

Available from the Law School's postgraduate studies website: <http://www.law.qut.edu.au/study/publications/codicil.jsp>

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## Message from the Director, Graduate Programs

Welcome to the second Codicil for 2011. May I extend a particular welcome to the new members of our postgraduate community, a number of whom I met at the Orientation on 20 July. The postgraduate team always looks forward to meeting our new students, as we find it very helpful in our administration of the programs to be able to put a face to the person on the telephone or behind the email. Remember that if you have any concerns about any administrative issue that arises during your studies, that the Postgraduate Programs team is always willing to assist you, where possible. Their contact details are –

**Teresa Newman:** Administration Officer  
(Postgraduate Programs) ph: 3138 2981;  
email: [teresa.newman@qut.edu.au](mailto:teresa.newman@qut.edu.au)

and

**Mungo Crawford:** Senior Administration Officer  
(Postgraduate Programs) ph: 3138 2305;  
email: [m2.crawford@qut.edu.au](mailto:m2.crawford@qut.edu.au)

Each edition of Codicil provides current information for all postgraduate students. This newsletter contains information about new units in semester 2, and some information about proposed offerings and new units for 2012.

I hope you will find Codicil No 2 2011 interesting.

**Associate Professor Sheryl Jackson**  
Director, Graduate Programs

## Postgraduate Unit Offerings

The QUT law school postgraduate program takes care in giving its students opportunities to study units across all the majors that are topical, up to date and taught by experts in the particular field of law. Consequently, while the Law School offers a large number of postgraduate units across six majors, not all units are taught in any one year. Although some of our units in particularly high demand are offered every year (and some every semester), postgraduate units are normally offered on a 2-year rotational basis. Please be aware, however, that the offering of a unit is always subject to staff availability and sufficient student numbers.

Postgraduate unit offerings are available from the Law School website at:

<http://www.law.qut.edu.au/study/courses/pgrad/sem2.jsp>

This website is kept up-to-date with any changes to unit offering information (eg. cancellation of units, change in dates for block units etc).

We have a range of exciting new units for semester 2 this year. These are: LWN201 Climate Change; LWN199 Australian and Comparative Human Rights Law; LWN195 Elder Law; LWN197 International Aid and Development Law: Policy and Practice (on-line offering); LWN198 Advocacy and Financial Disputes in Family Law. Synopses for these units can be found by clicking on the hyperlinks in the above website. These units are available to all students.

International students will also be interested in new foundational law units designed to provide a foundation for their students of units in the commercial and criminology majors. For more information, see below under: International Students.

Please note that LWN199 Australian and Comparative Human Rights Law is offered concurrently with a corresponding unit in the undergraduate program. The assessment in the units will be quite different (as appropriate to the course level), but the classes will include students from both cohorts. It is hoped students from both cohorts will benefit from the interchange with varied levels of knowledge who come with a particular interest in human rights law.

As you will see when perusing the full list of unit offerings, some units have a strong international dimension and would be relevant and of interest to all postgraduate students. Of our new units, both Australian and Comparative Human Rights Law and International Aid and Development Law: Policy and Practice are in this category.

Others, such as Advocacy and Financial Disputes in Family Law, have been designed with a particular focus on the development of specialist skills and knowledge for local practitioners. The unit outlines for each unit, available via QUT Virtual, provide details about unit content; and unit coordinators are happy to provide you with any further advice you may seek about content of their unit. Please choose your units carefully to ensure you obtain maximum benefit from your postgraduate studies.

As is the usual case in our postgraduate programs, a number of our semester 2 offerings will be presented by international experts in their respective fields, or involve international experts in the delivery of components of the units. These units include: LWN146 International and Comparative Intellectual Property Law, LWN147 Patent Law and Commercialisation and LWN155 Biotechnology Law. Several of the other units are delivered by our own experts of international renown.

While the complete timetable for 2012 will not be available until later in the year, I wanted to be able to give you an indication of units that we are intending to offer, including new units:

### Semester 1

LWN030 Mediation  
LWN048 Advanced Legal Research  
LWN051 Consumer Protection & Product Liability  
LWN060 Environmental Legal System  
LWN099 Intellectual Property Law  
LWN117 Cyber Law and Policy  
LWN119 Employment Law  
LWN122 Commercial Leases  
LWN127 Advanced Insurance Law  
LWN131 Queensland State Lands: Law and Practice  
LWN137 Principles of Australian Contract Law (international students only)  
LWN139 Privacy Law  
LWN159 Electronic Litigation  
LWN162 Australian Common Law System (international students only)  
LWN166 Consent to treatment and clinical negligence  
LWN186 Constitutional Law and State Power  
LWN194 Conceptual Issues in Medical Law  
LWN195 Environmental Law and Practice  
LWN204 Family Law Dispute Resolution (new unit)  
LWN205 Cross-border Insolvency (new unit)

