

The NT Mentoring Scheme

Northern Territory Young Lawyers and Northern Territory Women Lawyers have joined forces to maximise the personal and professional development opportunities of junior practitioners.

Together they have launched "The NT Mentoring Scheme" which pairs a more junior practitioner with a more senior practitioner to maximise the development of the junior practitioner. Similar schemes are running in other states where to their surprise it is the Mentors who have been reporting enormous personal satisfaction from acting as a mentor.

Comments such as... "I was amazed at how much I enjoyed guiding my mentee in her development as a legal practitioner. I only wish that I had, a similar opportunity when I was starting out" are all typical of those received interstate.

- To get the scheme up and running NTYL & NTWL are seeking enthusiastic mentors who have:
- Good personal and communication skills
- A genuine desire to assist a more junior member of the profession to find their feet
- An understanding of the concept of mentoring
- A commitment to make the time to actively participate in the scheme
- A thorough grasp of professional ethics and courtesies.

The aims of the scheme are to:

- Establish a relationship based upon trust and confidence between 2 legal practitioners of different levels of experience with similar practice areas so that both can elicit the maximum degree of

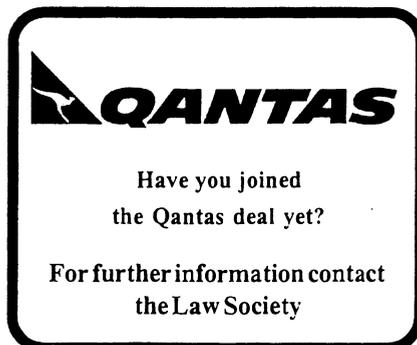
success and satisfaction from working in the legal profession

- Foster and instill professional conduct and courtesies
- Provide opportunities for lawyers to mix with other members of the profession
- Promote discussion of personal and professional development issues
- Promote discussion and critical comment on community legal issues

The mentoring relationship does not replace or in any way effect the employer/employee relationship. Instead it complements the guidance, support and direction that a mentee receives daily on an enterprise level with less frequent discussion on strategic and general matters.

Mentees will also be required to make a commitment to active participation in the scheme by regularly contacting their Mentor. It is anticipated that there will be approximately 20 hours of interaction between the Mentors and mentees over the 1 year life of the relationship.

Places in the scheme are limited and applications close on 25 September 1998 with the formal launch of the scheme taking place at an innovative dinner function to be held on 2 October. Anyone wanting to know more about mentoring should contact a committee member.



Women Lawyers AGM

Well the end of the NTWL year is drawing near. The AGM is 30 September 1998 at the Supreme Court in the Jury Muster room. For details please phone one of the Committee Members:

Merran Short	PH: 8941 2544
Tracey Reeves	PH: 8943 0400
Barbara Tiffin	PH: 8982 5161
Samantha Miles	PH: 8943 2555
Kate Halliday	PH: 8941 9989
Melanie Little	PH: 8941 5565
Sally Gearin	PH: 8981 8322

Election of Office Bearers

Several of the current committee members have been involved for sometime and do not intend to stand for re-election. Your Association needs you. The Association is well established and has achieved a great deal in the past year. It is a very rewarding experience and we encourage members to stand for one of the following positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- 4 Committee Members

Nominations will be called for from the floor however if you are keen to stand for any position please contact one of the current committee for further details if required.

By now members should have received notice of the AGM inside your copy of THEMIS the first issue of Australian Women Lawyers newsletter. If you have not done so please contact me.

Merran Short
President