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Kingsford Legal Centre Annual Report 2011

KLC
kingsford legal centre

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Front cover photograph courtesy: Simone Cheung

DEAN'S FOREWORD

Despite expectations and predictions in 1981, in 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre celebrated its 30th year of operation. This is an incredible achievement of which all of us at the Law School are very proud.

One of the key reasons for this continued success is the Centre's commitment to building partnerships with organisations such as Legal Aid, private law firms and key local community organisations. These partnerships strengthen the Centre's service base by maximising the use of resources to gain better outcomes for its clients. At the same time, our students' experience is enhanced by gaining exposure to a range of legal services and professionals in the clinical setting.

In 2011 new partnerships were forged with the Legal Aid Commission NSW which enabled the establishment of the Visa Cancellation Clinic for prisoners whose visas are being revoked on character grounds and a project focussing on employment rights with Asian Women at Work. Students participate fully in both of these projects.

A new Power of Attorney clinic aimed at elderly clients was established through a pro bono partnership with Clayton Utz. This has proved extremely popular and thanks must go to Clayton Utz for their generous support.

Established partnerships continued strongly with the employment law pro bono clinic, which is a partnership with six private law firms, entering its eighth year of operation in 2011. In 2012 the Freehills secondee program will be celebrating its 20th year – an incredible commitment for which we are very grateful. The Allens Arthur Robinson secondee program also continued and is in its fifth year in 2011. Together, these programs have ensured access to the justice system for thousands of disadvantaged members of our community and I would like to extend my thanks to these firms for their generosity.

Recognition for all this hard work was achieved through two major awards in 2011; Principal Solicitor Emma Golledge won the NSW Women Lawyers' award for Lawyer of the Year in a Community Organisation and KLC volunteer Mike Steinfeld's commitment as a volunteer to the centre for over 25 years resulted in him winning the Community Legal Centres NSW Award at the Law and Justice Foundation Awards . I congratulate both Emma and Mike for their well deserved awards.

I congratulate and thank all of the KLC staff, past and present, for their hard work over the past year. Thanks also must go to those early champions of the Centre – in particular Deans Don Harding, Ron Sackville and Hal Wootten, whose vision ensured that UNSW Law students were exposed to law in practice and had the opportunity to contribute to the community. I am sure that the Centre will continue into the next 30 years, and beyond.

Professor David Dixon
Dean, Law School of Law

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2011 proved to be an extremely busy and productive year for Kingsford Legal Centre staff, students and volunteers. We celebrated our 30th year of operations with a major national conference, special edition e-bulletin and a party with our stakeholders and supporters.

In September the Centre, along with UNSW Law Faculty Experiential Learning Director, Frances Gibson, organised and hosted the 'Transforming Legal Education – Australian National Conference on Clinical and Experiential Learning'. The conference was opened by the Australian Attorney General with over 100 clinicians and academics attending. We are grateful for the support of the Federal Attorney Generals' Department in assisting us to host two international guests. In addition to the conference, KLC produced its biannual 'Guide to Clinical Legal Education in Australia'.

In July I attended the Global Alliance of Justice Education (GAJE) International Conference and was elected to the GAJE steering committee. Both the conferences and the guide are evidence of the expansion of clinical programs in Australia and worldwide. Kingsford Legal Centre's clinical courses remain at the forefront of this movement.

The Centre started two new advice clinics in 2011 – a new Power of Attorney advice clinic in partnership with Clayton Utz and a Visa Cancellation on Character Grounds clinic for prisoners in partnership with Legal Aid NSW. Both clinics proved extremely popular with clients and we are finding it hard to meet the demand. These clinics are the result of KLC staff identifying areas of service which are not being met by existing legal services, and working with partners to provide the assistance required.

Our work in law reform and policy was particularly prolific in 2011. KLC staff produced submissions to a wide range of enquiries about issues such as discrimination law, human rights, international students and constitutional recognition of Indigenous Australians. Students worked closely with staff on all of these submissions.

The backbone of KLC, our volunteers, continued providing over 1800 advices to our local community in 2011. As it was our 30th year, we took the opportunity to formally recognize seven of our volunteers who have been volunteering for over 10 years – an amazing commitment. We were also very pleased that Mike Steinfeld won the CLC NSW's award for volunteering – a well deserved recognition.

Thanks must go to KLC staff who worked extremely hard in 2011. Their commitment, cohesion and good humour ensured the success of all of our programs throughout the year. In October we sadly farewelled one of our longest serving staff members, Centre Coordinator Anna Hartree.

I look forward to another challenging and busy year in 2012.

Associate Professor Anna Cody
Director

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 clients
- 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 systemic advocacy and community legal education play in legal service provision

2. To improve access to justice for residents of the Botany and Randwick areas by providing free legal advice and assistance including specialist employment advice
3. To reduce discrimination through the provision of specialist legal advice and representation on discrimination matters to residents of NSW and those who are discriminated against in 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 systemic advocacy, 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

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

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 and they analyse and reflect on this experience in a structured way.

Kingsford Legal Centre offers a range of courses and clinical components to UNSW law students. These are:

1st year: Foundations Enrichment 2 course for 1st year Indigenous students focusing on communication skills and the legal aid system.

2nd/3rd year: Interviewing component in Law, lawyers and Society for almost all students who interview clients and write a reflective assignment on it. These students each spend 6 hours at the Centre in an evening legal advice session after being taught interviewing skills by Centre supervisors.

Elective courses: Clinical Legal Experience & Employment Law courses in which students develop their understanding of issues of social justice as well as developing interviewing, negotiation, drafting, submission writing and advocacy skills. We teach students to think critically about the law, the legal system and the place of disadvantaged clients within it. We do this through students working on client files, answering phones, working on law reform and community education projects under the supervision of clinical supervisors for 1-2 days each week. There is also a weekly 2 hour seminar program and daily 1 hour tutorial program for reflection on substantive issues of law and justice questions.

Family Law and Domestic Violence Clinic has developed a range of training modules for various community groups and community members focussing on family law and the cross over with domestic violence. Six students came through this clinic each semester. The students met with and built relationships with workers in the local area prepared and presented community legal education workshops for the members of the local community.

Other teaching and learning achievements in 2011

Developing Standards in Clinical Legal Education Grant

Kingsford Legal Centre jointly won a ALTC grant ($211,000) for 'Developing standards in clinical legal education' in 2010 and the project continued on into 2011. This is a combined project between UNSW, ANU, La Trobe, Griffith, Murdoch and Monash Universities which will involve in-depth study of the range of clinical legal education programs in Australia, with the aim of developing best practices for Clinical legal education in Australia. In 2011 numerous project team meetings were held and regional reports were finalized for each region in Australia. The next stage of the project is the drafting of best practices in each of the areas. There will be standards in areas such as time periods for clinical teaching, seminar programs, supervision levels, teaching of analysis of law among other issues. The biannual clinical legal education conference included a 2 hour plenary on the standards project for those attending to give input to the draft standards.

Clinical Legal Education Guide 2011/12

KLC published our biannual Clinical Legal Education Guide in 2011. The Guide provides information to prospective students who may be interested in law studies. It also serves the purpose of educating Law Faculties about the range of clinical programs they can run for law students.

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Transforming Legal Education – Australian National Conference on Clinical and Experiential Learning

KLC in conjunction with Frances Gibson (Director of Experiential Learning) organised and hosted a conference on clinical legal education from 7th to 9th September. The Federal Attorney General opened the conference and a range of very impressive speakers from the USA, New Zealand, India and Australia presented plenaries and workshops. We had many more attendees than we had expected, over 100 clinicians and academics who gave very positive feedback on the conference. The domestic and international speakers were thought provoking. Judith Welch-Wegner (a Carnegie report writer) and Alizabeth Newman (City University of New York) gave contrasting presentations on legal education in the USA and then a focussed discussion of community development in clinical education programs.

