

## Honours

The following members of the Academy were recognized by the following awards in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours list:

The Hon Justice Patrick Keane AC

The Hon Justice Christopher Maxwell AC

Emeritus Professor Terence Carney AO

Mr Stuart Clark AM

I am sure that all Fellows join me in extending to them our warm congratulations.

## Queensland's Academy event for 2015

An audience of some 200 people assembled in the Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Queensland last Thursday evening to hear Mr Walter Sofronoff QC, former Solicitor-General for the State, former President of the Bar Association of Queensland, Adjunct Professor of Law, University of Queensland and a Fellow of the Academy present a paper on ["The Province of an Independent Legal Profession"](#).

Mr Sofronoff spoke of the origins and history of the profession, in particular of the Bar, and of the importance of the independence of the Bar in modern times.

It was clear from the prolonged applause and the discussion that followed the lecture that it made a strong impression indeed on those present.

As with all such events, the Academy is indebted to the local Organising Committee, on this occasion Justice Margaret McMurdo,

Professor Bee Chen Goh and Mr Glenn Ferguson.

## Academy's Inaugural Annual Essay Prize

Fellows may recall that persons intending to submit an essay must notify the Academy of their intention to do so by midnight AEST on 30 June and that the deadline for submission of the essays themselves is 31 August.

**Attached** is a further copy of the Notice of Prize for 2015 which has received wide publicity.

Fellows are again encouraged in the short time remaining between now and 30 June to draw the Prize to the attention of anyone they think might be interested in submitting an essay.

At present the Secretariat has received 18 notices of intention to submit an essay.

## Transnational Insolvency Guidelines

Fellows may recall that the Academy undertook a research task for the Council of Chief Justices of Australia and New Zealand. In short, this was to explore the question whether Australian courts might adopt measures recommended by Professors Ian Fletcher and Bob Wessels in a report that they prepared for the American Law Institute and the International Insolvency Institute, entitled *Transnational Insolvency: Global Principles for Cooperation in International Insolvency Cases*.

The actual work of responding to the Council's invitation was undertaken on behalf of the Academy by Academy Fellow, Professor Rosalind Mason, and her colleagues Sheryl Jackson and Mark Wellard at the Queensland University of Technology.

Members of the Academy will, I believe, be pleased to read the **attached** letter dated 22 May from the Chief Justice expressing the Council's appreciation for their and the Academy's role in producing the report for the Council.

### Entries on Academy website

The Secretariat is sending out renewal subscription invoices and in the course of doing so, is inviting members to check the details that appear in respect of them on the AAL website.

May I repeat that invitation. It is difficult to ensure that the details are always up to date in respect of every Fellow.

### State and Territory events for 2015

The following is the current state of play regarding State and Territory events planned for the rest of 2015 (see, too, under "Events" on the Academy's website: [www.academyoflaw.org.au](http://www.academyoflaw.org.au)). All events will be held in the evening. In due course flyers will be issued containing more detail.

#### *Northern Territory*

Thursday 3 September 2015: The speaker will be Professor Gillian Triggs, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission. As in previous years the event will be the Austin Asche Oration sponsored jointly by the AAL and Charles Darwin University and will be held in the Dining Room and Nimiluk Lounge, Parliament House, Mitchell Street, Darwin.

#### *Victoria*

Thursday 8 October 2015: symposium led by the Hon Stephen Charles QC, Professor Hilary Charlesworth and Mr Douglas Porteous to be held in the Library of the Supreme Court of Victoria

#### *Western Australia*

Wednesday 28 October 2015: Professor Frank S Alexander of Emory Law School,

Atlanta, Georgia will speak on homelessness, urban blight and the law at Courtroom 1, Federal Court of Australia, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth.

#### *South Australia*

[Details to come]

#### *Tasmania*

[Details to come]

#### *Australian Capital Territory*

As noted in previous Newsletters, a very successful event was held in Canberra on Wednesday 25 March. It remains to be seen whether the Fellows in Canberra will hold a second event this year.

