

**DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR ANTHONY FORSYTH**

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Personal details**

Date of Birth: 6 March 1970

Home address: 45 Elster Avenue, Gardenvale, Vic 3185

Phone: +61-431103172

Citizenship: Australian; Country of permanent residence: Australia

**Academic and professional qualifications and relevant professional training**

Postgraduate Tertiary

2000-2005                      PhD, Faculty of Law, University of Melbourne

1998-1999                      Graduate Diploma in Labour Relations Law  
University of Melbourne

Undergraduate Tertiary

1988-1992                      Bachelor of Laws (Honours)  
Bachelor of Jurisprudence (Politics Major)  
Monash University

Admitted to practice as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria, April 1995; holder of a Practising Certificate under the *Legal Profession Act 2004* (Vic) until 30 June 2023; entered on the Register of Practitioners, High Court of Australia, 19 May 2014

**Present position**

May 2012-present              Distinguished Professor, Graduate School of Business & Law, RMIT University (promoted from Professor on 1 January 2022); Director, Juris Doctor Programs 2012-2015; Head of Department, Law, 2019-2022

**Previous positions**

July 2005-June 2019              Consultant, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

	Employment Labour & Safety Team, Melbourne
July 2005-May 2012	Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor, Department of Business Law & Taxation, Monash University
Sept 2004-July 2005	Senior Associate, Corrs Chambers Westgarth Workplace Relations Group, Melbourne
Feb 2003-Sept 2004	Lecturer, Faculty of Law Australian National University, Canberra
Feb 2000-Feb 2003	Lecturer, Faculty of Law University of Melbourne
Nov 1997-Feb 2000	Legal Officer Transport Workers' Union of Australia Victorian/Tasmanian Branch
June-Sept 1997	Legal Assistant Commercial Litigation Department Norton Rose, Solicitors, London, UK
April 1996-Jan 1997	Adviser to the Hon Simon Crean MP Shadow Minister for Industry & Regional Development, Manager of Opposition Business in the House of Representatives
April 1995-April 1996	Solicitor, Maurice Blackburn & Co
March 1994-April 1995	Articled Clerk/Solicitor, Blake Dawson Waldron
Feb 1993-March 1994	Associate to Justice Alan Boulton Senior Deputy President Australian Industrial Relations Commission

### Major research grants/funding

2019 Australian Research Council Linkage Grant with University of Melbourne colleagues and Australian Council of Trade Unions/Trade Union Education Foundation (industry partners) - \$167,395 for 2-year project 'Trade Union Training: Reshaping the Australian Industrial Landscape' (LP180100500)

2015-16 Victorian Government funding - \$100,000 for acting as Chair of the Independent Inquiry into the Labour Hire Industry and Insecure Work

### **Details of teaching experience**

- 23 years of experience in small and large-group teaching and subject coordination, at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, in the fields of workplace/employment law, negotiation/dispute resolution, introduction to the Australian legal system, legal research and corporations law

### **Major contributions to RMIT University**

- 2019-2020: Development of the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) and combined degrees for internal RMIT approval and accreditation by Victorian Legal Admissions Board (with Dean of GSBL, Professor Kathy Douglas, and the Law leadership team/staff).
- 2020-2021: Initiator and contributor to the RMIT team for implementation of a partnership between the University, ACTU and the Victorian Government to support the development of the Carmichael Centre (a research and policy institute honouring the legacy of pioneering Australian union leader, Laurie Carmichael, based in the Centre for Future Work at The Australia Institute).
- 2013-2022: Establishment and oversight of the annual Higinbotham Lecture Series in Human Rights Law (past speakers in the series include: Michael Kirby, former High Court Judge; Catherine Branson and Gillian Triggs, both former Presidents of Australian Human Rights Commission; Sir Patrick Elias QC, Lord Justice of Appeal, UK; Marcia Neave, former Supreme Court Judge and Commissioner of the Victorian Royal Commission into Domestic Violence; Craig Foster, former Socceroos player, SBS broadcaster and human rights campaigner; Jennifer Robinson, UK/Australian Barrister and legal representative of Julian Assange; Professor Megan Davis, Balnaves Chair in Constitutional Law, UNSW, and co-author of the Uluru Statement from the Heart).

