

# Annual Report

University of South Australia  
Legal Advice Clinic



Image Credit: Rosina Possingham

2016

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## Dean's Message



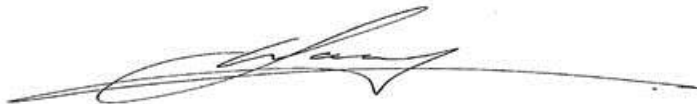
I am delighted to provide the Dean's Message for the UniSA Legal Advice Clinic 2016 Annual Report.

The Clinic completed a very successful year providing a highly valued clinical legal education experience for final year law students whilst at the same time, assisting the community. The opportunity to be involved in real-life cases in a supportive environment has enabled students to further expand their legal knowledge and skills, and this has ultimately assisted students in gaining full-time employment in the legal sector and beyond.

The Law School is extremely proud to be a part of the UniSA Community Clinics program which involves clinics of various disciplines.

In 2017, the Clinic looks forward to building on its success and in particular, its involvement in the new capstone program being incorporated into the law curriculum in 2018.

I would like to convey my sincere thanks to the professional, experienced and dedicated staff and student advisors of the Clinic, and to the internal and external stakeholders for their support of the Clinic in 2016.



***Professor Wendy Lacey***  
**Dean and Head of School**  
**SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

## Vision, Mission & Values Statement

### Vision

The UniSA Legal Advice Clinic will develop a reputation as the most innovative, most respected, best resourced, most research-active clinical legal education program in Australia. It will be recognised as a national leader in clinical legal education in its teaching, research and community involvement, and an international authority on clinical legal education. The Clinic will be the focus of the UniSA law degree's 'capstone' year, providing all law students with the benefits of clinical legal education and will be recognised nationally and internationally as providing a 'best practice' model.

### Mission

The Clinic's Mission is:

- To provide an educational environment which promotes access to justice, fosters a 'pro bono' culture, and encourages law students to be client-centred, ethical practitioners.
- To provide an educational framework which assists law students to develop practical legal skills and adopt ethical practices.
- To provide competent and timely free legal advice to members of the public, particularly to those who might otherwise be denied access to justice because of financial or social disadvantage.
- To provide a referral service to members of the community where the Clinic is unable to assist (for both legal and non-legal services).
- To develop and consolidate relationships and generate synergies with other organisations in a manner which is mutually beneficial for those other organisations, clients, students and the School of Law.
- To strengthen a research culture which promotes the Clinic as an international leader in clinical legal education.

### Values

Values drive an organization's culture and priorities and provide a framework in which decisions are made.

The values of the Clinic are:

- Innovative, interesting and challenging educational opportunities for law students.
- A commitment to ongoing research and innovation.
- A belief in, and a commitment to, access to justice for everyone.
- An educational environment where all students are encouraged to ask questions and learn from their mistakes.
- A commitment to reflective practice.
- A pedagogy that encourages the development of practical legal skills and ethical legal practice.

## Who We Are

### Staff



**Rachel Spencer** is the Director of Professional Programs in the School of Law at UniSA. She has many years of experience in the Clinical Legal Education sector, as well as extensive prior experience in legal practice, including private practice, government and in-house roles. She also has extensive experience in Practical Legal Training and is a past Chair of the Australasian Professional Legal Education Council.



Prior to taking up the position of Managing Solicitor of the Legal Advice Clinic, **Matthew Atkinson** was the Principal Solicitor at the Northern Community Legal Service Inc. He has worked in the Community Legal Centre sector for approximately ten years and has significant experience in providing legal assistance at the coal face with some of the most vulnerable people in our community. He has also been actively involved in advancing the Community Legal Centre sector having been the South Australian state representative in the National Association of Community Legal Centres in 2007, 2008, and 2010. He was also involved in planning and implementing a legal education program about the *Family Law Act* and family dispute resolution with the Family Relationship Centres in Salisbury, Elizabeth and Adelaide.



**Betty Kontoleon** is a Supervising Solicitor in the Legal Advice Clinic. Betty graduated from the University of Adelaide with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Bachelor of Arts and Graduate Diploma in Languages (Modern Greek) and has practised as a Solicitor since 2005. Prior to joining the Clinic, Betty worked for Palios, Meegan and Nicholson Lawyers in the field of civil litigation with a specific focus on personal injury claims representing clients from a broad range of social and cultural backgrounds. Since mid-2011 Betty has undertaken casual tutoring and research for various Law Schools. She has always had a keen interest in undertaking pro bono work.



**Julie Watt** is the Clinic Administrator for the Legal Advice Clinic. Julie has worked at UniSA in a variety of administrative roles since 2009 and was involved in setting up the administrative functions of the Clinic in 2010 prior to commencement of its operation in February 2011.

