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Note from ALLA’s Secretary

It has been a while since the last ALLA newsletter and there is a lot of news to catch up on.

You will have recently received the ‘Call for Papers’ for ALLA’s third biennial conference, to be held in Brisbane on 22-23 September 2006. The conference, with the theme The Challenge of Contemporary Labour Law: New Directions and Disciplines, will attract quality papers from both academics and practitioners, and given Work Choices and other developments, it is sure to be a lively and well attended conference. Put these dates in your diaries! The call for papers is available from ALLA’s website, http://alla.law.unimelb.edu.au/

Details of 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 continues to be affiliated with the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law (ISLSSL). Details about the international body and its upcoming World Congress of Labour and Social Security Law in Paris in September 2006 are also provided in this newsletter.

In a major coup for ALLA, the ISLSSL recently accepted our bid to host the 2009 World Congress, which will be held in Sydney. Thanks to Ron McCallum, Ron Baragry, Joellen Riley and Joel Butler for all their efforts in securing the right to host the congress.

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 ISLSSL’s quarterly bulletin. You can also keep track of developments through ALLA’s website – or contact me or Charlotte Morgans at the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law, e-mail: law-alla@unimelb.edu.au or ph: (03) 8344 8924.

Finally, Elena Goodey, who provides administrative support to ALLA, is about to go on maternity leave. I would like to thank Elena on behalf of all ALLA members for all her hard work in restoring administrative stability to ALLA, and also to wish her all the best for the birth of her second child.

John Howe
Secretary, ALLA
State Chapter Developments

Australian Capital Territory

The ACT Chapter of ALLA and the Centre for International and Public Law at the ANU Law School present: A SERIES OF "FRINGE EVENTS" TO ACCOMPANY THE HIGH COURT HEARING OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGE TO THE WORK CHOICES LEGISLATION

Sparke Helmore Theatre No. 1, ANU College of Law Cnr Fellows & East Roads, The Australian National University, Canberra

Monday 8th May 6pm - 7.30pm
LEGISLATIVE POWER AND REGULATORY NEED
Rosemary Owens (Reader in Law, The University of Adelaide) will offer reflections on the High Court challenge to the Work Choices legislation, with particular attention to the nature of the Cth's legislative power.

Tuesday 9th May 6pm - 7.30pm
HOSTILE TAKEOVER OR COMPETITIVE FEDERALISM? THE PUSH FOR A 'NATIONAL' SYSTEM OF INDUSTRIAL REGULATION
Professor Andrew Stewart (School of Law, Flinders University) will explore the federal government's Work Choices reforms and the challenges they pose to the "federal balance" under Australia's Constitution.

Wednesday 10th May 6pm - 7.30pm
PANEL OF SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF WORK CHOICES ON DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY
Speaker tbc, NTEU: Impact of the legislation on Universities; Shae McCrystal, ANU College of Law: The community sector; Steve Ramsey, CPSU: The public employment sector
Beth Gaze, University of Melbourne: Impact of Work Choices on women workers.

RSVP to: cipl@law.anu.edu.au by cob 5 May. Refreshments to be served on Wed 10th May. For more details: http://law.anu.edu.au/cipl/events.asp.

Shea McCrystal, ACT Chapter Coordinator
Shae.mccrystal@anu.edu.au

New South Wales

The NSW Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association would like to invite members and their guests to an evening seminar to be given by Dr John Howe (Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law) on "Light-touch Labour Regulation as a State Government Response to WorkChoices" on Wednesday 31 May 2006.

Time: Drinks at 5.30 with the presentation to begin at 6pm.
Place: The Minter Ellison Conference Room, Level 13 of the Law School, University of Sydney, cnr Phillip, King and Elizabeth Streets, Sydney.
RSVP: Joellen Riley: joellen@law.usyd.edu.au. Please give your email the subject "ALLA RSVP"

In addition, the National Committee of ALLA has approved the establishment by the Sydney Chapter of ALLA, of an ALLA Sydney Forum. The purpose of the ALLA Sydney Forum is to promote discussion of labour law matters by NSW members of ALLA.

The Forum’s inaugural meeting will be conducted at the offices of Carroll & O’Dea Lawyers, 18th Level, 111 Elizabeth Street, Sydney on Thursday 4 May commencing at 5.00 pm. For further information contact Peter Punch at Peter_Punch@codea.com.au

Ron McCallum, Joellen Riley and Ron Baragry, NSW Chapter Coordinators
Queensland

The Queensland Chapter is busy organising the ALLA National Conference to be held in Brisbane on 22-23 September, 2006. If any Queensland members are willing to assist with organisation of the conference, they can contact Amanda Coulthard, Queensland Chapter Coordinator: amanda.coulthard@fasol.com.au

South Australia

The SA Chapter of ALLA held a successful and well-attended meeting on 11 April 2006 in the Moot Court Room, Law School, University of Adelaide. The guest speaker at the meeting was Dr Joellen Riley, who presented on the topic "Common Law Collective Agreements After 'Work Choices' - Where to Now?"

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

Tasmania

Commissioner Pat Leary, Tasmanian Chapter Coordinator
pat.leary@justice.tas.gov.au

Victoria

The Victorian Chapter of ALLA is holding a seminar on Thursday 4 May, 2006. Mr Tim Lee, Deputy Secretary of Industrial Relations Victoria, will speak on the topic of 'Work Choices and Victorian Employers and Employees'.

Time: 6.00 – 7.30 pm
Venue: Monash University Law Chambers
472 Bourke Street, Melbourne
(Next door to the Law Institute of Victoria)
RSVP: Charlotte Morgans
(by 1 May) Phone: 03 8344 8924
Email: law-alla@unimelb.edu.au

Marilyn Pittard and John Howe, Victorian Chapter Coordinators
marilyn.pittard@law.monash.edu.au
j.howe@unimelb.edu.au

Western Australia

Nick Ellery, WA Chapter Coordinator, is interested in hearing from any members with suggestions for a WA Chapter function. Please contact Nick on the email below.
nicholas_ellery@corrs.com.au

International Society for Labour & Social Security Law (ISLSSL)

ALLA’s affiliation with the ISLSSL means that ALLA members have opportunities for involvement in the World Congress, Regional Congresses and Study Groups of ISLSSL. For further information about the international body, visit our website.

The next ISLSSL World Congress is being held in Paris, France, 5-8 September 2006. The main conference themes are:

- Trade Liberalisation and Labour Law
- Labour Law (in its individual and collective aspects) and Productive Decentralisation; and
- Occupational Risks: Social Protection and Employer’s Liability.

'Round tables’ will also be held on various subjects.

ALLA will be represented at the World Congress, and the preceding meeting of ISLSSL’s Executive Committee, by Ron McCallum (ALLA President) and John Howe.
(ALLA Secretary). Other ALLA members wishing to attend the World Congress can obtain further information from: www.laborlawparis.com

ALLA will be hosting the next World Congress of Labour Law in Sydney, 2-4th September, 2009. The Congress will coincide with the IRRA World Congress being held in Sydney the prior week. The Wentworth Hotel has been booked as the venue for the conference. Ron McCallum has established an ad hoc committee with the task of organising the conference.