

UK Rights Experts, Burnside QC to Teach at Monash

As Victorian practitioners grapple with the new Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities ahead of its full application in 2008, two UK human rights experts are winging their way to Australia to teach an intensive course on the topic. Comparative Bills of Rights will take place at the Monash Law Chambers in the city from 2-8 August this year. It is being offered as part of the LLM (Human Rights) but can also be undertaken as a single subject, with or without formal assessment.

Eminent barrister Julian Burnside QC will be a guest lecturer for the subject, which will be principally taught by Rabinder Singh QC and Angela Ward.

Mr Singh is a practising barrister at Matrix Chambers in London and a

Visiting Professor of Law at the London School of Economics. He is a (part-time) Recorder of the Crown Court and a Deputy High Court Judge. He is the author of a book *The Future of Human Rights in the UK* and of articles in *Public Law*, *Judicial Review* and the *European Human Rights Law Review*. He has appeared in many of the leading cases on the UK's Human Rights Act since it came into force in 2000 including cases in the House of Lords.

Dr Ward practises at the London Bar, specialising in European Union law and human rights law. She has appeared at all levels of the United Kingdom judiciary, from the House of Lords to magistrates courts, and has also petitioned the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. She was the founding

editor of the *Cambridge Yearbook of European Legal Studies* and is a former fellow of Magdalene College Cambridge and deputy director of the Centre for European Legal Studies in the Cambridge Law Faculty. She holds a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland and a Bachelor of Laws with honours from the Australian National University. She is a fellow of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, and the author of over 25 books and articles on EU law and human rights law.

For further information, email graduate@law.monash.edu.au or go to www.law.monash.edu.au/postgraduate/

Castan Centre Welcomes New Deputy Directors and Associates

The Castan Centre is delighted to announce the appointment of two new Deputy Directors and a number of associates to the centre. Susan Kneebone, who was also appointed a professor on 1 January 2007, and Adam McBeth are the new Deputy Directors. They join Julie Debeljak, Melissa Castan and Paula Gerber.

Professor Kneebone is an authority on refugee issues and has published widely in the area, including the book *The Refugees Convention 50 Years On: Globalisation and International Law*. She has also published widely on administrative law and tort liability.

Adam, a lecturer, joined the law faculty from Deakin University in 2006 and, prior to that, was a Castan Centre postgraduate research fellow. He is currently completing his thesis on the application of international human rights law to non-state economic actors such as the World Trade Organisation, World Bank and corporations. He has also published on globalisation, human rights and international law.

The centre has also appointed Azadeh Dastyari, Tania Penovic, David Yarrow and Patrick Emerton as associates of the centre. Each of the new associates are members of academic staff who assist the centre on a regular basis. In

2006, Azadeh and Tania penned an influential submission to a parliamentary inquiry investigating the Howard Government's proposed new migration laws; David commenced a large capacity-building project with Melissa Castan for Native Title Representative Bodies; and Patrick arranged a roundtable conference on terrorism and human rights.

The Castan Centre is delighted to have its new members on board.

For profiles of our new associates, and a Q&A with Susan Kneebone, see page 17. Our Q&A with Adam McBeth was published in last year's March newsletter.

Human Rights Training Courses Going Strong

The new Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities has generated a high degree of demand from professional bodies for training on the Charter's meaning and likely effects. This demand has led to the centre conducting in-depth training courses for both the Judicial College of Victoria (JCV) and the Victorian Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission (VHREOC).

VHREOC has a unique mandate to educate the community about human rights, so training has focussed partly on creating a group of people capable of delivering training to community groups. To complement this effort, the centre has developed appropriate materials and case studies for non-legally trained people, much of which will eventually be freely available on the VHREOC website. In contrast,

the JCV - which is responsible for the continuing education of all of Victoria's judges and judicial officers - is being provided with training focusing on those parts of the Charter most relevant to judges, in particular those sections giving judges the power to declare law incompatible with the Charter or to interpret laws in such a way as to make them compatible.