KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEW SOUTH WALES

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DEAN'S FOREWORD

Kingsford Legal Centre combines the highest quality of legal education with dedicated community service. Established 25 years ago as a centre of academic and professional excellence, KLC remains Australia's leading university legal service provider. Its remarkable achievements lie in its capacity to combine legal theory and analysis with professional practice. Dedicated to improving access of the socially and economically disadvantaged to legal services, it promotes social justice as intrinsic to legal practice.

2006 has been a year of change for KLC. We have been very pleased to welcome it into the new law building on campus. The shared premises with KLC at the base of the law school provide new opportunities for closer collaborations and connections. The Centre also has a new management committee chaired by Professor George Williams with 3 members of Faculty on it which will provide a further mechanism for greater integration.

KLC celebrated its 25 year anniversary during the year with great acclaim from local politicians, the legal profession and Law Faculty, and years of past students participating. The celebration epitomises the effective combination of excellent clinical legal education and community service.

KLC is highly regarded by the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales for its commitment to high quality teaching, learning and community service. On behalf of the Faculty of Law, I wish KLC every success in continuing its important work in the future.

Professor David Dixon
Dean, Faculty of Law

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

KLC enjoyed another busy and productive year in 2006. We continued to provide excellent legal education to students at UNSW as well as important community legal services.

Some of the key achievements of the Centre during 2006 include a successful move to campus from our Rainbow Street address. While there was some sadness in leaving our previous premises, the move has made us think more deeply about how we provide services to the community. This has lead to the launch of two new weekly outreach services at the South East Neighbourhood Centre, and the Maroubra Uniting Church. Being on campus has encouraged us to think about operating more clearly from a community development model of service provision. This also reflects priorities identified in the review of NSW community legal centres. Both outreaches have proved highly successful in increasing our visibility and maintaining our connectedness to the community.

Our community legal education program continues to grow with the now established series of workshops for community workers and the launch in 2006 of a Law and Justice Foundation funded DVD on *Getting off the Referral Roundabout*. The DVD has been very popular within community legal centres throughout Australia and legal aid commissions.

All staff members participated in the annual National Association of Community Legal Centres conference in September. Linda Tucker gave a key note address on 'Community legal centres and the social contract: the impact on workers of WorkChoices' at the Conference. Other staff presented workshops on issues such as "A practical approach to community legal education"; "Taking your clients to the United Nations" and "The challenges of discrimination law." Kingsford Legal Centre, through its work nationally in the Human Rights Network and Employment law networks, and convening various NSW community legal centre committees, plays a key leadership role within the community legal centre movement.

KLC also presented a workshop at the international conference "Educating Lawyers for social Justice" of the Global Alliance for Justice Education. This focussed on KLC's work in improving the experience of Indigenous students within their legal studies and raising awareness of Indigenous issues within the curriculum. We hope to continue to build on this work through our participation in the Indigenous Legal Education Committee of the Faculty and the course Foundations Enrichment 2. Continued over page

DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont'

Students continued to enjoy the diversity of courses offered at KLC and the opportunities to learn about the legal system, clients and the role of lawyers within it. The combination of practical law and analysis of law in action continues to attract many more students than we can accommodate.

Another change was the beginning of a management committee for the Centre, chaired by Professor George Williams with members of Faculty, the community sector and the profession on it. This will add further dimensions to our work and our accountability to our various stakeholders.

We also acknowledge our pro bono partners of many years, Freehills for their ongoing support of the Centre through a seconded solicitor, and are grateful to Allens Arthur Robinson for their new contribution of a seconded solicitor for 6 months. Our numerous volunteer solicitors and barristers continue their essential support of the Centre.

KLC is a dynamic and innovative learning centre for students from the Faculty as well as being an active member of the community through its provision of legal services. Without the dedication, hard work and vision of the staff this work would be impossible.

Anna Cody
Director

The following are the values that underpin the work of Kingsford Legal Centre:

- The value of clinical legal education as a means of educating law students. We will provide a positive learning environment for students, encouraging them to gain first hand experience of delivering legal services in a community setting;

- Providing the best quality service to our clients whilst encouraging them to do as much as they can in regard to their legal problems. We aim to empower our clients rather than adopt a paternalistic approach to advice and casework;

- Undertaking law reform work and advocating for the development of a fair and non-discriminatory legal justice system;

- Working with other relevant organisations, including the legal profession to provide a broader range and better quality of services to the community.

- Self determination, respect and privacy with regards to service provision;

- We recognise that many people are unable to gain access to justice due to discrimination and poverty. We are committed to providing legal services to people who would otherwise be unable to gain access to justice.

- Providing equal access to justice for everyone in our target community. We recognise that a positive, practical approach to access and equity issues is needed if the Centre is to fulfil its commitment to equality of opportunity. We actively encourage an access and equity approach to all aspects of our organisation including service delivery, communications, physical environment and human resources;

- Team based decision-making. We value the commitment and experience students, staff and volunteers bring to the Centre. We encourage positive criticism and ideas generated by all members of the Centre and our local community.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To educate tomorrow's lawyers by:
   - giving students an opportunity in a clinical supervised setting to work for disadvantaged clients
   - developing student understanding of how the legal system works, and its impact upon disadvantaged client
   - providing students with an opportunity to reflect upon social justice issues, the legal system and the role of lawyers within it including the values and objectives underpinning the work of community legal centres
   - assisting students to understand the integral role that policy and community legal education play in legal service provision.

