

Tasmanian Event on Wednesday 27 April 2016

An audience of some 60 -70 heard our Patron, Chief Justice French, speak on “Rationality and Reasonableness” at what might be regarded as a rejuvenating event of the Academy in Tasmania.

Those present included Her Excellency, the Honourable Professor Kate Warner, AM, Governor of Tasmania, who took a leading role in Academy affairs when she was a Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania.

Her Excellency and Professor Don Chalmers were Foundation Fellows of the Academy.

The audience comprised judges, magistrates, members of the legal profession, academics and law students

The event provided an occasion for the President of the Academy to welcome the following new members of the Academy (whose admission as Fellows has been noted in recent Newsletters and the present one):

From the Judiciary, the Hon Chief Justice Alan Blow OAM and the Hon Justice David Porter (who was unable to attend the event because he was sitting on circuit in Burnie);

From the legal profession, Solicitor-General Michael O’Farrell SC;

And from academia, Professor Margaret Otlowski (Dean), Professor Gino Dal Pont, and Professor Di Nicol.



Front Row (From Left): Professor Gino Dal Pont, Solicitor General Michael, O’Farrell, The Honourable Chief Justice Alan Blow, Professor Margaret Otlowski, The Honourable Robert French Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, Professor Dianne Nicol, Her Excellency the Honourable Professor Kate Warner, Academy President the Honourable Kevin Lindgren, Richard Neal (Justice David Porter on circuit). Back Row: Stuart Clark, Tim Bugg, Justice Duncan Kerr and Distinguished Professor Don Chalmers

The Academy acknowledges with thanks the work of Professor Don Chalmers in organising the event.

Events in other States and Territories yet to take place this year

The current state of organisation of the events in the other State and Territories for 2016, so far as known to me, is as follows:

Queensland

The AAL event for 2016 in Queensland will take place on Monday 24 October 2016.

The speaker will be the Hon Justice Margaret McMurdo AC, President of the Queensland Court of Appeal, whose address will focus on the first twenty five years of the Queensland Court of Appeal following its establishment in 1991.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Margaret for her efforts as Chair of the Organising Committee for the annual AAL event in Queensland.

This year she will relinquish that position which will be assumed by the Hon Justice James Douglas (the other members of the Organising Committee are Professor Bee Chen Goh and Mr Glenn Ferguson).

A flyer will be issued in due course.

Northern Territory

As noted in previous Newsletters, the Austin Asche Oration, which is sponsored jointly by the Academy and Charles Darwin University, will be held in the Nitmiluk Lounge, Parliament House, Darwin on Tuesday 11 October, and the speaker will be the Hon Marilyn Warren AC, Chief Justice of Victoria.

Chief Justice Warren's topic is to be supplied..

A flyer will be issued in due course.

Western Australia

The speaker for the Western Australian event will be Professor Lawrence Watters, who has held positions of Fulbright Scholar in International Environmental Law at the University of Oslo and Visiting Fellow in Environmental Law at Queen's University in Northern Ireland. He has also previously held positions of Visiting Professor at the Environmental Law Centre at the University of Auckland, the Institute of Comparative and European Law at the University of Lausanne, the Institute of Public and International Law at the University of Oslo, the Institute of Environmental Law at the University of Wuhan, and in the Program on the Environment at the University of Washington.

He has lectured at the University of Western Australia on International Environmental Law.

Professor Watters will be visiting the University of Western Australia in August/September this year.

A precise date for the AAL event in Perth has yet to be fixed but Professor Watters has indicated that his lecture will address climate change.

New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia

I await word as to arrangements for the annual events in these States.

Recognition and Honours

As noted in the *Member Forum*, three Fellows have been recognised in different ways in recent times.

On 8 April, the Attorney-General for the Northern Territory, Mr John Elferink, announced the appointment of Mr Michael Grant QC as the next Chief Justice of the Northern Territory. On 5 July, he will succeed Chief Justice Trevor Riley, who is also a Fellow of the Academy.

In March 2016 the appointment was announced of Professor Jane Stapleton as the next (38th) Master of Christ's College Cambridge. Jane will take up her new position in September 2016.

Overseas Fellow, Professor Lucia Zedner, has been elected as Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College, University of Oxford.

I am sure that all members of the Academy extend our warm congratulations to these colleagues.

Annual Essay Prize for 2016

Expressions of interest are now being received from individuals who intend to submit an essay.

Members have previously been advised of this year's topic but in any event a further copy of the notice of the offering of the prize is attached to this Newsletter.

We are fortunate that Professor William Gummow AC has again indicated his willingness to chair the Judging Panel.

