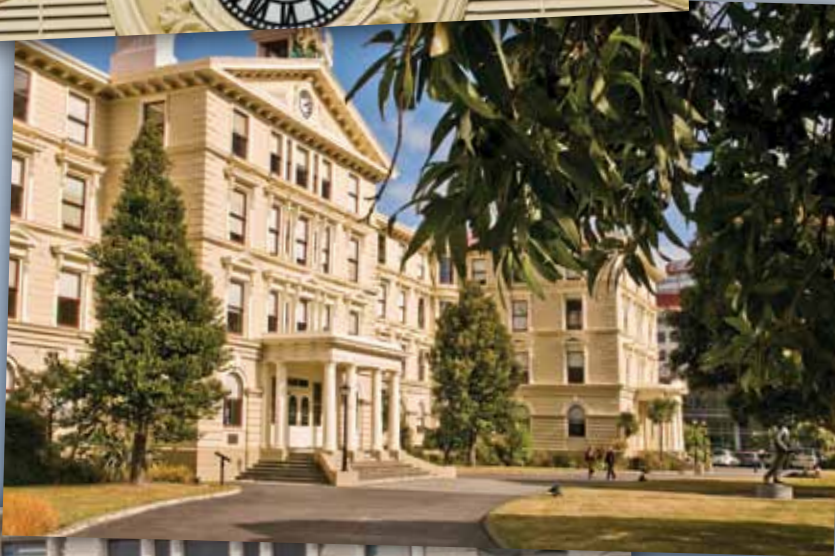


FACULTY OF LAW
TE KAUHANGANUI TĀTAI TURE

2012



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the best.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

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IMPORTANT DATES

To find lists of important dates, including enrolment deadlines, accommodation, scholarships and deadlines for international student dates, visit the following websites:

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates.aspx

www.victoria.ac.nz/accommodation

www.victoria.ac.nz/scholarships

www.victoria-international.ac.nz

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FACULTY OF LAW

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Welcome

As Dean of Law at Victoria, I warmly welcome you to our Law School.

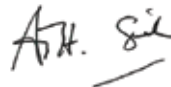
You are embarking on an adventure, for Law is, above all, an intellectual adventure. It has been taught and researched at Victoria for more than 100 years and our Law School has produced scholars of international standing, a prime minister and many of this country's most senior judges.

All students who come here are affected by this history. The location and the building is such that you can walk from Parliament's debating chamber to a lecture, or from the High Court to the Law School's common room. You are surrounded by the institutions of public law and, quite often, by the key figures who work in these institutions.

Underneath the handsome clock on the apex of the Government Building, where we are situated, are the words "Tempus Fugit", "Time Flies". A law degree may seem to take a long time to you now, but read the profiles of the past and present students within and you will gain a sense of its rapid passage.

I urge you to make the most of your time here. There are many opportunities for you to join with staff, international visitors and others to enhance your learning and become a part of this place.

I wish you well on that journey.



Professor A.T.H. (Tony) Smith

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean, Faculty of Law



Law capital

← Wellington CBD

□ District Court
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Law Society
Ministry of Defence
Te Puni Kōkiri



□ Law School
Law Library

□ Supreme Court
Parliamentary Counsel
Reserve Bank
The Treasury
Office of Treaty Settlements
Ministry of Economic Development
Ministry of Social Development
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Department of Corrections
Ombudsman

(Supreme Court image courtesy of Supreme Court)



▣ Parliament
Legislative Council
Beehive

▣ Court of Appeal
High Court



▣ National Library
National Archives
Ministry of Justice
State Services Commission
Crown Law Office
Ministry for the Environment
Employment Court
Human Rights Commissioner

▣ Pipitea Campus
Rutherford House
vicbooks
Faculty of Commerce and Administration

Getting started

I want to do a law degree. What subjects should I take at school?

There are no prerequisites or preferred subjects. Choose subjects at school that you find most interesting, as these are generally the ones in which you will do well. In saying that, subjects such as English, History and Classics will provide a solid basis of essay-writing; and Mathematics, Economics, Music, Physics and languages encourage analytical thinking. Opinions vary among academics, because many subjects, other than those mentioned above, require essay-writing and analysis.

What majors go best with an LLB?

Law can be combined with any subject, but the most popular are Political Science, International Relations, History, Accounting, Criminology, Psychology, Philosophy and Economics. Combining degrees in law and languages is also a popular option.

What are streams?

To accommodate all of the students who want to enrol in LAWS 121, 122 and 123, the Faculty offers three streams for each of these courses. Two streams are held at the Kelburn Campus, and one stream in each of these courses is held at Pipitea Campus. Most other 100-level course lectures are held at the Kelburn Campus.

Refer to the Online Course Catalogue at www.victoria.ac.nz/coursecatalogue for timetable information and the course reference number (CRN) for your preferred stream. Check your timetable carefully before selecting a stream. If a stream is full, you will be assigned to another one. Once you have been assigned to a stream, you must stay in it. If you do need to change streams, discuss this with the Undergraduate Administrator.

Can I study by distance?

No. Lectures are a vital aspect of the learning of law and non-attendance makes it extremely difficult to grasp the topic and gain the necessary skills.

What do I need to enrol?

You may enrol in the first year of an LLB in 2012 provided you have a university entrance qualification and meet the Victoria guaranteed entry score for law. For further information on admission, see www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol

If you are a university graduate you may be permitted to enrol in 100-level LAWS courses and some 200-level LAWS courses concurrently (but only once). The policy regarding graduate entry to the LLB may be seen on the law website at www.victoria.ac.nz/law

Applications should be made for entry into all three first-year law courses (LAWS 121, 122 and 123) preferably by **10 December 2011** for study in 2012.



“Compared to my other subjects, which seemed pretty introductory, the law courses were demanding, engaging and new.”

Nick Cross

Second-year law

Nick Cross is learning how to cook so he can leave home with some recipes at the ready: particularly stir-fries and pasta dishes.

A Wellingtonian, Nick says studying law extended his enjoyment of the humanities and sparked his interest in understanding how society works. His first year clinched it: “Compared to my other subjects, which seemed pretty introductory, the law courses were demanding, engaging and new.”

“You go from being top of the heap at school to bottom of the heap at university and that’s part of your learning curve. But after the first year I definitely felt that I could enjoy university life for the duration of what is quite a long degree.”

