

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Convenors

Professor Andrew Robertson
Associate Professor Elise Bant

Members

Dr Katy Barnett
Mr Matthew Bell
Associate Professor David Brennan
Professor Michael Bryan
Professor Michael Crommelin
Mr Arlen Duke
Mr Andrew Godwin
Associate Professor Matthew Harding
Associate Professor Cally Jordan
Professor Ian Malkin
Professor Ian Ramsay
Dr Jeannie Paterson

Lunchtime Seminars

- Mr Donal Nolan (Oxford) and Professor Andrew Robertson, 'Rights and Private Law', 25 March
- Dr TT Arvind (York), 'Obligations and Regulation: A Core Relationship', 8 April
- Dr Matt Dyson (Cambridge), 'Border Disputes between Torts and Crimes: Comparative Advice on Soothing Ruffled Feathers', 15 April
- Professor Robert Chambers (UCL), 'The End of Knowing Receipt', 18 April
- Ms Susan Barkehall-Thomas (Monash), 'Thieves and the Problem of Title to Chattels', 12 August
- Professor Jane Stapleton (ANU & Texas), 'The Causal Relation in Law: an Account for Philosophers' (co-hosted with the MLS Legal Theory Workshop Series), 13 August
- Professor Sarah Worthington (LSE), 'Exercising Power in Commercial Relationships', 26 August
- Dr Sirko Harder (Monash), 'Contributory Negligence in Contract and Equity', 28 October

Evening Seminar

- Mr William Swadling (Oxford), 'The Fiction of the Constructive Trust', 4 August

Melbourne Torts Workshop

On 25 February the Obligations Group hosted the *Melbourne Torts Workshop*, which was convened by Professor Andrew Robertson. The following papers were presented:

- Professor Benjamin Zipursky (Fordham), 'Civil Recourse and Relational Duties in the Law of Torts'
- Professor Andrew Robertson, 'Policy and the Duty of Care'
- Ms Hanna Wilberg (Auckland), 'Negligence Liability of Public Authorities: In Defence of the Omissions Rule'
- Professor Kit Barker (Queensland), 'Relational Economic Loss and Indeterminacy: The Search for Rational Limits'
- Professor Barbara McDonald (Sydney), 'Is there an Irreducible Core of Obligation in Tort?'
- Mr John Randall QC (St Philips Chambers), '*Caparo v Dickman*—Legal Celebrity of Jurisprudential Substance?'

Melbourne Contracts Workshop

On 1-2 December the Obligations Group hosted the *Melbourne Contracts Workshop*, which was convened by Dr Jeannie Paterson and Professor Andrew Robertson. The following papers were presented:

- Dr Jeannie Paterson, 'Contract and the Challenge of Consumer Law'
- Professor Robyn Carroll (UWA), 'Agreements to Specifically Perform Contractual Obligations'
- Dr Katy Barnett, '"Reasonable Fee"' Damages as Partial Disgorgement for Breach of Contract'
- Dr Wayne Courtney (Sydney), 'Settlement after Breach'
- Professor David McLauchlan (Wellington), 'The Contract that Neither Party Intends'
- Dr Martin Doris (Chinese Univ HK), 'The Law on Unfair Commercial Practices in the UK—A Model for Hong Kong?'
- Mr James Lee (Birmingham), 'The Adequacy of Legislative Consideration of the Law of Contract'
- Professor Rick Bigwood (Bond), 'Reflections on the Mental Componentry of Affirmation of a Contract by Election'

Proprietary Remedies Colloquium

The Obligations Group provided administrative support for a colloquium on 'The Principles of Proprietary Remedies: Constructive Trusts', which was held at Melbourne Law School on 5 December. The colloquium was co-convened by Professor Michael Bryan and Associate Professor Elise Bant and funded by their ARC Discovery Project grant. The colloquium brought together judges and scholars from around Australia to discuss contentious issues in the law of constructive trusts.

Visitors

Mr Donal Nolan (Oxford), March

Dr TT Arvind (York), April

Mr James Lee (Birmingham), November to December