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Note from ALLA's Secretary

ALLA active around Australia and internationally

Following the success of ALLA's Inaugural National Conference last October, the focus of the Association's activities in 2003 has shifted to the State Chapter level. ALLA now has active chapters, or branches, in all states and the ACT, all of which have held or are planning seminars and similar events this year. Details of the various **State Chapter activities** are outlined in this newsletter, along with contact points for your local chapter. Please feel free to get in touch with the State Chapter coordinators if you have an idea for a seminar, or other suggestions for ALLA functions.

ALLA is now also affiliated with the **International Society for Labour Law and Social Security (ISLLSS)**. Details about the international body and its upcoming World Congress in Montevideo, Uruguay, are also provided in this newsletter. In an exciting recent development, ISLLSS has

approached ALLA to host the **2009 World Congress in Australia**. ALLA's National Committee has agreed to explore this idea further with the international body.

ALLA aims to keep members informed about upcoming events and other activities of the Association. As well as this (admittedly irregular!) newsletter, we do this through frequent e-mails to members, distribution of the Secretary's Report to the AGM, and by forwarding ISLLSS' quarterly bulletin. You can also keep track of developments through ALLA's website:

www.alla.law.unimelb.edu.au – or contact me at the ANU Law Faculty, e-mail:

ForsythA@law.anu.edu.au or ph. 02.61256694.

Anthony Forsyth
Secretary, ALLA

State Chapter Developments

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT Chapter of ALLA held its Inaugural Forum at the ANU Law Faculty on 25 March 2003, where **Professor Hugh Collins** of the London School of Economics delivered an excellent paper on 'The Evolving Direction of European Labour Law: Social Inclusion, Competitiveness and Citizenship.'

Further events for 2003 are now being organised, including a 'Forum on the Future of Workplace Regulation' (to be held in conjunction with the Industrial Relations Society of the ACT); and an 'Executive Pay Forum' (a joint initiative of ALLA and the Commercial Law Centre, Law Faculty, ANU).

Anthony Forsyth & Phillipa Weeks (ACT Chapter Coordinators)

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New South Wales

On Tuesday evening 13 May, the New South Wales Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association held its first seminar for 2003. The venue was the Sydney offices of the national law firm of Blake Dawson Waldron, and we wish to thank them for their hospitality.

The speaker at the seminar was **Professor Keith D Ewing**, Professor of Constitutional Law and Labour Law at King's College University of London. The topic of Professor Ewing's speech was 'British Labour Law: Lessons for Australia'. In his topical address, Professor Ewing recounted the changes in British labour law since the Blair Government came to office in 1997. He also spoke about the increasing place of European Union laws and directives in British labour law.

Professor Ewing then drew some lessons for Australia. Australia and the United States are negotiating a free trade agreement. The United States has a number of these agreements, with Canada, Mexico, Chile and now with Singapore. In the more recent agreements, the United States has required partner countries to subscribe to the 1998 declaration of fundamental freedoms at work of the ILO. So, while British labour law is being tied in with European Union labour law, our possible bilateral free trade relationship with the United States may bring us closer into line with the principles of the ILO.

Ron McCallum, President, ALLA and NSW Chapter Coordinator
ronmcc@law.usyd.edu.au

*** Professor Keith Ewing and ALLA were profiled in the May 2003 edition of the *NSW Law Society Journal* (pp 15-16) ***

Queensland

The Queensland Chapter held a seminar on 18 March 2003, where **Glenn Martin SC** spoke on 'Section 51(xx) and Industrial Law: Will the Corporations Power Overpower the States?'. Further events for 2003 are now being organised.

