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## Note from ALLA's Secretary

Welcome to the January 2017 ALLA Newsletter and thank you for your continued involvement with ALLA.

In an effort to reduce both the amount of email members receive and inevitable duplication of information, the Newsletter now appears once a year after the Annual General Meeting. This year, the Newsletter includes information about the AGM, details about the ALLA Biennial Conference for those unable to attend, and annual highlights from ALLA's preceding year.

### **ALLA Biennial Conference: Melbourne, 4-5 November 2016**

In November 2016, ALLA held a very successful national conference on picturesque St Kilda beach at the Novotel, Melbourne. The theme of the conference was 'Regulation of Work and Workplaces: Reform and Innovation?' It was an opportunity to reflect on the development of Australian labour law to date and to cast a critical eye over foreshadowed changes. Two pre-conference workshops, one on teaching and one on research, were held on Thursday 3 November. More information about the conference is set out below.

### **Conference Prizes**

The Phillipa Weeks Prize is awarded every conference year, for the best paper presented by an emerging scholar. For the 2016 Conference it was joined by a new award, the Dominica Whelan Prize, for the best practitioner paper. Further details of these prizes and their winners appear below.

### **Research Degree Scholarships**

I am pleased to report that ALLA has continued to implement its scholarship program to encourage and assist students enrolled in a research degree (PhD, Masters by research, or similar) to attend the ALLA Conference. ALLA awarded four scholarships for 2016. The winners are announced below.

### **ALLA AGM Melbourne, 5 November 2016**

ALLA's 2016 AGM was held at 3:00pm on Saturday 5 November at the Novotel, at the close of the National Conference. All ALLA members were invited to attend the AGM. ALLA's National Committee for 2017 was elected at the AGM. Further information about this is outlined below.

### **ALLA Biennial Conference 2018:**

Following on from the success of last year's conference, we have begun planning the next

conference in 2018. I am excited to announce that it will be held in southeast Queensland. Details will be announced to members in due course and I hope that many of you will be able to attend.

### **State Chapter Events**

Our volunteer State Chapter Convenors have been busy, continuing to arrange an interesting array of State Chapter Seminars. You will find an overview of recent and upcoming events below.

### **ILERA World Congresses 2018**

The next ILERA World Congress 2018 will take place in Seoul, South Korea on 23-27 July 2018.

### **ISLSSL World Congress 2018**

The next ISLSSL World Congress will take place in Turin, Italy on 4-7 September 2018.

### **Thank you Shae!**

As incoming Secretary, I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of Associate Professor Shae McCrystal who served as ALLA Secretary for the last six years.

I look forward to seeing many of you at ALLA events over the course of the year

Best wishes for 2017.

*Dominique Allen*  
Secretary, ALLA

## **ALLA Biennial Conference: Melbourne 4 – 5 November 2016**

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In November last year, ALLA held a successful national conference in Melbourne at the Novotel Hotel on picturesque St Kilda beach.

The theme of the conference was 'Regulation of Work and Workplaces: Reform and Innovation?' The conference was an opportunity to reflect on the development of labour law to date, and to cast a critical eye over future foreshadowed changes.

The conference commenced with a keynote speech by Mr Peter Harris AO (Chairman, Productivity Commission) who discussed 'The opportunity for reform in workplace relations'.

He was followed by Ms Natalie James (the Fair Work Ombudsman) and Ms Janine Webster (Chief Counsel, Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman) on the topic 'The workplace relations system from the perspective of the Fair Work Ombudsman.' The final presentation was delivered by Professor Gillian Triggs (President, Australian Human Rights Commission) on the topic 'A human rights lens on work and business'.

On the second day, the Hon Christopher Jessup (Justice of the Federal Court of Australia) discussed 'The regulation of industrial relations by reference to the Corporations Power'. His

Honour was followed by the Hon Jennifer Acton (Senior Deputy President, Fair Work Commission Former President, Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal) who discussed 'Regulating the gig economy: A view from the bench'.

