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## FOR THE RECORD

QBE, Marsh Pty Ltd and I will be reviewing the 2009 renewal in July 2009. At this time work will begin on the 2010 renewal. It is a continual process.

The repercussions of the GFC and related events have some way to go. Greg Medcraft, an ASIC Commissioner, was recently in Darwin and spoke at a CPD and to the Regional Liaison Committee meeting about his organisation's responses. Initiatives include an increased concentration on

corporate governance, focus at a local and international level on such, sometimes synthetic, products such as margin loans, hedge funds, securitisation arrangements and credit derivatives and likely increased regulatory action. One development is the new national consumer credit legislation, set to commence in October 2009.

This list of matters is not exhaustive. There are matters such as the review of court procedures both at the Supreme

Court and Federal Court level, the new *Unit Titles Scheme Act*, the Northern Territory Law Reform Committee Review of Committals, the so called "Bikies" legislation, the Cross Border Justice Act and other various Harmonisation initiatives.

The CLANT Bali Conference 2009 will provide a welcome opportunity to discuss a number of these matters (though hopefully not the Unit Titles Scheme Act) and I am looking forward to attending.

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## Congratulations!

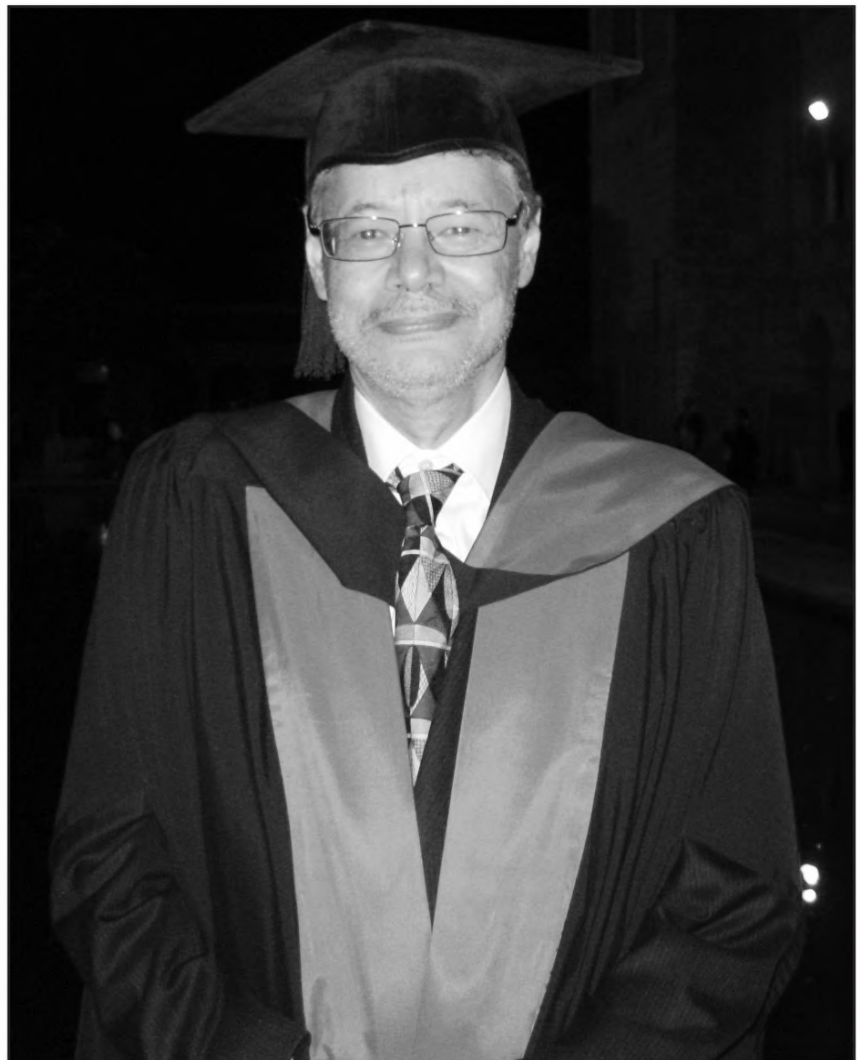
Balance is pleased to congratulate Doctor Stephen Herne (B Juris/Lib (WA), LLM (Syd)) on the awarding to him of a PHD by the University of Western Australia for his thesis "A JURISPRUDENCE OF DIFFERENCE-THE DENIAL OF FULL RESPECT OF NATIVE TITLE".

Doctor Herne joined the the Department of Law as a Policy Officer in 1983. He spent some time as Director Policy and began some studies for his PHD in 1989. He is now a senior lawyer in the Aboriginal Land Division of the Northern Territory Department of Justice which would have benefited significantly from his research.

Stephen showed considerable persistence and hard work in his grueling journey to the completion of the thesis in what turned out to a complex topic. His close circle of friends and colleagues, including lawyers such as myself, who feel they can never aspire to the standard of his brilliant achievement and his level of dedication and application, congratulate him.

His wife, Julie Fisher (Librarian at the Department of Justice), who he married around the

beginning of this process also deserves congratulations for the support provided to Stephen.



Doctor Stephen Herne.