

Profile	3
Articles	
Juries in serious fraud trials	4
The best way forward in fraud trials?	5
The right to silence: in constitutional limbo	7
Law by Law	
Conflict of Laws	10
Institute News	15
Society News	18
Law by Law continued	
Human Rights	19
Private International Law	23
Family Law	25
Letters from ...	
South Africa	28
Hong Kong	31

A BASIS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The first Annual General Meeting of the Society for Advanced Legal Studies took place at the Institute on Thursday 18 June 1998. The Society came into existence in March 1997 when it superseded the Friends of the IALS. The last 14 months have seen the Society develop into a viable and increasingly significant vehicle for promoting collaboration between scholars, practitioners and those involved in the administration of justice. The Society now has close on 1,000 members and among its ranks it can count some of the most distinguished judges, academics and practising lawyers. Not only has this journal managed to establish itself, within an exceptionally short period of time, but under the auspices of the Society there are now several expert working groups actively contributing to the debate in important areas of the law.

The executive committee of the SALS is keen to see that the achievements of the last year or so provide a basis for future development. It is particularly concerned to see more practitioners become involved in the Society's work and to strengthen the Society's overseas membership. While the Society has organised a programme of excellent public lectures in London, the committee is eager to organise lectures and seminars outside the capital. The Society must be able to reach out and further its objectives both nationally and to some extent internationally. Indeed, one of the reasons behind the translation of the Friends of the IALS into the Society was to underline that, while the Institute is and will remain committed to supporting the work of the Society, for it to achieve its objectives the SALS must have a wider constituency of support. Consequently, the executive committee would appreciate suggestions from members of the Society and others as to how the work of the SALS might be taken in some measure out of London, thereby fostering collaboration between scholars and practitioners on a rather broader canvas.

The committee is also mindful of the need for the Society to be able to establish itself, as soon as possible, as financially independent of the Institute. As I have already emphasised, while I remain Director, I am fully prepared to do everything I can to see that the Institute does lend its support to the SALS. In my view, this is entirely in line with what the Institute should be doing and was in fact set up to do. However it would be wrong for the Society to remain financially dependent upon the Institute and, therefore, the executive committee is concerned that appropriate steps are taken to ensure the Society's financial stability. It is to be hoped that those who sympathise with the formation and objectives of the SALS are prepared to assist us, if only by taking up or renewing membership.

Professor Barry Rider