

## FOREWORD

It was with great pleasure that I accepted the invitation of the Editors and the Faculty advisers to write the Foreword for the Silver Jubilee Issue of the Monash University Law Review.

While twenty-five years is not a long time in comparison with the histories of the oldest of the Australian Law Faculties, let alone in comparison with those of many United Kingdom and European Universities, it is a significant length of time and its passing an achievement worth celebrating. During the course of 1989 a number of events were held to mark the occasion, including an Anniversary Dinner attended by the Premier, the Honourable John Cain, M.L.A. and a special Wilfred Fullagar Memorial Lecture presented by the Honourable E.G. Whitlam, A.C., Q.C. That Lecture, "International Law Making", is reproduced in this issue.

The early history of the Law School is traced in Mr Peter Balmford's article, "A History of the Monash Law School". The development of the Law School since those quite humble beginnings has been remarkable. With a student population of 1600, including 250 studying for higher degrees, and a full-time academic staff of around 65, Monash is now the second largest Law School in Australia, the largest being that of the University of Sydney. That process of growth and development continues. From 1 July 1990 both the Chisholm Institute of Technology and the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education will become part of Monash, resulting in an enlarged University of some 25,000 students. In 1990 the Law School embarked on a process of expansion which is likely to increase its size by some 40% over the next five years.

As part of that process of development and expansion, a Law School Foundation was established by the Monash University Council in late 1989 for the purpose of gathering and administering a fund to assist in the work of the Law School. Membership of the Foundation is open to all persons and bodies interested in making a contribution to the work of the Law School. The Foundation has, as well as attracting support from a number of commercial organisations including three of Australia's major banks, served as a focus for enlisting the support of seven of Australia's leading commercial law firms in the establishment of a new Chair of Company Law in the Faculty.

The Monash University Law Review is properly regarded as an integral part of the academic enterprise on which we are embarked. The Law Review was established to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Law Faculty. I had the honour of being the first Assistant Editor, working with the Foundation Editor, Professor Bob Baxt. From the beginning it had been our intention that, in the tradition of the great American Law Reviews,

the running of the Monash University Law Review would be handed over to student editors working with Faculty advisers. That was achieved within a few years. Our Law Review has been in all respects an outstanding success, and has contributed greatly to the Faculty's reputation both nationally and overseas.

I congratulate the members of the editorial committee and Faculty advisers on the production of an outstanding Silver Jubilee issue. They have brought together an excellent collection of articles by a most distinguished group of authors. I look forward to reading this and future issues of the Monash University Law Review with the same sense of pride I have felt in the past.

*C.R. Williams*