GAJE conference: July 2011

KLC staff were on the organising committee for this Global Alliance for Justice Education conference in July 2011, deciding fee waivers and grants for participants from developing countries. Two staff also attended the conference which was inspiring and truly global. We hope to integrate many of the ideas picked up at the conference into our courses over the coming year. KLC Director, Anna Cody, was elected to the GAJE steering committee.

Indigenous Access Initiatives

During 2011 KLC continued to make a significant contribution to the Law Faculty's commitment to increasing the numbers of Indigenous students studying law. KLC is an active participant in the Indigenous Legal Education Committee.

Classes on Working with Indigenous Clients and Communities

The seminar program for students includes a class on working with Indigenous clients and communities in order to provide greater insight and skill for students. This class was presented by KLC Aboriginal Access Worker, Ron Timbery.

Winter School Program For Indigenous High School Students

KLC hosted Indigenous high school students during the Winter School program involving Year 10, 11 and 12 students. Approximately 20 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 20 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 Indigenous access to, 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 delighted to be part of the program to increase Indigenous participation in law courses.

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

Indigenous Students-Foundations Enrichment Course

In 2011 we ran for the ninth time the Foundations Enrichment course for first year Indigenous students. The program is designed to assist first year Indigenous students to 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.

Clinical students at the Centre

Attorney General The Hon Robert McLelland opening the National Clinical Conference

Statistical summary of our service and our clients 2011

Information and Advice

Information only	1278
Advices	1818

Advice – Problem Type Top Ten

Motor Vehicle Accidents & Fines	309
Employment unfair dismissal	136
Credit and debt owed by client	124
Employment conditions/entitlements	110
Credit and debt owed to client	107
Employment Other	90
Other civil	80
Wills/probate power of attorney	72
Neighbourhood disputes complaints about neighbours	63
Discrimination race	57

Casework

Open at period start	50
New cases opened in period	388
Total cases open during period	438

Casework – Area of Law

Discrimination	16%
Employment	15%
Criminal (Including DV)	4%
Civil	65%

Clients

New Clients	1163
Repeat Clients	278

Client Demographics - Gender

Female	49%
Male	49%

Client Demographics - Age

< 18	1%
18-34	31%
35-49	25%
50-64	21%
65 & over	12%

Client Demographics – Income

Low	54%
Medium	17%
High	6%

Client Demographics – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Clients identifying as ATSI	7%

Client Demographics - Disability

Clients with a disability	7%

Client Demographics – Country of Birth Top 10

40% of Clients were Australian Born – 53% were born outside of Australia – 7% not stated	
Australia	40%
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan Province)	6.1%
England	3.4%
New Zealand	2.9%
Greece	1.7%
Russian Federation	1.7%
Chile	1.5%
India	1.5%
Indonesia	1.5%
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	1.3%

Non - Casework Projects

Non-casework Projects Open at Period Start	99
Opened in Period	114
Total Open in Period	213

Non - Casework Projects - Types

Access & Equity	1%
Community Development	8%
Community Legal Education	37%
Continuing Professional Development	2%
Law Reform and Legal Policy	16%
Organisational Management/Support	13%
Public Relations	7%
Service Extension and Development	14%
Social Justice Campaigns	2%

KLC students enjoy a visit by Justice Michael Kirby

STUDENTS AND STAFF

Winter School Students 2011

KLC Solicitor Alex Salib (ex-Allens Secondee), Anna Hartree, Naomi Bergman (Allens Secondee), KLC Solicitor Liz Meyer at KLC's 30th Birthday celebrations (Photo by Simone Cheung)

CASEWORK

Kingsford Legal Centre experienced a very busy year marked by growth in its casework practice in 2011. Our practice expanded to include a new pro bono Power of Attorney clinic in partnership with Clayton Utz. We also expanded to include a new Visa Cancellation Clinic for prisoners, after we received funding for 12 months through the Legal Aid Commission's Community Legal Centre Partnership Program.

Thanks are once again due to our wonderful volunteer solicitors whose commitment, professionalism and great good humour continued throughout 2011 ensuring our local community had access to quality free legal advice. The huge number of advices provided to the local community is a reflection of the dedication of our volunteer solicitors who continue to turn up – rain, hail or even after a very bad day at their day job. Many thanks!

Our outreaches at Yarra Bay, the Junction Neighbourhood Centre and the South East Neighbourhood Centre continued to be popular with our clients. We continued to provide legal advice to prisoners at Long Bay Jail. We also continued to see clients at Prince of Wales Hospital for a range of legal issues but most commonly power of attorney and guardianship.

KLC solicitor Dianne Anagnos & Principal Solicitor Emma Gollege

Discrimination Law

Kingsford Legal Centre opened 76 Discrimination Law cases in 2011. The breakdown of cases are:-

Type of discrimination	No. of cases opened
Discrimination race	19
Discrimination disability	17
Discrimination sex/gender	16
Discrimination Other	7
Discrimination pregnancy	6
Discrimination age	5
Discrimination marital status	4
Discrimination sexual orientation	2
Total	**76**

The number of race discrimination cases was a noticeable trend in 2011, with this area the 10th most common problem that clients came to see us about. This reflects Kingsford Legal Centre's focus on trying to ensure more complaints of race discrimination are made, particularly by Aboriginal people. Although anecdotally we know race discrimination remains a big problem, especially for Aboriginal people, this historically has not been reflected in discrimination complaints. We continue to provide immediate access to one of our solicitors for all clients who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and try to provide representation in discrimination complaints by Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander clients.

Race Discrimination Case

Kingsford Legal Centre acted throughout 2011 in a race discrimination matter at the Administrative Decisions Tribunal. Our client, an Aboriginal man sought accommodation at a guest house. After being told over the telephone that there were rooms available and that one would be held for him, when he arrived at the guest house he was told that he could not take the room. The caretaker told him that this was because he was Aboriginal and that she had been directed by her boss not to take “Aboriginals because they cause too much trouble”. Our client immediately lodged a discrimination complaint with the Anti-Discrimination Board. This was not settled and was referred to the Administrative Decisions Tribunal. The matter went to hearing in August and the decision has been reserved. Kingsford Legal Centre obtained a grant of Legal Aid and Lisa Doust of Counsel acted for our client.

Disability Discrimination Case

Kingsford Legal Centre was approached by a client who made a complaint of disability discrimination to the Australian Human Rights Commission. The complaint did not settle at the Commission and the client appealed to the Federal Magistrates Court. KLC agreed to act for the client in his Court appeal. The client was distressed and hurt after being constantly told by his manager at work that he was obese, was leading an “unhealthy” life and that he had to lose weight. At one point the manager even gave him an “official warning” because he had not lost weight. The employer ended up dismissing the client for unrelated matters. Kingsford Legal Centre represented the client at mediation and the matter was settled to the client’s satisfaction, without proceeding to hearing.

The case highlighted the ambiguity under the law where people are discriminated against for a presumed disability rather than an actual disability. It also highlighted the current gap in protection from discrimination for people who are obese but do not have any medical conditions that fall within the definition of disability. We used this experience in our law reform and policy work in relation to improving discrimination law.

New Clinic: Visa Cancellation on Character Grounds

In 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre received funding through the Legal Aid Community Legal Centre Partnership Program for a one year project to set up a Visa Cancellation Clinic for prisoners. People who are not Australian citizens risk having their visa cancelled if they are sentenced to a term of 12 months or more in jail. This often affects people who are permanent residents and who came to Australia as children. It also impacts of people with a history of drug or alcohol abuse or mental illness as frequent contact with the criminal justice system increases the likelihood a visa may be cancelled. Our focus is on acting for clients where they face significant barriers to responding to the notice of intention to cancel their visa, for example, language barriers or health issues and where there are compelling circumstances for example, humanitarian reasons or best interests of the child considerations.

Visa Cancellation Success in 2011

Kingsford Legal Centre acted for a prisoner who had received a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation of Visa. Our client was a 20 year old man of Iraqi citizenship who had fled Iraq when he was 11 years old and moved to Australia when he was 15. When he was 18 years old our client was

involved in a robbery with a group of other young men. He did not play an active role in the robbery and did not carry a weapon. He confessed his involvement to Police the next day and assisted them to identify the other offenders.

