

## **The University Lawyer As Collaborator And Facilitator: A Study In Work-Integrated Learning**

Craig Cameron

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 programs. Despite the Australia-centric nature of the study, the literature reveals clear parallels between the prevalence, organizational structure, issues, and work of university lawyers in Australia and the USA. As such, it is argued that the findings can be applied by university lawyers in the USA to evaluate, articulate and promote their roles as collaborators and facilitators in higher education.

The role of university lawyers has been a source of academic interest since the 1970's. Roderick Daane, writing in this journal in 1985, argued that "an examination of the way law is now practiced on campuses will illustrate the changed role of the campus attorney and suggest further evolution is likely," and that the effectiveness of university lawyers in executing their role "will be keyed in part to their skill in knowing how to operate on campus – an often unnoticed common denominator of a successful university practice." Robert Bickel revisited the role of university lawyers in 1993, expressing concern that it may be misperceived or criticized by university stakeholders, and stressing the importance of university lawyers to institutional management as experts in higher education law.