

## TRIBUTE

### PETER HEFFEY



Peter Heffey served as a Faculty Adviser to the *Monash University Law Review* for nearly fourteen years and we pay tribute to the role he played.

The end of this long period of service as Law Review adviser coincided with his second retirement from the Faculty of Law! Peter first retired from the Faculty at the end of 1996, taking early retirement from full-time duties as Senior Lecturer in Law after 27 years of service. He was then appointed to the honorary position of Fellow of the Faculty and seamlessly continued his role as adviser to the *Monash University Law Review*. He also performed other services in an honorary capacity, such as supervising a PhD thesis and mentoring staff. After a period of five years, he resumed teaching in the Faculty in the field of Contract, undertaking tutorials in that subject each semester for four years. Following a change by the University in the nomenclature of honorary positions, he was appointed Honorary Associate of the Faculty. Peter continued to maintain his Faculty Adviser role, to mentor staff in the area of Contract and to conduct tutorials, until he relinquished his Honorary Associate position. He commenced as an adviser to the Law Review for the first issue of Volume 19 in 1993 and ended his formal role with the second issue of Volume 31, published in 2006.

Peter contributed to the research scholarship of the Faculty by undertaking new editions of the book, *Contract: Commentary and Materials* published by Law Book Co Ltd and more recently by Thomson. He co-authored three editions of the book with P J Hocker; subsequent editions published following his 1996 retirement were undertaken with Jeannie Paterson and Andrew Robertson. During this 'retirement' he also initiated a new book, *Principles of Contract Law*, which he jointly authored with the case book authors.

Whilst Peter's major interest latterly was the law of Contract, he also lectured in Torts and, before he became an adviser, had published an article in the *Monash University Law Review* entitled 'The Duty of Schools and Teachers to Protect Pupils from Injury'. There was such unprecedented demand for the article from teachers, educational authorities and lawyers specialising in the field that it was decided to make this long article available as a separate monograph. The Law Review benefited greatly from the additional revenue generated from this publication.

One of Peter's early articles as an academic staff member at Monash, 'The Survival of Civil Conspiracy: A Question of Magic or Logic', was published in the *Monash*

*University Law Review* in 1975 and is still cited today. He had come to Monash as a lecturer in 1970, having been awarded the BCL degree with Honours at the University of Oxford. He previously taught at the University of Melbourne and was also a Bigelow Fellow at the Law School at the University of Chicago.

Peter also co-authored with Marilyn Pittard '*Ancora Imparo: The Historical Role of the Law Review in University Scholarship*', an article written as a reflection and analysis of the role of Law Reviews in Australian Universities. This article appeared in the issue to celebrate 30 years of the publication of the *Monash University Law Review*.

The Faculty Advisers encouraged and supported other special endeavours and during Peter's period as Faculty Advisor the following were initiated or published:

- Volume 20 (2) 1994 in tribute to His Excellency Judge CG Weeramantry in which the judge's article entitled 'The World Court: Its Conception, Constitution and Contribution' was published;
- Volume 23 (1) 1997, Special Edition Dedicated to Professor Louis Waller (on the retirement of Prof Waller after 30 years as professor);
- Volume 23 (2) 1997, Celebratory Edition Dedicated to Professor Enid Campbell who held the Sir Isaac Isaacs Chair of Law, Monash University, for 30 years from 1967–1997;
- Volume 24 (1) 1998, In tribute to Professor Charles (Bob) Williams who completed 10 years as Dean of the Faculty, the longest serving Dean of Law at Monash University;
- Volume 28 (2) 2002, In memoriam to Dr Kumar Amarasekara who was a contributor, referee and author for the Law Review;
- Volume 30 (2) 2004 containing a Tribute to the late Peter Balmford as 'Academic, Lawyer and Monash University Law Review Contributor';
- Volume 32 (1) 2006 containing the Minute of Appreciation by Professor Bob Williams to Professor Richard Fox on Richard's retirement from the Faculty after 34 years' service.

We appreciate Peter's special dedication to the Law Review as he sustained this Faculty Adviser role for so long and through the various changes in his status in the Faculty, including in a voluntary capacity. He gave freely and unstintingly of his time, energy and wise counsel to the editors of the Law Review. During this time he worked with about 30 student editors and many different editorial committees. Peter always took a keen interest in the students' development during their year as editor and in their later professional careers.

As co-Faculty Adviser for the whole period with Marilyn Pittard, as well as with Jacqui Lipton (1998), Gail Hubble (1999–2000) and Associate Professor John Duns (2001–2006), Peter was an excellent colleague with whom to work. Regular meetings took place with operational and policy advice being given. Advice was

also on hand via email too. The occasional very difficult matter was given due care and consideration by Peter, ever mindful that there was the scholarly reputation of the Law Review to maintain, and his advice was dispensed cheerfully and often with a wry sense of humour. A particular role he undertook was to check the final version of the proofs for any defamatory material, bringing his knowledge of that area of law to bear in a practical way. Further, he assisted with contractual aspects of publication and the attendant vexing copyright issues.

We sincerely thank Peter for his service to the *Monash University Law Review* and we wish him well in his true retirement.

**Vidal Vanhoof**, former editor of the *Monash University Law Review* and  
**Marilyn Pittard**, Professor of Law.