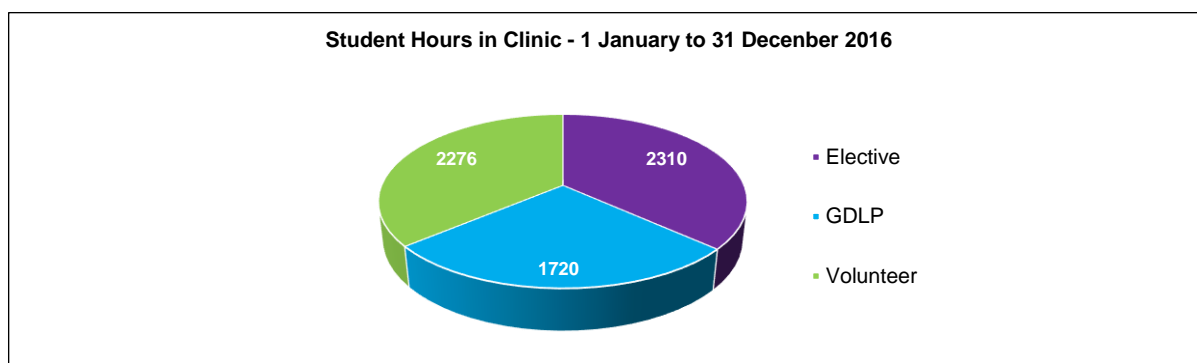
## Students



2016 was another busy and successful year for the Legal Advice Clinic. Students, new and experienced, were able to gain invaluable knowledge through their involvement in clinical work, whether it was advising clients, preparing information booklets for the public or conducting seminars. Students were able to develop their practical legal skills, their critical thinking skills and discuss issues they learned including legal ethics, professionalism, access to justice, the role of the law and lawyers in society.

In total we had 72 students take part in the Clinic experience. Of these, 34 students were enrolled in the Lawyers Ethics and Society (Advanced: Clinical Placement) course with an additional 27 volunteer students and 11 students undertaking their placement for completion of their Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice.

In 2016 the Clinic was able to continue and build on its newest project from 2015, the Arts Law 'Keeping it Legal' Seminar Series. The role of this project is to provide advice and guidance to individuals across the South Australian arts sector in a seminar setting. This Seminar Series further solidifies a growing relationship and collaboration between Match Studio + in the School of Art, Architecture and Design at the University of South Australia. Students taking part in this initiative were able to build and develop skills learned in Law School to speak publicly to a group of artists (students and professionals) and provide information booklets on issues affecting artists.



## Report from the Director: Professional Programs



2016 was another year of hard work for everyone involved in the Legal Advice Clinic. Over 50 students provided advice and assistance to 289 clients. The Clinic is an integral part of our clinical legal education program where students learn about access to justice and the role of lawyers in society as well as developing practical legal skills and a deep understanding of the ethical framework which underpins the work of all legal practitioners. Students use their Clinic experiences as important milestones in the process of professional development and learning the skills of reflective practice. Clinic students do not just learn by doing, but by doing and reflecting on their work in order to improve their skills, and develop emotional intelligence which is increasingly recognised as an integral component of effective legal practice. Emotional intelligence involves the development of key competencies such as self-control, initiative, empathy and effectiveness with people.

We are looking forward to the implementation of a new Law curriculum and welcoming larger numbers of students into the clinic in 2018. We certainly hope to maintain the very important sense of community that the Clinic fosters, not just within this building but in the wider sense of reaching out to the wider community and teaching law students to recognise the privileged role that a law degree and admission to legal practice entails.

We are part of a profession with a very long tradition of community spirit and collegiality. Even in these times of fierce competition and the values of marketing and monopoly being presented as the overriding forces in all disciplines, law students need opportunities to learn how to act as ethical professionals and to appreciate the limitations of the law and the importance of access to justice. The clinical program will continue to advocate for these fundamental values of the legal profession.

***Rachel Spencer***  
**Director: Professional Programs**  
**Legal Advice Clinic**  
**SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**



## Report from the Managing Solicitor



The sixth year of the Legal Advice Clinic has indeed been a busy time. In 2016, we provided placement for 54 students at our City-West campus office and our outreach services at the Port Adelaide and Elizabeth Magistrates Courts. During this period we performed \$262,964 worth of pro-bono legal work for community. This pro bono work allowed law students to assist members of the public on a range of legal matters including criminal, family, and a range of civil matters. Law students have engaged in legal interviewing, letter writing, drafting court documents, and helping people to resolve their disputes by way of alternative dispute resolution, and in court. Likewise, the Clinic's Arts-Law service continued its operations and in conjunction with UniSA Match + Studio, presented two seminars on 'Law for the Creative Arts Industries' and 'Trade Marks: More than just Logos, Shapes and Slogans' which were well-attended and received. Staff and students of the Legal Advice Clinic also attended the Homeless Connect Expo, UniSA Open Day, and were present for multiple UniSA O-week events.

The Legal Advice Clinic continues to provide an environment for students to engage in meaningful experiential learning. Feedback from students continues to be overwhelmingly positive. This year we have received written feedback that includes *'Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to do placement in the Legal Advice Clinic. I have almost learned more in 10 weeks than I have in my whole degree'*; *'I have learnt a lot from my time in the Clinic, it has been an incredible experience, and one that I feel has prepared me for the lawyering world'*; and, *'The Legal Advice Clinic has been the best part of my University experience and one which I will always draw upon in my professional working life.'* Undoubtedly, this kind of feedback is personally heart-warming and something that brings much pride to the Law School and UniSA.

Legal Advice Clinic services continue to enjoy a strong reputation among members of the legal profession and other organisations involved in providing access to justice. In essence, the service can be characterised as a win-win for law students and the community: the Clinic allows students the opportunity to utilise their legal knowledge and further develop their professional skills while at the same time providing a much needed free legal service to the community. I would like to thank and acknowledge the efforts of all staff and students for their individual contributions to the Clinic's success. I look forward to being a part of its future endeavours.

