

LAW, RELIGION AND SOCIAL CHANGE

A Conference Exploring Intersections of Law and Religion

**25–27 May 2006
National Museum
of Australia**

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Margaret Davies
Professor Malcolm Evans
Professor Ruth Gavison
Judge Michael W. McConnell
Professor Ngaire Naffine
Professor Abdullah Saeed
Professor Lawrence Sager

Conference Convenors

Professor Peter Cane
Dr Carolyn Evans (University of
Melbourne)
Zoë Guest
Dr Adrienne Stone

Conference Website

[http://lawrsss.anu.edu.au/
conference.html](http://lawrsss.anu.edu.au/conference.html)

Keynote Speakers

Margaret Davies, Professor, School of Law, Flinders University

Professor Davies' research covers several areas of legal theory, including post-modern and critical legal thought, feminist jurisprudence, the philosophy of property and legal pluralism. She is on the international editorial board of *Social and Legal Studies*. Her publications include *Delimiting the Law: Postmodernism and the Politics of Law* (1996), *Are Persons Property? Legal Debates About Property and Personality* (with Ngaire Naffine, 2001), and *Asking the Law Question: The Dissolution of Legal Theory* (2002).

Malcolm Evans, Professor of Law and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, University of Bristol

Professor Evans' areas of research interest include the law of the sea and the international protection of human rights, with particular focus on the freedom of religion and the prevention of torture. He is a member of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Advisory Panel on Freedom of Religion and Belief; the ILA Human Rights Law and Practice Committee; and the Board of Management of the Association for the Prevention of Torture. His publications include *Religious Liberty and International Law in Europe* (1997).

Ruth Gavison, Professor of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Professor Gavison is a senior fellow at the Israel Democracy Institute and a professor of Human Rights at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. From 1999 through 2001, Professor Gavison was engaged in an intensive dialogue that served to generate a draft covenant between religious and secular Jews in Israel. Awarded the 1997 Zeltner Prize for excellence in research, Professor Gavison became a Laurance Rockefeller Fellow with the Centre for Human Values at Princeton University from 1998 to 1999. In 2003 she won the Emet Prize for Law and Political Science, awarded to her by the Prime Minister of Israel. Her many publications include *The Constitutional Revolution: Reality or Self-Fulfilling Prophecy?*, (1998).

Ngaire Naffine, Professor of Law, University of Adelaide.

Professor Naffine has published extensively in the areas of criminology, criminal law, feminist legal theory and medical law. Her books include *Law and the Sexes* (1990), and *Feminism and Criminology* (1997). She has written about rape law, the legal status of transsexuals, of persons before birth (as fetuses) and after death (as body parts and corpses). She has been a Visiting International Scholar at the Hastings Bioethics Center in Garrison New York; a Visiting Scholar in the Faculty of Law, Birkbeck College, University of London; a Visiting scholar at the European University Institute in Florence Italy; and Baker-Hostetler Professor of Law at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University.

Judge Michael W. McConnell, Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit

Judge McConnell is a judge of the United States 10th Circuit Court of Appeals and Presidential Professor of Law at the University of Utah. Among the United States most distinguished scholars in the fields of constitutional law and theory with a specialty in the religion clauses of the First Amendment, Professor McConnell has argued 11 times before the U.S. Supreme Court. He is widely published in the areas of church-state relations and the First Amendment. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Abdullah Saeed, Sultan of Oman Professor of Arab and Islamic Studies, Director, Centre for Study of Contemporary Islam, the University of Melbourne

Professor Saeed's research focus is one of the most important issues in Islamic thought: the negotiation of text and context, *ijtihad* and interpretation. His publications cover Islamic finance, Muslim communities in Australia, Islamic law and freedom of religion, Christian-Muslim relations, Islamic thought in Indonesia, Qur'anic hermeneutics, Islam and human rights, and Islamic law reform. Among many publications, he is the author of *Islam in Australia* (2003), *Freedom of Religion and Apostasy in Islam* (2004) and *Interpreting the Qur'an: Towards a Contemporary Approach* (in press).

Lawrence Sager, Alice Jane Drysdale Sheffield Regents Professor of Law, School of Law, University of Texas at Austin

Larry Sager is the author or co-author of dozens of articles, many now classics in the canon of legal scholarship, including "Unpacking the Court" (*Yale Law Journal*, 1986) and, "The Incurable Constitution" (*New York University Law Review*, 1990). Among his recent articles are "Religious Liberty and the Moral Structure of Constitutional Rights" (*Legal Theory*, 2000) (with Christopher Eisgruber). Professor Sager's forthcoming book, *Justice in Plainclothes: A Theory of American Constitutional Practice*, provides a systematic account of the central features of American constitutionalism.