Nick enjoyed debating at school and is in his element at Victoria: “It has such a great reputation for it. In my first year I represented Vic at the University Games and a Vic team won

that one. The Games were in Invercargill and we travelled there as a squad and stayed together, which was great fun. Then, at the Australasian Championships where there were 100 teams. It was fantastic being in the theatre with hundreds of people and hearing Vic had won that one as well.”

Nick was also a member of the winning team at last year’s Joynt Scroll competition: “It is rare for there to be first-years on a winning team. It was a prepared debate and we spent about a month working on it.”

He has now moved on to Law Competitions but will maintain his involvement in debating: “Being at Vic means you can participate in the top competitions—it has expanded my interest in it.”

He is finding his second year challenging but not intimidating: “It’s enjoyable, particularly being at the Pipitea Campus. It’s like a small community and it feels good to be part of it.”



“I think the Wellington Community Justice Project is a great initiative. It’s completely student-driven, a corrective to a view of students as passive, just coming to lectures and taking notes.”

Rayner Thwaites

Lecturer

Australian Rayner Thwaites grew up around the world—in Moscow, Canada and the United States—courtesy of a parent in foreign affairs.

His academic career has been similarly international in flavour. Undergraduate degrees in Law and Philosophy at the University of Melbourne included a semester doing Honours in Philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley. His postgraduate education was in Canada, at the University of Toronto.

After obtaining his law degree, he spent several years working at the Australian firm Malleson Steven Jaques, followed by a position as a judge’s associate at the Federal Court of Australia.

He went to East Timor to join a law project providing independent reporting on courts established by the United Nations: “It has gone on to become the country’s leading legal non-governmental organisation. It was both exhilarating and sobering to be in East Timor during its initial reconstruction.”

A spell of adjunct teaching at the University of Melbourne was followed by a Master’s in Law at the University of Toronto. After work with a legal organisation in New York and as a solicitor

in Melbourne, he returned to the University of Toronto to do his Doctorate in Law on the detention of non-citizens. He was awarded the prize for the best graduate thesis in law.

He is enjoying teaching 100- and 200-level courses and seminars: “The students in the earlier years are encountering law, or at least legal study, for the first time. That makes the teaching more open in a way—you get questions from all over.”

Rayner is one of the Faculty members involved with the Wellington Community Justice Project: “I think it’s a great initiative. It’s completely student-driven, a corrective to a view of students as passive, just coming to lectures and taking notes.”

Two young children keep him and his partner busy at other times: “We’re pretty familiar with Te Papa and various fish and chipperies by the beach. Kids are good at getting you out doing lots of the things that Wellington has to offer.”



“I had aunts who had done law and seeing women succeed in law definitely boosted my interest.”

Harriet Beattie

Roving reporter

Harriet Beattie is the roving reporter in *The Court Report*, a weekly television programme (TV7) which is filmed at Victoria’s Law School.

A fourth-year law student, the job combines her love of performance with her interest in law: “Drama was a big area of interest for me that I have now put to one side. But it’s great that the law also has a dramatic emphasis in some areas—debating, witness examination, negotiation—and with *The Court Report* it’s all combined, along with production and development. I love being involved with it.”

“Through the programme I have met some wonderful personalities in law and engaged with topical subjects in a way that I wouldn’t have otherwise. I have to know about the subjects the programme is covering so I’m learning all the time.”

Harriet comes from a family where law features prominently: “We had stimulating, analytical dinner conversations and I could see from the ways various relatives used their law degrees that it was a useful qualification.”

She also remembers the year Dame Sian Elias was appointed to the Supreme Court and New Zealand had a female Prime Minister, Chief Justice and CEO of Telecom: “It was inspiring when that happened. I had aunts who had done law and seeing women succeed in law definitely boosted my interest.”

It took her a few months to settle into her degree: “It was an unknown area and a bit of a shock. But after a while I realised how open-ended it can be and that it just gets more interesting as you progress.”

Harriet says students are sent the message early on that hard work is required but “you are also guided, supported and encouraged to have a balanced life. I work 20 hours a week but I can still manage my study load and have fun.”

Law at Victoria

The study of law

The study of law demands in-depth discussion and critical analysis. As a result, law graduates acquire skills in communication, problem-solving, research and independent thinking—all of which are prized by employers in many different fields. Students learn to apply the techniques of legal analysis and receive a comprehensive grounding in the important subject areas of the law: public law, commercial law, international law, common law and legal theory and procedure.

- ☒ **Public law** is about the relationship between individuals and the state. Constitutional law, administrative law and criminal law are all aspects of public law.
- ☒ **Commercial law** is about business and commerce, regulating, corporate contracts, employment and the manufacture and sale of consumer goods.
- ☒ **International law** governs interactions and relations between nations.

New Zealand's legal system is derived from England's and has two main components: the common law (the body of law built up from individual court decisions) and statute law (made by Parliament). There is no single written constitution, rather a number of key documents, such as the Treaty of Waitangi and the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, which make up the constitutional arrangements and which impact on the law in a variety of ways.

What will I be studying?

Descriptions of course requirements and assessment are included in the course outlines. These are given to students in the first week of lectures and are available on www.victoria.ac.nz/law/courses/outlines.aspx

How many points do I need?

The LLB is 480 points. Most of these points come from law courses, but you will need 90 points from non-law courses by the end of your degree.

If you combine law with another degree, as 80 percent of law students do, and maintain a B- average, the required points are the sum of the total of the component degrees less 180 points—(eg. 660 points for a BA/LLB).

Do I enrol in seven or eight courses in my first year?

Enrol in the three 100-level LAWS courses and either five non-law courses from a BCA or BSc (75 points) or four non-law courses from a BA (80 points). If you enrol in a mixture of 15- and 20-point courses, make sure you have at least 70 non-law points.

What is the Socratic method of teaching?

Law lecturers teach by asking students key questions and using their answers to illustrate right (or wrong) points. Any student in the room can be asked a question at any time.



What is an 'opinion'?

This is the Law Faculty's equivalent of an essay. It means your legal opinion on a matter.

How are law courses assessed?

There is considerable variation in the assessment of law courses. In some, assessment is based on in-term tests and a final examination. In others, assessment is based on essays and opinions completed during the trimester with no final examination. Every course has mandatory requirements (also called 'terms') that must be satisfied for completion of the course. These vary from course to course—in some, a mandatory attendance or a minimum mark in a test or essay may be required for terms. Assessment and terms requirements are set out in the course outline for each course.

