

FOREWORD

Welcome to the 2026 general issue of the UWA Law Review. This issue marks a transition point in the publication cycle of the Review. While in previous years the general issue has been published in the second quarter of each year (with a thematic issue in the fourth quarter), and this year it sits within the third quarter, as of 2027 the general issue will shift to the final quarter. The next general issue will also be our first produced under the auspices of Open Journal Systems, reinforcing our commitment to professional, high-quality open-access publishing.

Part of the motivation for rearranging our publication cycle is to provide more sustained opportunities for editorial involvement by our excellent postgraduate student cohort. The UWA Law Review is and always has been faculty-led, with responsibility for its stewardship and production resting with the General Editor. But after two years in that role, it is clear to me both how much the small group of students accepted to the Law Review unit stand to gain from exposure to the academic research and publication cycle, and how much they have to offer. Units of this kind offer a rare opportunity for development of scholarly instincts, skills and integrity within the increasingly unrelenting schedule of the vocational law degree. The visible contributions of students to this issue, in the form of our beautiful new cover art and a co-written Introduction, are a fitting testament to their collegial and unstinting efforts behind the scenes.

I will leave to the Introduction the task of introducing the contributions to this issue and thanking the authors for placing their trust in us. For my part I am delighted by the range of experience and expertise among our authors, as exemplified by the trio of articles engaging with the recent vicarious liability jurisprudence of the High Court, and particularly proud to continue showcasing the work of impressive emerging scholars. I am, as always, deeply grateful to our external peer reviewers, who continue to carve time out of thin air to provide an indispensable service to their profession.

Finally, it has been a great pleasure this year to welcome as Patron the Hon Justice Edelman, who has joined our newly-constituted Advisory Board. The evident strength of support for the Review, within and beyond Western Australia, is a source of great encouragement as we navigate a period of unprecedented uncertainty in research integrity and publication ethics. It is my hope that the readers of this issue will find similar encouragement.

Dr Jessica Kerr
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