Our client did not have any relatives or friends remaining in Iraq and faced the prospect of being deported to a country where he had no ties to the community and faced persecution and even death for his Christian faith. Kingsford Legal Centre outlined our client’s circumstances, in particular, that his offence was very unlikely to be repeated, that our client had strong ties to the community, had been offered employment on his release, and that he had shown remorse for his actions. We also drew attention to the political climate in Iraq and the regular occurrence of acts of violence against Christians, submitting that our client would be at serious risk if returned to Iraq. After considering our submissions DIAC decided not to cancel our client’s Visa and instead issued him with a formal warning.

New Clinic: Power of Attorney

Kingsford Legal Centre launched a new power of attorney and guardianship clinic in 2011 with pro bono assistance from Clayton Utz. The clinic provides legal advice predominately to older people or people facing health issues with advice on whether they should put in place power of attorney or guardianship arrangements, either immediately or in the event they lose legal capacity. The clinic is able to draft these documents for clients.

Kingsford Legal Centre identified an increasing need in the community for this type of advice, especially for low income clients. We also have a steady demand from people at Prince of Wales Hospital. KLC provided training and supervision to Clayton Utz lawyers who come to the Centre once a fortnight. They also go and visit clients - at home, in nursing homes and at the hospital. We thank Clayton Utz for their support of the clinic and look forward to working together in 2012.

PLT student Yoon Nam & Clayton Utz Solicitor Greta Gringall

Student Advocacy

KLC’s student advocacy scheme continued to offer clients, student representation in guilty pleas at Waverley Local Court.

A student from KLC attended Waverley Court to represent a client as part of this program. The client pleaded guilty to a mid-range drink driving charge. On the basis of the pleadings drafted and presented by the student, the magistrate dismissed the charges under s.10 of the *Crimes (Sentencing) Procedures Act* 1999 (NSW) on the condition that the client enter a six-month good behaviour bond. Considering the circumstances, both the client and student advocate were delighted with this result. The Program in this case allowed an otherwise unrepresented and disadvantaged member of society to have their circumstances ably presented to the magistrate and, in this particular case, receive leniency from the Court.

FAMILY LAW AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CLINIC

The Family Law and Domestic Violence Clinic is funded by a grant from the Commonwealth Attorney General to develop and deliver community legal education to our local community, in a clinical legal education setting. In 2011, 17 students enrolled in the clinic, all of whom evaluated the course very positively.

The students had the opportunity to meet and build relationships with workers in the local area and also to prepare and present community legal education workshops to our local community. A total of 17 Community Legal Education workshops were organised for various women's groups throughout the year to organisations such as:- Bengali Women's Group in partnership with Sydney Multicultural Community Services; social workers of Prince of Wales Hospital; Killara Womens' Refuge; Marian Women's Refuge; and family support workers at Jannali Family Services. The presentations were well attended and all host organisations requested ongoing partnership with KLC, reflecting their need for Family Law/Domestic Violence related legal education

Attendance at each CLE varied in numbers. The CLE presented to the social workers at the Royal Hospital for Women attracted nine attendees whereas the Sutherland Shire Family Services had 22 people attending. This variety is educationally valuable for the students as it offers an opportunity for a different approach and experience. The feedback received from the participants has been encouraging and further topics of interest were identified for future presentations. This is in line with the aim of the clinic which is two-fold: to educate the students as well as deliver quality community legal education with a focus on much needed Family Law and overlap with Domestic Violence laws.

2011 was a very strong year for the Family Law and Domestic Violence Clinic. Relationships with community organisations were strengthened and CLE materials were developed and delivered widely. Demand for the services continues strongly into 2012.

Clinical Supervisor Dolun Teoman (Centre) and summer session family law students

SECONDEES' REPORT

Law firms Freehills (since 1992) and Allens Arthur Robinson (since 2006) provide full-time solicitors as secondees to KLC. Freehills provides two solicitors every year on a 6 month rotation basis and Allens provides one solicitor for 6 months of the year.

Susan Duc, the Freehills secondee who began in 2010 continued her secondment in 2011, finishing up in May. Chris Hill, also from Freehills, followed Susan in July 2011. Naomi Bergman from Allens began in February 2011 until August 2011.

The Freehills and Allens secondees work closely with the permanent staff and students at KLC. In 2011, the secondees continued to give advice to KLC clients on general areas of law, including contract matters, debt recovery, fines, tenancy, motor vehicle accidents, victims compensation, enduring powers of attorney and guardianships, and disputes with government departments. The secondees also staff fortnightly outreaches at South-East Neighbourhood Centre in Eastlakes, and the Junction Neighbourhood Centre in Maroubra Junction.

Community Legal Education

Project work also allows the secondees to engage with the community through participation in the delivery of community legal education seminars. Some presentations in 2011 included briefing community workers on powers of attorney and enduring guardianships as well as presenting to inmates involved in a pre-release program at Long Bay Correctional Complex.

Casework

The secondees also managed a number of ongoing casework files for KLC clients. Susan Duc worked on a case where a client found out that their next-of-kin had died a year after the event. The client was distressed that the news was not communicated by the police immediately after it occured. Susan helped liaise with the police over a number of months and provided the client with regular support eventually arranging for a visit by a NSW Police representative to the client's home to explain how the oversight occurred and express condolences.

Naomi Bergman helped a client in a case against Housing NSW in the Consumer, Trader and Tenancy Tribunal. The client wanted compensation for a very high electricity bill incurred by reason of Housing NSW's failure to fix her leaking hot water system in a timely manner. Naomi helped the client to negotiate with Housing NSW during a Tribunal-ordered conciliation and reached an agreement with Housing NSW that they would pay a substantial portion of the electricity bill.

Chris Hill worked on a case for a client suffering from various mental illnesses who was repeatedly targeted by a door to door salesperson who persuaded the client to sign several internet and phone contracts with a major telecommunications company in circumstances where the client did not understand what he was signing. Subsequently, the company began billing the client and eventually threatening debt recovery action in relation to the accounts. Chris wrote to the company and obtained a full release from the contracts at no charge, as well as an apology for the actions of the salesperson.

EMPLOYMENT CLINIC REPORT

2011 was another very busy year for the Employment Clinic with 336 advices given and 74 cases taken on. Here is a breakdown of the clinic's service delivery:-

Problem Type	No. of Cases	No. of advices
Employment Other	11	90
Employment conditions/ entitlements	28	110
Employment unfair dismissal	35	136
Total	74	336

Case Work

The Clinic has assisted in unfair dismissal, general protections, underpayment and discrimination cases.

The Clinic helped a woman who was unfairly dismissed by her employer. The client was told not to return to the workplace because she couldn't carry out a task that fell well-outside her role as a dental assistant. We helped the woman to represent herself at Fair Work Australia by drafting submissions and putting together witness statements. She was awarded four months in lost wages. The Clinic continued to assist the client when her employer appealed Fair Work Australia's decision, appearing before Fair Work Australia and convincing the appeal panel that the appeal was not in the public interest and that the decision should stand.

The Clinic also acted for a man who was suspended without pay from his job because his employer believed he was not fit for work because of his mental illness. This was despite the fact that the man had been cleared as fit for work by his treating psychiatrist and there was no evidence his mental health condition had impacted on his work. We wrote to his employer demanding that he be reinstated immediately and be compensated for the pay he had missed out on. The client, who was hesitant to return to that workplace after the way he had been treated, agreed to settle his case in return for 3 months of lost wages.

The Centre's Employment Clinic also assisted a number of clients from non-English speaking backgrounds who have been underpaid by their employers. In one case, a laundry worker originally from Bangladesh was underpaid over $65,000 over the course of three years. During negotiations the company went into liquidation. We were able to show the liquidator that the woman had genuinely been underpaid and so should be given preferential treatment as a creditor. She was eventually paid a $21,000 dividend in the liquidation.

