

# Medico-Legal Society of Queensland 2008 conference

## Medical Frontiers and the Lagging Law

12 – 13 September 2008 | SurfAir Marcoola Resort, Sunshine Coast

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES  
8 AUGUST 2008**



# SurfAir Resort

## SurfAir Resort, Marcoola Beach

Escape city life for the weekend! Imagine waking to clear blue skies, sparkling white beaches, a glistening ocean and rolling white waves.....the Sunshine Coast in September has perfect weather!! The atmosphere is relaxed and casual at Marcoola's SurfAir Resort, our conference venue. Combining conference sessions with a relaxed environment will ensure the perfect environment for clear thinking and lively debate. This weekend conference is an opportunity to get away from everyday distractions for open discussion and exchange of views on topics of interest to both the medical and legal professions. Expect early Spring weather – dry, warm days and cool evenings.



# Invitation To Attend

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the Medico-Legal Society of Queensland's 2008 Conference being held at SurfAir Marcoola Resort on the Sunshine Coast from 12-13 September.

The Society's executive has once again met the challenge of designing a program to appeal to members of both the legal and medical professions. The conference theme, **Medical Frontiers and the Lagging Law** is, in my opinion, an intriguing introduction to a unique program.

I doubt there would be either a legal or medical conference held this year which would address the diverse topics of human embryonic and stem cell research, ethics, spirituality, surrogacy and organ transplants lead by such an experienced panel of speakers. What do these apparently "medical/ethical" topics have to do with lawyers? Is the law really lagging behind advances in medical research? If so, what can we do about it?

The society anticipates a lively debate with both professions contributing their thoughts on these highly topical subjects. Two members of the public have also been invited to relate their personal experiences.

Our conference dinner and the closing Bledisloe Cup party promise to be enjoyable opportunities to catch up with colleagues and fulfil the society's charter of enhancing communication between the medical and legal professions, in a relaxed environment.

I am confident you will leave the conference refreshed after a weekend away from city life, invigorated by the September sea air, and inspired by the conference speakers.

I look forward to personally meeting you at the conference.

JUSTINE BEIRNE  
President  
Medico-Legal Society of Queensland

# Conference Sponsors

The Medico-Legal Society of Queensland wishes to thank our sponsors for supporting the 2008 conference:



Austral Volkswagen



National Australia Bank

# Invited Speakers

**Professor Loane Skene** is a Professor of Law in the Faculty of Law and an Adjunct Professor of Law in the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences at the University of Melbourne. She is an expert in health and medical law and has served on many federal and state policy committees, especially in relation to the legal regulation of genetic testing. She was deputy chair and official spokesperson for the Lockhart Committee on human embryonic and stem cell research. Her research interests include the legal regulation of genetic testing, assisted reproductive technology and euthanasia. She is deputy director of the Centre for Law and Genetics at the University of Tasmania and Board member, Australian and New Zealand Institute of Health, Law and Ethics (ANZIHLE). Previously she has worked both as a solicitor and policy advisor in Australia and overseas.

**Professor Peter Silburn** graduated from The University of Queensland in 1988 and commenced training in neurology at Princess Alexandra Hospital. He completed his training at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford. He became a clinical lecturer in neurology at the University of Oxford, before becoming a Research Fellow, Department of Molecular Medicine at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. He returned to Brisbane in 1996 to establish his private practice and began his university affiliations. The University of Queensland Medical School appointed him a full Professor in Neurobiology in 2006 and Professor of Clinical Neuroscience in 2007. Professor Silburn is a member of two committees of the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council – the Research Committee and the Australian Health Ethics Committee. He has served as a member of the NH&MRC Gene and Related Therapies Research Advisory Panel and is a current NH&MRC expert commentator on brain disorders. His particular interests are neurodegenerative disorders of the brain, movement disorders and innovative therapies including botulinum toxin, neurosurgery, stem cells and gene therapies.

**Dr Noel Preston** is currently Adjunct Professor in the Key Centre for Ethics, Law, Justice and Governance, Griffith University. He retired in 2004 as the founding director of the Unitingcare Centre for Social Justice, having previously worked as a Uniting Church minister. From 1987–2001 he held senior academic positions at Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University in the fields of Applied and Professional Ethics. He has a doctorate in social ethics from Boston University School of Theology. He is a regular public commentator on social ethics and widely published as an ethicist. He has authored or co-authored seven books. In 2004 he was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to the community in the field of ethics.

**Dr David Molloy** is one of Queensland's most highly respected gynaecologists. He has been in specialist practice in obstetrics, gynaecology and IVF for more than 20 years and has built a busy practice in the management of infertility. He is the clinical director of Queensland Fertility Group, director of the Queensland Gynaecological Endosurgery Group and in 2004 was President of the AMAQ. A highly regarded specialist, Dr Molloy achieved the first GIFT pregnancy in Australia, performed the first laparoscopic surgery and the first ultrasound guided egg pick ups in Queensland. His areas of interest include infertility, endometriosis, polycystic ovary disease and laparoscopic surgery.

**Associate Professor Daryl Wall** is affiliated with The University of Queensland and currently director of surgery at Princess Alexandra Hospital. He is a senior hepatobiliary and kidney transplant surgeon and trauma surgeon at the hospital. He is Chairman Elect of the Australasian Trauma Committee, councillor for Transplant Australia and councillor for the world transplant games federation. Other activities include training surgeons, patient rehabilitation and the development of the Queensland Trauma Plan. He was recently made a Member of the Order of Australia for his work in transplantation medicine.

**Margie Kruger** is a lawyer and practises in family law. She is a partner at Ryan Kruger Lawyers. Prior to embarking on her legal career, Margie was a social worker and worked in child protection. Margie's most treasured role has been to provide care for her partner, Debbie Duddridge, who died in October 2007. Debbie was a social worker with the Department of Child Safety and a mother and grandmother. In August 2005, Debbie was listed for a double lung transplant. Debbie died waiting.

Three and a half years ago, **John Coggan** presented to The Prince Charles Hospital Heart Failure Unit with end stage heart failure. Following a cardiac arrest in the Coronary Care Unit, he was rushed to theatre where he had a Ventracor L VAD placed. Over the next two weeks, John received over 350 units of blood and blood products. He remained on a ventilator for approximately six weeks and required another artificial heart to be implanted. Once out of bed, John took to his rehabilitation with typical farming gusto. He was transplanted with a donor heart in March and never looked back. He has since left the city and returned to his beloved 45,000 acre property at Meandarra which he farms with his son. John has recently broken the Guinness Book of records for planting the most wheat in 24 hours using his one of a kind, 120 foot seed spreader, raising funds for The Prince Charles Hospital.

# Provisional Program

## FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

1600	Registration, Ballroom Foyer
1900	Conference Dinner <i>After dinner speaker:</i> The Hon Paul De Jersey AC, Chief Justice of Queensland

## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

0800	Registration, Ballroom Foyer
0900	<b>Welcome</b> , Justine Beirne, President, Medico-Legal Society of Queensland
0915	<b>Human Embryonic and Stem Cell Research: legal issues</b> , Professor Loane Skene, University of Melbourne. Professor Skene will discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human embryonic and stem cell research, achievements to date, ethical and legal issues</li> <li>• Report of the Lockhart Committee: procedure of inquiry and recommendations</li> <li>• Changes to Australian state and federal law to implement recommendations of the Lockhart Committee and to permit the creation of human embryos for research by somatic cell nuclear transfer (the Dolly technique)</li> <li>• Recent developments in the UK: creation of human admixed embryos (up to half human-half animal) for research</li> <li>• Issues still to be considered: Deriving gametes from skin cells</li> </ul>
0945	<b>Stem Cells: Science and Society</b> Professor Peter Silburn, St. Andrew's War Memorial Hospital and The Wesley Hospital

1015	<b>Ethics, Spirituality and the Medico Legal Challenge</b> , Dr Noel Preston, Adjunct Professor, Key Centre for Ethics, Law Justice and Governance, Griffith University
1045	Morning Tea
1115	<b>Surrogacy – will the law ever catch up?</b> Dr David Molloy, Clinical Director, Queensland Fertility Group, Brisbane
1145	<b>Transplant patient: who decides, who decides?</b> , Associate Professor Daryl Wall, The University of Queensland and Princess Alexandra Hospital
1215	<b>Personal Accounts of Organ Donation and Transplant</b> <b>Margie Kruger.</b> Margie's partner Debbie waited for over two years for a double lung transplant in Queensland. Why are so many Australians dying on organ transplant waiting lists? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewer than 1% of Australians aged 18 years and over are registered organ donors.</li> <li>• Family members are asked about the decision to donate - over 40% of families say no.</li> <li>• In the past few years, donor numbers in Australia have decreased. Australia's rate of organ donation has recently been described as "shameful".</li> </ul> Debbie's family have launched a campaign, "Do it for Debbie" in the hope of increasing donation rates so people awaiting transplant do not die waiting. <p><b>John Coggan</b> will speak about what it feels like to be an organ recipient. He is one of the few people who has met with his donor family and has established a strong relationship with them.</p>

