

Australasian Consumer Law Roundtable 2014: “After the dust has settled: Looking back, looking forward.”

Date: 1st and 2nd December 2014

Venue: Old Government House,
QLD University of Technology,
Gardens Point Campus
Brisbane, Australia

Registration is free however participants will need cover their own accommodation and travel expenses. Please RSVP to Nicola Howell by **Friday 17th October 2014**



For Presenters- Please submit your abstract for approval by 12th September 2014

The 2014 Australasian Consumer Law Roundtable will be held on Tuesday 2 December 2014, with a side event (Teaching Consumer Law) on Monday 1 December.

The Consumer Law Roundtable draws together academics, regulators, and lawyers who are researching, teaching and practising in consumer law in Australia, New Zealand and Asia. The Roundtable provides a platform for contemporary consumer law scholarship and for collectively exploring current issues in consumer law.

The theme of the 2014 Roundtable is: “Looking back, Looking forward.” Australia and New Zealand have both implemented major changes in consumer and consumer credit law in recent years. In Australia, there has been the implementation of the Australian Consumer Law in 2010, and the National Consumer Credit Protection Act in 2009, with further enhancements in 2010, and 2012. In New Zealand, there has been major changes to the Consumer Guarantees Act, Fair Trading Act, and Credit Contracts and Consumer Finance Act, with these changes to be implemented progressively from 2013 to 2015. Looking forward, in Australia there are current proposals to extend the unfair terms protections to small businesses.

The Roundtable will consider whether the reforms are achieving their goals, where they may have fallen short, and what changes might still be needed. The discussion will take place in the shadow of major relevant inquiries in Australia including the Financial System Inquiry (the Murray Inquiry) and Competition Policy Review (the Harper Review) and the proposed review of the Australian Consumer Law in 2016.

Ms Delia Rickard, Deputy Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, has agreed to give a Keynote Presentation at the Roundtable. The Roundtable will also be preceded by a ‘Teaching Consumer Law Workshop’, with the purpose of sharing tips, techniques, successful and innovative approaches for teaching this area of law.

Registration

There is no charge to attend either the Consumer Law Roundtable or the Teaching Consumer Law Workshop; however, participants must cover their own travel and accommodation costs.

Registrations for the Roundtable are now open, and should be sent to Nicola Howell by **Friday 17 October 2014**.

Call for Papers and Workshop Presenters

Please complete and return the registration form by **Friday 12 September 2014**.

For the Consumer Law Roundtable on 2 December, presentations reflecting the broad theme of the Roundtable are particularly encouraged, but participants are welcome to give a paper on any topic relating to consumer law and consumer credit law. Presenters are asked to keep their presentations timed to 15-20 minutes; additional time for questions and discussions will be allocated.

There will also be an opportunity for papers presented at the Roundtable to be submitted to a special Consumer Law edition of the Queensland University of Technology Law Review, to be published in 2015. The QUT Law Review is a scholarly refereed journal, with all articles subject to double-blind peer review by independent external referees. The QUT Law Review has an open access policy, so that published research is freely available to the public. More information about the QUT Law Review is available here: <https://lr.law.qut.edu.au/>.

Papers for the special edition will need to be submitted to the Review by March 2015 to be considered for inclusion in this edition.

For the Teaching Consumer Law Workshop, presentations should 5-7 minutes in length, and should highlight innovative approaches, tips, techniques, or particular challenges in teaching consumer law.

Accommodation options

For hotels located close to the venue for the Roundtable, QUT Law recommends

- Royal on the Park
- Quay West Suites.

Contact:

For more information about the Roundtable, please contact:

Nicola Howell, School of Law, Queensland University of Technology

Tel: 07 3138 2006

Email: nicola.howell@qut.edu.au

Registration and Call for Abstract Form

Name:			
Title:		Organisation:	
Telephone:		Email:	
Address:			

Registration

I would like to register for:

- ☐ Teaching Consumer Law workshop (4-5.30 pm, Monday 1 December 2014)
- ☐ Welcome reception (5.30 – 7pm, Monday 1 December 2014)
- ☐ Consumer Law Roundtable (Tuesday 2 December 2014)

I would like to attend a dinner following the Roundtable on Monday 1 December, and understand that the costs for this event are not funded by QUT

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

I will be bringing an extra person to the dinner

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Any dietary restrictions or requirements?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please provide details

[illegible]

Call for abstract

I would like to present a paper at the Consumer Law Roundtable

☐ Yes ☐ No

Topic of paper and brief abstract (150 words):

I would be interested in submitting an article based on this presentation to the Consumer Law edition of the QUT Law Review

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unsure

I would like to give a short (5-7 minutes) presentation at the Teaching Consumer Law workshop

☐ Yes ☐ No

Topic of presentation:

Closing dates

- Call for abstract: Friday 12 September 2014
- Registration only: Friday 17 October 2014

Please send your registration form and response to call for papers to Nicola Howell, QUT Law School, at nicola.howell@qut.edu.au or by mail: School of Law, Queensland University of Technology, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane QLD 4101.

Provisional Program

Key note Speaker: Delia Rickard, Deputy Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission



Delia has a legal background and has been working in the area of consumer protection regulation for around 25 years – primarily at ASIC and the ACCC where she is now the Deputy Chair. Some of the issues she's been closely involved with include dispute resolution (IDR & EDR); consumer protection and most areas of financial services; financial and consumer literacy; e-commerce; assisting vulnerable & disadvantaged consumers; codes of conduct; product safety and consumer protection law reform. She is committed to making markets work better for consumers and looking for ways to help consumers make wise decisions in complex markets and avoid damaging choices. Her career has involved her in working closely with the consumer sector, industry and other areas of government. On Australia Day 2011 she was awarded The Public Service Medal for her contribution to consumer protection and financial services.

Monday 1 December	
3.30 4.00pm	Coffee and registration
4.00 – 5.30pm	Teaching Consumer Law Workshop – <i>new approaches, tips and techniques</i>
5.30 – 7pm	Welcome reception
7.00 – 9.00pm	Dinner at a local restaurant, venue to be advised. <i>(Participants to fund themselves)</i>
Tuesday 2 December	
8.30 – 9.00am	Coffee and registration
9.00 – 9.15am	Official Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker <i>Professor John Humphrey, Executive Dean, Faculty of Law QUT</i>
9.15 – 10.15am	Keynote Presentation <i>Ms Delia Rickard, Deputy Chair, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission</i>
10.15 – 10.45am	Morning tea
10.45am – 12.45pm	Presentation and discussion of papers
12.45 – 1.45pm	Lunch
1.45 – 3.00pm	Presentation and discussion of papers
3.00 – 3.20pm	Afternoon tea
3.20 – 4.10pm	Presentation and discussion of papers
4.10 – 4.50pm	General discussion: Anticipating the 2016 Review of the Australian Consumer Law
4.50 – 5.00pm	Close