



Earth Jurisprudence: Building Theory and Practice

Australia's Third Wild Law Conference
16-18 September 2011
Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia

In 2005 the United Nations Millennium Ecosystem Assessment noted that every living system in the biosphere is in a state of decline and the rate of decline is increasing.

Despite a proliferation of environmental laws and regulations, human activities are generating unprecedented pollution and waste and causing biodiversity decline and the destruction of vital life supporting ecosystems.

At the local level, Queensland

continues to experience rapid economic growth. The steady expansion of coal mining and coal seam gas exploration is criticized as causing irreparable damage to the natural environment. Can our environmental laws keep up? Are they capable of protecting the environment?

Cultural historian and philosopher Thomas Berry (1914-2008) argued that the environmental crisis is matched by a crisis in human governance structures, and he suggested that the 'Great Work' of the 21st Century is to create governance structures

that enable human societies to live within ecological limits. This approach to law and governance is termed Earth Jurisprudence.

The aim of the conference is to stimulate discussion about what Earth Jurisprudence can offer theories of law and governance, and to create a space for the rigorous development of international and Australian doctrine in this new field of law.

This conference should not be missed by anyone interested in the future of environmental governance.

Does Environmental Law Protect the Environment?

Day 1 of the conference offers a mix of plenary speakers and a plenary panel that addresses the question: Does Environmental Law Protect the Environment?

This debate sets the scene for the following two days:

Day 2 offers parallel presentations and workshops by conference delegates, which will work to build both the theory and

practice of earth jurisprudence. Day 3 will include interactive workshops and seminars.

Selected papers will be chosen for publication.

Keynote speakers include:

Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe, Griffith University

Cormac Cullinan, Enact International, South Africa and author of the book 'Wild Law'

Other confirmed speakers include:

Chief Justice Preston, NSW Land and Environment Court

Professor Doug Fisher, QUT

Larissa Waters, Senator Elect

Dr Chris McGrath, University of Queensland

Jo-Anne Bragg, Qld Environmental Defender's Office

Further Information:

Early bird registration available until 30 June 2011
For more information contact Michelle Maloney,
Conference Convenor: wildlaw2011@griffith.edu.au

Visit our website:

www.griffith.edu.au/conference/wild-law-2011

Find us on facebook:

Earth Jurisprudence Conference- Brisbane 2011

Legal Practitioners can claim points towards their annual CPD requirements if it is directly relevant to professional requirements.



Earth Jurisprudence: Building Theory and Practice Call for Papers

Papers are invited which explore theoretical or practical aspects of Earth Jurisprudence and Wild Law. Themes may include but are not limited to:

- Building the theory of wild law
- Wild law in practice, including wild approaches to environmental law
- Indigenous perspectives of wild law
- Wild law and intergenerational equity
- Science and law
- Wild law and climate change
- Post-growth economics and wild law
- Teaching law wildly

Abstracts (maximum of 150 words for 20 minute papers) can be emailed to:
wildlaw2011@griffith.edu.au
by 30 June 2011