The Conference papers will explore a wide spectrum of themes including:

Religious Liberty and Constitutionalism
 Legal Pluralism and Religious Pluralism
 Intelligent Design and Public Education
 Euthanasia and Abortion
 Religion in World Constitutional Systems
 Religious Dress in Schools
 Incitement to Religious Hatred
 Religious Arbitration in Family Law
 Sharia Courts
 Coercion and Religious Belief

Other speakers include:

Rex Ahdar, *University of Otago*
 Natasha Bakht, *University of Ottawa*
 Benjamin Berger, *University of Victoria (Canada)*
 Meredith Blake, *University of Notre Dame*
 Adam Czarnota, *University of New South Wales*
 Carolyn Evans, *University of Melbourne*
 Simon Evans, *University of Melbourne*
 Dermot Feenan, *University of Ulster*
 Michelle Foster, *University of Melbourne*
 Matthew Gray, *Australian National University*
 Mohammad Hossein Hafezian, *Centre for Scientific Research and Middle East Strategic Studies (Iran)*
 Carissima Mathen, *University of New Brunswick*
 Denise Meyerson, *Macquarie University*
 Leone Niglia, *University of Aberdeen*
 Lucinda Peach, *American University*
 Michael Plaxton, *University of Aberdeen*
 Peter Radan, *Macquarie University*
 Pauline Ridge, *Australian National University*
 Prakash Shah, *Queen Mary, University of London*
 Charlotte Smith, *University of Reading*
 Osman Tastan, *Ankara University*
 Scott Taylor, *University of St. Thomas*
 Li-ann Thio, *National University of Singapore*
 Jeremy Webber, *University of Victoria (Canada)*
 Amanda Whiting, *University of Melbourne*
 Ernst Willheim, *Australian National University*
 Katherine Young, *McGill University*

Conference Schedule*

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| Thursday 25 May | 5.30pm – 7pm: | Reception and Registration at University House |
| Friday 26 May | 8.30am – 9am: | Registration and Coffee at the National Museum of Australia |
| | 9.00am – 5.30pm: | Conference Proceedings at the National Museum of Australia |
| | 7pm: | Conference Dinner at The Lobby restaurant |
| Saturday 27 May | 9am – 5pm: | Conference Proceedings at the National Museum of Australia |
| | 5pm – 5.15pm: | Conference Closing at the National Museum of Australia |

* A detailed program will be available on the conference website, <http://lawrsss.anu.edu.au/conference.html>

Accommodation

Participants are advised to make their accommodation bookings as soon as possible. A limited number of rooms have been reserved for the nights of Thursday 25 May, Friday 26 May and Saturday 27 May with University House and Liversidge Court on the ANU campus, and Rydges Lakeside. Participants should quote 'Law and Religion' when making the booking. All are within walking distance of the conference venue.

UNIVERSITY HOUSE

Cost

Single/Twin Rooms (with breakfast)
@ \$106 per night.

One bedroom apartment (with breakfast)
@ \$108 per night.

Contact Details

A: University House, Cnr Balmain & Liversidge Streets, ANU Campus.

T: +61 2 6125 5275

F: +61 2 6125 5252

E: accommodations.unihouse@anu.edu.au

W: www.anu.edu.au/unihouse

1. Research School of Social Sciences
2. University House
3. Liversidge Court Apartments
4. National Museum of Australia
5. Rydges Lakeside



LIVERSIDGE COURT APARTMENTS

Cost

Studio apartments @ \$96 per night

One bedroom apartments @ \$101 per night

Contact Details

A: Liversidge Court Apartments, Liversidge Street, ANU Campus

T: +61 2 6125 1100

F: +61 2 6125 0737

E: reservations.uas@anu.edu.au

W: http://accom.anu.edu.au/Liversidge.asp

RYDGES LAKESIDE

Cost

Standard Room @\$145 per night

Contact Details

A: Rydges Lakeside, London Circuit, Canberra

T: +61 2 6247 6244

F: +61 2 6257 3071

E: reservations_canberra@rydges.com

W: www.rydges.com