

Attention: Chair - IPBA Scholarship Committee

**Re: After Action Report (AAR) – Inter-Pacific Bar Association
AGM 2-5May 2010**

Dear Chair & Co- Chair,

This report is submitted as per the terms and conditions of the IPBA Scholarship.

Introduction

The Scholarship application forms were forwarded to all members of the Fiji Law Society via email during the period Nov-Dec 2010. The application forms were disseminated by the former secretary of the Fiji Law Society – Afrana Nisha.

The application form was reviewed in a personal capacity and an application was forwarded to the IPBA directly. The application was considered and I was subsequently accepted.

Logistical Matters

All logistical matters were uneventful and well managed. A big ‘vinaka vakalevu’ to Rhonda Lundin for her tremendous assistance in facilitating the coordination of the following:

- Initial notification and forwarding of other ancillary notification;
- prompt handling of queries;
- facilitating of all logistical matters inclusive of transportation & accommodation;
- reimbursement of airfares and payment of per diem;
- on-site assistance;
- briefing and familiarization sessions.

Conference

The IPBA conference (Conference) was of great benefit to me as a legal practitioner from a developing country. The Conference mentally stimulated me on various topical issues of law surrounding Climate Change and Legal Practice. All sessions attended were ‘topic relevant’ and explored various aspects of the theme of the Conference.

The sessions attended were invigorating and prompted critical thought. This was mainly due to the fact that all presenters were of tremendous caliber. The Q&A sessions at the end of each session also served as an opportunity for the speakers to address issues of

concern felt amongst the participants. The keynote speakers were certainly the highlight of the entire conference.

Social Matters and Site Visits

The Social functions at the end of the each day were excellent and extremely well coordinated - 'Hats-off' to the Committee In-charge. Whilst the day sessions were largely academic, the evenings provided the practitioners an opportunity to interact at a social level thereby fostering closer personal & professional bonds.

The site visits was equally as impressive, as it gave the practitioners an opportunity to experience a legal environment apart from their own. The culture of the Singapore legal environment was certainly experienced

Further Suggestions

The Scholars were drawn to the idea of an Ex-Scholars alumni. Whilst it is not my place to make recommendations, it is suggested that the following be considered by the Committee at its discretion.

- Creation of an ex-scholars page on a social networking site or webpage;
- Creation of a buddy system for current and ex-scholars;
- Induction program for new scholars to be facilitated by ex-scholars and;
- Creation of a mentorship program- post internship.

Conclusion

The IPBA conference was a great success from the eye's of a scholar. It is in my opinion that our objective in attending the conference was achieved.

I wish to assist the IPBA, IPBA Scholarship Committee and the Alumni in the future in any which way that I can.

I am greatly indebted.

Ni Sa Moce,

(Sgd) Capt. Navneel Sharma

Republic of the Fiji Military Forces

Suva, Fiji Islands.