

The Attorney General Rt Hon Robert McLelland Visits KLC

KLC was honored to host the Federal Attorney General and his advisor Ms Elizabeth Brayshaw on Monday 24 August. Staff gave him a tour of the Centre and overview of our work as a community legal centre as well as the clinical legal education programs the Centre runs. KLC students Olgica Georgieva, Nick Kipriotis, Sarah Szydzik and Rosemary Tabuai gave presentations about clinical legal education from their perspectives. These students represented the clinical generalist elective subjects as well as first year Indigenous course. The Attorney General was very engaged during the visit and supportive of our work. We are grateful to Mr McLelland for taking time to visit the Centre.

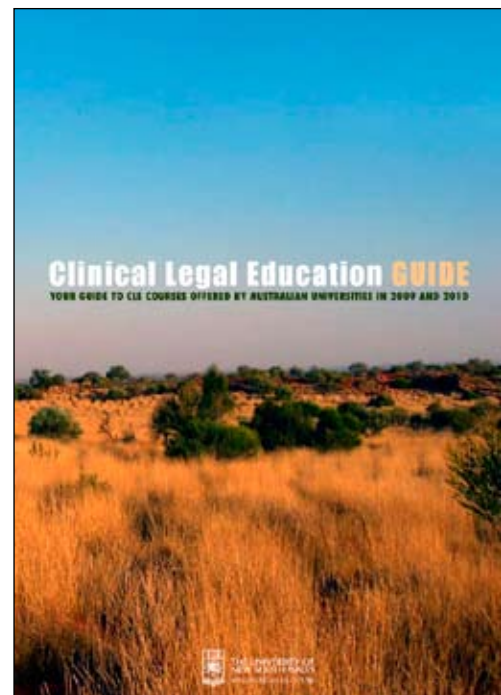


L-R; Olgica Georgieva, Keith Ball, Rt Hon Robert McLelland, David Dixon, Anna Cody, Jill Hunter and Nick Kipriotis

10th Australian clinical legal education conference and 7th International Journal of Clinical legal education conference

Anna Cody was asked to provide a key note address to this conference on "Teaching social justice to students". This included issues such as whether clinical legal education should teach social justice and some of the challenges in doing this. A lively panel and debate followed the key note address.

Clinical Legal Education Guide – Guide to CLE Courses Offered by Australian Universities in 2009 and 2010



KLC published the ninth edition of the *CLE Guide* in July. This edition describes the variety of clinical legal education courses offered in Australian Universities and the addition of some new programs at established clinics. Indeed, the breadth of courses available to students is very encouraging, particularly work with Indigenous students and communities and in specialised areas such as community development and human rights. In this edition we have included a section on research undertaken by clinicians in the past couple of years, the breadth of which is extensive. The Guide is available on our website at: www.law.unsw.edu.au/centres/klc/doc/CLE_GUIDE_09_10.pdf - if you would like a hardcopy email us at legal@unsw.edu.au.

Older People and the Law

Kingsford Legal Centre together with the Legal Aid Commission Older Persons Legal Service, Welfare Rights Centre and the South East Neighbourhood Centre, organised a free legal information session for older people. Presentations were on powers of attorney, enduring guardianship, family and finance and the aged pension. The forum was very successful with over 70 people attending.



L – R; Lauren Finestone, Older Persons Legal Service Legal Aid Commission NSW, Dianne Anagnos, Acting Principal Solicitor, Welfare Rights Centre, Rhiannon Partington, KLC student, & Michelle Wibisono, Freehills Secondee Solicitor

Aboriginal Access Project

Over the past few months KLC's Aboriginal Access Worker has been busy working with the local Aboriginal community. In June, Keith co-facilitated the Love Bites program at Matraville Sports High School with several other local service providers. A stall was held At the La Perouse NAIDOC Week Family Day in July where numerous community members attended the stall. In June and August two KLC Aboriginal Advisory group meetings were conducted; the advisory group now has 6 members, including two current UNSW students.

The Aboriginal Access project was successful in obtaining a Randwick local council Community

Development Support Expenditure Scheme grant, funded by South's Juniors; which was used to purchase a data projector to assist KLC provide CLE sessions to the community.



Keith Ball at KLC NAIDOC Week stall

CLE at JJ Cahill High School

KLC students prepared and presented talks to JJ Cahill High School Year 11 and 12 Legal Studies students in August. Year 11 students were taught about access to justice issues and which legal services are available to the community. Year 12 students were taught key concepts on consumer law. The sessions were very well received by the very bright and interested JJ Cahill students. KLC hopes this initiative will grow further and students will continue to be involved in community legal education.

KLC Submission into Senate Inquiry into the Welfare of International Students

The Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee recently called for submissions into its Inquiry into the Welfare of International Students. KLC lodged a written

submission based on advice given to international students of UNSW who have come to KLC. We have been asked to appear before the Committee in early September. Some of the key issues raised in the submission related to lack of knowledge around students' housing rights and abuse by landlords of tenants. We also included issues of racial abuse in employment and the potential for abuse in an employment environment created by the 20 hour work limit for student visas. The general lack of high quality, neutral information for students was highlighted in the submission.

