

New Chief Justice of Queensland

I am sure that all Fellows would wish me, on behalf of the Academy, to extend our warm congratulations to Chief Justice Catherine (“Cate”) Holmes on her appointment as Chief Justice of Queensland.

The new Chief Justice had been a member of the Queensland Court of Appeal since 2006 and is the first female Chief Justice of the State’s highest court.

Austin Asche Oration in Queensland

Professor Gillian Triggs, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission and Fellow of the Academy delivered the Austin Asche Oration for 2015 in Darwin on Thursday 3 September 2015.

It is no hyperbole to describe the event, which is sponsored each year by Charles Darwin University and the Academy, as an outstanding success.

An audience of some 200 people filled the Nitmiluk Lounge in the Northern Territory’s Parliament House—in fact on the day of the event it was necessary to turn away some latecomers who wished to register.

The Hon Austin Asche AC QC, in whose honour the Oration is named and a Fellow of the Academy, was present as he is each year.

Professor Triggs’s address on “The Expansion of Executive Discretion: Implications for the Northern Territory” stimulated much interest, as witness the many questions that were asked of the

speaker following the lecture and the prolonged applause that the lecture drew.

The Academy is thankful to Professor Triggs and also to Professor Les McCrimmon for having represented the Academy in the organizing of the event.

A video recording of the address can be found [here](#) and is also available on our website.

Conference in honour of the Hon Paul Finn

In a recent note dated 2 September from the Secretariat, the attention of Fellows was drawn to a conference to be held in Canberra on Friday 25 September under the title “Finn’s Law: An Australian Justice” in honour of Academy Fellow, the Hon Paul Finn.

The conference will be held at the National Portrait Gallery, King Edward Terrace, PARKES.

Further details of the conference and the means of registration will be found at <http://law.anu.edu.au/conferences/> finns-law.

Annual General Meeting of the Academy—preliminary notice

Fellows may care to note in their diaries that the Annual General Meeting of the Academy will be held on Tuesday 27 October at 4.30 pm in Room 18.01, Level 18 of the Law Courts Building, Queen’s Square, Sydney.

The formal notice of the meeting and the associated papers, will be provided in due course.

Inaugural Annual Essay Prize

Four essays were submitted by the closing date of 31 August for the Academy's Inaugural Annual Essay Prize.

They are presently with the Judging Panel.

Remaining State and Territory events for 2015

The following is the current position regarding State and Territory events planned for the rest of 2015 (see, too, under "Events" on the Academy's website: www.academyoflaw.org.au).

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 Banco Court of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

A flyer for the Victorian event is **annexed** to this Newsletter.

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.

A flyer for the West Australian event is **annexed** to this Newsletter.

South Australia

Local Fellows have met and begun planning for the event later this year in Adelaide.

Tasmania

Local Fellows have met and begun planning for the event later this year in Hobart.

Australian Capital Territory

As noted in previous Newsletters, a very successful event was held in Canberra on Wednesday 25 March. Fellows in Canberra have met and agreed on a plan for a further meeting or further meetings in Canberra this year. Please watch this space.

Australian Law Reform Commission – 40th Anniversary

A celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the establishment of the Australian Law Reform Commission will be held in Sydney on Friday 23 October at the Federal Court of Australia at 5.00pm. A flyer for this event is **annexed** to this Newsletter.

New Fellows

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

Mr Philip Greenwood SC
Professor Elisabeth Peden
Ms Fiona McLeod SC
Professor Greg Tolhurst



Kevin Lindgren

President

kevlindgren@gmail.com

Tel (02) 9422 2085

0414 914 827

15 September 2015



2015 Symposium

Undue influence and inappropriate pressure: the critical importance of nurturing and protecting independent advisers and organs of government

Where: Banco Court,
Supreme Court of Victoria
210 William Street
Melbourne

When: Thursday, 8 October 2015 at 3.30pm
Followed by refreshments in the Supreme Court
Library from 5.00pm to 6.30pm

No Charge

WELCOME

**The Hon Justice Marilyn Warren AC
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Victoria**

**The Hon Kevin Lindgren AM, QC
President of the Australian Academy of Law**

**Convener:
The Hon Justice John Digby
Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria**

TOPIC

Undue influence and inappropriate pressure: the critical importance of nurturing and protecting independent advisers and organs of government

SPEAKERS

The Hon Stephen Charles QC

Retired Justice of Appeal, Supreme Court of Victoria

Professor Hilary Charlesworth

ARC Laureate Fellow and Director, Centre for International Governance
and Justice Regulatory Institutions Network, The Australian National
University

Mr Douglas Porteous

Law Graduate, King & Wood Malleons

**Post Symposium Refreshments in the Victorian Supreme Court
Library - 5.00pm to 6.30pm**

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

The Hon Stephen Charles QC

The Hon Stephen Charles was a Judge of Appeal at the Supreme Court of Victoria from 1995-2006. In 1960 Mr Charles graduated in Law (Hons) from Melbourne University and shared the Supreme Court Prize. In 1961 he was admitted to practice and later that year signed the Bar Roll. Mr Charles was appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1975. Mr Charles was Chairman of the Victorian Bar from 1983-1985 and President of the Australian Bar Association from 1985-1986.

Professor Hilary Charlesworth

Professor Hilary Charlesworth is an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow, and the Director of the Centre for International Governance and Justice at the Australian National University. In 2006, her contributions to the body of international law scholarship earned her the American Society of International Law's Goler T Butcher Medal. Professor Charlesworth works for a number of NGOs, including as a Patron of the ACT Women's Legal Service. In 2011, she was appointed an ad hoc judge of the International Court of Justice in the *Whaling in the Antarctic Case (Australia v. Japan)*.