1245	Lunch
1345	<b>Panel Forum: Medical Research, Progress and the Lagging Law</b> <b>Facilitator – Dr John Fraser.</b> Panel will include all conference speakers.  Transplantation is a team process - the key being the donor and their family. At a time of great sadness, relatives manage to overcome the depth of their loss, and give the gift of life to a stranger, languishing in another hospital or indeed another state.  The declaration of brain death is essential for the activation of organ donation to begin. Unfortunately there are not enough transplant organs available and patients who might survive if an organ is found, all too frequently die despite the team's best efforts.  Medicine progresses rapidly, with artificial forms of life support, including artificial hearts which can sustain life for years. The law too frequently lags behind the pace of medical innovation - donation after cardiac death (DCD) is about to be allowed in Queensland, but this may be too late for some patients.  The panel will discuss process - from a patient perspective (donor and recipient); from a researcher perspective; from a physician perspective, and (appropriately) lastly from a legal perspective. This will encourage discussion on how the law can catch up with the speed of medical research and progress.
1530	Plenary session closes
1900	Conference Farewell Bledisloe Cup and Dinner (optional)

# The Society



The Medico Legal Society of Queensland (MLSQ) has almost 400 members spanning three professions: doctors, solicitors and barristers. This mix of members provides a unique opportunity for practitioners of these disciplines to meet, share knowledge and exchange views on medico-legal issues and to develop an understanding of how those issues affect each profession.



The Society was formed in 1952 to further medico legal knowledge and to promote understanding and rapport between the professions. The then Chief Justice of Queensland, The Honourable Justice Macrossan delivered the inaugural address, *Medical and Legal Aspects of Drunkenness in relation to drivers of motor vehicles*. Past presidents have included a who's who of Queensland's legal and medical fraternities. The Society's executive rotates biennially between the AMA Queensland, the Queensland Law Society and the Bar Association of Queensland.



MLSQ is an active organization regularly hosting dinner meetings with special guests from a variety of professions. Topics covered at dinners address issues and events of current interest and benefit to both professions. MLSQ also hosts an annual conference and ad hoc educational seminars.



MLSQ membership is open to registered medical and legal practitioners. Benefits of membership include reduced rates for dinners, conferences and seminars and access to an exclusive network of medical and legal practitioners. Annual, three-year and life membership options are available.

## MLSQ Committee

Justine Beirne, President

Dr Terry Coyne, Vice President

David Boddice SC, Junior Vice President

Dr David Pakchung, Treasurer

Andrew Blandford

Chris Fitzpatrick

Kim Forrester

Dr John Fraser

Katharine Philp

Dr Josie Sundin

## CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Queensland Law Society members are welcome to self assess CPD points to a maximum of 1 CPD point per hour of seminar time for this conference.

# Social Program

## FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

### Conference Dinner

Cost: Inclusive for delegates and registered partners.  
Additional tickets: \$140  
Time: 1900 hrs  
Venue: Spinnaker Room  
Dress: Gentlemen - jacket but no tie

After escaping the city, inhale the sea air and relax with fellow delegates on the Terrace for pre-dinner drinks. Dinner will be followed by an after-dinner address by the Hon. Justice Paul De Jersey AC, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Queensland. Pre-arranged seating will be organised. Please advise if you wish to sit with particular delegates.

## SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

### Lunch

Time: 1245 hrs  
Cost: Inclusive for delegates and registered partners.  
Additional tickets: \$35

A light lunch will be served for delegates and registered partners.

### Conference Farewell

Bledisloe Cup in Comfort!  
*(optional at additional cost)*

Time: 1900 – 2200 hrs  
Cost: (excluding beverages) \$40  
Children (5-14 years) \$21

Join delegates and families in lounge room comfort and create your own fun and atmosphere! Dress in patriotic colours and watch the big game on a big screen! Football fare provided. Range of beverages available at additional cost.

