

ANU College of Law congratulates Dean Coper on two recent appointments

At its meeting in Buenos Aires in April 2011, the Governing Board of the International Association of Law Schools (IALS) elected ANU College of Law Dean Professor Michael Coper as one of two Vice Presidents of the Association. Dean Coper has been a member of the IALS Governing Board since 2007, and hosted the IALS 2009 Annual Conference at the ANU College of Law in Canberra. That conference was attended by over 100 delegates from 66 law schools in 31 different countries (see [IALS Conference](#)).

The mission of the IALS is to promote the role of law schools in advancing the discipline of law and enhancing [legal education worldwide](#). It seeks to foster mutual understanding, by respecting and learning from each other's differences, yet

also to find common ground and to promote good practice in curriculum and pedagogy – all in the interests, ultimately, of a more just and peaceful world. As befits its place in the world as a small but progressive country, Australia's membership of the IALS (tirelessly promoted by Dean Coper) is the highest of any country relative to the number of law schools in that country (50%), and, in absolute terms (16 law schools), second only to the United States. The IALS currently has around 140 member law schools from around 40 different countries.

Consistent with his international focus, Dean Coper has also been reappointed as a member of the Commonwealth's International Legal Services Advisory Council (ILSAC) (see the [Attorney-General's media release](#)).

ILSAC, founded by former Chief Justice of NSW Sir Laurence Street in 1990, comprises senior partners of Australia's leading commercial law firms, representatives of relevant government departments, and leaders in Australian legal education (see [International Legal Services Advisory Council](#)). Its mission is to promote the export of Australian legal services and the quality of Australian legal education, including the recognition overseas of Australian law degrees. It is currently working with key Australian universities, including ANU, to promote internationalisation of the law curriculum, under a grant from the Australian Teaching and Learning Council (ALTC).

The ANU College of Law congratulates Dean Coper on these two appointments, and on his leadership in promoting the ANU College of Law's international engagement.



Dean Coper outside the University of Buenos Aires Law School