

Beyond the Adversarial System

Changing Roles and Skills for Courts, Tribunals and Practitioners

Judges, Tribunal members, practitioners, academics, litigants and legal reformers from France, Germany, Austria, England and Australia are converging on Brisbane in July this year for a major conference on the future of the legal system. The conference will examine recent and potential developments in dispute resolution in "adversarial" and "inquisitorial" systems and their potential impact on the roles of key participants, the skills which they will need to fulfil those roles and the changes to the formal and informal means by which participants will learn those skills. As such, it raises important questions of crucial significance to operation of our legal system and those who work within it at a time when it faces the challenges posed by the increasing integration with the global economy and cost pressures generated by the increasing complexity of litigation.

Key speakers will include: Hon Daryl Williams, QC (Commonwealth Attorney-General), Justice Marcel Lamonde (a senior french judge), Justice Ronald Sackville (Federal Court), Justice David Malcom (Chief

Justice of Western Australia), Professor Ross Cranston (London School of Economics), Professor Peter Sallmann (Director, Civil Justice Project, Victorian Dept of Justice), Livingstone Armytage (former Director of NSW Judicial Commission), Justice Davies (Queensland Court of Appeal), Senior Member Joan Dwyer, Mr Michael Lavarch (Dunhill, Madden, Butler).

The conference is designed to complement the ALRC's "Adversary System" reference and is a joint venture involving the National Institute for Law, Ethics and Public Affairs (NILEPA) and the ALRC with the AIJA providing important input into the design of the conference and the issues to be discussed. The venue chosen is the Heritage Hotel in Brisbane and the conference will run from 10-11 July.

The conference is, in turn, part of a larger two-year collaborative grant won by NILEPA and the Australian Law Reform Council (ALRC) from the Australian Research Council involving comparative re-

search, surveys, workshops and two edited volumes of essays that will provide important input to the deliberations of the ALRC and the public discussion of issues raised by the adversary reference. A paper on the options for the education of judges and tribunal decision-makers will be prepared by NILEPA for the use of the Commission within its draft report and final report on the reference. The NILEPA researchers are lead by Professor Charles Sampford (Foundation Professor of Law at Griffith University and, until recently, Foundation Dean of Law and Foundation Director at NILEPA) and Dr Helen Stacey (an NILEPA fellow from QUT). The Commissioner in charge of the adversary reference represents the ALRC and is assisted by Dr David Kinley (on secondment from the ANU) and other Commission staff.

Immediate conference enquiries should be directed to Ngaio Buck, Faculty of Law, QUT tel: 07 3864 1288.

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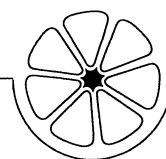
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