Law and Food
Cultural and Religious Perspectives

Location: Faculty of Law, McKinnon Building, Level 3, Room 67.302, University of Wollongong, Main Campus
Date: Wednesday 18 July 2012
Time: 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
RSVP: 6 July 2012 to Felicia Martin: fmartin@uow.edu.au
(for catering purposes)

Food defines who we are and the values we adopt. It influences how we interact with our own and other social groups.

Food is an area of everyday social life that is subject to regulation by religious authorities and through state law. The kitchen is often the site of cultural and racial difference. Food not only defines who we are but also defines how we interact with other social values and groups. Food is thus an ideal area in which to weigh up the relative influence of different value systems in an area of everyday social significance. Personal, family and social choices can be observed in their interaction with various levels of regulation and prescription by religious, and health authorities, through formal and informal codes.

Presenters and Papers

Professor Penelope Pether Villanova University School of Law
A Seat at the National Table: the culinary jurisprudence of Edna Lewis

Rabbi Jeremy Lawrence Great Synagogue, Sydney and the Sydney Beth Din
Snakes and Salt Beef: ‘It’s not Kosher to cook the books’
Professor Sandra Jones  Centre for Health Initiatives, University of Wollongong
‘Let them eat advertising’: Uses of culture in food advertising & regulatory responses

Dr Marshall Clark  College of Arts and Social Sciences, ANU
Reviving Australia’s ‘Macassan’ Trepang Industry: Cultural, legal & practical issues

Abu Noman Mohammad Atahar Ali  Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong
Impacts of Culture and Religious Belief on Foodborne Illness in Bangladesh & India

Dr Nadirsyah Hosen  Legal Intersections Research Centre, University of Wollongong
Halal Food: a case study of the intersection of law and religion in Australia

Dr Richard Mohr  Social Research Policy & Planning and LIRC
Food and the City: Methods and sources for a study of a multicultural main street

Professor Pether will discuss her forthcoming book (U of Georgia Press)
Lunch will be deconstructed. Light refreshments will be problematised.