

# Wild Law Conference 2013: Program

“Living within our ecological limits: law and governance to nurture the Earth Community”  
27-29 September 2013, Ian Hanger Recital Hall, Qld Conservatorium, Southbank, Brisbane



Wild Law, or Earth Jurisprudence, is a new legal theory and growing social movement. One of the key tenets of Wild Law is that human societies must live within their ecological limits. But with our political and economic systems focused on growth, and humanity now using the equivalent of 1.5 Earths to meet our insatiable consumer demands – how do we rein in humanity’s use of the Earth and create governance systems that nurture, rather than destroy, the natural world?

This conference engages with this question through multidisciplinary papers and presentations, roundtables and working groups. In addition, the conference offers exciting side events, including a ‘Rights of Nature’ Mock Trial, hosted in partnership with the Queensland Environmental Defenders Office and a Wild Law Art Exhibition, hosted by the Griffith University College of Art.

This conference will be of interest to lawyers, regulators, activists, scientists, economists, politicians, students and anyone interested in the future of environmental governance.

*Legal practitioners can claim 1 CPD point for each legal session of this multi-disciplinary conference (CPD sessions are marked \*\*)*

Conference Registration is still open - visit  
<http://www.trybooking.com/CQJS> for details

## SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- Mari Margil and Thomas Linzey, Community Environmental Legal Defence Fund, CELDF (USA)
- Nati Greene, Fundacion Pachamama (Ecuador)
- Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe
- Senator Peter Whish-Wilson
- Professor Will Steffen, ANU
- David Ritter, CEO Greenpeace
- Professor Brendan Mackey, Griffith Climate Change Response Program
- Dr Peter Burdon, University of Adelaide
- Professor Charles Sampford, Griffith University
- Adjunct Professor Noel Preston
- Michelle Maloney, AELA
- Richard Sanders, Centre for a Steady State Economy

<http://www.earthlaws.org.au/wildlaw-conference-2013-brisbane/>



## Day 1 - Friday 27th September

### How do we know our ecological limits?

**Ian Hanger Recital Hall, Qld Conservatorium, Southbank**

8.00 - 9.00 Registration and tea and coffee

9.00 - 9.15 Welcome and Overview - Michelle Maloney, AELA

Welcome to country

9.15 - 10.00 **Keynote** - The Earth's Ecological Limits and the Myth of Endless Growth - Emeritus Professor Ian Lowe AM

**10.00 - 11.10 How do we know our Earth and our ecological limits?**

**Chair: Michelle Maloney, National Convenor, AELA**

- Planetary Boundaries and the Anthropocene - Professor Will Steffen, Climate Commission and Australian National University
- Contraction and Convergence: A Policy Framework for Negotiating International Environmental Agreements Consistent with Planetary Boundaries - Professor Brendan Mackey, Director, Griffith Climate Change Response Program (GCCRP)

**11.10 - 11.40 Morning Tea**

**11.40 - 12.50 How do we know our place in Mother Earth?**

**Chair: Dr Alessandro Pelizzon, AELA and Southern Cross University**

- Recognising Indigenous Perspectives and Roles in the Natural Environment - Baden Vertongen, Barrister and Solicitor, New Zealand
- Earth Centred Ethics, the Earth Charter and Eco-spirituality - Dr Noel Preston, Adjunct Professor, Griffith University

**12.50 - 1.50 Lunch**

**1.50 - 3.20 How do we reconstruct our governance systems to live within our limits? Chair: Professor David Schlosberg, University of Sydney**

- Rights of Nature and Ecuador's Constitutional Reform - Nati Greene, Fundacion Pachamama, Ecuador
- How Do We Downshift Industrial Society? Ethics and Redefining 'the Good Life' - Professor Charles Sampford, Griffith University
- The Challenges and Opportunities of Transitioning to Societies that Live Within Our Limits: David Ritter, CEO, Greenpeace

**3.20 - 3.50 Afternoon Tea**

**3.50 - 4.30 \*\* Panel Discussion: What role can our legal system play in supporting societies that live within their ecological limits?**

