CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Sydney Law School offers Professional Development seminars, courses and units of study in a range of subjects and modes, including intensive programs, seminars series and individual evening presentations.

Seminars, courses and postgraduate units of study are available to anyone with an interest in the area of study. There is no prior educational requirement although some postgraduate units assume a prior knowledge in the area.

Seminars, courses and units of study offered under Sydney Law School’s CLE program meet the necessary requirements of both the Law Society of New South Wales and the New South Wales Bar Association in relation to their individual members.

For further information please contact:
Continuing Legal Education, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney, 173-175 Phillip Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000, Telephone: 9351 0238

This seminar is part of the Continuing Legal Education Program administered by the Faculty of Law at The University of Sydney. Attendance at this seminar will qualify participants for 1 MCLE/CPD unit if this particular educational activity is relevant to their immediate or long term needs in relation to their professional development and practice of the law.
GATEKEEPERS: THE PROFESSIONS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Professor Coffee’s seminar will be based on his book, Gatekeepers: The Profession and Corporate Governance, which was recently published by Oxford University Press. In the Introduction to this book, Professor Coffee states that “all boards of directors are prisoners of their gatekeepers”. He argues that inadequate attention has been given by corporate law to these gatekeepers – namely, the professional agents, including auditors, lawyers, securities analysts, credit-rating agencies and investment bankers, who advise the board and shareholders. Professor Coffee’s seminar will examine key issues in relation to these reputational intermediaries, such as why they are important in capital markets; why they sometimes fail; and how they can be reformed to function as an effective regulatory mechanism.

Professor John C. Coffee is the Adolf A. Berle Professor of Law Columbia Law School in New York and was a corporate lawyer with Cravath, Swaine & Moore from 1970-76.

Professor Coffee is Reporter for the American Bar Association for its Model Standards on Sentencing Alternatives and Procedures and for the American Law Institute’s Principles of Corporate Governance. He is a member or former member of the Economic Advisory Board to Nasdaq; the Subcouncil on Capital Markets of the United States Competitiveness Policy Council; the Legal Advisory Board to the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) and the Legal Advisory Committee to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange. He is also a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and is listed by the National Law Journal as one of “The 100 Most Influential Lawyers in the United States.”

Professor Coffee has published many books and articles on corporations, securities regulation, class actions and white-collar crime.

Jennifer Hill is Professor of Corporate Law at Sydney Law School, and has written widely in the area of corporate governance. In 2006, she was elected as a Research Associate of the European Corporate Governance Institute and appointed as a member of the editorial board of International Corporate Law and Financial Regulation, Cambridge University Press. She is currently Visiting Professor at Vanderbilt University Law School in the US, and will be a Visiting Fellow of the European University Institute, Florence, Italy in May 2007.

The Ross Parsons Centre is grateful to GOVNET for its sponsorship of this event. Professor Coffee is in Australia as keynote speaker for an ERSC/GOVNET sponsored Workshop on “The Dynamics of Capital Market Governance”.

DATE: Friday 16 March 2007
TIME: 2.15 pm – 3.15 pm  (Registration desk open from 1.45 pm)
COST: Full Fee Registration: $95 (GST incl.)
       Full time Student/Unwaged Rate: $45 (GST incl.)
LOCATION: Sydney Law School, 173 Phillip Street, Sydney
CONVENOR: Professor Jennifer Hill

AFTERNOON TEA AND BOOKLAUNCH

The seminar will be followed by an afternoon tea from 3.15-3.45 pm during which Professor Coffee will launch, on behalf of the Ross Parsons Centre, the next book in its Monograph series - Justice R. P. Austin (ed), Company Directors and Corporate Social Responsibility: UK and Australian Perspectives.