2. To improve access to justice for residents of the Botany and Randwick area by providing free legal advice and assistance including specialist employment advice;

3. To reduce discrimination through the provision of specialist legal advice and representation in discrimination matters to residents of NSW;

4. To enhance people's knowledge of, and access to appropriate legal services through the dissemination of information and by making and receiving referrals

5. To promote access and equity in all areas of the organisation including service delivery, legal education, community education and policy work.

6. To ensure Kingsford Legal Centre is respectful of Indigenous cultures and people.

7. To improve the community's knowledge of the legal system and the capacity for people to enforce their legal rights, by delivering community legal education;

8. To undertake policy work, including law reform, and to represent the interests of clients and the local community on social policy and administration of justice issues;

9. To create partnerships with other community organisations on legal issues

10. To maintain an efficient infrastructure for the Centre to provide support for staff, volunteers and students and outcomes for clients.

AIMS AND ETHOS

Clinical legal education is a methodology of teaching law, legal procedure and ethics. In Australia when we talk about clinical legal education we mean a style of teaching where students are engaged in legal work for real clients – often known as "live clients".

In the Clinical Legal Experience courses, the compulsory Law Lawyers and Society course and the clinical program in Employment Law and the Foundations Enrichment 2 course, students develop their understanding of issues of social justice as well as developing interviewing, negotiation, drafting, submission writing and advocacy skills. They are introduced to the fundamentals of office management and explore ethical issues such as how to select potential clients when demand for legal services far outstrips the Centre's ability to assist.

The objectives of the courses are:

1. To develop students' critical appreciation of the law and legal system in Australia through participation in a legal practice working for clients who are financially or otherwise disadvantaged.

2. To enhance students' contextual understanding of the law and legal process by exposing them to real clients with legal problems.

3. To provide students with a detailed understanding of the legal aid system and develop students' understanding of issues of access to the legal system for the Australian community.

4. To develop students' awareness of the role of lawyers in practice in the legal system.

5. To develop students' understanding of ethics and responsibility in a workplace setting.

6. To introduce students to the importance of developing basic lawyering skills to a high level of proficiency including communication, interviewing, drafting and negotiation.

7. To develop students' ability to see beyond a casework approach to legal problems by providing opportunities to participate in campaign and education work.

8. To encourage students to see the law as a vehicle which can be used to protect and develop human rights.

EDUCATING FOR JUSTICE

Clinical Legal Experience (Intensive and non-intensive)

The Clinical Legal Experience courses are run over 3 sessions (Session 1, Session 2 and Summer Session) during the year taking 25 students in each session. Most students spend 2 days per week at the Centre where they are responsible for client files (under solicitor supervision) and working on community legal education and law reform projects. They have a weekly seminar of 2 hours and daily tutorials of one hour. They also attend evening client interview sessions with the centre's volunteer lawyers.

The seminar program is co-ordinated and presented by centre staff with contributions from guest speakers. In 2006 the subject matter of the seminars ranged from practical clinical skills such as pleamaking, interviewing, plain English legal writing and preparing affidavits, to subjects focussed on key issues such as law reform, community legal education, domestic violence, human rights and working with Indigenous communities and clients. All of the seminars aim to encourage critical debate of the legal system and the role of lawyers within it. The style of teaching is based on a range of techniques using role plays, small group exercises, simulations as well as some lecturing.

All the work of the centre is undertaken as part of the clinical program – and is outlined in more detail throughout this report. Some of the highlights of the course during 2006 were:

Student Advocacy Program

During 2006, KLC students continued to appear before Waverley Local Court magistrates as part of the Student Advocacy Program. The Program allows clients who are pleading guilty to a minor criminal charge, to be represented in Court. It is available to clients who would have difficulty representing themselves, cannot afford a private lawyer, and are not eligible for legal aid.

About 10 students participated in the Scheme during 2006. The sorts of cases in which pleas were entered for clients were speeding, drink driving matters and shoplifting. Feedback from KLC students involved in the program has been very positive and KLC students consistently achieve good results for clients. Students enjoy the opportunity to stand on their feet and advocate for clients, frequently having to deal with Magistrates asking them questions and questioning their submissions. Thanks to Louise Byrne, Anne Cregan, Lester Fernandez and Gabrielle Bashir for supervising the students in 2006. The Magistrates at Waverley Local Court have commented that the skills demonstrated by students are on a par with many solicitors. The Scheme also began operation at Balmain Local Court although the distance has proved difficult for referrals.

Employment Law Clinic

This year the Clinic has advised and represented many employees who live, work or study in KLC's catchment area. We assisted clients in relation to unfair dismissal proceedings, redundancies, underpayment of wages and entitlements and unfair employment contracts. Throughout the year we obtained favourable settlements of disputes for many of our clients. For details on some of these matters, see the casework section of the annual report.

The Clinic – which was established in January 2000 –provides free and confidential initial advice to clients on employment law issues such as unfair dismissals, unpaid wages, workplace harassment and redundancy. The Clinic also provides ongoing assistance and representation where appropriate, with frequent appearances for clients in the State and Federal Industrial Relations Commissions.

We have two objectives: to provide legal advice to employees and to provide a clinic for UNSW law students to gain experience in the area of employment law. Students have the opportunity to develop their understanding of substantive and procedural law and ethical issues facing the legal profession through their work on case, education and policy files. The clinic offers 5 places to UNSW law students per semester. They have the opportunity to conduct interviews with clients, assist in making strategic decisions about the conduct of case files, undertake research, draft documents, and, where appropriate, appear as advocates in the Industrial Relations Commissions.

Linda Tucker, Cath Whiddon and Natasha Case were the clinical supervisors in the employment clinic throughout 2006.

