

Australian Young Lawyers Committee meeting

By Mark Wallbridge

On Friday 22 March 2002 I attended the Australian Young Lawyers Committee (AYLC) meeting in Sydney. Young lawyer association representatives from all States and Territories, with the exception of Tasmania, attended.

The AYLC is made up of a vibrant bunch of young people who wish to raise the level of awareness of the concerns of young lawyers at a national level for the development of the profession as a whole.

The meeting kicked off with a discussion regarding the provision of proposed agenda items by the Australian Law Council (ALC) to the AYLC so that the AYLC can be kept informed on whether the ALC will be discussing any issues affecting young lawyers, with the intention being for AYLC to provide comment on those issues.

To this end the Committee has had discussions with Michael Lavarch, the Secretary-General of ALC, to establish a protocol for the exchange of this information.

We also discussed the AYLC aspiration to create a national employment survey of conditions and awards experienced by young lawyers. To this end the AYLC wishes to encourage

all the associations and their members to participate in the gathering of this information.

Upon receipt of the state and territory surveys, the AYLC intends to collate the results and provide a national survey, which will be made available to all members.

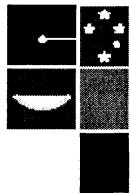
Accordingly, the NTYL committee will attempt to organise the provision of a Territory survey this year.

At the meeting the AYLC formally invited the NTYL to organise a golden gavel competition with the winner to attend the national finals at the New South Wales Law Society's assembly later this year.

Accordingly, the NTYL committee will attempt to organise a Territory event this year so that a winning member can participate in the national competition.

Overall the AYLC meeting was very interesting and provided an excellent opportunity to meet with and discuss issues that affect young lawyers throughout Australia.

Finally, I'd just like to thank Morgan Buckley Lawyers for their support for a day off work and sponsorship for my attendance at the meeting. ①



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