**Matthew Atkinson**  
**Managing Solicitor**  
**Legal Advice Clinic**  
**SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**



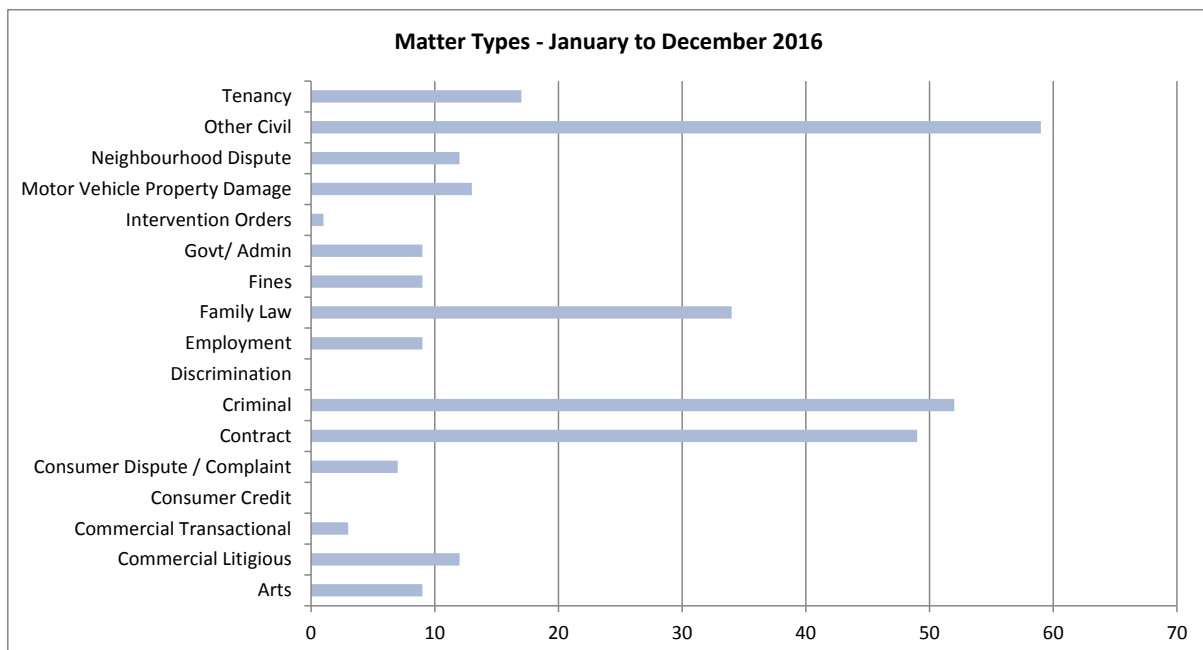
## What We Do

### Advice and Assistance

The Clinic provides free legal advice in a variety of areas of law including the arts, commercial litigious, commercial transactional, consumer credit, consumer dispute/complaint, contract, criminal, discrimination, employment, family law, fines, government admin, intervention orders, motor vehicle property damage, neighbourhood dispute, other civil and tenancy issues.

Student advisors work under the supervision of qualified legal practitioners gaining experience and knowledge in a wide range of legal matters. During their placement, they gain first-hand experience in interviewing clients, taking relevant notes, maintaining files, conducting research, drafting documents and providing written advice. These skills better equip the students to meet clients' needs once they begin their professional careers.

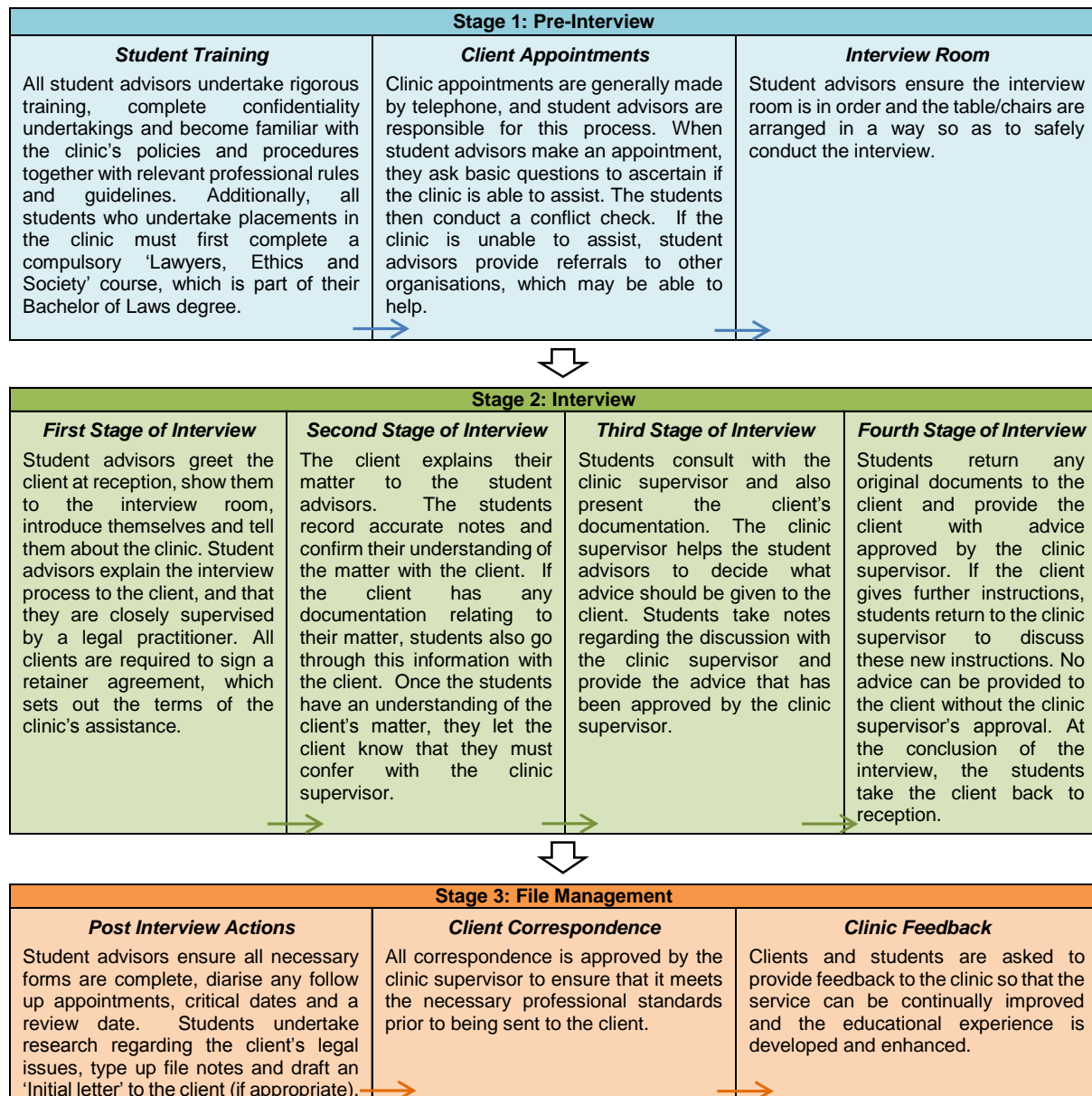
As at 31 December 2016, the Clinic had provided in excess of \$1.6M worth of pro bono legal advice to clients since commencement of its operation in 2011, with \$262,964 being in the 12 months from 1 January to 31 December 2016.



