From The Director

April/May 2007 : Number 7

Management of the Centre

The previous newsletter, FTD 6, was written by Charlotte Ku just before she returned to the United States to take up her new position as Director of Graduate and International Legal Studies at the University of Illinois College of Law. We are enormously grateful for all that Charlotte did during her time as Acting Director in helping to chart the way forward.

In April I returned from leave to direct the Centre. In this I am greatly assisted by our Deputy Director, Dr Roger O’Keefe, who was recently reappointed for a further 4 years, by the Centre’s Administrator, Anita Rutherford, and by our front-of-house person, the Centre’s new Secretary Kristin Hollis. Kristin joined us from a previous post at the National Trust and is already making herself a Cambridge treasure!

James Crawford, May 2007

Federal Court Chief Justice talks human rights

On Wednesday 9 May, the Centre was pleased to co-host, along with the Centre for Public Law, a lecture by the Honourable Michael Black AC, Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia. The Chief Justice’s lecture, entitled “Human Rights without a Bill of Rights” outlined the way in which the common law provided human rights protection and how this protection operated in the Australian context, where there is no constitutional bill of rights.

The lecture was particularly interesting as the State Governments in the Australian federal system have begun to enact bills of rights in their own constitutions: this has occurred in both the Australian Capital Territory and Victoria. The Chief Justice commented that it was a particular pleasure to speak at Cambridge where many former Federal Court associates have continued their studies.

BRCS/ICRC Customary Law Project

Announced in FTD 6, this Project – to update the ICRC’s massive study Customary International Humanitarian Law (CUP, 2005) – gets underway in mid-June. The three researchers specifically recruited by the British Red Cross Society for the Project are:

- Michael Carrel - Team Leader. Dr Carrel is a former Captain in the Royal Australian Navy. He has worked for the ICRC (as a Delegate to Armed and Security Forces in Bosnia) and Amnesty International (as Government and Parliamentary Liaison Officer) and undertaken voluntary work in International Humanitarian Law (IHL) dissemination with the Australian Red Cross. He wrote his PhD on Australia’s post-World War II war crimes trials of Japanese defendants, under the supervision of Professor Tim McCormack at the University of Melbourne. He is presently Senior Research Officer at the Commonwealth Ombudsman;

- Anthony Cullen – Researcher. Dr Cullen has just completed his PhD at the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland in Galway. His thesis is on the concept of non-international armed conflict in IHL; his supervisor is Professor William Schabas, himself a Cambridge regular! Dr Cullen’s research experience includes a period at the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and with Al-Haq, the Palestinian Human Rights NGO. He served in the Irish Reserve Army for six years.

OUP Senior Law Editor provides tips on how to get published

John Louth, Senior Law Editor at Oxford University Press, gave a talk for doctoral students and law teaching staff on 15 May hosted by the Centre. His talk was entitled "Getting Published - Doctoral Theses and Beyond" and provided much practical advice for approaching law publishers with manuscripts and proposals. His explanations of target markets for legal texts and monographs was particularly interesting for aspiring authors.

- Iris Müller - Researcher. Ms Müller is presently working as an intern in the Legal Division at the ICRC in Geneva. She has a law degree from the University of Heidelberg, professional legal training, and an LLM in IHL from the University Centre for IHL at the University of Geneva. Ms Müller also worked for the German Red Cross, writing and up-dating a handbook on IHL dissemination. She is undertaking a PhD under Professor Andreas Zimmermann at the University of Kiel; her research topic is the development of the legal distinction between international and non-international armed conflict.
Vinous alumni gathering in Melbourne

The Australian visiting fellows and research fellows in attendance at the Lauterpacht Centre during Michaelmas and Lent terms 2005-06 recently gathered for what was reportedly a ‘very merry’ alumni dinner in Melbourne. Those attending included Dr Elies van Sledregt, Prof Sarah Joseph, Ms Alison Duxbury, Ms Kylie Evans, Dr Melissa Perry and Mr Paul Hayes.

