

Poster presentation

Reducing staff and student workload: Redevelopment of an online law unit

Kerryn Jackson, Bill Potter, David Lindsay, Len Webster, Kathy Buxton, Melissa deZwart
Monash University

Law of the Internet was the first entirely online postgraduate unit offered by the Faculty of Law at Monash University. It was first offered in 1999 and has been offered at least twice a year since that time. The unit was designed around a website presenting ten modules of content and four discussion forums. Online tasks were submitted via the discussion forum or via email, with student-teacher interaction facilitated via the discussion forums. The constantly changing nature of the unit content, the volume of tasks completed by the students and associated assessment, and the heavy administrative load have created a unit that is very labour intensive for both students and staff.

As the Faculty moves to the provision of increasing numbers of online postgraduate units, it was decided to revisit the design of Law of the Internet with a view to reducing the workload commitment of the teacher and support staff. This poster outlines the process of that review, the selection and implementation of alternative technologies, including wikis and an in-house collaborative learning environment, LEX. Preliminary results as to the impact of the redesign on staff and student workloads will be presented.

Keywords: online unit, collaborative learning, wiki, online assessment, LEX

Author contact details

Kerryn Jackson, Bill Potter, David Lindsay, Len Webster, Kathy Buxton, Melissa deZwart, Faculty of Law, Clayton Campus, Building 12, Wellington Road.

Email: {Kerryn.Jackson | Bill.Potter | David.Lindsay | Len.Webster | Kathy.Buxton | Melissa.deZwart}@law.monash.edu.au

Copyright © 2006 Jackson, K., Potter, B., Lindsay, D., Webster, L., Buxton, K., deZwart, M.

The author(s) assign to ascilite and educational non-profit institutions a non-exclusive licence to use this document for personal use and in courses of instruction provided that the article is used in full and this copyright statement is reproduced. The author(s) also grant a non-exclusive licence to ascilite to publish this document on the ascilite web site (including any mirror or archival sites that may be developed) and in electronic and printed form within the ascilite *Conference Proceedings*. Any other usage is prohibited without the express permission of the author(s). For the appropriate way of citing this article, please see the frontmatter of the *Conference Proceedings*.