



# WA LEE EQUITY LECTURE Introduction of the Hon Justice White Thursday 30 October 2003, 6.00pm

I warmly welcome you all to the Supreme Court for this important annual event.

To be invited to deliver the WA Lee Equity Lecture bespeaks one's being acknowledged as a legal scholar of excellence and achievement.

This annual lecture was inaugurated in the year 2000. It celebrates the legal, I should add equitable, acumen of one of the finest academic lawyers this State has ever boasted, and that is Mr Tony Lee. It is his brilliance which in large part accounts for the generally high levels of understanding of equity and trusts, and especially succession law, exhibited by most of the now older contemporary lawyers in this State. As a lecturer, Tony Lee was accessible, incisive, inspiring.

And so to be invited to deliver a lecture in his name in this generally considered difficult field, is a mark of particular personal achievement.

The previous lectures have been delivered by most eminent speakers: Tony Lee himself, Mr Hubert Picarda QC and The Hon William Gummow AC.



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The address is sponsored by the Queensland Community Foundation, a public charitable trust chaired by former Queensland Premier Mr Mike Ahern and managed by the Public Trustee. The Foundation was set up to serve the State's communities by providing a permanent funding source for charity. Its board of governors comprises leaders from a variety of fields, working voluntarily.

Additionally, there is the sponsorship of the Queensland University of Technology Faculties of Business and Law, which coordinates the presentation of the address. The Law School of the QUT is well respected State-wide and nationally, particularly with the involvement of its Dean, Professor Malcolm Cope and its head of school Professor Brian Fitzgerald.

And there are other sponsors whose contribution should be acknowledged with thanks, the Bar Association of Queensland, Domaine Chandon Australia, Queensland Law Society and Proctor, Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, and Thomson Lawbook Company.

I want to say how much "the law" in Queensland is enhanced by creative initiatives like this. Lawyers are challenged by being encouraged to think, and to think laterally, and the system – and the public – obviously benefit if that challenge is accepted.



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This evening, the challenge will be levelled by Justice Margaret White of the Supreme Court, a Judge of the Court since 2 April 1992, and prior to that a Master from 1 March 1990. Her Honour is a much respected Judge, and sometime academic, and I will not embarrass her beyond recording that her judicial eminence has been acknowledged both in the State and nationally. Her Honour Justice White ...