

Teaching Cost-Effective Research Skills: Have We Overemphasized Its Importance

By Sarah Gotschall. 29 Legal Reference Services Q. 149 (2010).

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Reviewer's Summary:

Previous surveys of law librarians have suggested that legal research instruction should emphasize cost-effective research skills. The author of this article surveyed second and third year law students to see how much their summer employers emphasized containing research costs. The results contradict the findings of earlier surveys insofar as they indicated that research costs were not a top priority. The difference in results might be attributed to the fact that surveys of librarians tend to emphasize large law firm environments, whereas most lawyers work in smaller firms and government settings. Often smaller firms and government entities have flat rate contracts with legal research companies.

Summarized by: Julie Tedjeske, Duquesne University School of Law, in 2019.