



Biographical Notes Professor David Weisbrot AM

Professor David Weisbrot is the Chair of the Australian Press Council. He is Emeritus Professor of Law and Honorary Professor of Medicine at the University of Sydney, and a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. He is also a Member of the Strategic Advisory Board of the Garvan Institute's Centre for Clinical Genomics; a member of the National Pro Bono Resource Centre's Advisory Council; a Director of the Grata Fund; and a Member of the National Implementation Committee of the Australian Genomics Health Alliance.

Prof Weisbrot was President of the Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) from 1999-2009 - the longest serving President in the ALRC's history - and presided over 15 major national inquiries, including: the protection of human genetic information; classified and security sensitive information; gene patenting and human health; sedition laws; secrecy laws; Australian privacy law and practice; the federal civil justice system; the judicial power of the Commonwealth; marine insurance; uniform evidence laws; civil and administrative penalties (corporate regulation); sentencing federal offenders; and Royal Commissions of inquiry. In 2000-01, he also chaired the federal Attorney-General's National Pro Bono Task Force.

He was a foundation Member of the National Health & Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) Human Genetics Advisory Committee (2006-2012), and in 2010 received the NHMRC's prestigious award for "The Most Outstanding Contribution to Health and Medical Research".

Professor Weisbrot was formerly Dean of Law and then Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Humanities and Social Sciences (1994-99) at the University of Sydney, responsible for the Faculties of Business, Management, Arts, Law, Education, Fine Arts and the Conservatorium of Music. He also has been the full-time Commissioner of the NSW Law Reform Commission (1990-94), and a member of the law schools of Macquarie University (2010-2012), University of New South Wales (1979-90) and University of Papua New Guinea (1976-79, Dean 1978-79).

He has written or edited ten books, including *So You Want to be a Lawyer?*; *The Promise of Law Reform*; *Australian Lawyers*; *Criminal Laws*; *Law and Social Change in Papua New Guinea*; *Criminal Law and Practice of Papua New Guinea*; and well over 200 official reports, journal articles and conference papers.

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Address: Level 6, 309 Kent Street Sydney **Mail:** GPO Box 3343 Sydney 2001 **Phone:** (02) 9261 1930 or 1800 025 712 **Fax:** (02) 9267 6826
Email: info@presscouncil.org.au **Web:** <http://www.presscouncil.org.au>