

assessment of the rate of pension payable to veterans and their dependants.

New Privacy Commissioner

On 23 December 1996 the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, the Hon. Daryl Williams AM QC MP, announced the appointment of Moira Scollay as the new Federal Privacy Commissioner.

Ms Scollay's appointment commenced in February 1997 and is for a term of 5 years. Ms Scollay replaces Mr Kevin O'Connor who was appointed as the first Privacy Commissioner in 1989 and whose term as Privacy Commissioner expired at the end of December 1996.

Ms Scollay has held a number of positions in academic institutions and the federal public sector, including the Public Service Board, the Department of Industrial Relations, the Australian Taxation Office and the Child Support Agency, most recently as Second Commissioner of Taxation and Deputy Registrar of the Child Support Agency.

Re-Appointment of President of National Native Title Tribunal

On 17 April 1997, the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, the Hon. Daryl Williams AM QC MP, announced the re-appointment of the Honourable Justice Robert French as President of the National Native Title Tribunal until 31 December 1997.

Justice French has been President of the Tribunal since 2 May 1994. His appointment was due to expire on 1 May 1997. The Attorney-General said that Justice French had "indicated that he would return to the Bench when the three-year term expired but he has agreed to accept re-appointment while a successor is found".

New President for IPAA

Michael Keating was elected President of the Institute of Public Administration Australia at

the Institute's Annual General Meeting which was held in Melbourne at the end of November 1996. Mr Keating replaces Elizabeth Proust who served for 2 years as National President of IPAA.

Mr Keating currently holds positions in the Economics department at the Australian National University, the Faculty of Commerce and Administration at Griffith University, the ANU Council and the Australia Post Board. He was Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet from 1991 to 1996.

New Executive Director for AIJA

The Australian Institute of Judicial Administration Inc has announced the appointment of Greg Reinhardt as its new Executive Director. Mr Reinhardt was formerly a senior lecturer in the Law School at the University of Melbourne and has practised widely in the area of commercial litigation. His research interests include civil procedure and the court process and he is currently a Member and Academic Secretary of the Victorian Attorney-General's Law Reform Advisory Council.

As Executive Director, Mr Reinhardt is appointed as a Professorial Associate in the Faculty of Law at the University of Melbourne. Professor Reinhardt replaces Peter Sallmann as Executive Director of the AIJA.

Victoria's First Legal Ombudsman

The office of the first Legal Ombudsman in Victoria was officially opened on 6 February 1997. The Legal Ombudsman, Marg O'Donnell, was formerly director of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Division in the Queensland Department of Justice. Ms O'Donnell has been appointed for a 7 year term.

Other new bodies created by the Victorian Legal Practice Act, which commenced on 1 January 1997, are the Legal Practice Board, chaired by Ken Marks QC, and the Legal Profession Tribunal, chaired by Richard Fullagher QC.