## City West Campus

The Legal Advice Clinic commenced its operations in the School of Law, City West campus, University of South Australia in February 2011. The student-run, in-house Clinic equips students with the legal skills and knowledge required for the practice of law.

Below is a table which summarizes the process of student interaction with clients:



## Elizabeth Outreach



The Elizabeth Outreach operates at the Elizabeth Magistrates Court each Tuesday morning during the Investigation Summons Hearings and is run in partnership with the Northern Community Legal Service who provide on-site financial counselling to complement the advice provided by the Clinic. This interdisciplinary service assisted 27 clients in 2016 with consumer debt related matters. These clients are particularly vulnerable and many are considerably disadvantaged.

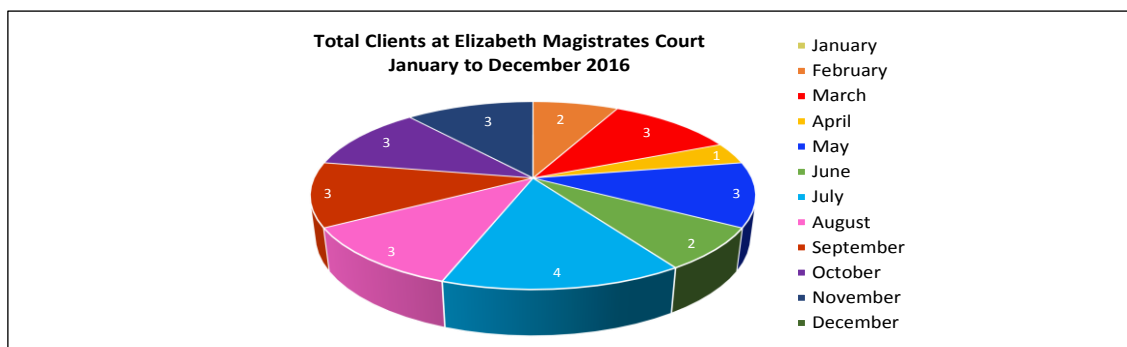
A student advisor provided the following feedback on her experience at the Elizabeth Outreach:

*“Working at the EMC was one of the most beneficial and educational experiences I have had throughout my law degree. Being amongst the action in a real Court, with real people needing our help was incredibly rewarding. It was somewhere I could finally put three years of legal education into practical application. I’ll never forget the gratitude shown by members of the community who would ordinarily struggle to afford legal advice. The experience introduced me to different areas of law that I am now looking to pursue further. Overall the placement was truly worthwhile.”*

**Jemima, Student Advisor**

Snapshot from the Elizabeth Outreach:

- Student advisors worked closely with an indigent client who did not understand how to submit a defence to a claim brought against her for unpaid school fees. The client’s misunderstanding resulted in the court awarding judgment against her, and she was summoned to court to talk about how she was going to make payment of the school fees and court costs. The student advisors helped the client outline her defence and draft documents, including an application to set aside judgment so that the client can lodge a defence.



## Port Adelaide Outreach



In 2016, the Port Adelaide Outreach assisted 61 unrepresented litigants appearing in matters before the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court. The Outreach operates as a drop-in service each Friday (Wednesdays in 2017/18), offering advice on a range of matters. Students gain extensive experience with helping members of the community navigate court processes and understand their legal rights and obligations.

