Call for Abstracts

The Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law in the Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales invites abstracts for its 2014 Postgraduate Workshop in Public Law which will be held on 17-18 July.

The Workshop is an opportunity for higher degree research students in the field of public law to gain experience in presenting their work to their peers and the wider academic public law community in a critically constructive yet supportive environment. While there are several generalist conferences held each year which postgraduate students can attend, the Centre’s biennial Postgraduate Workshop in Public Law is focused on public law issues and as such is an opportunity for students to network with others working in their area.

We invite abstracts from currently enrolled postgraduate research students (Masters, PhD and SJD students) studying full-time or part-time in the field of public law. We welcome abstracts that bring a constitutional or administrative law focus to a range of contemporary issues such as human rights protection, native title and indigenous land rights, national security, federalism, refugees and migration law, executive power, electoral law, and the judiciary.
The Workshop will follow a roundtable discussion-based format, with presenters having 15-20 minutes to speak and then ample time being left in each session for questions and discussion by all participants. The event thus provides an opportunity for participants to receive detailed feedback on their work and establish what will hopefully become an ongoing dialogue with others researching in the field.

In preparing abstracts, presenters should bear this format in mind. Ideally they should aim to briefly convey the broader context of their thesis before focussing on a discrete aspect for more detailed consideration. Methodological or substantive issues may be selected as the basis of the presentation.

The collected abstracts from the Workshop will be published online at the Gilbert + Tobin Centre website, enabling further contact between those attending the Workshop and others interested in their research.

We typically receive more proposals for papers than we are able to accommodate in the program, so abstracts will be refereed for clarity and suitability to a workshop focussed upon public law (broadly defined). Upon acceptance the presentations will be organised into thematic streams which will comprise the bulk of the final program for the Workshop.

The event, including a dinner for Workshop participants on the evening of 17 July, is FREE to all delegates, who are asked to cover their own costs for accommodation and travel to Sydney.

Some limited funds are available for travel assistance to those delegates who can make a case based on special need. But we request that support is sought in the first instance from a delegate's home institution.

To register, please send the following to gtcence@unsw.edu.au, being sure to put 'Postgraduate Workshop' in the subject line:

- Your name, institutional affiliation and contact details; and
- A brief abstract of your paper (max. 400 words).

Registrations with abstracts must be submitted by 19 May 2014. Acceptance will be confirmed by correspondence no later than 2 June.