

LCA Update



A weekly glance at the key activities of the Law Council of Australia

19 July 2007

Rule of Law Conference



Tax Commissioner Michael D'Ascenzo, former Queensland Premier Wayne Goss and Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions Damian Bugg are just some of the prominent speakers who will address a conference on the rule of law, to be held in Brisbane in August.

Titled *Rule of Law: Challenges of a Changing World*, the conference will revolve around the central theme of "Defending the preserving the rule of law in the current climate of global and domestic uncertainty".

An initiative of the Law Council, Queensland Law Society, Bar Association of Queensland and LAWASIA, the conference will feature experts in their field exploring a range of extremely topical issues relevant to the rule of law.

The conference will coincide with the South Pacific Forum which will bring together representatives from 11 South Pacific nations to discuss issues relevant to the region.

Rule of Law: Challenges of a Changing World will be held at the Banco Court (Second Floor of Supreme Court) in George Street, Brisbane on 31 August and 1 September 2007.

For more information, contact Gwen Fryer – phone (02) 6246 3715 or email gwen.fryer@lawcouncil.asn.au

Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs – LCA submissions



The Law Council made two submissions last week to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.

The first, on the *Telecommunication (Interception and Access) Bill 2007*, detailed the Law Council's concerns about certain provisions of the Bill which lack clarity or which provide insufficient safeguards against the misuse or overuse of authorisation powers that allow for covert access to private information.

The second submission concerned the *Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment (Terrorist Material) Bill 2007*. The Law Council believes the Bill should not proceed as any need for the proposed amendments has not been demonstrated. The Law Council is also concerned that the intended

implications of the amendments are unclear and have not been plainly and consistently stated; and the amendments seek to rely on definitions used in the Criminal Code which have already been the subject of substantial criticism because they are overly broad and vague.

To view the submissions, visit <http://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/submissions.html>

Developments in Alternative Dispute Resolution



The Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the Law Council of Australia will host a Seminar entitled "Developments in Alternative Dispute Resolution" at the offices of Allens Arthur Robinson in Perth on 26 July 2007 from 4.30pm. Topics covered will include:

- Online Dispute Resolution
- Ethical Guidelines
- Guidelines for lawyers representing clients in mediation
- Updates on ADR
- Mediation and arbitration
- Developments in mediation in family law

RSVP to Hendryk Flaegel – email hendryk.flaegel@lawcouncil.asn.au or phone (02) 6246 3726.

Lawyers' Cricket World Cup



The Law Council's ILS-Commonwealth Lawyers' Association Focus Group is putting together a team for the Lawyers' Cricket World Cup, to be held in Hyderabad, India, from 30 December 2007 to 7 January 2008.

The focus group is seeking expressions of interest from players wishing to join the team. The competition will be contested by teams of lawyers from jurisdictions throughout the Commonwealth and it promises to be a great social event and networking opportunity.

Those interested should contact the chair of the focus group, Ron Heinrich, on (02) 9228 9209 or email ron_heinrich@tresscox.com.au

Federal Inquiries Update



The latest issue of the Law Council's online *Fortnightly Federal Inquiries Update* is available on the Council's website.

The Federal Inquiries Update is designed to alert Constituent Bodies, Directors, the Executive and Section Chairs to important inquiries and reviews being undertaken at the Federal level which are of interest to and/or may require submissions to be made by the Law Council.

The latest online Federal Inquiries Update is available at <http://www.lawcouncil.asn.au/fedinquiries.html>

Positions Vacant – Law Council

Due to expansion, the Law Council is seeking applicants for the following positions:

Marketing Officer

The LCA needs an experienced Marketing Officer to develop and implement strategic marketing solutions and projects. This role would suit an enthusiastic, self-motivated, results driven individual.

Policy Lawyers

Policy Lawyers are required to work in the exciting and evolving areas of International Law, Criminal Law and Human Rights. Advanced legal research ability and a high level of written and oral communication skills are required. Experience in private legal practice and/or policy areas within government would be an advantage.

Research Officers

The LCA is seeking Research Officers to undertake work in the areas of Criminal Law, Human Rights and the LCA's ground-breaking National Legal Profession Project. The job involves undertaking legal and information research on wide ranging legal and policy issues.

Executive Assistant

An Executive Assistant is required to provide high-level secretarial and administrative support to, and on behalf of, the Secretary-General and other senior members of staff.

