



The Hon. Justice Michael Kirby
Queer-ying Global Challenges and Triumphs in Gender and Sexuality

5 PM FRIDAY 9 AUGUST
THE CINEMA, CULTURAL
PRECINCT, KAMBRI

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ANU GENDER INSTITUTE LC

Event Information

Grant Details:

Learning Communities sought funding from the ANU Gender Institute to assist with cost items for securing former Supreme and High Court judge, Justice Michael Kirby, as a keynote speaker for an event hosted during LGBTIQ Pride Week in 2019. As part of ANU's efforts to celebrate diversity and pride during Pride Week, Justice Kirby was invited to speak on global challenges and triumphs in the area of gender and sexuality.

A total grant of \$5,000 was provided by the ANU Gender Institute, which contributed towards making this event a reality for the ANU and wider Canberra community. Other co-sponsors of this event included the ANU College of Law and the ANU Learning Communities.

Cost items for this event included a (i) speakers fee for securing Justice Kirby for this event, (ii) transport cost for domestic air flight and ground transport for Justice Kirby, and (iii) pre-drinks & nibbles for networking with main sponsors of this event.

Event Details:

The Hon. Justice Michael Kirby AC CMG: Queer-ying Global Challenges & Triumphs in Gender and Sexuality

There may not be anyone more experienced and active in the global field of gender and sexuality. Over his long and multifarious career, Justice Michael Kirby has been celebrated as an international jurist, educator and former Supreme and High Court judge. He has served on numerous United Nations Commissions, is the recipient of many human rights and justice awards, and was a notoriously progressive force on the High Court bench. Justice Kirby has been openly gay since the 1980s and in early 2019 married his long term partner on the 50th anniversary of the day they met. During this event, Justice Kirby shared his personal and professional observations on international gender and sexuality concerns and progresses.

This event was organized by the Learning Communities and co-hosted with the ANU Gender Institute. Professor Margaret Jolly, who was the Gender Institute Convenor at the time, took the lead in hosting this event, as well as hosting Justice Kirby during his brief visit to Canberra.

This event included an opportunity for the main sponsors of this event to network with Justice Kirby during a pre-drinks event, a Q&A opportunity for attendees during the event, and a book-signing, networking and photo opportunity after the event.

Event Date: 9 August 2019

Event Runtime: 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Event Venue & Address: Cultural Centre, Kambri, ANU.

Number of Attendees: Approximately 250 people attended this event, which included ANU students, faculty and staff as well as others from the wider Canberra community.

Event Outcomes:

Successfully high turn-out for this event, with a range of attendees from ANU to the broader Canberra community. This event received positive feedback from the audience in terms of Justice Kirby being a “brilliant speaker” with his stories both informative and entertaining. Additional positive feedback included appreciation for having speakers representing the LGBT+ community, and particularly during Pride Week – which celebrates pride and a culture of acceptance for the LGBTIQ people and their efforts for equal rights.

Some negative feedback received for this event were technical in nature. Specifically, there were issues with the microphone and others in the back felt too far away from the speaker. The Learning Communities team has taken in these lessons and feedback to improve delivering of future events.

Overall, this event was mainly received positive feedback from all stakeholders involved.

Marketing for this event:

This event was promoted through the Learning Communities’ Eventbrite page, Facebook and E-newsletter. Additional promotion of event was shared on ANU Gender Institute and College of Law’s social media platforms.

For high quality photos taken at this event, please visit:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/183754872@N05/albums/72157713949037642>

Photo highlights of the event:





