

the first time in its history, commenced an enquiry arising from a complaint of misconduct against a sitting judge in order to decide whether or not the conduct in question constituted gross misconduct. Before the enquiry was completed however, the judge in question resigned from the judiciary. None of the other complaints submitted to the Commission was found to justify action

by it pursuant to section 177(1) of the Constitution. Draft legislation has now been published which deals with disciplinary steps against judges arising from non-impeachable misconduct.

GCB reports to the JSC

Information supplied to the JSC by the GCB and its local Bars in connection with the suitability of candidates for

appointment to the Bench continues to play an important role when interviews for appointments are conducted by the Commission. I would again stress that, wherever possible, information be sought and provided, not only as to well-known candidates, but also those candidates who are not so well-known to the legal profession. 

Advocacy training

Report by Sharise Weiner SC, convenor of the GCB's Advocacy Training Committee

International workshops

The GCB's Advocacy Training Committee (the ATC) continued its ongoing relationship with Gray's Inn and made many more international connections over the year.

In August 2005, Judge Eberhard Bertelsmann attended at the Keble College Advanced Advocacy Course as a trainer invited by the ATC of the Bar of England and Wales. Joseph Senatle (North West Bar) attended as a junior.

In October 2005, Glenn Goosen SC (Eastern Cape Bar), Judge Stegmann, Marius Oosthuizen (Pretoria Bar) and Pete Koen (KwaZulu-Natal Bar) participated at the Gray's Inn workshop.

In May 2006, Terri-Lee Dix (as a junior), Reggie Reddy and Ismail Jamie SC as trainers, attended at the Gray's Inn workshop on our behalf.

Expert workshops

Two expert workshops were held in September 2005. The Johannesburg Bar conducted an accountancy workshop for juniors in conjunction with Deloitte's. Once again, Simon de Quindt from Deloitte's, London, came specifically to attend the workshop.

The Pretoria Bar held expert workshops in a medical negligence case, a road reconstruction case, and a forged document case. Edwin Glasgow QC and Michel Kallipetis QC from the ATC, London, attended at their own cost. The medical expert witnesses from the ear

nose and throat profession were very enthusiastic and 30 of their members attended as observers.

We have been approached by members of the obstetric profession to conduct workshops in conjunction with them, dealing in particular with 'informed consent.'

Teacher training workshop

In January 2006, we held our annual teacher training workshop. This time we chose Clarens, which was a beautiful but inconvenient venue. Edwin Glasgow QC and Nick Price QC (now a High Court judge) attended from the ATC. Judges Johann Kriegler, Ivor Schwartzman and Eberhard Bertelsmann attended to assist as trainers. It was a very successful weekend. We trained 40 new advocacy trainers and 27 pupils assisted in this.

Pupillage symposium

Several issues were raised and hopefully successfully dealt with at the pupillage symposium held in March 2006. At the GCB July 2006 AGM, the issue of assessments and their value to the NBEB and the question of compulsory continuing legal education were raised (see pages 36-48 of this issue).

World Bar Conference Hong Kong

Several members of our training team were invited to participate as trainers in the first advocacy training sessions conducted at the World Bar Conference

held in Hong Kong in April 2006. These sessions involved practical training for young members of the Hong Kong Bar. They were conducted with various degrees of success, mainly due to a lack of prior preparation by the organizers. From South Africa the following participated: Sharise Weiner SC, Spicko Dickson SC, Guy Hoffman SC, Denise Fisher, Tim Bruinders SC and Izak Smuts SC. In addition, four junior members, Fatimah Essop, Chris Woodrow, Paul de Villiers and Richard Makubela were sponsored by the GCB and Johannesburg Bar to attend.

Teacher training Hong Kong/ATC

After the WBC, a training workshop was held by the ATC in conjunction with the Hong Kong Bar Association. Justice Johann Kriegler and I were invited to participate as trainers at the workshop where members of the Hong Kong Bar and Bench were trained. Judging by the responses, this was a very successful workshop.

Advocacy training NPA/AFU

The GCB was requested by the NPA/Asset Forfeiture Unit to conduct a training workshop for its junior advocates on drafting skills and presentation of argument. As it was to be held in Johannesburg, members of that Bar took part as trainers in July 2006. The NPA agreed to pay for such training and an amount of R12 000 was charged for the day's training. This amount will be utilised in the advocacy training budget of the Johannesburg Bar for further training events.

Our thanks to Elize van den Heever and her team as well as to Joni Raff for her able assistance this year. 