



Call for Papers

Pacific Law and Culture 2018: Voices of the Pacific in a Globalised World

University of Canterbury
Christchurch, New Zealand
2-4 July 2018

Hosted by the School of Law, the Pasifika Law Students' Society and the Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies, the aims of the Pacific Law and Culture Conference are to increase understanding of Pacific legal issues and to strengthen relationships between Pacific legal scholars and students. The Conference provides a platform for emerging and established Pacific legal scholars to consider the critical question of how to make law operate effectively whilst remaining culturally appropriate to the Pacific.

In 2018 the theme for the 8th Pacific Law and Culture Conference is **Voices of the Pacific in a Globalised World**. This theme raises various questions including:

- In an increasingly globalised legal world, what can be done to ensure that Indigenous Pacific voices and perspectives are heard locally, nationally and internationally?
- How can issues of conflict between international law or state law on the one hand, and Pacific culture and/or customary laws on the other be resolved?
- How can Pacific perspectives be incorporated into the laws of states with large Pacific diaspora?

We especially welcome abstracts for papers relating, but not limited, to the following topics:

- Responding to environmental challenges including climate change and natural disasters;
- Freedom of speech and limitations on freedom of speech;
- The relationship between (international) human rights and custom;
- State dispute resolution and customary dispute resolution;
- International and state governance, and its relationship with customary forms of governance;
- Gender and sexuality in the Pacific;
- Militarisation in and of the Pacific;
- Neo-colonialism and the role of larger powers in the Pacific;
- Addressing and overcoming international silence on West Papua;
- The role of international law in the Pacific.

The conference organisers are committed to the development of young Pacific legal scholars and law students from around the Pacific region. Early career researchers are encouraged to participate. There will be a prize for the best student paper and the best early career researcher paper. A selection of papers will also be published in a special Conference issue of the Canterbury Law Review.

In addition to paper presentations, there will also be a mooting competition between participating law schools.

Abstracts for individual papers and proposals for themed sessions or workshops are due by **Friday 27 April 2018** and should be submitted via email to lawandculture2018@canterbury.ac.nz or Elizabeth.Macpherson@canterbury.ac.nz. Early submissions are strongly encouraged.