



Dr Marina Nehme

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THE FUTURE OF LAW 2:00pm-3:00pm

The Future of Legal Service Delivery – Sources of Innovation for the Legal Profession

The FLIP Report noted “the many new forms of law firm were emerging in NSW, indicating the early stages of a flourishing and innovative market”. The legal marketplace has transformed from firms being categorised based on size, location or practice area to also include ‘NewLaw’ practices or Alternative Legal Service Providers, such as virtual law firms, legal process outsourcers, law marketplaces and contract and staffing services. Many of these practices were set up with the goal of being different, in one or more ways, from the archetype ‘traditional’ law firm.

During this session FLIP Stream researcher Dr Marina Nehme and Dr Felicity Bell will identify and classify the range of business models of innovative legal service providers (LSPs) being currently used in Australian legal practice. They will highlight the move toward adoption of technology, the way firms are changing the focus of their advice, and pricing strategies, all with the focus on providing value to the client. Lastly, the culture of law firms plays a significant role in employee satisfaction, flexibility and wellbeing. Dr Nehme and Dr Bell look at the ways law firms have worked to foster inclusive and productive cultures during COVID-19.

About Dr Marina Nehme

Marina has completed a PhD on the use of enforceable undertakings by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Her thesis is entitled: An Analysis of the Australian system of enforceable undertakings to determine an improved theory of negotiated settlements. Marina has written reports on the use of enforceable undertakings and product intervention orders to ASIC and Treasury.

Marina has received in 2011 a Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council.

As part of the research she has been conducting into crowd equity funding, she has been invited to present expert evidence to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee and the Commonwealth Treasury regarding crowd equity funding legislation.

Prior to joining the faculty, Marina taught law at the Western Sydney University. She has also taught Law at UNSW Business School and UTS.

In 2021 Marina joined the FLIP Stream, a strategic alliance between the Law Society of NSW and UNSW Law & Justice, to undertake research into the 2021 FLIP Stream topic: The Future of Legal Service Delivery: Sources of Innovation for the Legal Profession which she is presenting for the first time at FLIP Conference 2021.