CLC Staff Induction Kit

Kingsford Legal Centre in partnership with CLC NSW, Illawarra Legal Centre and PILCH produced a kit for new staff at community legal centres. It outlines funding programs, the legal assistance sector in NSW, information on insurance, resources and supports available to CLCs. The kit also includes one of the items requested by almost all new staff in CLCs – a list of the of acronyms and terms used in the sector. Copies of the kit are being sent to all community legal centres in NSW and copy will be available on the CLC NSW website soon.

Training for CLC Staff and Volunteers

The next training for staff and volunteer solicitors at Kingsford, Redfern, Marrickville and Inner City legal centres will be held on Wednesday 9 September at 6:00 pm. The topic is the Fair Work Act and the workings of the Fair Work Commission. Thanks are extended to HWL Ebsworth for providing the venue for this training. If you would like to attend this free training please RSVP to legal@unsw.edu.au.

RSPCA Cupcake Fundraiser

KLC students raised a whopping \$770.00 for the RSPCA program that boards and feeds pets for families fleeing domestic violence. They did this by holding a cupcake stall on UNSW campus on Monday 17 August. Thanks to all who contributed cupcakes and congratulations to the wonderful Monday students who put their heart and soul into the stall.



KLC students Phoebe, Andrew, Talia & Nick at the cupcake stall

Rebecca Campbell – Allens Arthur Robinson Secondee leaves KLC

Sad farewell to the magnificent Bec who completed her 6 month secondment at KLC in August. Bec has been a joy to work with and she will be missed. Sadly, the next Allens secondee won't be on board for another 12 months as we had Allens' secondees back to back over the past 12 months. The secondee program is a fantastic boost to KLC and our clients and we are grateful to Allens for their generous support of the Centre.

Outreach at Long Bay Correctional Complex

Following a request from the Long Bay welfare officers and the Legal Aid Commission, KLC is currently working to develop a monthly civil law clinic for people held at the complex. Whilst KLC can't possibly meet the huge demand for legal assistance at the prison it is hoped that the clinic will assist those with the most pressing of problems.

2008 KLC Annual Report

The *Kingsford Legal Centre Annual Report 2008* has been completed. You can download a copy off our webpage at: www.law.unsw.edu.au/centres/klc/doc/KLC_AR_2008.pdf. The report outlines the work undertaken by the legal centre during 2008. If you would like a hard copy of the report please send your request to legal@unsw.edu.au and a hard copy will be posted to you.



Employment Clinic

The clinic has been kept busy with several substantial matters, particularly one that touches on multiple aspects of employment law. We are representing a client in her application for unlawful termination and sexual harassment as well as compiling a lengthy complaint to the Fair Work Ombudsman about underpayments, unlawful withholding of wages, cash payments, unilateral variation of the contract and possible duress. There are also significant problems with the way superannuation has been paid. The former employer also asserts our client was a contractor despite significant evidence that she was an employee and we will be dealing with the jurisdictional challenge next month.

The clinic also recently represented a client in his appeal before Fair Work Australia over refusal of redundancy entitlements under the workplace agreement. The decision was reserved. We have also been assisting a client who complained to the Human Rights Commission more than 18 months after leaving her job. The client obtained legal representation shortly after leaving her work but was not advised about discrimination law time limits. We have been concerned about this and several other matters we have seen at KLC where clients have been poorly advised and/or represented by both legal and non-legal services, particularly given the vulnerability of many of our clients because of language barriers or other issues that prevent them from being able to properly assess the service provided.

On a positive note, calls to the clinic have dropped since the Fair Work Act came into force and we hope this is because employment relations have improved in workplaces with the reintroduction of greater protection for employees.

Training on Workplace Laws for non-English Speaking Workers

We are also currently preparing training on workplace laws for non-English speaking workers and are liaising with, among others, Asian Women at Work, to ensure the training is relevant to groups from different cultural and language backgrounds. Linda Tucker, Shirley Southgate and student Rachel Smith recently spent a morning at Auburn Botanic Gardens with a support group run by Asian Women at Work to discuss how we can collaborate. This was after a tai chi lesson which staff found to be an excellent way to start any gathering.

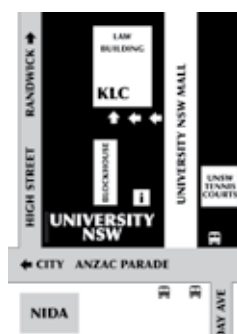
Guide to Indigenous Legal Education

In 2004 the Kingsford Legal Centre published a *Guide to Indigenous Legal Education*. The guide was intended to be a resource for Indigenous law students who wish to familiarise themselves with the programs, courses and/or support structures that are offered by Australian Law schools. At a recent UNSW Law School Indigenous Legal Education Committee meeting it was decided to produce an updated guide outlining programs available in 2010. It's hoped the guide will be available early December 2009.

KLC Volunteer in Marie Claire

Thursday night volunteer and ex-klc student Sophie Grieve was photographed for an article in *Marie Claire* on 'Generation Generosity'. Sophie, looking fabulous and glam, is recognised for her volunteering. Well done Sophie!

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LOCATION

Kingsford Legal Centre is located on the ground floor of the Law Building, University of New South Wales, Anzac Parade, Kensington. Enter the university at the main entrance on Anzac Parade, walk down the main walkway and turn down the 2nd path on the left. The entrance to the legal centre is opposite the Uni Bar.

POSTAL ADDRESS

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