

Welcoming in the new Council year

The Council year winds down, the elections are on the horizon, retiring members of Council look forward to some well earned rest and incoming Councillors think of the challenges ahead.

One of the major projects for the short and longer term will be the National Model Legal Practice Bill (LPB).

Earlier this year Council put a great deal of effort into considering and commenting on a draft LPB, as did other jurisdictions.

Further work was done on the draft LPB which was considered by the Standing Committee of Attorneys General (SCAG) at its 7 August 2003 meeting.

It appears the Ministers, amongst other things, have:

- Endorsed the model provisions as the basis for consistent laws for regulation of the profession, including those areas where textual uniformity is required;
- Intend to proceed with the next phase of the project towards implementation of the model provisions and have authorized officers to finalise the provisions in a manner consistent with the model provisions endorsed by Ministers at previous meetings;
- Have also approved Council having the opportunity to review final model provisions;
- Intend that Ministers approve out of session any substantive changes to model provisions;
- Approved public release of the model provisions once finalised;
- Authorised the drafting of supporting draft model regulations and rules; and
- Authorised development of an intergovernmental mechanism for uniformity.

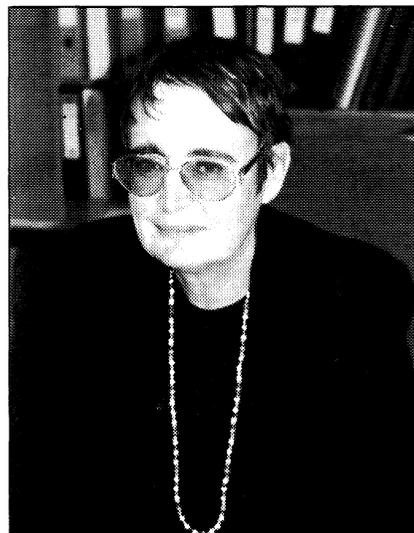
As I write this article it appears the next version of the Bill could be released as early next week for review by the Law Council of Australia and constituent bodies.

The Law Society has generally welcomed the provisions in the draft LPB to date. One issue outstanding has been the issue of Professional Indemnity Insurance, in particular exemptions and the applicability of national standards.

This issue has not been signed off by Ministers, with more work done on the proposed reinsurance and automatic models, as well as the development of national standards. The Society has, of course, been working hard to arrive at acceptable outcomes in this area.

It would be fair to say timeframes are tight, with a lot of work required in a very short period.

At this stage a likely outcome appears the enactment of the



Barbara Bradshaw, Chief Executive Officer, LSNT

LPB, with necessary Territory variations, some time next year.

However, this process has already begun with the passage of the Legal Practitioners (Incorporated Legal Practice and Multi-Disciplinary) Bill through the Northern Territory Parliament on 20 August 2003.

I would be happy to answer any member queries about this process.

In closing, I would like to thank the outgoing Council, in particular President Ian Morris, for the support provided over the last few months.

2003 CLE Program

- 12 Sep TBA - Jenny Blokland SM
- 22 Oct AustralAsia Railway Project
- Challenges Overcome -
Alastair Shields
- 19 Nov TBA - Justice Angel

Prices are \$22 members, \$27.50 non-members, \$5.50 students (all include GST).

The CLE presentations are videoconferenced to venues in Alice Springs and Katherine.

Unless otherwise notified, CLEs are presented in Darwin at Cridlands' boardroom, Smith Street (opposite the TIO), the Katherine venue is the

Katherine Regional Tourist Association, cnr Stuart Highway and Lindsay Street, and the Alice Springs venue is the Central Australian Division Primary Health Care Centre on 54 Hartley Street.

Bookings are essential.

CLE presentations are available on video (up until August 2002) or on CD (Sept 2002, Jan 2003, Feb 2003, Mar 2003). Information handouts from the CLEs can be obtained from the Law Society Northern Territory.

