

# All systems go for the Law School at CDU

There is much to report since my last column, so, in the best tradition of not knowing where to start, plunge in anywhere.

The School of Law has ceased to exist. But, no cause for alarm, it's business as usual in the new School of Law and Business under the stewardship of Professor Ned Aughterson who has been appointed Head of School of the merged department. The delivery of law programs will be enhanced under the new arrangement due to "economies of scale", which have already seen a significant increase in administrative support. All office locations remain the same and you can still find law staff on level 3 of Building 39.

Student enrolments are up this semester with the law program meeting its student targets. This is in large part due to the huge interest in the external law degree program. There are now approximately 120 students studying law externally via the web. Lectures are recorded and the audio made available via the University's online delivery software, together with study guides, notes and tutorial problems. In addition real-time audio and text chat tutorials are run in the virtual tutorial rooms at various times during the week. If you have any queries about the external program contact Ken Parish, external programs coordinator, on 8946 6842.

Adjunct Professor Jesse Wu, now living happily in retirement in Adelaide (where he enjoys golf and travelling), is in Darwin for the first week of April teaching the undergraduate unit "Trade Practices" in intensive mode. When Jesse is not enjoying his new found freedom he still manages to write and to undertake work for the International Islamic University in Malaysia. Jesse can still be contacted via his CDU email.

An excellent response was received to the Medical Law Unit run in February by Assoc Professor John Devereux from the University of Queensland. This unit was organised by the NT Department of Health and Community Services in cooperation with CDU. Feedback from those attending was overwhelmingly positive.

Many readers will have attended the successful launch of Stephen Gray's new book on 26 March at the Supreme Court. Steve's work this time is not a novel but a book about criminal law in the Northern Territory entitled "Criminal Laws: Northern Territory". The book takes an historical perspective to criminal law in the Territory, and also deals



Professor Ned Aughterson

extensively with issues facing Indigenous people interacting with the system. It's a good read, but don't take our word for it, grab a copy and decide for yourself.

Last, but by no means least, teaching has commenced in the Australian National University/Charles Darwin University Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice course. Seventeen students have enrolled so far with 14 completing the two-week intensive skills unit taught at CDU from 22 March. Student feedback has been great, reflecting both the quality of the material and the excellent teaching job done by Judy Harrison, ANU Legal Workshop lecturer and no stranger to the Territory. The first external study period commences on 5 April with students undertaking a range of subjects including Commercial Practice, Real Estate Practice and Family Law.

Interested local practitioners are required to assist with teaching the GDLP Criminal Law elective which will be run in intensive mode in Darwin in October. If you want to be involved contact me at CDU.

Half way through Semester One it is fair to say that it is "all go" at CDU and, of course, we are looking forward to even better things as the year goes on.

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The launch of the Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice