

## Transactional Law Program at Melbourne Law School Program Launch

### Corporate Governance and Anti-bribery in Cross-border Transactions

The increase in cross-border transactions around the world has been accompanied by an increase in the territorial reach of laws on international bribery. In recent years, many jurisdictions have enacted or strengthened the enforcement of legislation prohibiting the payment of bribes and other corrupt activities in foreign jurisdictions. These include the United States, which pioneered such legislation with the enactment of the *Foreign Corrupt Practices Act* in 1977, the United Kingdom, whose *Bribery Act* came into force in July this year, and Australia, which amended the *Criminal Code Act* in 1999 to comply with the 1997 *OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions*.

The recent charges against two Reserve Bank of Australia currency firms - Securrency and Note Printing Australia - and their senior executives on suspicion of paying bribes to foreign officials have highlighted the need for companies and executives to understand where to draw the line between behaviour that is permissible and behaviour that is prohibited. In turn, this requires companies to strengthen corporate governance and to undertake appropriate training and supervision of staff who are involved in cross-border transactions and international business. The challenges of complying with the applicable rules become greater when Australian companies deal with counterparties in regions such as Asia, where the underlying cultural norms and practices are often very different from those in Australia.

This seminar brings together four legal and business experts to provide their insights into the current challenges and trends, particularly in the context of international cross-border transactions. It is also an opportunity for Melbourne Law School to introduce its new Transactional Law Program.

#### Speakers

Ross Drinnan, Allens Arthur Robinson (Sydney seminar)  
Georgie Farrant, Baker & McKenzie (Sydney seminar)  
Peter Haig, Allens Arthur Robinson (Melbourne seminar)  
Benny Tabulujaan (Melbourne & Sydney seminars)  
Mini vandePol, Baker & McKenzie (Melbourne seminar)  
John Yiannis, Transfield Services Limited (Melbourne and Sydney seminars)

#### Event Details

**Time:** 5:30pm – 7.15pm (Refreshments will be served after the seminar)

**Dates:** Thursday 10 November 2011 – Melbourne  
Tuesday 15 November 2011 – Sydney

<b>Host:</b>	<b>Melbourne Seminar</b>	<b>Sydney Seminar</b>
	Allens Arthur Robinson Level 27 530 Collins St Melbourne VIC 3000	Allens Arthur Robinson Level 28, Deutsche Bank Place 126 Phillip St Sydney NSW 2000

**RSVP** 7 November 2011

<http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/melbourne-law-school/news-and-events/event-details/DiaryID/5591>

## Speaker Details

**Ross Drinnan** (Sydney seminar) is a partner at Allens Arthur Robinson in Sydney. Ross has had a commercial litigation practice for over 20 years. Ross has advised domestic and global clients in relation to a broad range of commercial disputes and regulatory investigations. He has been involved in a number of major class actions, including leading the defence team in the Aristocrat shareholder class action, which was the first shareholder class action to proceed to trial in Australia. Ross has also advised clients in relation to anti-corruption and bribery laws.

**Georgie Farrant** (Sydney seminar) is a partner in Baker & McKenzie's Sydney office and a member of the Australian Dispute Resolution, Compliance, Financial Services and Insolvency practice groups. She also serves as a member of the Firm's Global Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing Group. Georgie practices in commercial disputes, with a particular focus in financial services disputes, including civil actions relating to financial services and financial products, insider dealing and market abuse actions, takeover related actions and advice, and disciplinary actions by regulatory bodies. She also advises companies in relation to a range of compliance and regulatory issues including anti-money laundering, anti-corruption, whistleblowing and regulator investigations.

**Peter Haig** (Melbourne seminar) is a Senior Associate in Allens Arthur Robinson's Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution department. He has advised and acted for clients in relation to corporations law and competition law issues, various regulatory investigations, and a large range of substantial commercial disputes and litigious matters. Peter's extensive experience in relation to major regulatory investigations includes acting for KPMG concerning issues arising out of the collapses of the Westpoint group and the MFS/Octaviar group, as well as for Amcor in relation to allegations of cartel conduct. Peter also has experience in advising clients in relation to compliance with global anti-bribery laws.

**Benny Tabalujan** (Melbourne and Sydney seminars) Benny has worked in Singapore, Hong Kong and Melbourne as a lawyer, academic and consultant. He is a director of IKD, a niche learning & development consultancy, and also an adjunct associate professor at the Melbourne Business School and Melbourne Law School in The University of Melbourne. At the Melbourne Business School, Benny teaches business law and corporate governance & ethics in the MBA program. Leveraging his more than two decades of experience in Asia, he has written and presented on corporate governance of Asian family companies, bribery and corruption, and challenges of doing business in the Asian region. Benny has degrees in law and economics from Monash University and an LLM and PhD from The University of Melbourne. He is a member of the Australian Corporate Lawyers Association, Singapore Academy of Law and Singapore Institute of Directors.

**Mini vandePol** (Melbourne seminar) is a Partner of Baker & McKenzie's Melbourne office. She is the Regional Chair of Baker & McKenzie's Asia Pacific Dispute Resolution Group and Australian head of its Global Compliance Group. As well as having over 20 years experience as a commercial litigator, Mini's practice is now increasingly focused on advising and conducting investigations for Australian and global companies in relation to anti-bribery and corruption issues particularly arising from their operations in high risk jurisdictions. In these areas Mini is able to utilize Baker & McKenzie's international network of offices to access the collective knowledge and resources of a truly global firm.

**John Yiannis** (Melbourne seminar) is Group General Manager Compliance of Transfield Services. Transfield Services delivers essential services to key industries in the Resources and Industrial, Infrastructure Services and Property and Facilities Management sectors. A leading global provider of operations, maintenance, and asset and project management services, Transfield Services has more than 27,000 employees in Australia, New Zealand, the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, New Caledonia, South East Asia, India, Chile and Canada. Transfield Services Limited is publicly listed in Australia and included in the S&P/ASX 100.

