



## FIRST IMLI DIRECTOR PASSES AWAY

Professor Patricia Birnie, the first Director of the IMO International Maritime Law Institute and a celebrated publicist in the field of international law, passed away on 7 February 2013. Her sudden death is greatly mourned by the entire international community.

IMLI Director, Professor David Attard, expressed his deep sorrow upon receiving the news. Professor Attard recalled that Professor Birnie accepted to be the first IMLI Director as she strongly believed in the Institute's contribution to the international community.



*Professor Patricia Birnie, Professor David Attard and Professor P.K. Mukherjee with the first IMLI graduating class*

Professor Birnie received her law degree from University of Oxford and her Ph.D. degree from Edinburgh. Her special interests were law of the sea and marine environmental law in which fields she published widely. Her books include the Maritime Dimension (edited with R.P. Barston), The International Regulation of Whaling, Basic Documents on International Law and the Environment (co-authored with Alan E. Boyle). The first edition of her book entitled International Law and the Environment, which she co-authored with Alan Boyle (now in its third edition and also co-authored with Professor Katherine Redgwell), was written during her time of service at IMLI.

The book has received praise from renowned professors who have considered it as “*a valuable resource for students for years to come, not just in class, also in their professional life*” and “*...a book all environmental lawyers should have in their shelves*”.

Professor Patricia Birnie will be sadly missed.

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