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Job Security and the Fair Work Act in a Global Financial Crisis

By Associate Professor John Howe

**Director, Centre for Employment Relations and Law
University of Melbourne**

**Respondents: Marcia Kuhne, WA Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Dean Ellis, UnionsWA**

Nick Ellery, Australian Labor Lawyers Association (ALLA)

Date: Thursday 4th June

Venue: Room G202, Social Sciences (near the Oak lawn/Guild village, Entrance 1
or 2 from Hackett drive)

Time: 5:15-6:30pm

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Michael Gillan contact: Michael.Gillan@uwa.edu.au

Abstract:

The Australian Federal Government has recently confirmed the Fair Work Act, 2009 as a framework that will guide employment relations in the forthcoming years. The Act itself reflects the struggle between stakeholder interests of employer, employee and government and its confirmation comes at a time when the economy and society are re-shaping and re-organising to accommodate the impact of the recent financial tsunami. Within this scenario, employment security has become of special focus. The question guiding this seminar is therefore, how does the Fair Work Act support employment security while acknowledging the pressures that the financial tsunami have on both employers and employees to be able to survive in this current environment?

To debate this theme, we have invited Marcia Cluhne, Western Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dean Ellis, HSU and UnionsWA and Nick Ellery, Australian Labor Lawyers Association to respond to John Howe's presentation.

Presenter

John Howe is Associate Professor and Director of the Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law at the Melbourne Law School. He has written extensively about state approaches to labour regulation, and the intersection between state regulation and corporate governance. John is co-editor of Labour Law and Labour Market Regulation (Federation Press, 2006), and his book Regulating for Job Creation was published by Federation Press in 2008. He is editor of the Reports section of the Australian Journal of Labour Law, and is Secretary of the Australian Labour Law Association.

About the respondents

Marcia Kuhne is the Director, Workplace Relations Policy, Chamber of Commerce & Industry, WA

Dean is an Industrial Officer/Lawyer with the Health Services Union.

Nick Ellery is from the Australian Labour Law Association, Western Australia