**Chair: Michelle Maloney, AELA**

Featuring speakers from the day, as well as:

- Professor Louis Kotze, Professor of Law, North West University, Sth Africa
- Brendan Sydes, CEO, Environment Defenders Office Victoria

**4.30 - 5.30 Questions and Close**

### Friday evening 27th September Ian Hanger Recital Hall from 5.30pm

5.30 - 6.30pm Drinks and light supper in the lobby

6.30 - 7.00pm Performance: "At the Edge of the Visible"

7.00 - 8.30pm Rights of Nature Mock Trial

For full details, see our website: [www.earthlaws.org.au](http://www.earthlaws.org.au)

Tickets are free - but bookings are essential. To book your place, please go to: <http://www.trybooking.com/CQJS>





## Day 2 – Saturday 28th September

### What governance systems can help us live within our limits?

Ian Hangar Recital Hall, Qld Conservatorium, Southbank

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and tea and coffee

9.00 - 9.15 Welcome and Overview of the Day - Michelle Maloney

**9:15 - 11.10 What economic systems do we need to live within our limits?**

**Chair: Dr Peter Burdon, University of Adelaide**

**Keynote:** Economics for the Earth - Senator Peter Whish-Wilson

- Living within our Ecological Limits and the Truth about Absolute Scarcity - Richards Sanders, Centre for a Steady State Economy
- Reframing the Economy, Reframing Ourselves - Assoc. Professor Jenny Cameron, University of Newcastle (& Community Economies Collective)

**11.10 - 11.40 Morning Tea**

**11.40 - 12.30 Tools for living within our limits**

**Chair: Brendan Sydes, CEO, EDO Victoria**

- Taming the Beast of Consumption: Tools for Managing Human Demand - Michelle Maloney, AELA and Dr Peter Daniels, Griffith University and the Australian New Zealand Society for Ecological Economics (ANZSEE)
- The Potential of Planning - Dr Wendy Steele, Griffith University

**12.30 - 1.30 Lunch**

**Optional: Mindfulness session - Led by Buddhist nuns from the Chenrizig Institute, Sunshine Coast**

1.30 - 2.30 Parallel session 1 - see page 4 for details

2.35 - 3.35 Parallel session 2 - see page 4 for details

3.35 - 4.00 Afternoon tea

4.00 - 4.30 **Panel Discussion (Ian Hangar Recital Hall)**

**\*\* What role can our legal system play in creating economic systems that support the Earth? Chair: Michelle Maloney, AELA**

Featuring speakers from the day, as well as:

- Professor Bronwen Morgan, University of NSW Law School and
- Dr Peter Burdon, AELA and University of Adelaide

**4.30 - 5.00 Questions and discussions, close**



### Saturday Evening 28th September Conference Dinner

6.00pm - 9.00pm

Dinner at the Shore  
Restaurant and Bar  
Arbour View Cafes,  
Southbank Parklands

3 course buffet  
\$45 per head

To book your place, please  
go to: [http://  
www.trybooking.com/CQJS](http://www.trybooking.com/CQJS)

For more information:  
[www.earthlaws.org.au/  
wildlaw-conference-2013-  
brisbane/conference-  
dinner/](http://www.earthlaws.org.au/wildlaw-conference-2013-brisbane/conference-dinner/)

**Wild Law Art Exhibition - 26 September - 3 October**

**"Re-orientation: From Human Centred  
to Earth Centred"**

*The Project Gallery Webb Building, (S02), Griffith University Southbank*

**Opening Night Party**

Thursday 26 September, 6pm - 8pm, Project Gallery

No bookings required - everyone's welcome!





