



The Australian Network for Japanese Law

Newsletter – April 2009

Events & Initiatives

ANJeL to Co-host Major Human Rights in Asia Conference: November 2009 - Call for Papers ANJeL will co-host a major International Conference on "Human Rights in the Asia-Pacific: Towards Institution Building" in Sydney on 27-28 November 2009 in partnership with the Sydney Centre for International Law (SCIL), the Centre for Asian and Pacific Law at the University of Sydney (CAPLUS), and the Australian Human Rights Centre at UNSW. Thanks to the sponsorship of the Japan Foundation, speakers selected through a competitive process will be granted funding to support their international or domestic travel to Sydney and two night accommodation in Sydney. Speakers will include former members of the International Human Rights Committee and leading international law and human rights scholars in the Asia-Pacific region. This conference will be one of the first opportunities for leading legal scholars to talk through the issues arising from political aspirations towards institution-building for human rights monitoring in the Asia-Pacific region. More details will be available soon on the ANJeL website. Paper proposals should be submitted to anjelinfo@gmail.com.

Eminent Scholar to be ANJeL Visitor Renowned scholar and practitioner in Japanese civil procedure and insolvency law, international commercial arbitration and WTO law, Professor Yasuhei Taniguchi, will be an ANJeL Visiting Academic based in the new Sydney Law School building over July-August 2009. Among other events, Professor Taniguchi will give a public lecture entitled "Crossing Boundaries: Reflections of a Civil Procedure Professor, International Commercial Arbitrator and WTO Judge" on 29 July 2009. More details are available at <http://www.usyd.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventcategoryid=39&eventid=3680>. ANJeL will also welcome Professor Tetsuya Nakamura of the Kokushikan University Law Faculty, who serves as the General Manager of the Arbitration and Mediation Departments of the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association (JCAA) for six months in Sydney from September 2009, and Professor Toshifumi Sowa of Kwansei Gakuin University Law School for a visit of several weeks.

ANJeL Panel at Japanese Studies Association of Australia (JSAA-ICJLE) Conference: July 2009 Kent Anderson, Luke Nottage and Stacey Steele will participate in a panel entitled "Bridging the Gap between Japanese Language and Japanese Legal Studies" at the joint Japanese Studies Association of Australia (JSAA) – International Conference on Japanese Language Education (ICJLE) 2009 conference to be held in Sydney on 13-16 July 2009 at the University of New South Wales and the University of Sydney. See <http://jsaa-icjle2009.arts.unsw.edu.au/en/index.html>.

ANJeL's Second Book Following a successful workshop in Tokyo in February 2009, we have had encouraging feedback from around a dozen potential authors regarding ANJeL's planned second book, tentatively titled *Who Judges Japanese Law? Popular Participation in Japan's Legal Process*.

ANJeL Members and Associates are invited to submit suggestions for additions to the Asian Law Information Institute (AsianLII) Japanese Law Resources page. Suggestions should be made via anjelinfo@gmail.com. See <http://www.asianlii.org.jp/other/JPLRes/>.

New Developments

Lost Members

Some e-mail addresses for members are no longer current.

ANJeL asks that each member advises us of the following via the ANJeL email address ANJeLinfo@gmail.com:

a second (permanent, non-institutional) email address;

any relevant changes in professional affiliation; &

whether you consent to be listed in the Selected Members list on the ANJeL website.

The 2008 Akira Kawamura Course Prizes were won by Nicola Mc Guire at the University of New South Wales and Celia Winnett at the Australian National University. The 2008 ANJeL / Blake Dawson Essay Prize has been won by Mari Sakurai of the University of Melbourne, writing on Japan's recycling laws. A Special Mention goes to Nadine Courmadias of the University of New South Wales, writing on Japan's drink driving laws.

ANJeL's Inaugural Tokyo CLE Seminar in February 2009 was highly successful and ANJeL wishes to acknowledge the presenters, in particular Paul Davis of Baker & McKenzie, for their expertise and generous support.

The Journal of Japanese Law, which ANJeL assists in editing, has published a helpful cumulative subject index for Issues 1-25. See http://www.djjv.org/Zeitschrift_26/register.pdf.

Facebook Groups and even a Youtube video have been created for the International Negotiation and Arbitration Competition ANJeL "Team Australia" and the Kyoto and Tokyo Seminars in Japanese Law offered annually by ANJeL, which saw record enrolment in February 2009. See www.facebook.com, <http://www.kyoto-seminar.jp/>, the ANJeL websites and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?gl=JP&hl=ja&v=yuG3xv8eV6k> for more information. "Team Australia" competed energetically in December 2008, honing skills and attracting significant attention. ANJeL wishes to thank the generous sponsors who made the Team's participation possible: the Australia-Japan Foundation, the Australian National University, the ANU College of Law, Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu, Toyota Australia and the Dean of the University of Sydney Law School.

Research Spotlight

Kent Anderson has been appointed by Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard as one of six members of the National Asian Languages and Studies in Schools Program strategic committee and will be a delegate to the 2009 Future Summit in Melbourne in May. His recent publications include, with D. Johnson, (2009) "Japan's New Criminal Trials" in A. Harding & P. Nicholson (eds.) *New Courts in Asia*; with T. Ryan, (2009) "Gatekeepers: A Comparative Critique of Admission to the Legal Profession and Japan's New Law Schools" in S. Steele (ed.) *Legal Education in Asia*; "Nihon kenkyu wa 'futsu no koto' e seijuku o togeta" [Japanese Studies Matures into Normalcy] (2009) 27 *Wochi Kochi* [*The Japan Foundation Magazine*] 42 and a book review of O. Arakaki, *Refugee Law and Practice in Japan*, "The Conundrum of Refugee Practice in Japan" in *Human Rights Law Review* (forthcoming 2009).

A revised version of Luke Nottage's selective bibliography of Japanese law resources in western languages will appear in a co-written chapter in H. Baum (ed) *Handbuch des japanischen Handels- und Wirtschaftsrechts* [Handbook of Japanese Commercial and Economic Law] (Carl Heymann, Cologne; 2nd edn.; forthcoming 2009). For an update on finding information on Japanese law on the Internet including a new Ministry of Justice site for translated legislation see <http://blogs.usyd.edu.au/japaneselaw/>. Leon Wolff is currently on leave.