

Changes to the Victims Compensation Scheme.

New and disappointing changes to the Victims Compensation Scheme will have a negative impact on both current and future clients across all CLCs. KLC worked with other CLCs to lobby for an amendment to the original Bill to at least remove time limits for victims of child sexual abuse.

Human rights advocacy and work.

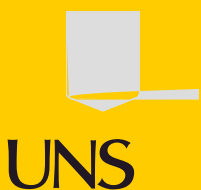
KLC, NACLIC and the Human Rights Law Centre collaborate on United Nations Human Rights Council Statement for Australia's mid-term Universal Periodic Review.

Our changing community: a snapshot - photographic exhibition on Level 1 of Law Building, UNSW.

Over the past couple of semesters, we asked three of our students to go out into our community to photograph our social housing estates as well as our beaches. The students have taken up the challenge with gusto and this exhibition is the result of their talent and skills.

China human rights technical cooperation visits.

KLC recently hosted a visit for Beijing legal NGO Zhicheng Public Interest Law. We also had the honour of being invited to their centre in Beijing, China to speak about the challenges NGOs face in the legal sector, the way KLC promotes and protects human rights in Australia and also how we work with students to increase the Centre's capacity.



Highlights

Changes to the Victims Compensation Scheme

KLC is very disappointed with the recent passing of legislation reforming the NSW Victims Compensation Scheme. The new legislation will have a detrimental impact on current and future clients because it will apply retrospectively, fail to adequately recognise and compensate victims of domestic violence, pay less compensation, apply a 10 year time limit to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and impose burdensome evidentiary requirements.

In the three weeks following the Bill's introduction, many CLCs, including KLC, contacted key members of Parliament and lobbied for amendments to the Bill. Members of Parliament quoted CLC letters and submissions extensively during the parliamentary debates about the Bill, including making a reference a KLC case study. KLC also contributed to the CLCNSW complaint to the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women about the Bill.

present to the same organisation, and all its workers and branches on two related themes in their home city of Beijing. Di Anagnos travelled to China on 13 June for three days to do this. We were asked to present on the challenges NGOs face in the legal sector, the way we promote and protect human rights in Australia and also how we work with students to increase our capacity. The workshop was attended by over 40 lawyers from community legal organisations from throughout China. It was a great opportunity to make connections, share experiences and gain a deeper understanding of some of the challenges NGOs in other countries face.

Early July saw the return of Emma Golledge, who came back from maternity leave. Emma is working part-time and will share the responsibility of Principal Solicitor with Di Anagnos, who did a superb job of leading the legal team whilst Emma was on leave.

Staff and services

Farewells, welcomes and welcome backs!

May, June and July was a time for change at KLC, where we sadly farewelled Laura Cottam who had spent 12 months at the Centre doing a fantastic job on discrimination and generalist advices and cases, and managing our community legal education program. We also wish Edwina MacDonald, our Law Reform and Policy Solicitor, best of luck as she goes on maternity leave for 12 months.

New to the team is Kellie McDonald who comes to us from Hawkesbury Nepean Legal Centre, and Natalie Ross who brings experience from many legal centres, most recently Redfern Legal Centre. Kellie will be with us for 12 months as the Law Reform and Policy Solicitor, and Natalie will be with us for six months in a part time capacity, working on discrimination, employment and generalist matters.

Law reform, policy and publications

KLC continues our work on the Housing Repairs Campaign and did lots of work surrounding the recent changes to the

and housing and consultation with NGOs and residents on a collaborative public campaign. It is anticipated that the Housing Repairs Campaign website will go live in the coming months. This website was developed by

LOCATION
Kingsford Legal Centre is