



THE LAW SOCIETY

O F N A M I B I A

Chairperson's Report for term
November 2016 to November 2017

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Foreword

The Law Society of Namibia stands on the shoulders of giants. Men and women, who have put their shoulders to the plough when it would've perhaps been easier to focus solely on building a practice. Women and men, who understand that the success of their unique profession requires every one of its members to participate or at least engage with the work of the LSN in some way.

The giants of today walk among us in all shapes and sizes and contribute to the success of our profession in myriad ways. Some prepare for and contribute at AGMs or other meetings related to the profession or simply make a point to attend events organised by the LSN. Others actively participate in committee work, while yet others avail themselves for Council positions. Behind the scenes are those who are always ready to listen and, if requested, offer a word of advice or handle part of a brief that wasn't actually their responsibility. On behalf of this year's LSN Council and Directorate, and myself, I express my sincerest gratitude to every one of you.

To the pioneering giants of yesterday, now on the Bench or retired or taking it easier somewhere else, and those who still practice but now focus elsewhere, your immense contributions have not been forgotten and remain highly appreciated.

2017 has been another eventful year in the profession and, even at the end of November, is not slowing down. But end it will, and when it does it will go down in my book as the most challenging yet.

The main tasks of the 2017 LSN Council have been addressing the Competition Commission's findings on the LSN's application for exemption of certain of our Rules from the provisions of the Competition Act, improving communication with members, enhancing transparency, addressing members' legitimate complaints around the management and accuracy of reporting on the LSN's finances, refining the LSN's value proposition and generally trying to introduce a more methodical approach to the activities of our organisation. Because of the tireless work of the Director, her managers and the staff of the LSN, as well as its Councillors, we've achieved our goals in some areas while others remain work in progress. I tip my hat to each and every one of you.

We hosted two successful Special General Meetings this year. The first was a lengthy and interesting affair where the members had their final say on the rule amendments necessitated by the Competition Commission's findings. The amendments to the rules have since been published and the updated rules uploaded onto the LSN's website. (I will be remiss if I do not mention that the Commission, while firm in its position, has always been willing to engage with us when necessary.) The second Special AGM was much shorter and resulted in the members approving, after several changes, two previous years' financial statements.

Our progress on the rest of the tasks have been set out in two LSN activity updates shared with members earlier this year in May and August. In the accompanying report, the detail of those earlier interim updates is repeated and extended to reflect the events of the last few months.

Personal highlights are the activity reports themselves, the appointment of our specialist Audit and Risk Committee and the slow but certain progress of the Change Project.

Low points are the passing away of several beloved members of our profession. Rest in peace Kandali Nuugwedha, Piet van Heerden, Eckart Pfeifer, Anna-marie Engelbrecht and At Slabber. (More information is available on page 11).

Another low point is the continued challenges to the sustainability of the LSN which has resulted in Council's recommendation for a marked increase in members fees on this year. One of the reasons for this increase is the double bind in which Namibia (including the organised legal profession) finds itself: we must ultimately become competitive in the global marketplace, yet at the moment don't enjoy the benefits of scale on either the supply or demand side. Our members, the public, and the LSN's other partners and stakeholders demand and deserve excellent service. The LSN and its members need highly skilled individuals to deliver these services. These individuals are in relatively short supply in Namibia and we are competing with many other organisations. These individuals therefore do not come cheap. As a self – regulating profession, members' fees are the LSN's primary income source. While larger countries can distribute the cost of regulation among a large pool of professionals and so keep individual contributions relatively low, the LSN and its members do not have this benefit. At the same time, we appreciate that increases as recommended are not sustainable as it will eventually place too large of a burden on members. We must therefore tighten our belts as far as possible. We are also aware and have heard it many a time from many a member that the limited differentiation between the levels of annual contributions, based only on post-admission experience, may not be equitable and must be changed. For these reasons the Change Project will soon make recommendations on different funding models for the LSN, hopefully to be introduced by this time next year.

Please attend the AGM of 1 December 2017 to listen to your colleagues and have your own voice heard. It promises to be a most interesting end to a most interesting year.

Excitedly yours

Ramon

AGM: 25 November 2016 and Judge JP Karuaihe Trust: Legal Excellence Awards

The 17th Anniversary of the Judge JPK Trust and the 10th Annual Judge JPK Trust Legal Excellence Awards took place on Friday, 25 November 2016, at Hotel Thule, prior to the AGM of the LSN.

Since the awards are centred around legal practitioners and law students, the LSN created an opportunity for its members to be present when future legal practitioners and their peers are awarded for their achievements.

It was the fourth time that the Judge JPK Trust Legal Excellence Awards ceremony took place on the same day and prior to the LSN AGM.

Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo (**top left**), on behalf of the Judge JPK Trust, accepted the sponsor cheque, in the amount of N\$40,000.00, from Poenie van den Berg (Director at Dr Weder, Kauta & Hoveka Inc).

Gustav Gous (**top right**), a Namibian born international speaker and trainer, with expertise in the fields of leadership, motivation, emotional intelligence and stress management, made a presentation on:

“In your right mind – the mental health of legal practitioners”.



Retha Steinmann (LSN Director) – accepted the award on behalf of Dieter Maree, winner of the Legal Excellence Award for Social Responsibility. Phillip Balhao (University of Namibia) – accepted all the awards on behalf the best JTC and LLB 2015 students. Smart Elago – accepted the Legal Excellence Award for Human Rights on behalf of the law firm Tjombe-Elago Inc. Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo – represented the Judge JPK Trust. Also in this picture are Wouter Rossouw – LSN Chairperson (until 25 November 2016) and Ngamane Karuaihe-Upi - who represented the Judge JPK Trust.

- **Legal Excellence Awards**

The LSN received the names of the best students from the Justice Training Centre and the University of Namibia, respectively.

Many of the LSN members contribute to society but they do not always 'advertise' their good deeds. The LSN thanks them for their contributions to society and trust that the good deeds will continue in future.

The LSN invited nominations for the awards from its members. The Access to Law and Social Responsibility Committee considered:

- Nominations received;
- LSN members who appeared pro bono;
- Members who presented training and who assisted the presenters with training; and
- Members who assisted the LSN with the free legal advice days.

The Committee made recommendations to the Council with regard to the Legal Excellence Awards for Social Responsibility and Human Rights.

We thank the JPK Trust for joining hands with the LSN to honour these achievements.

- **Best Student Excellence Awards**

Best JTC Student for 2015

Natasha de Beer achieved a 69% average respectively in all 11 subjects. Phillip Balhao, on behalf of Natasha de Beer, accepted the award from Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo and a cheque, in the amount of N \$3,500.00, from Wouter Rossouw.

Best LLB Final Year Student for 2015 (top picture)

Two awards were handed out in the category: one for the old LLB Programme and one for the new LLB Programme.

- Irene Shebo achieved 65% average in the old LLB programme (2015).
- Johannes P Uusiku achieved 69% average in the new LLB programme (2015).

Phillip Balhao, on behalf of Irene Shebo and Johannes Uusiku, accepted the awards from Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo and cheques, in the amount of N\$2,000.00 each, from Wouter Rossouw.

- **Legal Excellence Award for Social Responsibility (middle picture)**

Retha Steinmann (LSN Director), on behalf of the winner Dieter Maree, accepted the award from Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo.

- **Legal Excellence Award for Human Rights (bottom picture)**

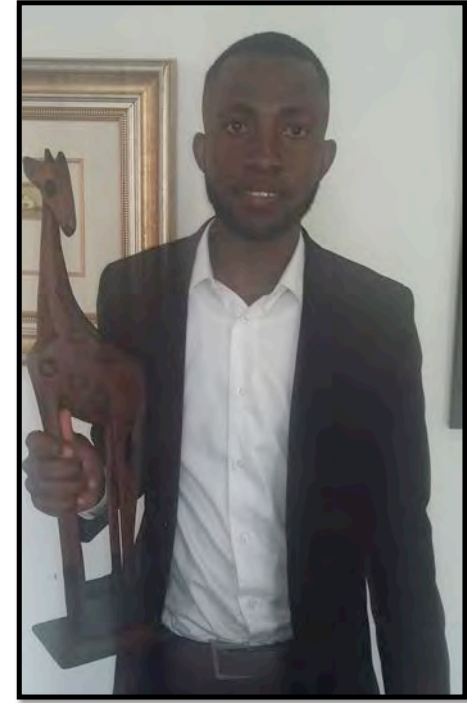
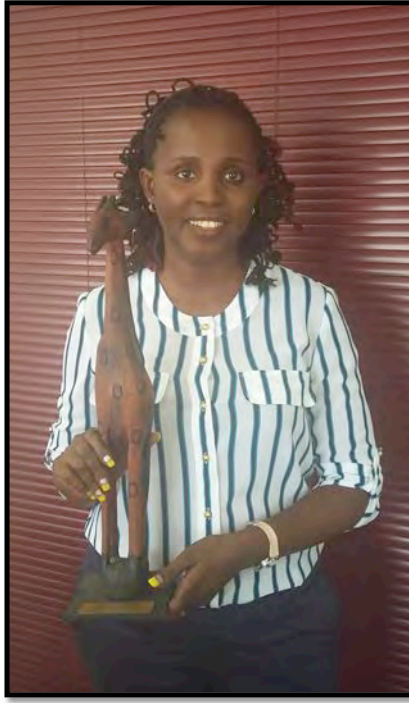
Smart Elago, on behalf of Tjombe-Elago Inc, received the award from Vicky Erenstein ya Toivo and Ngamane Karuaihe-Upi











- **JPK Legal Excellence Awards**

Retha had the opportunity this year to personally hand-over the awards to Dieter Maree (**top left**) and the awards and cheques in the amount of N\$2,000.00 to Irene Shebo (**top middle**) who achieved 65% average in the old LLB programme and JP Uusiku (**top right**) who achieved 69% average in the new LLB programme.

JUTA sponsored gift vouchers for the LSN's AGM held on 25 November 2017. Retha received complimentary diaries and the gift vouchers from Wayne Staples (**left**) of JUTA when he visited Namibia prior to the AGM.

In Memoriam

The following members passed away during the year:

Top:

Kandali Nuugwedha passed away on 3 February 2017.

Piet van Heerden passed away on 17 March 2017.

Eckart Pfeifer passed away on 24 May 2017.

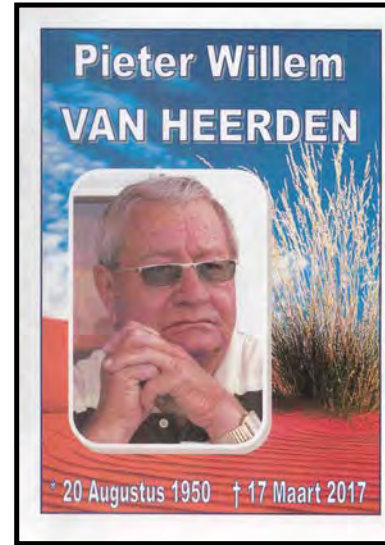
Bottom:

Anna-marie Engelbrecht passed away on 2 November 2017.

