

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



UTAS Faculty of Law wins Voiceless grant to run Tasmania's first animal law conference

The UTAS Faculty of Law has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from Voiceless, the animal protection institute, to run Tasmania's first animal law conference.

The grant was awarded last week at the 2012 Voiceless Awards in Sydney. Held at the Blue Hotel, the awards evening was hosted by ABC presenter Jennifer Byrne, with former High Court Judge and Voiceless Patron, Michael Kirby AC CMG delivering the welcome address.

The 250 person guest list included Nobel Prize winner J.M. Coetzee and Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of New South Wales.

The UTAS Animal Law Conference 2013 was conceived by grant recipient Meg Good, who is also co-ordinating the event, with the assistance of Deputy Head of the Law School Lynden Griggs and Professor Gary Meyers.

Meg is a PhD Candidate at the Law School and is organising the conference on a voluntary basis in the hope that the conference will help raise awareness of animal law as an important field of legal study.

Dean and Head of School, UTAS Faculty of Law, Professor Margaret Otlowski said the UTAS Animal Law Conference will create an inter-disciplinary discussion about animal welfare and protection in Australia.

"The Faculty is proud to support this important and topical initiative", Prof Otlowski said.

The conference will run over two days in January 2013 (Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th) at the UTAS Faculty of Law, featuring presentations from national experts, an address by an international guest speaker from the US (Prof. Marsha Baum), two legal workshops, a panel discussion on Tasmania's animal welfare/protection framework and a free public Q and A on live export and the law.

Speakers for the Public Q and A on Live Export and the Law include Professor Clive Phillips (2012 Voiceless Eureka Prize Winner) and animal law expert, Dr Malcolm Caulfield. This event will be open to the public, with a view

to engaging the broader Tasmanian community in discussions about topical animal law issues.

Invited speakers have been drawn from a variety of Australian Universities (ANU, Griffith, Bond, UQld and UTAS) and the authors of three Australian animal law texts will be in attendance, as well as Legal Counsel for both Voiceless and Animals Australia.

Topics covered include: the role of non-profit organisations in the development and enforcement of animal law in Australia, the legal framework addressing factory farmed animals and kangaroos, teaching animal law, indigenous hunting and fishing rights, species justice, live export, Tasmanian animal welfare/protection, animals and consumer law/policy and many more.

For further details about the Conference schedule, speakers, registration and contact information, please visit: <http://www.utas.edu.au/law/utas-animal-law-conference>

Any queries should be directed to: Animal.LawConference@utas.edu.au

Further information about the grant recipients:
<http://www.voiceless.org.au/our-approach/grants-and-prizes/2012-grant-recipients>

Information Released by:
The Media Office, University of Tasmania
Phone: (03) 6226 2691 or 0447 537 375
Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au