### Semester 2

LWN048 Advanced Legal Research  
LWN050 Restrictive Trade Practices  
LWN065 Construction & Engineering Law  
LWN075 International Commercial Transactions  
LWN083 Estate Planning  
LWN094 Energy Law  
LWN111 Public Law and Government Commercial Activity  
LWN146 International and Comparative Intellectual Property Law  
LWN150 Death Decisions and the Law  
LWN157 Comparative Native Title Law and Policy  
LWN162 Australian Common Law System  
LWN164 Health Care Law & Ethics  
LWN180 Open Licensing

LWN182 Criminal Tribunals  
LWN189 Space Law  
LWN199 Australian & Comparative Human Rights Law  
LWN202 Climate change  
LWN203 Construction & Enforcement of Commercial Contracts (new unit)  
LWN302 Principles of Australian Criminal Law (international students only)  
LWN303 Principles of Property Commercial and Corporate Law (international students only)

If you are interested in an area of law that is not offered in a particular semester or offered at a time that is not convenient for you, please remember that you have the option to undertake a supervised research project in that area. Research projects enable you to examine in detail aspects of that area of law that are of particular relevance to you. Further information about research projects is set out later in this newsletter.

## Important Dates to Remember

Visit the QUT Calendar and Key Admin Dates at <http://www.studentservices.qut.edu.au/info/dates/index.jsp>

As a student at QUT, it is your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's key administrative dates. Refer to the 2011 Academic Calendar above. The important dates include final date to withdraw from units or courses without financial penalty (either a full or partial refund); final date to add units under FEE-Help; dates to withdraw without receiving academic penalty etc. **It is important that you make yourself aware of these dates.**

## Study Materials and Blackboard Site

Each postgraduate unit has a Blackboard site <https://blackboard.qut.edu.au/> that contains information specific to that unit offering in any given semester.

For each unit you are enrolled in, you will receive a Study Guide. In the majority of cases will endeavour to mail out study guides before the starting date of each unit; if this is not possible they will be distributed to you in your first class.

Some materials may also be made available in electronic form, through each unit's Blackboard site (<https://blackboard.qut.edu.au/>)

*\*Please ensure your postal address is always kept up-to-date (you can change this in your profile in QUT Virtual)*

If textbooks are required, you will need to purchase these. They are available from the QUT Bookshop.

## International Students

### ESOS Act

The Education Standards for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act National Code 2007 came into force for students holding international student visas from 1 July 2007. An international student is expected to maintain an enrolment

that allows for completion of the particular course within the time specified on the Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) form issued for the student visa application. It is your responsibility to ensure your enrolment meets your visa conditions.

If you would like to discuss how the National Code applies to you as an international postgraduate law student, contact Teresa or Mungo. It is important for you to progress through your course in accordance with your student visa, therefore, if you have any worries about your course progression, please get in touch with us as soon as possible to discuss them.

### Curriculum Support

Commencing international students should be aware of the range of initiatives undertaken by the Law School in recent years to assist our international student cohort.

All international students are required to undertake **LWN162 Australian Common Law System** in their first semester of study. This unit is offered every semester and assists international students to gain essential knowledge of the common law necessary for success in other units. This unit also provides international students with a friendly small-group environment for one of the units in their first semester, and an opportunity to meet and network with other commencing international students.

We recommend that all students undertake **LWN048 Advanced Legal Research** in their first semester of study. The writing of research papers is a major assessment component of most units in the Master of Laws and Graduate Certificate in Law and this unit will assist you to develop the necessary skills to produce quality research papers.

Commencing this year, the Law School now offers three new units specifically developed for our international student cohort: **LWN303 Principles of Property Commercial and Corporate Law** (Semester 2) and **LWN301 Principles of Contract Law** (Semester 1) have been developed to provide international students with an essential foundation for further studies of units within the commercial law major. **LWN302 Australian Criminal Law** has been developed to equip international students to undertake further studies in units in the field of criminology.

### Research Projects

Postgraduate students enrolled in the LW51 Master of Laws or LW60 Graduate Certificate in Law, may undertake an independent research project, under the supervision of a Law School academic staff member. A research project is counted as a 12 or 24 credit point unit towards the course and is



worth considering if you have a particular research question that you wish to explore in depth, but it is not addressed in one of the units on offer.

For full information about the procedure and the application form for students wishing to undertake a research project please refer to the Law School's website: <http://www.law.qut.edu.au/study/forms.jsp>

### Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, is a serious breach of QUT Student Rules relating to assessment, and is of particular relevance to any unit which has a research assignment or similar assessment as an assessment item.

All instances of academic dishonesty in any unit will be dealt with in accordance with the university procedures as detailed in Chapter C of the Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) and penalties may be imposed under these procedures in accordance with Student Rule 29.