How do 100-level tests and examinations work?

Assessment for 100-level LAWS courses includes a terms test and a final examination. Because of the size of the classes, and to ensure that all streams can sit at the same time, these tests are scheduled on a Saturday or an evening. The dates will be in the course outline. As you are expected to attend, please do not arrange anything else at these times. You may have to make special arrangements regarding work or childcare.

The final examination timetable is published later in the year. As part of your contract to study at Victoria, you are required to be available for the duration of the examination period at the end of the first and second trimester. A holiday or sporting fixture during this time is not a reason to reschedule your examination.

Who do I see if I have a problem with my study?

If the problem relates to a particular course, talk to the lecturer or course coordinator. If the issues are more general and relate to course selection or your whole course of study, see the Undergraduate Administrator or Student Administration Manager. If they can't help you to sort out the issue, they will be able to tell you where to find the appropriate support.

Programme structure

Every personal course of study for an LLB shall include:

100 level	200 level	300 level
<p>LAWS 121 Introduction to NZ Legal System (20 pts, 1/3)</p> <p>LAWS 122 Introduction to Case Law (15 pts, 2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 123 Introduction to Statute Law (15 pts, 2/3)</p> <p>and a total of 90 non-law points (eg. six 15-point courses or five 20-point courses) from the schedules of any first degree in this University.</p> <p>For full-time students, at least 70 of these 90 non-law points must be taken in your first year to gain entry to 200-level law.</p>	<p>LAWS 211 The Law of Contract (30 pts, 1+2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 212 The Law of Torts (30 pts, 1+2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 213 Public Law (30 pts, 1+2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 214 Criminal Law (30 pts, 1+2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 297 Legal Research, Writing and Mooting (10 pts, 1+2/3)</p>	<p>LAWS 301 Property Law (30 pts, 1+2/3)</p> <p>LAWS 312 Equity, Trusts and Succession (15 pts, 1/3, 2/3)</p> <p>and 11 electives selected from LAWS 300-level courses (worth 15 points each). One of these should be LAWS 334 (Ethics and the Law) if you plan to practise law.</p>

1/3: course is taught in the first trimester only

2/3: course is taught in the second trimester only

1+2/3: course is taught in the first and second trimesters

Features of the LLB

- ⊞ The Bachelor of Laws (LLB) is a full-time four-year degree.
- ⊞ Most law students combine their LLB with a second degree, which takes a minimum of five years' study. Popular combinations are an LLB with a Bachelor of Arts (BA), Bachelor of Commerce and Administration (BCA) or a Bachelor of Science (BSc).
- ⊞ The LLB degree consists of 21 law courses and 90 non-law points selected from subjects in other degree schedules.
- ⊞ Each undergraduate law course has three hours of lectures per week.
- ⊞ There is also a tutorial (small group) programme for LAWS 121–123, LAWS 211–214 and LAWS 301.
- ⊞ You should expect to allocate 9–10 hours' study time per week per course, including lectures and tutorials.
- ⊞ Most law courses have a final examination.

Key statistics—LLB first-year students in 2011

- ⊞ 14% Māori
- ⊞ 60% female
- ⊞ 7% Pasifika
- ⊞ 3% international students
- ⊞ 62% enrolled in an LLB/BA
- ⊞ 18% enrolled in an LLB/BCA



The Bachelor of Laws



First-year law

LAWS 121—20 points (1/3)

Introduction to New Zealand Legal System

Course Coordinator: Grant Morris

An introduction to the New Zealand legal system and its relationship to Government, Parliament and the Courts; the place of the Treaty of Waitangi in the legal system; and an introduction to the constitutional framework. An introduction to critical, theoretical and cultural perspectives on the legal system, including race and gender issues.

Textbook: Grant Morris, *Law Alive: The New Zealand Legal System in Context*, 2nd ed, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 2012.

LAWS 122—15 points (2/3)

Introduction to Case Law

Course Coordinator: Nessa Lynch

An introduction to case law technique and the doctrine of precedent; an introduction to case law reasoning skills; the social context of judicial reasoning; and the interaction between case law and legislation.

LAWS 123—15 points (2/3)

Introduction to Statute Law

Course Coordinator: Māmari Stephens

An introduction to the process of legislation; the techniques of statutory interpretation and legislative drafting; the interaction with case law interpretation; and the impact of various other issues on interpretation principles and methods.



Second-year law

The second year of the LLB is a block of four full-year courses: the Law of Contract, the Law of Torts, Public Law and Criminal Law, together with the shorter Legal Research, Writing and Mooting course. On admission to second-year law you take either three or four of LAWS 211–214 with LAWS 297, or complete the 200-level LAWS courses over two or more years.

When you first enrol in a 200-level LAWS course, you are also required to enrol in LAWS 297, Legal Research, Writing and Mooting. You will learn how to use the Law Library and computer databases, how to refer to and cite legal sources and how to prepare legal opinions. You will also be required to argue a case before a judge in a mock courtroom.

Selection criteria for admission to second-year law

Selection criteria apply for admission into second-year law, with a maximum of 300 places available in each of LAWS 211, 212, 213 and 214. Students applying for a 200-level LAWS course for the first time are selected on the grade point average over their 100-level LAWS courses, with preferred entrant status being given to those who have a B+ average over LAWS 121, 122 and 123. All applicants must also have passed at least 70 non-law points. The grade point average for first-year students is calculated from the student's highest grade in each 100-level LAWS course. It does not include any failing grades in that subject, nor any previous lower passing grade. Different criteria apply (i) under the Māori Admissions Process, (ii) for graduate enrolment and (iii) if there are exceptional circumstances. The enrolment deadline is **10 December**.

The Māori Admissions Process

As part of its ongoing commitment to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, the Faculty allocates up to 10 percent of places in second-year courses to students accepted under the Māori Admissions Process. Students who wish to be considered under the Māori Admissions Process should tick the 'NZ Māori' box on their enrolment application. More information is available from the Kaitakawaenga Ture/Māori Law Students' Coordinator.

For more information, visit
www.victoria.ac.nz/llb



“The thinking you do in law is different from anything else I’ve done. You have to be so accurate and precise.”

Khaylen Huriwai

Waikato, Ngāti Pikiao (Te Arawa), Ngāti Porou

Khaylen went to an information evening about Victoria University in his last year of school, and that was when he decided to do law: “The presenters were so passionate and interesting. They made law seem like a fascinating challenge.”

