

# Welcoming a new President

In order to keep all of our members up-to-date and informed on what's going in the NTWLA, it is proposed that a monthly newsletter outlining all new business, upcoming events and general information, be forwarded to all members.

## A NEW NTWLA COMMITTEE

A new committee was formed at the recent Annual General Meeting. Thank you to all members who contributed.

Thanks again to the former committee for the success of the NTWLA in the past year. Special thanks to former President Gabriel Martin for her two years at the helm.

We welcome the new President - Stephanie Tresize-Conroy; Treasurer - Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters; Secretary - Michelle Nickols; Public Officer - Clare Sturm; and committee members - Frieda Evans and Wendy Young.

At the AGM there was an election for the offices of Vice President, Assistant Secretary and Alice Springs Representative. However, it has transpired that the amended constitution lodged with the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs in July 2005, prior to the AGM, was not accepted for lodgement due to procedural and substantive issues. This means that the purported election to fill the above non-existent offices was ineffective. Having acknowledged that situation, the committee has resolved, pursuant to clause 22.6 of the constitution, to co-opt the members elected to the above offices at the AGM as committee members. These members are Helen Nicholas, Anna Swindley and Sharon Krause.

Sharon and Anna have agreed to be on the committee, Helen is unable to accept, partly due to time constraints and distance. However, Helen has kindly offered to continue to raise awareness for women lawyers and organise activities in Alice Springs. We look forward to a successful and exciting year under the new committee.

## JUSTICE SUSAN CRENNAN APPOINTED TO THE HIGH COURT

On behalf of all members, the NTWLA will be sending Justice Susan Crennan a letter of congratulations regarding her appointment to the High Court.

Justice Crennan is a Federal Court Judge based in Victoria. She has been a human rights commissioner and has practised in administrative, commercial and constitutional law. She was the first woman Chair of the Victorian Bar Council from 1993 to 1994 and the first woman President of the Australian Bar Association from 1994 to 1995.

We look forward to Justice Crennan's upcoming ten years of tenure in the High Court. Hopefully her appointment is an indication of increased awareness by the current government of the need for greater representation of women in the highest levels of the law. The President of the Australian Women Lawyers, Noor Blumer, said of women on the High Court; "there should be more than one, in fact, and there are other appointments coming up, so we'll look forward to those as well".

## NEW MEMBERS

We wish to issue a warm welcome to all of our new and renewing members. The NTWLA committee proposes a welcome letter be sent to all new members. For any information regarding membership, please contact NTWLA Secretary, Michelle Nickols, who holds a full list of all members. Enquiries to: [pmnickols@bigpond.com](mailto:pmnickols@bigpond.com)

## "LAW, GENDER AND SEXUALITY" UNIT AT CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY

Thanks to Public Officer, Clare Sturm for providing the NTWLA a copy of the unit outline for the proposed "Law, Gender and Sexuality" unit at Charles Darwin University. It's great to see the University giving law giving law students the opportunity to study women's issues in law. It is understood that this subject will be taught from second semester in 2006.

The NTWLA will be awarding the female student obtaining the best academic results in the subject a \$200 book voucher redeemable in the CDU Bookshop.

## NTWLA WEBSITE

The NTWLA webpage is presently under construction. The best way to currently view upcoming events, information and issues for women in the law is to visit the Australian Women Lawyers website at [www.womenlawyers.org.au](http://www.womenlawyers.org.au). Watch this space for updates regarding our own webpage.



Former NTWLA President Gabrielle Martin with new NTWLA President Stephanie Tresize-Conroy