Mr Douglas Porteous

Douglas Porteous is a graduate at King & Wood Mallesons and intends to be admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria in early October 2015. Doug completed his Juris Doctor at the University of Melbourne in 2014, where he was awarded the Supreme Court Prize. At university, Doug competed and achieved success in a number of mooting competitions, including as a competitor and coach in the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Doug also wrote a column in the Law School's weekly newspaper, and co-founded the Law School Choir.



Admission Cost

Free

Registrations Close

5.00pm on Thursday, 1 October 2015

RSVP by 1 October 2015

Lisa O'Farrell

AAL Secretariat

E: aal@law.anu.edu.au

T: 02 6125 4178

Continuing Professional Development

If this educational activity is relevant to your immediate or long term needs in relation to your professional development and practice of law, you are likely to be entitled to claim CPD credit(s) for attendance.



ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF LAW

Launched in 2007 by Her Excellency, Ms Quentin Bryce AC CVO, then Governor of Queensland and a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law (AAL), the AAL is the fifth learned Academy in Australia and is the culmination of a process begun with the Australian Law Reform Commission's landmark report, *Managing Justice: a review of the federal civil justice system* (ALRC 89, 2000).

The AAL is a broadly-based body, comprising individuals of exceptional distinction from all parts of the legal community—elected from the judiciary, legal practitioners and legal academics—united in a common goal of advancement of the discipline of law and the justice system. A distinctive feature of the AAL is that its Fellows and therefore the AAL itself, provide a 'bridge' linking, indeed uniting, the judiciary, academia and the legal profession in Australia. Information about the AAL may be found on its website: www.academyoflaw.org.au

The objects of the Academy, set out in the AAL Constitution, include:

- To establish and advance funds to provide scholarships and research grants which advance legal education and the discipline of law and promote ethical conduct and professional responsibility.
- To promote the highest standards of legal scholarship, legal research, legal education, legal practice, and the administration of justice.
- To promote the continuous improvement of the law and the operation of the legal system.
- To promote the highest standards of ethical conduct and professional responsibility amongst all members of the legal community, including the use of legal skills not merely for material personal reward but also in the service of society.
- To enhance understanding and observance of the rule of law, and community understanding of the role and function of law, lawyers, the legal profession, and the judiciary.
- To provide a forum for cooperation, collaboration, constructive debate and the effective interchange of views amongst all branches of the legal community on all matters relating to the achievement of these objects.



Australian Government

Australian Law Reform Commission

1975-2015
Celebrating 40 years
of law reform

The Australian Law Reform Commission

invites you

to celebrate the ALRC's 40th Anniversary with

Professor Rosalind Croucher AM, ALRC President

The Hon Chief Justice Robert French AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia

Senator the Hon George Brandis QC, Attorney-General of Australia

and

*The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG, former Justice of the High Court &
Chairman Emeritus of the ALRC*

Friday 23 October 2015

**5pm - with formalities from 5.30pm and a
reception to follow**

**Ceremonial Court, Federal Court of Australia
Law Courts Building, Queens Square, Sydney**

RSVP by Monday 19 October 2015

Ph: (02) 8238 6304

Email: tina.obrien@alrc.gov.au



**'Neighbourhood Stabilization Strategies for
Vacant and Abandoned Properties'
by Professor Frank S Alexander**

Wednesday 28 October 2015

5.15 pm

**Courtroom 1, Federal Court of Australia,
1 Victoria Avenue, Perth**



The challenge presented to communities by vacant and abandoned properties is a phenomenon the world over. In this presentation Professor Alexander will focus on the particular challenges presented to neighbourhoods and local governments in the US by growing inventories of vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed properties — particularly in older industrial cities as they experienced significant employment and population losses. Since 2007 and the advent of the Global Financial Crisis this challenge became one experienced to some degree by virtually all communities in the US.

Professor Frank S Alexander

Understanding the challenge requires an appreciation of the collateral costs of abandonment and an understanding of the legal and policy systems which create incentives for abandonment. The solutions lie in a redesign of such systems in a manner that makes possible the conversion of these properties from liabilities into community assets. While Australia mostly avoided the type of foreclosure crisis experienced in the US, the suggested redesign of the US legal and policy systems in response to the US crisis may possibly offer food for thought in an Australian context

Frank S. Alexander is the Sam Nunn Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law and Co-founder and Senior Advisor of the Center for Community Progress. He is the author or editor of eight books and over fifty articles in real estate finance and community redevelopment including *GEORGIA REAL ESTATE FINANCE AND FORECLOSURE LAW* 2014-2015 (10th ed., 2014) and *LAND BANKS AND LAND BANKING* (2nd ed 2015). Professor Alexander's work has focused on homelessness and affordable housing, serving as a Fellow of the Carter Center of Emory University (1993-96), and as a Commissioner of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless (1994-1998). He has served as Interim Dean of Emory University School of Law (2005-2006), as Visiting Fellow at the Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard University (2007), and has testified before Congress concerning the mortgage foreclosure crisis (2008, 2009). Professor Alexander received his J.D. from Harvard Law School, a Masters in Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School, and his B.A. from the University of North Carolina.

RSVP: aal@law.anu.edu.au or 02 6125 4178.

This event may count as MCLE/CPD points.