

Global Intern program expands to five continents in 2010



(L-R) David Sztrajt, Catherine Miller, Amy Burton, David Carolan, Emily Dickson, Michael Adams, Helen Fabinyi and Jeremy Noye

The 2010 Global Internship Program will expand to South America with the addition of a three month placement at the Amazon Defence Coalition (FDA), in Quito Ecuador. Another new placement has been added with the Centre for Constitutional Rights in New York City.

David Sztrajt will be the first Castan Centre Intern to work with the FDA. The FDA works to defend the peoples and environment of the Amazon. It is currently involved in prosecuting Chevron Oil for the devastating pollution of the Amazon region. David's interest in indigenous rights and the environment made him a perfect fit for this internship. He has been a volunteer at a number of community legal centres as well as the North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency, the Castan Centre and the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

Michael Adams's interest in corporate social responsibility and human rights will be utilised during his internship with the Centre for Constitutional Rights in New York City. Michael will be working on litigation generated by its Corporate Human Rights Abuse campaign. Michael has been a legal research assistant conducting research into legal philosophy and corporate social responsibility, and volunteers with the Australian Society of Legal Philosophy and Amnesty International.

The former internship with the International

Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia has been resurrected for a final year. David Carolan will travel to the Netherlands in January to work with the tribunal for a six month stint. David undertook an in-house internship with the Castan Centre and has been involved in the Human Rights Moot competition, and the International Humanitarian Law Moot.

This year, the International Women's Rights Action Watch – Asia Pacific (IWRAP) internship will include a 2 week stint in Geneva working with IWRAP during the 45th Session of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women. On the eve of the session Global Intern Emily Dickson will help IWRAP train grassroots women's groups from various countries in how to lobby the Committee. Emily's interest in women's rights came from studying Sharia Law in Malaysia. Emily has a strong commitment to community development and has volunteered with Embrace Education.

Jeremy Noye will also be travelling to Geneva where he will intern with the Australian Delegation to the UN Human Rights Council. Jeremy has been a Student Rights' Advocate in the Monash Student Association and volunteer for over two years at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre. He has also worked as a student support worker, child care worker, and

private tutor and is fluent in French.

Catherine Miller will undertake her internship at Human Rights First in New York. Catherine has been a volunteer at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre for over 4 years and will be working with asylum seekers in the USA. She has also worked as a legal research assistant and a Student Rights' Advocate in the Monash Student Association.

In its second year, the Monash-Oxfam agreement will see two Castan Centre interns, Amy Burton and Helen Fabinyi, work with Oxfam partner organisation the Campus Law Clinic in Durban, South Africa, where they will provide legal services to poor and disadvantaged communities. Amy is actively involved at Monash and has volunteered with a number of community legal centres and as a teacher's aid in Peru. Helen has volunteered at the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, the Sudanese Australian Integrated Learning Program, the Environment Defenders Office of Victoria, and Native Title Services Victoria. Helen also taught English and engaged in community development work in Rajasthan India.

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