

ANU College of Law

Prizes and Scholarships Ceremony 2023



Australian
National
University



Congratulations from the Dean

The achievements of our prize and scholarship recipients are an inspiring reminder of the exceptional community to which we belong.

To our 2023 awardees, I give my congratulations. Your successes are well deserved and a reflection of your dedication and hard work. These awards are a genuine sign of recognition and encouragement from the ANU College of Law and some of the most influential members of the legal profession.

To the families of our awardees, we share your pride. We are fortunate to count these students as members of our College community and we value the time they spend with us. Upon the completion of their studies, we hope they will continue to stay in touch and play an active role in our alumni community.

Our prizes and scholarships are generously donated by members of a wider community: ANU alumni and colleagues from the legal profession and beyond. I thank you for supporting these remarkable students and join everyone in celebrating their achievements.

Professor Anthony Connolly
Dean of ANU College of Law

Order of Proceedings

Welcome

Professor Anthony Connolly
Dean, ANU College of Law

Presentation of Awards

Associate Professor Wayne Morgan
Associate Dean (Education), ANU College of Law

Recipient remarks

Lillian Ireland
2022 recipient, Chris and Kerryn Marks Travel Grant

Academic remarks

Making waves: law for an uncertain future
Professor Rebecca Monson, ANU College of Law

Refreshments

Moot Court Foyer

2023 Prize Recipients

Recipients of a Law Prize in recognition of outstanding performance, academic achievement, leadership and contribution to University life.

ACT Director of Public Prosecutions Prize for Criminal Law

Tristan Gar Loong Yip

ACT Human Rights Commission Prize for International Law of Human Rights

Nina Grace Shakesby Gannon

Aileen Moreton-Robinson Indigenous Student Prize

Deborah Nanschild

Ann Downer Memorial Prize in Law

Caspar Zauner

Nikita Chandekar

Anthony McAvoy SC Prize for Legal Education for True Justice

Sophia Patricia Murray-Walker

Bailey Prize for Human Rights

James Kenneth Haughton

Baker McKenzie Prize for Intellectual Property

Amelia Watson

Blackburn Medal for Research in Law

Benjamin Durkin & Charlotte North

Clayton Utz Prize for Administrative Law

Isabella Kathleen Boone

Clayton Utz Prize for Commercial Law

Benjamin Edward Thompson Coombs

Clayton Utz Prize for Torts

Lucy Ellen Rushton Brumby & Holly Wallman-Craddock

Daphne Olive Memorial Prize for Legal Theory

Aislinn D'Arcy

Marlow Meares

William Conor Carey

David Healey Solicitors Prize for Litigation and Dispute Management

Nicholas Bradman

Dean's International Student Prize

Guhong Zhou

Dean's Juris Doctor Prize

Alexandra Elgue

Dean's Prize for Outstanding Achievement in the Masters Program in Law

Nicholas Pokarier

Nathan James Mark

Lucy Elizabeth Strapp

Jack Richardson Prize

Jackson Balme

Kirsten Sjolander Memorial Prize for Advanced International Human Rights Law

Guhong Zhou

Meyer Vandenberg Law Prize for Property Law

William Katleen Bernhard De Decker

Mick Dodson Prize for Indigenous Peoples and the Law

Anne Mae Reddick

Alice Louise Tilleard

Myint Zan Prize for Law Studies

Daniel Marns

Norton Rose Fulbright Prize for Cyber Law

Lynn Warneke

Sir George Knowles Memorial Prize

Benjamin Durkin

Sparke Helmore Prize for Commonwealth Constitutional Law

Nicholas Lloyd Gibson

Vik Sundar and Clear Law Prize for Succession Law

Jessica Semsarian

Max Ee Oo Ong



Blackburn Research in Law Medallist: Charlotte North



Meet Charlotte North (BA/LLB (Hons) '22), a recent graduate of the ANU College of Law and 2022 recipient of the Blackburn Medal for Research in Law.

Charlotte North, a Bachelor of Laws (Hons)/Commerce graduate from The Australian National University (ANU), was awarded the prestigious Blackburn Research in Law Medal for 2022. The prize was awarded for her research thesis, 'Youth, Porn and Sexual Assault: Does the Law Have a Role?', which examined available studies analysing the link between porn consumption and sexual assault perpetrated by adolescent males, and subsequently evaluated two possible legislative reforms and their ability to effectively address this problem.

Charlotte was inspired to research the topic after taking the Law and Sexualities course convened by Associate Professor Wayne Morgan, who also supervised Charlotte's thesis.

"One of the topics in that course was on the UK's legislation to criminalise the possession of extreme pornography. I wrote a different research paper on pornography as part of that course and found the complexities in regulating pornography very interesting. I knew that this was an area I wanted to focus on (for my thesis) because sexual assault is such a pertinent issue facing young Australian women today and the need to address potential contributing factors is pressing," she says.

“Within my community of young women, sexual assault is such a talked-about topic and I was glad to have contributed high-quality research to an area that needs much more attention.”

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Charlotte's research examined whether education promoting critical thinking in relation to pornography can be legislatively mandated in secondary schools as one of the avenues of law reform. Reflecting on winning the Blackburn Research in Law Medal, Charlotte says one of the greatest rewards was the opportunity to meaningfully contribute to an under-researched field.

