

June 2018

The following items turn the spotlight on developing, maintaining and enhancing lawyer competence in the face of rapid change and some implications for continuing legal education and professional development professionals.

Ontario - possible option to eliminate articling

In Canadian news, the Law Society of Ontario is considering whether to change the licensing procedure for law school graduates, including an option to eliminate articling. It is believed that this is partly driven by the lack of articling placements in the province, with only 10 per cent of Ontario law firms currently offering articling positions.

The LSO will conduct focus groups, take written submissions and continue consultations with the legal community until the end of October.

<http://www.canadianlawyermag.com/author/aidan-macnab/law-society-of-ontario-report-contemplates-alternatives-to-articling-15761/>

Media training for lawyers – a CLE opportunity?

According to Lawyers Weekly, the University of Calgary has introduced a new law subject, ‘Crisis Communications for Lawyers’, which educates students about the nexus between law and public relations, especially in the context of protecting the interests of clients.

<https://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/careers/23176-do-aus-lawyers-need-to-be-better-media-trained>

CLEAA Membership – Renewal Date Approaching – 1 July

CLEAA membership renewals are coming up this month, so be sure to look out for your email reminder. The 2018/19 membership fee is very affordable at **\$75.00** per member and among the benefits is the significant discount members will receive when registering for the Annual Conference.

If you are not a CLEAA member and would like to join, please check the [website](#) for details. For further information please contact the CLEAA Secretariat at secretariat@cleaa.asn.au

Continuing professional education – synergies between health and legal services

CLEAA President Ronwyn North recently attended a forum* for health profession educators on the theme of Psychology and Education and was struck by the similarities and differences between continuing professional education in health and legal services. Here are a few highlights:

Current priorities for continuing health education(CHE) include

- meaningful engagement of all health professionals with lifelong learning
- achieving better outcomes for patients including patient safety
- quality of access to learning opportunities and developing people and systems
- new digital technologies both in provision of health services and education and training
- providing choices in how health professionals receive their continuing education
- intra-professional education and training – increasingly people work in multi-disciplinary teams and should engage in more learning by and with those teams

Speakers stressed the importance of CHE being meaningful, memorable, accessible, contextual and timely. Examples were provided of various projects and initiatives aimed at improving learning experiences and outcomes across these dimensions using the latest in learning theory, neuroscience and behavioural insights (aka ‘nudge’ theory).

*Sydney Local Health District 2018 Education and Training Forum, organised by SLHD’s Centre for Education Workforce Development. The program can be found here:

https://www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/cewd/pdfs/2018_education_program.pdf

CLEAA Annual Conference 2018, Thursday 18 and Friday 19 October, Brisbane QLD



A sneak peek
at some of the sessions
we've got lined up
for the Brisbane-based
CLEAA Conference 2018

The CLEAA Conference has some great sessions lined up for this year, and the focus is on us, in our capacity as Professional Development Professionals (PDPs).

Sessions coming your way include:

- PDP Competencies in the Spotlight
- Engage and Learn: How to Present Truly Effective CPD (Workshop)
- Evaluating Your Speakers – Getting It Right
- How Lawyers Like to Learn: Current Practice and Emerging Trends
- Harnessing the Power of Micro Learning
- Creating Meaningful Learning Outcomes (Cross-Profession Panel)
- Looking After No.1 - Optimising Your Own Wellbeing
- Regulatory Wrap

Queensland Law Society will be the venue in downtown Brisbane and registration details will be available shortly. Keep any eye on the CLEAA website for further developments or via our new [LinkedIn group](#).

<https://cleaa.asn.au/events/>

Judicial Bullying – findings of NSW Bar Association Survey - CPD

A number of questions in a 2017 survey of NSW Bar Association members focused on wellbeing. Unfortunately, the issue of judicial bullying was reported by barristers at all levels of seniority.

Of those who responded to the survey, 66 per cent reported that they had experienced judicial bullying. It is important to note that barristers are not alone experiencing unreasonable behaviour in court, many solicitors would report similar negative experiences.

In the Autumn Issue of Bar News (at page 3), Bar President Arthur Moses notes that CPD could be a way of assisting - *“a curriculum and training modules could be included in the Australian Bar Association’s Advanced Trial Advocacy Intensives and the Bar Association’s Continuing Professional Development program and Bar Practice Course, which would instruct counsel in techniques for increasing their resilience”*.

[https://www.nswbar.asn.au/docs/webdocs/BAR_NE_WS_2018 - AUTUMN 2.pdf](https://www.nswbar.asn.au/docs/webdocs/BAR_NE_WS_2018_-_AUTUMN_2.pdf)

Employment trends for new lawyers in the US – ABA data released

Employment data for the graduating law class of 2017 as reported by American Bar Association-approved law schools shows that a higher percentage of students were employed compared with 2016.

However, this is somewhat countered by an approximately 6 percent decrease in the size of the graduating class.

https://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2018/04/aba_legal_education.html

More on the ABA’s national data on law graduate employment outcome for recent years can be found at: https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/statistics.html