

Foreword

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The papers in this issue of the Southern Cross University Law Review address contemporary questions of importance. Two are in areas of immediate relevance to commerce, limitation of liability in maritime law and business judgment in corporations law, but are properly evaluative as well as informative. The paper on legal questions involved in Internet communications explores a challenging new area of wide ranging significance. A new perspective is revealed in a paper examining Aboriginal female deaths in custody. Other papers examine and develop at jurisprudential level diverse areas in constitutional law and administrative law, and other papers again explore attitudes to child sexual abuse and the ideology of application of the law to indigenous Australians. To this are added a note on recent legislation and topical book reviews.

The richness and breadth of this material must give great satisfaction not only to the editorial committee, but to all who value the contribution made by academic writings to the functioning of law in our society. The legislature can be unwilling to act, or to review; judge made law of its nature tends to be concerned with the particular case. To assess how

an area of the law is working, to stand back and consider its underlying basis, to expose and expound an area of concern—all these are where a University Law Review can stand out. It should inform, explain, and provoke further discussion, and contribute by the scholarship of the authors to legal and socio-logical debate.

The Southern Cross University Law Review can stand with its peers as a publication meeting these criteria. The editorial committee and authors are to be congratulated for maintaining the standard of the previous issues, and the School of Law and Justice can be proud of the Review as a component in its drive for excellence.