In maintaining its weekly daytime advice clinic and fortnightly evening advice session, the Clinic receives the support of private solicitors who provide their time on either a pro bono or volunteer basis. Again this year eight private law firms provided solicitors on a pro bono basis to provide advice to clients at our Wednesday afternoon advice clinic. We also continued to receive the support of volunteer solicitors from private and government practice, and the Bar, who volunteer and give advice on both general and employment law matters on a fortnightly advice roster. We thank all of these participants for their continued support.

In providing law students the opportunity, where appropriate, to appear as an advocate for clients in the Industrial Commissions, the Clinic continues to provide a unique opportunity for students to obtain 'hands-on' experience in litigation. This opportunity invariably results in reflection by the students on the effectiveness of the court system in achieving just outcomes for clients and on the challenges faced by those clients who represent themselves in the court system. With the changes to industrial relations law with Workchoices, there have been less unfair dismissal cases in the Industrial Commissions.

EDUCATING FOR JUSTICE

In 2006 the students of the Clinic again participated in additional seminars that included presentations on a range of employment law topics from experienced employment law practitioners. As part of this program, the students enjoyed the opportunity to appear as advocates for a party in a mock conciliation that focuses their minds on a number of the jurisdictional and substantive issues that arise in an unfair dismissal application. We extend our thanks to all lawyers who have provided their valuable time to present seminars to the students of the Clinic.

Collaboration with UNSW Academics - project on character evidence in criminal jury trials

During 2006 various KLC students worked on a study with Jill Hunter, Associate Professor and Dorne Boniface, Senior Lecturer, School of Law at UNSW to examine the impact of character evidence in criminal jury trials. The project is looking at how jurors actually use evidence of an accused's character and to what extent jurors understand the permissible use(s) of such evidence. The project also involves judges and counsel's perceptions of the impact of character evidence on these trials will be compared assessing how they view juries to use character evidence.

Classes on domestic violence in Family Law

Staff presented 2 classes on the social and legal aspects of domestic violence in the subject Family Law throughout 2006.

Indigenous access initiatives

During 2006 KLC continued to make a significant contribution to the Law Faculty commitment to increasing the numbers of Indigenous students studying law. KLC is an active participant in the Indigenous Legal Education Committee. The Centre undertook the following:

Winter School program for Indigenous high school students

KLC hosted Indigenous high school students during the Winter School program. Year 10, 11 and 12 students came to the Centre to learn a bit more about the law and what happens at law school. They enjoyed meeting other students and staff as well as puzzling over a legal problem.

Indigenous Pre-Law visits

Kingsford Legal Centre hosted a visit by 8 pre-law Indigenous students during December. The students came from around Australia and were a mix of school leavers and mature age students. The pre law program has grown and developed over the years. Nura Gili Centre is key to improving

KLC Director Anna Cody with winter school Indigenous high school students

Indigenous access and retention in tertiary studies in the University. The Faculty of Law pre-law program is a well developed program with an introduction to various areas of law and excursions to expose students to a wide variety of University activities. We enjoyed the visit and are happy to be part of the program to increase Indigenous participation in law courses.

Classes on dealing with Indigenous clients and communities

The seminar program for students has included a class on dealing with Indigenous clients and communities in order to provide greater insight and skill for students. This class was presented by Sue Green of Nura Gili Centre and students found it challenging and interesting.

EDUCATING FOR JUSTICE

Indigenous Students- Foundations Enrichment course

In 2006 we ran for the fourth time the Foundations Enrichment course for first year Indigenous students.

The program is designed to assist first year Indigenous students acclimatise to university studies and develop graduate attributes of oral and written communication skills in a legal setting. Through engaging law students in the day to day operation of the legal system and lawyering, the clinical placement bridges the gap between the theory and practice of the law. Students are given the opportunity to assist people in our community while simultaneously acquiring valuable communication skills.

The course continued to be a success and we hope enables these Indigenous students not only to feel a sense of achievement in interviewing real clients so early in their degree but furthered their sense of belonging in the Law School and having links with later year students.

Law, Lawyers and Society: Classes and interviewing experience

Throughout the year KLC provides an experience of interviewing a real client to all Law, Lawyers and Society students. The Law, Lawyers and Society course is about the ethics of being a lawyer and the role of lawyers in society and it incorporates 2 classes given by KLC staff to all students. The first class is on the skill of interviewing and the second is on public interest law and the legal aid system. UNSW is unique in being able to offer its students the opportunity of clinical legal education at a relatively early stage of their studies. Students who come to the Centre and who interview clients are generally inspired and awed by the importance of the legal services provided by volunteers at KLC. Many comment on the importance of seeing law in practice, putting theory into use after time spent studying law.

Services Provided by KLC

Kingsford Legal Centre provides a free legal service to people who live, work or study in the local government areas of Randwick City Council and Botany Bay City Council. This includes the staff and students of UNSW. In addition Kingsford Legal Centre provides a specialist state-wide discrimination service and a specialist employment advice service.

Legal Advice is provided by appointment only at face to face interviews. However some telephone advice is provided for clients who cannot access the centre due to locality or mobility problems. In special cases, home and hospital visits are undertaken.

During 2006 outreach clinics were established at the Maroubra Uniting Church and South East Neighbourhood Centre. Both these organisations have contributed to the success of the outreach clinics through their support and promotion of the service. The outreach clinics provide an alternative venue for appointments for clients who have difficulties accessing the new location of KLC within the grounds of UNSW. These two outreach clinics have proved to be so successful that plans are being made to open 2 other outreach clinics during 2007.

