
Foreword

As one who was a party to the original decision to set up a Faculty of Law at the University of Newcastle, I welcome this opportunity to thank and congratulate all those who played a role in carrying through the project successfully. Three in particular deserve special mention. The commitment and hard work of Professor Frank Bates over many years expanded the teaching of law at Newcastle to the point where a new Faculty was the obvious next step. The former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Keith Morgan, demonstrated his vision for the future of the University in actively promoting the creation of the new Faculty and in gaining the support of the legal profession and the community of Newcastle for its establishment. Which of these two should be seen as the *sine qua non* and which the *causa causans* is for others to decide!

The third in this trio is Professor Neil Rees, Dean of the Faculty, who has exercised firm and wise leadership in constituting his Faculty and in planning a curriculum to give the best possible legal education to the law students who will be the leaders of our profession in the coming century.

Never content with past achievements, the Faculty of Law is now initiating its own Law Review. This is a wise decision, and I am confident that the new Journal will meet our expectations of what a university Law Review should be. It should, of course, enlighten its readers with major contributions on legal issues of current national, international and local concern, it should present the range and quality of the current work of its Faculty members, it should provide students with opportunities to exercise their research, writing and editorial talents. Above all, it should challenge its readers to look beyond their immediate concerns for a time to ponder other issues and other ideas, to consider the great responsibilities that lawyers bear to the community, and the potential for the law to advance and protect the ideals of human rights.

The first issue holds out great promise, including as it does an excellent combination of topics ranging from international influences on Australian law to law and literature and to current problems of legal practice. My hope is that *The Newcastle Law Review* will continue in this mode and establish itself as a review which provokes lively debate on current and controversial issues and insists that its readers be more aware of the ever-expanding role that the law plays in peoples' lives.

I wish the new Review every success.

Elizabeth Evatt