

THE UNIVERSITY LAWYER AS COLLABORATOR AND FACILITATOR: A STUDY IN WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING

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Abstract

This article explores the roles of the university lawyer as collaborator and facilitator, based on a case study of risk management by Australian university lawyers in work-integrated learning (WIL) programs. The case study supports a redefinition of role to incorporate not only what university lawyers do (practices), but how they do it (methods) and why they do what they do (strategies). Collaboration is conceptualized as a risk management method of university lawyers, and facilitation as a risk management strategy. Collectively, the risk management practices, methods, and strategies of university lawyers represent their risk management framework. In particular, the case study findings suggest that articulating the roles of collaborator and facilitator may quash misconceptions of university lawyers, and thereby have the potential to improve stakeholder relationships and legal service delivery on the college or university campus.