General legal advice was provided:

- Maroubra Uniting Church Outreach clinic Thursday mornings
- SENC Outreach Clinic Friday mornings
- Tuesday evenings
- Thursday evenings

Discrimination advice was provided during daytime appointments held on Monday and Thursday.

Employment advice was provided during:

- Daytime appointments on Wednesday
- Telephone appointments on Thursday
- Evening appointments every alternate Thursday

Other Services Provided by KLC

- Referral to a wide range of legal service providers
- Contributions to law reform
- Community Legal Education to both community workers and members of the public
- Information on a range of legal issues

SERVICE PROVISION

Statistics

In 2006 Kingsford Legal Centre provided advice to 1368 people

1336 people received this advice in face to face interviews and 32 people received the advice by telephone, mail or email.

116 New Cases were opened in 2006

Criminal Law, including DV	6
Civil Law	53
Discrimination	25
Employment	32

Our Clients	
Sex:	
Male	48 %
Female	51 %
Age:	
Under 18	1 %
18 – 34	29 %
35 – 49	34 %
50 – 64	19 %
Over 65	13 %
Income Scale:	
High	2 %
Medium	25 %
Low	59 %

Law week display

2 % of our clients identified themselves as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

Country	Percentage
Australia	39.7%
China	5.7%
England	3.5%
Hong Kong	2.2%
New Zealand	2.0%
Hungary	1.8%
Russian Federation	1.8%
Poland	1.7%
Chile	1.6%
Greece	1.6%

Outreach service at South East Neighbourhood Centre and Maroubra Uniting Church

Following the relocation of Kingsford Legal Centre from Rainbow Street to its present premises in the Law Building at the University of New South Wales in August 2006, the Centre commenced two daytime outreach services whereby initial client appointments are conducted off-site at Maroubra Uniting Church and the South East Neighbourhood Centre. The objective of these outreach services is to maintain the centre's visibility and accessibility within the local community, and to provide an alternative venue for clients with special mobility needs who may otherwise have difficulty finding our centre on campus.

The Freehills and Allens secondee solicitors are responsible for conducting the outreach appointments.

Freehills secondee Susan Wan at South East Neighbourhood Centre

CASEWORK

2006 was a busy year interrupted briefly by KLC's move onto the UNSW campus. KLC continued to provide a varied legal advice, assistance and representation service to the local community. The following provide a flavour of the work KLC undertook:

Victims Compensation

KLC was delighted to assist a client in obtaining a victims compensation award of $30,000.00. The client sought compensation in relation to a sexual assault by a family member when she was a child. Unfortunately, her initial claim was dismissed on the grounds that the client had not provided enough evidence. KLC helped the client to appeal the decision and obtain the appropriate evidence. The appeal was successful and our client was happy with the result.

Debt Matters

Clients commonly find it difficult to find legal assistance with matters that appear to be quite small, but which have an overwhelming impact on an individual's life. On occasion these cases throw up broader practices that become the focus of policy or law reform work.

Fraudulent credit card use

KLC has persuaded a large Bank to forgive a $13,000 debt on an elderly client's credit card. The debt was incurred by an elderly client's carer who had used a supplementary card for personal expenses. The supplementary card had been given to her so she could purchase items for the client.

Medical debts

KLC assisted a client with who had been issued with a statement of claim seeking recovery of several thousand dollars. The Plaintiff claimed the amount was outstanding payment for medical scans used in a personal injury case several years ago. The client claims that he had already paid most of the amount owing. KLC assisted the client to attempt to negotiate a settlement and gave him advice in relation to the court proceedings. The client represented himself at trial and was ordered to pay a small proportion of the amount that was claimed. The client was very pleased with the result.

Unreasonable credit card limits

KLC is delighted to report that they have assisted a woman in reducing a $20,000 credit card debt to $5,000 with no interest. Our client is repaying the debt in $100 instalments per month. The client has been on a pension for 10 years and her credit limit increased a number of times over the years. It does not appear that her credit card provider obtained any information regarding her repayment capacity. The client was unable to repay the money on her card as her only income is her Centrelink Pension and she has no assets. The client also had medical problems which made it hard for her to repay the debt. The result was reached through negotiation with the credit card provider.

Energy providers

KLC has had a number of elderly clients complain that they had been mislead into signing contracts with alternative "green energy" providers, as the true cost of the service was not adequately explained to them. As well as assisting the individual clients, KLC is investigating ways to deal with the companies to ensure that their salespeople are trained in better, fairer methods of selling their products to vulnerable clients.

Pay-day lenders

KLC has two clients who have been placed in considerable financial hardship after borrowing money from a "pay-day lender" at exorbitant interest, and then being unable to meet the repayments. One of these clients was unable to read, and had no understanding of the fees and charges associated with this type of lending practice. In each case, the loan agreement attempts to make out that the loan was for business purposes, possibly as way of trying to take the credit provision outside the scope of the Consumer Credit Code. Clearly this was not the case, and it is an issue that KLC continues to investigate.

Discrimination

KLC's discrimination practice has continued to be very busy, assisting clients with complaints at both State and Federal levels. Over the year KLC has seen an increase in complaints of discrimination in employment, as unfair dismissal remedies disappear for many employees. We have also had complaints in relation to education and access to goods and services.

As an example, KLC was very pleased to be able to assist a worker who had been discriminated against on the basis of his carer responsibilities and his ethno-religious background, and as a casual worker, had been "let go" by the company. The client felt satisfied with the outcome that provided an apology and compensation, particularly as the employer had at first offered him nothing to deal with his complaint.

Student Advocacy Program

The student advocacy scheme has been active during the year, with students presenting pleas-in-mitigation before magistrates at Waverley Local Court. Most of these matters have involved low-mid range drink driving matters, with a smattering of slightly more serious driving offences.