He says he’s always up for a challenge and his first year tested him: “It was intense. I wasn’t really prepared for the workload. It’s a matter of keeping on top of it, all the time.” He got through and is finding the second year another kind of challenge: “It’s more focused. There’s a lot of work but it’s interesting.”

Khaylen commutes from Porirua where he lives with his mother: “The train trip is a bit of a pain but at least this year I don’t have to bus up to Kelburn as well.” He is combining law with a Bachelor of Tourism Management, which he finds a good contrast: “The thinking you do in law is different from anything else I’ve done. You have to be so accurate and precise. To be frank, I think I got through school without thinking clearly.”

When he’s not studying, Khaylen enjoys playing computer games, hanging out with friends and games of touch and flag (a form of ripper rugby).

He started at Victoria with lots of friends and has made many more since then: “Everyone is really friendly and there’s a lot of support. Tai Ahu (the Māori Law Students’ Coordinator) did a lot for me in my first year and so did Janice Ikiua (the Pacific Law Students’ Coordinator).” Khaylen says the Student Learning Support Service was a great help in showing him how to manage the workload.

He is looking towards next year and the opportunity to choose his electives: “The teachers here are awesome. My Contracts teacher is so fascinating—no two lectures are the same. The staff are always quick to help you.”



“The Socratic method means you really do prepare. It’s not so much being put on the spot, but being asked questions in front of your peers puts the pressure on you to understand what’s going on.”

Mothla Majeed

Tutor

Mothla Majeed went to Otago University for one year and decided she’d rather be in Wellington. It’s a decision she’s never regretted.

Law has seemed to be part of her plan: “I can’t remember when I made a definite decision about it, but I have always enjoyed debating, analysing and arguing, so it did seem the way ahead.”

Mothla has deferred her final year of law to undertake her BA Honours in International Relations as well as a French course this year, a degree she says complements law well. She plans to travel to South Africa as part of the New Zealand Youth Delegation to the 17th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban in December, putting her academic interests into practice.

Mothla works as a Research Assistant at the Faculty for Professor Tony Angelo and is tutoring as well: “It is so satisfying when you can make content clear for students. The course I’m tutoring is a combination of law and politics and it’s nice being able to pass a passion on.”

“For many of the students, it’s not just something to get through. They become very involved.”

Mothla has enjoyed the teaching she’s received: “It really is phenomenal. The Socratic method means you really do prepare. It’s not so much being put on the spot, but being asked questions in front of your peers puts the pressure on you to understand what’s going on.”

She’s a yoga devotee: “I go on Friday and it creates the space for a good weekend.” Mothla has also written a few pieces for the Wellington Community Justice Project blog: “I didn’t have enough time to be on one of the Project’s teams but I hope to continue writing and contributing in that way.”

Mothla grew up in the Waikato and Wellington feels like a home away from home: “It’s a small enough city to settle in quickly but there’s always something going on. You can find yourself falling in love with something you’ve never thought of getting involved in before.”

Third- and fourth-year law

The third and fourth years of the Bachelor of Laws degree provide an opportunity to broaden and deepen your legal knowledge. You will be able to choose from a variety of courses at this stage in the degree—so use your choices wisely, for the benefit of your legal study and your future legal career.

All students must complete LAWS 301 Property Law (30 points) and LAWS 312 Equity, Trusts and Succession (15 points) in their third year, or fourth year if studying for a combined degree. To qualify for admission to the bar you will need the elective LAWS 334 Ethics and the Law. All together, you may choose 11 courses from a range of one-trimester electives. The electives offered will vary from year to year.

Balance in the degree

The courses at 300 level can be grouped into eight broad categories:

- ☒ common law and private relationships
- ☒ property
- ☒ family and social law
- ☒ criminal law
- ☒ public law
- ☒ legal theory and comparative law
- ☒ international law
- ☒ commercial law.

We suggest you take at least one course from at least five of these categories to give breadth to your degree.

You can plan your proposed programme of study over the two-year period as a coherent whole, taking into account the prerequisite courses while retaining some flexibility to account for course availability. It is wise to obtain a broad grounding in subjects across the degree by taking the foundation electives when they are offered.

Foundation electives

- ☒ LAWS 321 Administrative Law
- ☒ LAWS 322 Judicial Review
- ☒ LAWS 330 Jurisprudence
- ☒ LAWS 340 International Law
- ☒ LAWS 350 Introduction to Commercial Law
- ☒ LAWS 360 Business Associations
- ☒ LAWS 370 Introduction to Family Law
- ☒ LAWS 380 Evidence

Bachelor of Laws with Honours

If you perform very well in three 200-level LAWS courses, you will be invited to join the Honours programme in your third or fourth year. While sharing many components with the LLB, the LLB(Hons) is a separate undergraduate degree that extends students' research, writing and analytical skills in a range of specialist areas.



“In your second year you move into Government Buildings (GB) and you feel some kind of ownership. You feel part of the world of law, with Parliament and the courts across the road.”

Adele Taylor

Wellington Community Justice Project

Adele Taylor is from Christchurch and planned to study architecture at university—a prescient combination of location and vocation.

She had been accepted into a hostel in Wellington and was looking forward to leaving her home, city and her comfort zone. At the last minute, she decided to do law: “My father encouraged me to do law and he was right. It’s been a challenge, in a good way.”

She is enjoying the different experiences as she moves through her degree: “First year is very different to your second year. In your second year you move into Government Buildings (GB) and you feel some kind of ownership. You feel part of the world of law, with Parliament and the courts across the road. It’s an atmosphere of being in the heart of things—you’re in the middle of the city and it’s the capital city.”

Adele has also taken up other opportunities: “Once you’re in GB, Law School is not just the courses—it’s the people, the competitions, the library and common room, the Wellington Community Justice Project (WCJP).”

“The WCJP has been such a good experience. One Saturday last year I came in to GB with a fifth-year law student, we got the books out and wrote a submission to Wellington City Council about the proposed city-wide alcohol ban. Within a week we got a letter back saying ‘Thank you—we have reconsidered the issue and are not going to change the law.’ You think ‘Wow, it’s easier than you think.’”

As part of the WCJP, Adele also helped lecturer Dr Nessa Lynch write a submission on a Parliamentary Bill involving youth justice issues, prompting her to take the Youth Justice course this year, which she is really enjoying.

