

What is the aim of the program?

The event is a 'refresher program', with the aim of giving experienced judges the opportunity to revisit key areas of their work, to reflect on their role as judges, and to exchange information on how they discharge that role by interaction with experienced colleagues from other jurisdictions.

What style of program?

The College aims to create a stimulating learning environment for judicial officers by offering courses which use and build on the knowledge, experience and skills of participants. Most sessions will feature small group discussion and problem solving. To ensure an effective level of interaction among participants, the program is limited to a maximum of 25 participants.

What have previous participants said ?

"A thought provoking program; time for reflection and for building relationships"

"Mix of jurisdictions and levels of experience worked very well"

"I appreciated the opportunity to stand back from day to day concerns in order to think about the larger picture"

"Excellent presentations. Will alter our behaviour in appropriate circumstances, a least for a few years. A good reason for refresher courses like this"

"I am not alone – others have similar challenges to me and I can talk with others if I need to"

"Overall – extremely well organised – informative and very enjoyable."

When?

The program will be conducted over 4 days (Monday to Thursday) commencing 2 March 2009.

Where?

The venue and accommodation will be at University House, Canberra. Situated in the beautiful grounds of the Australian National University, University House offers a quiet and relaxed atmosphere for professional development activities. Cycleways, footpaths and exercise tracks around the parkland of Lake Burley Griffin pass close to the House.

Registration

The registration fee for the program is \$2700. This fee (inclusive of GST) covers accommodation for four nights (Sunday to Wednesday), all catering and course materials. On receipt of your registration, we will send an invoice to your Court.

The closing date for registrations is Friday 19 December 2008.

To register please complete this form and send it to us by mail, fax or email.

Mail to: The Director
National Judicial College of Australia
PO Box 8102 ANU ACT 2601
Fax to: 02 6125 6651
Email to: ea@njca.anu.edu.au

Last name : _____

First name: _____

Preferred first name for name tag: _____

Court: _____

Telephone (work) : _____

Email : _____

National Judicial College of Australia

Phoenix Judges Program

2 - 5 March 2009

**Peer-led professional development
for judges**



National Judicial College of Australia
(ABN 20 100 577 5441)
www.njca.com.au

Program

Monday 2 March 2009

8.30 Registration

9.00 Session 1 – Welcome, familiarisation

9.15 – 12.00

Session 2 – Judicial Conduct and Ethics –

An interactive discussion session in which participants give their views on complex ethical issues arising out of scenarios circulated in advance to participants as pre-reading material.

12.00 Lunch

1.00 – 4.30

Session 3 – Court craft – The trial from hell

This session is concerned with both civil and criminal trial management. Participants will review pre trial and trial management issues.

4.30 Close

7.15 Dinner *Anzac Hall (Australian War Memorial)*

Tuesday 3 March 2009

9.00 – 10.30

Session 4 – Psychological indications of witness credibility

A psychologist discusses what psychological research says about capacity to assess credibility or accuracy of cooperative witnesses and of those who are attempting to deceive.

11.00 – 12.30

Session 5 – Contempt

This session is conducted as a panel session by three experienced judges and will be based around a discussion with participants of scenarios (handling contempt in the face of the court: situation involving litigants, witnesses or counsel).

12.30 Lunch

1.30 - 2.45

Session 6 – Caring for our colleagues

A session focussing on how to recognise the symptoms of the 'impaired professional' affected by stress, burn out or other problems and what his or her colleagues can usefully do to assist. Participants discuss the responsibility of judges for the welfare of their colleagues, and how they discharge that responsibility, and debriefing stressed colleagues.

3.00 - 4.30

Session 7 – Judicial behaviour in court

An experienced judge leads participants in a discussion of judicial behaviour in court. A video of actual court proceedings will be used as a basis for this discussion.

4.30 Close

7.00 Dinner *University House Canberra*

Wednesday 4 March 2009

9.00 - 10.30

Session 8 – Expert evidence in civil proceedings

This session will look at moves to use single experts in civil proceedings, assessing expert evidence and the role and duties of experts.

11.00 - 1.00

Session 9 – Sentencing

Whilst the principles of sentencing are reasonably well understood, their application in each case is a fine one. This session will canvass general principles of sentencing and the exercise of judicial discretion.

1.00 Lunch

Afternoon: free time

7.00 Dinner *Old Parliament House*

Thursday 5 March 2009

9.00 – 1.00

Session 10 – Ex tempore judgments

A session based on group discussion, practice of preparation and presentation of ex tempore decisions based on case examples.

1.00 Lunch

2.00 – 4.00

Session 11 – Cultural barriers in the Court Room

An interactive session which will discuss:

- problems encountered in the courts by people from other cultures
- techniques for successful oral communication in court
- cultural barriers between a witness and the court

4.00 Afternoon Tea & Close