In each of the cases, students do extensive preparation, and are usually supervised on the day by one of our volunteer solicitors or barristers. Our clients are those who would have difficulty representing themselves, and who cannot afford private representation. Uniformly, the clients have been very pleased to have our assistance, and very happy with the outcome.

Employment Clinic

The clinic has been busy over the past year with many unfair dismissal matters being successfully resolved either by negotiation or by going to hearing. Highlights included a major win in the Australian Industrial Relations Commission in a long running matter which started with an application to the Commission made 109 days out of time. After overcoming the respondent's challenge on this point, we proceeded to a successful arbitration with our client awarded maximum compensation and reinstatement. The decision was particularly significant given that reinstatement was ordered to commence approximately six months after judgment was handed down as our client had recently had a baby and would have been on maternity leave but for the dismissal. The respondent, Qantas, appealed against the decision but this was withdrawn at the 11th hour when settlement terms were agreed.

In another notable success, the clinic settled five matters against the one employer who had 'retrenched' an entire workforce then selectively re-employed only some of the employees. The matters all resulted in compensation for our clients following conciliation in the Australian Industrial Relations Commission. There were also successful outcomes for unfair dismissal matters in the NSW Industrial Relations Commission and recovery of entitlements in the Chief Industrial Magistrates Court.

KLC waiting room

Freehills secondment

Since [1992], Freehills has been providing a full-time solicitor to Kingsford Legal Centre on a rotating basis, with each solicitor completing a six month secondment. For 2006, the Freehills secondees were Aviva Beck (from October 2005 to April 2006), Mark Gillard (from April 2006 to October 2006) and Susan Wan (from October 2006 to April 2007).

Allens Arthur Robinson (AAR) secondment

In 2006, AAR seconded a full-time solicitor, Sonya Oberekar, to Kingsford Legal Centre over the period August 2006 to February 2007. This was the first of what will be an annual six-month secondment by AAR to Kingsford Legal Centre.

The Freehills and Allens secondee solicitors work closely with the students and permanent staff at the Centre. They are principally involved in casework relating to general legal matters, such as debt recovery, motor vehicle accidents, power of attorneys, disputes with government departments, etc. They are also responsible for conducting the daytime outreach services.

Freehills secondee Mark Gillard and Allens Arthur Robinson secondee Sonya Oberekar.

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

CLE for Community Workers

Once again KLC ran a series of workshops for community workers. The workshops were held once a month and covered a range of topics, including legal referrals, victims compensation, social security, tenancy and family law. The series was very popular and will continue to be conducted in 2007.

Matraville High School Talk

KLC was invited to speak at Matraville High School on 19 October by Marcia Ella Duncan of the Wanderers Aboriginal Outreach Service at La Perouse. The Wanderers are conducting a program at Matraville High targeting "at risk" Year 8 students. The program focuses on family and community violence. We were one of a number of speakers who discussed legal issues. KLC focussed on rights and responsibilities in relation to Police and security guards. KLC hopes to work with the Wanderers and Matraville High School in the future.

Employment law training

This year KLC provided a range of training on the new federal workplace laws which came into force in March 2006. In February, Linda Tucker from the Employment Clinic ran sessions on Work Choices for the NSW Combined Community Legal Centres Group and also to the solicitors in private practice who provide pro bono assistance to Sydney's legal centres.

In September at the national community legal centre conference, Linda ran a workshop with Mark MacDiarmid of the Elizabeth Evatt Legal Centre which gave a practical guide to the new laws as well as a question and answer session on representing clients under the new regime.

General CLE

KLC also conducted a number of workshops at the request of community organisations. Examples include a half day training session conducted in September to Home and Community Care workers on older people and the law; and a talk in February to the Maltese Community Council about powers of attorney and guardianships.

Getting off the Referral Roundabout

In September 2006 the DVD *Getting off the Referral Roundabout* produced by Kingsford Legal Centre was launched. The DVD was produced to facilitate and improve the referrals made to legal services providers, such as KLC and other community legal centres. The content of the DVD is based on the Referral Guidelines as developed by the Legal Referral Forum and was funded by the Law and Justice Foundation of NSW.

CEDAW

Anna Cody continued with the management and participation in the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) project of the Centre. KLC prepared fact sheets and assisted with the choice of delegation for the review of Australia by the United Nations CEDAW Committee in January in New York. The Concluding Comments of the CEDAW Committee were released in early February. KLC was instrumental in supporting the non governmental delegation which participated in the review of Australia in late January and early February. Some of the key issues raised by the delegation were recognised in the Concluding comments including the need to sign the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and the importance of implementing laws against violence against women. Other issues such as industrial relations and welfare law reform were not included in the Concluding comments.

The delegation was a diverse group who represented Australian non governmental organisations effectively. The next stage of the project will focus on educating communities about the content of the concluding comments. Funding has been secured for the next stage of the project in 2007.

Prisoners Legal Service Review

Anna Cody and Shirley Southgate have been active in the review being conducted by the Legal Aid Commission of the Prisoners Legal Service. This service essentially provides assistance to prisoners in parole matters. Due to the huge increase in numbers of people incarcerated the demand for legal advice, representation and systemic advocacy has largely outstripped the current capacity. KLC has worked in this area partly because of the location of Long Bay gaol within our area.

Some of the recommendations which we made to the review include the need to increase community legal education around prisoners legal rights within gaols, the need for greater coordination of legal services within gaols, the need for greater systemic advocacy around issues affecting prisoners.

