

Profile	3
Articles	
Why punish hate?	4
The Inland Revenue: a statutory ostrich?	9
Institute News	15
Society News	20
Law by Law	
Europe	21
Private International Law	24
Financial Services	27
Letters from ...	
USA	30

APPLICATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

The Institute of Advanced Legal Studies has long been concerned to support and foster the development of law outside Britain. Indeed, when the Institute was first conceived it was justified largely on the basis that it would provide a focal point for the promotion of legal studies throughout the Empire. Consequently, the Institute has always been most concerned to promote and support study and research in regard to the laws of Commonwealth jurisdictions, and the library's Commonwealth holdings are second to none. The recognition by successive Directors of the importance of comparative study of laws and the systems within which they operate has inevitably meant that the Institute has always been keen to promote study of non-common law jurisdictions and particularly those which represent the great traditions of civil law. The Review Committee under Professor Goode firmly endorsed this and re-emphasised the significance of the Institute's role not only nationally but internationally.

In recent years the work of the Institute's International Professional Training and Research Unit (IPTRU) has reflected the importance that governments and international organisations now accord to the rule of law in fostering the development and refinement of legal systems. Even those agencies which are primarily concerned with economic development and stability now recognise the vital importance of providing and sustaining a legal infrastructure which is capable of not only facilitating development but ensuring its political and social sustainability. Pouring resources into a society within which decisions are influenced more by corruption than anything else is of no help to anyone. The IPTRU has therefore become increasingly involved in assisting governmental and other agencies in promoting good governance and specifically in fighting corruption.

The Institute has run programmes in a number of countries, funded by a variety of agencies including the European Union and British Government on matters directly relating to the prevention and control of corruption. For example, last year, with the support of the Department of International Development IPTRU ran a programme in London for officials from the Supreme Peoples' Procuratorate in China. This was so successful that the Chinese Government, with financial assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), invited the Institute to assist the Procuratorate to convene and run an international colloquium on the control of corruption in Shanghai during the last week of October. The colloquium was attended by representatives from 13 jurisdictions from around the world (see report on page 15) and its deliberations ranged across many issues pertaining to the prevention and control of corruption and related problems. It was agreed that IPTRU would assist the Supreme Peoples' Procuratorate in maintaining this initiative through the creation and support of a contact group. This group will focus first on the issue of corruption in the administration of justice.

The importance of addressing corruption was also underlined by the Rt Hon Clare Short MP, the Secretary of State for International Development, in her speech at the Third Annual Dinner of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies at the Middle Temple on 3 November (see report on page 20). She welcomed and commended the initiative that the Society has taken in convening an expert working group under Vice-Chancellor Scott and Lord Steel to examine the legal issues that may arise when a bank or other financial intermediary receives or assists in the handling of the proceeds of corrupt acts overseas. Thus, while the pursuit of good scholarship must be our overriding objective, it is so much better when at least some of our work has such obvious and timely practical application!

Professor Barry Rider