At Slabber passed away on 6 November 2017.

“The Chairperson, Council and Directorate of the Law Society of Namibia extend their deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family, relatives and friends of the late colleagues.

We wish you strength and guidance during this period of bereavement. May their souls rest in peace”.



In memoriam

Nic Swart, the driving force behind the South African school for legal practice (now called LEAD) for more than 20 years and the CEO of the Law Society of South Africa for the last 7 years, and a dear friend of the LSN, passed away on 10 August 2017, whilst attending the SADC Lawyers' Association Annual Conference in Gabarone.

Retired Judge Mtambanengwe **(left)** and Judge Levy **(right)** both passed away during the year.

“The Chairperson, Council and Directorate of the Law Society of Namibia also wish to extend their deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family, relatives and friends of the late Nic Swart and Retired Judges Mtambanengwe and Levy.

We wish you strength and guidance during this period of bereavement.

May their souls rest in peace.”

The photograph of Judge Mtambanengwe is from an article published in the Namibian on 11 May 2011 and the photograph of Judge Levy is from the article published in the Namibian on 7 November 2011.





LSN Council November 2016 – November 2017

If the number of candidates duly nominated is equal to the number of vacancies in the Council and includes the minimum number of members who are engaged in private practice, as prescribed by Section 45 (1) of the Act, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be duly elected at the conclusion of the annual general meeting.

As one of 5 candidates withdrew from the election process, it was no longer necessary to hold elections.

Front: Saima Nambinga, Johann du Plessis (Vice-Chairperson), Ramon Maasdrorp (Chairperson), Doris Hans-Kaumbi.

Back: Melki Uupindi, Gaenor Michaels, Smart Elago, Meyer van den Berg.

- **Council Farewell / Welcoming**

The farewell / welcoming function reception for Councillors took place at River Crossing Lodge on Thursday, 19 January 2017, after the Council meeting.

Council presented both Wouter Rossouw (past Chairperson) and Ingrid Husselmann (past Councillor) with gifts to thank them for their commitment and willingness to step-up to fill the 2 vacant positions on Council during 2016.

Johann du Plessis (newly elected Councillor) could not attend the dinner due to a prior engagement.





Meyer van den Berg (newly elected Councillor) & Doris Hans-Kaumbi.
Ingrid Husselmann (past Councillor) & Isabel Mwazi (Manager: Risk & Compliance Unit).
Ben-Henri & Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager: Professional Affairs).
Ansie and Wouter Rossouw (past Chairperson).



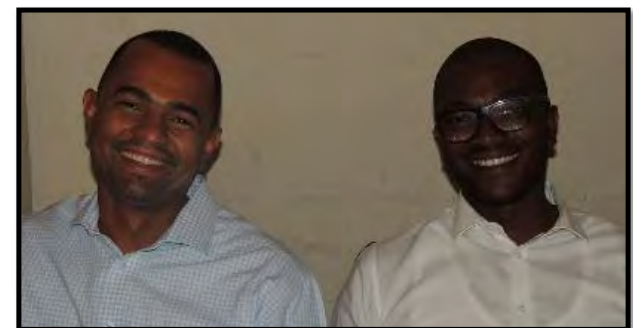
Saima Nambinga & Melki Uupindi.

Delia Weimers – Maasdorp & Ramon Maasdorp.



Gaenor Michaels & Weston Bester.

Ramon Maasdorp (Chairperson) & Smart Elago.



- **Council Retreat: Saturday, 21 January 2017**

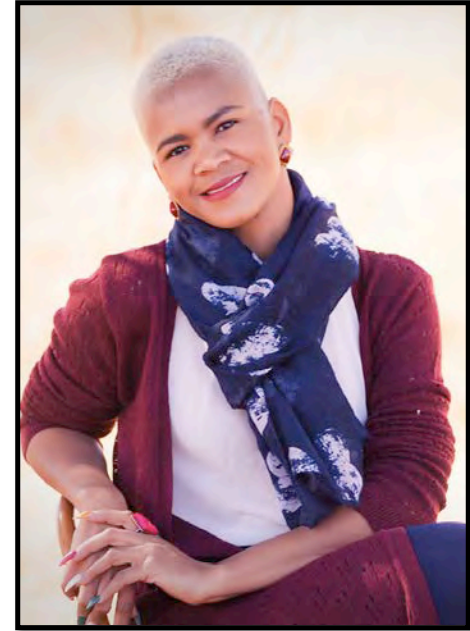
Eben de Klerk, Change Project – Project Manager, made a presentation to Council on ‘The Change Project: Leading the way to a trusted, vibrant and relevant Namibian Legal Profession’. Council is provided with monthly updates.

Discussion further touched on: Council’s Vision for 2017, Portfolios for Councillors, Delegation of Authority, Decision Making Framework, Training Needs of Council and Directorate, Management Committee, Co-option, Standing Committees, Year Planner, Appointments, Success Factors.

Council also congratulated the Director with her birthday and handed her a Certificate and Gifts to celebrate her 20 years employment at the LSN.

Smart Elago, Saima Nambinga, Ramon Maasdorp, Johann du Plessis, Jo-mari Koekemoer, Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi, Gaenor Michaels, Retha Steinmann, Meyer van den Berg.



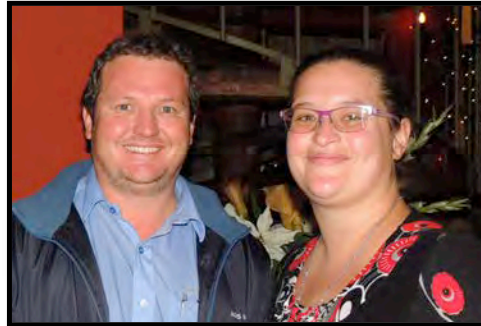


- **Councillors and Co-option of Councillors**

Johann du Plessis relocated to Canada and resigned from Council on 30 June 2017. Council, at its meeting held on 31 March 2017, resolved to appoint Eldorette Harmse (top left) to replace Johann du Plessis as from 1 July 2017.

Meyer van den Berg (left) replaced Johann du Plessis as from 1 July 2017 as Vice Chairperson.

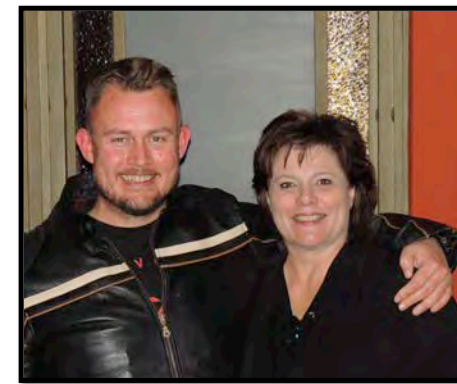
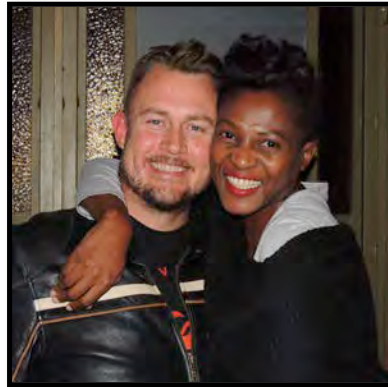
Katja Klein (middle) and Vincia Cloete (right) were co-opted as Councillors.



• **Farewell Function: Johann du Plessis – 28 June 2017**

Retha hosted Johann's farewell function at her home. Smart Elago, Eldorette Harmse and the two co-opted Councillors, Vincia Cloete and Katja Klien could not attend the function due to prior commitments.

Top: Eloise & Johann du Plessis, Gaenor Michaels & Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi, Ramon Maasdorp & Delia Weimers-Maasdorp. **Middle:** Ben-Henri & Jo-mari Koekemoer. **Bottom:** Melki Uupindi & Saima Nambinga, Delia Weimers-Maasdorp & Saima Nambinga, Daniel Steinmann & Eloise du Plessis.



• Farewell function for Johann du Plessis – 28 June 2017

Johann du Plessis with: **Top:** Ramon Maasdorp, Meyer van den Berg. **Middle:** Saima Nambinga, Melki Uupindi, Jo-mari Koekemoer. **Bottom:** Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi, Gaenor Michaels, Retha Steinmann.

The President, Council and Directorate thanked Johann for his contributions as the Vice Chairperson for the 7 months he served on Council and wished him and his family all the best with their ventures in Canada.



- **Mind Mapping Session for Council / Managers**

Mayumbula Michael Chikwililwa of Vision Multimedia CC, whom some of Law Society representatives met at the PSAN conference, provided a free training session on the topic of “Teamwork” on 15 September 2017.



Change Project

On Saturday, 3 December 2016, a briefing session with key stakeholders took place at Lemon Tree.

The following key stakeholders were represented:

The Namibia Consumers Trust, the Office of the Judiciary, Office of the Attorney General, LSN Council, Namibian Lawyers Association, Society of Advocates of Namibia, Corporate Council and Company Secretaries Association of Namibia.



- **Change Project**

Ramon Maasdorp is the Chairperson of the Steering Committee and the committee members are Saima Nambinga, Doris Hans-Kaumbi and Toni Hancox.

The Director of the LSN has also attended the majority of the meetings.

Eben de Klerk is the dedicated Project Manager.

The purpose of the Change Project is to create a platform for transformational change in the legal profession, based on well reached evidence.

The purpose of the meeting, on Saturday, 3 December 2016, was to give an outline of the design process to be undertaken, to share the preliminary research themes as identified, to seek input on design considerations to be addressed or research themes that may have been missed.

The members of the Change Project Research Methodology Design Team, were:

Dr Rachel Shanyanana: PhD, UNAM

Dr Christie Keulder: PhD, MD of Survey Warehouse

Mr Anthony Muganza: BA Hons, Fame! Consultancy

Ms Christa Schier: MPhil, Data Processing and Analysis Consultant

Dr Dunia Prince Zongwe: Doctorate in Science of Law, Senior Lecturer, UNAM

Mr John Hoyles, recently retired CEO of the Canadian Bar Association

The researchers were present to observe the proceedings and the inputs.



- **Change Project Research Methodology Design Team**

Front:

Anthony Muganza: BA Hons, Fame! Consultancy; Rachel Shanyanana: PhD, UNAM; Ramon Maasdorp, Chairperson LSN and Steering Committee.

Back:

Christa Schier: MPhil, Data Processing and Analysis Consultant; Dunia Prince Zongwe: Doctorate in Science of Law, Senior Lecturer, UNAM; Eben de Klerk: Project Manager; Elizabeth Coetzee: Stenographer / Secretarial services; Christie Keulder: PhD, MD of Survey Warehouse; John Hoyles, recently retired CEO of the Canadian Bar Association

- **Change Project**

Media practitioners were invited to attend a press conference on “The Change Project” on Tuesday, 4 July 2017 at the LSN Boardroom.

