

Staff Awards and Recognition

UNE Staff Awards (including nominations)

Unsung Hero Award: Law School Admin Team

Recognises a staff member who consistently goes above and beyond their duties, making significant contributions to the university without seeking recognition or reward. They contribute significantly to the success of the university through efforts that may not be immediately visible but are crucial to the smooth functioning of operations, services, or student experience.

Team Builder Award: Anna Lawlor

Recognises staff members who exemplify exceptional teamwork, cooperation, and collaborative efforts to achieve shared goals. They effectively broke down silos, exemplified cross-departmental engagement and shared the team's success to achieve innovative, unique and visionary results.

Team Builder Award: Myall Creek Memorial Symposium Organising Group (including Professor Cameron Moore and Dr Andrew Lawson, School of Law)

Recognises staff members who exemplify exceptional teamwork, cooperation, and collaborative efforts to achieve shared goals. They effectively broke down silos, exemplified cross-departmental engagement and shared the team's success to achieve innovative, unique and visionary results.

Early Career Research: Dr Wellett Potter

Research Collaboration Leadership: Dr Imelda Deinla and Professor Paul Martin

Rising Star Award: Dr René Cornish and Dr Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu

Recognises emerging staff members who show exceptional promise, dedication, and potential in their role, making valuable contributions to the university's success. They may have achieved an exceptional achievement, provided an outstanding service to a variety of stakeholders or developed an exceptional initiative involving multiple stakeholders/teams.

Trailblazer Award: Michelle Edgely

Recognises staff members who demonstrate outstanding levels of creativity and lateral thinking to implement innovative, effective workplace practices or initiatives. They bring together disparate teams and knowledges to trial and implement innovative solutions to protracted problems.

2025 SABL Exceptional Service Certificates of Excellence: Anna Lawlor, Kath Johnson, Nola Holmes, Kaelem Burgess, Belinda Eastgate, and Lyn Gollan



2025 Trimester 1 Unit Commendations

Ms Claudia Barbosa - Unit Coordinator Other staff: Ms Michelle Edgely, Mr Karthigeyan Kanagasabapathy, Mr Hugh Marshall and Ms Deb Russell (PASS)	LAW162: Criminal Law (External UNE & OUA) & Internal)
Professor Sonia Allan - Unit Coordinator Dr Anne Fitzgerald	LAW343: Contemporary Issues in Health Law (External)
Mr Pritam Dey - Unit Coordinator	LAW352: Taxation Law (External)
Assoc Professor Mia Rahim - Unit Coordinator	LSSU391: Principles of Corporation Law (External)
Mr Pritam Dey - Unit Coordinator	LSSU594: Issues in Commercial and Financial Services Law (External)
Ms Karen Conte - Unit Coordinator Other staff: Ms Claudia Barbosa, Mr Guy Mazella, Mr Scott Waterson and Ms Nola Holmes	LSU100: Introduction to Legal Studies (External) UNE & OUA

Staff News

Fiona Burns | Lecturer appointed June 2025

LLB BA (UNSW), GradDipLegPrac (UTS), GradDipFDRP, AMDRAS

Fiona is a passionate legal educator and lecturer at the University of New England. She strives to bridge the gap between legal theory and real-world practice for her students. Her teaching philosophy is grounded in making law accessible, relevant, and engaging; drawing on over two decades of experience as a lawyer, mediator. Fiona coordinates and teaches Alternative Dispute Resolution, Legal Professional Skills, and Corporations Law, as well as contributing to a range of law subjects including Business Law, Legal Remedies, Advanced Legal Writing, Torts, and Family Law. Whether delivering lectures on campus or online, she is committed to creating an inclusive, interactive, and supportive learning environment. Her approach emphasises critical thinking and the development of practical skills that prepare students for the realities of modern legal practice.



Having worked extensively in both Australia and New York, Fiona brings a global perspective to teaching, enriched by hands-on experience in mediation, litigation, and complex dispute resolution. She regularly draws on real case studies, current legal developments, and from her own professional journey helps students connect legal concepts with everyday challenges faced by lawyers and clients.

Beyond the university, Fiona continues to practice as Managing Director of Fiona Burns Legal & Mediation, and is actively involved in community legal education, professional development, and volunteer work. She holds specialist accreditations in personal injury law and mediation, and is admitted to practice in New South Wales, the High Court of Australia, and New York State.

Fiona is committed to equipping the next generation of legal professionals with the knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding they need to thrive in a rapidly changing legal landscape.

Dr Philip Glover | Senior Lecturer appointed September 2025

LLB (Hons) (Aberdeen), PhD (Aberdeen)

Dr Glover joins the Law School from Edith Cowan University (ECU) in Perth where he was a Lecturer in the School of Business and Law. At ECU, Phil lectured in Legal Writing and Research, Contemporary Criminal Justice, Security and Intelligence Governance, and Statutory Interpretation.

Phil's first career involved eighteen years in law enforcement in Belfast, Northern Ireland. He primarily worked in counter-terrorism and public order roles during a challenging period in Northern Ireland's history.

He then relocated to Scotland where he obtained his LLB (Hons) at the University of Aberdeen and then completed his PhD in 2016. His doctoral thesis critically examined UK communications surveillance law and has now been published as a book. Phil continues to research in national security and criminal law since moving to Australia in 2018, and his scholarship has contributed to law reform in the areas of electronic surveillance and sexual offence laws. Phil is also an academic member of the Australian Institute of Professional Intelligence Officers.

For further information about Phil's research outputs, please see:

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4898-0904>



Ben Hingley | Lecturer appointed June 2025

Current PhD candidate (UNE), LLB (UNE) 2021

Ben is a lecturer in law at the University of New England, having been a sessional academic there since 2021. His doctoral thesis is on martial law.



Professor Alpana Roy | Head of School appointed June 2025

BA (Soc Sci) (UTS), LLB (Hons) (Syd), MA (Journalism) (UTS), DipLegPrac (College of Law), PhD (Syd), GCHETL (UTS), Solicitor and Barrister of the Supreme Court of NSW and the High Court of Australia, Accredited Mediator

Professor Alpana Roy joined UNE as Head of School for Law at the end of June 2025. An experienced senior leader, academic, legal practitioner and accredited mediator, she previously served as Dean and Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Waikato, New Zealand.