Now, as one of the Student Directors of the WCJP, Adele helps to oversee the 100 students who have taken up the opportunity to volunteer in the four branches of the project—Education, Advocacy, Human Rights and Law Reform.



“The students are generally so involved and they want to participate. Many of them have achieved a great deal in their communities even before coming here and they bring that to their classes. It elevates the level of discussion.”

Alberto Costi

Student Exchange Director

Alberto Costi is an Associate Professor of Law, specialising in public international law, including the law of armed conflict, international human rights law and international criminal law, as well as in comparative law and European Union (EU) law. Not only has he published widely in these areas, he has also provided legal advice to a number of governments and other bodies on international law and EU law issues.

He came to Victoria in July 2000 from the Central European University in Budapest.

Alberto says there are several aspects to studying law at Victoria that make it special. “The students are generally so involved and they want to participate. Many of them have achieved a great deal in their communities even before coming here and they bring that to their classes. It elevates the level of discussion.”

“Secondly, the quality of the staff. Most of my colleagues are not only teachers, they are also practising law in some way. This gives them a much wider perspective and enhances their teaching, their knowledge, their boundaries. It is something to celebrate.”

Born and educated in Canada, Alberto enjoys New Zealand: “It has been easy to adapt. The Commonwealth roots are the same, the legal culture, the same easygoing nature of the people. It feels like home.”

With this background it is not surprising that Alberto’s publications include edited books that focus on the Pacific region. He is currently editing the first-ever textbook looking at international law from a New Zealand perspective while simultaneously completing *The Laws of New Zealand—International Law: Principles* (2nd ed, Lexis Nexis).

Other than law, he enjoys reading, music (classical and rock music from the 60s and 70s) and, international to his fingertips, another of Alberto’s interests is cooking: Indian, Chinese and classic French cuisine.

Extra-curricular programmes

There are several extra-curricular programmes you can participate in to enhance your study in law; the Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP) and the Victoria Plus Programme.

Victoria International Leadership Programme (VILP)

The VILP is an academically-oriented extra-curricular programme of seminars, speaker events and experiential activities relevant to the themes of international leadership, cross-cultural communication, global connectedness and sustainability. The programme encourages interaction between international and domestic students, and across the various University faculties.

For more information, see www.victoria.ac.nz/vilp

Victoria Plus Award

The Victoria Plus Award is a service and leadership programme for students who make a significant contribution to volunteer and student support work within the University and wider Wellington communities. The programme offers seminars and workshops on career development, leadership skills and social and corporate responsibility.

Successful completion of either leadership programme is acknowledged on your academic transcript.

For more information, see www.victoria.ac.nz/victoriaplus

Student exchange programme (Vic OE)

Many LLB students spend a trimester overseas through the Vic OE exchange programme. Generally, law students go in their fourth or fifth year when they have completed all 10 compulsory law courses. The University has exchange programmes with a number of law schools in other countries, including the University of Victoria, Canada; the National University of Singapore; Bucerius Law School, Germany; and the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. Under the Vic OE programme, students pay fees at Victoria and receive a grant, but need to meet travel costs and living expenses in the foreign country. In most cases, courses are taught in English but there are some universities, such as the Université Jean Moulin in Lyon, France, and CUPL in Beijing, China, where foreign language skills are essential.

An information session on the Vic OE programme is held for second-year students.

For more information, see www.victoria.ac.nz/exchange



Competitions

Law School offers a range of opportunities that help students to expand their academic studies with practical skills.

The Law Competitions give the chance for students to learn skills that will be essential for a lawyer. In addition to their educational value, they offer exciting contest between students. There are four main types of competitions:

- ▣ mooting: a mock court scenario where competitors present opposing sides of a case
- ▣ client interviewing: competitors must gather information from and give preliminary advice to an actor playing a client with a scripted problem
- ▣ negotiation: competitors, acting as counsel for their respective clients, must negotiate a solution between disputing parties
- ▣ witness examination: competitors assume the role of counsel, and examine witnesses before a judge.

All of these are offered towards the start of the year in open-entry competitions. The winners receive paid trips to both the Australasian and the New Zealand Law Students' Society conferences, where they compete against other universities.

Victoria has a proud history of winning.

Mooting and negotiation are also offered as 200-level only competitions in the latter half of the year, giving junior students an ideal stepping stone before doing the real deal.

The Law Students' Society organises the competitions and can offer advice on how to be involved. See the *Insider's Guide to Law School* at www.vuwlss.org.nz/wp



“I’ve loved it here. The degree is challenging and the content is relevant and interesting. But more importantly, you find yourself meeting a bunch of like-minded people who quickly become great friends.”

Sam Humphrey

Judge’s Clerk

Sam Humphrey is mid-way through his fifth year in law and has just accepted a graduate job as a Judge’s Clerk for 2012: “That’s the kind of opportunity that presents itself if you’re studying law and, particularly, studying it in Wellington.”

Sam has always enjoyed literature and language and law felt like a logical choice: “I’ve loved it here. The degree is challenging and the content is relevant and interesting. But more importantly, you find yourself meeting a bunch of like-minded people who quickly become great friends. You go through the LLB together, you’re in the same classes, you do competitions together—there’s a sense of community that comes with the degree that, at the end of the day, is just as valuable as the qualification.”

Sam recently had particular success in the 9th Annual Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Moot in Hong Kong. He and fellow Victoria student Sarah Wilson came top out of 20 teams from the Asia-Pacific region: “The moot was an amazing experience. The International Committee of the Red Cross

sponsored us and we had a week in Hong Kong competing. Being able to moot before Justices of the Hong Kong Final Court of Appeal defending charges of war crimes before a mock International Criminal Court was something I’ll never forget.”

He is appreciative of the teaching he’s received at Victoria: “One particularly cool aspect of lecturing at Victoria is the use of Adjunct Lecturers, who often take courses with a more practical bent. Kevin Riordan (for International Criminal Law) and Noel Sainsbury (for Advanced Criminal Law) were particularly inspirational for me. Kevin helped coach me for the moot, while in Noel’s class we reconstructed an actual trial, had oral assessment based on that practice and heard a stack of interesting stories from his time as a barrister.”

Outside law, Sam manages to fit in running, swimming, indoor football, games and movies with friends.