### **Experience in academic planning and governance**

Leadership role and tasks performed as Director, Juris Doctor Programs, and Head of Department, Law, RMIT University:

- primary point of contact between RMIT and accrediting bodies (Victorian Legal Admissions Board and Council of Australian Law

Deans), including responsibility for preparation of successful reaccreditation submissions in 2014 and 2020 (JD) and accreditation of new LLB in 2020

- initiated and oversaw implementation of changes to the JD program structure and content; contributed to development and establishment of the LLB program
- reconstituted and managed the Law Programs Advisory Board
- developed and maintained relationships with internal and external stakeholders, including RMIT Law Students' Society, Law Institute of Victoria, Victoria Law Foundation, law firms and other potential employers of JD/LLB graduates, and practical legal training providers
- facilitated JD/LLB students' involvement in clinical legal practice, placements and other practical opportunities/experiences through the RMIT Centre for Innovative Justice
- assisted in the resolution of student issues/complaints/disputes, e.g. relating to admissions/selection processes, assessment, academic progress, credits/recognition of prior learning, appeals, completion/graduation
- played a key role in School processes for the appointment of permanent and sessional staff teaching in the JD/LLB Programs

### Professional recognition and awards

- Invited Participant, Federal Government 'Jobs and Skills Summit', Canberra, 1-2 September 2022
- Chair of the Independent Inquiry into the Labour Hire Industry and Insecure Work, Victorian Government, 2015-16; recommendations to the Premier and Industrial Relations Minister implemented through the *Labour Hire Licensing Act 2018* (Vic) and establishment of the Victorian Labour Hire Licensing Authority
- Chair of the international Labour Law Research Network Committee for awarding of the Bob Hepple Award for Lifetime Achievement in Labour Law (<http://www.labourlawresearch.net/awards>), awarded at the 5<sup>th</sup> LLRN International Conference, University of Warsaw, Poland, 27-29 June 2021

- Member of the International Advisory Group, ‘Clean Slate for Worker Power’ Project (Building a Just Economy and Democracy), Labor and Worklife Program, Harvard Law School, 2018-2020
- Invited Participant, Federal Government Industrial Relations Reform Taskforce, Working Group on Casuals & Fixed-Term Employees, Attorney-General’s Department, 6 August 2020 (nominated by Australian Council of Trade Unions)
- Winner in October 2018 of the RMIT University Award for Research Impact (Enterprise); and the RMIT College of Business Awards for Research Impact, Research Excellence - Journal Publication by an Academic, and Best Journal Publication (by School) by an Academic
- Submission and appearance before the Senate Education and Employment Committee, Inquiry into the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity Bill)*, September 2019; cited in the Senate Committee’s Report
- Winner, RMIT University College of Business and Law, Media Stars Top Performer Award, 2019 and 2021
- Recipient of the RMIT University ‘Hall of Fame’ Media Award in 2020 with the following citation:

Forsyth has built a reputation as the go-to expert in employment law within the Australian media landscape. With the coronavirus recession resulting in job cuts across myriad industries, Forsyth has been a regular in the media for his commentary on workplace relations law. This year, he has offered commentary on ride-share and delivery-driver rights, JobKeeper and JobSeeker, job cuts, employee rights, and the black summer bushfires. He has featured in major publications, including The Age, The Guardian, Australian Financial Review, ABC, Brisbane Times, Yahoo! Finance, 774 ABC Radio, Triple J Hack, and The Conversation.