KLC Employment Solicitor Liz Meyer (second from left) and summer session employment students

EMPLOYMENT CLINIC REPORT

Legal Aid Partnership Funding Grant – Asian Women at Work Project

The Centre was successful in the inaugural round of partnership funding between NSW community legal centres and the Legal Aid Commission to run a series of six employment law workshops in collaboration with Asian Women at Work (AWAW), a grassroots organisation in the South West of Sydney.

In 2011 two workshops were held with AWAW members. At the first workshop, AWAW members from the Chinese community in Auburn gave us some insight into the types of employment issues they come across. At the second workshop, we worked through case studies which we had developed to reflect the experiences shared with us at the first workshop. By working through the case studies the women were able to learn how to identify good and bad workplace practices, what legal (and non-legal) options are available to them and how they can overcome some of the barriers to accessing the legal system. The project continues into 2012 and we will publish the case studies in a range of community languages at the end of the project.

Pro Bono Advice Clinic

The Employment Clinic has been running a pro bono advice clinic with Sydney firms for 8 years. Every Wednesday during semester, a solicitor from one of the six firms on our roster attends Kingsford Legal Centre to give employment advice to our clients and work with our students. The clinic runs extremely smoothly and is an asset which we value highly. Thanks to all of the participating firms -Bartier Perry, Clayton Utz, Harmer's Workplace Lawyers, Henry Davis York and HWL Ebsworth - for their generous commitment to Kingsford Legal Centre and our clients.

Liz Meyer presenting to AWAW members

ABORIGINAL ACCESS PROJECT

The Aboriginal Access Project aims to improve the access to Kingsford Legal Centre by the local Aboriginal Community by building links with them, presenting CLE, providing services such as supporting clients in their dealings with Kingsford Legal Centre, providing information on all legal service providers and helping the community to identify their legal needs. Ron Timbery is KLC's Aboriginal Access Worker.

Some highlights of the Aboriginal Access Project in 2011 were:

Outreach Service at La Perouse

Kingsford Legal Centre runs an outreach service in the La Perouse Aboriginal community every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm. The outreach is a drop-in service and no appointments are necessary. Kingsford Legal Centre recognises the barriers that exist between Aboriginal people and the legal sector and the outreach service is designed to reduce access barriers for Aboriginal people at La Perouse.

Aboriginal Recognition in the Constitution

This issue was identified by Kingsford Legal Centre as a significant issue for Law Reform work in 2011. We developed questionnaires about Constitutional Recognition for the local community and distributed and collected these questionnaires at Yabun 2011. The completed questionnaires were forwarded to the Australian Government's Expert Panel on Aboriginal Recognition in the Constitution. Kingsford Legal Centre also provided a submission to the Expert Panel which argued for Constitutional reform including a prohibition against race discrimination in the Australian Constitution. Our Aboriginal Access worker, Ron Timbery, in partnership with Peta MacGillivray and April Long of the UNSW Indigenous Law Centre, organised a forum with our local community at La Perouse on the issues raised during the consultations by the Expert Panel.

KLC also ran a workshop on this issue at the Australian National Association of Community Legal Centres conference.

Community Legal Education

NSW Young Lawyers Leadership Conference

Aboriginal Access Worker, Ron Timbery, did a workshop on Aboriginal legal issues for Years 5 and 6 students at the NSW Young Lawyers Law and Justice Leadership Conference on 30th March.

Yarra Bay CLE- Funeral Plans

Responding to concerns in the La Perouse Aboriginal community Kingsford Legal Centre ran an information session on Funeral Insurance Plans, on 11 May 2011. Some members of the local Aboriginal community were unsure of their rights under these plans, and had a lot of questions about how they worked.

Yarra Bay CLE – Family Law

An Introduction to Family Law was delivered to members of the La Perouse Men's Group by Kingsford Legal Centre on 27 May 2011.

Aboriginal Cultural Events

Sorry Day Stall

Kingsford Legal Centre operated a Sorry Day Information and Pledge stall on 26 May, 2011. The purpose of the stall was to recognize and pay respects to members of the Stolen Generations by increasing awareness of the Stolen Generations among UNSW staff and students, and to invite interested persons to make a pledge in KLC's Sorry Day Pledge Book.

ABORIGINAL ACCESS PROJECT

Ron Timbery, Eric White & Ash Walker at Sorry Day Stall

NAIDOC

Kingsford Legal Centre had a stall at the local NAIDOC event at La Perouse on 5 July, 2011. NAIDOC is an opportunity for us to provide information on legal services to the community, and contributes to our partnerships with other service providers and the Aboriginal community.

KLC's Aboriginal Advisory Group

Kingsford Legal Centre's activities under its Aboriginal Access Program are overseen by its Aboriginal Advisory Group (AAG). The AAG met twice in 2011. The group provides input, direction and support for the KLC Aboriginal Access Program.

Ron Timbery at KLC's stall at Yabun

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

Kingsford Legal Centre's Community Legal Education (CLE) program held over 45 workshops and events in 2011.

Community Workshop Series

Kingsford Legal Centre has conducted monthly workshops for community workers from the local area since 2005. The workshops aim to provide legal information, materials and skills on topics relevant to the work done by the community sector. Over 80 workers attended training at our Centre during the year to learn about topics such as Legal Basics. Discrimination Law, Employment Law, Fines, Power of Attorney and Mental Health Law. The series uses KLC staff as well as guest speakers from other community legal centres and the Legal Aid Commission. Feedback from the sessions is extremely positive.

"Human Rights Rules!"

Between 27 September and 5 October 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre staff and students provided a series of four separate workshops on human rights principles to children aged between 8 and 12 years. These workshops were funded by a grant from the Attorney General's Department (Cth) under its Human Rights Education Framework. The human rights workshops were presented at Vacation Care programs in our local community and involved games and exercises designed to get the children thinking about basic human needs and how these needs are linked to fundamental human rights. The workshops had between 10 and 28 children attending.

Prisoner Community Legal Education Sessions

Long Bay Correctional Centre training session

Kingsford Legal Centre staff presented a training session to welfare workers, drug and alcohol workers and other "non-custodial" staff at Long Bay Gaol on 25 May. The training session ran for three hours and covered tenancy, victims' compensation, visa cancellations, debts, fines and the range of free legal assistance available to prisoners.

Ngara Nura Agency Days

Kingsford Legal Centre was pleased to be invited back to attend Ngara Nura 'Community Agency Days' during 2011. Ngara Nura is a pre-release drug and alcohol rehabilitation program based at Long Bay Correctional Complex. It is a six month program that offers intensive counselling, education and exit planning for prisoners nearing their release date. The Community Agency Days are an opportunity for agencies to talk to inmates and their visiting family members about legal and other support services available to them. KLC attended two Community Agency Days in 2011.

CLE by request!

Kingsford Legal Centre staff delivered a number of 'on request' community legal education workshops to our local community throughout the year. They included:

- A workshop with the caseworkers at NEAMI, a local mental health organisation that provides support services to people with serious mental illness within a recovery framework. We provided legal education and referral tips on guardianship and social security law.

