



The Australasian Institute of  
Judicial Administration Incorporated

# AIJA Public Information Officers' Conference

## Social Media and the Courts

Federal Court of Australia  
Law Courts Building, Queens Square  
Sydney, New South Wales

13-14 June 2013

# PROGRAMME

## Thursday 13 June 2013

2.00pm	Registration – court PIOs only
2.30pm	<b>Session for court PIOs only:</b> to compare notes on what each jurisdiction is doing on media relations and use of equipment in court. Which courts still don't have PIOs? Opinions on the Standing Council on Law and Justice's proposal for a national registry of suppression orders
6.30pm	Casual conference dinner at Encasa Restaurant, 423 Pitt St Sydney (cost not included in conference registration).

## Friday 14 June 2013

8.00am	Registration
8.45am	<b>Opening Address</b> (followed by questions): <b>Ms Hannah Low</b> , <i>Australian Financial Review</i> , <b>Ms Amy Dale</b> , <i>Daily Telegraph</i> : "Social media: help or hindrance to the law reporter?"
9.15 am	<b>Research report-back:</b> Bond University's <b>Professor Jane Johnston</b> and <b>Professor Patrick Keyzer</b> and Monash University's <b>Ms Sharon Rodrick</b> discuss their research project on social media's impact on courts/tribunals. Comments sought from PIO attendees <a href="#">Presentation</a> <b>MODERATOR:</b> <b>Ms Marilyn Krawitz</b> , Lecturer, University of Notre Dame
10.30am	Morning tea
11.00am	<b>The changing role of the court PIO:</b> Do courts need them? And should they be communications experts or IT specialists? <b>SPEAKER:</b> <b>Ms Sylvia Kriven</b> , South Australian Courts <b>PANEL MEMBERS:</b> <b>Ms Val Buchanan</b> , Supreme Court of WA and <b>Ms Kerrie Douglass</b> , Supreme Court of NSW <b>MODERATOR:</b> <b>Ms Anne Stanford</b> , Supreme Court of Victoria
11.50	<b>Lawyers and social media: How are developments in social media affecting the way lawyers work?</b> <b>PANEL:</b> <b>Ms Katie Miller</b> , Chair of the Law Institute of Victoria social media taskforce and <b>Mr Philip Argy</b> , Chairman, Legal Technology Committee, Law Society of NSW, Principal, ArgyStar.com <b>MODERATOR:</b> <b>Ms Kerry O'Shea</b> , County Court of Victoria

12.30pm	Lunch
1.30pm	<p><b>Court policies and regulations on social media. Who is doing what in Australia and around the world?</b></p> <p><b>SPEAKER:</b> <i>Ms Marilyn Krawitz</i>, Lecturer, University of Notre Dame</p> <p><b>MODERATOR:</b> <i>Professor Jane Johnston</i>, Bond University</p>
2.20	<p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION The public, social media, the courts: an incendiary mix? What happens when it all goes pear-shaped: Worst case scenarios? Disaster stories? What can PIOs do about this?</b></p> <p><b>SPEAKERS:</b> Media Manager for the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court <i>Ms Denise Healy</i>, who deals with litigants who use social media. But for what purpose? To tell their story, sway public opinion, to deliberately subvert the court process - or all of the above?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Ms Michelle Fisher</i> , Manager of editorial policies at the ABC</li> <li>- <i>Ms Leanne O'Donnell</i>, Media lawyer</li> <li>- <i>Mr Josh Taylor</i>, Journalist, ZDnet</li> <li>- <i>Ms Kate McClymont</i>, Journalist , <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i></li> </ul> <p><b>MODERATOR:</b> <i>Ms Liz Porter</i>, AIJA media officer</p>
3.20pm	Afternoon tea
3.50	<p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION Could the courts, and judges, speak directly to the public via social media ?</b></p> <p>Might the judiciary become involved in running its own social networking sites? Could judges do away with go-betweens, and tweet to explain their judgements? Should they have FB friends who might appear before them?</p> <p><b>PANEL:</b> <i>The Hon Justice Ruth McColl AO</i>, NSW Court of Appeal  <i>The Hon Justice Peter McClellan AM</i>, Supreme Court of NSW  <i>Her Hon Judge Judith Gibson</i>, NSW District Court</p> <p><b>MODERATOR:</b> <i>Ms Sylvia Kriven</i>, South Australian Courts</p>
5.00pm	Close