“The LSS organises fun social events, Law Competitions and interesting talks, as well as helping to offer a supportive environment for law students.”

David Smith

President of the Law Students’ Society

David Smith ran for President of the Law Students’ Society (LSS) because, “it has such an impact on the way students interact with the University and offers a sense of community that is really important.”

David says university life is all about balance. An LLB should not be all grind and the LSS ensures that this is not the case: “The LSS organises fun social events, Law Competitions and interesting talks, as well as helping to offer a supportive environment for law students.”

He says the LSS is one of the strongest student representative bodies in the University: “We have quite a presence. All law students automatically become part of the LSS and the executive is well supported.” David’s position requires a big commitment: “I knew it would be time-consuming and I’m taking one less course this year to accommodate that. I’ve also had to manage my time better. The role demands that you keep tabs on a whole lot of things.”

David lived in Wellington until he was 10 and then his family moved to Blenheim. He spent years 12 and 13 at St Andrews in Christchurch, followed by a gap year at a school in Scotland: “That was an incredible year—getting away and doing something utterly new. I travelled to places like Morocco and Eastern Europe, which was amazing.”

On return from his year abroad David decided to study law at Victoria. He hasn’t looked back: “It’s hard to understand how different law is when you’re at high school. It’s unlike anything else. My own thoughts and the way I approach many things have changed because of it. I’ve learned to think a lot more critically.”

David is also a bit of a musician and plays guitar. He loves Wellington’s cafés and night spots, and endeavours to catch as many gigs as possible.

Next year’s already planned—he’s been offered a job at Russell McVeagh and will be moving to Auckland.

Services and support

The Law Students' Society

When you enrol at the Faculty of Law, you become a member of the Law Students' Society (LSS). The LSS is designed to make your time at Law School more enjoyable and more worthwhile. It does this in three ways.

First, it organises social events for law students throughout the year, from the old favourites of the Law Ball and the (infamous) T-Shirt Night, to the Cocktail Night, the Faculty vs Student cricket match, numerous BBQs and many more. For the second time in 2011, the LSS held a Law Camp for second-year students which proved to be a cracking good time to cut loose.

Second, the LSS presents opportunities for students to further their legal education and skills through events such as a lecture series throughout the year, the Women-in-Law Evening and the Law School Competitions for junior and senior students alike.

Finally, the LSS acts as an advocate by representing students on the Law Faculty Board as well as at a university and national level.

To find out more about the LSS, check out the website www.vuwlss.org.nz. It has details on all the events as well as online access to the 'Insider's Guide to Law School' which tells you everything you need to know. Also make sure to keep updated with our Facebook page www.facebook.com/vuwlss

LAW STUDENTS' SOCIETY

Room G16, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6304
Email vuwlss@gmail.com
Website www.vuwlss.org.nz

Māori student support

The Kaitakawaenga Ture/Māori Law Students' Coordinator is responsible for advancing the academic interests of Māori law students at Victoria. This support includes a Māori and Pacific students' tutorial programme, which assists students with the practical application of legal rules and concepts. Additional programmes are provided for specific purposes, including intensive pre-exam review classes, mentoring and targeted workshops.

The Kaitakawaenga Ture works closely with the Law Faculty's Academic Adviser to Māori Students, Māmari Stephens, to ensure that students' needs are being met. If you have any enquiries, especially concerning academic support programmes or advice, contact:

DAVID JONES

Kaitakawaenga Ture/Māori Law Students' Coordinator
Room G29, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6305
Email david.j.jones@vuw.ac.nz

MĀMARI STEPHENS

Academic Adviser to Māori Students
Email mamari.stephens@vuw.ac.nz

Visit www.victoria.ac.nz/maoristudents for more information about the Māori experience of studying at Victoria.

Ngā Rangahautira

Ko Ngā Rangahautira tētahi rōpū e tautoko ana i ngā mahi a ngā akonga Māori e whai ana i te tohu ture. Ko ngā mahi a Ngā Rangahautira, he tautoko, he akiaki i ngā akonga ki te whai i tēnei rākau ture a te Pākehā. He rōpū āwhina, tautoko i ngā akonga Māori ki te whakanui i tō tātou Māoritanga i roto i te ture.

Ngā Rangahautira Inc, the Māori Law Students' Association, is focused on helping Māori students understand law and encouraging their commitment to kaupapa Māori. As a new student starting an LLB, you can be elected as a first-year representative on the Executive Committee. The Committee is involved in organising social, academic, cultural and political activities. The rōpū encourage participation and offer informal mentoring for students in the early stages of their degree. Students can socialise and study in the common room which has kitchen facilities and computers.

Ngā Rangahautira has wide-reaching support from the Wellington legal community and the many alumni who remain in close contact. Te Hunga Rōia, the annual conference for all Māori law students and practitioners in New Zealand, was held in Wellington in 2010, along with the first-ever Māori Law Awards Dinner held at Te Papa.

NGĀ RANGAHAUTIRA INC/MĀORI LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Room 140 C, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6329
Email vuw_nr@myvuw.ac.nz

Pacific student support

The Pacific Law Students' Coordinator provides advice and assistance for Pacific law students. This includes organising support tutorials and study skills workshops in preparation for examinations and assessments. Students are also encouraged to get involved in the Pacific Law Students' Society and the Pacific mentoring programme. The Coordinator also promotes scholarships and keeps students informed about important events concerning Pacific students within the University.

JANICE IKIUA

Pacific Law Students' Coordinator
Room GB28, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6303
Email janice.ikiua@vuw.ac.nz

PROFESSOR TONY ANGELO

Academic Adviser to Pacific Students
Email tony.angelo@vuw.ac.nz

Visit www.victoria.ac.nz/pacificstudents for more information about the Pacific experience of studying at Victoria University.

The Pacific Law Students' Society (PILSS)

PILSS was established by students to provide a social support network for Pacific students studying law. PILSS encourages students to continue their studies by promoting Pacific initiatives and by meeting to discuss current issues faced by students. PILSS and the Pacific Law Students' Coordinator work collaboratively on initiatives to improve Pacific student learning.

PILSS also organises a number of social events, promotes a sports team and assists secondary and overseas students in their transition to life in Wellington and the University. There is an opportunity to meet students from similar associations from other universities at annual conferences. PILSS helps promote Pacific ideals within the Faculty and, in its role as a representative body, is affiliated to the Victoria Students' Association.