National Human Rights Network of the National Association of Community Legal Centres

Teena Balgi, a generalist solicitor at KLC, continued her role as co-convenor of the National Human Rights Network of the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC). Together with a coalition of other non-government organisations the National Human Rights Network embarked on an exciting project to document the state of human rights in Australia, and ultimately to contribute to the effective protection of human rights standards in Australia. It is envisaged that this project will continue for some years. Also as a part of her role as co-convenor, Teena was heavily involved in the drafting of NACLC's submission to New Matilda's Human Rights Bill campaign.

POLICY AND LAW REFORM WORK

Work Choices

Linda Tucker appeared before the NSW Legislative Council's Social Issues Committee's inquiry into the impact of Work Choices which led to the publication 'Impact of the Workchoices Legislation'. She also wrote an Employment and Law supplement on the changes to workplace laws for the Legal Information Access Centre's (LIAC) Hot Topics series.

HREOC review of the financial entitlements of those in Same-sex relationships

KLC submitted to the HREOC inquiry into Same sex relationships referring to the impact on those in same sex relationships of a variety of laws. The report of the Commission will be published in early 2007.

NSW Election

KLC was active in shaping the combined community legal centre group NSW's election strategy. We also liaised with the NSW council of social services around election issues.

WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Throughout 2006 Kingsford Legal Centre continued to participate in several community involvement activities. These activities provide the opportunity for the centre to promote the services provided, make enquiries as to the legal issues of the local community, provide legal information to both the community and service providers and to ensure that the information KLC has on other service providers is current. During 2006 some of these community involvement activities included:

Kingsford Legal Centre Consultative Committee

The centre would like to thank the representatives from the following community organisations who have kindly agreed to participate in the KLC Consultative Committee: The Shack Youth Service, Sydney Multicultural Community Services, The Junction Neighbourhood Centre and Kooloora Community Centre.

Management Committees

Kingsford Legal Centre continues a commitment to supporting local organisations by staff participating on management committees. During 2006, staff sat on the management committees of the following organisations The Shack Youth Centre, Eastern Area Tenancy Service, The Junction Neighbourhood Centre, The Deli Women and Children's Centre and South East Neighbourhood Centre. In addition staff participated in the Advisory Committee for the Staying Home Leaving Violence service.

Interagency Work

Kingsford Legal Centre attends several local interagency meetings including Eastern Area Interagency, Botany Interagency, Eastern Area Domestic Violence Network and the La Perouse Aboriginal Community Interagency Group. These interagency meetings provide a valuable link between KLC and the local communities. We also use these meetings to promote our services and receive feedback on our projects.

Combined Community Legal Centre Group of NSW (CCLCG)

Kingsford Legal Centre continues to participate in several networks and working groups of CCLCG. During KLC staff convened and/or participated in the following networks: Administrators, Sector Development, Human Rights and Employment, CLE and the PII. KLC is also on the Board of CCLCG.

National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC)

At the 2006 national conference of NACLC several Kingsford Legal Centre staff had the opportunity to show case the work done by the centre and the expertise they have developed in their area of law. Linda Tucker was invited to participate in the main plenary session and discussed the role of community legal centres in the social contract with relation to

WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

WorkChoices. Anna Cody made a presentation on taking your clients to the United Nations, in particular her involvement in the shadow reporting process of the human rights instrument: CEDAW. The KLC discrimination lawyers, Teena Balgi and Shirley Southgate presented a workshop on the gaps in discrimination and equal opportunity laws and the difficulties CLC workers have had in working in these areas. Anna Hartree participated in a workshop on developing CLE materials and discussed the lessons learnt in producing a DVD.

Community Information Forums

Kingsford Legal Centre uses local community forums as an opportunity to promote the service and to distribute relevant legal information. During 2006 KLC participated in the following:

- 2006 Mardi Gras Fair Day
- 2006 Coral Sea Fair
- Law Week
- NAIDOC Week celebrations at La Perouse
- Tenancy Expo at La Perouse
- Service Providers Expo at Maroubra Junction
- Kooloora Womens' Day celebration

KLC students celebrating Women's Day at Kooloora Community Centre

KLC stall at NAIDOC celebrations

New management committee

2006 saw the beginning of a new management committee for KLC. The inaugural meeting was held in June 2006 and the structure will provide a further mechanism for accountability to the Faculty and other stakeholders. The Chair of the Management committee is Professor George Williams and other members include Faculty members Sean Brennan and general manager Gill Kirk, as well as Blakes pro bono Coordinator Anne Cregan and Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre Coordinator Christine Robinson.

KLC Moves House

After over 20 years of being located in one of the most visible and well known locations in Kingsford, the centre packed its bags and moved into the new law building. The move itself was relatively easy due to the wonderful help of the students who assisted with the packing and unpacking. Fortunately the new centre is located very close to Anzac Parade. Due to publicity blitz and the establishment of several outreach services we have been able to reduce the disruption to our clients.

KLC Celebrates 25 years

2006 saw the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Kingsford Legal Centre. To celebrate a party was held on Friday 10 November which was attended by over 150– present and former staff, volunteers and students. Faculty staff and community members joined the celebration. Guest speakers included Uncle Norm Newlin who welcomed everyone to country, the Dean of the Law Faculty David Dixon, Peter Garrett MP and the Director of KLC Anna Cody.

History of KLC

To commemorate 25 years of educating law students and serving the community, KLC commissioned a history of the Centre written by David Nichols, an historian. The History, "From the Roundabout to the Roundhouse, 25 years of Kingsford Legal Centre" was launched on 10th November. It provides interesting context and detail to the work of the Centre over the last 25 years.