The 2nd Team Brief, updating members on the Change Project, was circulated via e-mail on 17 August 2017.

The arrangement of the press conferences and compilation of the Team Briefs were handled by Oxygen Communications (Pty) Ltd.





- **Town Hall Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 October 2017 at Longbeach Lodge, Langstrand**

Time slots were allocated for each of the discussion points to accommodate our members, who are unable to participate in all the sessions, to choose one or more of the sessions.

Legal practitioners were invited to attend this meeting. We communicated with members / legal practitioners directly and therefore it was not necessary to advertise this event in the media. We chose the venue in Langstrand in order not to inconvenience practitioners from either Walvis Bay or Swakopmund - as all them have to travel the same distance and to avoid a situation where legal practitioners in Swakopmund may not be able to attend if the session is held in Walvis Bay or vice versa. We had hoped that the venue would be equally convenient and accessible to all the members at the coast. The Change Project is sponsored by the LSN, the NLPT and the Fidelity Fund.

Front: Garoy September, Ramon Maasdorp, Doris Hans, Toni Hancox.

Back: Mekumbu Tjiteere, Saima Nambinga, Eben de Klerk, Terry-Ann Routh, Lisa Martins, Elmo Ochs, Hilke Ahrens, Piet Burger

Due to not enough interest shown, the Windhoek town hall session was cancelled.

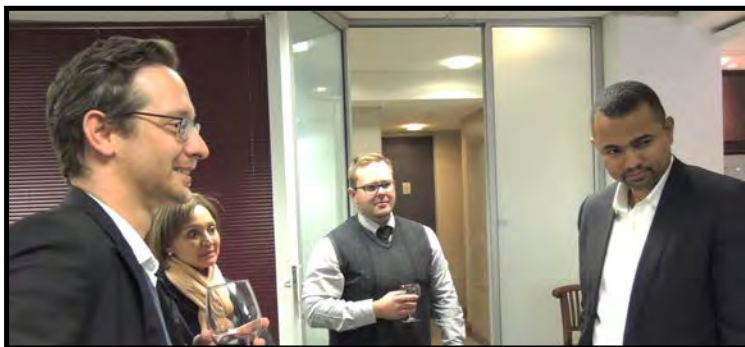
- **Special General Meeting: 23 May 2017**

The Special General Meeting, to approve the Rule changes to bring it in line with the Ruling made by the Competition Commission, took place on 23 May 2017 at the LSN boardroom.

The Special General Meeting was another milestone reached.

The Rule Amendments were approved by the Honourable Chief Justice and then submitted to the Legal Drafters. The LSN Chairperson received the Amended Rules for signature before promulgation thereof and it was published on the LSN website.

Subsequently, further correspondence was exchanged between the LSN and the NaCC.



Finances

- **Special General Meeting: 5 September 2017**

At its meeting held on 23 June 2016, the LSN resolved to establish an Audit and Risk Committee. The appointment of the ARC was further deliberated on and in principle agreed to at the retreat of the LSN and the LPFF on 24 August 2016, attended by both organisations / consultants of both organisations.

At its meeting held on 2 November 2016, Council appointed Saima Nambinga, Gaenor Michaels and Tiaan Bazuin to serve on the ARC. At the aforementioned meeting of Council, a decision was then also made to invite applications, via the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAN).

The ARC had its first meeting on 26 January 2017, at which meeting Saima Nambinga was appointed as the Chairperson. At the aforementioned meeting, the ARC also considered, 3 candidates who applied for the position and appointed Debbie Smit (an auditor with relevant experience and expertise) as the fourth member of the ARC. Debbie Smit attended meetings as from the second ARC meeting.

The purpose of the Audit and Risk Committee is, *inter alia*, that it would be the first line of reporting for the Risk & Compliance Unit (RCU) at the Law Society of Namibia, to evaluate the reports of the Manager RCU and to provide the Council of the LSN with recommendations and guidance.

This committee is also tasked with certain internal auditing functions at the LSN, assisting with the LSN budget and consideration of the LSN's financial statements and investments.

After the November 2016 AGM and the comments made at the meeting, Council engaged in some introspection.

The ARC considered both the Audited Financial Statements (2014 / 2015 and 2015 / 2016), as well as the feedback received from both the auditing firms, Swart Grant Angula (SGA) and Hamilton Chartered Accountants (HCA), and subsequently made recommendations to Council. At the SGM Saima Nambinga briefly discussed some of the issues, which arose from the previous minutes of the AGM.

The AFS for both financial years were adopted at the AGM.



Stakeholder Engagement

- **United Nations Global Leadership Training program in Africa**

On 13 January 2017, Jo-mari Koekemoer met with Hiroshige Fujii, a Japanese Scholar and a member of United Nations Global Leadership Training Program in Africa, currently based in South Africa as a visiting fellow at the University of Cape Town with funding support from the United Nations University.

- **2nd Rechtsanwaltskammer - Frankfurt am Main**

During 2009, the Bar Organisation of Frankfurt am Main and the LSN agreed to a relationship of amicable cooperation between the two bodies:

- Keep mutual exchange of information about our respective legal systems, and assist to look up the law issues when necessary.
- Hold legal conferences and seminars on the mutual interests and present papers if and when appropriate.
- Reciprocal visit and training to the law firms of each organization and exchange experience.
- Recommend appropriate lawyers and firms to set up a steady relationship between the two cities to facilitate the economic development.

Unfortunately, this relationship was not used to its full fruition and a renewed effort has been made since October 2016 and a second visit to Namibia has been initiated by Frankfurt am Main Bar Organisation.

Johann du Plessis (Vice Chairperson) handed 'thank you' gifts to Dieter Lefevre and Heike Eulig who lead the delegation.





- **2nd Rechtsanwaltskammer - Frankfurt am Main meeting: Hotel Thule on 7 February 2017**

Various legal practitioners attended the meeting: Johann du Plessis, Meyer van den Berg, Doris Hans-Kaumbi, Andreas Vaatz, Retha Steinmann, Jo-mari Koekemoer, Elize Angula, Sacky Akweenda, Matti Asino, Florian Beukes, Yvonne Dausab, Ulrich Etzold, Uno Katjipuka-Sibolele, Richard Mueller, Marco Schurz, Vincia Cloete, Deidre Sauls-Deckenbrock (only for lunch) and Izabel Mwazi.

- **Opening of the Legal Year on 8 February 2017 at the Supreme Court.**

Hon. Peter S Shivute, Chief Justice of the Republic of Namibia, inter alia, addressed the following: Taking stock of the Legal Year 2016; Improvement in service delivery; Supreme Court; High Court; Magistrates Courts; Challenges; Violence against women and children; Witness fees; Need for criminal justice reform; Law reporting; Judiciary's contribution to national development; Sustaining service delivery under austerity.

His Excellency, Dr. Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia graced this event with his presence.

The swearing-in ceremony of Hon Justice B Usiku and Hon JS Prinsloo took place on 4 July 2017, at the Supreme Court.

- **Appointment as Judges**

Since May to August 2017, the following announcements were made by the Judicial Services Commission:

The Judicial Service Commission announced that His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, has appointed Mr. Boas Usiku and Mrs. Johanna Sophia Prinsloo as permanent Judges of the High Court with effect from 1 July 2017.

- **Judicial Service Commission**

Vicky Ya Toivo was appointed as a member of the Judicial Service Commission for a period of three years, effective from 15 July 2017, on nomination of the NLA.





- **Hanns Seidel Foundation**

On behalf of the Head of Country Office, Dr Clemens von Doderer, the LSN received an invitation to a lunch meeting at Stellenbosch Restaurant on Monday, 20 March 2017, with a delegation from the Bavarian State Parliament (MBSP) who visited Namibia from 18 until 21 March 2017. They were accompanied by Dr. von Doderer and H.E. the German Ambassador, Mr Christian Schlaga.

The four MBSP's are Members of the Committee on Constitution, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs and were interested in legal and constitutional affairs.

With them are Retha Steinmann, Johann du Plessis (Vice Chairperson), Isabel Mwazi and Jo-mari Koekemoer.



- **AU Commission on Human and Peoples Rights: Commission on HIV**

Members of the Standing Committee on Human Rights, Loini Shikale, Adda Angula, Jana-Marie van Zyl, Councillor Meyer van den Berg, Director Retha Steinmann and Manager Professional Affairs Jo-mari Koekemoer met with the members of the Commission on Thursday, 27 April 2017, at the LSN Boardroom.

- **Meeting with Unam Law Students: 10 May 2017**

The LSN Directorate met with the UNAM Law Student representatives on 10 May 2017. The students informed the LSN of their future projects and their recent Law Week, at which event Ramon Maasdorp made a presentation.

Takunda Gumbu (Marketing Director of ULAWSO), Isabel Mwazi (Manager: Risk & Compliance Unit of the LSN) Chrispen Majojo (Public Relations Officer: Internal of ULAWSO), Jo-Mari Koekemoer (Manager: Professional Affairs of the LSN), Dean-Marlo Titus (Secretary General of ULAWSO) and Retha Steinmann (Director: LSN).



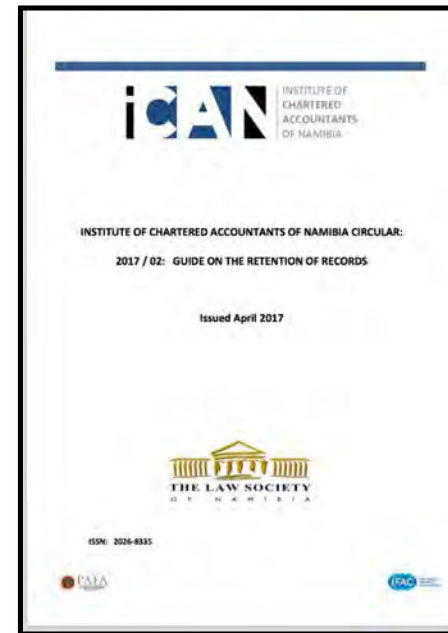
- **Meeting with Researcher from London University**

Ramon Maasdorp, Meyer van den Berg and Retha Steinmann was invited to a breakfast meeting at Avani Hotel by Dr. Peter Brett, a researcher from the University of London, who is conducting a British Academy project that compares the different ways in which judges are appointed in the highest court in Southern Africa.

During his stay in Namibia Dr. Brett met with various organisations.

- **Institute of Chartered Accountants**

Members received a copy of the **Guide on the Retention of Records**, compiled as a joint venture between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Namibia (ICAN) and the Law Society of Namibia (LSN), via e-mail on 1 June 2017.



- **Neeef Public Debate**

The LSN and the NLA presented a public debate on NEEEF on 20 October 2017, at NICE Restaurant.