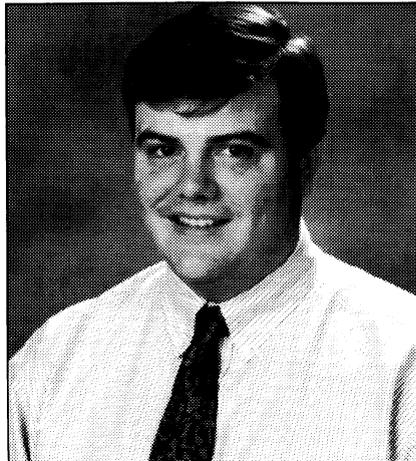
For more information ring Sonya at the Law Society on 8981-5104.

nominations

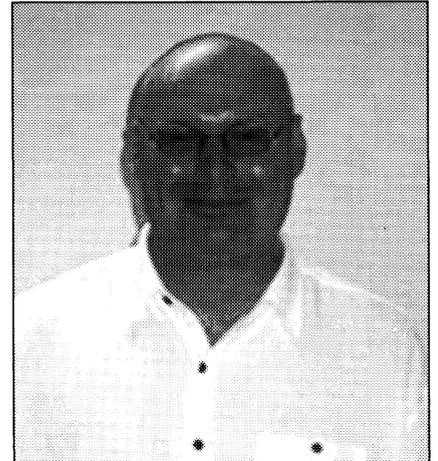
Nominations for the 2003-2004 LSNT Council



MERRAN SHORT (De Silva Hebron)
Nomination for President



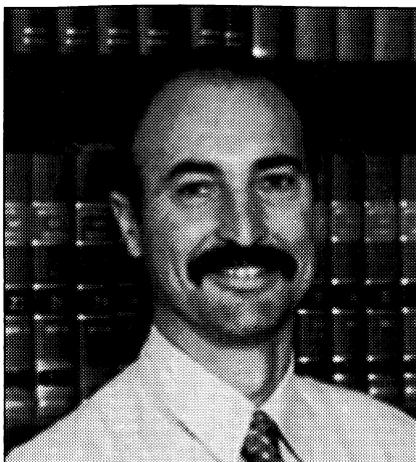
DUNCAN MACLEAN (Cridlands)
Nomination for Vice-President



GLEN DOOLEY (Department of the
Director of Public Prosecutions)
Nomination for Secretary



MICHAEL GROVE (Ward Keller)
Nomination for Treasurer



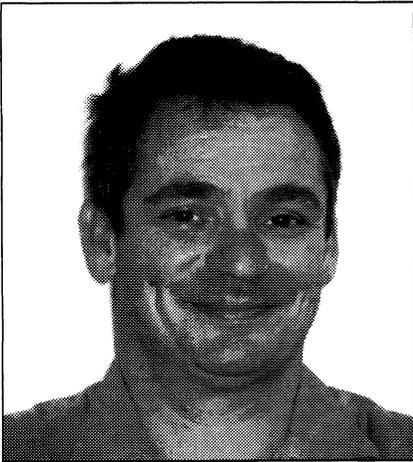
TONY WHITELUM (Morgan Buckley)
Nomination for Alice Springs
Representative



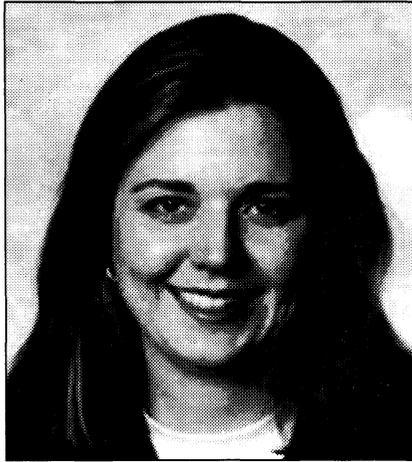
NARDINE COLLIER (Collier & Dean)
Nomination for Alice Springs Alternate
Representative

PLEASE NOTE: These are the nominations for this year's AGM as at close of business Friday 22 August - nomination did not close until close of business Tuesday 26 August 2003

Nominations for the 2003-2004 LSNT Council



MARKUS SPAZZAPAN (Markus Spazzapan)
Nomination for Councillor



DANIELLE HOWARD (Hunt and Hunt)
Nomination for Councillor



MARGARET ORWIN (Janet Terry)
Nomination for Councillor



MATTHEW STOREY (Department of Justice)
Nomination for Councillor

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE AT TIME
OF PUBLICATION

JO TOMLINSON (De Silva Hebron)
Nomination for Councillor

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