VOLUNTEERS

KLC VOLUNTEERS 2006

Without the generous donation by volunteer solicitors of their time and skills, many of the people in our community would be left without access to legal advice. Volunteering at KLC also has the added challenge and delight of working with students who are often having their first experience of working with clients.

We therefore would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the following solicitors who volunteer at the evening advice sessions:

Alice Paul
Andrew Davis
Andrew Jungwirth
Angelique Leondis
Arturo Norbury
Audie Willert
Christine Forostenko
Daniel Gleeson
Danny Grynberg
Dave McMillan
Edwina MacDonald
Elouise Dellitt
Farah Khan
Gloria Nicol
James Baird
Jonathan Namey
Kate Fennessy
Kylie Shulz
Lachlan McAuley
Lee Critchley
Lelien Chua
Maaike Vanderkooi
Magdelene Hauw
Margaret Faux
Margot Morris
Marissa Sandler
Mary O'Connell
Mike Steinfield
Natalie Truong
Natasha Case
Patrick Garcia
Patrick Gentile
Rebekah Gay
Ricardo Gonzalez
Richard Beasley
Robert Eaves
Ross Buchanan
Roxanne Dunkel
Sarah Connolly
Sharon Katz Vidor
Sue Mordaunt
Susan Donaldson
Sylvia Hobbs
Theodora Gianniotis
Tim Mitchell
Tom Porter
Xanthe Thomson

Thanks are also extended to the following firms who provided staff for the employment law clinics during 2005:

Ebsworth & Ebsworth
Abbot Tout
Bartier Perry
Clayton Utz
Harmer's Workplace Lawyers
Henry Davis York
Pricewaterhouse Coopers Legal

SEMESTER 1

Adam Gordon
Anita Fong
Brenda Lui
Caitlan Fegan
Carolyn Yan
Cass Wong
Danielle Roth
Eric Tang
Felicia Boyages
Gina Kawalsky
Hannah Pan
Hayley Gilovitz
Inga Kossowska
Isa Pin
Jacqueline Wilkinson
Kitty Chan
Kellie Thai
Mandy Kaplan
Melissa Lubowski
Rianna Xie
Ryan Yoon
Shirley Wong
Sujinda Nilchan
Tommy Taechaubol
Vivien Yu
Winson Chan
Yenti
Yorkie Au Yeung

SEMESTER 2

Adrian Poy
Alice Lin
Angela Chong
Bryan Shaw
Cassandra Fung
Chloe Chung
Clement Lo
Edward Coper
Filomena Molinaro
Geoffrey Wong
James Shen
Jeremy Yang
Jessica Li
Jonathan Wertheim
Ken Hong
Lise Maddocks
Louise Darcy
Maggie Phang
Mariko Lawson
Nelson Trieu
Patrick Wong
Rochelle Baer
Sally Cheung
Sharon Ackman
Ting Tsia
Zoe Paterson
Zoe Ross

SUMMER SESSION 2006/07

Adeline Chew
Allison Corkery
Allison Rickett
Ashley Walsh
Audrey Yang
Ben Jones
Cheuk-Wang Chan
Cindy Minzhishi
Clara Ho
David Lee
Derek Cheong
Janelle Gaggin
Javeria Khan
Jean-Pierre Chaina
Ju Hyun Park
Justin Carroll
Kit Wan
Lisa Carapiet
Mirium Rath
Mirjana Simic
Monika Szuszkiewicz
Peter Ho
Rebecca Piechocki
Sasha Da Silva
Shan Chen
Skye Owen
Slott Lim
Tammy Steiner
Ting Lim
William Lee

STUDENTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT
PERIOD ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2006
KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

INCOME		
Commonwealth Funding	163,562.00	
State Funding	114,890.00	
Donations	3,394.00	
Fees - Non Award student Activity	1,841.00	
KLC generated income including legal costs & disbursements	64,662.00	(1)
Reimbursements	3,738.00	
TOTAL	**352,087.00**	
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and on costs	503,707.00	
Materials and Running Costs	99,400.00	
Equipment and Maintenance	30,535.00	
Travel and Conferences	7,957.00	
TOTAL	**641,599.00**	
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	-289,511.00	
UNSW Contribution - Law School	335,538.00	(2)
UNSW Contribution - Career Advancement Fund	10,000.00	
Result for the Period includes UNSW contribution Surplus / (Deficit)	**56,027.00**	
PRIOR YEAR ACCUMULATED FUNDS	68,891.00	
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	**124,918.00**	
Add back Encumbrance	172.00	
NET ACCUMULATED BALANCE UNEXPENDED	125,090.00	

FINANCIAL REPORT

CERTIFIED BALANCING TO THE LEDGER
Rajinder Cullinan
Accountant
Faculty of Law
UNSW
3 April 2007

CERTIFIED CORRECT
Anna Hartree
Coordinator
Kingsford Legal Centre
UNSW

3 April 2007

NOTES
1) Legal Costs and disbursements are an abnormal item which can vary considerably from year to year.

2) Kingsford Legal Centre is a unit of the Faculty of Law of the University of New South Wales. As such all its accounts operate within the financial structure of the Law Faculty.

Anna Cody – Director
Anna Cody joined the centre as Director in March 2004. Anna has worked at the centre as a solicitor, senior solicitor and acting Director since 1995, leaving for periods of study and other work. She has worked most recently with a human rights organisation in New York and also in the area of international development in Australia. Her research interests are in the area of community development, clinical legal education and human rights.