PRESIDENT, CARA TELEA

Email janice.ikiua@vuw.ac.nz



“Wellington is very buzzy and different from my home town. But it’s a little city and not so huge that you feel overwhelmed.”

Erin Matariki Carr

Ngāti Awa, Tūhoe

Erin Carr’s father dared her to do law, so she thought she’d give it a go: “He said I was good with words. Once I started it, I found I really enjoyed it.”

Starting, however, was harder than she thought: “I got a C+ for my first mark and thought ‘Oh no, this is too hard’ but then I thought ‘I’m not going to let this beat me’. I dug down, focused and ended up getting an A and an A- for my final marks.”

Erin thinks you need to be gritty and determined: “The first year is scary because you know you’re being weeded out. There’s a competitive aspect to studying law and you’ve just got to think you can do it.” She loves the fact that her study is taking her somewhere and that it’s an entry into a profession that is known to be demanding.

Erin comes from Ohope Beach and chose Victoria because it’s far enough from home yet not as far as a South Island university: “Wellington is very buzzy and different from my home town. But it’s a little city and not so huge that you feel overwhelmed.”

The support offered by the Māori Students’ Coordinator and mentoring group has been “amazing. It’s not just academic, either. We’re all friends, we do things together as a group and we’re happy when one of us does well.”

Erin enjoys yoga, hanging out with friends and spending time in the city’s many cafés: “I can’t believe how much I spend on coffee in this place!” She also enjoys the outdoors, often with her family: “We did the Milford Track a while ago and it was wonderful.”

She encourages students thinking of studying law to get involved with the many other groups at Law School, such as Ngā Rangahautira, the Māori Law Students’ Association, and says: “Don’t be overawed. It’s big and quiet down here (in GB) but don’t be intimidated—you can do it!”

Scholarships

Victoria has a range of scholarships and awards available to students including hundreds of scholarships for first-year undergraduate students.

Victoria Excellence Scholarships are awarded on academic merit. Students who have their NCEA Level 2 Certificate endorsed with Excellence are encouraged to apply. Applicants with alternative qualifications (eg. CIE or IB) will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. In 2012 the majority of these scholarships will be awarded at \$5,000 with a small number being awarded at \$10,000, which will be competitively awarded. Applications close on **1 October**.

Victoria Achiever Scholarships are offered to academically-able students who are of Māori or Pacific descent, have a disability, can demonstrate financial hardship or were educated at a decile 1–3 school. These scholarships aim to encourage students who may otherwise be unable to attend Victoria University. In 2012 the majority of these scholarships will be awarded at \$5,000 with a small number being awarded at \$10,000, which will be competitively awarded. Applications close on **1 October**.

Applying for scholarships

Eligibility criteria for all scholarships may change, so it is essential that scholarship details are checked on the website **www.victoria.ac.nz/scholarships** prior to application.

Up-to-date information and application forms are available from the Scholarships Database accessed from the Scholarships webpage.

Law library

Housed in the southern end of the Government Building, the Law Library plays an integral part in the study of the law: you will use it increasingly as you progress through your degree. It contains a comprehensive collection of New Zealand legislation, law reports, journals, treaties, textbooks and other legal material. It provides access to many New Zealand and international legal databases, including LexisNexis and Westlaw, as well as to a wide range of databases through the University network and the internet.

Research centres

To find out more about the law research centres and the events that they offer, undergraduate students are encouraged to sign up to the mailing lists. Details can be found on each of the websites.

New Zealand Centre for Public Law

www.victoria.ac.nz/nzcpl

New Zealand Centre for International Economic Law

www.victoria.ac.nz/law/centres/nzciel



“We both think that a lecture needs to be about more than us just standing there, talking. It’s important for students to feel involved in the lecture and learn from each other as well.”

Yvette Tinsley and Elisabeth McDonald

Academics

Associate Professor Elisabeth McDonald and Reader Dr Yvette Tinsley are colleagues and co-workers on criminal justice projects.

They are two of the co-authors of *The Evidence Act 2006: Act and Analysis* (2nd ed, Brookers, 2010) and are currently engaged in a major research project investigating whether the current criminal justice system is failing victims of sexual offending.

Yvette says: “We enjoy working in an area which involves a lot of interdisciplinary effort and policy. There is a law reform vibe in Wellington. Academics here feel part of that in a way that those in other centres don’t.”

They both enjoy teaching. Says Elisabeth: “We both think that a lecture needs to be about more than us just standing there, talking. It’s important for students to feel involved in the lecture and learn from each other as well.”

Yvette: “Criminal law students tend to be very engaged with the subject. It’s really good to have discussions with them about what law does and what it should do—it’s satisfying to see a spark of passion light up in a student because of an issue

you’ve introduced.”

Both women do work outside of the Faculty, such as seminars for the Institute of Judicial Studies—Elisabeth in the area of evidence and discrimination issues and Yvette, law and science (such as credibility, juries, memory, assessing witnesses). A strong thread in Elisabeth’s career has been gender issues in law. Yvette was involved in the early 2000s with the Juries Project, which is still a frequently used piece of research.

They think law students at Victoria have opportunities that simply can’t present themselves elsewhere, such as guest speakers from Police Headquarters, Government departments and the Law Commission.

“They get to see Supreme Court judges and to tap into the most significant legal institutions. They can see it all happening.” As Yvette says—it’s the Wellington law vibe.

After your Bachelor's degree

Victoria's values

Academics in the Law Faculty have identified the attributes they encourage Victoria students who have completed an LLB to display. These attributes alone are a good reason to consider studying at Victoria's Law School.

Victoria law graduates are encouraged to:

- ▣ be skilled in analysis, synthesis, decision-making and creative thinking
- ▣ display a broad, coherent knowledge of the law
- ▣ reason logically and distinguish fact from opinion
- ▣ appreciate other cultures and customs
- ▣ be articulate and confident and communicate clearly and fluently
- ▣ value truthfulness, accuracy, honesty, equal opportunity and ethical standards in personal and professional life
- ▣ accept responsibilities and obligations as well as assert rights
- ▣ have a desire and the skills for continued intellectual development and creativity
- ▣ have an awareness of New Zealand's place in a global context
- ▣ be self-disciplined, motivated, adaptable to change and flexible
- ▣ display leadership in their chosen field.

