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## Note from ALLA's Secretary

Welcome to the December edition of the 2008 ALLA Newsletter. ALLA has been so busy over the past months that we decided to release a second newsletter to keep you informed and engaged with our activities.

Firstly, thank you for your involvement with ALLA in 2008 – I trust that you have found it to be an educational, enjoyable and beneficial experience.

In addition to various State Chapter events outlined below, this year ALLA's **Fourth Biennial Conference** was held in Melbourne on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 November 2008. The Conference was an outstanding success. With more papers submitted than we could accept, more than 170 delegates were spoilt for choice with a fine array of engaging presentations. My thanks go to National Committee member Richard Mitchell and his team for a fine job in organising the Conference.

The 2008 Biennial Conference also marked the inaugural presentation of the Annual **Phillipa Weeks Prize**. An ALLA initiative, the Phillipa Weeks Prize honours Phillipa's outstanding contribution to ALLA, and to teaching and scholarship in labour law more generally. The Prize is awarded for the best paper presented at the ALLA Conference. Congratulations to the

winners of this special prize, Mark Mourell and Craig Cameron from Griffith University.

Turning to the year ahead of us, I am pleased to welcome the 2008-2009 ALLA Organising Committee, elected at the AGM held 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009. I look forward to working with each of you over the coming months and thank you for getting involved.

I would also like to remind you that as an active affiliate of the **International Society for Labour and Social Security Law**, ALLA is proud to be hosting the **19th ISLSSL World Congress** in **Sydney** from **1-4 September 2009**. I thank Ron McCallum and the other members of the World Congress Organising Committee for their efforts to date. If members are interested in learning more about the Congress, I encourage you to visit the official website at <http://www.labourlawsydney.com/>. There is an early bird registration rate.

I would like to wish you and your family a very pleasant holiday break. Best wishes also for a rewarding 2009.

*John Howe*  
*Secretary, ALLA*

## 2008-2009 ALLA National Committee

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On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008, at the conclusion of the ALLA conference, ALLA held its Annual General Meeting for the 2007-2008 financial year. The following committee members were elected at the AGM:

*President:*

Professor Ronald Clive McCallum (University of Sydney, NSW)

*Vice-President:*

Professor Richard Mitchell (Monash University, VIC)

*Secretary:*

Dr John Howe (University of Melbourne, VIC)

*Treasurer:*

Mr Michael Tamvakologos (Blake Dawson, VIC)

*Ordinary Members:*

Mr Ronald Joseph Baragry (Australian Industry Group, NSW)

Ms Amanda Coulthard (Franklin Athanasellis, QLD)

Mr Nicholas Ellery (Corrs Chambers Westgarth, WA)

Ms Pat Leary (Tasmanian Industrial Commission, TAS)

Ms Shae McCrystal (University of Sydney, NSW)

Ms Shelley Marshall (Monash University, VIC)

Professor Marilyn Pittard (Monash University, VIC)

Mr Peter Punch (Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers, NSW)

Mr Michael Rawling (Australian National University, ACT)

Ms Joellen Riley (University of Sydney, NSW)

Professor Andrew Stewart (University of Adelaide, SA)

Congratulations and thank you to all members of the 2008-2009 ALLA National Committee.

## State Chapter Developments

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### Queensland

#### **Recent Events:**

On Thursday 7 August the Queensland Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association enjoyed a Seminar entitled 'Award Modernisation'. The Seminar was given by Professor Andrew Stewart, John Bray Professor of Law, University of Adelaide and Legal Consultant, Piper Alderman.

### South Australia

#### **Recent Events:**

On Monday 4 August, the South Australian Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association held a seminar titled 'The National Employment Standards: Assessing Labor's New Safety Net.' Professor Rosemary Owens and Professor Andrew Stewart from the University of Adelaide Law School analysed

the content of the NES, explained how they will relate to the new award system, and considered some of the policy implications of the decisions that Labor has made (and in some cases not yet made) about its statutory safety net.

## Tasmania

### Recent Events:

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July, the Tasmanian Chapter, in conjunction with the Industrial Relations Society of Tasmania, held a luncheon entitled 'Employment Law - an Update', featuring Professor Andrew Stewart, John Bray Professor at the University of Adelaide.

