

Outstanding Appointments

It gives me great pleasure to note for the information of Fellows who may not be aware of them, the outstanding recent appointments of two of our Fellows.

Professor James Crawford AC SC has been elected a member of the International Court of Justice in The Hague. James is our only Overseas Fellow

The appointment is for nine years commencing in 2015.

The appointment has been announced of Professor Kate Warner as Governor of Tasmania, the first woman to be appointed to that high office.

Kate was a Foundation Fellow of the Academy and succeeds as Governor the late Peter Underwood, who was also a Fellow.

I am sure that all Fellows join me in extending warm congratulations to these two members of the Academy.

Patron's Address for 2014

The Hon Sundaresh Menon, Chief Justice of Singapore, delivered the third annual Patron's Address on 23 October to an audience of about 80-100 in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of New South Wales.



The Hon Chief Justice Robert French AC, The Hon Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM QC & Professor Rosalind Croucher.

As previously advised the title of the address was "The Common Law Litigation Process—Time for a Rethink". It was clear from the Chief Justice's address that the Singaporean courts face the same issues that our courts in Australia do.



The Hon Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon

Chief Justice Menon's address is on the Academy's website and a video of the address is available at:

<http://webcasting.brmedia.com/broadcast/127043>.

Earlier in the afternoon, Chief Justice Menon met with our Patron, Chief Justice French, and several directors of the Academy to discuss matters of common interest to the Singaporean and Australian Academies of Law (which are quite different in many respects). Chief Justice Menon outlined certain ideas for collaboration between countries in our region in terms of the development of "restatements" of the law on certain subjects.

This is not the place to go into detail—watch this space!

I wish to acknowledge again the support of the Law Council of Australia in connection with the visit of Chief Justice Menon. That support was in the first instance financial, but as well Fiona McLeod SC, representing the

LCA, attended the meeting with Chief Justice Menon mentioned above and, of course, the Patron's Address.

Following the Patron's Address refreshments were served in the foyer of the Banco Court and after that, there was a small informal dinner with Chief Justice Menon and Mrs Menon, Chief Justice Tom Bathurst and Mrs Bathurst and Chief Justice James Allsop as the Academy's guests.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Academy was also held on 23 October, when the following were elected as directors for the ensuing year:

President: The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM QC

Vice President: Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot

Treasurer: The Hon Justice Geoffrey John Digby

Directors:

Professor Michael Adams
Emeritus Professor David Barker
Professor Rosalind Croucher
Professor Paul Fairall
Professor Bee Chen Goh
The Hon Justice John Mansfield
Professor Les McCrimmon
Professor Brian Opeskin
Professor Rosemary Owens
The Hon Justice Alan Robertson

Academy event in the Australian Capital Territory

Unfortunately, due to several circumstances, including an unforeseen clash with another event, it has been decided to defer the ACT event until early next year, probably in March.

This event promised (and promises) to be most interesting.

The subject will be "The Whaling Case in the International Court of Justice—Perspectives

from the Bench and Bar Table". The speakers will be Professor Hilary Charlesworth who will speak about her experience as an ad hoc Judge of the Court in the case and Henry Burmester AO QC who will speak from the perspective of one of the counsel who represented Australia in the case. Both Professor Charlesworth and Henry Burmester are Fellows of the Academy.

The event will inform us, in a way that only an actual case can do, of the workings of the ICJ.

While the deferral is to be regretted, particularly for those Fellows who had registered to attend, it is best that the outstanding topic and speakers be given the chance of attracting the largest possible audience.

Please keep an eye out for the new date. It will be announced in the Newsletter.



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