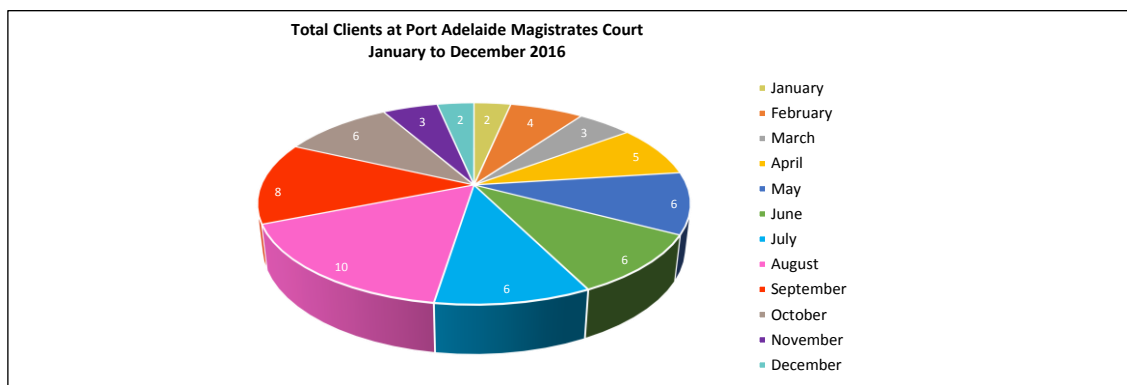
A student's personal account of his experience at the Port Adelaide Outreach follows:

*"Volunteering at the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court has given me the opportunity to put what I have learnt in the classroom into practice. It is extremely rewarding to provide legal advice to members of the community who would otherwise be unable to afford it."*

**Ben, Student Advisor**

Snapshot from the Port Adelaide Outreach:

- A student at the Clinic commented that working with a client who was charged with assault provided him with valuable learning experience and an opportunity to provide access to justice. He wrote, *"One of the first files I worked on involved a drunken altercation between two elderly men. Our client, the one who started the fight, was charged with assault and sought the Clinic's assistance to draft a plea in mitigation which he would submit for his guilty plea in the Magistrates Court. Working and taking instructions from the client was rewarding and heart-warming, as he could not have been more remorseful and was often in tears. I drafted a plea in mitigation for the client and he ended up having no conviction recorded."*



## Arts/Law Clinic

In 2016, the Clinic continued to assist the arts community through its Arts/Law Clinic and provided two further seminars as part of the Legal Advice Clinic's Arts/Law Seminar Series. The "Keeping it Legal" seminars are part of the Clinic's community education program and are held in conjunction with UniSA Match Studio + from the School of Art, Architecture and Design. The seminars cover such topics as patenting, trademarking and copyright. These seminars are a great way of providing community education about the law and access to justice, and they also provide an unparalleled opportunity for students to demonstrate their oral presentation skills and engage in valuable informal networking.



On Thursday 26 May, law students (Peta Spyrou and Suzana Jovanovic) delivered a presentation entitled 'Law for the Creative Arts Industries' to a wide range of members from the arts community as part of the "Keeping it Legal" series for Match Studio +. The evening was extremely successful and the audience of over 20 registered guests particularly engaging, with some of the guests having also attended the first seminar in November 2015.

On Thursday 27 October, the Legal Advice Clinic presented the third seminar of its "Keeping it Legal" series. This seminar was presented by student advisor, Franciska Sita. Franciska presented a fabulous session entitled 'Trade Marks: More than just logos, shapes and slogans' which was very well received.



Further seminars will be held in 2017 with the first seminar being held on 4 May titled 'The Why and How of Protecting your Designs'.

The Clinic will continue its provision of free legal services for all types of visual arts, performing arts, and architecture, design and music fields.

## Community Legal Education

### Community Legal Education and Reform Database (CLEAR)

- The Community Legal Education and Reform Database showcases community legal education and law reform projects undertaken by Australian Community Legal Centres and other non-profit legal services. The *'Pleading Guilty – Know Where You Stand'*, *'Setting Aside Judgment in the Magistrates Court'* and *'Licences and Traffic Offences'* self-help booklets are all published on the CLEAR database.

### Media Articles, Books and Book Chapters

- Rachel Spencer, *'The Role of the Interpreter in Legal Practice'*, National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters', Online 2016.
- Matthew Atkinson, guest on the ABC Overnights program, *'Talking Point on Parole'*, April 2016.
- Matthew Atkinson, *'Why Lawyers Should Not Be Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse'*, UniSA Student Law Review, Vol. 2, pp. 123-129, 2016.
- Betty Kontoleon and Peter MacFarlane, co-authored a book entitled *'Music and the Law'*.

### Presentations

- Rachel Spencer presented a paper, *'Ethical Issues for Lawyers Dealing with Unrepresented Litigants'*, at the Continuing Professional Development Forum hosted by the Law Society of South Australia at the Adelaide Convention Centre on 11 February 2016.
- Rachel Spencer presented *'Deferring to the 'unlearned' friend: Professional ethics and the unrepresented litigant'* at Law Research First Fridays on 6 May 2016.
- On 17 October 2016, Matthew Atkinson delivered a presentation at Education Day at the Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre titled *"Legal Advice Clinic: Services we can offer to patients of the Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre"*.
- On 7 November 2016, Rachel Spencer delivered a joint presentation with Magdalena Rowan (TAFE SA) and Adam Scuza (Multilingua Pty Ltd) on 'Mind your language: Working with interpreters in court' at a Judicial Development Day held at Adelaide Oval.