Alpana's areas of expertise include intellectual property law, internet and domain name law, alternative dispute resolution, and traditional and Indigenous knowledge. She has held academic positions at various universities, including the University of Sydney, the University of Queensland, the University of Technology Sydney, and Western Sydney University. She has held a number of senior leadership and management roles, and has served on a wide range of committees and boards (elected and appointed) including the Law Society of New South Wales, InternetNZ. Alpana is widely published in law, and is a commissioned author for several major legal publishers including Oxford University Press, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, Federation Press, and CCH.

Alpana also has extensive experience in legal practice in Australia and overseas, and has worked both as a solicitor and a barrister (at the Sydney Bar), and nationally accredited mediator. She has worked for large international corporate law firms, boutique law firms, the government, and in a range of in-house positions. She is also frequently engaged to work as a legal consultant for numerous private and public sector bodies, including the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).

Alpana is admitted to practice in NSW, and is on the Roll of Legal Practitioners for the High Court of Australia. She has been involved in a number of leading cases in the Federal Court of Australia. As a nationally accredited mediator she has been appointed to a number of panels, including the NSW Law Society Mediators Panel, the District Court of NSW Mediators Panel, and the Family Law Settlement Service (FLSS) Panel.

The School of Law would like to thank and acknowledge the strong and wide-ranging contributions made by Professor Mark Perry during his tenure as Acting Head of School for Law.



Staff News

Deputy Head of School

Associate Professor Eric Ghosh has been appointed as Deputy Head of School for Law from November 2025. Eric's other current service roles include staff representative on Academic Board, Workload Allocator for the School of Law, staff representative on the University Workload Committee, staff representative on the Standing Committee of Convocation, ordinary member of the branch committee of the NTEU, and holding various roles in the Senior Common Room at Mary White College.

The School of Law would like to thank and acknowledge the significant contributions made by Associate Professor Guy Charlton during his tenure as Deputy Head of School (from mid 2022).



Doctor of Philosophy

Dr Julia Day, UNE graduation ceremony | 24 October 2025

(Photo by James Day Photography)

'Meeting Students on Their Turf: An Exploration of Attitudes Towards Using Social Media to Activate Student Engagement and Community While Promoting Accessibility and Skills Development'

Abstract

Since the inception of social media in the early 2000s, its popularity and centrality to people's lives has been growing exponentially. As this evolution has been transpiring, so have the ramifications, both positive and negative, of using these platforms in a variety of settings. This innovation document explores the journey and findings of a legal academic who chose to investigate different ways of engaging and communicating with her students.

The initial goal of the innovation was to explore how social media could be used to promote student engagement. As often happens, the results from this innovation highlighted many more issues than the initial expectation. Instead, it challenged the author to critique and analyse the effectiveness of social media use in tertiary teaching while also reflecting on the important social, health, legal and philosophical challenges that tertiary students and staff are currently facing.

The author started this process by investigating the academic literature surrounding the use of social media in the tertiary environment. To obtain further data for the author's specific purpose, two survey instruments were designed and used. The first survey instrument examined attitudes and beliefs relating to using social media in the tertiary context. This survey was directed towards academic staff and students of the University of New England. The second survey was created to explore how the use of professional social media in the law units the author coordinated/created was perceived by students.

Overall, this innovation document provides a comprehensive overview of the benefits and risks of using social media in a tertiary setting. It also explores the changing nature of tertiary education and the importance of promoting digital skills into tertiary units.

It concludes that even though there are risks related to using social media in the tertiary environment, these can be largely mitigated by academics through careful management and an understanding of the legal and other risks.



Publications

Books

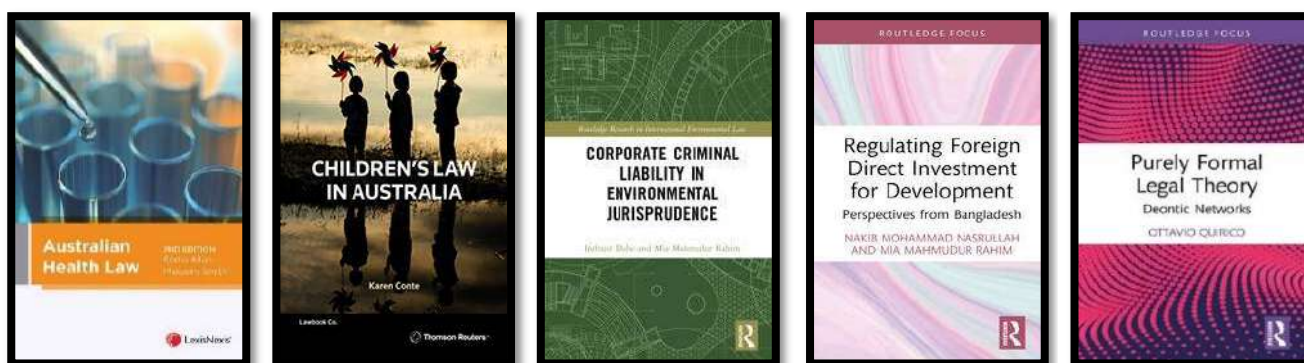
Sonia Allan and Malcolm Smith, *Australian Health Law* (Lexis Nexis 2nd ed, 2025) ISBN 9780409359275

Karen Conte, *Children's Law in Australia* (Lawbook Co, Thomson Reuters, 2025) ISBN 9780455248974

Mia Rahim and Indrajit Dube, *Corporate Criminal Liability in Environmental Jurisprudence*, (Routledge, 2025) ISBN 9781032244983

Mia Rahim and Nakib Mohammad Nasrullah, *Regulating Foreign Direct Investment for Development* (Routledge, 2025) ISBN 9781003469117

Ottavio Quirico, *Purely Formal Legal Theory: Deontic Networks* (Routledge, 2025) ISBN 9781032132488



Books - Edited

Troy Anderson, *Commonwealth Criminal Law*, (Federation Press, 4th ed, 2025) ISBN 9781760025663

Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu and Anu Lähteenmäki-Uutela, *The Changing Food Law Landscape Food Security, Sustainability and the Environment*, (Routledge, 1st ed, 2025). ISBN 9781032491301

Ottavio Quirico, Walter F Barber and **Michael Adams** (eds), *Implementing Climate Change Policy: From Engagement to Enforcement*, (Springer Nature, 1st ed, 2026). ISBN 9789819506064



Book Chapters

Adjunct Professor **Michael Adams**, 'Enforcement of International Sustainability in Climate Policies via Private Law: A Comparative Case Study in "Greenwash" Laws' in Ottavio Quirico, Walter F Barber and Michael Adams (eds), *Implementing Climate Change Policy: From Engagement to Enforcement* (Springer Nature, 2026) 99-121.