Student Rules are accessible from:

<http://www.mopp.qut.edu.au/Appendix/appendix01c.jsp>

Academic Dishonesty Procedures are accessible from:  
[http://www.mopp.qut.edu.au/C/C\\_05\\_03.jsp](http://www.mopp.qut.edu.au/C/C_05_03.jsp)

Academic dishonesty includes copying any part of another student's work, providing copy to another student for the purposes of plagiarism, collaboration with other students which defeats the purpose of the assessment, copying information directly from books, articles or the internet without full and comprehensive acknowledgement of the source, obtaining material or whole essays from a website which provides papers on requested or set topics for money or otherwise, or similar activities.

### Submission of Assignments

While undergraduate assignments are submitted through Assignment Minder, postgraduate students must upload their research papers electronically to each unit's Blackboard site.

Details of assignment submission procedures are contained in Part C of each unit's study guide.

### Extensions of Time on Submission of Assignments

Students who are having extreme difficulty meeting the due dates for assignments, and who have legitimate reasons for that difficulty, may apply for an extension of time within which to submit their assignments. An assignment extension must be requested before the due date. An assignment extension form is to be completed and submitted to the Faculty of Law Student Services Team. These forms are available from:  
<http://www.law.qut.edu.au/study/forms.jsp>

It is important that you contact the Faculty of Law Student Services Team, if you are having difficulty in submitting it on time.

The Faculty of Law Student Services Team are able to grant extensions of one week – a longer extension requires the approval of the Director Graduate Programs and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. **Remember that unit coordinators cannot grant extensions.** Any request for an extension must be on the appropriate form and sent to the appropriate place.

If a paper is handed in late, without extension approval, 5% is deducted from the marks awarded for the paper for each day it is late.

## Leave of Absence from Studies

The Law School understands that postgraduate law students have other commitments that may prevent them from continuously studying, or that the units on offer may not be suited to their chosen major of study.

It is important that you do not allow your enrolment in your course to lapse. Therefore, if you are unable to study units in either semester 1 or 2 of any year, you should apply for a Leave of Absence. You do so by completing an L Form (available from:

<http://www.studentservices.qut.edu.au/enrol/interrupt/for m/>

Once approved, your course status will change to “intermit” in QUT Virtual, however you will still have access to QUT facilities, and will be able to re-enrol online at the appropriate time (refer to QUT’s Academic Calendar).

Please ensure you adhere to the relevant dates, when submitting an L Form, so as not to receive financial and/or academic penalty (refer to: [Important Dates to Remember](#))

## QUT Clayton Utz Law Library News

### Introduction to Law Library Resources and Services

Law Library Liaison Librarians can assist you with information about library resources and services relevant to your research topics. If you would like to meet with one of us to discuss your research needs please contact our Learning and Research Desk to request an appointment 3138 2842 or [reflaw@qut.edu.au](mailto:reflaw@qut.edu.au).

### eResearch Support Services and Infrastructure

The Division of Technology, Information and Learning Support (TILS) provides eResearch support through, Information Technology Services (High Performance Computing and Research Support) and the Library. These areas provide expertise and advanced technologies supporting research activities from research design to scholarly publishing. More information <http://www.tils.qut.edu.au/initiatives/researchsupport/index.jsp>

### Workshops for Researchers

- [research skills seminars and workshops](#) on data analysis, EndNote, data management, Key Survey and more
- The [Research Students Centre website](#) for a list of more workshops including RAPID (Research Advancement Program for International Doctoral Students), and **Media Awareness**.

### Access to Information Resources.

Here is a brief summary on how you can access information resources while you are at QUT.

- **QUT Library Catalogue.** This should always be your starting point in the search for known items or materials in your area of research. <http://libcat.library.qut.edu.au/>  
If there is a book that QUT library does not hold that you refer to frequently please ask Michael Unwin to acquire it for our collection [m.unwin@qut.edu.au](mailto:m.unwin@qut.edu.au).
- **BONUS+.** In addition to the resources available in the QUT library collections you can find more research materials held in a selection of other university libraries in Australia and New Zealand. Bonus can be used when a QUT Library catalogue search shows that we do not have the item you are looking for or as a wider search for topic based research. Read more about [requesting books from other libraries using BONUS+](#).
- **Library databases.** The library subscribes to databases from the three major vendors for Australian legal materials: LexisNexisAU; Legal Online and CCH Online. For international legal research we subscribe to Lexis.com and Westlaw International. There are many other databases and journal indexes available. Find more [http://www.library.qut.edu.au/find/databases/subjectguide\\_index.jsp#009000000](http://www.library.qut.edu.au/find/databases/subjectguide_index.jsp#009000000)
- **Research Datasets.** Research datasets provide researchers with access to existing data for the purposes of answering research questions and developing new knowledge. Read more [http://www.library.qut.edu.au/find/research\\_datasets.jsp](http://www.library.qut.edu.au/find/research_datasets.jsp)
- **QUT Document Delivery Service.** Use this service to locate items not available using the above services. Read more about the [QUT Library Document Delivery](#) service.