

The Future of Law (Thu 13 May, 2pm, Opus International Room)

Are you too busy operating in the now to think about different ways of doing things in the future? The future is already here, yet unevenly distributed, so you may have missed what others around the world have already started doing, and what you might be doing soon. Join our panellists for a concise and sometimes provocative package of future strategies.

What's happening in New Zealand, Australia, Asia-Pacific and internationally? What works? What doesn't work? What can work better? And what else is coming down the track?



Ronald F Pol, chair

Director, [Team Factors](#)

Former CLANZ President, acting general counsel for public and private sector organisations, NZ Corporate Lawyer of the Year, and corporate counsel for New Zealand's largest public company, Ron's earlier private practice career was with Russell McVeagh (Auckland) and Slaughter and May (London & Hong Kong). As a specialist consultancy focused exclusively on the client dimension, Team Factors is actively involved with some of Australasia's legal department best practices; and helping law firms improve their client focus with a deeper client perspective. Ron is also an award winning researcher, writer and legal commentator in New Zealand and internationally and holds degrees in Law (Hons) and Commerce (Economics).

In addition to extensive 'future of law' research and analysis, Ron has presented alongside legal futurist Richard Susskind, in which he put the next decade of New Zealand's legal profession against Professor Susskind's prospect of the end of the legal profession within the next century. The result? Still lots of legal work, but much of it will be very different indeed.



Will Irving

Group General Counsel, [Telstra Corporation](#)

Responsible for the provision of legal services to the Board of one of Australasia's largest public companies, Will leads a team of more than 100 lawyers who provide strategic advice and counsel to business units across the company; and across Australia, New Zealand and internationally. Will was credited as an inspiration for Australasia's first book specifically for in-house counsel (*Leadership and Management Challenges of In-house Counsel*, Dr Benny Tabalujan (ed), 2008) in which he authored the chapter on strategic leadership. Formerly with Mallesons Stephen Jaques (Melbourne), Will has served on the board of the Australian Corporate Lawyers Association and in 2006 was named Australian Corporate Lawyer of the Year and in 2008 was recognised globally with the International Bar Association's Communications Law Committee Award for outstanding achievement by in-house counsel. Will holds degrees in Law (Hons) and Commerce (Economics & Accounting).

The Telstra legal team is frequently recognised for leading edge initiatives in legal department management and law firm relations.



Robert C Sawhney

Founder and managing director, [SRC Associates](#)

SRC Associates Ltd is a Hong Kong based firm that works throughout Asia on legal and other professional services key strategy and marketing issues. Robert has published numerous articles in leading legal and business publications throughout Asia-Pacific and internationally and is the author of 'Marketing Professional Services in Asia' (Lexis Nexis, 2009), and holds a management degree and MBA.

Robert has been involved in extensive 'future of law' discussions and other initiatives across Asia-Pacific and internationally.