

The **Australian Labour Law Association** (ALLA) is pleased to announce that its 6th Biennial Conference is being held in Canberra on Friday 16 and Saturday 17 November 2012. The conference will run all day on Friday, with a dinner that night, then conclude at lunchtime on Saturday. The venue is the Rydges Lakeside Hotel, conveniently located in the heart of Canberra.

Appropriately, given its location in our national capital, the theme for the conference is **working in the public interest**. The public interest has always been a central theme in Australian labour law, and recent disputes involving QANTAS and Victorian public hospital nurses have served to highlight the impact that our labour laws have, not only on the direct workplace participants but on the community more broadly. Debates concerning the content of our labour laws and the interests which they should protect continue to be played out, most recently in the Fair Work Act review process.

The program will include keynote speakers talking about collective bargaining from both domestic and international perspectives, followed by a panel discussion on collective bargaining under the *FW Act*, including the role played by Fair Work Australia in the bargaining process. The panel will consist of representatives of employees and employers, an academic, and given the location of the conference and the recent proliferation of bargaining disputation in the public sector, a panelist with public sector experience. Time will also be set aside for questions from the floor.

FRIDAY	16 NOVEMBER
8.30 - 9am	Registration
9am	Introduction and housekeeping matters Prof Andrew Stewart ALLA President & Cameron Roles conference organiser, host institution
9.15am	KEYNOTE 1 President Iain Ross Fair Work Australia
9.45am	KEYNOTE 2 A Perspective from Europe Prof Keith Ewing King's College, London
10.15am	KEYNOTE 3 <u>Old Dogs, New Tricks and Umpire Avoidance: 12 years of good faith bargaining in New Zealand</u> Chief Judge Graeme Colgan New Zealand Employment Court
10.45 - 11.15am	Morning Tea
11.15am - 12.45pm	PANEL DISCUSSION Collective Bargaining Under the Fair Work Act <i>Panelists include:</i> Commissioner Barbara Deegan, A/Prof Anthony Forsyth, Stuart Wood SC 1 panelist tbc
12.45 - 1.45pm	Lunch
1.45 - 3.15pm	PARALLEL SESSIONS A & B A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS <u>The Development of the Concept of the 'Public Interest' in Australian Labour Law</u> Richard Naughton <u>Common Law versus Statutory Regulation of Individual Labour Rights in Australia: How is the public interest best served?</u> Dr Vanitha Sundra-Karean University of Southern Queensland <u>In the Public Interest: A practitioner's plea for a simpler regulation of workplace relations</u> Yaseen Shariff Barrister, New South Wales Bar <u>Managerial Prerogative: Myth or fact</u> James Mattson Bartier Perry B EQUALITY AND DISCRIMINATION ISSUES <u>Workplace Gender Equality: Prospects for change</u> Julie White <u>General Protections: Adverse action, employee rights & workplace management</u> Annie Smeaton Cooper Grace Ward <u>Justitia Lawyers & Consultants Adverse Action, Discrimination and the Reverse Onus of Proof:</u> <u>Exploring the developing jurisprudence</u>