### Publications – Self Help Booklets

- In 2016, the Legal Advice Clinic published and distributed a self-help booklet titled, 'Licences and Traffic Offences' and has continued to distribute the self-help booklets, 'Pleading Guilty – Know Where You Stand' and 'Setting Aside Judgment in the Magistrates Court' to Magistrates Courts and Community Legal Centres within the Adelaide metropolitan area, and local members of Parliament.

## Staff Development

### Placement at Thomas R Kline School of Law

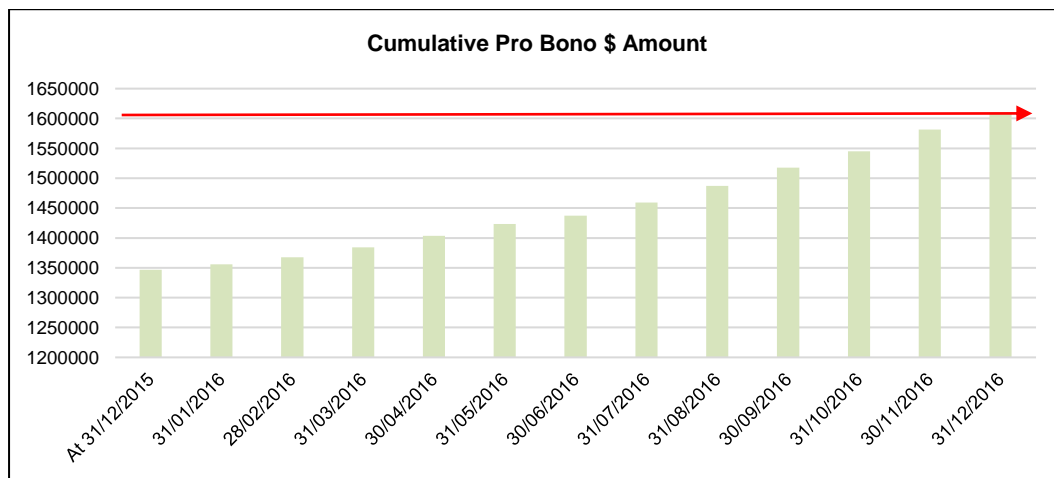
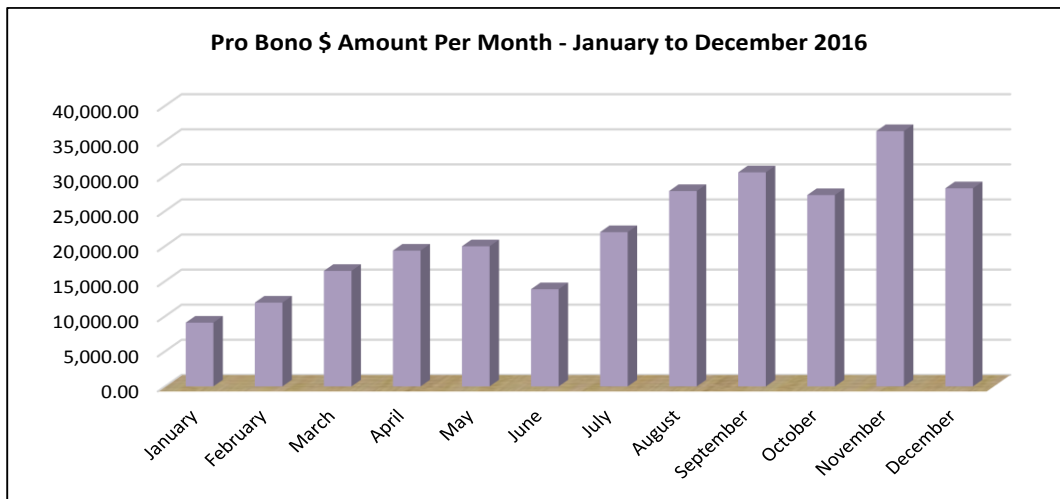
Matthew Atkinson undertook a placement at Thomas R Kline School of Law (Drexel University, Philadelphia) at the invitation of Professor Susan L Brooks (Associate Dean for Experiential Learning and Professor of Law). The placement took place from 11 January through to 13 February 2016.

### Clinic Administration Benchmarking Exercise at Kingsford Legal Centre

Julie Watt attended the Kingsford Legal Centre at the University of New South Wales from 24-26 October 2016 as part of the Clinic Administration Benchmarking Exercise. During this visit, Julie met with her administrative counterpart, Roselle Nunes, and several other administrative staff members and students to observe the administrative processes of the Centre. Roselle visited the UniSA Legal Advice Clinic from 23-24 November to undertake the same task. An assessment will be made as to which processes can be implemented to provide a more streamlined approach to administration of the Clinics.

