Message from the Director and Deputy Director

Welcome to the RUSSLR Report covering activities in 2015

Established in 2007, the University of Adelaide Research Unit for the Study of Society, Law and Religion (RUSSLR) is the first centre or institute in Australia to study the relationship between society, law and religion—putting it at the leading edge in Australia of what is already a major research area worldwide.

RUSSLR's principal objective is to create a space for dialogue on significant issues involving the relationship between society, law and religion in Australia. 2015 saw the introduction of the RUSSLR Centre for Ethics Law and Society (CELS) which will focus on the intersection between ethics and the law, with a particular emphasis on medical law and ethics. We seek to foster an environment where divergent views can be expressed with good will and respect in order better to understand the place and role of religion, ethics and law in contemporary Australian society.

The work of members of the RUSSLR Research Group within the Adelaide Law School covers a diverse range of scholarship covering a wide spectrum of ideas related to the intersection of society, ethics, law and religion.

This Report outlines the activities of RUSSLR and its University of Adelaide members during 2015. As you will see from the Report, it was an exciting year, with both RUSSLR and its members making outstanding national and international contributions to the ongoing dialogue surrounding law, ethics, and religion.

Paul Babie
Director
RUSSLR

Bernadette Richards
Deputy Director
RUSSLR
I. RUSSLR Activities
A. 2015 RUSSLR Oration
Symposium: ‘Marriage Equality And The Church’, RUSSLR Orator, Rev David Pattee, Minister, United Churches of Christ, Ohio, USA; Panelists Rev Dr Margaret Mayman, Pitt Street Uniting Church, Sydney, Professor Carol Johnson, The University of Adelaide, Rev Jana Norman; 21 October 2015 – Co-sponsored by Pilgrim Uniting Church, Adelaide

B. 2015 USSLR Seminar/Public Lecture Series
Philip Bryden, Faculty of Law, The University of Alberta (Canada), ‘The Supreme Court of Canada Decision in Carter v Canada’, 8 April 2015
II. Research Activities of RUSSLR Members

A. Books


Margaret Castles and Anne Hewitt, *Dispute Resolution and Ethics* (Thomson Reuters, 2nd ed, 2015)

Bernadette Richards, Melissa De Zwart and Suzanne LeMire (eds), *Law and Popular Culture* (LexisNexis, 2015)

B. Book Chapters


C. Articles


Mary Heath, Anne Hewitt, Mark Israel and Natalie Skaed, “Addressing the elephant in the classroom': investigating and responding to Australian sessional law teachers' unmet development needs' (2015) 38 UNSWLJ 240


Joshua Neoh, ‘Law and Love in Abraham’s Binding of Isaac’ (2015) 9 Law and Humanities

D. Grants
Anne Hewitt with Brendan Grigg and Laura Grenfell, 2015-2016 Law Foundation funding to offer scholarships to law students completing native title internships ($4,400)

Anne Hewitt, Chief Investigator 2015-2016, Office for Learning and Teaching Innovation and Development grant ‘Smart Casual’: Promoting Excellence in Sessional Teaching in Law’ ($225,000) ID14-4320


Bernadette Richards, ‘Hearing the voices of the vulnerable in end of life care planning’, Northern Health Network, $20,000 seed funding to commence research and complete linkage grant application

Bernadette Richards, Vulnerable voices project: ‘Dignity, autonomy and vulnerability: a search for a new paradigm’; $47,000 in funding

E. Conference/Seminar/Lecture Presentations
Paul Babie, ‘Global Warming and Global Change: The Choice We Must Make and How Religion Can Help’, The Good Citizen and the Pope: The Moral Implications of Laudato Si, Sixth St Paul’s College Symposium, St Paul’s College, University of Sydney, Australia, 1 December 2015


Paul Babie, ‘Fostering Unity and Ministry’, Eparchial Sobor, Eparchy for Ukrainian Catholics of Australia, New Zealand and Oceania, Melbourne, Australia, 25 April 2015


Anne Hewitt, ‘Smart Casual? A project to identify and respond to the needs to sessional law teachers’, Higher Education Research Group of Adelaide Conference 2015: Brave New World - The Future of Teaching and Learning, Adelaide, Australia, 21-23 September 2015

