

FOREWORD BY THE DEAN

It is with great pleasure that I introduce this, the first issue of the *University of Notre Dame Australia Law Review*. Its publication constitutes a milestone in the history of Australia's newest, and arguably most unique, law school.

The College of Law's uniqueness has a number of dimensions. It is Australia's first Catholic school of law. It is the only Australian law school to have been founded upon a pervasive education in ethics. In a climate of legal education which has become increasingly diverted by considerations of theory, the College of Law is firmly founded in the great lawyerly tradition of intellectual professionalism.

I hope that these various facets of the College are richly reflected in the first issue of the review. It contains interesting articles of 'black-letter' law by Lynden Griggs and Professor John Fariar; a rather more conceptual piece on proportionality within the Australian and German constitutional orders by Patrick Quirk; and an exploration by Professor Rick Sarre of the potential influence of restorative justice upon the Australian criminal justice system.

Leading the review is a thoughtful essay by the Hon Mr Justice Michael Kirby on Thomas More, Martin Luther and the contemporary judiciary.

I express my gratitude to the Associate Editor of the review, Rachael Mulheron, who — together with the Student Editorial Board — worked tirelessly to bring this issue to fruition. I trust that, over the years, the review will come to be a formidable venue for the expression of legal opinion in the great intellectual tradition of the College of Law's patron, St Thomas More.

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