

# AN INVITATION

## TO THE Concannon Oration

The Council of Concannon College and The University of Southern Queensland Residential Colleges request the pleasure of your company at

The Concannon Oration

### Human Rights, Religion and the Law

TO BE DELIVERED BY

### Professor Father Frank Brennan, SJ AO

Tuesday 7 September 2010 at 7.30pm  
Allison Dickson Lecture Theatre, USQ,  
West Street, Toowoomba

#### RSVP

Tuesday, 31 August 2010  
Ms Ros Smith  
Phone (07) 4631 2451  
Email Residential.Collegesevents@usq.edu.au

## Professor Father Frank Brennan, SJ AO



Fr Frank Brennan, SJ, AO is a Jesuit priest, an adjunct fellow in the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, professor of law in the Institute of Legal Studies at the Australian Catholic University, and professor of human rights and social justice at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Frank was the founding Director of the Uniya Jesuit Social Justice Centre in Sydney and served there as Director and Associate Director until September 2004. In 2004-2005 he was a fellow at the Jesuit Institute, Boston College.

He has written extensively on Aboriginal Land Rights and is the author of a number of books, including *The Wik Debate*, *One Land One Nation*, *Sharing the Country*, and *Land Rights Queensland Style*, and is the co-author of *Finding Common Ground and Reconciling Our Differences*. His books on civil liberties are *Too Much Order With Too Little Law* and *Legislating Liberty and Tampering with Asylum* (University of Queensland Press).

His academic qualifications are:

BA LLB(Hons) Qld, BD(Hons) MCD, LLM Melb, DUniv QUT, Hon LLD UNSW

In 1994, he chaired the committee to review the journalists' code of ethics for the Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance. In 1996, he completed two years of studies and field trips in the Philippines, Cambodia, Uganda and the United States where he was a Fulbright Scholar at Georgetown University and the first Visiting Fellow at the Australia and New Zealand Studies Center. His current interests and commitments include Aboriginal rights, refugee rights, the bill of rights and constitutional reform, intercultural and inter-religious perspectives on human rights in East Asia.

In 1995 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for services to Aboriginal Australians, particularly as an advocate in the areas of law, social justice and reconciliation. In 1996, he and Pat Dodson shared the inaugural ACFOA Human Rights Award. In 1997, he was Rapporteur at the Australian Reconciliation Convention. During his involvement in the 1998 Wik debate, the National Trust named him a Living National Treasure and Paul Keating christened him a meddling priest. In 1998, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation appointed him an "Ambassador for Reconciliation". He has recently returned from 18 months in East Timor where he was the Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service. In 2002, he was awarded the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal for his work in East Timor.

On 10 December 2008 he was appointed as the Chairperson to the Australian Government's National Human Rights Consultation Committee. In 2009 this independent Committee consulted with the Australian community about the protection and promotion of human rights. On 30 September 2009, it reported its recommendations to the Attorney General, the Honourable Robert McClelland MP.

### Academic Procession

An academic procession will be held at the Oration and robing will take place between 7.10 and 7.25pm in the foyer of the Allison Dickson Lecture Theatre. For those wishing to participate in the Academic Procession, academic dress is required.

### Cocktails and Conversation Hour

The Residential Colleges welcome you to remain for Cocktails and Conversation to be held at the conclusion of the presentation.