Shirley Southgate - Principal Solicitor
Shirley commenced work at KLC in November 2005. Shirley has previously practised in Western Australia, most recently at Legal Aid WA as the Managing Solicitor – Client Services. She has also worked in four different community legal centres and in private practice. She was one of the founders of Human Rights WA and has a particular interest in policy, law reform and community legal education.

Teena Balgi - Solicitor
Teena was a student at KLC in 2000. She has since worked as a solicitor at the HIV/AIDS Legal Centre and as an editor of the Indigenous Law Bulletin. Teena came to KLC from the civil litigation section of Legal Aid Commission of NSW where she was part of the administrative law team. She is currently co-convenor of the National Human Rights Network of Community Legal Centres.

Linda Tucker – Employment Solicitor
Linda Tucker came to KLC from the Sydney Bar where she specialised in refugee and employment law. Prior to this she worked in England for several years running appeals for the Refugee Legal Centre and spending one year at Oxford University.

Cath Whiddon – Locum Solicitor
Cath joined KLC in 2005 as a locum solicitor. She has worked as a solicitor at LawAccess, Working Women's Centre, Macquarie Legal Centre and Inner City Legal Centre. In another life, Cath was a legal editor/consultant for CCH, ICAC and BDW.

Anna Hartree - Coordinator
Anna has over 25 years experience as a community worker. She has worked for a range of organisations which provide human services such as community housing, women's refuges and family support. Anna came to KLC in 2004 after working at Hunter Community Legal Centre in Newcastle.

Denise Wasley - Administrator
Denise has been the KLC Administrator since 2003, having previously worked at KLC in 1996. Denise has worked in the community sector and in trade unions for over 20 years. Denise is the Centre's OH&S representative, First Aid Officer and NTEU Union delegate and represents the Centre on The Shack Youth Centre Management Committee.

STAFF

Francisco Fisher – Publications Worker
Francisco is responsible for all the layout and production of most of the publications produced by KLC.

Murray McWilliam – Librarian
Murray maintains the KLC library. He began his involvement with KLC through his participation in the Clinical Legal Experience Course, Summer Session 1997/98.

Aviva Beck – Freehills Secondee
Aviva Beck joined KLC in November 2005 for a 6 month secondment from Freehills. Before coming to KLC, Aviva was working in the Freehills Sydney office working in Litigation and specialising in Intellectual Property.

Mark Gillard – Freehills Secondee
Mark Gillard joined KLC in April 2006 for a 6 month secondment from Freehills. Mark joined Freehills in 2004 and has worked in Freehills Litigation and Banking & Finance practice groups. Before joining Freehills, Mark was a Judges' Associate in the High Court of New Zealand.

Susan Wan – Freehills Secondee
Susan joined Kingsford Legal Centre in October 2006 on a six-month secondment from Freehills where she has practised in the Litigation and Stamp Duty section. Susan studied at the University of New South Wales and was a student at the Centre in 2003. At Freehills, she also participates in the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme (**NEIS**) which includes a component whereby solicitors provide free legal advice to eligible unemployed people who are being assisted in starting up their own businesses.

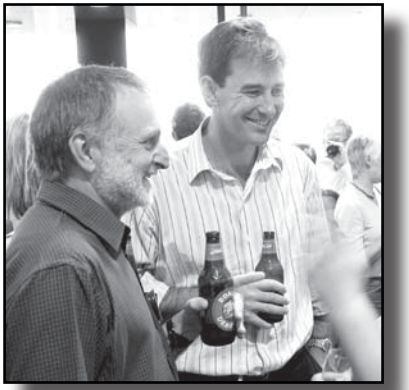
Sonya Oberekar – Allens Arthur Robinson Secondee
Sonya joined KLC in July 2006 as the first Allens Arthur Robinson secondee solicitor. She joined Allens Arthur Robinson in 2005 and spent her first twelve months working in their Commercial Litigation Department. Prior to that she attended the University of Newcastle.

KLC's Lucky Horse

25TH ANNIVERSARY BASH

Clockwise from top left
Prof. David Dixon
Clement Lo, Peter Garrett MP & Ed Coper
Anna Cody & Vedna Jivan
David Nichols
Current KLC staff
Cath Whiddon & family
Michelle Burrell & Francisco Fisher

25TH ANNIVERSARY BASH



Clockwise from top left
Sue Green & Sean Brennan
John Stanley & Ed Smith
Anna Cody & Fran Gibson
Jenny Lovric & Miko
Peter Garrett MP
Uncle Norm Newlin
Dave McMillan & Mike Steinfeld
Anna Cody, Annie Pettitt, Simon Rice & Gordon Renouf

ODE TO KLC

Is there a CLC who can help me
Help me to make things right
A Solicitor who works for free
And will give me advice tonight
I've heard that KLC they can help me
Help me to make things right
On your 25th Anniversary
I need a sober lawyer tonight

So I headed down to KLC to seek some advice
But not before being re-referred to legal aid twice
'Come in' they said arms open wide 'and tell us all your woes'
'But let us first check we don't represent your foes'
They took me in sat me down and took notes so prudent
I was a little miffed to find this only was a student
They said my legal problems ran this list from A to Z
They said they do all they could do to try to help me
They said it's alright now we'll calm your hysteria
But unfortunately you're not in our catchment area

Extract of song written and sung at the 25th Anniversary
by Ed Coper (Session 2, 2006 student) and Anthony Levin (Summer 05/06 student)

NOTES

MISSION STATEMENT

Kingsford legal Centre is committed to human rights, social justice and promoting access and reform of the legal system. We aim to provide quality legal services including: providing community legal education to the community, promoting excellence in clinical education and fostering a critical analysis of the legal justice system.

KINGSFORD
LEGAL CENTRE

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