1. Use of the Internet has expanded dramatically over the last few years. Increasing reliance on the Internet and other electronic communications has raised a host of legal concerns. Some of these concerns represent old issues in new clothing, such as free speech, while others are challenging basic concepts, such as standards for intellectual property ownership. The Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law is one of several new, scholarly law journals that has emerged to examine the legal issues related to changing technology. In fact, the very concepts of publishing, and, indeed, the law review model itself, are changing. For example, the

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1 For example, it is now estimated that over 9,400,000 computers are linked to each other through the Internet. See ACLU v. Reno, 929 F. Supp. 824, 831 (E.D. Pa. 1996); see also Jared Sandberg, U.S. Households with Internet Access Doubled to 14.7 Million in Past Year, WALL ST. J., Oct. 21, 1996, at B11 (discussing the growth of home Internet access).

2 For example, this volume alone touches upon Internet related issues such as copyright, litigation, privacy, free speech, and taxation.


4 See Bernard J. Hibbitts, Last Writes? Re-assessing Law Review in the Age of Cyberspace (visited Apr. 1, 1997) <http://www.law.pitt.edu/hibbitts/lastrev.htm> (”[N]ew academic circumstances . . . and new computer-mediated communications technologies . . . are coming together in a way that may soon lead to the demise of the familiar law review . . . .”); see also M. Ethan Katsh, Perspective: Law Reviews and the Migration to Cyberspace, 29 AKRON L. REV. 115 (1996) (discussing how electronic publication will increase the layperson’s access to legal scholarship). But see Howard A. Denemark, The Death of Law Reviews Has Been Predicted: What Might Be Lost When
Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law publishes only in electronic format. Full-text of our materials are available on LEXIS®-NEXIS® and by subscription on compact disc. Abstracts, video, and photographs are published on the World Wide Web.5

2. Volume 3 of the Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law is a symposium issue dedicated to legal scholarship relating to the Internet. While this volume also includes articles on biotechnology and genetic research oversight, the majority of this volume’s materials are the result of a five session symposium held at Boston University School of Law during the spring of 1996. The Internet Law Symposium was jointly sponsored by the Boston University Center for Law & Technology6 and by the law firm of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault.7 The Symposium brought together legal scholars to examine five specific areas: 1) Internet Entrepreneurs, New Traffic Patterns, and Policy Issues; 2) Protecting Software and Information on the Internet; 3) Pornography: Free Speech or Censorship in Cyberspace?; 4) Financial Services: Security, Privacy, and Encryption; and 5) Lawyers Online: Discovery, Privilege, and the Prudent Practitioner.

3. Recent legal scholarship related to the Internet has virtually exploded. Several other law journals have published symposium issues specifically related to many of the subjects included here. For example, in 1996, Harvard Journal of Law & Technology,8 Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal,9 Connecticut Law

6 Faculty and students at Boston University School of Law’s Center for Law and Technology engage in research, education, and public service focused on the role of law in shaping technological progress and the policy issues raised by science and technology.
7 Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault is a Boston-based law firm nationally renowned for its leadership in the fields of emerging technology, private equity, and venture capital. For more information on Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, see Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault (visited Mar. 25, 1997) <http://www.tht.com>.

4. The field of Internet-related legal scholarship is far from saturated. On the contrary, more analysis and debate is needed before many of the legal questions surrounding this changing technology will be resolved. Legislative and judicial decision- and policy-making will be assisted by academic debate, perhaps more so with the Internet than any other emerging technology.

5. This Internet Law Symposium is unique in that it covers a variety of legal issues and it brings together the differing views of many individuals. This volume also provides several new technological features. At the click of a button, the readers of our compact disc will be able to see photographs of the symposia, view video clips placed in the body of the text, or gain access to reference materials contained in appendices and on Internet web sites.

6. The Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law has attempted to edit the spoken words of the individual participants with care. In addition, the materials are presented with a substantial amount of substantive authority to

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support the participants' points. While including extensive research increased the production time for this volume, the Boston University Journal of Science & Technology Law believes that this material is necessary to provide the foundation necessary to understand the issues discussed and to provide an avenue for further research. We believe these materials will constitute one of the building blocks in a substantial new body of scholarship on Internet law.