The question debated was: “Does legislation aimed at the upliftment of the poor and the distribution of wealth, including the equal distribution of productive assets, inhibit investment at the expense of the eventual attainment of a socially just and equitable society?”

On the left is Master of Ceremonies, Steve Ndorokaze with the presenters: Reinhard Totemeyer, Gerson Narib, Natasha Bassingthwaighte, Patrick Kauta. The attendees were welcomed by Ramon Maasdorp of the LSN and Taz July of the NLA.





- **Law Reform & Development Commission**

The LRDC launched the book “LRDC at 25: A quarter century of social carpentry” on 19 October 2017, at its office at Mutual Platz.

The contributors to the book at the launch with Hon Dr Albert Kawana, Minister of Justice, Yvonne Dausab, Chairperson of the Law Reform and Development Commission and Dianne Hubbard of the Legal Assistance Centre.



- **University of Namibia – Faculty of Law**

The annual awards ceremony took place at the University of Namibia on 16 October 2017, at the PK Lecture Hall. The aim was to award the best performing students for the academic year. The LSN was invited to attend and to sponsor some awards. Due to the time of year the event was not well attended and many of the award winners were not in attendance.

Front row: Prof Boyce Wanda (HOD: Postgraduate Studies), Dr Tapiwa Warikandwa (Senior Lecturer), Prof John Baloro (Dean: Faculty of Law), Dr. Meyer van den Berg (Vice Chairperson: LSN) with some of the award winners and at the back Phillip Balhao, Lecturer and member of the LSN.

Nominations that may not have been mentioned already in the report

- **Nominations submitted to the Judicial Service Commission for the appointment of Judges** - On 28 February 2017, the LSN made 4 nominations for consideration by the Judicial Service Commission as permanent Judges of the High Court. The LSN also submitted names for consideration as Acting Judges: Clement Daniels, James Diedericks and Hettie Garbers-Kirsten.
- **Nominations - BIPA** - The Business & Intellectual Property Authority (BIPA) established a National Task Force to review the draft Intellectual Property (IP) Policy, which is intended to strengthen the IP system of Namibia, support the protection, generation and commercialization of IP assets, improve awareness and use of IP as a tool for development. BIPA has requested the LSN to nominate a person to serve on the National Task Force. Benita Blume was nominated as member and Vincia Cloete was nominated as alternate member.
- **Appointment of members on the DC** - Ingrid Husselmann, Charmaine van der Westhuizen, Ruth Herunga, Silvanus Nepunda.
- **Nominations - Board for Legal Education** - Deidre Sauls-Deckenbrock, Pieter de Beer and Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi.
- **MVA Fund Board** - Saima Nambinga.
- **Nomination of Alternate Conveyancer to serve on the Deeds Registries Regulations Board** - Anne Shilengudwa.
- **Nomination - Election of the members of the African Charter on Human & Peoples Rights (ACHPR)** - Yvonne Dausab & Titus Ipumbu.
- **Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** - Norman Tjombe & Ruusa Ntinda.
- **Nomination - Member of the National Alignment Committee for the SADC Qualifications Framework (SADCQF)** - Jo-mari Koekemoer.
- **Nomination of Commissioners of the National Commission on Research, Science & Technology** - Joshua Kaumbi.

Other Meetings and Engagements (in no particular order)

- **PSAN** - Some Councillors and the Managers at the LSN Directorate, attended a training session of the Professional Speakers Association of Namibia (PSAN) on 25 January 2017, at the Safari Court Hotel. The topics, addressed by four international speakers, included: Strategy, Marketing, Work Life Integration and Unity in Diversity and Creative New Thinking.
- **Professional Indemnity Insurance** -The Director and Brigitte Mack (obo the LPFF) met with AON representatives, on 12 January 2017, to discuss the new requirement that the LSN or the LPFF should make a 'No Claims Declaration'. As it is not possible for either the LPFF or the LSN to have knowledge of PI claims, the practising members were requested to complete these forms and to submit it by 24 January 2017, in order to submit the information to AON by 31 January 2017.
As many of the firms were uncertain as to what was expected of them, another meeting was arranged with AON.
On 10 February 2017, AON agreed to waive the NCD, but will monitor claims on a quarterly basis. All that was requested was for the firms to confirm if any of the members / firms have expanded their business to include anything other than that of the normal duties of Attorneys / drastically downsized their staff ratio but still handle the same amount of workload. (Meaning mistakes can be made, and claims can follow.)
- A circular on how to report a potential claim was issued on 13 April 2017.
- **Registrar of the High Court** - Jo-mari Koekemoer and Retha Steinmann met with the Chief Registrar, Elsie Schickerling on 14 February 2017, to discuss legal practitioners' availability.
- **Meeting at ICAN with BIPA, MOT, BON and ICAN** – 6 February 2017.

- **Legal Shield** - Ramon Maasdorp was invited to attend the Annual Legal Shield Bursary event, held on 16 February 2017, at Lemon Tree Opera House.
- **Good Morning Namibia** - On 16 February 2017 and 9 March 2017 Johann du Plessis participated on NBC Good Morning Namibia discussing the Legal Year Opening and the LSN, respectively. Various other slots on GMN were attended by the Standing Committee Members.
- **Climate Change** - On 28 February 2017, Retha Steinmann, on invitation of the French Ambassador, attended an after-hour discussion on Implementing the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, following COP21 and COP22 at the FNCC Gallery.
- **Stakeholders meeting regarding Position Paper** – 8 March 2017. Legal Practitioners Accused of Criminal Offences / egregious offences: Towards the end of last year, we circulated to our members a Position Paper on the captioned draft Policy. The Policy is intended to clarify the approach the Council of Law Society believes it should adopt when it learns that a candidate or legal practitioner has been accused of a crime that reflects on their being fit and proper to practice as a legal practitioner, where the criminal case has not been finalised. To ensure proper ventilation of relevant issues around the Paper and proposed Policy, the LSN invited members to a dialogue at the Law Society Boardroom on Wednesday, 8 March 2017. The discussion focussed on: answering some of the questions already raised by members; clearing any misconceptions on the legal and factual foundations for the Paper and proposed policy; affording an opportunity for members to discuss with colleagues their support, reservations and / or suggestions on the draft policy; discussing and formulating possible disciplinary procedures that could strike an effective balance between the interests of the public, legal practitioners and the administration of justice (where these critical interests may clash or be seen to clash).
The meeting was attended by: Hon Minister Pohamba Shifeta, Yvonne Dausab, Amupanda Kamanja, Sylvanus Nepunda, Ramon Maasdorp, Ingrid Husselmann, Retha Steinmann and Jo-mari Koekemoer. Ramon Maasdorp and Retha Steinmann met with Wouter Rossouw (past Chairperson) to discuss the document relating to legal practitioners and candidate legal practitioners accused of egregious offences on 25 October 2017, at Longbeach Lodge. Members have again during this year been accused of criminal activities.
- **Pension** - The LSN is considering 3 proposals obtained for Pension Schemes / Provident funds, to see how staff members, as well as the profession, can benefit from a group scheme. Consultative meetings will be held during May/June 2017.
- **FIC & ICAN** - Meetings took place with the Financial Intelligence Centre of the Bank of Namibia, the Institute of Chartered Accountants and BIPA regarding matters of mutual concern.

- **Task Force** - On the invitation of the Honourable Chief Justice, and the leadership of the Namibian Judiciary, a team of senior members of the United States Judicial System, visited Namibia in November 2016. They consulted with stakeholders in the Namibian Criminal Justice System, with the ultimate goal of identifying sources of delay in the resolution of Criminal cases, and recommending potential solutions. Their visit culminated in their "Report and Recommendations of the U.S. Team on Criminal Justice Reform" (the Report).
On 29 March 2017, on the invitation of the Chief Justice, several key stakeholders in the Criminal Justice system, including the LSN who was represented by Ramon Maasdorp and Ingrid Husselmann, attended a consultative session on the Report. The Task Force is led by the Deputy Chief Justice and will ultimately report to the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice will make Policy decisions and consult whom ever needs to be consulted for decisions outside of the Task Force members' scope of authority.
The Task Force meeting took place on Thursday, 27 April 2017. Ramon Maasdorp was appointed to the Task Force and has attended subsequent meetings.
- **Namlex Chambers** - The Director was elected as Trustee, representing the LSN on the Namlex Body Corporate, at the BC's AGM held on 2 March 2017.
- **Wildlife Protection** - Jo-mari Koekemoer and Daan Small attended the Workshop on Wildlife Protection and fundraising event on 3 March 2017, at the Safari Hotel.
- **Public Lecture** - Members were invited to a public lecture by a visiting US District Judge, Victoria Roberts, on "The Checks and Balances of the US Government" at the Mining Auditorium at NUST. She was visiting Namibia on invitation of the Namibian Judiciary. The public lecture was co-branded by the LSN and the US Embassy. Ramon Maasdorp introduced the speaker.

- **Disciplinary Committee** - The LSN appointed Ingrid Husselmann, Silvanus Nepunda, Charmaine van der Westhuizen and Ruth Herunga as members of the independent statutory Disciplinary Committee. Subsequently, Charmaine van der Westhuizen was elected as Chairperson. The Hon. Minister of Justice appointed Amber Coerecius as the Secretary of the Disciplinary Committee. The DC met regularly during the year.
- **Disciplinary Committee** - The Director met with Gladice Pickering – Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, on 17 May 2017 to discuss, inter alia, the functioning of the Disciplinary Committee.
- **DC and Legal Ethics** - The LSN Chairperson met with the members of the Disciplinary Committee and the Legal Ethics and Investigatory Committee on 7 March 2017. The discussion points, inter alia, were: Setting and documenting a consistent standard throughout the disciplinary process, from complaint intake to high court applications; Increasing transparency in the disciplinary process, including ensuring complainants have access to LP responses and reasons for all decisions; Securing/optimizing resources to assist with DC investigations, prosecutions and administrative functions for both committees, e.g. securing a committed pool of practitioners and arranging training and possibly funding. Members are requested to assist the DC should it be required. On Wednesday, 13 September 2017, the Deputy Permanent Secretary updated the Director and Ms. Koekemoer on the challenges experienced by the DC, as well as the positive development that a dedicated office is now occupied by the Secretary to the DC.
- **Press Statements** - The LSN issued a statement in support of the SADC LA and the Law Association of Zambia in response to the siege of the LAZ offices on 3 March 2016 and the Zimbabwean situation in November 2017.
- **Namibian Law Reports** – Funding was required by the LAC to pay the editor of the law reports. The LSN called upon its members who are willing to contribute towards the funding of the Namibian Law Reports to contact the LAC. Request for funding have also been made to the LPFF, the NLPT and the Society of Advocates. An amount of N\$140,000.00 is required per year.

- **Namlex** - A meeting took place on Wednesday, 13 September 2017 between Gladice Pickering, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, Anel van der Vyver, of the Office of the Attorney General, the Director and Manager Professional Affairs.

