

# Blockbuster appointment round brings new riches to ANU

ANU Law Dean Professor Michael Coper has announced eleven new appointments as a result of the ANU College of Law's annual academic appointment round for 2007.

'I am delighted with the continuing growth of the College', Professor Coper said. 'These new appointments add extraordinary richness and diversity to an already vibrant research and teaching community, that will not only add value to the College's ongoing efforts to address the nation's and the world's legal problems, but will also open up new opportunities for the College's undergraduate and postgraduate students.'



Brad Jessup

The College has made appointments at all levels. Introducing an innovative scheme for early career academics, the College has appointed three Teaching Fellows, who will enjoy all the benefits of an ongoing academic staff appointment, but with a reduced teaching load in order to enable them to pursue a PhD.

The Teaching Fellows are **Brad Jessup**, a Monash University law graduate currently studying environmental law at Cambridge University; **Wendy Kukulies-Smith**, an ANU law graduate and criminal lawyer; and **Helen Saunders**, a Sydney University law graduate and commercial lawyer.



Wendy Kukulies-Smith



Helen Saunders

In another innovative move, the College has appointed **Simon Rice** OAM as its inaugural Director of Law Reform and Social Justice. This appointment further develops the College's established ethos of producing lawyers who are not only competent and ethical but who will also carry with them

throughout their careers a sense of responsibility for working to improve the law and the operation of the legal system. Simon, a former Director of the NSW Law Foundation and currently at Macquarie University, comes with an impressive record in and commitment to the promotion of social justice and human rights.



Simon Rice



Samantha Hepburn



Lauren Honcope



Sarah Heathcote



Molly O'Brien



Kath Hall

The other appointments cover a wide range of areas and expertise. **Samantha Hepburn**, currently at Deakin University, is one of Australia's leading property lawyers, with particular expertise in native title law, equity and trusts. **Molly O'Brien**, a US lawyer currently at Wollongong University, brings impressive practical and academic experience in evidence, litigation, trial advocacy and criminal law. **Kath Hall**, recently returned from working with AusAID in Indonesia, has special expertise in corporate law and Chinese law, and a special interest in the psychology of corporate governance. **Sarah Heathcote** adds even greater strength to the College's renowned expertise in international law, having obtained her PhD and taught for the past decade at the University of Geneva. And **Lauren Honcope**, formerly a senior lawyer with the Australian Government Solicitor in Canberra, joins the ANU College of Law's Legal Workshop to teach civil practice.



Peta Spender

In addition to these external appointments, two present members of the ANU College of Law and national leaders in their fields were appointed to Chairs in the College. **Peta Spender**, a leading author and teacher in corporate law and litigation, and **Fiona Wheeler**, a respected scholar and teacher in constitutional law, will take up their professorial appointments in the new year. The College congratulates and welcomes all of the new appointees, internal and external.

'The competition for appointments this year was especially strong', Professor Coper added. 'This reflects, I think, both the ANU's reputation, according to all the international surveys, as one of the world's great universities, and the ANU College of Law's reputation, not only for outstanding research, teaching, and community engagement, but also for an exceptionally inclusive and collegial environment in which to pursue its individual and collective goals.'



Fiona Wheeler

Professor Coper thanked all of those involved in the appointment round, including those whose entrepreneurial activities in attracting research funding, undertaking consultancies, and expanding the College's training programs, had made the appointment round possible.

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