"When I found out I'd won, my main feeling was relief that I had done the topic justice," she says. "Within my community of young women, sexual assault is such a talked-about topic and I was glad to have contributed high-quality research to an area that needs much more attention."

Charlotte hopes to adapt her research thesis into a journal article –once she determines a good disciplinary fit for her research.

Charlotte says that "it's interesting as the topic does not neatly fit within either the 'theoretical gender' nor 'criminal justice' disciplines. However, I still consider it to be a valuable piece of scholarship and am exploring avenues of publication."

Blackburn Research in Law Medallist: Benjamin Durkin



Meet Benjamin Durkin (BA/LLB (Hons) '22), a recent graduate of the ANU College of Law and 2022 recipient of the Blackburn Medal for Research in Law.

For Benjamin Durkin, choosing to study law at ANU was an easy decision.

"I've always loved reading, writing and debating, and so thought law was a good fit," Ben said.

"Happily, after five years, I can say that it was."

In 2022, Ben graduated from ANU with a Bachelor of Laws (Hons)/Politics, Philosophy and Economics degree and an impressive academic record under his belt.

Ben won a number of accolades during his time at university, including the 2022 University Medal, 2020 Ashurst Australia Prize for Corporations Laws, 2020 Clayton Utz Prize for Administrative Law and 2020 Sir George Knowles Memorial Prize.

Originally from Melbourne, Ben studied at ANU through the Tuckwell Scholarship, which provides a select group of talented and motivated students with the opportunity to realise their potential while at university.

During the course of his legal studies, Ben found he was particularly fascinated by public law and legal theory.

“Winning the 2021 Gibbs Moot, and presenting in front of Justice Stephen Gageler, was especially memorable.”

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“The intersection between law and politics is something that really interests me, and public law gets to the heart of that field,” Ben says. “It also helps that public law is taught really well at ANU. Canberra is the home of public law in Australia, which makes the field really lively and engaging.”

Ben’s participation in mooting competitions, particularly the Jessup Moot and Gibbs Moot, were highlights of his time spent at ANU.

“Studying law can often be an individual-focused activity, so I really enjoyed the lateral team-work required in mooting competitions,” Ben said.

“Winning the 2021 Gibbs Moot, and presenting in front of (ANU Law alumnus) Justice Stephen Gageler, was especially memorable.”

Travelling to Kununurra to work with the Kimberley Community Legal Service and Washington DC to work in the United States Congress were also highlights of Ben’s studies at ANU.

“Both internships were incredibly inspiring and eye-opening opportunities,” he says.

Now he has graduated, Ben plans to enjoy overseas travel before commencing work as an associate at the Federal Court.

“I’m really excited to expose myself to an interesting range of legal matters that come before the court,” he says.

“I also hope to do some further study at some stage, though I’ll enjoy some time away from exams first.”

Scholarships and Travel Grants

Recipients of an award selected for their academic excellence, and enrolment into a Law program or an internship, fellowship or placement with one of our partners.

ANU College of Law International Merit Scholarship

Boyuan Du

Rahkel Mercy

Simeng Wang

Wanqi Zou

Yizhe Liu

ANU College of Law International Partners Scholarship

Budsarakam Chaykla

Thuy Tien Nguyen

Napassorn Poolpokar

Thuy Tien Nguyen

Chris and Kerry Marks Travel Grant

Aaron Bronitt	Laura Penelope Rose Burfitt
Benjamin Edward Thompson Coombs	Leila Skoss
Braedyn Edwards	Lillian Ireland
Claire Grant	Lydia Nieve Corcoran Eagleton
Clare Lucre	Maximilian Charles Claessens
Elisabeth Sophie Henke	Nicholas Langsworth
Eloise Jacqueline Doherty	Niroshnee Ranjan
Georgia Isabel Crocker	Philippa Callan
Jadviga Korbyn-Coletti	Rose Kethel
Jasmine Isabella Leigh Matz	Sophia Patricia Murray-Walker
Jocelyn Kate Abbott	Thomas Gilbert
Laura Le	

Freilich Indigenous Student Scholarship in Law

Deklyn C Crawford Reid

Frohlich Travel Grant to support the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) Fellowship

Sebastian King

Frohlich World Bank Travel Grant

Kriti Mahajan

George Witynski Scholarship

Gabrielle Purcell

Leslie Zines Constitutional Law Travel Grant

David Ferrell

Phillipa Weeks Scholarship in Law

Mairead Angela Phelan Webb

Riley Thomas Curtain

Tina and Tano Salpietro Travel Grant

Benjamin Durkin

Travel Grant for a Legal Internship in London

Claire Gay

Yuill Travel Grant to Support the ICJ Fellowship Programme

Keilin Eloise Anderson

Remembering Professor Phillipa Weeks



Phillipa Weeks (BA (Hons) '74, LLB (Hons) '79, LLM '87), a much loved and respected former ANU Law student and Professor.

Phillipa attended school in country NSW, before she was awarded a scholarship to study at the ANU. This began a successful academic career at ANU Law where she earned much respect through her inspiring teaching and research into Labour Law and held the positions of Professor, Associate Dean and Head of School at the ANU Law School.

In 2006, Professor Phillipa Weeks died at the age of only 53, after a year-long battle with cancer. Former colleagues and students of Phillipa remember her with profound respect and deep affection.

The weeks family, former colleagues and friends established the Phillipa Weeks Scholarship in Law in her honour.



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