

Australia New Zealand Law and History Society Conference  
Key Note Address:

# Colonization, Culture, Continuity: The Role of Law



The New South Wales Bar Association

**Presented by:**  
**Professor Philip Girard**

**Chair:**  
**The Hon Justice P A Bergin,**  
**Chief Judge in Equity**

**Bar Association**  
**Common Room**

**5.45pm Monday**  
**10 December 2012**

**1.5 HOUR SEMINAR**  
**1.5 CPD POINTS IN THE**  
**SUBSTANTIVE LAW STRAND**

This key note address of the ANZLH Conference is open to members of the bar.

Professor Girard explores one of the the key vectors in the giving and receiving of law across boundaries: the legal profession. Its ethos and structures arise at the point where inherited ideas and ideals meet local circumstance. In the British imperial context, in spite of unity on the giving end, diversity resulted on the receiving, colonial, side. The distinction between barristers and solicitors, sacrosanct in the English context, reappeared in some colonies and not others. University legal education was resisted in some places and lauded in others. The relations between lawyers and the business world took on one shape here and another shape there. Market control theories, once influential but now in retreat, cannot account for this diversity. The 'cultural turn' in historical studies has more potential explanatory power, and will be the primary lens through which he examines the history of the Canadian legal profession in the context of contemporary developments in England, the US, and Australia, from the late 18th century to the mid-20th.

Philip Girard is Professor of Law, History and Canadian Studies and University Research Professor at the Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, Canada.

**OPEN TO MEMBERS OF THE NSW BAR ASSOCIATION**

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