Friday and Saturday were busy with a variety of engaging and thought-provoking parallel sessions on themes including Workplace Investigations, Bargaining and Industrial Action, Internationalisation of Work, The Evolving Contract of Employment, Diversity, Discrimination and the Law, Safety and Workers Compensation, Technology and Work, Individual Rights, Regulatory Compliance, Bullying and the Healthy Workplace, Vulnerable Workers and Specific Issues, Supply Chains and Regulation, the Future of Unions, Gender Equality, and the Role of Arbitrator and Legal Outcomes.

Two pre-conference workshops were held on Thursday 3 November. The Labour Law Teaching workshop was convened by Professor John Howe and Associate Professor Anna Chapman (Melbourne Law School). The workshop provided a forum for teachers of Australian university labour law subjects to come together in a collegial environment to discuss current issues in teaching labour law. Professor

Beth Gaze (Melbourne Law School), Dr Joanna Howe (Adelaide Law School) and Professor John Howe (Melbourne Law School) delivered presentations on their teaching.

A Labour Law Research Workshop was led by Professor Richard Mitchell (Monash University) and convened by Professor Richard Johnstone (Queensland University of Technology). The focus of the workshop was Comparative Labour Law.

Both workshops were well attended and have become an important pre-conference fixture for those members interested in teaching and researching in labour law.

Further information about the full program, speakers, accommodation and the conference dinner is available on the conference website.

Thanks are due to our Conference Sponsors, the Fair Work Ombudsman, Thomson Reuters, Lexis Nexis, Monash University Centre of Commercial Law and Regulatory Studies, Workplace Express, the Department of Employment and Federation Press. ALLA would also like to thank the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law at Melbourne Law School, which sponsors and organises the Teaching Workshop, and Melbourne Law School.

The Conference would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of Professor Marilyn Pittard and the rest of her Conference Committee team, Dr Graham Smith, Dr Victoria Lambropoulos and Ms Emma Goodwin.

## Annual General Meeting and Election of National Committee

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ALLA's 2016 AGM was held at 3:00pm on 5 November at the Novotel, St Kilda, following ALLA's National Conference. All ALLA members were invited to attend the AGM. ALLA's National Committee for 2016 was elected at the AGM.

The committee members for 2016 are:

**President:** Andrew Stewart

**Secretary:** Dominique Allen

**Vice-President:** Marilyn Pittard

**Treasurer:** Nicholas Ellery

### **Committee Members:**

Emma Goodwin (VIC), Tess Hardy (VIC), Victoria Lambropoulos (VIC), David Chin (NSW), Mark Rinaldi (TAS), Vince Rogers (QLD), Cameron Roles (ACT), Graham Smith (VIC), Janine Smith (NSW), Anthony Forsyth (VIC), Carolyn Sutherland (Vic), Ellie Bassingthwaighe (QLD), Matt Kelleher (WA), Shae McCrystal (NSW).

For further information, please contact Gemma at [law-alla@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:law-alla@unimelb.edu.au).

## Phillipa Weeks Prize

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The Phillipa Weeks Prize recognises the contribution of Professor Phillipa Weeks to Australian labour law scholarship and her unswerving support of young and upcoming scholars. For a tribute to Professor Weeks see [here](#).

The prize is awarded at each ALLA National Conference by ALLA and Federation Press for the best paper presented by an early career academic or research higher degree student.

The winner of the Phillipa Weeks Prize for 2016 was **Dr Alysia Blackham** (University of Melbourne) for her outstanding paper 'Defining 'Discrimination' in UK and Australian Age Discrimination Law'.

## Dominica Whelan Prize

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The Dominica Whelan Prize is awarded at each ALLA National Conference to the author of the best paper presented by a practitioner working or practising in the area of labour law, or anyone else with a professional interest in the field, other than a person who is primarily an academic or a research higher degree student. The prize is jointly sponsored by ALLA and Federation Press.

It is named in honour of the late Dominica Whelan, who served for many years as a member of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission, Fair Work Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia.

The winners of the Dominica Whelan prize for 2016 were **Mr James Mattson and Mr Mark Paul** (Bartier Perry) for their outstanding paper "Investigations: Time to Reform Our Thinking?".

