

## WHAT IS THE LIAISON GROUP?

By Louise

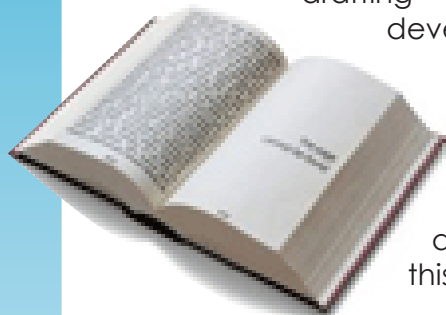
Early last semester Frank Astill placed a notice on the LEC website asking for students interested in forming a student liaison group to contact him with a view to forming a student driven group. Interested students had a few meetings with Frank last semester to discuss various ideas and thoughts for a group and the LEC Student Liaison Group was formed.

The aim of the LEC Student Liaison Group is to promote and represent the best interests (including academic, professional and social) of all LEC students. The Liaison Group also aims to express the concerns and views of students on an anonymous basis if a student is reluctant to approach the LEC directly.

All LEC students are automatically members of the Liaison Group by virtue of their enrolment in the course and are welcome to participate in Group activities in whatever manner they are able. At this early stage of formation, a core group of students has been meeting fortnightly.

Discussion has included, amongst other things, the structure of the Group, drafting a constitution, developing a marketing plan to publicise the Group, planning a social function to coincide with the weekend school and the publication of this newsletter.

If you have any questions, suggestions or wish to get involved please email the Liaison Group Committee at [lecliaisongroup@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lecliaisongroup@yahoo.com.au)



## SPOTLIGHT

By Scott  
2007 LPAB GRADUATE

Following a solid exposure to legal studies and debating in high school I commenced work as a paralegal with a small CBD law firm before embarking on the LPAB course.



Like many LPAB students, I was working full time. Evening lectures meant I could maintain my position as a paralegal and still study, albeit slowly, enrolling in only one subject per semester for the first two years.

About half way through the course I focussed more on my studies. The upshot: better academic results and participation in international student competitions.

I am currently working as a senior claims officer for a leading insurance company handling litigated medical negligence claims – a role which gives me the opportunity to use much of the learned theory in a practical way.

My advice to LPAB students is to get involved as much and as often as you can. Network and form study groups – this will enable you to be actively studying throughout the semester even if you can't attend lectures.

Be heard via the LECLG and let's promote the profile and reputation of this long established course, its students and its graduates.

If you are a past or present LPAB student and wish to be featured please email [lecliaisongroup@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lecliaisongroup@yahoo.com.au) and put 'Spotlight' as the subject.

## A STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

### THE LOUIS M BROWN INTERNATIONAL CLIENT COUNSELING COMPETITION 2007

By **Brendan**



From 10-13 April 2007, the University of Sydney Law Extension Committee had the honour of hosting The Louis M Brown International Client Counseling Competition. Law students from 16 countries, as far as Finland and Tatarstan to as close as New Zealand, competed in teams of two for the honour of being the best client interviewers and advisors.

This year's theme was family law and teams were tested on their ability to listen to a narrative, extract issues and come up with real time solutions for mock clients in a variety of scenarios. The teams then had to reflect on their advice, after which they would be judged by a panel of judges who had observed the proceedings.

I had the privilege and the pleasure of being involved as a client interacting with

teams from Scotland, The USA and New Zealand as well as the judges who were practitioners with various legal practices. All teams performed well and it was intriguing to see that although the substantive law for each country differed, the manner in which they listened to the client, extracted the relevant issues and provided advice was almost exactly the same. New Zealand won my round but lost to Ireland in what was a very close final.

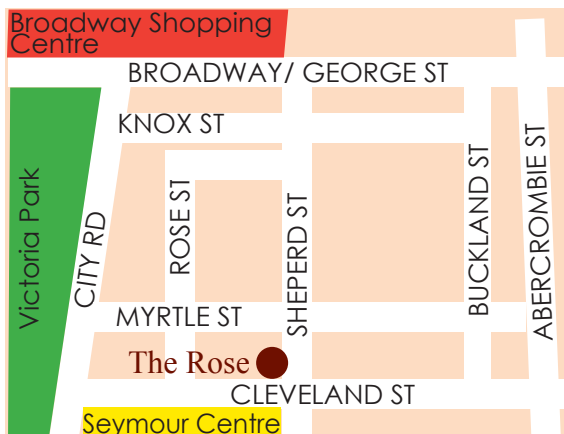
Following the competition, a dinner was held in the Holme Building of Sydney University. It was beautifully done and it was a pleasure to meet the teams 'off-duty'. I made a number of international friends with whom I am still in touch. I also learnt a lot about the skills required in competition and I look forward to competing in the Australian rounds next year.

All students should seek to participate in competitions, not just as competitors, but in any way they can. Competitions are rewarding and apart from challenging you, they provide valuable insight into what current practitioners, many of whom are employers, expect from lawyers after admission.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

# MEET AND GREET

## MEETING OF THE MINDS



### WHERE

The Rose Hotel  
54 Cleveland St, Chippendale  
([www.therosehotel.com.au](http://www.therosehotel.com.au))

### WHEN

Saturday June 2nd,  
2007

### TIME

8pm onwards