The Office of the Attorney-General and Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the Legal Assistance Centre, are undertaking a short term project to update Namlex. In preparation for this project they have come to the realization that there are several local websites, which provide online access to Government Gazettes and annotated statutes with varying degrees of accuracy. Even the paid for South African databases are not without errors.

The long term vision is to provide a local database hosted on a few existing platforms which provides online access to legislation in Gazette and annotated form, bilateral and multilateral treaties and court cases relevant to the legislation. In order for this to materialize the buy in of the private sector through the Law Society of Namibia was required.

- **Social Media and Disruptive Technology Conference:** Jo-mari Koekemoer attended the conference on 11 April and Ramon Maasdorp attended on 12 April 2017.
- **China-Africa Young Legal Professionals Exchange Program:** Members were invited to indicate interest to be nominated for consideration to attend the sponsored 4th Course of China-Africa Young Legal Professionals Exchange Program. The LSN nominated Stephanie de Klerk and Aisha Isaak. Stephanie de Klerk was selected and Aisha Isaak placed on a waiting list. When Stephanie could not attend Aisha attended.

- **International Lawyers for Africa – ILFA** - On 16 May 2017, the in-country committee, consisting of Gokulan Thambapilai, Evelina Tomas and Retha Steinmann, conducted an interview with Lydia Hakweenda and motivated her nomination for participation in the ILFA programme. Subsequently, the LSN was advised that Lydia has been selected for participation in 2017.
- **China Law Society** - At its meeting held on 23 October 2017, Council resolved that Katja Klein and Vincia Cloete shall be tasked with setting out a framework for complying with the request of the China Law Society for the establishment of expert committees to fulfill the Johannesburg Action Plan (2016 – 2018) adopted at the FOCAC Johannesburg Summit during December 2015.
- **NAMBIZONE** - The Director attend the launch of the Integrated Client Service Facility Portal – the one-stop Shop NAMBIZONE, on 18 May 2017, at the Safari Hotel.
- **241st Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America** - The Director attended the reception held on Monday, 3 July 2017, at the Safari Court Hotel.
- **18th Northern Economist Business Woman Conference** - Elize Angula represented the LSN and made a presentation on the topic: “Different Models for Doing Business: The Choices”, at the conference held in Ongwediva on 10 August 2017.
- **Institute of Corporate Governance** - The Director attended the half-day seminar at NIPAM on 21 July 2017. The theme of the session was: “Where to with Corporate Governance in Africa?” and dealt, inter alia, with the Namcode and the King Reports.
- **Ministry of Justice – Strategic Planning Session** - The Director attended the session on Friday, 14 July 2017, at the Ministry of Justice.
- **Body Corporate Namlex Chambers** - Trustee meeting - The Director attended the Namlex Chambers Body Corporate meeting, held on 5 June 2017.
- **Lexis Nexis Book Exhibition** - The book exhibition took place at the LSN boardroom from 20 – 22 June 2017.
- **Non-legal practitioners** – LSN had to apply for interdicts in the past and had to instruct legal practitioners to advice on the implementation of such interdicts. Criminal hearings were also scheduled.

- **VET levy** - At the meeting held on 23 September 2017, Council noted the response of from the NTA, dated 30 August 2017, and the LSN's subsequent questions in preparation of the deliberations to be held on 26 September 2017. On 26 September 2017, it was resolved to obtain legal advice on the VET Levy application and if there are reasonable prospects of success to proceed with the review application. Subsequently, a letter has been addressed to the Minister of Higher Education. The Directorate informed the member firms that they should apply individually for exemption.
- **Registrar of the High Court** – Ramon Maasdorp, the Director and Gaby Ferreira attended a meeting with the Registrar of the High Court and the Crimson Logic team to discuss the feedback from the members regarding problems experienced with e-Filing on 31 August 2017. Members were therefore requested to urgently submit their submissions in order for the Chairperson and the Director to address concerns.
- **Crimson Logic** - On the LSN's request, and after discussion with Crimson Logic, two briefing sessions for Main Division practitioners and one briefing session for the Northern Local Division practitioners were presented: 25 August 2017 @ 14H00 Main Division, 1 September 2017 @ 14H00 Main Division, 4 September 2017 @ 14H00 Northern Local Division.
- **Consultative meeting of the Namibia Intelligence Service** - The LSN could only be presented by 2 practitioners to attend the meeting. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson attended on 5 October 2017, at the Safari Hotel.
- **Standard Bank breakfast meeting** – The LSN Council and Management were invited to a breakfast session on Competition Law matters on 22 November 2017, by Judge Deniis Martin Davis, a High Court Judge in Cape Town since 1998 and the current Judge President of the Competition Appeal Court, and author of 10 books. Natasha Bassingthwaighte and Vitalis Ndalikolule (CEO and Secretary of the NaCC) formed part of the panel discussion.
- **FFC / Storages / Video conferencing** - The LSN considered electronic applications for fidelity fund certificates, video conferencing opportunities for members and effective storing and sharing of documentation, all of which are subject to budget constraints.
- **NAC UNESCO** – 10 May 2017 and 24 May 2017
- **NQA Addis Convention** – 29 May 2017
- **FLAD** – the Director and Manager Professional Affairs met with Eileen Rakow of the Office of the Ombudsman to discuss the Free Legal Advice Days planning.

Namlex Chambers

De Vries Cooling was contracted by the Body Corporate Namlex Chambers to replace the air conditioners in Namlex Chambers. The replacement of the air conditioners on the 1st Floor of the Namlex Chambers, including the LSN's office, commenced on Monday, 16 October 2017 and was finalised on 23 November 2017.

In order for them to complete their work on time, it was required of LSN staff to work in other areas of the office whilst the air conditioners were replaced in their offices. As such, this impacted on the ability of the staff to handle requests by members / respond to emails.

Due to this, the books in the library were covered by plastic seals to prevent the dust from accumulating on them.

GOSP services were not necessarily interrupted in the process as it was easy to move the pigeonholes around.

We thank our members for your co-operation and apologise for the inconvenience.

Monthly progress meetings were held with the contractor and Emcon and the process was completed without major hick-ups.



Board of Control of the LPFF

The Board of Control of the Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund consists of the Chairperson of the Council of the Law Society of Namibia (LSN) and three legal practitioners appointed by Council of whom at least two shall be legal practitioners who are not members of the Council, and at least two are persons who have been engaged in private practice for a period of not less than five years. The Council may further appoint an alternate member to act in the place of the chairperson during his /her absence or inability to act as a member of the board of control.

The Council of the Law Society of Namibia appointed Habo Gerdes, Deidre Sauls-Deckenbrock and Ulrich Etzold to serve on the Board of Control of the Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund. Ramon Maasdorp (Chairperson of the Law Society of Namibia) is the ex-officio member.



Namibia Economist – Young Namibian Businesswomen of the Year

Esmerelda Katjaerua was named the new Young Businesswomen of the Year on 18 October 2017, at the Safari Conference Centre. She is practising under the name and style of Katjaerua Legal Practitioners in Windhoek.

Members of the LSN Esmerelda Katjaerua, Stephanie de Klerk and Kennedy Haraseb.

We congratulate Esmeralda and wish her success.

International Representation

- **SADC LA Chief Executives**

The Director participated in the SADC Lawyers' Association CEO's Conference held on 15 March 2017, at the Intercontinental OR Tambo Hotel.

Front:

Tony Pillay – South Africa (LSSA Finance Director), Stanley Nyamanhindi - (SADCLA Executive Secretary), Charity Mhlungu – (National Forum - SA), Max Boqwana - (SADCLA Vice President), Mvuso Notyesi - (LSSA Co-Chair).

Back:

Edward Sakala - Zambia (Executive Secretary), Edward Mapara – Zimbabwe (Executive Secretary), Nic Swart – South Africa (LSSA CEO), Prudence Mabena – (SADCLA – Administrator), Enerst Nemusimbori – National Forum (SA), Ben Simenane - Swaziland (President), Tiwonge Kayira-Malawi (Executive Secretary), Tumisang Mosotho – Swaziland President) and Retha Steinman - Namibia (Director).

- **Commonwealth Law Conference (CLA)**

Toni Hancox and Saima Nambinga attended the Commonwealth Law Conference in Melbourne, Australia from 20 to 24 March 2017. Toni still represented the LSN as its CLA Councillor at this meeting and appears on the photograph of the outgoing Council. Saima Nambinga was elected on the CLA Council for a two year term.



- **Law Society of South Africa (LSSA)**

Doris Hans-Kaumbi and Retha Steinmann attended the AGM and conference of the LSSA held in Port Elizabeth from 21 – 22 April 2017.

On the occasion of the dinner ‘the Elders of the LSSA’ shared their memories of the birth of the LSSA.

Nic Swart (CEO of the LSSA) and Doris Hans-Kaumbi with Silas Nkanunu, Esme du Plessis and Justice Willie Seriti.

Retha Steinmann with Mvuzo Notyesi, LSSA Co-Chairperson.

- **International Bar Association (IBA)**

The Bar Issues Commission (BIC) conference and meeting took place in Belfast, Northern Ireland from 24 – 27 May 2017.

The IBA Annual Conference and the 70th anniversary of the IBA took place in Sydney, Australia from 8 – 13 October 2017.

The LSN did not attend either of these conferences this year.



- **SADC LA & Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF): 2-Day Training Workshop on "The Democratisation Agenda in Southern Africa: Progress, Challenges and the Way Forward": 22 - 23 May 2017, Johannesburg, South Africa**

The law societies, in collaboration with the respective SADCLA Councillors, were requested to assist by seconding two delegates to attend the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Lawyers' Association and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) workshop held under the abovementioned theme.

The fully sponsored workshop brought together civil society, organisations and academic institutions in the SADC region to contribute to the question of the democratisation process in Southern Africa running for two days from the 22 to 23 May 2017, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Toni Hancox and Arthur Pickering represented the LSN at the workshop.



- **18th SADC Lawyers' Association Conference**

The conference was held in Gaborone, Botswana from 9 – 11 August 2017 under the theme: “ A skilled and competent profession: Catalyst for a prosperous SADC”.

Ramon Maasdorp, Retha Steinmann, Vincia Cloete and Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi attended the conference.

Ramon made a presentation on the topic: “Developing SADC: Measuring the impact of Cyber Law and Crimes on Legal Practice initiatives and Regional Cooperation – How to protect yourself and your clients”.

- **China Africa Exchange Program**

Aisha Isaak was selected to participate in the programme



- **International Institute of Law Association Chief Executives (IILACE)**

IILACE (pronounced “eye-lace”) is an association of Chief Executive Officers of the Law Societies and Bar Associations from around the world.

At present, the LSN Director is the only African serving on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee participate in teleconferences, which takes place once every month.