## ALLA Research Degree Scholarship

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ALLA presented a scholarship for students enrolled in a research degree (such as PhD, or LLM by thesis, or similar) in an Australian or New Zealand University. The objective of the scholarship was to provide financial assistance for one or more students to take part in the national ALLA conference and present a paper at the conference.

The recipients of the ALLA Research Degree Scholarship were **Mr Jonathan Sale** (PhD Candidate, Deakin University) for his paper 'International Labour Standards in the ASEAN Region'; **Ms Adriana Orifici** (PhD Candidate, University of Melbourne) for her co-authored paper (with Professor Beth Gaze and Associate Professor Anna Chapman) entitled 'Reshaping Employment and Discrimination Law: Toward Substantive Equality at Work?'; **Mr Darshana Sumanadasa** (PhD Candidate, Queensland University of Technology) for his paper 'Protecting Trade Secrets Versus Labour Mobility'; and **Ms Maria Azzura Tranfaglia** (Research Fellow and PhD Candidate, University of Melbourne) for her paper '(How) Can the Comparative Method Inform Future Labour Law Regulation?'

A list of past winners for each prize is now available on [ALLA's website](#).

## State Chapter Developments

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**ALLA's activities are largely run by volunteer Committee members and State Chapter Convenors. We rely heavily on our State Chapter Convenors to organise and manage a range of State Chapter activities and our National Conferences. Further details about ALLA's upcoming and past State Chapter events are available on [ALLA's website](#).**

## New South Wales

### Recent Events:

*14 June 2016*

The NSW State Chapter presented Professor Douglas Brodie (University of Strathclyde) who spoke on the topic 'The Relational Employment Contract: UK and Australian Perspectives. Ian Neil SC, barrister and co-author of *The Modern Contract of Employment* (Thomson Reuters, 2012), provided commentary from the Australian perspective.

**Convenors:**

Ms Jacquie Seemann, Thomsons Lawyers  
Ms Janine Smith, Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers  
Louise Thornthwaite, Macquarie University  
Therese McDermott, Macquarie University  
Contact: [Janine\\_Smith@codea.com.au](mailto:Janine_Smith@codea.com.au)

## Queensland

**Recent Events:**

*26 May 2016*

The Qld State Chapter presented a seminar by Peter Punch (Carroll and O'Dea Lawyers), on the topic 'Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption- Looking for Long Term Public Value'.

*28 July 2016*

The Qld State Chapter presented a seminar by Jim McGowan AM, an Adjunct Professor with the School of Government and International Relations at Griffith University and Executive Director of SNJ Business Solutions. He provided a review of the industrial relations framework in Queensland.

**Convenors:**

Ellie Bassingthwaite, CRH Law: [ebass@crhlaw.com.au](mailto:ebass@crhlaw.com.au)  
Vince Rogers, Ashurst: [vince.rogers@ashurst.com](mailto:vince.rogers@ashurst.com)

## South Australia

**Recent Events:**

*23 June 2016*

The SA Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association, together with the Adelaide Law School's Work and Employment Regulation research group, held a seminar on 'The Relational Employment Contract'. The seminar was presented by Professor Douglas Brodie (University of Strathclyde).

**Convenor:**

Professor Andrew Stewart, The University of Adelaide: [andrew.stewart@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:andrew.stewart@adelaide.edu.au)

## Victoria

**Recent Events:**

*19 April 2016*

The Victorian Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association, together with Monash University Centre for Commercial Law and Regulatory Studies, held a seminar on the anti-bullying jurisdiction and other recent developments in the Fair Work Commission. The guest speaker was Commissioner Leigh Johns (Fair Work Commission).

*20 June 2016*

The Victorian Chapter of the Australian Labour Law Association in conjunction with Monash University Centre for Commercial Law and Regulatory Studies held a seminar on the topic: 'The Relational Employment Contract: Australian and UK Perspectives'. The guest speaker was Professor Douglas Brodie, (University of Strathclyde).

*6 October 2016*

The Australian Labour Law Association encouraged members to attend an event organised by RMIT University on the topic 'Uber and Out? Regulating Work in a Gig Economy'. The guest speaker was Professor Andrew Stewart (The University of Adelaide).