COMMUNITY LEGAL EDUCATION

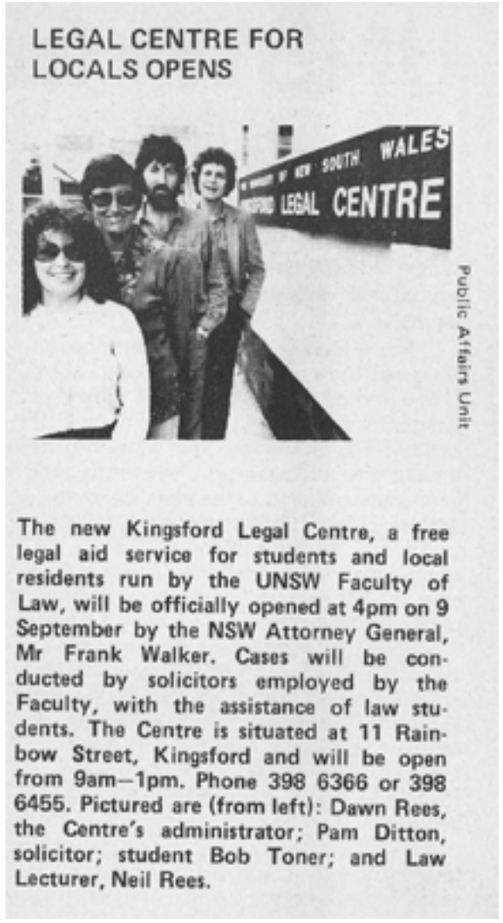
- A workshop on Powers of Attorney and Guardianship presented to Jewish Care family support workers in Bondi Junction.
- Two talks in Greek to local older Greek women's support groups about Powers of Attorney and Guardianship.
- A talk to Aspire, a local support group for parents of children living with autism and aspergers syndrome. This talk was about disability discrimination in education, and the rights of the parents and their children not to be discriminated against by the education system.

KLC CLE programs manager, Dianne Anagnos

KLC students at Legal Expo and CLE

30 YEARS OF KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

Professor Harding said the service could only be temporary. *We haven't got the financial backing to make it permanent. The service ... will operate for nine months.* - 'Student law service planned', *Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 July 1981



LEGAL CENTRE FOR LOCALS OPENS

The new Kingsford Legal Centre, a free legal aid service for students and local residents run by the UNSW Faculty of Law, will be officially opened at 4pm on 9 September by the NSW Attorney General, Mr Frank Walker. Cases will be conducted by solicitors employed by the Faculty, with the assistance of law students. The Centre is situated at 11 Rainbow Street, Kingsford and will be open from 9am–1pm. Phone 398 6366 or 398 6455. Pictured are (from left): Dawn Rees, the Centre's administrator; Pam Ditton, solicitor; student Bob Toner; and Law Lecturer, Neil Rees.

Despite this cautious and modest beginning the Kingsford Legal Centre proudly celebrated its 30th year of operation in 2011. Over the past 30 years Kingsford Legal Centre staff, students and volunteers have not only provided quality free legal advice to thousands of clients from the Randwick and Botany Council areas but we have also educated around 4,000 UNSW Law Faculty students.

On November 17 we had a party to mark this milestone and were honoured to have five wonderful speakers : Professor Brendan Edgeworth, Head of UNSW Law School; Tony Woods, ex-KLC Director; Vedna Jivan, ex-KLC solicitor; Anna Cody, KLC Director, and David Buxton-Forman, KLC student. A special thanks must go to ex-KLC student (and current KLC friend) Simone Cheung, for her great work as photographer on the night. The party brought to a close a year of activities celebrating the 30 years, including the National Clinical Conference and the special 30th Birthday edition of the e-bulletin.

Thanks must go to all of our backers, supporters, friends and partners over these 30 years. We are confident that Kingsford Legal Centre will be around for 30 more!

We feel Vedna's very funny speech deserves a wider audience, so have included it on pages 41-42 of this report...enjoy.

30 YEARS OF KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

Brendan Edgeworth (Head of School), Vedna Jivan (ex-KLC Solicitor) and Tony Woods (ex-KLC Director)

KLC staff and friends

All images by Simone Cheung

KLC Director Anna Cody & Head of School Brendan Edgeworth

KLC Staff, Secondees and Friends (past and present)

KLC – supporting social justice for 30 years

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Centre appreciates the contribution made by the Kingsford Legal Centre Management Committee members during 2011. The committee met three times during the year: in March, June and September and provided useful direction on several issues such as fundraising, the Aboriginal Access Project and seeking assistance for the reconfiguration of the centre. Thank you to Professor Jill Hunter for chairing the committee and to the committee members: Professor David Dixon, Dean Faculty of Law (UNSW), Sean Brennan (UNSW Law School), Julie Romanowski (UNSW Faculty of Law), Brooke Predebon (UNSW Law School), Anne Cregan (Blakes) and Christine Robinson (Wirringa Baiya Aboriginal Women's Legal Centre).

Photograph courtesy: Simone Cheung

LAW REFORM AND POLICY

During 2011 KLC made substantive contributions to the following Law Reform projects:

Equality project: consolidation of discrimination laws

In 2010 the Commonwealth Government announced that it would consolidate existing anti-discrimination law into a consolidated Act. As a result Kingsford Legal Centre worked with other community legal centres for most of 2011 to respond to this process by developing a unified policy position and then undertook significant drafting of several discussion papers written on behalf of the National Association of Community Legal Centres (NACLC). KLC staff also met with the Attorney-General's Department to discuss how we thought discrimination law could work more effectively, especially for disadvantaged clients.

The keys issues the NACLC submission raised were:

- the need to make the law easier to use, with simpler definitions of discrimination;
- that the consolidation process should address barriers to justice, such as the cost of legal proceedings and reducing the complexity of the Court process;
- the need to widen protections for discrimination, including on the basis of attributes such as religion, domestic violence and criminal record and to provide better protection for complex forms of discrimination.

Universal Periodic review

This is a policy project which KLC Director, Anna Cody, has been involved in over the last 12 months. Australia was reviewed by the Human Rights Council in January 2011 to discuss Australia's overall human rights record. There was an active NGO delegation represented in Geneva. The group met with over 60 country representatives and the various representatives asked many questions with 145 suggested recommendations for the Australian government on how to improve Australia's achievement of human rights. The Government has now responded to the recommendations.

Human Rights Action Plan - Baseline Study

In 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre provided a submission in response to the Commonwealth Attorney General's Draft Baseline Study. The Baseline Study will form the basis of a National Human Rights Action Plan and will identify key areas where Australia is currently not meeting human rights obligations and will identify measures required. Kingsford Legal Centre staff drew on our experience in areas such as discrimination law, access to justice and human rights issues facing disadvantaged people

Aboriginal Recognition in the Constitution

This issue was identified by KLC as a significant issue for Law Reform work in 2011. We developed questionnaires for the local community about Constitutional recognition and provided these to the Australian Government's Expert Panel on Aboriginal Recognition in the Constitution. Our Aboriginal Access Worker Ron Timbery, in partnership with Peta MacGillivray and April Long of the Indigenous Law Centre, organised a forum with our local community at La Perouse on the issues raised by the Consultation by the expert panel. Kingsford Legal Centre also provided a

LAW REFORM AND POLICY

submission to the Expert Panel which argued for Constitutional reform including a prohibition against race discrimination in the Australian Constitution.

NGO Roundtable UN reporting

In early May Kingsford Legal Centre organised an Australian NGO debrief and discussion about NGO involvement in United Nations reporting mechanisms. The aim was to document some of the lessons learned of the variety of approaches taken over the last 10 years by NGO coalitions. This will become a brief report and information pack for use by NGOs in future years.

NSW Legislative Inquiry into International Student Accommodation

Kingsford Legal Centre drew on our experience assisting students deal with housing disputes and provided a submission to this Inquiry. We particularly highlighted our concerns that many unscrupulous landlords were targeting international students with the aim of defrauding them. We advocated for better legal regulation of share houses and lodging situations.

NSW Legal Assistance Forum/ CLCs NSW

As Chair of CLCs NSW Anna Cody is the Deputy Chair of the NSW Legal Assistance Forum.

NLAF Employment Law Group

Emma Golledge continues to sit on the NLAF Group as a community legal centre representative examining employment law services in NSW. The Group met to identify ways in which funding could be secured for employment law services in NSW, as well as develop ideas for service delivery using available resources.

NLAF Prisons Working Group

Anna Cody continued to sit on the NSW Legal Assistance Forum for Prisoners. In 2011 the working group looked at issues of access to legal advice via video. It also streamlined access procedures for community legal centre workers to prisons and increased links between welfare workers in prisons and community legal centres.