At the ILLACE Annual General Meeting held in Wellington, New Zealand at the end of October 2016, Retha, who was previously the Secretary Treasurer for the association's Executive Committee, was chosen as Vice President for a two-year term. She was elected to the Executive Committee for the first time in 2008.

Cord Brugmann, the IILACE President, and presently the CEO of the German Bar Association will leave the German Bar Association in 31 March 2018, after 15 years. He held the position of CEO for 10 years.

At the IILACE AGM held in London, it was confirmed that Cord will step down from his position as IILACE President and that the Vice President, Retha Steinmann, will take over the Presidency on 1 February 2018. Jonathan Herman was elected in the one vacancy for an Officer at Large.

As from 1 February 2018 the Executive Committee will consist of Retha Steinmann (President), Paula Littlewood (Vice President), Heidi Chu (Secretary Treasurer), Christine Grice, Paul Mollerup and Jonathan Herman (Officers at Large)

On the photograph: John Hoyles (IILACE Voluntary Secretary General) Paul Mollerup, Christine Grice, Paula Littlewood, Heidi Chu, Cord Bruegmann and Jonathan Herman.

Photographs by Chantal Duguay-Hyatt at Middle Temple.



Statistics as on 24 November 2017 & Admission

Active members	820
Racially Disadvantaged	469
Racially Advantaged	351
Male members	425
Racially Disadvantaged	205
Racially Advantaged	220
Female members	395
Racially Disadvantaged	264
Racially Advantaged	131
Society of Advocates	36
Male	29
Female	7
Racially Disadvantaged	13
Racially Advantaged	23
Firms	154 (including branch /satellite)
LPs with exemption certificates	10
LPs practising at firms	371



New Admissions

Top row

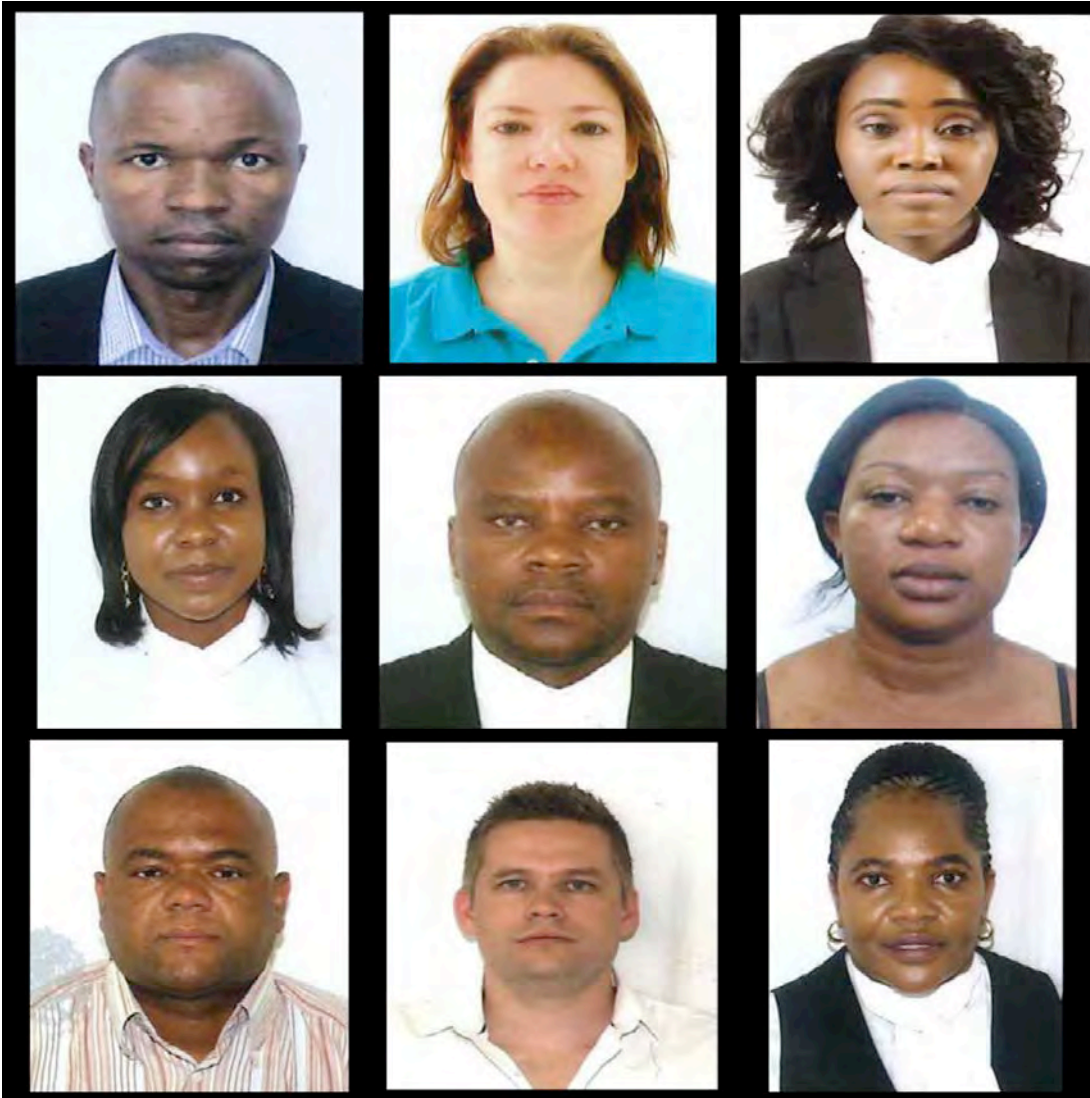
817 – Zenobia Barry
818 – Hilleni Shikongo
819 – Bryan Eiseb

Middle row

820- Ilana Orren
821 – Witney Mwanamwali
822 – Julia Mukapuli

Bottom row

823 – Ray Silungwe
824 – Memory Garises
825 – Helmuth Naweseb



- **New Admissions**

Top row:

- 826 – Steven Ndorokaze
- 827 – Myra Craven
- 828 – Millicent Appolus

Middle row:

- 829 – Nuukongo Kasuto
- 830 – Ntelamo Ntelamo
- 831 – Ileni Gebhardt

Bottom row:

- 832 – Brownell Uirab
- 833 – Henrich Jansen van Vuuren
- 834 – Anna Mbandi



- **New Admissions**

Top row:

835 - Jessica Gawachab

836 – Tashiya Ifo

837 – Elsa Porfirio

Bottom row:

838 – Victoria Weyulu

839 – Yvonne Jagger



- **New Admissions**

Top:

- 840 – Schalk Oosthuizen
- 841 – Nasilele Siyambango
- 842 – Alexandria Amoo

Middle:

- 843 – Filomena Hikumuah
- 844 – Chineen Feris
- 845 – Susan Nyatondo

Bottom:

- 846 – Latunga Haipinge
- 847 – Ruben Shileka
- 848 – Najia Jantjies



- **New Admissions**

Top:

- 849 – Lucious Matota
- 850 – Esther Shigwedha
- 851 – Janike McLeod

Middle:

- 852 – Mercy Kuzeeke
- 853 – Phil Shilongo
- 854 – Hilma Shigwedha

Bottom:

- 855 – Eutrupia Garises
- 856 – Anielle von Finckenstein
- 857 – Mercia Amupolo



- **New Admissions**

858 – Hazel Karon

859 – Vanessa Kauta

860 – Caitlin Quinn



- **New Admissions**

Top row:

861 - O'Barry Davids

862 – Chrisna O'Kennedy

863 – Victor Kwenani

Middle row:

864 – Shane Morwe

865 – Laura Pack

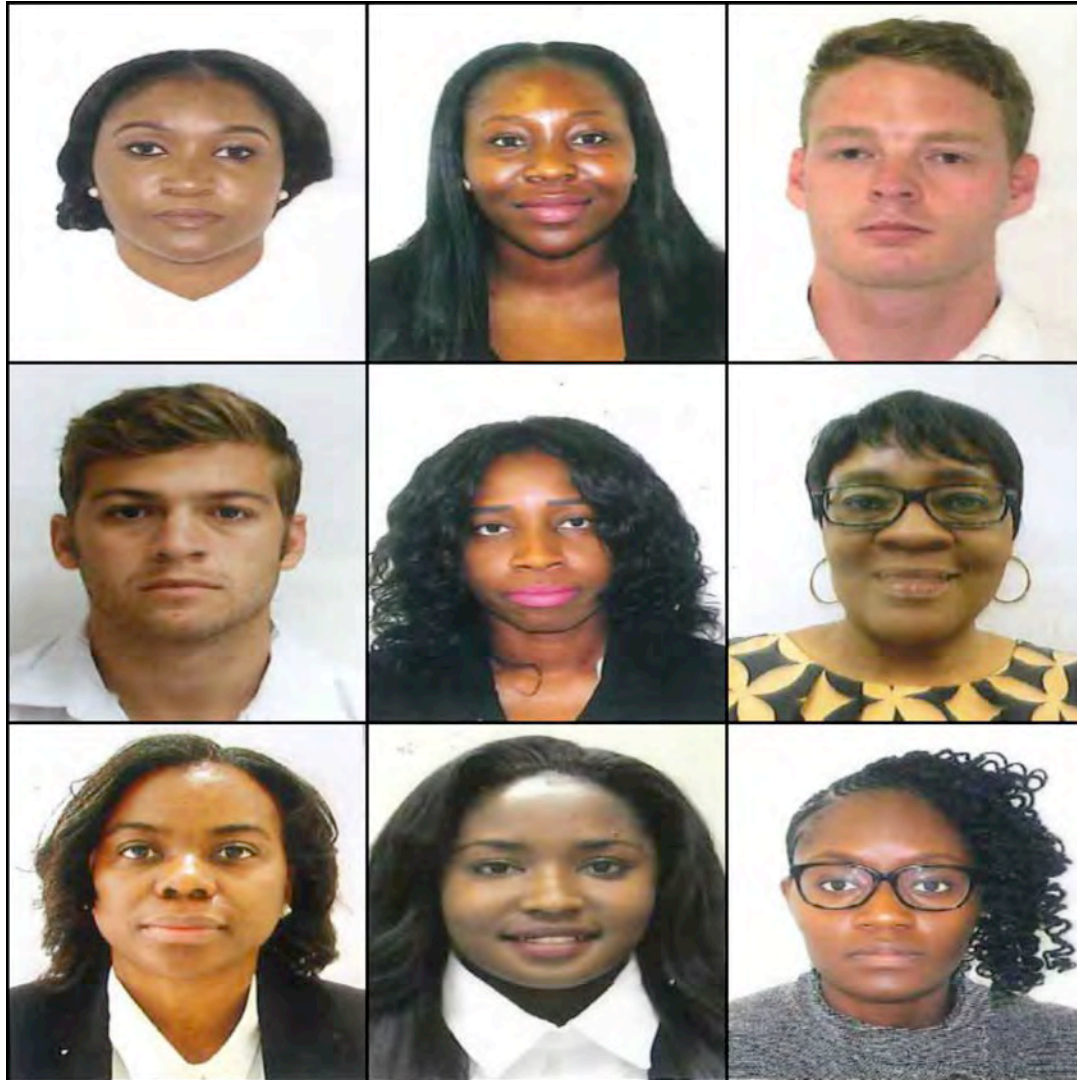
866 - Terry-Ann Routh

Bottom row:

867 – Marina Verdoes

868 – Otniel Podewiltz

869 – Nangula Nafuka



- **New Admissions**

Top row:

- 870** - Ndina Hamata
- 871** – Martha Nambahu
- 872** – Stefan van Zijl

Middle row:

- 873** – Pieter Steenkamp
- 874** – Delia Mubita
- 875** – Drusella Awases

Bottom row:

- 876** – Namene Shejavali
- 877** – Maria Nghiishililwa
- 878** – Ngutjiua Hjarunguru



- **New Admissions**

879 – Njekwa Mwamba

880 – Annetjie Riedel

881 – Sarafine Martin

882 - Ainna Kaundu

FREE LEGAL ADVICE DAYS (FLAD)

The Free Legal Advice Day forms part of the Law Society's objectives to make legal services more accessible to those members of the public who cannot afford legal services. The Office of the Ombudsman has been instrumental in the success of the FLAD since the project was launched in August 2014 by supporting this project and assisting the LSN with the venues and advertising in the region.

