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Celebrating 15 years of free access to law

Commonwealth Attorney-General, the Hon Robert McClelland joined over 150 donors, data providers, supporters and stakeholders from throughout Australia to celebrate AustLII providing 15 years of free access to law. McClelland said "it is heartening that the Government's aims of better access to information, clearer laws and improved legal education are so well reflected in the work achieved to date by AustLII". More on page 2.



Top left: Commonwealth Attorney-General, Robert McClelland MP

Top right major Foundation contributors: front row left to right: Annelies Moens, External Relations Manager, AustLII
Miranda Milne, CEO, Legal Practitioners' Liability Committee
Peter Hansell, Director, Library & Information Services, ATO
Jen Armstrong, Director of Marketing, CCH Australia Publishing
Back row left to right: Graham Greenleaf and Andrew Mowbray, Co-Directors AustLII

Bottom left: AustLII Co-Directors, Andrew Mowbray, Graham Greenleaf and Philip Chung with Robert McClelland MP

Policies and Guides

AustLII's user guide:

www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/guide/user/Userguide_AustLII.pdf

AustLII's copyright and usage policy:

www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/copyright.html

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Did you know these search and other tips?

1. Use the [Search this Act] feature to search within a specific piece of legislation. Alternatively, use the Advanced Search feature under the search box to select which specific databases you would like to search.

2. Find on this page functionality: This is possible using the Control-F keys and is part of the functionality of browsers. This enables you to find the text you are looking for within the current browser page.

3. AustLII provides text as provided by its data providers, in addition to AustLII's HTML version. RTF and PDF versions where available are located under [Download]. RTF files can be opened in word processors, such as Word.

Continued: Celebrating 15 years of free access to law

Commonwealth Attorney-General, Robert McClelland said "it seems hard to believe today that 15 years ago AustLII was nothing more than a good idea for which funding was sought. AustLII has grown to become Australia's largest online legal public library, providing accurate and up-to-date legal information free of charge to a multitude of users".

AustLII Co-Directors, Graham Greenleaf and Andrew Mowbray were

motivated to create AustLII to provide free access to the Australian public to the essential legal information needed for the rule of law and democracy to function effectively.

On the evening, a six page brochure (front cover on the right) was released depicting AustLII's 15 year history of providing free-access to law. Available online at: www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/announce/2010/AustLII_15th_brochure.pdf

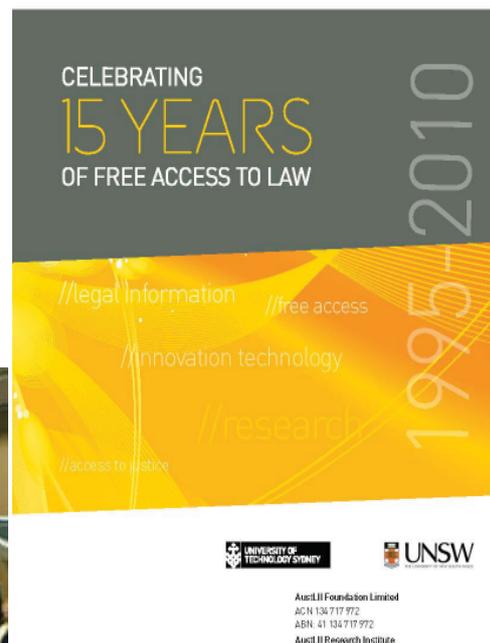
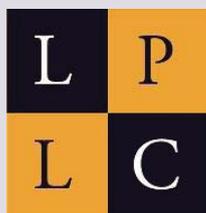


Photo: Over 150 donors, data providers, supporters and stakeholders celebrate 15 years of free access to law at a reception on 1 December 2010 with the Commonwealth Attorney-General as guest speaker.

Featured donor

Major Foundation Supporters:



www.lplc.com.au



www.ato.gov.au



AustLII would like to thank and acknowledge its major Foundation supporters: LPLC, ATO and CCH.

If you or your organisation would like to donate to AustLII, please fill in our contribution form at:

www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/sponsors/contribute.pdf

Donation enquiries can be directed to Annelies Moens, AustLII's External Relations Manager on +61 2 9514 4930 or annelies@austlii.edu.au.

Third Quarter 2010: Top Donors

- Federal Magistrates Court
- National Legal Aid
- The College of Law (NSW)
- Council of Law Reporting, Victoria
- Freehills
- Allens Arthur Robinson
- Clayton Utz
- Corrs Chambers Westgarth
- Workers Compensation Commission of NSW
- Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

A full list of donors can be found at: www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/sponsors

AustLII training in South Australia

AustLII's one-day seminar on "Online legal research: Free-access resources" will be held in Adelaide at The University of South Australia on Friday, 15 April 2011.

To register please visit:
www.austlii.edu.au/training

AustLII provides dedicated training solutions for organisations requesting specific training for their staff.

To discuss or for more information contact AustLII's External Relations Manager: Annelies Moens on +61 2 9514 4930 or annelies@austlii.edu.au

User survey results

In AustLII's last newsletter a quantitative overview of the user survey results was released.

Thank you to those who took the time to complete the survey. As a result, we noticed a few queries from respondents about services/techniques that AustLII already supplies, that some of our users were not aware of. As such, some of these are addressed in the "Did you know these search and other tips" section of this newsletter, as well as in the following two columns.

Remember that you can also send your questions to feedback@austlii.edu.au. AustLII's user guide is also available at: www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/guide/user/Userguide_AustLII.pdf

Best openness initiative

auDA and InternetNZ named AustLII as runner-up for the Best Openness Initiative Award in its 2010 Australian and New Zealand Internet Best Practice Awards.

This is the second year in a row that AustLII has been recognised, having won the Best Openness Initiative Award in the inaugural 2009 Awards.



Photo: Chris Disspain, CEO auDA and Vanessa Stanford auDA presenting runner-up of the Best Openness Initiative Award, to Annelies Moens, External Relations Manager, AustLII, 18 Oct 2010

Respondent Comment One:

Survey respondent: "Would be good to be able to search across the international databases in one search (eg BAILII, NZLII etc)."

There is more than one way to search across the international databases in one search. For example, after searching within AustLII select from the grey box at the top right of the screen and 'repeat search over WorldLII databases.'

Alternatively, go to WorldLII directly at: www.worldlii.org

AustLII operates WorldLII which is a global portal for collaborating legal information institutes.

Respondent Comment Two:

Survey respondent: "SINO might be okay but there are definite limitations to it as a search engine. We use google every day and so become very proficient in using it to isolate searches – this should be added on as an additional search tool."

To use SINO effectively and find out which operators to use to limit your search please read AustLII's user guide. AustLII facilitates effective searching over Google with the "Law on Google" option located directly underneath AustLII's search boxes. This facility translates your AustLII search request into the correct syntax for a Google search to find additional content.

LII of India - Open

The Legal Information Institute of India is now open to the public. In conjunction with five Indian Law Schools, AustLII has been working on a new legal information institute providing free access to India's legal information. You can find it at: www.liiofindia.org

A brochure explaining what is available on the LII of India can be found at: www.liiofindia.org/liiofindia/brochure.pdf

Bequests assist the AustLII Foundation Limited to maintain AustLII's Australian infrastructure and services as a high quality, up-to-date, free-access online public library into the future. Contact Annelies Moens for information on making a bequest.

Contact us

www.austlii.edu.au

For content and technical enquiries:
E. feedback@austlii.edu.au

For individual staff contacts please visit:
www.austlii.edu.au/austlii/personnel.html

AustLII is a joint facility of UTS and UNSW Faculties of Law

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