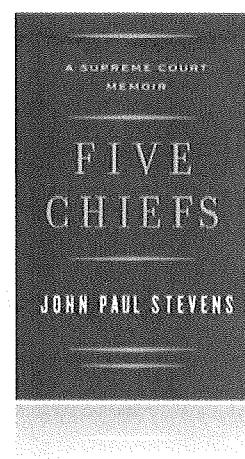
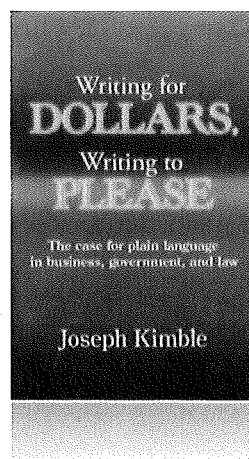
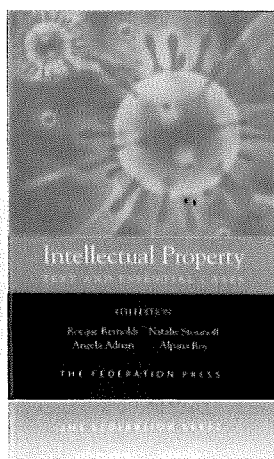
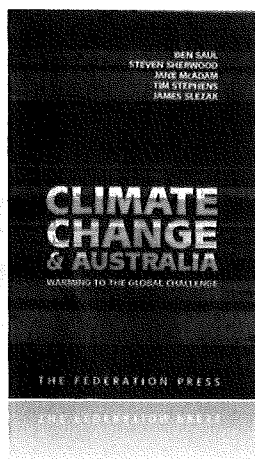


INPRINT

This month's reviews cover climate change, intellectual property, benefits of plain language and a US Supreme Court memoir.



Climate Change and Australia

Ben Saul et al, *Climate Change and Australia: Warming to the global challenge*, 2012, The Federation Press, pb \$35.

Climate Change and Australia is written by a team of authors led by a trio of highly regarded and research-active climate law scholars. Succinct and avoiding detailed analysis, the book is an example of interdisciplinary lawyers joining with peers from the social and physical sciences to communicate plainly and simply about a matter of international significance and national political uncertainty. It picks up on the particular research interests of the authors, with chapters addressing international and domestic politics, social and environmental vulnerability, environmental security and climate migration. The goal of the book is to educate readers on these aspects which bureaucrats and academics have been immersed in for more than a decade.

The authors claim to present a “balanced account” of matters of science, politics, law and policy. That claim says much about the state of climate politics in Australia, and makes the fact and purpose of the book interesting. In *Climate Change and Australia* leading scholars are entering a political space and discourse fashioned by climate change doubters. As seen in the media coverage of climate change since the end of Kevin Rudd's prime ministership, within this space and

discourse there is hesitation to offer clear and unequivocal positions.

The intended audience for the book is obviously wide. However, it will probably not include those who question the science and the need for legal and policy action to address the potential risks of climate change. Rather, the likely reader will be someone wanting a concise summary of the state of science, law and policy in order to arm themselves for debate with facts, context and an understanding of some of the complex implications of climate change.

The book complements the work of the federal government's Climate Commission by introducing a greater diversity of expert voices, in particular the legal voice, into the current national discourse about climate change.

BRAD JESSUP
CENTRE FOR RESOURCES, ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
MELBOURNE LAW SCHOOL

Intellectual Property

Rocque Reynolds et al, *Intellectual Property: Text and essential cases* (4th edn), 2012, The Federation Press, pb \$95.

Primarily targeted at law students, the fourth edition of this book will also be useful for practitioners looking to refresh and update their knowledge in intellectual property law.

Given that the last edition was some four years ago, it has been necessary to update the book by, for example, adding commentary and cases relating to: resale royalty

rights for visual artists; amendments made by the recently enacted *Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Raising the Bar) Act 2012* (Cth); implications upon passing off and other related actions resulting from the *Competition and Consumer Act 2010* (Cth); and consequences of High Court decisions in copyright law such as *IceTV Pty Ltd v Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd* 239 CLR 458, *Larrikin Music Publishing Pty Ltd v EMI Songs Australia Pty Ltd* [2010] FCA 29 and the recent High Court decision in *Roadshow Films Pty Ltd v iiNet* [2012] HCA 16.

The book's use of case law and Australian legislation is comprehensive. Cases feature a short paragraph summarising the key points of the case before extracting parts of the judgments, which students may find useful.

A chapter titled “Biotechnology patents” is particularly relevant in the current and increasingly controversial debate surrounding the patentability of human genes. The chapter canvasses the rationale for biotechnology patents and the ethical issues related to them with some consideration of case law from the US.

There is also an interesting chapter which includes a short section on the “Protection of folklore and Indigenous cultural property”. In this chapter the authors provide an overview of the limitations that the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth) has in protecting Indigenous cultural property and the changes that were made to overcome these, with extracts from selected cases.