CLCs NSW Law Reform and Policy Committee

Emma Golledge continued to co-convene this Committee. The Committee met quarterly in 2011 and worked on law reform issues affecting clcs across the sector.

PUBLICATIONS, WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

'Clinical Programs in Community Legal Centres, The Australian Approach'

In late 2011 Anna Cody published an article outlining the Australian experience of clinical programs in community legal centres in the *Spanish Journal Education and Law Review*, ed.4 2011.

Discrimination Toolkit

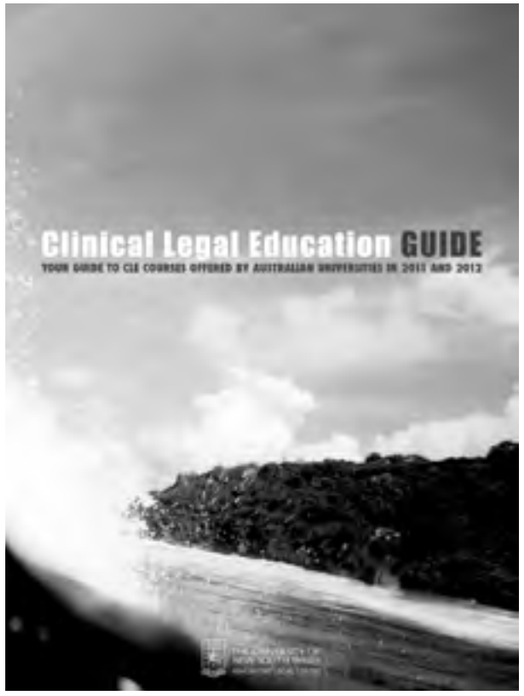
KLC solicitors worked with Legal Aid NSW to update the ever popular resource The *Discrimination Toolkit*. The Toolkit was originally published in 2007 as collaboration between Elizabeth Evatt Community Legal Centre, KLC and Legal Aid. Since that time hundreds of copies of the Kit have been handed out to assist people in understanding their rights in discrimination matters and to help people represent themselves. The update focussed on ensuring that the legal content was up-to-date as well as being as simple and straight forward as possible. The new layout also makes the information easy to read. Thanks to Meredith Osborne and Fiona Pace at Legal Aid who worked with us on the Kit.

Kingsford Legal Centre E-Bulletin

The E-Bulletin outlines the work of the centre, including law reform. It is also an opportunity for the Centre to publicise events such as Community Legal Education and to celebrate achievements of staff, students and volunteers. Three editions of the Kingsford Legal Centre E-Bulletin were published in 2011, including a special 30th birthday edition.

Biannual Guide to Clinical Legal Education Programs in Australian Law Schools

Kingsford Legal Centre produced and published its biannual guide to clinical legal education programs in Australian law schools in September 2011. This guide describes the variety of clinical legal education provided in Australian Universities.



These publications can be obtained from: www.kingsfordlegalcentre.org or by sending a request to legal@unsw.edu.au.

PUBLICATIONS, WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Law Reform Submissions

Kingsford Legal Centre law reform submissions in 2011 include:-

Submission to the Independent Inquiry into Insecure Work in Australia – January 2011

NACLC Submission to the Commonwealth Attorney General - Access to Justice and Systematic Issues: Consolidation of Federal Discrimination Legislation – March 2011

NACLC Submission to Attorney General's Department Inquiry into Areas for Increased Protection in Discrimination Law: Consolidation of Federal Discrimination Legislation – April 2011

Submission to the Expert Panel on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians - September 2011

Submission to the Attorney General's Department on the Draft Baseline Plan – National Human Rights Action Plan – September 2011

Submission into NSW Parliament Inquiry into International Student Accommodation in NSW – October 2011

Website

In 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre undertook a major revamp of its website making it more accessible for each of its client groups. The website homepage now features a news carousel and links to our Facebook and Twitter pages, making it a more up to date and dynamic resource. The website address is : www.kingsfordlegalcentre.org

WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Support to Community Organisations

Kingsford Legal Centre continued to support several local community based organisations during 2011 by our staff being an active member of their board or management committee. These organisations included The Deli Women and Children's Centre, Eastern Area Tenants Service (EATS), South East Neighbourhood Centre (SENC), the Junction Neighbourhood Centre (JNC) and the Shack Youth Service. In addition Anna Hartree attended the Staying Home Leaving Violence Advisory Committee and participated on the seconded worker roster for the Safe Room at Waverley Local Court on DV list days.

2011 National CLC Conference

The annual National Community Legal Centres Conference was held in Hobart with Anna Cody, Anna Hartree, Liz Meyer and Emma Golledge presenting workshops. Emma Golledge presented a workshop on consolidation of anti-discrimination laws; Anna Hartree presented on community development; Liz Meyer presented on adverse action in employment law and on the Asian Women at Work case studies project; and Anna Cody on Aboriginal Constitutional Recognition.

Legal Information Expo

In August Kingsford Legal Centre held an Expo of legal service providers at Kooloora Community Centre in Malabar. Fourteen organisations and services participated by having displays and providing legal information to community workers. During the morning our secondee solicitors conducted a CLE on powers of attorney and guardianship and Legal Aid NSW did a presentation on applying for grants of legal aid.

Inner City Legal Centres Group

Kingsford Legal Centre is a member of this group of community legal centres located in inner Sydney: Kingsford, Marrickville, Redfern and Inner City. The group organises combined training for staff and volunteer at the 4 legal centres. Each centre presents a topic that has been requested by the volunteers. Kingsford Legal Centre solicitor, Liz Meyer, delivered a workshop on Employment Law which was very well attended. Our thanks go to HWL Ebsworth Lawyers for providing the venue.

Prince of Wales Hospital Partnership

Kingsford Legal Centre and the Social Work Department at Prince of Wales Hospital continued the partnership of swapping students for the day. Twice a year eight of our students spend one day with staff of the Social Work Department and their Social Work students spend a day at Kingsford Legal Centre. This partnership is very popular with all students who really enjoy the opportunity to see the work undertaken by the other profession and the different challenges faced by them.

Tenant Groups

In 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre continued working with the South Maroubra Tenants Action Group. The group meets monthly and organises activities and information forums on a range of issues for local tenants. We have also been assisting the group in conducting efficient and effective monthly meetings and providing support to the executive. Ongoing support has also been provided with the running of workshops on letter writing.

WORKING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Anti Poverty Week

During Poverty Week students at Kingsford Legal Centre raised over $900 for charity by holding a very successful cake stall. Thanks particularly to student Stephen Tan who attacked the project with enormous energy.

Eastern Suburbs DV Network

Several staff are active on the DV network and are participating in organising training for White Ribbon Day Ambassadors and facilitating the Love Bites program, an education program aimed at year 10 high school students on issues to do with domestic violence and sexual assault.

KLC Students Cake Stall

VOLUNTEER SOLICITORS

Volunteer Social Justice Heroes – the Over 10 Year Club

As part of our 30th birthday celebrations we recognised our volunteer solicitors who have been helping the Kingsford Legal Centre for more than 10 years. Dave McMillan, Sue Mordaunt, Danny Grynberg, Ross Buchanan, Mike Steinfeld, Sharon Katz-Vidor and Margot Morris were each given a letter of appreciation from UNSW Vice-Chancellor Hilmer and a 'Social Justice Hero' t-shirt. Kingsford Legal Centre is very grateful to this peerless group of heroes for their long term commitment to our Centre, clients and students.

Mike Steinfeld Wins Community Legal Centre Award at Law and Justice foundation Award Ceremony

KLC was extremely proud that our wonderful volunteer, Mike Steinfeld won the Law and Justice Foundation, NSW Community Legal Centre Award in 2011. Mike has been volunteering at the Centre for over 25 years, a magnificent achievement. Not only is he a regular and reliable Tuesday nighter, he also takes on a lot of clients pro bono in his own very busy practice. He is a favourite of staff, past and present, who affectionately call him Mikey. A well deserved accolade for a very unassuming man.