**Convenor:**

Professor Marilyn Pittard, Monash University: [marilyn.pittard@monash.edu](mailto:marilyn.pittard@monash.edu)

## Western Australia

**Recent Events:**

*17 August 2016*

The WA State Chapter held the contemporary issues in Employment Relations Annual Lecture on the topic 'Where to From Here? Labour Regulation after the 2016 Election'. Professor Andrew Stewart (The University of Adelaide) presented the lecture.

**Convenor:**

Mr Nicholas Ellery, Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Perth: [nicholas.ellery@corrs.com.au](mailto:nicholas.ellery@corrs.com.au)

## ILERA World Congress 2018

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The 18<sup>th</sup> ILERA World Congress will be held from 23 to 27 July 2018 in Seoul, South Korea. The theme of the Congress is 'Employment for a Sustainable Society: What is to be Done?'

The ILERA World Congress brings together global individuals from several areas within the labour and employee relations' discipline(s). Such attendees also include professors, doctoral novices, researchers, experts, leaders and practitioners. The total number of delegates is expected to be in excess of 500.

Further information about the Congress is available at: <http://www.ileraworldcongress.com>.

## ISLSSL World Congress 2018

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The International Society for Labour and Social Security Law (ISLSSL) will hold its 22<sup>st</sup> World Congress in Turin, Italy on 4-7 September 2018.

The 22nd World Congress promises to provide a platform for stimulating discussion on labour and social security law in a global environment where prolonged economic and social uncertainty appears to have become the norm.

This raises hard questions: how can labour law and social security continue serving the ends of collective regulation, equality in the workplace and social justice in developed and developing countries under conditions of relative economic austerity? How must the traditional concepts and institutions evolve to take account of what may well be fundamental shifts?

Further information about the World Congress will be available via the website at a later date:

<http://islssl.org/world-congress/>



**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**Please complete this form and return by email or post with full payment to:**

**Email:** [law-alla@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:law-alla@unimelb.edu.au) (subject heading ALLA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL)

**Post:** Australian Labour Law Association  
Centre for Employment and Labour  
Relations Law Melbourne Law School  
The University of Melbourne VIC 3010

**TAX INVOICE**

**Select Membership Type**

**2 Year Membership (\$130.00)**  
(01/01/2017 - 31/12/2018)

**1 Year Membership (\$70.00)**  
(01/01/2017 - 31/12/2017)

**Student 2 Year Membership (\$65.00)**  
(01/01/2017 - 31/12/2018)

**Student 1 Year Membership(\$35.00)**  
(01/01/2017 - 31/12/2017)

**Membership Details:** - *Please update our records and fill any blanks as required*

**Title (please circle):** MR / MRS / MS / MISS / DR / OTHER - please specify..

**Given Name/s:**

**Surname:**

**Membership Number:**

**Employer Business Name:**

**Position/Title:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Postcode:**

**Phone (Work): Email**

**Address:**

Please indicate which State Chapter Events you would like to be notified about:

[Note: you may circle more than one]

ACT NSW QLD SA TAS VIC WA

If admitted as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the Association for the time being in force.

Signature .....

**Payment Options:**

1. **Cheque** [Note: Please make cheques payable to The Australian Labour Law Association]

2. **Electronic Funds Transfer** [Note: when depositing via EFT, please list your membership number or surname as an identifier to assist us in reconciling the bank statement]

Account Name: Australian Labour Law Association

Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia

BSB: 063 238 Account No: 1023 1376

3. **Credit Card** [Note: all credit card payments will incur a surcharge of \$2.50]

Amount (Please circle): \$132.50/\$72.50 / \$67.50/\$37.50 - **THIS FEE INCLUDES GST**

Credit Card Number: ..... Expiry Date: ..... / .....

Type of card (please circle): Visa Mastercard Bankcard (American Express & Diners are not accepted)

Cardholder's name as it appears on the card:.....

Signature of card holder: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

**Comments/Suggestions for ALLA:**

ALLA would appreciate any comments you may have regarding your experiences with the Association in 2016 and any suggestions for ALLA in 2017-2018.

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