# General Information

## Conference Registration Desk

Registration will be conducted in the SurfAir Ballroom Foyer at the following times:

Friday 12 September 1600 – 1900 hours  
Saturday 13 September 0800 – 1500 hours

## Conference Secretariat

Medico-Legal Society of Queensland  
PO Box 5145  
KENMORE EAST QLD 4069  
Tel/Fax: 07 3871 0595  
Email: office@medico-legal.com.au

## Email Communication

All communication with the MLSQ Conference secretariat will be by email. It is essential that you provide an accurate email address that you check regularly.

## Child Care Facilities

SurfAir recommends delegates contact Resort2Babysitting to arrange child-care.  
Tel: 0437 928 337

## Dress

Conference Dinner dress for men is jacket but no tie. Smart casual attire is appropriate for conference sessions. A jacket may be required for air-conditioned session rooms.

## Disclaimer

- The Medico-Legal Society of Queensland and BE Event Management and their agents act only as organisers of these conference activities and do not accept responsibility for any act or omission on the part of the service providers. No liability is accepted for any inaccuracy, misdescription, delay, damage, death or personal injury.
- All information in this brochure is correct at the time of publication but is subject to change without notice.
- By registering for the Medico-Legal Society of Queensland 2008 Conference delegates agree to abide by the conditions set out in this brochure.

## Privacy Statement

Your name, organisation, and city may be published on the delegate list provided to delegates at the conference. Your contact details may be used by MLSQ for promotion, networking and administration of this and future MLSQ events. Photographs of delegates and speakers taken at the conference by MLSQ or its service providers may be used for MLSQ promotional material and the MLSQ website for the purpose of promoting future society events.

If you prefer that your details are not used for these purposes please contact the conference secretariat at office@medico-legal.com.au.

# Registration

## Registration Fees

	Earlybird (on or before 8 August)	Fulltime
MLSQ Member	\$495	\$525
MLSQ Non-member *	\$550	\$595
Partner	\$275	\$275

## Registration Entitlements

**Fulltime registration** includes session admission, Friday Conference Dinner, Saturday lunch, morning tea, conference satchel containing conference handbook and papers and other material.

**Partner registration** includes Friday Conference Dinner, Saturday lunch, partner namebadge, conference program and other material

**Late/on-site registration** refers to those delegates who **register on or after Friday 29 August 2008**, or who pay to register upon arrival at the event. Satchels and their contents cannot be guaranteed for late/on-site registrations.

\* **MLSQ Membership** – Please indicate on the registration form if you wish to join the society and details will be forwarded to you immediately.

## Registration Cancellation Policy

Registration cancellations must be in writing. Cancellations made **before 12 August 2008** will be refunded less a \$100 administration fee. No registration refunds will be made after this date. However, your registration may be transferred to another person **before 5 September 2008** without penalty. Transfers made on or after 5 September 2008 will incur a \$25 processing fee. The conference secretariat must be advised in writing of any alterations or transfers.

# Conference Venue

Wyndham Vacation SurfAir Resort Marcoola  
923 David Low Way  
MARCOOLA BEACH Q 4564  
Tel: 07 5412 0100  
Fax: 07 5412 0101  
Web site: [www.wyndhamvacationresorts.com.au](http://www.wyndhamvacationresorts.com.au)

## Accommodation

**We strongly recommend that you book your accommodation as early as possible to secure your preferred style of accommodation, preferably before 8 August 2008.**

**Please read the following information carefully BEFORE completing the accommodation booking section on the registration form.**

- A variety of accommodation styles are available at SurfAir. However, there are a limited number held for the conference in each category. Please book early to avoid disappointment. All rooms will be subject to availability from 14 August 2008.
- Special rates have been negotiated with SurfAir Resort and are applicable for three days prior to or three days after the conference (subject to availability). These room rates are available only by booking through the conference secretariat.

- Room rates are per room per night and include GST. The rate does not include breakfast. **For hotel catering purposes, please indicate on the form if you will require breakfast (\$20 per person debited to room accounts).**
- A deposit of at least one night's tariff or credit card authority must accompany your registration form before your reservation can be processed. This amount will be deducted by the venue when you settle your account on check-out. A tax invoice/receipt will be issued at that time.
- Check in time is 1400 hrs. Check out time is 1000 hrs.