During 2014, two Free Legal Advice Days took place in Oshakati / Ongwediva and Keetmanshoop.

During 2015, four Free Legal Advice Days took place in Tsumeb, Windhoek, Swakopmund and Gobabis.

During 2016, only one Free Legal Advice Day took place in Windhoek, due to the LSN Directorate being short staffed.

The Law Society of Namibia, in collaboration with the Office of the Ombudsman, hosted various Free Legal Advice Days during 2017 where topics such as, Labour, Domestic Violence, Wills & Estates and Divorce and Maintenance were addressed.

- The **1st Free Legal Advice Day** took place at the Persianer Hall in Mariental on Friday, 9 June 2017. 41 Members of the community received free legal advice.
- The **2nd Free Legal Advice Day** took place at the Office of the Ombudsman in Ongwediva on Friday, 7 July 2017. 165 Members of the community received free legal advice.
- The **3rd Free Legal Advice Day** took place at the UN Plaza in Katutura on Friday, 5 August 2017. 107 Members of the community received free legal advice.
- The **4th Free Legal Advice Day** took place at the Tamariskia Town Hall on Friday, 18 August 2017. 65 Members of the community received free legal advice.
- The **5th Free Legal Advice Day** took place at Nossobville Community Hall, Gobabis. 29 Members of the community received free legal advice.
-

The Office of the Master of the High Court also participated in the Free Legal Advice Day held on 4 August 2017 in Windhoek, 18 August 2017 in Swakopmund and 13 October 2017 in Gobabis.

The Council and Directorate of the Law Society of Namibia sincerely thank all involved for their participation and support in making this project a success.



- **Free Legal Advice Day – Mariental - 9 June 2017**

The Governor of the Hardap Region, Hon. Esme Sophia Isaacks and the Mayor of Mariental, Hon. Wilhelm Mensah, were instrumental in arranging the venue and distributing the invitation to the community. They also both made speeches at the event.

Retha Steinmann (Director: Law Society of Namibia), Hendrik Mauyoma (Chief Legal: Office of the Ombudsman), Eileen Rakow (Chief: Office of the Ombudsman), Hon. Esme Isaacks (Governor: Hardap Region), Alpheus Haufiku (Chief Investigator: Office of the Ombudsman), Hon. Wilhelm Mensah (Mayor: Mariental), Councillor Jan Jarson (Aranos Constituency), Timothy Shangadi (Deputy Director Investigations: Office of the Ombudsman), Commissioner Amutse (Namibian Correctional Services: Ministry of Safety and Security).



- **Free Legal Advice Day – Mariental – 9 June 2017**

Legal practitioners and staff from both the offices of the Law Society of Namibia and the Ombudsman serving at the 1st Free Legal Advice Day for 2017:

Front:

Retha Steinmann (Director: Law Society of Namibia), Vilinchia van Wyk (VT van Wyk Attorneys - Rehoboth), Ivy Pretorius (Office Administrator: Law Society of Namibia), Josefina Nekongo (National Fishing Corporation of Namibia - Luderitz), Jozanne Klazen (Ministry of Justice: Legal Aid - Rehoboth), Astrid Feris (Sisa Namandje & Co Inc. - Windhoek).

Back:

Hendrik Mauyoma (Chief Legal: Office of the Ombudsman), Fabiola Haradoes (Administrative Officer: Office of the Ombudsman), Christopher Stanley (Stanley Law Chambers - Rehoboth), Meyer van den Bergh (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia & Koep & Partners - Windhoek), Wilhelm Liebenberg (Van Heerden, Liebenberg & Co - Mariental), Alpheus Haufiku (Chief Investigator: Office of the Ombudsman), Eileen Rakow (Chief: Office of the Ombudsman), Timothy Shangadi (Deputy Director Investigations: Office of the Ombudsman), Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager Professional Affairs: Law Society of Namibia).



Free Legal Advice Day – Ongwediva – 7 July 2017

Both the Governor and Deputy Mayor of Ongwediva Town made speeches at the event.

Front:

Saima Nambinga (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia & Angula Co Inc), Hon. Iyambo (Mayor: Oshakati), Hon. Kashuupaulwa (Governor: Oshana Region), Hon. Asino (Deputy Mayor: Ongwediva Town), Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia & Ueitele & Hans Inc).

Back:

Retha Steinmann (Director: Law Society of Namibia), Hendrik Mauyamo (Chief Legal: Office of the Ombudsman), Theodore Tsamaseb (Aingura Attorneys), Simson Aingura (Aingura Attorneys), Timothy Shangadi (Deputy Director Investigations: Office of the Ombudsman), Eileen Rakow (Chief: Office of the Ombudsman) Mr. Kanime (former Magistrate and interpreter), Ileni Indongo (Office of the Ombudsman), Gaby Ferreira (Assistant to the Director: Law Society of Namibia - Insert), Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager Professional Affairs: Law Society of Namibia).

Insert: Gaby Ferreira (Assistant to theLSN Director).



Free Legal Advice Day - Windhoek – 4 August 2017

At the opening ceremony of the Free Legal Advice Day remarks were made by:

Front:

Rachel Jacob (Chairperson of the Khomas Regional Council Management Committee and John Pandeni Constituency), Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia & Ueitele & Hans Inc), Elsie Beukes, (Master of the High Court).

Back:

John Walters (Ombudsman, Ananias Niizimba (Councillor on behalf of his worship the Mayor of the City of Windhoek, Muese Kazupua).



Free Legal Advice Day – Windhoek – 4 August 2017

The legal practitioners / members of the Law Society of Namibia and staff of the Office of the Ombudsman who were present at the start of the Free Legal Advice Day held in Windhoek:

Back:

Bertha Simunji (Senior Investigator - Office of the Ombudsman), Erastus Arnold (Investigator - Office of the Ombudsman), Nawala Kamati, Ian Petherbridge, Martha Angula-Ruider (Candidate Legal Practitioners), Uundjii Kaihiva, Cobus Visser, Shaun Ellis, Zureuka Majiedt, Laura-Lee Beets, Hendrik Mauyoma (Legal practitioner and Chief Legal: Office of the Ombudsman), Faustinia Nashama, Rauna Ndilula, Jamie Theron, Timothy Shangadi (Deputy Director Investigations: Office of the Ombudsman).

Front:

Sumari Rusch, Chastin Bassingthwaighe, Karin Klazen, Retha Steinmann (Director: Law Society of Namibia), Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager Professional Affairs: Law Society of Namibia), Mignon Klein.



- **Free Legal Advice Day – Swakopmund – 18 August 2017**

Elsie Beukes (Master of the High Court), Adelheid Bobby Kandjara (Special Advisor to the Erongo Region Governor, Hon. Cleophas Mutjavikua), Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia & Ueitele & Hans Inc) and Her Worship Pauline Ndahafa Nashilundo (Mayor of Swakopmund).



- **FLAD Gobabis**

Lisa Kaune (Office of the Master of the High Court), Nafuka Nangula (Koep and Partners), Anielle Von Finckenstein (Koep and Partners), Hennie Mauyoma (Office of the Ombudsman), Stefan van Zijl (Koep and Partners), Pijoo Ismael Nganate (Special Advisor to the Governor of the Omaheke Region), Commissioner Seena Nghiludilwa (Correctional Services), Meyer van der Berg (LSN Vice Chairperson and Koep & Partners), Appollus Shimakeleni (Office of the Government Attorneys), Timothy Shangadi (Office of the Ombudsman), Olivia Mutjavikua (Office of the Master of the High Court), Ruusa Ntinda (Law Reform and Development Commission).



Circle Meetings

- **South Circle Meeting: 9 June 2017**

The circle meeting took place at Lapa Lange Lodge.

Front:

Vilinchia van Wyk (VT van Wyk Attorneys - Rehoboth), Ivy Pretorius (Office Administrator: Law Society of Namibia), Josefina Nekongo (National Fishing Corporation of Namibia - Luderitz), Retha Steinmann (Director: Law Society of Namibia), Jozanne Klazen (Ministry of Justice: Legal Aid - Rehoboth), Christopher Stanley (Stanley Law Chambers – Rehoboth).

Back:

Meyer van den Bergh (Councillor: Law Society of Namibia), Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager Professional Affairs: Law Society of Namibia), Wilhelm Liebenberg (Van Heerden, Liebenberg & Co – Mariental), Henri van Zyl (Van Zyl & Partners– Mariental).



- **Far North Circle Meeting: Ongwediva: 7 July 2017**

The circle meeting and dinner with the members took place at the Bennie's Place in Ongwediva. Most of the legal practitioners on the photographs also assisted as the FLAD.

Retha and Doris could not stay for the meeting due to prior engagements in Windhoek.

Front: Saima Nambinga (Councillor: LSN & Angula Co. Inc.), Simson Aingura (Aingura Attorneys), Veronika Hanongo-Haikali (Dr. Weder, Kauta & Hoveka Inc.), Retha Steinmann (Director: LSN), Anne-Doris Hans-Kaumbi (Councillor: LSN & Ueitele & Hans Inc).

Back: Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager Professional Affairs:LSN), Charmaine Tjihero (Dr. Weder, Kauta & Hoveka Inc.), Etegamero Indongo-Antindi (Nored Electricity (Pty) Ltd), Grace Mugaviri (Mugaviri Attorneys), Japhet Gottlieb (Candidate Legal Practitioner: Mugaviri Attorneys), Melvin Nyambe (Shikongo Law Chambers), Mekumbu Tjiteere (Dr Weder, Kauta & Hoveka Inc.), Theodore Tsamaseb (Candidate Legal Practitioner: Aingura Attorneys).

