The annual Tony Blackshield Lecture honours Emeritus Professor Tony Blackshield. It acknowledges his formidable contributions to the Macquarie Law School, including those during his tenure as Dean, and celebrates his widely recognised record of scholarship in the field of constitutional law.

The Tony Blackshield Lecture is an opportunity for the Macquarie Law School community (its staff, students and alumni) to engage with public law issues of fundamental importance, just as Tony Blackshield has always encouraged through his teaching, songs and scholarship. We are delighted that Professor George Williams will present this year’s Lecture.

Lecture Topic: The Legal Legacy of The War on Terror

Speaker:
Professor George Williams

George Williams AO is the Anthony Mason Professor and the Foundation Director of the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law at the Faculty of Law, UNSW. As an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow, he is engaged in a five year international study of anti-terror laws and democracy. He has written and edited 28 books, including Australian Constitutional Law and Theory and The Oxford Companion to the High Court of Australia (both with Tony Blackshield), and has appeared as a barrister in the High Court in cases on freedom of speech, freedom from racial discrimination and the rule of law. He has also served on a number of public inquiries, and chaired the process that lead to Australia’s first State bill of rights, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities. George is a graduate of Macquarie Law School, and was taught constitutional law by Tony Blackshield.

Remarks:
Emeritus Professor Tony Blackshield

Tony Blackshield began teaching in the Department of Jurisprudence and International Law at the University of Sydney in 1961 before becoming one of the original seven faculty members who founded the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales. He worked for ten years as Professor of Legal Studies (and sometime Chairman of Department) in the (interdisciplinary) Department of Legal Studies, at La Trobe University. From 1988 to 1999, Tony was Professor of Law (and sometime Head of School) at Macquarie University. Tony has written extensively on jurisprudence and constitutional law, including particularly the constitutional law of Australia and India. He played a formative role in the history of the Australian Democrats. Tony is the co-author (with George Williams), of Australian Constitutional Law and Theory: Commentary and Materials (5 ed 2010); and co-editor (with Michael Coper and George Williams) of the Oxford Companion to the High Court of Australia (2000).

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