

Castan Centre for Human Rights Law



NEWSLETTER

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The Castan Centre was established by the Monash University Law School in 2000 as an independent, non-profit organisation committed to the protection and promotion of human rights.

Through research and public education, the centre generates innovative theoretical and practical approaches to understanding and implementing international and domestic human rights law.

New Programs Highlight 2006

This year has seen the introduction of some significant new programs at the Castan Centre, the most important being the launch of the new Masters of Law in Human Rights.

The LLM (Human Rights) commenced in March of this year and is the realization of a long-held goal of the centre and the Monash Law School to establish the first postgraduate degree in human rights law in Australia. Demand for the degree and each of the subjects has been excellent, with many second semester subjects approaching capacity.

The other major program to kick off for 2006 is the Castan Centre Global Internship Program. Two interns are currently stationed in New York and Hong Kong, with another two having recently returned from New York and Geneva. The centre has long supported interns on an ad hoc basis but decided last year that there was a need for an institutionalized program to

ensure that the best Monash Law students were given the opportunity to realize their dreams of a career in human rights law.

In addition to these new programs, the centre's established work in research and public education continues to gain strength. Centre members have recently announced a large research grant for human trafficking in the Asia-Pacific and a raft of international guests in April and May are addressing a diverse range of topics. These include the right to health, bills of rights in the age of terrorism and indigenous rights.

Finally, the center's human rights training program continues to grow, with a 12 week intensive course currently underway for Indonesian government officials and several courses for DFAT staff recently concluded.

For details on these programs and much more, see inside.



2006 Castan Centre Global Interns. With Castan Centre Director Sarah Joseph (middle) are (L-R) Linda Gyorki, Jessie Taylor, Shahaan Murray & Sophia Kagan.