Sonia Allan, *International Fertility Society of Australia, Triennial Report* (10th ed, 2025)

Imelda Deinla, Philamer Torio and Rodolfo Ang, *Philippine Conglomerates and Inclusive Development: Tracking a Unique Trajectory in Asia* (World Scientific Publishing Co Pte Ltd, 2025).

Phil Glover and Debora Pfaff, 'Between Shadows and Sunshine: Navigating Candour in Democratic Intelligence', in Joshua Aston, Aditya Tomer, Rupendra Singh (eds), *Global Perspectives and Emerging Issues in Comparative Law* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2025) Chapter 2, 19-43.

Laura Smith-Khan, 'Incredible Language and Refugee Legal Processes: Challenging Asylum Credibility Assessments', in Jane Setter, Sender Dovchin, and Vijay A. Ramjattan (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Language and Prejudice*, (Oxford University Press, online ed, 2025)

Lisa Ward and Julia Day, 'Defamation and Social Media' in Thaddeus Hoffmeister and Marilyn Bromberg (eds), *Research Handbook on Social Media and the Law* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2025) Chapter 1, 8–37. ISBN: 978 1 03530 948 1

Articles (refereed and non-refereed)

Greg Carne, 'Implementing Australia's Comprehensive Review of the Legal Framework of the National Intelligence Community: A need for future review, reform and improvement of implementation and enactment processes?' (2025) 36 (2) *King's Law Journal* 1-33 (University of London).

Guy Charlton and Xiang Gao, 'Australia and New Zealand Need to be More Vocal in Opposition to Trumpian Policies' (2025) 1-11, *The Diplomat*.

Guy Charlton and Xiang Gao, 'Sailing Chaotic Seas: New Zealand's Foreign Policy' (2025) *The Diplomat*.

Guy Charlton and Xiang Gao, 'Waste Not, Want Not: The Need for US Soft Power in the Indo-Pacific' (2025) 1-20, *The Diplomat*.

Patrick Graham, 'Burdening the Implied Freedom of Political Communication: Method, Ideas, and Disagreement', (2025) 48(3), p. 1036-1069, *University of New South Wales Law Journal*. ISSN 0313-0096 1839-2881

Andrew Lawson, 'The Slow Track to Preventing Rural Environmental Disasters: The Changing Character of Environmental Law and Governance', *International Journal of Rural Criminology*.

Andrew Lawson et al, 'Bridging Law and Soil Science to Promote Soil Health' (2025) *European Journal of Soil Science*, 76:e70127 <https://doi.org/10.1111/ejss.70127>

Paul Martin and Catherine Moltzen, 'Implementing the Plastics Treaty', (2025) 41(1), 1-17, *Environmental and Planning Law Journal*. ISSN 0813-300X

Mark Perry, Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu, Saranne Cooke, Alison Sheridan and Mary Louise Conway, *Relationships, risks and remuneration: Australian directors, Corporate Governance* (Bradford), p. 1-14, issn:1758-6054 10.1108/CG-11-2023-0476 <https://hdl.handle.net/1959.11/63290>

Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu, 'Children's Human Rights to Food', *Ecology and Society Journal*, Co-authored with Milka Sormunen and Claudia Ituarte-Lima.

Mia Rahim and M Abu Sayeed, 'Promise and Perils of Basic Structure Doctrine in Bangladesh' (2025) v.33 (2), *Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law*. ISSN 2169-4516 1069-4455

Mia Rahim and Samuel Biresaw (PhD student), 'The goals and theories of the New Ethiopian insolvency regime against global benchmarks' (2025) 34(1), 122-160, *International Insolvency Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/iir.1566>

Mia Rahim and Samuel Biresaw (PhD student), 'Theories and Goals of Insolvency in Common Law – A Critical Review' (2025) 25(1), 24-48, *Journal of Business Law*. ISSN 2754-205X. 0021-9460

Mia Rahim, 'Asia's Strongmen, Their Falls and Possible Comeback', (2025) 1-6, *E-International Relations*.

Mia Rahim, 'Democratic Recalibration? Highlighting the Post-Strongman Landscape in Contemporary Asia', (2025) 1-5, *E-International Relations*.

Mia Rahim, 'Opinion - Bangladesh at the Centre of Australia's Focus on the South', (2025) 1-3, *E-International Relations*.

Mia Rahim, 'Between Efficiency and Righteousness: The Aftermath of Mandating CSR In India' (2025) , 42(3), 389-438, *Wisconsin Journal of International Law*. <https://doi.org/10.59015/wilj.XFZR6050>

Mia Rahim, 'Between Identity and Territory: The Ethno-Political Conflict in Rakhine State' (2025) 1-3, *E-International Relations*.

Laura Smith-Khan, 'Improving client communication skills in migration law and practice education' (2025) 1-6, *Alternative Law Journal*.

Laura Smith-Khan, 'Language, culture and professional communication in migration law education' (2025) 1-21, *Language, Culture and Curriculum*.

Laura Smith-Khan, 'Incredible Language and Refugee Legal Processes: Challenging Asylum Credibility Assessments', in Jane Setter, Sender Dovchin, and Vijay A. Ramjattan (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Language and Prejudice*, Oxford Handbooks (2025; online edn, Oxford Academic, 22 Oct 2025).

Research Impact and Engagement

Paul Akon has been invited by LexisNexis to look at compiling a third (3rd) edition publication, *Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Custom Publication for the School of Law*; University of New England, 2021.

Fiona Burns will be the co-editor. The next edition should be available to prescribe in T2, 2026.