The Prizes Committee (Justice Alan Robertson, Professor Bee Chen Goh and myself) thought it desirable to invite expressions of interest from other Fellows in serving on the Judging Panel.

If you would be interested in doing so, please advise the Chair of the Prizes Committee, Professor Bee Chen Goh (bee.chen.goh@scu.edu.au and bcgoh8@gmail.com.au) and me (email address below) and the secretariat (aal@anu.edu.au) of your interest.

Possible meeting of Fellows in the United Kingdom

The Vice President, Justice Alan Robertson has raised the possibility that a meeting of Fellows be held in Cambridge, England in September 2016 in association with the Public Law Conference to be held there then. The idea has the support of the Board of Directors and of our Patron, Chief Justice French, who will be speaking at the Conference.

It is thought that such a meeting could be attended by our Overseas Fellows in the United Kingdom and those from Australia who will be attending the Conference (such as Alan).

The meeting would take place at some time between the afternoon of Sunday 11 September and Wednesday 14 September-the period for which Alan will be in Cambridge. The precise time and format will depend on the program of Chief Justice French.

It would exclude the evening of Tuesday 13 September, when the formal conference dinner is to be held.

The purpose of raising the matter here is to ask for any Fellows who are interested in attending such a meeting in Cambridge in September to give notice of their interest to Alan and me so that we can assess the number of Fellows who might be expected to attend and begin making arrangements accordingly.

Alan's email address is:

Justice.Robertson@fedcourt.gov.au and mine is kevlindgren@gmail.com

When advising of your interest please advise of your time constraints

Two new directors

The Board resolved to invite Justice Ralph Simmonds of the Supreme Court of Western Australia to join the Board as an additional director. The Constitution allows for 15 directors and we have had only 13 incumbents. The Board resolved to invite a second Fellow to fill the other spot but at the time of writing he has not been contactable.

We warmly welcome Ralph Simmonds as a director. Like other directors, he will hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of the Academy to be held towards the end of this year, when he will be eligible for re-election.

Asian Business Law Institute (ABLI)

The establishment of the Asian Business Law Institute has been reported on previously, including the fact that the Institute's Board of Governors includes from Australia, Chief Justice Robert French, Chief Justice Marilyn Warren and myself.

We decided that it would be useful to have a consultative group in Australia which could be a point of reference in relation to particular projects undertaken by the ABLI. The suggestion was that the consultative group might be a committee or otherwise formed within the AAL.

I have asked Professor Rosalind Mason to be part of that group and she has agreed. That has been particularly appropriate because one of the first tasks of the ABLI is either to work on an Asian version of the INSOL principles for multi-creditor workouts or to collaborate with INSOL on a review of the global principles from an Asian perspective.

Would any other Fellows who might be interested in being part of the consultative group or wish to suggest other Fellows who might be interested please let me know.

I acknowledge that a difficulty is that the projects to be undertaken by the ABLI from time to time are likely to be diverse in subject matter and therefore in the expertise relevant to them, but that is in the nature of the beast. Perhaps all that can be said is that they will all involve an Asian-international dimension of an aspect of business law.

New Members

On behalf of the Academy and its members, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the following lawyers who have accepted the Academy's invitation to become Fellows since the since the last Newsletter:

Professor Luke Nottage
Professor Robin Woellner



Kevin Lindgren
President
kevlindgren@gmail.com

0414 914 827

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF LAW

NOTICE OF

ANNUAL ESSAY PRIZE 2016

The Australian Academy of Law is pleased to announce the offering of its *Annual Essay Prize* for 2016.

The Prize was launched in 2015 and the winner of the inaugural Prize was Queenslander, Ailsa McKeon

The Prize is open to anyone, wherever resident, who is studying or has studied legal subjects at a tertiary level, or who is working or has worked in a law based occupation. There is no limit by reference to the age or seniority or experience of, or position held by, a person who may submit an entry.

Accordingly, judicial officers, legal practitioners, legal academics and law students are all eligible to submit an essay.

The amount of the Prize is \$10,000.

The essay topic for the Prize in 2016 is as follows:

What effect have the advances in technology (including in artificial intelligence) had upon the discipline of law in academia, the practising profession and the courts, and how may that effect change over the next ten years?

What steps should be taken now to harness the benefits and limit the detriments of those advances?

The deadline for the submission of an essay is 31 August 2016 and persons intending to submit an essay must notify the Academy of that intention in writing via the Academy's website to be received by 30 June 2016. Both of these time limits are strictly observed, as the Rules Governing the Annual Essay Prize make clear.

Those Rules can be accessed on the Academy's website: www.academyoflaw.org.au

Refer to the Academy's website also for further information about notification of intention to enter and about the actual submission of an entry