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26 March 2014

### Welcome to the Workplace Research Centre Newsletter.

In this newsletter we feature some of the latest updates on events and research from the WRC including the launch of the Advocacy in the Tribunals Course.

## UPCOMING WRC EVENTS

### 22ND ANNUAL LABOUR LAW CONFERENCE - LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER AT PRESALE PRICE

#### Labour law in practice: the big issues and the big cases

Monday 25 August 2014, 9am - 5pm



At this year's conference, Keynote Speaker Senior Deputy President Jonathan Hamberger from the Fair Work Commission will discuss the new bullying provisions. Other presenters will discuss the top cases and major issues facing labour law in 2014.

[View the full Conference Program](#)

#### Conference details

**Date:** Monday, 25 August 2014: 9:00am - 5:00pm

**Venue:** Sofitel Wentworth Sydney

#### Cost:

- Presale - \$595 until 28 March (use special rate code 'presale')
- Early Bird - \$695 until 27 June
- General Conference rate - \$795

*University of Sydney Staff and Students Rates are also available, contact WRC.*

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Contact: Stacey Young (02) 9351 0026 or

[Stacey.young@sydney.edu.au](mailto:Stacey.young@sydney.edu.au)

### ADVOCACY IN THE TRIBUNALS COURSE - REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

#### QUICK LINKS

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#### FEATURE LINKS



#### UPCOMING WRC PRESENTATIONS

##### [Business, Markets and the Social Context of Health](#)

Professor John Buchanan, WRC Director will participate in a panel discussion at a University of Sydney Business of Health Research Network and Charles Perkins Centre Event on 4 April that will explore obesity, eating and consumption from a bio-cultural perspective.

##### [Clinical Placements Conference](#)

WRC staff members Professor John Buchanan and Linda Scott will be presenting at the upcoming Clinical Placements Conference on 29 April in Sydney. Professor Buchanan will participate in a panel discussion on the topic of "Do we know the 'true cost' of clinical placements?". Linda Scott will facilitate a workshop on the

**Wednesdays 13 August - 15 October 2014,  
5.30 - 7.30pm (10 weeks)**



Registrations are now open for the popular Advocacy in the Tribunals Course, suitable to aspiring industrial advocates from employer and union backgrounds.

**Location:** Fair Work Commission, Terrace Tower, 80 William Street, East Sydney

**Price:**

- \$2550 (early bird until 30 May)
- \$2650 (standard)

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Contact: Stacey Young on (02) 9351 0026  
[stacey.young@sydney.edu.au](mailto:stacey.young@sydney.edu.au)

## LATEST WRC RESEARCH

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT IN THE AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY

A new traineeship opportunity, 'Grow a Career In Cotton', has recently been born out of a three year workforce development research project funded by the Cotton Research and Development Corporation involving researchers from University of Melbourne and the Workplace Research Centre at University of Sydney Business School.



Australia's cotton industry is a world leader combining science, technology, and natural resources. The research team has been investigating current workforce issues impacting the cotton industry in regional NSW and Queensland due to factors such as drought, mining and an aging workforce. The traineeship pilot is one initiative to help inform the development of a national or regional workforce development approach to help ensure cotton has the right people in the right place at the right time, now and into the future.

### EMPLOYER SATISFACTION SURVEY

The proportion of recent graduates looking for full-time work is now above 10 per cent but the most recent research from Graduate Careers Australia shows that employers remain overwhelmingly satisfied with the work skills of graduates that they are employing.



The Workplace Research Centre is currently looking in more depth at how satisfied employers are with the skills – both general and technical – of recent university graduates.

The project, for the Commonwealth Department of Education, is being conducted in collaboration with social research company ORC International and the Centre for the Study of Higher Education at the University of Melbourne. University graduates from four universities and their workplace supervisors are being

second day on "Understanding the diversity of clinical placements". Both John and Linda will draw on insights from a clinical placements scoping study being undertaken by the WRC.

## WRC IN THE MEDIA

**The typical new unionist: not a hard hat in sight, and most are women**

Professor John Buchanan was interviewed by the Sydney Morning Herald in an article about the shift in union membership which sees more female workers unionised. [Read the article here.](#)

surveyed as part of the project. Fieldwork will conclude at the end of March with a report provided to the Department in May.

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