### Other professional experience

- President, Australian Labour Law Association Inc, November 2021-present (Inaugural Secretary, 2000-2004; National Committee Member, 2005-2007, 2015-2017; Vice-President, 2017-2021)
- Member of the Management Committee, Migrant Workers Centre Inc, April 2022-May 2023
- Member of the Advisory Committee, Centre for Future Work (Australia Institute), May 2020-present

- RMIT representative on the Carmichael Centre Advisory Committee, April 2021-present
- Member of the International Advisory Board, *Italian Labor Law E-Journal*, November 2018-present
- Member of the International Scientific Committee, Association for International and Comparative Studies in the field of Labour Law and Industrial Relations (ADAPT), University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, December 2016-present
- Guest Editor of ADAPT's Labour Studies Book Series, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020
- Member of the International Board of *Diritto delle Relazioni Industriali*, December 2016-present
- Member of the Board of Directors, *E-Journal of International and Comparative Labour Studies*, March 2020-present
- Member of the International Advisory Committee, Labour Law Research Network (October 2019-present)
- Editorial Advisory Board Member, Australian Journal of Labour Law, Nov 2011-present; Co-Editor, January 2008-Nov 2011; Associate Editor, 2001-2004; Case Notes Editor, 2004-2005
- Founder and Author of the Labour Law Down Under Blog: <https://labourlawdownunder.com.au/>
- Vice-President (Independent Representative), Australian Institute of Employment Rights, July 2019-July 2020
- Invited Participant, Victorian Trades Hall Council, Young Workers Centre, Wage Theft Community Roundtable, 16 May 2018
- Invited Participant, Australian Council of Trade Unions, Symposium for Better Workplace Systems Taskforce, 15 February 2017
- Invited Participant in Consultation Process, Productivity Commission Review of the Fair Work Act, 15 April 2015
- Invited Participant, Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption, Academic Dialogue, 28 July 2014

- Invited Participant, Independent Review of the Fair Work Legislation, Academic Roundtable, 22 March 2012
- Chair, Research Advisory Committee, Australian Building & Construction Commission Sham Contracting Inquiry, November 2011-December 2012
- Invited Member of the “Workplaces of the Future Forum” convened by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, The Hon Julia Gillard MP, Melbourne, 27 July 2009 (and participant in the Government’s ongoing consultation process)
- Member of the Federal Government Committee on Industrial Legislation (convened to provide stakeholder input on the draft *Fair Work Bill 2008* in Canberra, 7-17 October 2008)
- Research Associate, Centre for Employment and Labour Relations Law, University of Melbourne, 1998-present
- Member, Centre for People, Organisation and Work (CPOW), RMIT University
- Member, Association of Industrial Relations Academics of Australia and New Zealand
- Member, Industrial Relations Society of Victoria
- Member, Canadian Industrial Relations Association
- Member, National Tertiary Education Union
- Community Member, United Workers Union
- Member, International Lawyers Assisting Workers (ILAW) Network
- Member of the Victorian Council of Legal Education, August 2012-July 2014
- Member of the Advisory Board, Centre for Innovative Justice, RMIT University, February 2013-July 2015
- RMIT University Representative, Council of Australian Law Deans, May 2012-July 2015

- I am a frequent contributor to public policy debate on industrial relations and workplace regulation in Australia, through opinion pieces, interviews and commentary in *The New York Times*, *BBC News*, *The Conversation*, *Australian Financial Review*, *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Canberra Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, *West Australian*, ABC TV (*News 24*, *News Breakfast*, *7.30*, *The Drum*), ABC Online, ABC/RMIT Fact Check, ABC Radio National (*AM*, *PM*, *Law Report*, *Life Matters*, *This Working Life*), ABC Radio (*local/regional*), SBS World News, Sky News Australia, Newstalk ZB (NZ radio), *The Irish Times*, *GQ*, *Il Globo*, *The Australian*, *10 News First*, *7 am* (Schwartz Media daily podcast), *Fear & Greed* (business podcast), *Workplace Express*, *Policy Forum*, *Yahoo Finance*, *The Medical Republic*, 'On the Job' (*Australian Unions Media*) and commercial radio stations around the country.