

Collaboration, the Innovation Key for 2016 Legal Innovation Index

*Janders Dean and LexisNexis announce the 2016 Legal Innovation Index
Winners*

Collaboration across law firms, clients and professional service firms has seen a rise in the power and impact of legal innovation this year in Australia and New Zealand, as evidenced by the **2016 Legal Innovation Index** announced tonight by Janders Dean and LexisNexis®.

Facing stiff competition with a 100 per cent increase in entries this year across organisations, individuals and academics, the 2016 Legal Innovation Index highlights a rise in the embrace of innovative thinking and design, as well as, the realisation of many projects that have been implemented in the past six to 12 months.

“What we love about this year’s entries is the amount of collaboration between firms, their clients and other specialist law, professional service or technology organisations”, explains Joanne Beckett, Managing Director of LexisNexis Australia. “To see the industry set aside competition and work together for the benefit of the client is very innovative for this sector and a sign that the ‘age of the client’ has come to the fore in Australia”.

2016 Individual Winners

Professor Des Butler,

Professor Butler from the Faculty of Law at Queensland University of Technology has created or led the creation of 19 innovations and technology-based projects to enhance the learning of law.

Anne-Marie Cade

Anne-Marie Cade launched Divorce Right to make the divorce process more amicable, easier, smoother and kinder using web based technology to automate paperwork and engage a community of professionals.

Katie Miller

As President of the Law institute of Victoria, Katie studied innovators around the world and developed guidance and tools for Victorian lawyers – of all sizes – to adapt, survive and thrive in the changing legal landscape. At the Victorian Government Solicitor's Office, she created the role of Innovation Counsel to create innovation opportunities in the procurement and use of legal services.

Claire Smith and Shae McCartney

A joint entry by Claire Smith and Shae McCartney from Clayton Utz sees them being awarded for creating the CU SAFE app – a Serious Accident, Fatality, and Environmental Incident Response Guide to help organisations respond quickly and decisively to serious safety or environmental incidents throughout Australia.

Amelia Thorpe

Amelia Thorpe, Senior Lecturer at UNSW Law, has introduced a series of innovations in teaching through experiential approaches encouraging law students to see themselves as active participants in the dynamic fields of planning and environmental law.

Claire Wivell

Claire Wivell Plater of the Fold Legal tailors a Costs Agreement with each of her fintech clients that sees her take an Advisory Board appointment, an equity stake in the business and offer discounted rates for legal and regulatory advice for the startups in the fintech and financial services sector.

Demetrio Zema

Demetrio Zema is the founder of Law Squared, a new-gen legal offering focused on servicing the needs of entrepreneurs and start-ups through a fixed fee, outcome-based collaborative service while providing a remote, supportive, holistic environment for staff resulting in excellent employee and client satisfaction.

“Again the Legal Innovation Index continues to blow us away each year with the wide range of creativity and design emanating from all areas,” adds **Justin North, Director, Janders Dean**. “While we expect that from NewLaw firms, this year’s in-house counsel, the top end of town and academia have really

stepped up to the plate and are delivering some fantastic thinking. Australia should be very proud of how it is not only handling change in legal practice but smashing it out of the ballpark”.