Full descriptions of the above positions, and details on how to apply, are available at www.lawcouncil.asn.au via the "Positions Vacant" link.

CLA Legal Writing Competition 2007

Entries are being sought for the 2007 Commonwealth Lawyers Association Legal Writing Competition.

The theme of this year's competition is: "Assess the impact of globalisation on legal practice in the Commonwealth". Papers are welcome from law students, trainee solicitors, pupil barristers, students at law and lawyers within five years call in any Commonwealth jurisdiction.

The winning author will receive full sponsorship to attend the 15th Commonwealth Law Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, from 9-13 September 2007.

Typed entries of no more than 200 words of original, unpublished work, together with proof of eligibility, must be received by the CLA by 27 July 2007.

Send entries to: Claire Martin – Secretary-General
Commonwealth Lawyers Association

Institute of Commonwealth Studies
28 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DS UK

For more information, email cla@sas.ac.uk

World Masters of Law Firm Management

The Melbourne Cricket Ground will play host to the legal profession's best as the World Masters of Law firm Management seminar returns after a two-year hiatus.

Organised by the Law Council's Australian Law Management Group, the popular World Masters of Law Firm Management seminars provide managers with effective strategies to promote growth and development in law practice. World renowned speakers shed light on how managers can unlock the potential of their practice to achieve greater success in business, planning productivity and profitability.

This year's keynote speaker, UK lawyer Professor Stephen Mayson, will deliver a half-day seminar on *Beyond Herding Cats: Leading and Motivating a Team of Talented Individuals*. Topics will include: *linking talent, culture, structure and strategy; motivating and rewarding clever people; and, how to manage the non-conforming yet highly talented partner.*

The World Masters of Law Firm Management will be held on Thursday, 25 October 2007 in the HCA Harrison Room at the MCG in Melbourne.

Registration begins at 1.30pm, with the keynote address commencing at 2pm.

For more information and details of registration, visit www.lawcouncil.asn.au/lps/worldmasters.html

2007 National Indigenous Legal Conference

The 2007 National Indigenous Legal Conference will be held at The Banco Court, 304 George Street Brisbane, on 14 and 15 September.

Highlights of the conference will include an address on "*40 Years Since the Referendum*" by Sir Gerard Brennan, an update on the UN and Human Rights Developments, and a panel discussion.

Other sessions will consider issues such as intellectual property, governance in Indigenous communities and running a successful Native Title case.

Full program details and registration information are [Attached](#).

Basic Family Law Mediation Workshop – Gold Coast

Bond University Dispute Resolution Centre is running a Basic Family Law Mediation Workshop* from 26-29 July 2007 at the Sofitel, Gold Coast.

The centre is also running the following short (four day) courses in 2007.

- 13-16 September – Advanced Mediation* – Marriott, Gold Coast

- 18-21 October – Basic Mediation – Melbourne
- 29 November – 2 December – Basic Mediation* – Marriott, Gold Coast

*Courses with an asterisk have a Foundation Family Mediation Stream, run in conjunction with AIFLAM (Australian Institute of Family Law Arbitrators and Mediators).

For details, contact Kate Bolas – email kate.bolas@lawcouncil.asn.au.

◆ Submissions Register

Submissions lodged recently and available on the LCA's website

16/7/2007	IP Australia	BLS	Opposition Case Management
13/7/2007	Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs	LCA	Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment (Terrorist Material) Bill 2007
13/7/2007	Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee	LCA	Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Bill 2007
12/7/2007	Senate Economics Committee	LCA	Inquiry into the Provisions of the Financial Sector Legislation Amendment (Discretionary Mutual Funds and Direct Offshore Foreign Insurers) Bill 2007
6/7/2007	IP Australia	BLS	Government Response to ACIP's Review of the Relationship between trade marks and business names, company names and domain names
5/7/2007	The Treasury	BLS	Review of Australia's Foreign Source Income Anti-Tax Deferral Regimes
3/7/2007	Attorney-General's Department	BLS	Review of the Law on Personal Property Securities
2/7/2007	The Treasury	BLS,LPS	Review of Prudential Decisions

◆ Important Dates

- LCA Executive Meeting – Friday, 27 July 2007 – Canberra
- LCA Executive Meeting – Friday, 28 September 2007 – Canberra
- LCA Meeting of Directors – Saturday, 29 September 2007 – Canberra