

### Our newest social media venture: blogging

Since late last year, Castan Centre staff and Global Interns have been writing about human rights issues and experiences on two new blog sites: a main Castan Centre blog, and another one dedicated to documenting the Centre's Global Internship Program. Over 50 posts have been made in the last six months across both blogs which have been viewed more than 10,000 times.

The Castan Centre blog has featured posts on topics as varied as humanitarian intervention in Libya, same-sex marriage, the killing of Osama Bin Laden, Wikileaks, the Giffords shooting in Arizona, various African human rights issues and the High Court's interpretation of freedom of political communication. The blog enables

our academics and staff to provide timely commentary on human rights issues without having to wait for the often delayed publication of their research in academic journals, and to reach a broader audience in the process.

For the first time, the Global Interns have been able to document their experiences on their own blog site. The Global Internship Program runs between November and June each year and sends ten outstanding Monash Law students to organisations in eight countries on four continents. During their placements, the Global Interns provide updates on their work and the issues their organisations are dealing with. They also share photos,

links, and other information with those who follow the blog. With most placements for the 2011 program completed, the blog will start to feature reports from the interns outlining their experiences and the impact the internships have had on them. The Centre will also use the blog to announce details of its 2012 program as they come to hand.

The sites have been a great success since they were launched.

**You can find the Castan Centre blog at [www.castancentre.wordpress.com](http://www.castancentre.wordpress.com) and the Global Interns blog at [www.castanglobalinterns.wordpress.com](http://www.castanglobalinterns.wordpress.com).**

### Deputy Director inducted into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll



*Dr Gerber getting inducted into the Victorian Women's Honour Roll.*

The Castan Centre congratulates our Deputy Director Dr Paula Gerber who was inducted into the 2011 Victorian Honour Roll of Women. The Roll recognises and celebrates the achievements of women from all walks of life.

Paula has been honoured because of her contribution to the discipline of construction law as a champion for women working in this male-dominated field and as the founder of the National Association of Women in Construction. She has been a positive role model for women working in construction law for over 15 years and created the first specialist tertiary education course in construction law in 2000.

She was also honoured on account of her work in human rights which

involves research and teaching on human rights education, same sex entitlements, and economic, social and cultural rights among other human rights issues. She was also acknowledged for her work as a board member of the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission.

Paula was joined on the 2011 list by 19 other prominent women including Indigenous activist Professor Muriel Bamblett AM, Director of RMIT's Australian Centre for Human Rights Education, Di Sisley, and founder of Our Community, Carol Schwartz AM. Since 2001, 478 pioneers in their field have been inducted onto the honour roll. Congratulations again to Paula on this great achievement.

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