

INTRODUCTION

MICHAEL BLAKENEY*

This issue of *The University of Western Australia Law Review* comprises a number of the papers which were presented at two conferences on Intellectual Property and Information Environmentalism which were held in Fremantle, Western Australia between 2-5 February 2016.

Both conferences were designed to expose members of the Australian Intellectual Property Academics Network to the latest research in both areas. The paper by Chris Dent addresses the latest developments in copyright history and Emily Purvis brings this analysis up to date with a discussion of copyright in the digital age, in the context of the Australian fair dealing proposals. Claudy Op den Kamp looks at the impact of film history on copyright protection and Matthew Rimmer surveys the impact of 3D printing on intellectual property protection. The paper by Nikos Koutras questions the desirability of open access as a means of publication and dissemination of information. Ken Shao, looks at the notion of the public domain in China. Both of these papers provide a link with the subject of the governance of information, which stands at the heart of the information environmentalism debate. The paper by Robert Cunningham looks at the information environmental governance framework which he explored in his 2014 book *Information Environmentalism: a governance framework for Intellectual Property Rights* (Edward Elgar). This paper traces the origins of the information environmentalism to the application of environmental law principles to the open source software debate. Michael Blakeney's paper carries this analysis forward to the industrial property context with an examination of open source biotechnology.

The final paper by Sophie Pemberton looks into the previously unexplored question of whether Australian copyright law can and should embrace culinary works.

* BA, LLB, LLM (Syd), MA (UNSW). Winthrop Professor, Faculty of Law, The University of Western Australia.