VOLUNTEER SOLICITORS

Our Volunteers in 2011

We would also like to extend our thanks to the following solicitors who generously volunteer their time to participate on the roster for the Tuesday and Thursday evening advice sessions. Their skills and commitment contribute to Kingsford Legal Centre providing a quality service to the community.

Proud member of the 'over 10 years' club - KLC volunteer Danny Grynberg

Alex Salib
Alice Paul
Amjad Khan
Amy O'Callaghan
Anne-Marie Blake
Arturo Norbury
Asheesh Kalmath
Audie Willert
Bailee Walker
Bill McManus
Bridgette Styles
Cherry Siu
Christine Lloyd
Corrie Goodhand
Daniela Hartman
Danny Grynberg
Dave McMillan
David D'Souza
David Loonam
Ed Cregan
Fiona Robson
Helen Haslem
Hilbert Chiu
Joseph Kennedy
Julie Vass
Kate Schuetze
Kenneth Yardy
Larissa Andelman
Laura Brown
Laura Gotlieb
Libby Brookes
Liz Snell
Margot Morris
Maria Nicolof
Marie Sacco
Mary O'Connell
Michael Kim
Mike Steinfield
Nancy Campisi
Piria Coleman
Ross Buchanan
Sarah Gelbart
Sharon Katz Vidor
Stefan Mueller
Sue Mordaunt
Sylvia Hobbs
Tina Chu
Ting Tsia
Wendy Muir

STUDENTS

Clinical Legal Education Courses at KLC

Thanks to all of our wonderful clinical students from 2011 – we wish them all well into the future.

Semester 1 2011

Ada Wong
Ash Walker
Danielle O'Doherty
Dominic Wong
Eric White
Felicity Hale
Felix Chan
Godfrey Wong
Jacinta Goutama
Jennifer Brockett
Jeremy Huang
Jimmy Chen
Jin Oak
Jing Tang
Kathryn Eales
Kiki Cheung
Linda Huang
Lisa Lucak
Maria Nawaz
Matthew Shum
Pinar Ozer
Priya Subramanian
Qi An
Rae Ho
Rae Mozejko
Ramya Kumar
Sarah Jane Mogharrebin
Simon Weinstock
Stephanie Kam
Sumani Gandakusumah
Tasnuba Mohib
Tegan Wordley
Yotta Kaliaropoulos

Semester 2 2011

Alan Wong
Alev Zerenturk
Ali Gronow
Annabelle Frost
Boon Yeo
Candelle Chong
Chen Wang
Cindy Ji
David Berman
David Buxton-Forman
Grace Huang
Jack Zeng
Janie Ng
Jessye Lin
Joan Lui
Joanne Mackay
Jonathan Luk
Julie MacKenzie
Juliet Akello
Karen McDonald
Katherine Neeson
Katie Zhang
Kevin Cheng
Kevin Truong
Lesley Chan
Marilyn Koo
Natalie Wong
Robert Graham
Stephen Tan
William Huynh
Ying Chen
Yvonne Cheng
Zahra Gooneh Farahani
Zalika Rizmal

Summer Session 2011/2012

April Long
David McGill
Hadeel Al-Alosi
Jo Montgomery
Joanna Knight
Joy Goh
Laila Kerouate
Nelia Ng
Rachael Lohrasby
Rae-ann Khazma
Tina Chen
Yiota Kaliaropolous

Law Lawyers and Society Students

Around 350 Law Lawyers and Society students attended the Centre for a one off advice night during semesters 1 and 2 during 2011. We look forward to seeing these students later in their degree in one of our clinical courses.

STAFF PROFILES

Associate Professor Anna Cody – Director

Anna Cody joined Kingsford Legal Centre as Director in March 2004. Anna has worked at the Centre as a solicitor, senior solicitor and 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.

Denise Wasley - Administrator

Denise has been the Kingsford Legal Centre 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 & Evacuation Officer.

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. Anna resigned from KLC in November.

Emma Golledge – Principal Solicitor

Emma Golledge joined the Kingsford Legal Centre team in 2009 after returning from two years living in London where she worked for the Treasury Solicitor acting for the UK Government in judicial review and human rights matters and as a housing lawyer at Paddington Law Centre. Prior to moving to the UK she worked at the Public Interest Advocacy Centre coordinating the Homeless Persons' Legal Service, at Eastern Area Tenants Service and was a volunteer solicitor at Kingsford.

Dianne Anagnos –Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Dianne came to Kingsford Legal Centre from the Welfare Rights Centre (NSW), where she was employed as a solicitor for almost nine years. Her work at Welfare Rights involved advice, advocacy and community education on all aspects of social security law and policy. She has also worked as a volunteer solicitor at Marrickville Legal Centre.

Elizabeth Meyer – Employment Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Liz came to Kingsford Legal Centre from the NSW Disability Discrimination Legal Centre Inc, where she worked for two years as a Solicitor. Liz also currently lectures at the University of Sydney on Discrimination in the Workplace.

Dolun Teoman – Family Law/DV Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Dolun came to Kingsford Legal Centre from private practice and also has an extensive employment history in various areas of social work including community education, policy, child protection and mental health.

STAFF PROFILES

Ron Timbery – Aboriginal Access Worker

Ron joined the Kingsford Legal Centre team in July 2010. Prior to joining KLC Ron worked in Aboriginal affairs in the NSW public sector for over 15 years. He is also a former UNSW student having completed a Bachelor of Commerce in 2004. Ron is an active community member.

Chris Joyce - Clinical Supervisor Solicitor

Chris joined the staff at KLC as a one day per week project worker to supervise students and do case work in cancellation of visa on character grounds for prisoners for a 12 month project. Chris has extensive experience as a community legal centre lawyer (particularly in credit and debt) and is a registered migration agent.

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.

Susan Duc - Seconded Solicitor from Freehills (November 2010-June 2011)

Susan completed her Commerce/Law degree at UNSW in 2007 after which she took a year off to travel before starting at Freehills. She has worked in the Property, Employee Relations and Litigation practices at Freehills.

Chris Hill – Seconded Solicitor from Freehills (Started July 2011)

Chris started his secondment at Kingsford Legal Centre in July after completing the Freehills graduate program. He completed his undergraduate Arts/Law degree at Macquarie University and spent a semester studying law at the University of British Columbia, Canada.

Naomi Bergman (nee Sadler) – Seconded from Allens Arthur Robinson (February – August 2011)

Naomi joined the Kingsford Legal Centre on 24 February 2011. Naomi completed her university studies in 2008. During 2009 she worked at the Supreme Court as tipstaff to Justice David Kirby, before joining Allens in 2010 where she is completing the graduate program.

KLC Staff

FINANCIAL REPORT

KINGSFORD LEGAL CENTRE

Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2011

Income	**2011**	**2010**	**2009**
AG Clinical Legal Education Initiative	126,415	124,361	122,044
CLCP Commonwealth Funding	44535	43,812	42,997
CLCP State Funding	126,590	123,322	120,360
AG Clinical Funding - Family Law/DV	42,358.00	63,000	39,700
Law Faculty Appeal			
South Juniors CDSE grant			960
Fees Non Award student Activity	2273	2,550	1,560
Donations		3,230	17,850
KLC generated income - Legal costs & Disbursements	1970	3,363	2,635
Randwick City Council Grant		15,000	15,000
Legal Aid NSW - Visa Cancellation Clinic Funding	25,000		
Legal Aid NSW - AWAW Funding	20,000		
AG - Human Rights Rules Funding	10,000		
Clinical Conference Registrations	8,443		
AG - Clinical Conference Funding	15,000		
CLC NSW - Board Chair reimbursement	11,669		
ALTC Project		14,000	
Reimbursements	2237.69	8,328	1,101
Total	**436,491**	**400,967**	**364,207**