Sonia Allan received a formal Letter of Recognition from the President of Australian Medical Association (AMA) for the impact of her leading a comprehensive regulatory review, which led to introduction in the Western Australian parliament of *The Assisted Reproduction and Surrogacy Bill (2025)* in September 2025.

Sonia Allan

Outstanding contributions to the reform of reproductive health legislation in Western Australia culminating in the Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Bill 2025 (WA) [the Bill].

'Your Independent Review of the Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991 (WA) and the Surrogacy Act 2008 (WA) in 2019 laid a critical foundation for the development of the Bill which was recently introduced into the Legislative Assembly of the WA Parliament.

The breadth and depth of your work—reflected in the 122 recommendations—demonstrated a profound commitment to improving access, equity, and ethical standards in assisted reproductive care.

We also acknowledge the important role played by the Ministerial Expert Panel, chaired by Professor Roger Hart, in building upon your work and providing further guidance that shaped the Bill. Together, these efforts have resulted in a legislative framework that is inclusive, contemporary, and aligned with best practice across Australia.

The AMA WA supports the Bill's objectives to remove discriminatory barriers, streamline regulation, and prioritise the wellbeing of individuals and families accessing assisted reproductive technologies and surrogacy services.'

Sonia Allan as chair of the International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS) jurist group led the development of 'The Tokyo Statement', a human rights focused statement which describes universal and fundamental principles supporting reproductive health rights of all parties seeking access to fertility care. This was launched by the IFFS at the World Congress held in Tokyo (2025).

Sonia Allan, Public Health Law and Policy: Dual Tools for Public Health (2025) v.7, p. 111-122, *International Encyclopedia of Public Health*, Reference Work ISBN 9780323972802

Sonia Allan, *Invited Submission: NSW Select Committee on Fertility Support and Assisted Reproductive Treatment* (29 August 2025).

Samuel M Biresaw (PhD student), (2025) Consumer Debt Issues Ethiopia, INSOL International.

Skye Charry continues to contribute actively to the advancement of respectful workplace culture and gender equity across sectors. She recently had the opportunity to facilitate a *Respect@Work and University Culture Workshop* with the University of New England's People and Culture team, working collaboratively to explore practical strategies for embedding cultural change in university settings. Skye was also recently invited to deliver a keynote address at the Public Service Association of NSW's Women's Conference, marking its 95th anniversary, where she discussed the implementation of positive duty obligations under the *Respect@Work* reforms across a range of organisational contexts.

Her ongoing consultancy includes work with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and in November, she will run a dedicated workshop for the ACT Director of Public Prosecutions as part of her continued engagement with the ACT Law Society, delivering training for legal professionals on responding to sexual harassment.

Skye also continues her governance contributions as an Independent Director of the National Rural Women's Coalition and the Australian Gender Equality Council.



Julia Day travelled to Sydney in October to work as a trainer with UNE's International Capacity Building program. Participants were Meryl Williams Fellowship participants from ASEAN countries. The training was conducted in conjunction with Tetra Tech and funded by ACIAR.



Imelda Deinla, Introduction - Philippine Conglomerates and Inclusive Development: Tracking a Unique Trajectory in Asia, *Philippine Conglomerates and Inclusive Development: Tracking a Unique Trajectory in Asia*, 1-25.

Phil Glover, Research Impact – original submission cited 34 times in Independent National Security Legislation Monitor, 'Data Disruption, Network Activity and Account Takeover Powers: Review of Surveillance Legislation Amendment (Identify and Disrupt) Act 2021
https://www.inslm.gov.au/system/files/2025-09/INSLM_SLAID_Report_Digital_final.pdf

Catherine Moltzen (Honorary Research Fellow, PhD (UNE)) 'Improving Voluntary Compliance Among Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Users' (2025) Dataset.

Cameron Moore, foreword to *Pax Britannica: Tracing Customary War Crimes in the Age of Empire*.

Wellett Potter, "Do We Really Need 10 Teaching Weeks? Half the Time, Double the Impact? Rethinking IP Law in Six Weeks" (speech given to the UNE Course and Unit Design Community of Practice, Friday 25 July 2025).

Wellett Potter: *Signatory to International Statement on ASI*. In October, Wellett was a signatory to an international statement advocating for a moratorium on the development of artificial superintelligence (ASI). This is a term referring to hypothetical AI systems that would surpass human intelligence across all cognitive domains. The statement, released by the *Future of Life Institute*, calls for the prohibition to remain in place until there is broad scientific consensus that ASI can be developed safely and controllably, and until strong public support for such development has been established. Other signatories include leading global figures such as AI pioneers and Nobel laureates Geoffrey Hinton and Yoshua Bengio, Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak, Sir Richard Branson, former US National Security Adviser Susan Rice, former Irish President Mary Robinson, and author and broadcaster Stephen Fry, among others.

Wellett Potter: Mock Trial Support - Wellett provided support to the Sacred Heart School Cootamundra's Mock Team. The Year 10 team reached the top 32 schools in the state competition. Wellett's ongoing mentorship with the students strengthens regional school relationships with UNE.

Wellett Potter attended the Sacred Heart Cootamundra's 'Beyond Sacred Heart - Year 10 Careers Program' in November. This is an initiative where a panel of professionals from around Cootamundra conduct mock job interviews with Year 10 students. Students are provided with extensive feedback and advice about possible future careers. Wellett has assisted in this initiative for three years.

Patricia Vagg (PhD student)

NSW Law and Justice Foundation forum, Sydney

The UNE Law School is proud to celebrate our very own PhD candidate, Patricia Vagg, for her outstanding participation in the inaugural Justice Ideas Forum, hosted by the Law and Justice Foundation of New South Wales. Patricia presented on her 2024 Foundation Fellowship project on access to legal services by citizens in remote NSW. Patricia joined an incredible panel of 2024 Justice Fellows, including Arlia Fleming, Dr Ameer Baird, and Will Cesta, to present bold, research-driven proposals aimed at creating a more accessible and equitable justice system. With thought-provoking insights and a commitment to justice reform, Patricia exemplifies the innovation and impact UNE Law students and researchers bring to the legal profession.



Media

Guy Charlton, 'Local solution to Closing the Gap - council takes pioneering new approach to Indigenous disadvantage', 1-5, *The Conversation*.

