The Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies (CCCS) and the Centre for Resources, Energy and Environmental Law (CREEL) are co-hosting the launch of Kirsty Gover’s *Tribal Constitutionalism: States Tribes and the Governance of Membership* (OUP, 2010). The book launch will be opened by Professor Carolyn Evans, Dean, Melbourne Law School, with an introduction by Professor Jeremy Webber, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Law and Society at the University of Victoria. Professor Webber went to Victoria in August 2002, after more than four years as Dean of Law at the University of Sydney in Australia and eleven years on the Faculty of Law at McGill University. Professor Webber’s current work is primarily in the fields of legal and political theory, constitutional law, and indigenous rights.

**Tribal Constitutionalism**

Recognized tribes are increasingly prominent players in settler state governance, but in the wide-ranging debates about tribal self-governance, little has been said about tribal self-constitution. Who are the members of tribes, and how are they chosen? Tribes in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States are now obliged to adopt written constitutions as a condition of recognition, and to specify the criteria used to select members. Tribal Constitutionalism presents findings from a comparative study of nearly eight hundred current and historic tribal constitutions, most of which are not in the public domain.

**Dr. Kirsty Gover**, Senior Lecturer at Melbourne Law School, directs the Law School’s Comparative Tribal Constitutionalism Research Program. Her research and publications address the domestic and international law, policy and political theory of indigeneity and indigenous self-governance. She has worked as a senior advisor and consultant to New Zealand’s Ministry of Maori Development and Ministry of Justice, on international and domestic policy on indigenous peoples, and taught in this field at the University of Canterbury Law School.

**DATE:** Tuesday, 5 April 2011

**TIME:** 6:00 pm

**VENUE:** Readings Carlton
309 Lygon Street
Carlton VIC 3053

**RSVP:**

law-creel@unimelb.edu.au
03 8344 6938

*Refreshments provided*

*Please RSVP for catering purposes*