Editorial

The terrorist attacks on the New York World Trade Centre on September 11, 2001 and the Bali Kuta Beach nightclubs in October of this year have generated deep feelings of insecurity and uncertainty that are felt from a distance here in New Zealand. Yet such physical distance belies the tension that the entire international community now faces together. Established practices of international trade and commerce, military responses to terrorism, border control and immigration must be adapted to address the international crisis. In modern civil society, the once archaic notion of war has now resurged to remind us that institutions such as law and government may be shaped and controlled by the very human phenomenon of strife.

It is with the current political and social climate in mind that we selected our Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Law Review Prize article by Rebecca Jonassen, "The Defence of Superior Orders in New Zealand Law: A Soldier's Dilemma?" This article provides a highly topical focus on the need to maintain the rule of law as well as to respond effectively to emergency situations in this period of New Zealand's heightened military involvement in the fight against terrorism. We were very impressed by the number and quality of the articles submitted for publication this year, and as a result we have published an extra article in addition to our regular eight general articles and Ko Ngaa Take Ture Maori article. The articles cover a diverse range of topics, and will interest our local and international readers alike.

We were equally delighted with the record number and high quality of commentaries submitted this year, which reflects increased student interest in contributing to the Auckland University Law Review. We hope that this growth in student interest will strengthen the Auckland Law School's thirty-five year tradition of being the only Law School in New Zealand with a law review edited by students and dedicated exclusively to publishing student legal writing.

All members of the Editorial Team are to be congratulated for their tremendous contribution to the technical quality of the articles. We hope that they will continue their involvement with the Auckland University Law Review, both in terms of progressing to senior editorial positions and contributing work for publication.

We are extremely grateful to our Business Manager, Kane Patena, for his leadership of the Business Team, and for negotiating our printing contracts and online ventures. We have further improved our subscription and accounts information systems this year, and are indebted to Deborah Li, our Assistant Business Manager, and Oliver Bannatyne, our Technical Manager, for developing these systems, as well as Kathryn Paton for assisting us with her experience and helpful advice. We also wish to thank Jeannelle Menezes for her determination and enthusiasm as Advertising Manager.

We would like to thank the academic staff of the Law School for their vital support in recommending articles for publication and offering advice to students writing commentaries. In particular, we wish to thank Paul Myburgh, our Faculty Advisor, and Julie Maxton, Dean of Law, who along with ourselves are Trustees of the Auckland University Law Review Trust.

Our personal thanks goes to Minter Ellison Rudd Watts for their support of the Auckland University Law Review's commitment to academic excellence in sponsoring the Minter Ellison Rudd Watts Prize. We hope to develop and strengthen our relationship with Minter Ellison Rudd Watts in future through our sponsorship ties.

The Auckland University Law Review is committed to publishing the highest quality student legal scholarship produced at the Law School. We have both been delighted and honoured to produce this year's edition, and wish the incoming Editors-in-Chief all the best for 2003.

Hannah Ho

Bevan Peachey

Auckland, November 2002