

COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN LAW DEANS

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Association will be “The Council of Australian Law Deans”.

2. Membership

2.1 The members of the Council will be the Deans, Heads or Directors, by whatever name called, of those Australian law schools listed in Appendix A at the date of adoption of this Constitution or later added to that list by resolution of an absolute majority of existing members.

2.2 A “law school” for this purpose is any university unit principally responsible for offering a degree in law, completion of which is recognised by at least one Australian admitting authority as satisfying most or all of that authority’s academic requirements for admission to legal practice.

3. Objects

The objects of the Council will be:

(a) consultation on matters of mutual concern to members of the institutions which they represent and, where appropriate, the adoption of common policies;

(b) the furtherance of legal education and legal research in Australia;

(c) the promotion of active cooperation of the institutions represented on the Council with one another, and with university, professional and other learned bodies in Australia and elsewhere; and

(d) representation of law schools and their needs to Federal and State governments, higher education bodies, the legal profession and the wider community.

4. Subscriptions

An annual subscription fee will be due and payable in January of each year. The amount of the subscription fee is to be fixed by the Council from time to time.

5. Income and Property

The income and property of the Council, however derived, will be employed solely towards the promotion of the Council’s objects and no part of that income and property will be paid or transferred by way of profit to members of the Council. However, nothing in this Constitution is to be taken as preventing the following:

(a) the payment in good faith of reasonable remuneration to any officer or employee or member of the Council, in return for any services actually rendered by the Council;

(b) the payment of interest on any loans by members of the Council or their institutions to the Council at a rate not exceeding the reference rate quoted by the National Australia Bank; or

(c) the payment of a market rent or less for premises demised or let by any member to the Council.

6. General Meetings

6.1 Meetings of the Council will be convened at such times and places as are agreed by the members. One meeting each year will, unless otherwise agreed, be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Australasian Law Teachers Association.

6.2 The Chair will preside at meetings. In the absence of the Chair the Deputy Chair will preside.

6.3 A member may nominate a deputy to attend any meeting.

6.4 Eight members or their deputies present in person will constitute a quorum.

7. Officers

7.1 The officers of the Council will be the Chair, the Deputy Chair, and the Treasurer, and the Chairs of the CALD Standing Committees, elected to those positions by the members of the Council.

7.2 Each officer will hold office for two-year terms, unless he or she ceases to be a member of the Council or resigns from the position.

7.3 If a casual vacancy arises in the positions of Chair or Treasurer, the Deputy Chair will fill the vacant position until the next meeting of the Council. If a casual vacancy arises in the position of Deputy Chair, the Treasurer will fill that position until the next meeting of the Council.

7A. CALD Standing Committees (added 2007)

7A.1 The Council may constitute from time to time such Standing Committees as are considered necessary to progress the business of the Council between plenary meetings of the Council.

7A.2 Without limiting the power of the Council to vary by resolution the number and names of the Standing Committees as appropriate, the following shall be the initial Standing Committees:

- CALD Standing Committee on Legal Education
- CALD Standing Committee on Legal Research
- CALD Standing Committee on Standards and Accreditation
- CALD Standing Committee on Legal Practice and Relations with the Legal Profession
- CALD Standing Committee on International Matters
- CALD Standing Committee on Information Communication Technology (ICT)

7A.3 The Chair of the Council and the Deputy Chair of the Council shall be *ex officio* members of each of the Standing Committees.

8. *Executive Sub-Committee*

8.1 There will be an executive sub-committee of the Council which will consist of the officers of the Council.

8.2 The executive sub-committee may reach decisions by communicating through electronic means such as telephone, or electronic mail.

8.3 The executive sub-committee may co-opt the Chair-Elect and the Immediate Past Chair, so long as the Immediate Past Chair remains a member of the Council.

9. *Bank Account*

9.1 The executive sub-committee is authorised to open and operate a bank account on behalf of the Council. The annual subscriptions will be paid into this account and will be disbursed as agreed by the Council. The account will at all times be maintained in credit.

9.2 In the event of the Council being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be paid and applied by the Council in accordance with its powers to any organisation which has similar objects and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members.

10. *Representation of Council's Views*

10.1 The Chair will act as spokesperson for the Council and sign any letters or statements on its behalf.

10.2 The Chair may speak on behalf of the Council on a matter which has not been the subject of a formal resolution, but only if the Chair has canvassed opinions within the Council and has reason to believe that the views to be advanced are those of a substantial majority of members.

10.3 In all instances views or policies will be presented as those of the Council as a whole rather than the institutions represented on the Council. Individual members will at all times remain free to express different views on behalf of themselves or their institutions.

11. *Dissolution*

In the event of the Council being dissolved, the amount which remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be paid and applied by the Council in accordance with its powers to any organisation which has similar objects and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members.

12. *Amendments*

This Constitution may be amended by a resolution approved by an absolute majority of members.

13. Commencement

This Constitution will come into force on 1 January 1998, and will replace the constitution that came into force on 1 January 1989 as amended in February and August 1989.

Appendix A

(members as at 6 December 2007)

ANU College of Law, Australian National University

Faculty of Law, Bond University

School of Law and Business, Charles Darwin University

School of Law, Deakin University

School of Law and Justice, Edith Cowan University

School of Law, Flinders University Adelaide

Griffith Law School, Griffith University

School of Law, James Cook University

School of Law, La Trobe University

Division of Law, Macquarie University

Monash Law School, Monash University

School of Law, Murdoch University

Faculty of Law, Queensland University of Technology

School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University

The Law School, University of Adelaide

School of Law, University of Canberra

The Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne

School of Law, University of New England

Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

Faculty of Business and Law, University of Newcastle

School of Law, University of Notre Dame, Australia

TC Beirne School of Law, University of Queensland

School of Law, University of South Australia

Sydney Law School, University of Sydney

Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania

Faculty of Law, University of Technology, Sydney

Faculty of Law, University of Western Australia

School of Law, University of Western Sydney

Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong

Law School, Victoria University