

A Word from the CEO



Welcome to 2012 and another exciting year for AIDC. As we also usher in the Year of the Dragon, we are looking forward to a year of innovation, balance and flexibility – all good omens for mediation and ADR. We hope that we will see you soon at our Centre at One Castlereagh St in Sydney participating in our training or professional development courses, attending our events or using our hearing and mediation rooms.

In this Bulletin we provide an update of our current public training and professional development courses. There is a smorgasbord to indulge in and choose from in 2012. Do book in early for all our courses and events as the new year has already generated a lot of interest. As a not-for-profit organisation we ensure our course participants receive not just the highest quality training but value for money. We understand that budgets can be tight and we offer some [great discounts](#) for participants from outside Sydney, groups and registered NFPs. If you are not able to travel to Sydney to attend one of our sessions, or if distance is a problem, please contact us as we can come to you. Our public courses can be delivered in-house or customised to meet specific organizational needs. Don't forget that we offer a wide range of conflict resolution, complaint handling, mediation and professional development training.

Our next public [mediation training](#) will be from 20 to 24 February 2012 at AIDC in the Sydney CBD. Now is the ideal time to hone your skills or to help your staff to manage workplace conflict by participating in training. Our professional development series kicks off in March. On 8 March we will have a session on [overcoming the obstacles to mediation](#). After the ICC mediation week in Paris next week, I am sure there will be much to discuss with new ideas from around the world and some interesting insights into developments both at corporate and institutional level and in approaches to the mediation process by parties and their lawyers. On 29 March we will move to [Polishing the Private Session](#), a one day course on a very important aspect of mediation, intended for both experienced practitioners and newly qualified mediators seeking to ensure that their private sessions remain productive, purposeful and facilitative. To

keep up to date with what is happening, check our website (www.disputescentre.com.au) regularly for updates and new offerings.

On 8 February the Centre will host the launch of a significant new book by Malcolm Holmes QC and Dr Chester Brown: 'The International Arbitration Act 1974 – a Commentary'. The Honourable Murray Gleeson AC will launch the work which will no doubt be a very valuable contribution to the understanding and development of international arbitration in Australia. For those of you interested in international arbitration, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Australian Branch) (CIArb) is holding its 2012 Diploma Course in International Commercial Arbitration in Malaysia from 7 to 15 April, 2012. More information should be available soon on the [CIArb's website](#).

We remind you of a number of interesting ADR events scheduled for 2012 which AIDC will be supporting: The National Mediation Conference will be held in Sydney from 10 to 13 September, 2012. In this edition, AIDC's Training Manager, Lynne Richards, talks with National Conference Convenor, Janice McLeay, to [learn more about what we can expect from this major industry event](#).

The [3rd Annual National Public Sector Legal Officers' Forum 2012](#) will be held 6 and 7 March in Canberra with topics to help legal professionals stay well informed on effective strategies and working models to enhance performance and efficiency in an ever-evolving public environment. From 3 to 5 May 2012, Sydney will host the [12th DRBF International Conference](#) which will explore the benefits of Dispute Boards to major projects.

As always, I encourage you to visit our website and register for our training and professional development sessions and events, or [book our hearing rooms for your mediation or arbitration proceedings](#). We look forward to seeing you at AIDC soon.

Michelle Sindler, CEO