Expenditure			
Salaries and on costs	829,917	673,806	680,152
Materials and Running Costs	86,739	60,719	47,510
Equipment and Maintenance	7,853	32,126	18,611
Travel and Conferences	34,941	16,408	23,453
Total	**959,451**	**783,059**	**769,726**
Net Surplus / (Deficit) - KLC	(522,960)	(382,092)	(405,519)
UNSW Contribution			
Dest & UNSW Funded	496,619	432,966	372,994
UNSW Learning & Teaching - Supervisor Manual	10,000		
Conf Support	5,710		
Discretionery		15,000	
Total	**512,330**	**447,966**	**372,994**
Result for the Period including UNSW contribution			
Surplus / (Deficit)	**(10,630)**	**65,873**	**(32,525)**
Prior Year Accumulated Funds	**118,557**	**52,684**	**85,209**
Less Closing 2010 Operating Funds Per Budget Guidelines	**(2,400)**		
Accumulated Funds	105,527	118,557	52,684
Add back Negative Encumbrance	**799**		
Net Accumulated Balance Unexpended	**106,326**	**118,557**	**52,684**

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.
3. Donations from the AMP Foundation, Fairwork Ombudsman and UNSW Law Society are sitting with Donate UNSW Ledger Project PS22311 and have not been brought into the KLC Ledger.

Certified Balancing to the Ledger
Rajinder Cullinan, Client Services Accountant - Faculty of Law
Client Services, Management Accounting and Budgeting, UNSW

Certified Correct
Denise Wasley, Office Manager
Kingsford Legal Centre, UNSW

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

During 2011 Kingsford Legal Centre received income and grants from:

- UNSW Law Faculty
- Federal Attorney General
- Community Legal Services Program (CLSP)
- Clinical Legal Education Initiative (Employment Law Clinic)
- Family Law Focused Clinical Education Project (Family Law Clinic
- Social Inclusion Division (Human Rights Rules Project & Clinical Legal Education Conference)
- NSW Attorney General – Community Legal Services Program (CLSP)
- Legal Aid Commission NSW Partnerships Grants

Kingsford Legal Centre would like to acknowledge the support provided by:

- Freehills for their ongoing secondee program
- Allens Arthur Robinson for their secondment program
- The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council for providing the venue and their support of the weekly outreach service held at Yarra Bay House
- The Junction Neighbourhood Centre for providing the venue and their support of an outreach service
- South East Neighbourhood Centre for providing the venue and their support of an outreach service
- The following law firms for their participation in the employment law clinic: Harmer's Workplace Lawyers, Henry Davis York, Ebsworth & Ebsworth, Bartier Perry and Clayton Utz.
- Clayton Utz for their participation in the pro bono Power of Attorney Clinic
- Guest speakers at the Wednesday afternoon classes
- Staff of the UNSW Law Faculty and Law School
- Fair Work Ombudsman for $250.00 donation
- UNSW Law Society for $330.00 donation
- Simone Cheung for her photography at our 30th Birthday celebrations
- AMP Foundation - Celebrating Unsung Heroes. Celebrating Unsung Heroes is an AMP Foundation program which recognises those AMP employees who volunteer for not-for-profit organisations. KLC volunteer solicitor, Ting Tsia, was nominated and as a result, AMP Foundation made a very generous donation of $3000 to Kingsford Legal Centre.

VEDNA JIVAN - KLC'S 30TH BIRTHDAY

Vedna Jivan's (ex-KLC solicitor) speech at KLC's 30th birthday celebration

Firstly my thanks to Anna and Fran for asking me to speak about one of my favourite topics –KLC – it is an honour not only to be asked but it has also been an honour to work at KLC for the 8 years that I did. It is by no small accident that Kingsford Legal Centre remains after 30 years the wonderful place it has always been. And the secret undoubtedly lies in its people. It is a wonderful place to work and a wonderful place to learn about the law, and this is clearly because of its people, the directors, staff, students and volunteers, past and present.

Its one of those places that once you've worked here you always want to come back – it's almost like the hotel California of UNSW – you know.. you can check out anytime you like but you can never leave. There's just something about it that seems to have a magical hold on people. One of those people who may think she had checked out but was in fact with us all along is the wonderful Anna Cody and I'd like to say a few words about Anna.

Anna – where do I start – well actually you know, it's been so long that no one quite remembers when Anna came to Kingsford – legend has it that the ole north wind from Alice Springs brought her to there here parts and with the exception of a few stints in New York and Mexico she has stayed ever since. Some even say it was as long ago as last century, but whenever it was that she arrived I'm sure we'd all agree that she has, along with the staff at KLC has been a big part of Kingsford Legal Centre's success over the last decade and before.

Anna has provided leadership and stability, which has translated into expanded and innovative programs for the students. She is a wonderful director, an inspiring colleague and clinician and a great friend. So Anna on behalf of all of us here, congratulations on all your wonderful work and for steering KLC into the millennium and now into the next decade.

Another person who I think needs to be mentioned is someone who like Anna also tried to leave and got so far as the UK to escape but the magnetic forces of KLC pulled her back and we are very lucky to have her. That person is Denise Wasley. So Denise, on behalf of all of us here we thank you everything that you do and for always smiling as you do it.

You know a place is a good place, when there are many stories to tell and KLC sure has its fair share of good stories – apart from all the casework success stories, there's a few other stories that you may not be all that familiar with and I feel obliged to mention some of them – there is the story, no sorry legend of old lucky horse who I have been told has been brought out and dusted off for this special occasion, and if you want to know about the ballad of lucky horse then I strongly recommend you read David Nicols' 25 year history of KLC.

Finally KLC was also the site of the great conflagration of 1999 and I think I'll finish off with this story. You see it was winter and we were all feeling a bit despondent - we're weren't quite sure but it may have had something to do with the PM of the time refusing to say sorry to Indigenous Australians or it could have been the great hailstorm that had hit the east a few months before. So a few of us went to Fran with our

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despondency and Fran, as most of you know is this amazing person who is not only a clear thinker but is like a human eight ball – she will help you work out any problem you can conjure up and she has this very generous ability to make you think you arrived at the solution all by yourself.

So in her wisdom she suggested a conflagration which was to be held in the back garden of the old KLC during morning tea on a cold winter's morning. And everyone was asked to bring something they wanted to throw into the fire and rid of the world of. One person brought in a picture of John Howard, someone else had brought in a mini cricket bat because they wanted the other teams to burn so Australia would win the world cup, someone else, a homeowner brought in a photo of the reserve bank governor because he was refusing to cut interest rates, someone else brought in a photo of Darryl Sommers because they were sick of *Hey Hey It's Saturday*.

And so there we all were, all dressed in black huddled on the back steps of KLC with a fire burning in our makeshift cauldron, which was one of the beige bins from Anna's office and I think we chose hers because she was away at the time. So one by one we ran around the cauldron 3 times and threw in out offerings chanting as we ran while our colleagues on the steps clapped and egged us on and we were almost at the crescendo when the back door flew open and there was one of our elderly clients – staring at us in shock wondering what on earth he had happened. So our conflagration ended as abruptly as it had started and we all hurried back to our offices trying to look as serious as we could.

And in case you're wondering if the conflagration worked – you might be surprised to know that Australia beat Pakistan and won the world cup, *Hey Hey Its Saturday* was cancelled at the end of its season, interest rates were cut for the first time in five years and this one took a while but John Howard was voted out 8 years later.

While it might seem silly now, it was nevertheless just one of the many great things about KLC. Like the conflagration, we have in some way or other bonded with each other through KLC, there has been a lot of amazing work done, lots of law learnt and many friendships formed and all of this is no small part due to the people of KLC, the staff, students and volunteers, so to Anna and all the staff – congratulations and here's hoping for another 30 years of wonderful stories and continued success.

MISSION STATEMENT

Kingsford Legal Centre is committed to social justice and to promoting access to and reform of the legal system.

We aim to provide quality legal services to the community and to promote excellence in clinical legal education whilst fostering a critical analysis of the justice system.

KLC
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