Navigation Servitudes by Ralph Gillis

Ralph Gillis (an alumni both of Jesus College and the Lauterpacht Centre) has very kindly donated the royalties from his forthcoming book Navigation Servitudes jointly to the College and the Centre. The book will be published by Brill (www.brill.nl) in August.

The Nature of Customary Law

In 2006, the Centre co-hosted a seminar on the nature of customary law; the book of the seminar, edited by Amanda Perreau-Saussine and James Murphy, has just been published by Cambridge University Press. More information is available on the Press’s website at http://www.cambridge.org.

Brown-bag roundtable on the Bosnia Genocide Case

The first of the series of brown bag lunches for PhD students and interested Faculty was held on Thursday 24 May. Dr Jillaine Seymour of Sidney Sussex spoke on the ICJ’s decision of February 2007 in the Bosnia Genocide Case and there was a lively, often critical discussion.

The next brown-bag session will take place during Michaelmas Term.

International law PhD roundtable

The next international law PhD roundtable takes place on Thursday 7th June and will feature Isabelle Van Damme talking on The Interpretation of Silence in the WTO Covered Agreements.

The event, aimed at teaching staff and research students of the university, starts at 5.00pm and is followed by a wine reception. More information on the PhD roundtable series is available on the Centre’s website.

Visiting Fellows’ Roundtable

Roundtable presentations for the Easter Term included:

- Camille Bergman on the Impossibility of Performance and Force Majeure in International Law
- David Berry on a Democratic Conception of Sovereignty
- Claudia Cinelli on Political Globalisation and Human Rights
- Sylvia Kędzierska on the Definition of Aggression in International Law: Prerogatives of the UN Security Council in the Scope of the ICC’s Statute of Rome
- Ignacio Rodriguez y Alvarez on the Precautionary Principle in International Environmental Law

Friday Lecture Programme

The Friday lectures included:

- Dr Andres Rigo, Visiting Fellow, All Souls’ College, Oxford on the concept of investment in international arbitration.
- Professor Teemu Ruskola, American University, Washington College of Law on American legal imperialism in China 1844 – 1943: a chapter in the making of modern international law.
- Dr Lorand Bartels, Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge on international law in the WTO legal system.
- Mr Peter Turner, Head of the International Arbitration Group, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Paris on policy issues in Investment Treaty Arbitration.
- Dr Stefan Talmon, Fellow in Law, St Anne’s College, Oxford on international responsibility for the acts of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq

This year’s Friday Lunchtime Lectures have now finished. Information on those for Michaelmas 2007 will appear on the Centre’s website in due course.

Visiting Fellows

Recent arrivals include:

- Thomas Giegerich, of the Walther-Schilling Institute for International Law, Germany who will research the constitutionalisation of international law and the internationalisation of constitutional law; and
- John Martin Gillroy of Lehigh University, USA who returns for his annual visit to work on philosophical-politics and the international rule of law

Publications Update

International Law Reports:

Volume 132 is now in press and includes amongst others:

(1) the 2007 Partial Award in the Eurotunnel arbitration;
(2) the Bermudan Court of Appeal case on treaties (Brasswell);
(3) the UK House of Lords judgments in joined appeals in Jones (Margaret) and Ayliffe together with the lower court decisions.

Centre life in pics

April/May:

- James’s researcher Jonathan Ketcheson returns to Oz with a lot of cricket and the usual LCL mug!
- Lorand Bartels, who joins the Centre and gardens in the Easter sunshine
- Students enjoy a sundowner at the Centre’s Easter BBQ
- Centre Administrator Anita Rutherford with new Centre Secretary Kristin Hollis
- The Centre and gardens in the Easter sunshine

If you have any Alumni or Centre-related news you would like others to hear about, do let us have it via email to admin@lcl.cam.ac.uk

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