### New Members

On behalf of the Academy and its members I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to the following lawyers who has accepted the Academy's invitation to become members since the last Newsletter:

#### Overseas Fellow

Professor Gonzallo Villalta Puig

#### New Fellows

Emeritus Professor Jim Davis  
Mr Philip Crutchfield QC  
Mr Robin Speed  
Professor Douglas Hodgson  
The Hon Stephen Charles  
Professor Elizabeth Handsley



Kevin Lindgren  
President

[kevlindgren@gmail.com](mailto:kevlindgren@gmail.com)

Tel (02) 9422 2085

0414 914 827

25 May 2015



**AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF LAW**

**NOTICE OF**

**ANNUAL ESSAY PRIZE 2015**

The Australian Academy of Law is pleased to announce the inauguration of *The Australian Academy of Law Annual Essay Prize*.

The Prize is open to anyone, wherever resident, who is studying or has studied legal subjects at a tertiary level, or who is working or has worked in a law based occupation. There is no limit by reference to the age or seniority or experience of, or position held by, a person who may submit an entry.

The amount of the Prize is \$10,000.

The essay topic for the inaugural essay prize is as follows:

***“How should academia, the practising profession and the courts assist each other in the education of Australian lawyers?”***

*In this topic:*

*“academia” includes teachers of legal subjects, and those who provide practical training, at a tertiary level;*

*“courts” includes administrative tribunals;*

*“lawyers” includes students, teachers, practitioners and members of courts and tribunals; and*

*“education” includes continuing professional development and extends to the teaching of civility, ethical conduct and professional responsibility.*

*The topic does not include what subjects should form part of the curriculum at tertiary institutions.”*

**How to Enter**

Entries for the Annual Essay Prize will open on Friday 17 May 2015, and close Monday 31 August 2015.

Entries can be submitted online. Persons intending to submit an essay [must notify the Academy](#) of that intention in writing by 30 June 2015 and should also take the time to read the [Rules Governing the Annual Essay Prize](#) before submitting their entry.



## HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

PO Box 6309  
KINGSTON ACT 2604  
www.hcourt.gov.au

CHAMBERS OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Tel: +61 2 6270 6948  
Fax: +61 2 6270 6947

22 May 2015

The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM, QC, FAAL  
Australian Academy of Law  
ANU College of Law  
Fellows Road  
THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY ACT 0200

Dear Kevin

***Re: Transnational Insolvency Guidelines***

I am writing to express the appreciation of the Council of Chief Justices for the work which was done under the aegis of the Australian Academy of Law in considering the application of the American Law Institute Global Principles for Cooperation in International Insolvency and the Global Guidelines for Court-to-Court Communications in International Insolvency Cases.

The work done by Rosalind Mason, Sheryl Jackson and Mark Wellard of Queensland University of Technology in producing a report for the Australian Academy of Law was much appreciated. The report was reviewed by a Committee of the Council of Chief Justices comprising Chief Justices Warren, Bathurst and Allsop. I attach for your information, a copy of the paper which the Committee prepared for the Council of Chief Justices.

The Council of Chief Justices at its meeting on 31 March 2015 in Auckland, agreed in principle to the recommendations summarised in Part F of the paper. It was further agreed that the Committee would continue with the objectives of:

- (i) Developing model practice notes updated by reference to the UNCITRAL Practice Guide, Global Principles and Global Guidelines.
- (ii) Identifying any Rules which should be referred to the Harmonisation Committee;  
and

- (iii) Identifying opportunities for judicial education/awareness of the Global Principles, Global Guidelines, Global Rules and International Practice in Cross-Border Insolvency proceedings.

I am delighted that the work undertaken by the Australian Academy of Law and the three members of the working group, who produced a report for it, has been fruitful. If you want to make reference to the work that has been done in any further communications with the American Law Institute please feel free to do so.

I am writing under separate cover to the members of the working party from QUT.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. French', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Robert S French AC**  
**Chief Justice**