## Victoria

### Recent Events:

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> July, the Victorian Chapter held a Panel Discussion entitled 'From WorkChoices to Forward with Fairness: Reflections and Predictions'. The Panel featured Professor Andrew Stewart, John Bray Professor of Law, University of Adelaide and Legal Consultant, Piper Alderman, Dr Jill Murray, Senior Lecturer, School of Law, La Trobe University and Tess Hardy, Solicitor at Baker & McKenzie, and was chaired by Professor Marilyn Pittard, Faculty of Law, Monash University and Consultant, Clayton Utz.

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## ALLA's 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference & the Philippa Weeks Prize

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Held in **Melbourne** on **Friday 14 and Saturday 15 November 2008**, the Fourth ALLA Biennial Conference was a fantastic success.

Featuring over 30 stimulating presentations, the Conference offered delegates variety, depth and expertise. More than 170 delegates registered for the conference. Attendees enjoyed provocative speeches, and were fortunate enough to hear new announcements about the *Fair Work Bill* first hand, with a speech given by **Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard**.

Throughout the day delegates were given the choice of three or four Concurrent Sessions, ensuring that attendees could pursue presentations that were engaging and relevant to themselves and their work.

Another highlight of the Conference was the Conference dinner, with an entertaining speech by guest speaker Mark Skulley, journalist with the Australian Financial Review. The conference

dinner was preceded by the launch of ALLA Secretary John Howe's new book *Regulating for Job Creation* (Federation Press 2008) by Federal Minister for Employment Participation, the Hon Brendan O'Connor.

As mentioned above, the Conference also marked the first presentation of the Annual **Phillipa Weeks Prize**. An ALLA initiative, the Phillipa Weeks Prize honours Phillipa's outstanding contribution to ALLA, and to teaching and scholarship in labour law more generally. The Prize is awarded for the best paper presented at the ALLA Conference, chosen by a panel consisting of Shae McCrystal, Anthony Forsyth and Peter Punch. **Congratulations to the winners of this special prize, Mark Mourell and Craig Cameron of Griffith University, Queensland, for their paper 'Neither Simple nor Fair: Prohibiting Legal Representation Before Fair Work Australia'.**

The conference was preceded by the second Labour Law Teachers Workshop, hosted by the

Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law at the Melbourne Law School.

## 2009 International Society for Labour & Social Security Law (ISLSSL) World Congress in Sydney

ALLA's affiliation with the ISLSSL means that ALLA members have opportunities to become involved in the World Congress, Regional Congresses, and Study Groups of ISLSSL.

The Australian Labour Law Association is hosting the **19th ISLSSL World Congress in Sydney from 1-4 September 2009**. Practitioners, judges and tribunal members, administrators and academics from all over the world will be attending the Congress.

As always, the Congress promises to be an exciting event, with keynote speakers from around the world including **Carlos Hernandez, Antoine Jeammaud, Gillian Lester and Rosemary Owens**.

The three themes for the 2009 World Congress are:

- Theme 1: Regulatory frameworks and law enforcement in new forms of employment
- Theme 2: Workers' Representation and social dialogue at the workplace level
- Theme 3: Emerging patterns of social protection in light of structural changes (ageing population, changing family structures, immigration, budgetary constraints, political and ideological realignments)

In addition to the national reports on the three key themes of the Congress, the round table session on work and family life, and a

workshop of 'what is new in labour law', there will also be a series of workshops designed to facilitate deeper analysis and engagement with many of the pressing issues facing labour law and social security internationally. In the Workshop Sessions, Delegates will be able to hear leading scholars from around the world addressing themes such as Labour and Social Security Law in the Informal Economy, Networks and Voice in Working Life, International Labour Market Regulation, and Social Protection, Underemployment, and Skills Development/Capacity Building.

Confirmed speakers for the Workshop Sessions include Professor Silvana Sciarra (Università di Firenze), Paul Benjamin (Institute of Development and Labour Law, University of Cape Town, South Africa), Takashi Araki (University of Tokyo), Professor Paul Davies (London School of Economics and Political Science), Professor Judy Fudge (University of Victoria), Professor Mark Freedland (Oxford University), Adrian Goldin (San Andres University, Buenos Aires), Professor Alain Supiot (Universite de Nantes) and Professor Sharifah Suhanah Syed Ahmad, (University of Malaya).

A call for papers will also be circulated shortly. Members will have the opportunity to submit abstracts addressing the Workshop Session themes. A panel of experts will select the best papers for presentation in the Workshop sessions.

For more information, please visit the Congress Website at <http://www.labourlawsydney.com/>