Absent: Jan Greyling Jnr. (Greyling & Associates) and Tulonga-Ria Shapumba (Oshakati High Court).

No circle meetings took place this year with the Mid-North and East Circle members.

Statistics provided by Risk & Compliance Unit as at November 2017

Total Law Firms	136 consisting of:	
• Sole Proprietors	71	
• Partnerships	37	
• Incorporated firms	28	
Included in the above:	17 branch and 2 satellite offices	
Firms on RCU inspection programme	64	
• Sole Proprietors on RCU programme	41	
• Partnerships on RCU programme	11	
• Incorporated firms on RCU programme	12	
Firms using Independent Auditors	72	
Legal practitioners practising with exemption certificates (excluding members of the Society of Advocates)		11

Continuing Professional Development / Training

• Curator Bonis Training

The RCU Manager and Inspectors, members of the Audit & Risk Committee, Director and two Councillors attended training, presented by Ms. Estelle Veldsman of the Law Society of the Northern Provinces (LSNP) held on 30 May 2017. A manual will be compiled in due course

• Financial Intelligence Centre

The Financial Intelligence Centre (FIA), conducted a training session on the 14 and 21 July 2017 on the elements of the Financial Intelligence Act (2012) for reporting institutions. The training focused on the correct interpretation and implementation of the provisions of the Act. This session was arranged on behalf of the LSN by the Manager Professional Affairs.

The training was beneficial to the legal fraternity. It was noted that the Act under Section 39 (8) states that:

An accountable institution must develop audit functions to evaluate any policies, procedures and controls developed under this section to test compliance with the measures taken by the accountable institution to comply with this Act and the effectiveness of those measures.

The section requires law firm to have an independent audit conducted to express an opinion on the firm 'compliance with the FIA requirements. Legal practitioners present at the training requested the LSN to assist firms in conducting FIA compliance audits and providing advisory function in this area.

The RCU had previously communicated to the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAN) on the need to incorporate FIA compliance audits as part of the trust inspections. However, the LSN was cautioned that this would increase audit fees for law firms as it would increase the time spent on the audits.

The RCU has incorporated FIA inspections in it's the annual programme as from January 2017. Firms currently using external auditor would have to negotiate with the external auditors to include FIA audits in the annual scope. Law firms will be engaged by the RCU on the costs aspects in due course.

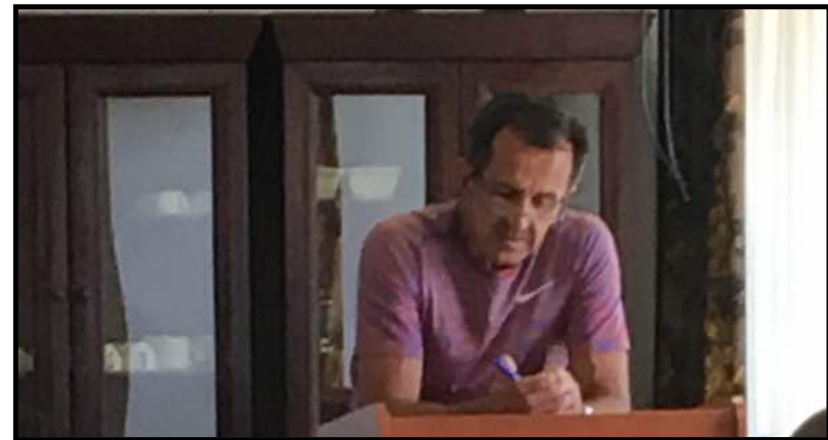


- **CPD – Drafting**

Jean Marais, SC presented a training on “Drafting” on Saturday, 4 November 2017, at the Boardroom of the Law Society of Namibia.

The training focused on the basic principles of pleadings, the trap falls, common causes of action, practical examples in Particulars of Claim, Pleas, Replications, Exceptions and Requests for Further Particulars.

In attendance were 43 persons, including a few candidate legal practitioners.



Bursary Recipients 2017

As part of its policy to promote the education of candidates to gain entry to the profession, the LSN has, with the gracious financial assistance of the Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund (LPFF) and the Namibian Legal Practitioners Trust (NLPT), continued to grant bursaries to a number of students.

The LSN thanks the LPFF and the NLPT for their continued support.

Top:

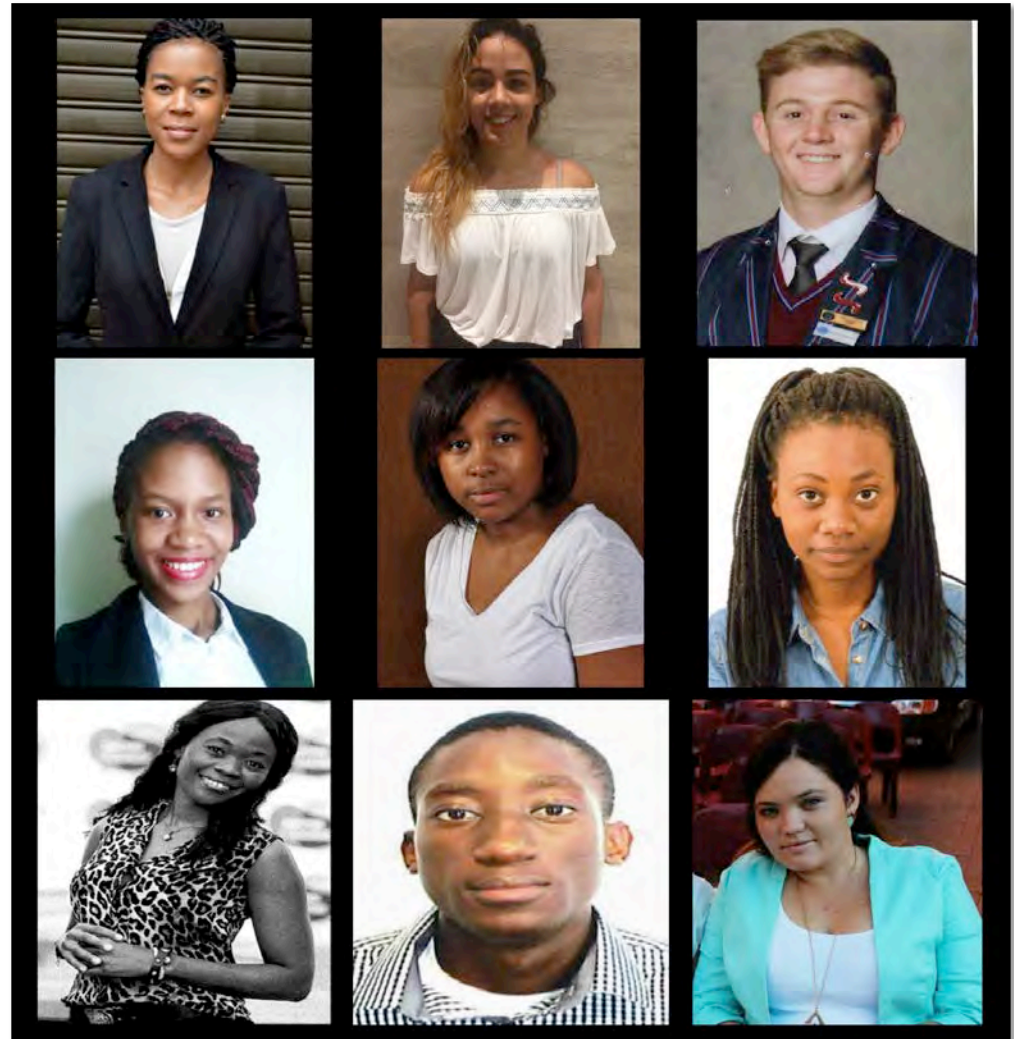
Loide Auwanga (1st year - UNAM), Minerva Calvar Collazo (1st year – UNAM), MC Engelbrecht (1st year – NWU).

Middle:

Cornelia Hausiku (1st year – Rhodes University), Ondapandula-Beata Iyambo (1st year – UNAM), Lahja Nangolo (1st year – UNAM).

Bottom:

Victoria Naunyango (1st year – University of South Africa), Ethan Sipapela (1st year – UNAM), Karischa Schmidt (3rd year – UNAM).





Blood Donation Clinic

The Law Society of Namibia and the Namibia Blood Transfusion Services (NAMBTS) scheduled a Blood Donation Clinic on 8 November 2017, in the Law Society Boardroom. Members of the LSN, who were able to donate blood, were invited to donate blood.

The Clinic was open for the public and our members were invited to distribute the invitation to colleagues, friends and family. The target was 20, but they managed to collect 34 full units of blood. These units can potentially save at least 102 lives. 12 People donated blood for the first time.





LSN Staff

The staff year-end function took place on 21 December 2016. A staff session with Dr Gustav Gous was held on 12 January 2017.

Photograph taken on Valentine's Day:

Front: Isabel Mwazi (Manager: Risk & Compliance), Retha Steinmann (Director) & Jo-mari Koekemoer (Manager: Professional Affairs).

Back: Patresia Afrikaner (Messenger / Cleaner), Hilma Eiki (RCU: Senior Inspector), Ivy Pretorius (Office Administrator: Professional Affairs), Thabo Makhurane (RCU: Senior Inspector), Lorraine Doeses (GOSP Officer), Emillie Konstantin (Librarian), Gaby Ferreira (Office Administrator: Directorate), Ute Dentlinger (Intern), Consetha Haradoes (RCU: Senior Inspector). Absent: Interns: Nicole Goldbeck and Carmen Visser.

Two of the Interns at the LSN (Nicole Goldbeck and Ute Dentlinger) obtained full time employment at the end of February and the beginning of March 2017, respectively.

LSN Staff – New Appointment: Margaret Bennett commenced employment at the LSN on 3 April 2017, as the Manager: Finance & Human Resources.

Commemorative Book

The book, covering the last 11 years, took up most of the Director's free time (after hours and over weekends).

We are happy to announce that the Book will be printed on 27 November 2017. However, due to the bulk of our printing and the binding that will take substantial time, we will unfortunately not be able to launch the book at the AGM.

The date of the launch will be announced once we have more clarity on the exact date when the printing and binding will be complete.

The commemorative book will be distributed before 20 December 2017 to all paid-up members of the LSN, advertisers and sponsors.

Acknowledgements

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Photographs: Retha Steinmann, Jo-mari Koekemoer, Maryk Koekemoer (Swakop FLAD) Gys Reitz & Toni Hancox.

Proofreading: Retha Steinmann & Jo-mari Koekemoer.

Disclaimer: Although reasonable effort has been taken to verify the accuracy of the information to ensure that the information published in this work is accurate, the compiler takes no responsibility for any loss or damage suffered by any person as a result of the reliance upon the information contained herein.

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