



The Teaching-Research Nexus

A guide for academics and policy-makers
in higher education

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Examples from Australian universities

Law Academic Linking his own Research, Community Engagement and Teaching

Associate Professor Michael Robertson
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Broad discipline area:

- Law

Year level:

- Fifth year (final year undergraduate)

TRN strategy:

- Linking research, community engagement and teaching

Teaching and learning context:

- Large group lectures
- Assessment item

Brief description of the initiative:

This academic links his own research, community engagement and teaching in several ways:

- As he is a member of several legal professional bodies including the Ethics and Rules Committees of the Queensland Law Society (QLS) and is associated with the state's lawyer regulator, the Legal Services Commission this lecturer has up-to-date knowledge of issues facing his profession. He incorporates this knowledge of contemporary issues in the legal profession in his teaching. For example, in *Legal Professional Practice* a compulsory final year Bachelor of Laws course [see Law_4 for further information on this course] he talks about aspects of his involvement with the Legal Services Commission.
- This lecturers' connection with the law profession has contributed to the establishment of an ongoing symposium series on lawyers' ethical practices for the legal profession.
- This lecturer also uses aspects of his own research in his teaching. For example he:
 - includes relevant papers he has authored on reading lists and in class discussions;

- bases exam case study questions on research papers he has authored;
- an international legal ethics conference this lecturer is organising for 2008 also links his academic work with the profession, as this conference will bring together both scholars and legal professionals.

For further details:

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