

FREILICH FOUNDATION PRESENTS:



THE ALICE TAY LECTURE ON LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS 2008

WHERE IS OUR PLACE? SEEKING A HOME IN A TIME OF INSECURITY

Dr Penelope Mathew

Visiting Professor and Interim Director of the Program in Refugee and Asylum Law,
The University of Michigan Law School and Reader in Law, ANU College of Law

Tuesday 3 June, 6pm

Conference Room, Old Canberra House, Lennox Crossing, ANU

This lecture is free and open to the public.

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In this lecture, Dr Penelope Mathew will discuss the plight of refugees in Australia within the broader context of homelessness. The lecture will begin by exploring Australians' sense of place and home. It will then move to examine the gap between Australia's international human rights obligations (eg with respect to refugees and to the right to adequate housing, for example) and current practice. Possible reasons for the failure to close the gap will be put forward. A particular focus will be the extent to which the recent pre-occupation with national security in the face of terrorism has exacerbated the traditional anxiety over the security of the Australian border, putting true human security and social justice lower on the list of governmental priorities than they perhaps have ever been.



Dr Mathew's research interests are in international law, human rights law and refugee law. She has published widely in the areas of refugee law and international human rights law, in journals such as the *American Journal of International Law*, the *International Journal of Refugee Law* and the *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*. She is a past Editor-in-Chief of the *Australian Yearbook of International Law* (2005–2007) and one of the authors of *International Law: Cases and Materials* (Oxford, 2005) and Co-editor of *Fresh Perspectives on the 'War on Terror'* (ANU EPress, forthcoming 2008).

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