## Parallel Session 1 - Saturday 28th - 1.30pm to 2.30pm

### All Rooms are inside the Queensland Conservatorium

Room 1.21	Room 1.39	Room 2.15	Room 2.14
<b>Looking Back from 2045: Law, Critical Junctures and Alternative Economies</b>	<b>Planetary Boundaries and the Anthropocene</b>	<b>Climate Change Adaptation</b>	<b>The Challenges of Living Within Our Limits</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel facilitated by Professor Bronwen Morgen, UNSW - including Rob Pekin, Food Connect and Reverse Garbage Brisbane</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rethinking Sustainability in the Anthropocene - Professor Louis Kotze, North West University, South Africa</li> <li>Planetary Boundaries and Saving the Amazon Rainforest - Dr Silvia Serrao Neumann, Griffith University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicating the Limits to Climate Change Adaptation - Liese Coulter, Griffith University</li> <li>Synergies from Climate Change Adaptation Resilience to Inform an Earth Centred Governance Culture - Jules Livingstone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Role of Science in Defining Limits - Ed Morgan, Griffith University</li> <li>How to Measure our Ecological Limits: A Carrying Capacity Approach - Murray Lane, QUT</li> </ul>

## Parallel Session 2 - Saturday 28th– 3.35 to 4.30pm

Room 1.21	Room 1.39	Room 2.15	Room 2.14
<b>Economics and Corporate Power</b>	<b>Coal Seam Gas and Mining</b>	<b>Redefining Personhood</b>	<b>DISCUSSION GROUP:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accepting the Limits of the Earth System - Caroline Sullivan, Southern Cross University</li> <li>Reclaiming Civil Society's Mandate From Corporate Interests - Rebecca Smith</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSG, Fracking and Earth Jurisprudence - Is Alignment Possible? Dr Janice Gray, UNSW</li> <li>Law, Mining and Communities: using Multiple Management Tools to improve the Health of the Fitzroy River - Alexander Wolhuter, Centre for Water in the Minerals Industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personhood, Interconnectedness and Critical Ecological Democracy - Ron Nicholls, University of South Australia</li> <li>Whence Comes the Human Subject? - Wiebe ter Bals, Sunshine Coast Environment Council</li> </ul>	<p><b>How do we build greater responsiveness into our legal systems? **</b></p> <p>Facilitated by Ben Mylius and Michelle Maloney. Please see the online abstract for suggested reading and discussion points.</p>

**Saturday 28th September - 1.30 to 3pm**

Special Screening of the Film "United Natures", Directed by Peter Downey, in the Ian Hanger Recital Hall

To see a preview of the film, visit: <http://unitednaturesmovie.com/>



<http://www.earthlaws.org.au/wildlaw-conference-2013-brisbane/>

**Parallel Session 3 - Sunday 29th - 11.30am to 1pm**  
**All Rooms are inside the Queensland Conservatorium**



Room 1.21	Room 1.39	Room 2.15	Room 2.14
<b>Law and Governance to Support the Earth**</b>	<b>Civil Society's role in Protecting Ecosystems Under Threat</b>	<b>Indigenous Perspectives and Redefining Legal Relationships</b>	<b>Protecting our Evolutionary Companions**</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislating for Environmental Limits - What are the Possibilities? Brendan Sydes, CEO, EDO Victoria</li> <li>Environmental Offsets and Limits - Jo-Ann Bragg, Principal Solicitor, EDO Qld</li> <li>The Need for A Global Resource Trust to Enable Global Responsibility - Richard Mochelle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Battle for the Bimblebox Nature Refuge - Paola Cossini, Co-Owner</li> <li>Is Bribe Island Living Beyond its Limits? - John Oxenford, Paul Dargusch and John Harden</li> <li>Ecuador's Fight Against the Mirador Mine - David Dene, Spain</li> <li>You Don't Have To Wear An Eye Patch To Be A Pirate: The Work of the Sea Shepherd - Graham Wells</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using Indigenous Conceptions of Nature to Redefine Legal Relationships - Catherine Iorns, Victoria Univ., New Zealand</li> <li>Property Diversity and a Duty of Land Stewardship - John Page, SCU</li> <li>Perspectives from First Nations Peoples and Rural Communities of Australia &amp; North America - Jacqueline Williams, UNE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living on the Edge: the "Iconomics" of Protecting Koalas on the Urban Fringe - Dr Philippa England, Griffith University</li> <li>Issues in Wildlife Consumption in China - Dr Deborah Cao, Griffith University</li> <li>Animal Law, Cruelty and Rights: A Challenge to Research in Green Criminology - Brodie Evans, QUT</li> </ul>

