



Australian
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PUBLIC LAW IN THE AGE OF STATUTES

A CONFERENCE IN HONOUR OF EMERITUS PROFESSOR DENNIS PEARCE

Public Law Weekend

Friday 24 October 2014

National Library of Australia
Parkes Place
Parkes Canberra ACT

Centre for International
& Public Law
ANU College of
Law

Dennis Pearce AO, FAAL, is one of the doyens of public law in Australia, a remarkable embodiment of the 'new' federal administrative law introduced in Australia in the 1970s, and one of the great figures of the ANU College of Law at the Australian National University.

In addition to being Dean of the Faculty of Law from 1982–84 and 1991–93, Professor Pearce has been Commonwealth Ombudsman, Chair of the Australian Press Council, Chair of the Copyright Law Review Committee, foundation adviser to the Senate Scrutiny of Bills Committee, first President of the ACT Racing Appeals Tribunal and the first Chair of the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal. He has also conducted a host of significant inquiries for the Commonwealth and ACT governments, commencing with the Pearce Report on Australian Law Schools in 1987. His many publications include *Statutory Interpretation in Australia*, *Delegated Legislation* and *Administrative Appeals Tribunal*.

This one-day conference in honour of Professor Pearce – the Public Law Weekend for 2014 – will feature

a distinguished group of speakers. Justice Stephen Gageler of the High Court of Australia will present the opening paper, followed by Professor Margaret Allars of the University of Sydney, Daniel Stewart of the Australian National University, Linda Pearson of the Land and Environment Court of New South Wales, Professor John McMillan, Australian Information Commissioner, Professor AJ Brown of Griffith University, Justice Susan Kenny of the Federal Court of Australia and Professor Cheryl Saunders of the University of Melbourne.

At the conclusion of the conference, and before the conference dinner, Chief Justice Robert French AC of the High Court of Australia, will launch the fortieth anniversary edition of *Statutory Interpretation in Australia* written by Professor Pearce and Harry Geddes.

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