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"Using the Social Science Research Network to Aid and to Promote Research"

(2013) 44 Victoria University of Wellington Law Review at 631
Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 141/2014

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The Social Science Research Network is a depository for academic scholarship. SSRN allows academic papers and abstracts to be accessible worldwide. Most papers may be downloaded from the SSRN database free of charge, but some links are to commercial sites. Posting papers to SSRN and subscribing to its site are not inherently complicated. However, it is possible for academic departments, particularly law schools, to use SSRN more efficiently and more flexibly than SSRN's architects envisaged. For instance, one can establish a faculty working paper series with archived issues that are forever easily accessible, a much cheaper manner of establishing a working paper series than traditional ways, and a more permanent format than envisaged by standard SSRN systems. This article explains how SSRN works and how it can be used more effectively.

"Incubator Sessions: Meetings within Academic Departments and Scholarly Conferences to Develop Writing Projects"

Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 142/2014

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Incubator sessions endeavour to help scholars develop proposals for articles and other academic writing. This paper has in mind mainly teachers in law schools and in business schools, but the system is transferable to all disciplines. There seems to be little experience outside the United States of using incubator sessions, and even within that jurisdiction knowledge of the merits of incubator sessions is by no means universal. This paper attempts to answer inquiries that the author receives as to the purpose of incubator sessions and about how to run them effectively.

"Databases for New Zealand Legal Research"

New Zealand Universities Law Review, Vol. 21, pp. 173-179, 2004
Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper No. 143/2014

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This note comprises a series of schedules listing databases that are useful for people conducting legal research in New Zealand. The note's objective is to make it easier for people who know approximately what they are looking for to identify an appropriate database to search.

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About this eJournal

The Victoria University of Wellington was founded in 1899 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the reign of Queen Victoria of Great Britain and of the then British Empire. Law teaching started in 1900. The Law Faculty was formally constituted in 1907. The first dean was Richard Maclaurin (1870-1920), an eminent scholar of both law and mathematics. Maclaurin went on to lead the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as President in its formative years. Early professors included Sir John Salmond (1862-1924), still one of the Common Law's leading scholars. His texts on jurisprudence and torts have gone through many editions and remain in print.

Alumni include Sir Robin Cooke (1926-2006), one of the leading judges of the British Commonwealth. As Baron Cooke of Thorndon, he sat on over 100 appeals to the Judicial Committee of the House of Lords, one of very few Commonwealth judges ever appointed to do so.

Since 1996 the **Law School** has occupied the Old Government Building in central Wellington. Designed by William Clayton and opened in 1876 to house New Zealand's then civil service, the building is a particularly fine example of Italianate neo-Renaissance style. Unusually among large colonial official buildings of the time it is constructed of wood, apart from chimneys and vaults.

The School is close to New Zealand's Parliament, courts, and the headquarters of government departments. Throughout Victoria's history, our law teachers have contributed actively to policy formation and to law reform. As a result, in addition to many scholarly articles and books, the Victoria SSRN pages include a number of official reports.

Victoria graduates approximately 230 LLB and LLB(Hons) students each year, and about 60 LLM students. The faculty has an increasing number of doctoral students. Ordinarily there are ten to twelve students engaged in PhD research.

Victoria University observes the British system of academic ranks. In North American terms, lecturers and senior lecturers are tenured doctrinal scholars, not legal writing teachers. A senior lecturer corresponds approximately to a North American associate professor in rank.

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