Guy Charlton, 'Rates will never be enough - councils need the power to raise money in other ways', (2025) 1-3, *The Conversation*.

Wellett Potter, 'AI deepfakes threaten democracy and people's identities. ~Personality rights could help' (2025) 1-5, *The Conversation*.

Wellett Potter, 'Hollywood is suing yet another AI company. But there may be a better way to solve copyright conflicts', (2025) 1-4, *The Conversation*.

Wellett Potter, 'AI deepfakes threaten democracy and people's identities 'Personality rights' could help' (2025) 1-5, *The Conversation*.

Wellett Potter, 'Taylor Swift now owns all the music she has ever made: a copyright expert breaks it down' (2025) 1-3, *The Conversation*.

Wellett Potter, Wednesday 16 July 2025 – radio interview with Oli Peterson, 6PR Perth about deepfakes and voice cloning (producer Nick Alviani).

Wellett Potter and Michael Adams 3 July 2025 – BenchTV Interview titled "AI's Impact on Intellectual Property Rights with Professor Michael Adams and Dr Wellett Potter"

Wellett Potter - Thursday 19 June 2025, interview about copyright infringement with Myles Houlbrook-Walk, ABC PM, titled "[Australian director accused of plagiarising film](#)"

Wellett Potter - Monday 10 June 2025, [radio interview with Kristy Reading](#), ABC New England North-West Breakfast about Taylor Swift's acquisition of all the music she has ever made (producer Nathaniel Little) [listen from 2 hours, 37 minutes to 2 hours, 48 minutes]

Wellett Potter - Thursday 5 June 2025, podcast interview with Ash Taylor TUNEFM (UNE) about Taylor Swift and copyright, "[Taylor Swift Owns All Her Own Music - Here's Why It's a Big Deal](#)"

Wellett Potter - Thursday 5 June, UNE Connect, "[Taylor Swift now owns all the music she has ever made: a copyright expert breaks it down](#)".

Grants and Research Funding

Imelda Deinla has secured significant research funding totalling over AU\$115,000 in 2025 across three major projects examining critical issues in the Philippine criminal justice system and democratic governance.

Andrew Lawson and **Paul Martin**: *Roadmap for embedding systems thinking in biochar initiatives*, funded by NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub – Land and Primary Industries Network (LPIN), AU\$36,000.

Andrew Lawson, **Mark Perry** and Allan Kimtai Ruto: PhD stipend: *Rural biomass to biofuel with co-benefits: the regulatory and institutional dimensions*; funded by NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub – Land and Primary Industries Network (LPIN), AU\$106,233.

Andrew Lawson: *Rural Transition and Succession Planning Workshop*; funded by the Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) Southern Region NSW, AU\$5,000.

Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu (co lead course designer): *Australia Awards - South Asia and Mongolia Program (India) - Agriculture and Food Security* - 14RFT-2024, Agriculture and Food Security Short Course (India), AU\$329,265

Ottavio Quirico, **Mark Perry**, **Michael Adams** et al have won their third EU research grant. Details:

- 2025 European Union Commission Erasmus grant Centre of Excellence (ESEU 101176249) on 'Effectively Sustainable European Union (2024-2027)' with Ottavio Quirico, Frank Barber, Michael Adams, Ivana D (UNE and University for Foreigners of Perugia (Italy). Euro100,000 (AU\$163,000).
- 2025 European Union Commission Erasmus grant Jean Monnet Module (REF No. # ADAPTEU) on 'Designing EU Climate Adaptation in the Light of Migrant Policies' (2025-2028) with Ottavio Quirico (UNE and University for Foreigners of Perugia (Italy). Euro110,000 (AU\$180,000).
- 2024 European Union Commission Erasmus grant Jean Monnet Module (101176240 #EUIntIPOz) on 'The EU, international law, the Indo-Pacific and Australia (2024-2027) with Ottavio Quirico and Michael Adams (UNE and University for Foreigners of Perugia (Italy). Euro35,000 (AU\$58,000).

Mia Rahim has been awarded the Professor Stephen Bottomley Award, Society of Corporate Law Academics (AU\$1500).

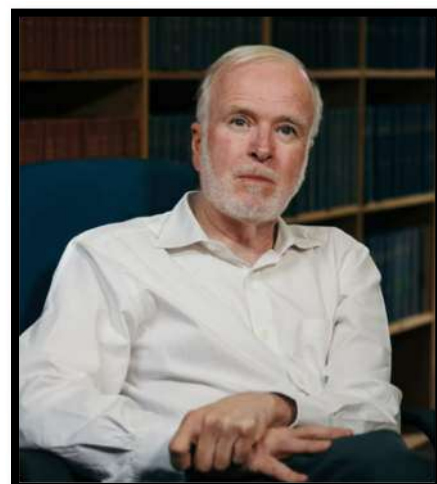
Conferences, Workshops, Public Lectures, Seminars and Presentations

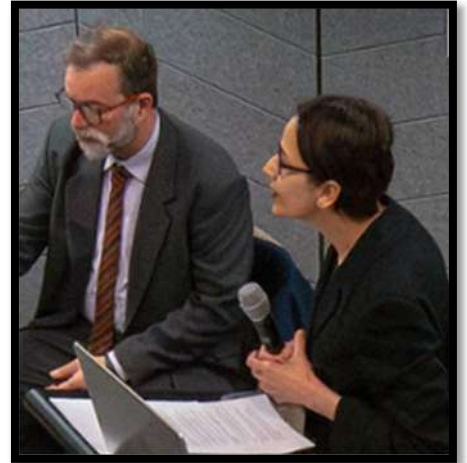
UNE AgLaw Symposium | 19 September 2025

The UNE AgLaw Symposium was a tremendous success, uniting scholars, jurists and alumni for engaging and impactful discussions across NOVA and the UNE SMART Farm. For two days, Armidale played host to leading scholars, practitioners and policymakers exploring some of the most pressing challenges at the intersection of agriculture, the environment, law and policy.

The social heart of the symposium also mattered. Colleagues reunited over dinner, with bus rides bookending lively conversations and new collaborations. Alumni and friends reconnected while an informal Day Two dinner kept momentum for those still in Armidale.