Laura Grenfell and Anne Hewitt, ‘Legal Obstacles and Roadblocks to accessing Healthcare for Trans People in Australia’, Fay Gale Centre Annual Symposium 2015, Adelaide, Australia

Bernadette Richards, ‘Regulating Innovation’, interdisciplinary workshop, Cardiff, Wales, February 2015

Bernadette Richards, ‘Surgical Innovation’, University of Southampton, Centre for Health, Ethics and the Law (HEAL), February 2015

Bernadette Richards, ‘Surgical Research and innovation: Navigating the grey areas’ with Prof Wendy Rogers, Bellberry Ltd HREC Education Programme, Science Exchange, April 2015

Bernadette Richards, Ethical and legal issues surrounding consent to treatment workshop, ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting, May 2015

Bernadette Richards, ‘Medical Innovation: Benefit or Harm?’, ANCA Annual Scientific Meeting, May 2015

Bernadette Richards, ‘Surgical Innovation: Considering the regulatory issues’, Annual Scientific Meeting Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, May 2015


Joshua Neoh, ‘Freedom of Religion as Freedom of Faith’, Workshop on Religious Communities and Rights, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, 12 February 2015

F. Media

Paul Babie, quoted in Penelope Debelle, ‘Can this humble man in white change the Church with radical views?’, Adelaide Advertiser, interviewed and quoted, 11 July 2015, 46-47, http://www.pressreader.com/australia/the-advertiser/20150711
III. Other Activities of RUSSLR Members

A. Teaching

Paul Babie, Brigham Young University Law School (USA), Sitagu International Buddhist University (Myanmar), Certificate Training Program on Religion and the Rule of Law, 7-day intensive subject, December 2015

Paul Babie, University of Detroit School of Law (USA), Australian Constitutional Law: A Comparison of the Treatment of Religion and Property under the Australian and American Constitutions, 2-day intensive subject, July 2015

Bernadette Richards, Introduction to Australian Law, 5 day intensive subject, University of Mannheim Germany, November 2015

B. Community Service

Paul Babie, Advisory Editorial Board, Member (by invitation), Routledge Research Series in Law and Religion (UK)

Paul Babie, Chair, Editorial Board (by invitation), Interface: A Forum for Theology in the World (Australia)

Paul Babie, International Advisory Board (by invitation), Journal of Law and Religion (Cambridge University Press, UK)

Paul Babie, Editorial Board (by invitation), International Perspectives in Victimology (California State University, Fresno, USA, and Tokiwa International Victimology Institute, Japan)

Paul Babie, Ethics Series Editorial Board – Chair (by invitation), ATF Press (Australia)

Paul Babie, Editorial Board (by invitation), Ethics: Critical and Contemporary Perspectives (Australia)

Paul Babie, Planning Committee, Member, Diversity Institute, The University of Sydney, St Paul’s College (Australia)

Paul Babie, International Advisory Editorial Board, Member (by invitation), Forum on Religion & Ecology (FORE) @ Australia (affiliated with FORE, Yale University (USA), FORE in Canada, European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment) (Australia)

Bernadette Richards, Appointed to the NHMRC Embryo Research Licensing Committee (Australia)

Bernadette Richards, President, Australasian Association of Bioethics and Health Law (AABHL) (Australia and New Zealand)

Bernadette Richards, Legal Editor, Journal of Bioethical Inquiry (Australia)

Bernadette Richards, Deputy Chair, Southern Adelaide Clinical Human Research Ethics Committee (Australia)

C. Awards/Prizes

Paul Babie, The University of Adelaide, Faculty of the Professions, Executive Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Research (2015)
Bernadette Richards, The University of Adelaide, Faculty of the Professions, Executive Dean’s Commendation for excellence in research (2015)

Bernadette Richards, The University of Adelaide, Faculty of the Professions, Executive Dean’s Award for excellence in teaching (2015)

D. Higher Degree by Research Supervisions
Paul Babie, Doctoral: Patrick Quirk; Jana Norman; Matt Lady; Olivia Grosser-Ljubanovic; Claire Marie Williams; James Stewart

Laura Grenfell, Doctoral: Travis Wisdom

Cornelia Koch, Doctoral: Travis Wisdom

Bernadette Richards, Doctoral: Susan Puekert; Paula Zito

Bernadette Richards, Masters: Michaela Okninski