalal University of Science & Technology in Sylhet, Bangladesh.

Elizabeth Gachenga, successfully completed her PhD in just over two years towards the end of 2012 and was eligible to graduate in the December graduation ceremony. Unfortunately, she had returned to Kenya to be with her family over the holidays and thus deferred receiving her degree until the graduation ceremony in April 2013. Liz was supervised by Professor Donna Craig and co-supervised by Professor Michael Jeffery. Her thesis is entitled “Integrating Customary and Statutory Law Systems of Water Governance for Sustainable Development: the Case of the Marakwet of Kenya. After the graduation ceremony, Liz will return to Kenya to resume her position as a Lecturer at Strathmore University.

Congratulations to all of these outstanding students for their achievements.

New PhD Enrolments at the School of Law

Two new PhD students, Azizul Haque and Mahmudur Rahman, arrived from Bangladesh to commence their studies this week. Azizul will be supervised by Professor Michael Jeffery and co-supervised by Professor Donna Craig. His thesis topic is “Partnership with Small farmers in Environmental Decision-Making and its Affect on Resilience to Climate Change”. He is on leave from his employment as Senior Assistant Secretary with the Bangladesh Ministry of Agriculture.

Mahmud will also be supervised by Michael Jeffery and co-supervised by Donna Craig on the topic of “Mainstreaming Climate Change in Investment Planning for Agricultural Development in Climate Risk Prone Developing Countries with Particular Attention to Bangladesh”. He is on leave from his employment as Senior Assistant Chief of the Bangladesh Ministry of Agriculture.

Both of these students are recipients of prestigious scholarships from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

We wish to welcome both to Sydney and UWS School of Law.

Research & Scholarships

Dr John Azzi

The International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation, Amsterdam, has granted Dr John Azzi free access to its Double Tax Treaty Caselaw database (costing USD 5000 in annual subscription fees) to assist in his continuing research (commenced initially in 1998) on the need and feasibility of an International Tax Court to resolve treaty-based international tax disputes.

Professor Michael Adams

Professor Adams gave a presentation at the South Pacific Asia 2013 conference (Internal Auditors from Pacific-Asia region) in Brisbane on 6th March. The paper was entitled “Keeping the executives and board directors out of jail – Legal ramifications of non-compliance”.

On 18 March, Professor Adams presented to Chartered Secretaries Australia NSW discussion group in Sydney on “Corporate Governance Legal Update”. 

The University of Western Sydney
Bringing knowledge to life
Professor Steven Freeland

External referee (invited) of article on Unpiloted Aerial Systems and Remote Sensing for the International Journal on Remote Sensing March 2013

External referee (invited) of article on the International Criminal Court for the Asian Journal of International Law March 2013

Interviewed on Radio Atticus 2SER on Legal Aspects of Nuclear Weapons, 14 March 2013

Mr Michael Brogan

On 14 and 15 February Michael attended an interdisciplinary research workshop and socio-legal research workshop at ANU.

On 19 March Michael Brogan presented a lecture to the Blackheath Area Men’s Shed on: “Professional Misconduct of Legal Practitioners”

Ms Liesel Spencer


Professor Michael Head

Some contributors are now starting to receive royalty cheques for the collective work for Transnational Governance, so Ashgate must have sold quite a few books!

The royalties will be placed in a fund to support School of Law research.

Again, congratulations to all the contributors on a book that has clearly made an impact.

Dr Daud Hassan


Publications

Ms Jennifer Ireland


Ms Liesel Spencer, Dr David Newlyn, Mr John Juriansz & Assoc Prof Blissenden


Newlyn D, 2012, Focus groups : the who, what, when, where and why of their value in legal research, Journal of the Australasian Law Teachers Association, vol 5, no. 1&2


Community Engagement

Ms Elen Seymour

Twitter:

The @UWSLawSchool account has 367 followers and is listed 11 times. Please don’t forget to tell students to “follow” the Law School on twitter and send updates or links for your class, your research areas or any law story of interest to e.seymour@uws.edu.au

Like to thank the following contributors to twitter recently. Michael Adams, Michael Blissenden, David Sinfield (ever reliably!), Murray Wesson, Marina Nehme, Liesel Spencer and Jennifer Ireland.

Please consider feeding twitter!