However, a core element of the Symposium was celebrating Professor Paul Martin's twenty plus years of founding and directing the AgLaw Centre/ Agriculture and Law (AgLaw) Research Hub. Paul's outstanding contributions include mentoring over thirty Higher Degree Research students, 250 plus publications, and reframing agricultural law around community wellbeing, stewardship and effective governance. Outstanding work that will no doubt continue under Dr Andrew Lawson – the new Director of AgLaw at UNE Law School.





AgLaw Symposium 2025

20 Years of AgLaw: Leadership, Legacy, and the Future of Agricultural Law

11 and 12 September

AgLaw Research Hub

More Info

UNE School of Law

Honouring the Roots, Cultivating the Future



2025 Sir Frank Kitto Public Lecture | 21 August 2025

The UNE Law School welcomed **The Honourable Justice Robert Thomas Beech-Jones** for the highly anticipated 2025 Sir Frank Kitto Public Lecture, marking another milestone in the University's commitment to fostering legal scholarship and community engagement.

Justice Beech-Jones delivered a compelling lecture on Australia's entry into the Rome Statute, the treaty that established the International Criminal Court. His Honour provided a detailed exploration of the statute's historical context and its implications for domestic law, executive power, and Australian citizens.

The event attracted a diverse audience, with over 130 attendees gathering in person and joining online. Students travelled from as far as Orange and the Gold Coast to attend, underscoring the significance of the public lecture.

The lecture offered a rare opportunity for students, staff, and the wider community to engage with one of Australia's High Court Judges, reflecting the dedication of UNE staff and the strong interest in legal and international affairs within the New England community.





Kirby Seminar Series

The UNE School of Law presented an exceptional lineup in 2025 for its Kirby Seminar Series, continuing the tradition of fostering critical engagement with contemporary legal issues through public lectures by distinguished scholars and practitioners. Named in honour of the Honourable Sir Michael Kirby, AC CMG, this seminar series provides a vital platform for exploring pressing legal questions that shape our society. The series brings together leading legal minds to share their expertise with our academic community, students, and the broader public.

2025 Program Highlights

February | Professor Mark Nolan from Charles Sturt University, examined the controversial legislation for mandatory minimum sentences for crimes of anti-Semitism, questioning whether such measures align with established Australian sentencing principles or mirror problematic approaches to terrorism offences.

May | Professor Jonathan Crowe, Head of School at the University of Southern Queensland, explored the intersection of natural law theory and climate change, offering fresh perspectives on one of the most urgent challenges of our time.

May | Professor Thomas George William Telfer from Western University, Canada, addressed mental health issues in the legal profession - a critical issue affecting practitioners across jurisdictions.

For more information about upcoming seminars, please visit the School of Law website or contact Dr Imelda Deinla, Series Convenor.

Food Security Symposium | 10 October 2025

UNE Sydney Campus, 28 George Street, Parramatta

As part of UNE Law's Kirby seminars, the School held a combined UNE Law and Macquarie University Law Symposium titled 'Food Security in Turbulent Times' on 10 October at the UNE Sydney Campus, Parramatta.

The Symposium brought together a diverse group of scholars and practitioners from numerous jurisdictions including China, Australia, India, Philippines, the Pacific Islands, Bangladesh to explore the many dimensions of food (in)security.

The keynote speaker was Professor Surya Deva from Macquarie University Law School and UN Special Rapporteur on Development. The various presentations discussed how factors such as colonial legacies, war, land tenure, climate change, gender inequality, Indigenous knowledge systems, Great Power competition and global trade impact and intersect to shape human rights, food access, food sovereignty, food security and justice. From the revitalisation of Aboriginal foodways and native grains in Australia to the impacts of rice tariffication on women farmers in the Philippines, the participants highlighted the institutional, structural and legal barriers that perpetuate food insecurity.

The Symposium also showcased community-led initiatives, such as permaculture in Myanmar and meal provisioning in Armidale, as innovative community led responses to systemic and local challenges. A recurring theme was the need to include equity, inclusion, and cultural integrity into food policy and governance. The symposium underscored the importance of interdisciplinary approaches that combine law, policy, political economy, environmental and ecological considerations in a way that creates resilience and justice in food systems.

The Symposium was organised by **Associate Professor Guy Charlton, Dr Andrew Lawson, Dr Imelda Deinla, Dr Xiang Gao** (UNE, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences HASS), and Dr Francesca Dominello (Macquarie University).



European University Institute Roundtable, EUI Badia campus, Florence Italy | 9 October 2025
Michael Adams 'Greenwashing in Australia and EU Regulations: Climate Change and Sustainability'.

International Corporate Governance and Sustainability | 10 October 2025
Michael Adams 'Foreigners in Perugia, Perugia, Italy.'

Australasian Law Academics Association (ALAA) Annual Conference | 2-4 July 2025

René Cornish, Michelle Edgely and Michael Adams presented at the 2025 Australasian Law Academics Association (ALAA) annual conference, hosted by UQ Faculty of Law in Brisbane. Their paper was on law and technology and was a great success 'Contemporary issues in teaching technology: AI and Engagement' Adjunct Professor Adams was also honoured to present Emeritus Professor David Barker AM a lifetime achievement award from ALAA (as he is retiring at 91 years old). At the AGM, Adjunct Professor Adams was elected Secretary of the ALAA General Executive.



International Political Science Association 2025 World Congress in Seoul | 12-15 July 2025

Imelda Deinla participated in the 2025 IPSA World Congress of Political Science held in Seoul, South Korea themed, 'Resisting Autocratisation in Polarized Societies,' attracted a record-breaking 3,450 participants from 95 countries—the highest attendance in IPSA's history.

Imelda Deinla presented two papers at the congress. Her first paper, 'The Philippine Supreme Court: Democracy and Judicial Power in an Era of Democratic Retreat,' examined the role of the judiciary in defending democratic institutions during periods of authoritarian challenge. Her second paper, 'Neither Democrats nor Authoritarians: Clustering Philippine Youth Political Attitudes in the Time of Democratic Backsliding,' published in *Democratization*, analysed survey data from 23,594 Filipino college and university students to reveal complex patterns of democratic support and authoritarian preferences among youth. The research challenges conventional assumptions about democratic commitment, demonstrating how formal democratic institutions coexist with authoritarian legacies in third-wave democracies.