**Parallel Session 4- Sunday 29th - 2.00pm to 3.30pm**

Room 1.21	Room 1.39	Room 2.15	Room 2.14
<b>Legal Mechanisms to Support Earth Centred Governance **</b>	<b>Civil Society's Role in Transitioning to a Healthy Future</b>	<b>Deepening Our Connections</b>	<b>DISCUSSION GROUP</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Earth Laws and the Public Trust Doctrine - Joelle Hervic, Eco-Logik International</li> <li>Gaia's Veil - Ariane Wilkinson, EDO Victoria</li> <li>Need for a New Right Paradigm, an Analysis in of the Convention of Bio Diversity - Associate Professor Stellina Jolly, South Asia University, New Delhi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategies for Protecting the Bush - Lee Curtis, Protect the Bush Alliance</li> <li>Learning from Indigenous Knowledge for an Earth Friendly Future - Kate Morioka, Goodness Inc.</li> <li>The role of Regulatory Frameworks and Non-State Actors in Creating Sustainable Diets - Hope Johnson, QUT</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rediscovering the Land through Non-Indigenous Australian Art - Chris Dalton</li> <li>Reconnecting Children to Nature - Maria Zotti, Department of Environment, South Australia</li> <li>An Exploration into the Role of Women's Wisdom in the Earth Law Movement - Anna Moreton</li> </ul>	<p><b>How does the concept of limits affect the role of the natural environment in water resource law and management? **</b></p> <p>Facilitated by Rebecca Nielsen, Stanford University and Erin O'Donnell, University of Melbourne. Please see the online abstract for suggested reading and discussion points.</p>

*Legal practitioners can claim 1 CPD point for each legal session of this multi-disciplinary conference (CPD sessions are marked \*\*)*

## Day 3 – Sunday 29th September

### How do we transition to living within our ecological limits?



**Ian Hangar Recital Hall, Qld Conservatorium, Southbank**

9.00 - 9.20 Registration, tea and coffee

9.20 - 9.30 Welcome and Overview of the Day - Michelle Maloney, AELA

**9.30 - 11.00 How do we transition to governance systems that help us nurture the Earth Community? Chair: Jo-Anne Bragg, EDO Queensland**

- Earth Democracy and Strategies for Change - Dr Peter Burdon, University of Adelaide
- Rights of Nature Legislation as an Earth Centred Civil Society Organising Framework - Mari Margil and Thomas Linzey, Community Environmental Legal Defence Fund (CELDF), USA
- Stories of Success from Civil Society Campaigns - Drew Hutton, Lock the Gate Alliance

11.00 - 11.30 Morning Tea

11.30 - 1.00 Parallel Session 3 - see page 5 for details

**1.00 - 2.00 Lunch (AELA AGM – Room 1.21)**

2.00 - 3.30 Parallel Session 4 - see page 5 for details

3.30 - 4.00 Afternoon Tea

**4.00 - 4.30 Wild About Federal Politics - What Hope for Systemic Reform?**

- **Senator Larissa Waters**
- **Other panellists, tba post election**

4.30 - 5.00 pm Panel Discussion Including Speakers from the Day

5.00 CLOSE - Michelle Maloney and the AELA Team

5.00 - 6.00 pm Farewell Drinks, Ship Inn (Southbank)

#### REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN!

- **3 day registration fees:**
    - \$500 academic/government
    - \$280 individual/community/ student
  - **1 day registrations are available**
  - **Discounts are available for AELA members**
- To book your place at the Conference, Mock Trial and our Conference Dinner, visit our online registration site:**  
<http://www.trybooking.com/CQJS>



#### Sunday Lunchtime AELA's Annual General Meeting

1.10pm - 2pm, Room 1.21

Join us for our AGM,  
including election of 2013-2014  
Board Representatives and  
discussion of our 2013-2015

Strategic Plan

All members welcome!