Postgraduate study

Postgraduate study in law at Victoria is structured to meet the different needs of its students. These include recent graduates wishing to enrich their undergraduate degrees, academically-oriented students looking for a learning environment of quality and young lawyers seeking professional development.

Victoria's Faculty of Law has a strong reputation for research-led teaching in its Master of Laws programme. Experienced academics individually supervise thesis and dissertation research, ideal for researching a topic relevant to work or interest, while most seminar-based courses have a significant research component.

The Faculty's own research publication, the *Victoria University of Wellington Law Review*, offers an opportunity for postgraduate students to have their work published, while the *New Zealand Journal of Public and International Law* offers world-class writing on those specialty areas.

A vigorous and ongoing programme of conferences, public lectures and international visitors provides a stimulating and supportive learning situation.

Law professionals

When you have finished your law degree you will probably take professionals (known as 'profs'). To be admitted to the legal profession in New Zealand, law graduates must complete requirements prescribed by the Council of Legal Education. One of these requirements is the completion of a practical professional legal studies course. Two providers offer this training either by distance or as a three-month course.

www.collaw.ac.nz

www.ipls.org.nz



“Public law is anything that interfaces with Government, which really means everything.”

Kate Yesberg

Graduate

Kate Yesberg works at Chen Palmer, a well-known law firm which specialises in public law: “I love it,” she says. “The work is fast-paced, outcome-focused and always interesting. We are often lawyers of last resort, which requires effective and creative problem-solving. It is a great training ground for a young lawyer.”

Wellington is an important part of the mix: “Public law is anything that interfaces with Government, which really means everything. Being in Wellington means that, even as a student, you are led to thinking about the reach of Government and how it affects citizens and business. You are taught by academics who are interested in the citizen/state relationship and encourage your interest.”

Kate always wanted to be a television presenter, but as a student at Palmerston North Girls’ High, her love of debating and experiences at Model United Nations made her curious about law. Victoria provided a location which was close to home and familiar: “I thought it would be a great place to live and I still think that now.”

She enjoyed studying law, particularly the Honours programme: “It gave me lots of freedom but also a lot of one-on-one time with teachers, especially Alberto Costi, who was my lecturer for both of my major research courses.” Kate also tutored a 200-level law course which was rewarding and a great way to hone her communication skills.

After studying for a semester on exchange at the National University of Singapore, Kate went to Cambodia to write her Honours paper on the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, on which former New Zealand Governor-General Dame Sylvia Cartwright sits. From Cambodia, Kate moved on to an internship with the United Nations Office of the Recovery Coordinator in Aceh, Indonesia.

Her time in Asia informed her thinking about further study (for an LLM) and developing skills in international and comparative law, especially law and development—how law and law reform affect the way countries develop.



Life after law school

Our former students are working for law firms (in New Zealand and around the world), in business (as bankers, advertising executives, economists and chief executives), in the creative arts and industries (making movies and writing books), in the public sector (from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to the Crown Law Office, the Office of the Ombudsman and the Department of Conservation)—as well as in the worlds of both rugby and universities.

For an overview of the skills developed through the study of law, what employers look for and profiles of recent graduates, see the *Career View* publication on law, available from this page: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/careers/resources/career_publications/career_view

For more information contact Vic Careers:
www.victoria.ac.nz/careers



Law faculty contacts

Law Faculty / School Office

The Administrators in the School Office are happy to help. At the Office you will hand in your assignments, collect or read examination scripts, apply for academic transcripts and collect publications and forms. Faculty-specific forms can also be printed from the Law School website.



PAULINE CASTLE AND ELIZABETH CHERRY (PICTURED)

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55 Lambton Quay, Pipitea Campus
Victoria University of Wellington
PO Box 600, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

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Fax 04-463 6365
Email law-enquiries@vuw.ac.nz
Website www.victoria.ac.nz/law

Law Student Administration Team

The Student Administration team supports students through their study. The following are the key people who can help you. The Undergraduate Administrator offers information on admission, qualifications and assessment of prior study, course advice and selection criteria, prerequisites and your enrolment in law.



SHARON WATKINS—UNDERGRADUATE ADMINISTRATOR

Room 108, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6433
Email law-enquiries@vuw.ac.nz

The Student Administration Manager assists students with queries on entry to courses or streams, StudyLink forms and other course confirmation requirements, and on other study issues.



ALISON MUNRO—STUDENT ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Room 109, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6975
Email alison.munro@vuw.ac.nz

Deputy Dean and Deputy Head of School

The Deputy Dean makes decisions on non-standard enrolments, late withdrawals, and exam and assessment appeals. He will also present your degree at graduation.



GORDON STEWART

Room 205, Government Building
Phone 04-463 6426
Email gordon.stewart@vuw.ac.nz

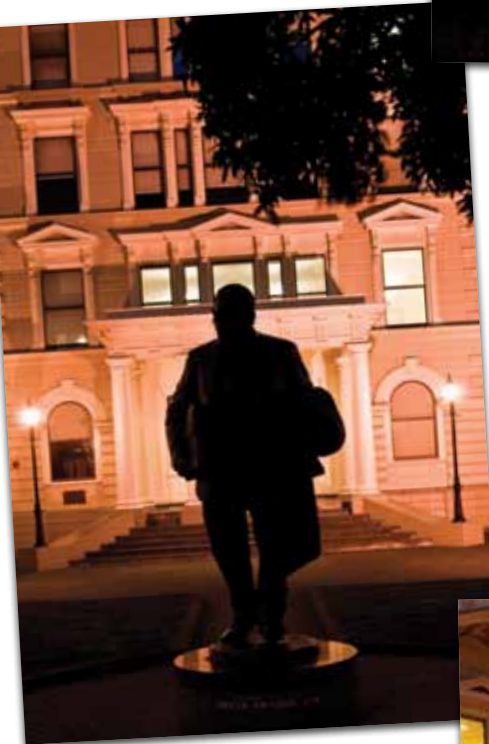


SHINE A LIGHT

“That light we see burning in my hall.
How far that little candle throws his beams!
So shines a good deed in a naughty world.”

Merchant of Venice, Act V, sc 1

When you study law at Victoria, there are
many lights to guide the way.



FACULTY OF LAW

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STUDENT RECRUITMENT, ADMISSION AND ORIENTATION

Phone 0800 VICTORIA (842 867)

04-463 5374

Fax 04-463 5193

Email course-advice@vuw.ac.nz

Website www.victoria.ac.nz/futurestudents

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