Amanda Coulthard, Queensland Chapter Coordinator
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South Australia

First Meeting of ALLA (SA Chapter) 2003

I am pleased to announce that **Kaye Noyen** of EMA Legal has agreed to address the first meeting of the SA Chapter of ALLA for 2003 on the topic "Protected Action - Who are the Winners?" Kaye's presentation will include a brief overview of the Federal Workplace Relations Act concerning

protected action, and consider issues relevant to challenging action alleged to be protected, whether the provisions dealing with protected action make for better agreements and, in the end, who are the winners.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th June commencing at 5.30pm at the offices of EMA Legal, 3rd floor, 82 Waymouth St, Adelaide. I look forward to seeing members at this meeting. It would be appreciated if you would e-mail an RSVP to Kaye Noyen at Kaye.Noyen@emalegal.com.au by close of business Friday 6th June 2003 if you are able to attend.

Rosemary Owens, Treasurer, ALLA and SA Chapter Coordinator
rosemary.owens@adelaide.edu.au

Tasmania

Tasmanian Attorney General and Minister for Industrial Relations, **Judy Jackson MHA**, launched the inaugural forum for ALLA in Tasmania on 28 April 2003. Guest speaker was **Anthony Forsyth**, who gave an overview of the federal government's industrial law reform program. The forum was very well received with attendance from the bar, law firms, unions, industry, academics and state and federal industrial commissions and public sectors.

Greg Vines, Tasmanian Chapter Coordinator
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Victoria

The Victorian Chapter of ALLA is holding its inaugural meeting on 17 June 2003. The Guest Speaker for the meeting is Victorian Attorney-General and Minister for Industrial Relations and Workcover, the **Hon Rob Hulls MLA**. Mr Hulls will speak on 'The Workplace Relations Act 1996 and the Need for Change'. The function will be held at the Monash University Law Chambers, 472 Bourke Street, Melbourne commencing at 5:45pm. Refreshments will be provided following Mr Hulls' speech.

Marilyn Pittard and John Howe, Victorian Chapter Coordinators
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john.howe@law.monash.edu.au

Western Australia

The WA Chapter has held two seminars so far in 2003. The first took place on 12 March, with WA barrister and former Victorian Equal Opportunity Commissioner, **Moira Rayner**, speaking on 'The Interplay between Discrimination and Occupational Health and Safety Laws'.

On 30 May, **Senior Commissioner Beech** of the WA IRC gave a seminar on 'The Labour Relations Reform Act 2002 (WA) - The First Nine Months'. ALLA members can obtain a copy of Commissioner Beech's paper by contacting me.

Nick Ellery, WA Chapter Coordinator
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Membership Update

ALLA's membership continues to grow rapidly. As at early May 2003, ALLA has a total of 560 members (this includes 132 members who have not renewed their membership for 2002/03). There are currently 428 financial members, spread around Australia (and the world!) as follows:



ALLA Inaugural Conference (October 2002)

State/Country	Members
ACT	27
NSW	117
NT	2
QLD	49
SA	39
TAS	6
VIC	157
WA	23
UK	1
USA	1
New Zealand	3
Japan	1
Unknown	2
Total	428

International Society for Labour Law & Social Security (ISLLSS)

ALLA's application for affiliation to ISLLSS was accepted at the international body's Executive Committee meeting, held at the European Regional Congress in Stockholm last September.

'Round tables' will also be held on the subjects:

As a result, ALLA members now have opportunities for involvement in the World Congress, Regional Congresses and Study Groups of ISLLSS. For further information about the international body, visit its website: www.ilo.org/isllss

- Labour Law vis-à-vis New Forms of Corporate Organisation; and
- Challenges and Perspectives of Labour Law.

The next ISLLSS World Congress will be held in Montevideo, Uruguay, 2-5 September 2003. The main conference themes are:

ALLA will be represented at the World Congress, and the preceding meeting of ISLLSS' Executive Committee, by Ron McCallum (ALLA President); Samantha Kennedy (ALLA National Committee Member); and Joel Butler (ALLA Member). Other ALLA members wishing to attend the World Congress can obtain further information from: www.congresomontevideo2003.com

- The Actors in Collective Bargaining;
- Labour Law and the Fundamental Rights of the Person; and
- Social Protection for the Unemployed.