

Editor's note

Welcome to the first issue of *Australian and New Zealand Maritime Law Journal* for 2011.

The 'Deepwater Horizon' disaster off the coast of United States of America, and the subsequent fire and gas leakage from the 'Montara' rig off our own shores have sharpened the interest and concern relating to the risks of exploitation of this maritime zone and the resources under it. This, in turn, has highlighted the problematic nature of how to regulate exploitation while protecting these waters. In this issue we are privileged to present a special section of the journal addressing this topic. The Editorial Board thank, in particular, Professor Michael White, a champion of this cause in Australia, for his summary of the history and current state of the law in Australia; Professor Martin Davies who kindly agreed to write on the liability issues surrounding the Deepwater Horizon disaster; and Paul David who also agreed to review the topic from the New Zealand perspective. Dr Tina Hunter, an expert in offshore regulation, has provided a learned paper on regulatory aspects of offshore mining. The special topic is rounded off by a student contribution from Jacqui Allen, a joint winner of the Morella Calder Prize in 2010.

We are also pleased to bring you a set of papers arising from the Federal Court of Australia's excellent Admiralty Seminar series on the PPSA 2009. The Seminar was held in Sydney in late 2010 and broadcast to most capital cities; however these papers will undoubtedly be invaluable to those dealing with this important development insofar as it relates to matters maritime.

The journal continues to grow in size with each issue published; whilst, I hope, maintaining the quality for which it has become renowned. As ever, I would like to thank my team of student editors who, as the number of submissions increase, find the task ever more demanding. They never fail to rise to the challenge. For this issue the student editors were Elyse Hocking, Ashwin Nair and Jacqueline Allen. My thanks to Sarah Derrington and Paul Myburgh for their invaluable assistance and guidance to me as the Australian editor and New Zealand editor respectively.

Finally, thank you to the many people who act as anonymous referees for the journal; your willingness to be involved, and the efficiency with which you deal with our requests, makes our task so much easier. It is a testament to the devotion to maritime law, affection with which this journal is held, and the reach (and depth) of the membership of MLAANZ, that we are able to find expert referees in very specialised areas within maritime law.

I hope you find something of interest to you in this issue.

Kate Lewins

Editor