## Cancellation Policy

- Accommodation cancellations must be made in writing to the secretariat.
- Accommodation deposits will be refunded before 14 August 2008.
- From 14 August to 4 September, it is at SurfAir's discretion to charge a cancellation fee of one night's tariff.
- Rooms cancelled on or after 5 September will incur a cancellation fee equal to 100% of the accommodation booking.

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSES  
8 AUGUST 2008**

# Registration Form

Please ensure all sections of the registration form are completed to ensure you are correctly registered.

Return the completed form with payment details to:

Medico Legal Society of Queensland 2008 Conference  
PO Box 5145  
Kenmore East Qld 4069

Ph/Fax: 07 3871 0595

Email: office@medico-legal.com.au

## Personal details

Judge / Prof / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms .....

Family Name .....

Given name .....

Position .....

Organisation .....

Email .....

Postal address.....

Suburb / Town.....

State ..... Postcode.....

Telephone (Bus) .....

Telephone (Mob) .....

Facsimile .....

## Special requirements

(Please note any specific seating, dietary, wheelchair access or other requirements)

## Registration fees

	Earlybird (on or before 8 August)	Fulltime	Cost
MLSQ Member	___ x \$495	___ x \$525	
MLSQ Non-member *	___ x \$550	___ x \$595	
Registered Partner	___ x \$275	___ x \$275	
		Subtotal	\$

Name for namebadge:.....

Partner's name for namebadge:.....

\* I am interested in joining the Society.  
Please email a membership form.



## Conference Activities

Costs are included in the registration fee unless otherwise indicated below. For catering purposes, it is essential that you advise yes or no regarding your attendance.

	Delegate	Please indicate yes or no	Partner	Please indicate yes or no	Additional tickets	No. of additional ticket(s) req.	Additional charge
<b>Friday 12 September</b>							
Conference Dinner	Included in registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Included in partner registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	\$140		
<b>Saturday 13 September</b>							
Lunch	Included in registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Included in partner registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	\$35		
Conference Farewell	Additional cost	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Additional cost	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Adult \$40		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Child \$21 (5-14yrs)		
Subtotal							\$

## Accommodation

To secure your preferred accommodation booking, we strongly encourage you to book your accommodation early

- Please read the accommodation section in the brochure before completing this form.
- A tax invoice for accommodation will be issued by the resort at check out.
- Accommodation bookings received after 14 August are subject to availability.
- Credit card details or a deposit of one night's tariff is required to secure the booking.

Check in: ..... /September 08

My ETA is: ..... Hours

Check out: ..... /September 08

My ETD is: ..... Hours

### Please book the following accommodation:

SurfAir Resort	Type	Rate per night	Deposit
2 bedroom penthouse	Ocean View	\$449	
3 bedroom apartment	Ocean View	\$294	
3 bedroom apartment		\$269	
2 bedroom apartment	Ocean View	\$244	
2 bedroom apartment		\$219	
1 bedroom apartment		\$189	
Superior hotel room	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Double	\$159	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Twin		
Subtotal			\$

i/we will be ordering breakfast at the resort

Saturday:  yes  no Number of people:.....

Sunday:  yes  no Number of people:.....

I will be sharing accommodation with (please provide names):

.....

Other special requirements (eg rollaway bed/cot)

.....

## Payment Summary Amount

	Cost
Registration Fees	\$
Conference Activities	\$
Accommodation Deposit	\$
Total	\$

### Payment method

Payment must accompany this registration form. Conference registration cannot be confirmed until payment is received. All prices are quoted in Australian dollars and include GST. A tax invoice will be provided to all delegates. **Payment must be received by the due date to receive the nominated discounts otherwise the next level of payment will be charged.**

### Payment options:

- My cheque payable to *Medico Legal Society of Queensland* is enclosed
- Bank transfer:  
BSB 084-004 Account number: 67-528-9682  
*Please include delegate's name in the transaction reference and advise payment by email to office@medico-legal.com.au. A completed registration form must be forwarded to the secretariat to be fully registered and accommodation booked.*
- Please debit my credit card:  Mastercard  Visa

Credit Card Number:

\_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: .....

Cardholder:.....

Signature: .....