## Statistics

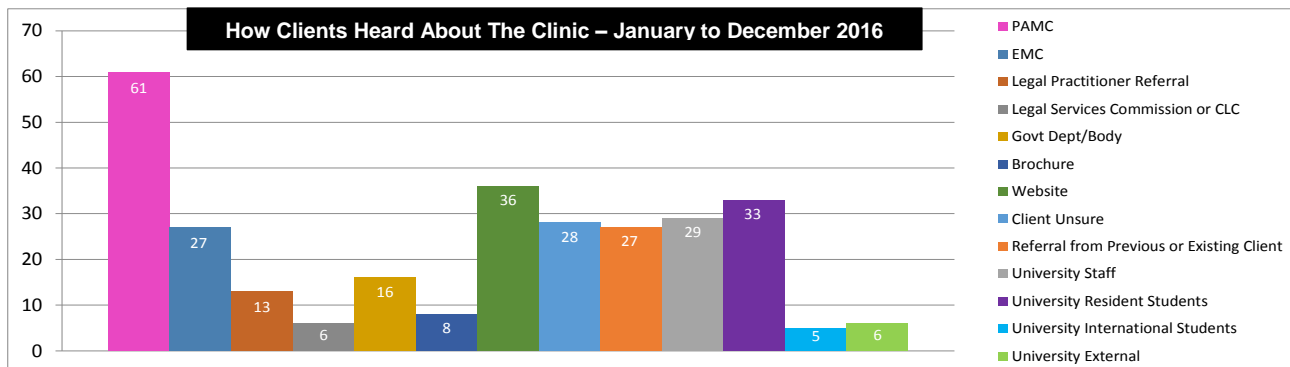
UniSA Legal Advice Clinic - January to December 2016 Clinic Report																								
Month	Matter Types - 2016																No. of Clients	No. of Files Opened	No. of Files Closed	Total No. of Active Files	YTD No. of Clients	YTD No. Files Opened	Total Cumulative No. of Files Dealt With Since Start of Clinic	
	Arts	Commercial Litigious	Commercial Transactional	Consumer Credit	Consumer Dispute / Complaint	Contract	Criminal	Discrimination	Employment	Family Law	Fines	Govt/ Admin	Intervention Orders	Motor Vehicle Property Damage	Neighbourhood Dispute	Other Civil								Tenancy
Jan	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	9	9	10	12	9	9	1608
Feb	1	2	0	0	0	7	4	0	1	4	0	2	1	0	0	10	1	32	33	16	29	41	42	1641
Mar	1	1	0	0	0	4	4	0	2	3	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	23	23	25	27	64	65	1664
Apr	2	0	1	0	1	5	5	0	0	4	0	1	0	2	2	3	1	27	27	16	38	91	92	1691
May	1	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	3	2	0	0	2	1	7	2	25	25	25	38	116	117	1716
Jun	3	0	1	0	1	5	6	0	0	6	0	1	0	1	1	3	3	28	31	21	48	144	148	1747
Jul	0	2	0	0	1	4	4	0	0	5	2	1	0	2	1	8	1	31	31	30	49	175	179	1778
Aug	0	1	0	0	1	9	9	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	9	1	34	35	30	54	209	214	1813
Sep	0	2	0	0	3	3	5	0	1	2	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	23	23	33	44	232	237	1836
Oct	1	2	0	0	0	4	2	0	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	6	4	23	23	29	38	255	260	1859
Nov	0	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	0	3	1	1	0	1	1	8	2	26	27	40	25	281	287	1886
Dec	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	8	8	20	13	289	295	1894
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>295</b>				





## Case Studies of Client Assistance

Clients heard about the Clinic from a variety of sources. Records show that 88 clients gained knowledge of the Clinic via its outreach services. In 2016, there was an increase in Legal Practitioner Referrals and clients who became aware of the Clinic via the Community Clinics website. The Clinic's internal and external marketing continues to increase awareness within the community, as does the Clinic's Facebook page which now has over 770 followers.



A snapshot of case studies include:

- Student advisors assisted a client with an insurance claim which was rejected by the client's insurance company. The student advisors carefully read the insurance policy's Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) and were able to find grounds for a review of the rejected claim. To support the client's review, student advisors helped draft correspondence and assisted the client to gather evidence in support of the claim. Whilst this was a lengthy process, student advisors provided the client with help in order to protect the client's rights.
- Student advisors helped a client who was involved in a motor vehicle accident. This particular client did not know what the legal avenues were to claim compensation for damage to his vehicle and felt intimidated by the demands made by the other party. The Clinic assisted by drafting a final notice and advising the client on the court process, together with articulating responses to the other party's messages. The Clinic also helped the client by drafting a minor civil action claim. Helping people with matters not severe enough to qualify for legal aid is so valuable to not only the appreciative clients but to the students helping with these matters.
- A distressed international student came to the Clinic to discuss a dispute he had with his previous landlord. The client wanted advice on how to approach an expensive carpet cleaning bill that he felt the landlord was unjustly claiming from him. The client was visibly worried that the issue would not get resolved prior to his going overseas. Letters were drafted in his name to assist the client in negotiating with the landlord. The client attended the Clinic several times until he became more confident with his legal position and gained an understanding of what steps he had to take in order to resolve the dispute with the landlord.

