From the Dean
January 2016

Welcome to 2016 – many people think that January is a holiday period for academics – in reality it can be a very busy time, but without the heavy school traffic on the roads. January has allocations meetings every day to determine the new cohorts of students – this year we saw a major increase in demand and as such our ATAR published cut-off rose from 90 to 95 across all law degrees. We were all very proud of Deng Adut giving the 20th Australia Day Address, with an introduction by the NSW Premier, Hon Mike Baird. Summer School has been a great success and we are all looking forward to the new semester.

Course Decision Day - 6 January 2016
Even though the weather was shocking with constant rain, there was a good steady stream of potential students for the Law degrees. The Dean had a reasonable turn out for his 30 minute lecture on "Why Study Law?" Thank you to Stephen Janes, Nikki Bromberger, Scott Mann, Catherine Renshaw, Elen Seymour, John Azzi, Michael Blissenden, Donna Craig and Susan Fitzpatrick

Learning & Teaching

Twenty-five Western Sydney law students lead by Dr June Wang and John Juriansz went to Shanghai, China on 9th January 2016 to study the Foundations of Chinese Law at Shanghai University Law School. Week 1 of the program includes: seminars, banquet and performance by local students, visit to Dacheng Law Office and Baoshan Court, the acrobatics show, and sightseeing trips to the Bund, the Museums and beautiful gardens at Suzhou. To make our trip the full experience some of us also visited emergency room. Luckily, everyone is fine now.
Research

**Professor Steven Freeland**

Public presentation (invited) ‘Review of the Space Activities Act: An Opportunity for Industry’, workshop of State and Territory Ministers, Canberra, 16 December 2015 (pre-recorded)

External referee (by invitation) of article on space law for *Asia Pacific Law Review*, November 2015

External assessor (invited) on book proposal on 'International Courts and Regional Integration' for Routledge Law publishers, United Kingdom, December 2015

**Alice Orchiston**

Confidential review (by invitation) of equality law textbook for Cambridge University Press, December 2015 & January 2016

Publications

**Assoc Prof Alpana Roy**


**Professor Steven Freeland**


**Dr Luke Beck**


**Ingrid Matthews**


**Assoc Prof Michael Blissenden**

"Why politicians hate the idea of taxing the homes of the rich" has been published in The Conversation.

**Professor Michael Adams**

"Xenophon is right to call for law reform on gift cards’ was published in The Conversation 12 January 2016.

New addition release of *Australian Corporate Law*, LexisNexis:Butterworths, 2016 5th edition [ISBN 9780409341751] with A/Prof Jason Harris (UTS) and A/Prof Anil Hargovan (UNSW) – pages xxviii plus 759 and over 25,000 copies have been sold since the first edition in 2008

**Engagement**

**Professor Michael Adams**

Western Sydney University delegation met Dhaka University VC