

**39TH IPSANZ
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
21 TO 23 AUGUST 2026
HYATT REGENCY SYDNEY**

**Preliminary Conference Program¹
June 2026**

Friday 21 August 2026

2:30pm – 3pm	Registration	Foyer, Lobby Level
3pm – 5pm	Table Topics Session	Heritage Rooms 1-4, Lobby Level
6pm – 8pm	Welcome Reception	The Upper Deck, Level 11

Saturday 22 August 2026

9am – 10:30am	<p>International Session</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Right Honourable Lord Justice Colin Birss, Chancellor of the High Court (Head of Chancery Division), and Lead Judge for Artificial Intelligence, Royal Courts of Justice, London • Professor Daryl Lim, H. Laddie Montague Jr. Chair in Law, Associate Dean for Research and Strategic Partnerships, and Founding Director of the Intellectual Property Law and Innovation Initiative, Penn State Dickinson Law, Pennsylvania <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Honourable Justice Stephen Burley, Federal Court of Australia, Sydney 	Wharf Room, Lobby Level
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¹ The Preliminary Conference Program is indicative only and subject to confirmation. The Society reserves the right to change timing of sessions, topics and speakers. A final program will be issued closer to the conference.

<p>10:30am – 11am</p>	<p>Morning Tea</p>	<p>Foyer, Lobby Level</p>
<p>11am – 12:30pm</p>	<p>Copyright/AI Session</p> <p><i>‘Copyright and the Arts: Navigating the AI Frontier’</i></p> <p>The panel will explore the 'Three Cs' (Consent, Credit, Compensation), the application of fair dealing in the age of generative AI, and the future legal landscape regarding the training of AI algorithms on protected works.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor John Swinson, Law School, The University of Queensland, Brisbane • Further speaker to be confirmed <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Daryl Lim, H. Laddie Montague Jr. Chair in Law, Associate Dean for Research and Strategic Partnerships, and Founding Director of the Intellectual Property Law and Innovation Initiative, Penn State Dickinson Law, Pennsylvania 	<p>Wharf Room, Lobby Level</p>
<p>12:30pm – 1:30pm</p>	<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Foyer, Lobby Level</p>
<p>1:30pm – 3pm</p>	<p>Trade Marks Session</p> <p><i>‘Wisdom and Clarity in Trade Mark Law and Brand Protection?’</i></p> <p>The High Court of Australia has heard three cases over the last year (<i>Bed Bath 'N' Table</i>, <i>Katy Perry</i> and <i>Zip</i>), and the NZ Court of Appeal was split on a decision on what constitutes use as a trade mark (<i>Zuru v Lego</i>). We are looking forward to a lively discussion from our panel of trade mark gurus on the impact of these decisions in Australia and New Zealand, and what we can expect next.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justine Beaumont SC, Barrister, Nigel Bowen Chambers, Sydney • Professor Michael Handler, Deputy Dean (Education), Faculty of Law & Justice, UNSW, Sydney • Tania Goatley, Barrister, Tania Goatley Law, Auckland <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucy Davis, Barrister, Emmerson Chambers, Melbourne 	<p>Wharf Room, Lobby Level</p>

3pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea	Foyer, Lobby Level
3:30pm – 5pm	<p>Patents Session</p> <p><i>‘Defining Invention: From Eligibility to Inventive Step and Beyond’</i></p> <p>Invention for the purposes of manner of manufacture, support and sufficiency, novelty and inventive step. This topic is designed to appeal to both patent attorneys and lawyers across Australia and New Zealand.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greg Arthur KC, Barrister, Clifton Chambers, Wellington • Craig Smith SC, Barrister, List G Barristers, Melbourne • Dr Ronelle Geldenhuys, Principal and ICT Patent Attorney, Jones Maxwell Smith & Davis (JMSD), Brisbane <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lauren John, Partner, Allens, Melbourne 	Wharf Room, Lobby Level
5pm – 5:45pm	IPSANZ Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2026	Wharf Room, Lobby Level
6pm – 7pm	Pre-Dinner Reception	Heritage Atrium, Lobby Level
7pm – 10:30pm	President’s Dinner	Wharf Room, Lobby Level
10:30pm – Late	After-Dinner Drinks	Zephyr Rooftop Bar

Sunday 23 August 2026

<p>9am – 10:30am</p>	<p>Judges' Session</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Honourable Justice Helen Rofe, Federal Court of Australia, Melbourne • The Honourable Justice Ian Gault, High Court of New Zealand, Auckland • Senior Judicial Registrar Alison Legge, Federal Court of Australia, Melbourne • The Right Honourable Lord Justice Colin Birss, Chancellor of the High Court (Head of Chancery Division), and Lead Judge for Artificial Intelligence, Royal Courts of Justice, London • Senior Judicial Registrar Susan O'Connor, Federal Court of Australia, Sydney 	<p>Wharf Room, Lobby Level</p>
<p>10:30am – 11am</p>	<p>Morning Tea</p>	<p>Foyer, Lobby Level</p>
<p>11am – 12:30pm</p>	<p>Ethics Session</p> <p><i>'Ethics perspectives from a panel of Australian and New Zealand in-house lawyers, an attorney and an academic'</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Andrew Christie, Chair of Intellectual Property, Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne • Ali Dibbenhall, Head of Legal, Asia & Pacific, LexisNexis Legal & Professional, Sydney • Becky White, General Manager – IP Asset Strategy, Fonterra, Wellington <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca Simpson, Legal Writer - Practical Guidance Intellectual Property, LexisNexis Legal & Professional, Sydney 	<p>Wharf Room, Lobby Level</p>
<p>12:30pm – 1:30pm</p>	<p>Lunch</p>	<p>Foyer, Lobby Level</p>

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