

The Practitioners' Council: Connecting Legal Research Instruction and Current Legal Practice

By David L. Armond & Shawn G. Nevers. 103 Law Libr. J. 575 (2011).

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Reviewer's Summary:

This article discusses one way that academic law librarians can keep in touch with legal research as used in practice. It begins by establishing why legal research practice should be incorporated into legal research classes, and briefly discusses various ways to do this. The article details the authors' use of a council, made up of practicing attorneys, to inject legal research practice into the classroom. It provides a thorough description of how they formed the council, as well as the methods employed to get the most valuable information from the lawyers involved. (The sentence stemming exercise used during the first brainstorming session with the council is appended to the article.) The authors provide concrete ways the information gleaned from the practitioners translated to changes in their teaching. They then outline lessons learned and advice for those who would like to form their own council.

Summarized by: Robin Schard, University of Miami School of Law Library, in 2019.