## Student Feedback

Former student advisors are forthcoming in providing feedback on their experience in the Clinic at the conclusion of their placements. A few examples are listed below:

*"I'm emailing to thank you both for having me at the clinic and for not only being my supervisors, but also mentors. Thank you for all the time and work you put into the clinic. I'm sure I speak on behalf of everyone who has spent at least one day at the clinic, it is by far one of the best ways to learn. Having real clients and a practical approach to each case has made a huge difference to my professional development. I wish I had begun volunteering from my first year. I've learnt so much that I hadn't grasped in classrooms, and I have also been inspired to get into the community legal sector. Thank you both and I will definitely be recommending all future students to volunteer."*

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*"Volunteering at the Port Adelaide Outreach Service has made me realise that there is only so much that we learn at Law School. Having the opportunity to interview clients, sit in the courtrooms, indulge in research and write various documents, provides us with invaluable experience. Not only do we grasp certain concepts in an easier manner due to the exposure of memorable real life scenarios, we also develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the legal ethics we are bound by."*

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*"Thank you so much for everything over the past 15 months. Your knowledge and guidance has been invaluable. The Legal Advice Clinic has been the best part of my University experience and one which I will always draw upon in my professional working life. You have both taught me so much, not just about legal practice. ...I feel so lucky to have had this experience and be mentored by you both. I will never be able to say thank you enough!"*

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*"My experience at Port Adelaide Magistrate Court has been invaluable. I have learnt much about the practical side of the legal profession in just five weeks! The Clinic provides a supportive and practical learning environment for students while at the same time, gives people living in the Port Adelaide area access to free legal advice. It's a win win!"*

## Client Feedback

The Legal Advice Clinic often receives positive feedback from clients who wish to thank the Clinic for the advice and assistance it has provided. The following quotes are excerpts from clients who personally emailed the Clinic to provide unsolicited feedback on their experience with the Clinic and students:

*“... I am grateful for the support you have provided and the follow-up letters and advice have been most reassuring. ... Thank you for your outstanding service.”*

\*\*\*\*\*

*“I am writing to say a big thank you to you and the students who assisted my niece with her recent legal problem. She has told me that it has been resolved in her favour and she is so pleased with this outcome. I am also very grateful that the Clinic was able to assist her – she is a recent University graduate and was not in a position to pay for legal assistance, so although the matter was a small one, it was a huge source of stress to her and I am so pleased that the Clinic was able to help her through the problem and help to resolve it. The personal support given to my niece and professionalism of the students was outstanding! Please pass on to them, my personal thanks for a fantastic job!”*

\*\*\*\*\*

*“Thank you for your ongoing support over Arts copyright. At this stage I am now aware than an artist must negotiate with the photographer to provide clauses in each separate photography contact to clarify which works are to be used in the public domain. I am now feeling confident to pursue this legal matter with clarity. Once again, thank you for your magnificent ongoing service.”*

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*“... I am really grateful to everyone I met at your marvelous Clinic and to everyone behind the scenes. It gives me great hope for the future to find young people offering their time and knowledge so willingly.”*

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*“...I would like to thank the Legal Clinic and the students involved for their assistance during this very stressful event. For the sake of updating your records and/or the ongoing learning of the students, I would like to share the current state of events,... Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Legal Advice Clinic and the students that assisted me.”*

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*“I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff and students at the Clinic for their assistance in this matter. Despite the outcome not being as we would have liked, but probably what was expected of such an organization, I sincerely hope that this matter has provided some valuable experience for all that assisted. This is the positive I hope to glean from this matter. Thanks again to all.”*

## Acknowledgements

### Law Foundation of South Australia Incorporated

Funding provided by the Law Foundation of South Australia Incorporated for the period 2016-2018 (3 years) has enabled the Clinic to continue to provide a unique learning environment where Law students can further develop their professional skills and their recognition of the ethical framework of legal practice in a 'real life' scenario. This experience allows students to better equip themselves to meet clients' needs once they begin their professional careers. In addition, the funding assists the Clinic in providing a much needed service to the community, particularly to those people who would not otherwise have access to justice.

Notably, the grant has assisted the Clinic in maintaining its current staff resources which are vital to the support of the Clinic at its City West location and the Elizabeth Magistrates Court and the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court. This has also enabled larger numbers of students to undertake a Clinic placement. The Foundation's support of the outreach services provides law students with the opportunity to work with court staff, court stakeholders and in the case of Elizabeth, to work in a multi-disciplinary environment.

Lastly, the funding has allowed the Clinic to renew its 2016/2017 subscriptions of The Family Law Book, Magistrates Court SA and Motor Vehicle SA publications which form an essential part of the Clinic's library and provide a valuable resource to student advisors.

### College of Magistrates (SA) Incorporated

The Clinic is grateful for a donation from the College of Magistrates in August 2016.

## Events

### O-Week 2016 (City West Campus)

The Legal Advice Clinic hosted stands at the International Students Day on 22 February and the City West Campus Day on 25 February. In addition, the Clinic hosted a stand at SP5 O-Week on 18 July. Staff and students handed out information and promotional marketing materials relating to the Clinic to new University students.



### Walk for Justice 2016

The Legal Advice Clinic participated in the Walk for Justice on Tuesday 17 May, as part of the University of South Australia School of Law team. Several students and staff registered for the walk and/or donated to JusticeNet, an independent not-for-profit organisation that provides pro bono legal assistance to low-income and disadvantaged clients in our community. The Legal Advice Clinic held a 'Bake Sale' on 10 May with all proceeds going to JusticeNet.

### SA Shelter Homeless Connect Expo

The Legal Advice Clinic participated in the Shelter SA Homelessness, Health and Housing Expo held on Thursday, 20 October 2016 at Whitmore Square, Adelaide. The annual Expo is funded by the Adelaide City Council and Housing SA and brings together services from across the homelessness, health and housing sectors with the aim of improving health and well-being in some of SA's most marginalized and disadvantaged citizens and assisting them to overcome housing and health problems. Clinic staff and students handed out brochures, liaised with the community and worked alongside students from other UniSA Clinics.