In addition to her presentations, Imelda Deinla chaired the panel 'Courts as Institutions: Issues of Design, Operations and Adaptation,' which featured six papers examining comparative judicial systems and institutional resilience.

Imelda's participation at this landmark IPSA congress underscores UNE School of Law's commitment to engaging with pressing global debates on democracy, authoritarianism, and the rule of law.

Exploring Authoritarian Legacies: Birkbeck, University of London | 17 September 2025

Imelda Deinla was invited to present a seminar jointly hosted by the Institute for Crime and Justice Policy Research (ICPR) Birkbeck, and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies School of Advanced Study, University of London, examining the complex relationship between authoritarian legacies and popular support for state violence in the Philippines.

Titled 'Authoritarian Legacies and Popular Support for State Violence: A Multi-Method Analysis of the Philippine Case,' the seminar drew on Imelda's recent article, 'Punitiveness and atrocity: Why do some Filipinos support mass violence?' published in *Punishment & Society* (2025), which investigates why significant segments of the Filipino population support mass violence and punitive state actions.



Co-presented with Dwayne Antojado from University of South Australia, the seminar employed a multi-method approach to explore how historical authoritarian experiences and political values shape contemporary attitudes toward state violence.

Imelda's research contributes to understanding how cultural, political, and historical factors intersect to shape public attitudes toward violence and punishment, offering insights relevant to policymakers, human rights advocates, and scholars working on conflict and peace, and democratic erosion.

Andrew Lawson gave a half-day workshop in Griffith NSW on transition and succession (T&S) planning at the annual staff conference for the NSW Southern Region of the Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS NSW SR). An Australia-wide program supported by the Federal Government, RFCS provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related businesses experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. This is the second RFCS workshop Andrew has delivered this year – the first was in Tamworth in April to the NSW Northern Region RFCS. At the Griffith workshop, about 35 rural financial counsellors worked in smaller groups on three scenarios Andrew developed for LLM465 (Introduction to T&S Planning). These scenarios involved a hypothetical farming family navigating transition and succession issues and included a set of professional ethics conundrums typically faced by T&S planners.

‘Rural financial counsellors are a dedicated bunch of professionals, who were a lot of fun to work with’, says Andrew. ‘Many of them see the need for effective family farm transition and succession planning in their own work and they really got into the scenario with gusto!’

Andrew also used the opportunity to promote the Law School’s unit and courses on transition and succession planning, together with Trent Donaldson, Business Development Manager at UNE’s Future Students, Engagement and Technology.

Australia Awards Short Course - Agriculture and Food Security (India)

Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu co-led the Australia Awards Short Course on Agriculture and Food Security (India Cohort), delivered by the University of New England in partnership with the Australian Government’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. As co-course designer and academic lead, Dr Marimuthu developed an interdisciplinary program that combined law, policy, and innovation to strengthen climate-resilient food systems across India.

The course brought together senior public officials, researchers, and agribusiness professionals from across India, offering a blend of online learning and in-country workshops. It showcased Australia’s expertise in agricultural sustainability and gender equality, while fostering enduring partnerships between Indian and Australian institutions. Participants successfully designed and implemented individual Return-to-Work Plans that have led to tangible reforms in agricultural extension programs, and women’s participation in agri-innovation networks.



Crawford Fund Annual Conference | 11-12 August 2025

Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu was invited to attend the Crawford Fund Annual Conference in Canberra, Australia. The conference brought together leading researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to discuss innovations and partnerships advancing global food and nutrition security.

Sharl’s participation built on her leadership of the Australia Awards Short Course on Agriculture and Food Security (India), providing an opportunity to engage with DFAT representatives, agricultural research institutions, and development partners. Her attendance strengthened the School’s visibility in international agricultural law and policy education and increased opportunities for future collaboration between UNE, the Crawford Fund and South Asian partners.



University of Wisconsin, Madison US | September 2025

Mark Perry presented a research seminar on Law and AI at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. His visit included meeting Faculty and students to further AI research in legal education and professional practice. His research seminar revisited enduring themes from 2000s and sparked thoughtful debate on training-data rights and hybrid works.



Wellett Potter and Michael Adams presented a paper in November at the UNSW Legal Education Research Conference on 'Issues in Teaching Student Engagement, AI and Contemporary Relevance to the Law.'

ASEAN Law Academy Conference | 19 August 2025

Mia Rahim presented 'Beyond Alignment: ASEAN's Semiconductor Supply Industry Development in a Bifurcated World'. Funded by the Centre for International Law at the National University of Singapore.

10th Biennial Conference of the Asian Society of International Law | 9-10 October 2025

Mia Rahim 'Corporate Social Responsibility in Bridging Regulatory Gaps to Mitigate Space Debris'. Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam, Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

Laura Smith-Khan participated in a [workshop](#) in October on Credibility Assessment in Refugee Status Determination at MOBILE, the Danish National Research Foundation's Center of Excellence for Global Mobility Law. Along with other participants, Laura presented a draft paper to be included in a journal special issue on the topic. While there, she also travelled to Germany, where she presented a [guest lecture](#) at Hamburg University, in the Literacy in Diversity Settings Research Centre, sharing emerging findings from her latest research project on Language, Migration and Legal Literacy.

UNE Law Engagement

The Myall Creek 25th Anniversary Symposium | 6 June 2025

UNE marked a quarter-century of progress at the Myall Creek Memorial - an enduring symbol of truth-telling and reconciliation.

The symposium was hosted by UNE Law School, the Armidale branch of the Friends of the Myall Creek Memorial, UNE's Oorala Aboriginal Centre and the UNE Faculty of Humanities, Arts, Social Science and Education.

It brought together Elders, scholars, legal professionals and community leaders to reflect on the journey of healing since the first memorial gathering in 2000, and to examine what truth-telling must look like in law, governance and public life today.

A special thank you to organisers **Dr Andrew Lawson**, Dr Julie Collins, and Tess Cullen, and key speakers who included **Judge Peter Johnstone** (Adjunct Professor), Thomas Mayo, and Auntie Sue Blacklock.



