

RECENT EVENTS

AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF LAW AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE JOINT SYMPOSIUM

The second annual event sponsored jointly by the Australian Academy of Science and the Australian Academy of Law was held in the Federal Court, Law Courts Building, Sydney on Thursday 22 August.

Just under 200 people attended—a very gratifying response.



The format was a hypothetical set of facts on climate change—the law and the science.

The Moderator was Academy Fellow, Justin Gleeson SC of the New South Wales Bar.

There was a panel of six experts in the area—three scientists and three lawyers—who answered question posed by the Moderator.

As well, they answered questions raised by the audience in time reserved for questioning at the end of the event.

A recording of the event is available on the AAL Website.

[Click here for the Recording](#)



From left: Professor Rosemary Lyster, Professor Jacqueline Peel, Professor John Shine AC PresAA, The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM QC, Professor David Karoly, Justin Gleeson SC, Professor Lesley Hughes, Professor Will Steffen, Dr Erika Techera.

JOINTLY HOSTED PANEL EVENT IN CANBERRA

Professor Stephen Bottomley has provided the following report on a recent event in Canberra held to discuss a report of the International Bar Association, of which the Academy was one of several co-hosts:

“On Monday 5 August 2019 the Academy jointly hosted a panel event in Canberra to discuss the findings from the International Bar Association’s 2019 report “Us Too? Bullying and Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession”. The co-hosts for the event were the International Bar Association, the Australian National University, the Law Council of Australia, the ACT Law Society and the ACT Bar Association. The well-attended event was held at the Australian National University.

After a welcome and introduction from the Dean of the ANU College of Law, Professor Sally Wheeler OBE, Steven Whybrow, President of the ACT Bar Association and Director, Law Council of Australia presented some Opening Remarks and introduced Kieran Pender from the IBA Legal Policy and Research Unit, and author of the Report, who outlined the key findings. The Report is based on a survey of 6,980 respondents in all branches of the profession, across 135 countries. As Mr Pender

emphasised, the results reveal that bullying and sexual harassment are rife in the legal profession.

There followed an engaging panel discussion, moderated by Emerita Professor Margaret Thornton. Panel members were the Honourable Chief Justice Helen Murrell, ACT Supreme Court; John Wilson, Managing Director, Bradley Allen Love Lawyers; Prue Bindon, barrister; and Kate Eastman SC.

The evening concluded with closing remarks from Emerita Professor Patricia Eastaun AM, from the University of Canberra”.

VICTORIA

Last night 4 September, an audience of some 40 or so heard Sir Nicholas Blake give the public lecture which was the major event for the Victorian chapter of the Academy this year.

The event was held at the Federal Court.



From Left: Justice Jennifer Davies, Justice Mark Moshinsky, Chief Justice James Allsop, Sir Nicholas Blake, Mr Michael Murray, the President, The Hon Kevin Lindgren, Justice John Digby.

As previously advised, Sir Nicholas’s topic was “Democracy, Human Rights and the Judiciary: the common law and the wider world”.

As the topic suggests, the lecture was wide ranging.

It was a privilege and an inspiration to hear from a person with such a distinguished record and such a breadth of experience in the area of human rights.

INVITATION TO MAKE A SUBMISSION ON NATIONHOOD, NATIONAL IDENTITY AND DEMOCRACY

The Academy has received an invitation to make a submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on this subject.

The invitation can be found [here](#).

Of course, individual Fellows may wish to make their own submissions but if you would be interested in joining with other Fellows to make a submission on behalf of the Academy, please contact me and the Secretariat.

Note that submissions are requested by 30 September

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ACADEMY

The annual general meeting of the Academy will be held, as usual, immediately before the Patron’s Address and at the same location.

This year, the AGM will be held at the Judges’ Conference Room, Level 16, QEII Courts of Law Complex, 415 George Street, Brisbane at 4.10 pm on 31 October 2019.

A formal notice of the AGM and associated papers will be distributed in due course.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

QUEENSLAND

Patron’s Address for 2019 to be delivered by the Hon Chief Justice Susan Kiefel AC

As mentioned in previous Newsletters the Patron’s Address this year will be delivered by the Honourable Chief Justice Susan Kiefel AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia and Patron of the Academy of Law.

The Chief Justice’s topic will be “*The Academy and the Courts: what do they mean to each other today*”. It will be held at the Banco Court,

Supreme Court of Queensland, Brisbane on Thursday 31 October 2019.



This will be the first occasion on which the Patron's Address will have been held in Brisbane.

The Patron's event is the Academy's "flagship event".

Fellows in Queensland are encouraged to attend and to make the event known to others. The event is open to the public.

The topic is especially relevant to the Academy and the background to its establishment in 2007.

A flyer for the event can be found [here](#).

NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Austin Asche Oration in Law and Governance

Ms Elizabeth Broderick AO is the speaker this year who will deliver the Austin Asche Oration on Thursday 19 September 2019.

As in previous years the venue will be the Nitmiluk Lounge, Level 4, Parliament House, Darwin.

[Attached](#) is the flyer for the event which is sponsored every year jointly by the Academy and Charles Darwin University.

As can be seen from the flyer, Ms Broderick's topic will be *"The Journey of a Restless Advocate: Creating a more Gender Equal Australia"*.

All Fellows in the Northern Territory are encouraged to attend and to publicise the event.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The next of the roundtables to be held in the Australian Capital Territory (now known as the Michael Coper Roundtables) organised by the ACT Chapter will be held on Thursday 19 September

2019 from 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm at the High Court of Australia in Canberra.

The speaker will be the Solicitor-General for the Commonwealth, Dr Stephen Donaghue QC. The topic is 'Current issues in Australian Constitutional Law'.

You can access the flyer for the event [here](#).

Fellows are reminded that it is essential to RSVP for the event by the date specified in the flyer.

OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Would those Fellows who have not paid their \$400 renewal subscription please accept this as a gentle reminder.

Within the next few days the Secretariat will send out a reminder to those who have overlooked renewing.

NEW FELLOWS

I am sure that all Fellows join me in extending a warm welcome to the following distinguished lawyers who have accepted the Board's invitation to become Fellows of the Academy since the last Newsletter.

The Hon Justice Craig Colvin

Justice of the Federal Court of Australia



Kevin Lindgren
President

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