From the Dean
August 2014

Welcome to the 7th edition of the Law School Newsletter. The last month has been busy with many events happening.

Prof Michael Adams
Dean of Law

Good News: Staff

Mr Simon Kozlina

The customised textbook compiled by Simon Kozlina to implement blended learning in 200011 Contracts ‘Contract Law: Principles, Cases and Legislation’, has been adopted as the text by the University of Canberra for their Contracts course. The book is based on three existing texts by Paterson, Robertson and Duke and was produced in paper and ebook versions by ThomsonReuters as part of their ‘customised’ textbook scheme.

Good News: Students

Three Minutes Thesis (3MT) Competition-School of Law 2014

3MT competition for our HDR students was held on Thursday 14 August from 2-4 pm in room EB G.05, Parramatta campus. A number of law colleagues and HDR students attended and supported this important event. Six of our HDR students took part in the competition. Dr Elfriede Sangkuhl was the MC and Dr Hassan was the time keeper for this competition. Professor Donna Craig, A/Professor Michael Blessenden and Dr Masudul Haque were on the judges’ panel. According to the judges’ decision Mohammad Haque was the winner and Ying Shen was the runner up. People’s choice winner was Yi Sing.

Professor Michael Adams, Dean of Law, gave the official welcome speech for the competition and also announced the winners.

A big thank you to Karen Mammone for her assistance in organising and making this event successful.
Research

Professor Steven Freeland


Presentation (invited), 'Is the International Criminal Court Effective?' sponsored by Legal Studies Association, Sydney, 11 August 2014

Presentation (invited) ‘How can we make International Criminal Justice (more) Effective?’ at the launch of the UWS ICC Student Network, Sydney, 12 August 2014


External examiner (by invitation) for PhD thesis on spaceports for McGill University, July 2014

Moderator of ‘Hypothetical’ – ‘Managing Your Relationship with your Supervisor’ at the 2014 INSPIRE Conference for PhD Students, University of Western Sydney, 17 July 2014

Dr Shelley Bielefeld


Media

Professor Steven Freeland

Quoted in The Guardian (UK) ‘Abbott says Australia’s friendship with Japan is ‘far, far bigger than our disagreement on one particular subject’, 9 July 2014

Interviewed on radio 2SM regarding various legal issues associated with the MH17 downing, 30 July 2014

Interviewed on SWR 99.9FM 'Western Sydney's People of Interest' regarding various legal issues associated from the MH17 incident, 9 August 2014

Premier's Debating Challenge Article in the Penrith Press newspaper on 22 August 2014 titled 'teams great effort not up for debate'.

Publications

Professor Steven Freeland


Liesel Spencer

Liesel’s paper ‘Farming the City: Urban Agriculture, Planning Law and Food Consumption Choices’ was published in (2014) 39(2) Alternative Law Journal 120-124. Liesel has subsequently been invited to speak at a symposium jointly organised by Queensland University of Technology and Monash University, to be hosted by QUT in December.

Dr Angus Young

Angus Young, 'Innovation in Business Regulation: The Need for a Flexible and Dynamic Model to
Community Engagement

Dr Thilla Rajaretname and Dr Masud Haque

Drs Masudul Haque and Thilla Rajaretnam were invited to attend the Network Café event for the 3rd Quarter organised by the Sydney Graduate School of Management (SSMG). This event was held on Wednesday 6th August at 100 George Street. The event was intended for academics to connect with students and also a getting to know session.

Musud and Thilla represented the School of Law and as academics teaching ILU units to the School of Business students. Attending this event gave them the opportunity to meet and network with academics from SSMG as well as some of our ex-students who had come back to enrol in postgraduate courses with the SSGM.

Dr Thilla Rajaretname and Ingrid Matthews

Koori Education Carnival at Parramatta campus on 24 July

About 179 year 5-8 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from 27 local schools participated in this event on the 24 July. Students attending the session for the School of Law were in groups of 20. They were first introduced to how the School of Law prepares its students to achieve advocacy skills through mooting. This activity was then continued with a role play activity in mooting.

Many put up their hand to play the role of the judge, counsels, and jury. Most of the judges participating in the activity were quick to declare the accused guilty and some were disappointed at not getting the chance to participate. Overall it was good fun for the students.

UWS Open Forum

Commission of Inquiry on North Korea with guest speaker The Hon Michael Kirby, AC CMG, Retired Justice of the High Court and Human Rights Champion.

This forum was held on Thursday 14th August 2014. It was an outstanding event and over 300 students, staff and community members attended. Dr Sev Ozdowski was the MC, the VC did the official welcome and I gave the formal introduction. After Kirby's speech on human rights abuses in North Korea, based on his UN report, which came out in March 2014, Prof Steven Freeland gave a commentary. There were excellent questions from a number of law students.