

MY NEWS

MY CLIPPINGS

MY COMMENTS

MY HISTORY

SIGN-UP

LOG IN

LEARN MORE

canberratimes.com.au
The Canberra Times



ACT News

News Sport Business Politics Comment Tech Entertainment Life & Style Travel Cars Property Photos

You are here: Home » ACT News » Article

canberratimes.c

Academic never lost faith in balancing act

Advertisement

July 18, 2013

☆ Read later

Dante Ceccon

Tweet 1
 Like Recommend
 Share 0
 Share
 Pin it
 submit

Email article
 Print

Ads by Google

[Postgrad Physio Degree](#) Griffith.edu.au/Physio
Griffith Uni Offers Postgraduate Physiotherapy Courses. Apply Now!

Australian National University Associate Professor Alex Bruce had good reason for pride in both his robes when he received his PhD on Wednesday afternoon.

The ordained Buddhist monk, who studied animal law, is one of 2000 students graduating from the university this week.

The academic of more than a decade said it was a relief to have completed the required 100,000-word thesis while balancing commitments to his faith as an ordained monk of the Tibetan tradition.

"I treated the six months as a retreat so I fitted my prayers and meditation around my research," he said.

The one-time lawyer's path to Buddhism began young, when he would often read about the faith as a child.

"I'd always been interested in Buddhism from an early age and it was my mother who gave me a book and that was it," he said. "I always used to go to Buddhist centres."

The associate professor said it was his passion to use his knowledge of the law to campaign on issues of social justice.

"My abbot sent me back to the university to

Advertisement



Associate Professor and Buddhist monk Alex Bruce received a PhD in Law on Wednesday. Photo: Graham Tidy

promote wisdom and compassion and to use the law as an instrument of social justice," he said.

Animal law, a relatively new academic

Latest Video

Selections Video

[More video](#)

Tackling the world of streaking
Whether it's because they are a proud naturalist or just a blatant attention seeker, there's no denying streaking is a phenomenon of the modern sporting world.



Origin: The agony and the ecstasy



Anger grows as Greece vote draws near



Snowden applies for temporary asylum in Russia

Featured advertisers



Investment Guides
Written by SMH
Independent
Expert information
Order free now



Reg Mombassa
Limited editions
15 to choose from
Hand signed by Reg
Own yours now

- [For Sale](#)
- [Worry-free Investing](#)

discipline, is the study of consumer and competition law to benefit animals.

"I'm hoping to establish animal law as an active discipline; I've got three PhD students already interested in pursuing it," he said. "There is enormous scope for it to expand."

Dr Bruce said Buddhism teachings, including respect for animals, was what

sparked his interest in their welfare.

"When supermarkets say free-range eggs, that might not actually be the case, so we look at how that could be misleading," he said. "We treat some animals better than others."

Dr Bruce celebrated the day with family.

"I'm just delighted that my parents and sister have come from Queensland," he said.

Business and economics students will graduate on Thursday while science, medicine, engineering and arts students will be handed their certificates on Friday.

Ads by Google

[Grow Further](http://www.collaw.edu.au/grow-further) www.collaw.edu.au/grow-further

Study for your Master of Applied Law at The College of Law Australia

[TAFE Courses Online](http://www.opencolleges.edu.au) www.opencolleges.edu.au

Study from home at your own pace. 15% off fees. Limited time offer!

[Macquarie University](http://www.KaplanOnline.edu.au/Online) www.KaplanOnline.edu.au/Online

Fully Online MBA Course w/FEE-HELP. Contact Us & Progress Your Career!

Current jobs 

Learn More [Earn More.](#)

➔ Master of Social Work ➔ Graduate Certificate in Project Management



Defence Housing Australia Brochure

Compare Health Insurance

	Family	Couple	Single	
Provider				Bonus Cashback
Frank	\$130.94	\$269.35	More info	
CUA	\$306.67	\$630.87	More info	

powered by  [Compare all plans](#)

Advertisement

26 Outrageous Celebrity Demands



Sometimes demands aren't as crazy as they sound, and sometimes they're even madder. [Read more...](#)

Anatomy of a Break-Up Pacific Rim- Movie Review

theVINE

Advertisement

Recommended

[?]



'I was born with a double uterus'



Abbott hit by backlash



Canberra's \$10m jackpot still unclaimed



CrossFit stands by humiliating workout video



FROM THE WEB
Tennessee Girl Suspended from School 24 Times for Smelling Foul
Sphere

 Tweet 1

 Like Recommend

 Share

 Email article  Print

Jobs

Essential Baby

Video

Holiday Rentals

TheVine