North and Northwest Community Legal Service

The North and Northwest Community Legal Service (NNWCLS) provides free, accessible, and independent legal advice and advocacy to people in need, particularly those experiencing financial hardship and social disadvantage. NNWCLS services an area similar in size to Ireland. The UNE School of Law has a long and supportive history with NNWCLS. The principal solicitor of NNWCLS, Terri Coleman is an alumnus. A number of our students have volunteered at the service. **Dr Kip Werren** has recently been elected as chair of the board. **Associate Professor Guy Charlton** and **Mr Paul Akon** are members of the board.



Trial by Jury | 29 September 2025

Karen Conte, Michelle Edgely and **Dr René Cornish** had the pleasure of delivering Karen's incredible 'Trial by Jury' program to Year 9 students at St Andrew's Anglican College on the Sunshine Coast.

Karen, an experienced barrister, former school principal, and simply extraordinary UNE Law lecturer, developed this innovative program to immerse students in the court system, rules of evidence and trial - culminating in the Year 9 students conducting their very own trials (in less than one day)!

Huge thanks to Karen, René, Michelle, teacher Jillian Green (UNE Alumni), and all the students at St Andrews Anglican College for their outstanding contributions in this unique Trial by Jury program.



19th LawTech Summit and Awards | 11-12 September 2025

Dr René Cornish and Michelle Edgely, SABL Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning) attended the 19th LawTech Summit and Awards on the Gold Coast. The theme for 2025 was 'Future Proofing Legal Technology: Innovation; Intelligence; Integrity' and explored the impact of GenAI on legal practice. There were many engaging sessions over the two days exploring how law firms and legal practitioners can prosper in a digitally enhanced, AI landscape.

Tamworth Business Awards

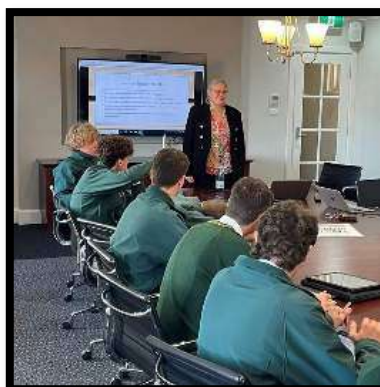
Dr Julia Day was invited to attend the Tamworth Business Awards to support her colleagues at UNE Tamworth. The UNE Tamworth team were finalists for the Excellence in Customer Service in Workforce and Skills Development award.



Social Media Ban Talks at Tamworth Schools



Dr Julia Day presented at both Calrossy Anglican School and Farrer Agricultural School about the Social Media Ban for under 16s.



44th Annual Brisbane Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo (TSXPO)

Dr René Cornish represented UNE Law at the 44th annual Brisbane Tertiary Studies and Careers Expo (TSXPO) at the Brisbane Showgrounds. Dr Cornish joined an incredible team of UNE representatives to connect with students eager to explore their education and career options. With over 100 exhibitors, including universities, TAFE institutes, and employers, TSXPO provided a fantastic platform for future students to discover what UNE has to offer.

Other News

Mr Trent Wallace – UNE Law Alumnus

Australian Law Awards 2025 took out the award for Indigenous Leader of the Year.

https://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/australian-law-awards/winners/2025-winners-andfinalists?utm_source=Lawyers+Weekly&utm_medium=editorial&utm_campaign=winnerstory&utm_term=ALA2025

Dr Siva (Sharl) Barathi Marimuthu

Awarded Senior Fellow (SFHEA) – in recognition of attainment against the Professional Standards Framework for teaching and learning support in higher education.

LAW480 Intensive School – Sydney Campus

Paul Akon's Law School intensive at the UNE Sydney Campus was an incredible experience for everyone involved! Bringing together passionate students and dedicated academics, the intensive was a perfect blend of fun, engagement, and learning. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect with peers, share ideas, and build meaningful relationships in a supportive and dynamic environment. The energy and enthusiasm throughout the day were truly inspiring, reminding us all of the power of collaboration and the joy of learning together.



LAW480: Module III – Advocacy (Moots)

Paul Akon's Moot Courts held in Trimesters 1 and 2 are a prestigious event for all Law students. They are part of their LAW480 Unit, Remedies and Advanced Legal Skills, which challenges students to apply their knowledge in high pressure, real-world scenarios.

Moot Courts provide UNE Law students with hands-on experience in legal advocacy, sharpening their research, reasoning, and courtroom presentation skills. These opportunities prepare our future legal professionals to tackle complex cases with confidence and expertise



UNE Law Students' Society

The **UNE Law Students' Society** (UNELSS) hosted the highly anticipated Mindful Justice Conference, bringing together legal minds from across the country for an inspiring and thought-provoking event in Armidale.

The conference featured an impressive lineup of speakers, including Emeritus Professor David Weisbrot AM – former President of the Australian Law Reform Commission, and Dr Christina Platz (RMIT) who tackled critical issues such as vicarious trauma, burnout, and law reform. Attendees also benefited from practical sessions on legal writing and problem-solving, as well as insights into trauma-informed practices in the legal profession.

UNELSS President Jordanna D'Cruz reflected on the event's success, saying, 'The Mindful Justice Conference was a testament to the power of collaboration and shared learning. From the insightful sessions to the social events, it was a weekend to remember. We're deeply grateful to the UNE Law Faculty, SABL Executive Dean Sujana Adapa, and our dedicated committee for making this possible.'

The conference not only sparked meaningful dialogue around wellbeing and reform in the legal profession but also fostered a sense of camaraderie among attendees, with students travelling from as far as Sydney, Melbourne, and Tasmania to participate.

Congratulations to UNELSS for hosting such a dynamic and impactful event!



UNE Law Students' Society Annual Law Ball, Barangaroo | 9 August 2025

The UNE LSS annual Law Ball was a highlight in 2025. Held at 12-Micron in Barangaroo, Sydney, guests were treated to a magical evening in the Enchanted Forest. Guest speakers included the Honourable Geoffrey Bellew SC, and Bernie Shakeshaft – founder and director of the 2025 LSS chosen charity, BackTrack Youth Works. The Ball was an evening of fun and celebration, and also resulted in raising AU\$3,110 for BackTrack Youth Works to help support the important work they do for Armidale's youth.

