

Victorian Academy event for 2014

As foreshadowed in previous Newsletters, the Victorian event of the Academy for 2014 was held on Thursday 25 September and the speaker was Professor Kate Auty, the 2014 Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne.



Professor Kate Auty

An appreciative audience of 50 or so listened to Professor Auty's presentation on "Critical legal engagement with "outsiders" in criminal justice settings" at the Federal Court in Melbourne.

Professor Auty's lecture was based on her experience in the establishment of Koori courts in Victoria and in Aboriginal sentencing in Kalgoorlie and Norseman in Western Australia. She was able to illustrate the experiences that she recounted by photographs of the indigenous people and the settings involved.

Over refreshments in the foyer of the Court, there was opportunity to ask questions of the speaker.

As with all local Academy events, thanks are due to the local Organising Committee, in this case Justice John Middleton (Chair),

Justice John Digby and Professor Duncan Bentley.



Professor Auty converses with audience members

Congratulations to Fellows

Congratulations are due to Professors Ros Mason and Ros Croucher.

Ros Mason, Professor of Insolvency Law in the Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology, is taking up the position of Chair of the Academics' Group of INSOL International as from 1 January 2015. She succeeds Professor Ian Fletcher in that position and the appointment will be for an initial term of four years.

In the latest quarterly issue of "INSOL World", the journal of INSOL International, it is said in the announcement of Professor Mason's appointment that she "has been a loyal and enthusiastic member of the Academics' Group since its early years and...has regularly presented papers at the colloquiums and has also been instrumental in encouraging younger academics and researchers to join in our meetings and to participate actively."

As is indicated by a later news item in this Newsletter, Ros Mason is also a strong supporter of the Academy.

The Academy congratulates Professor Mason on her taking up the appointment to

this responsible role of leadership at the international level.

In the last week, Professor Rosalind Croucher has been publicly recognized in two ways.

First, it was announced that Rosalind Croucher has been selected as one of *The Australian Financial Review* and Westpac's 100 "Women of Influence" for 2014.

These awards have been made over the last three years in several categories. Professor Croucher, who, as will be well known to Fellows, is President of the Australian Law Reform Commission and Chair of the Academy's Projects Committee, has received this recognition in the "Public Policy" Category.

Second, on Saturday evening 4 October, at their annual conference in Adelaide, the Australian Women Lawyers honoured Rosalind with their award, for which she had been nominated by the New South Wales Women Lawyers.

Members of the Academy extend warm congratulations to Ros Croucher on her receiving these public acknowledgments of her work.

[The 2014 Sydney Peace Prize—Julian Burnside AO QC](#)

It is probably generally known among members of the Academy that Academy Fellow, Julian Burnside, has been selected to receive the 2014 Sydney Peace Prize.

The Prize will be awarded at Sydney Town Hall on Wednesday 5 November at an event scheduled to take place from 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm

This Prize is Australia's only international peace prize and has been awarded for sixteen years to "the most eminent, brave and effective workers for peace throughout the world". Previous recipients have included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Patrick Dodson, Hans Blix, Sir William Deane AC and Arundhati Roy.

The Sydney Peace Prize Jury's citation in relation to Julian reads:

"For his brave and principled advocacy for human rights and for those wronged by government, for insisting that we respect our international legal obligations toward those seeking asylum, and for his unflinching defence of the rule of law as a means to achieve a more peaceful and just society."

Fellows in Sydney may wish to attend the event on 5 November.

Members of the Academy extend warm congratulations to Julian Burnside on the award of this prize to him.

[Launch of the University of New South Wales Law Journal vol 37 No2 2014](#)

This issue of the University of *The New South Wales Law Journal* was launched at the offices of Herbert Smith Freehills in Sydney on the evening of Tuesday 16 September. The significance of the event for the Academy is that it contained an article, "Developments in Court to Court Communications in International Insolvency Cases" by Adjunct Associate Professor Sheryl Jackson and Professor Ros Mason, the research for which was conducted at the initiative of, and with financial support from, the Academy.



Professor Ros Mason & Professor David Barker AM

Members may recall that at the suggestion of the Council of Chief Justices of Australia and New Zealand, the Academy undertook to inquire into and report upon the implications, if any, for Australia of the report made to the

American Law Institute and the International Insolvency Institute in 2012 by Professor Ian Fletcher of the United Kingdom and Professor Bob Wessels of The Netherlands. The Academy engaged Professor Mason and her colleagues at the Queensland University of Technology to undertake that task on its behalf and, in effect, their report to the Academy became the Academy's report to the Council of Chief Justices.



The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM QC & The Hon Justice Annabelle Bennett AO

The article in the Journal acknowledged the role of the Academy. The launch was attended, not only by the authors of the article, but also by the President and Professor David Barker, Secretary of the Academy.

New South Wales Academy event for 2014—the Patron's Address

Arrangements are now well in hand for the visit of Chief Justice Menon of the Supreme Court of Singapore to give the Patron's Address for 2014 on Thursday evening 23 October (now less than three weeks away).

The program for the Chief Justice's visit in which Fellows of the Academy may be interested is as follows:

Wednesday 22 October—arrive in Sydney, and in the afternoon, meetings with Chief Justice Allsop and Chief Justice Bathurst in the Law Courts Building

Thursday 23 October 3.00 pm—meeting with Chief Justice French, Fiona McLeod SC representing the Law Council of Australia,

and Directors of the Academy to discuss the possibility of a conference to be hosted jointly by the Singaporean and Australian Academies of Law in 2015.

4.00 pm—Annual General Meeting of the Australian Academy of Law

5.30 pm—Patron's Address by Chief Justice Menon in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Level 13, Law Courts Building, Queen's Square Sydney

7.00 pm—Post lecture refreshments in the foyer of the Court.

Attached is a flyer for the Patron's Address which, you will note, calls for an RSVP by 10 October for catering purposes.

All Fellows are strongly encouraged to attend this notable event.

ACT Academy event for 2014

This is a preliminary notice that the ACT event of the Academy will be held on the evening of Thursday 20 November 2014. 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.

Further details of the event will be included in a flyer which is in the course of preparation and will be distributed soon. In the meanwhile Fellows in the ACT are encouraged to enter the event in their diaries.

Member Forum within the AAL website

May I remind Fellows that the Member Forum on the Academy's website is now

"live". Accessing it is quite easy. Just follow these steps:

- (1) Hover above "Fellows" in the bar at the top of the screen and click onto "Member Login"
- (2) On the screen that will then open up, type in your email address as you have supplied it to the AAL Secretariat;
- (3) On the same screen type in your "Password" which the Secretariat will be supplying to you within the next day or two;
- (4) You will then see a link to the Member Forum, once in the Forum, click on "Doings, Comings and Goings" and you will be able to read entries that have been made to date.



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