



NEW SOUTH WALES
BAR ASSOCIATION

Mentoring Program 2015

In 2015 the Bar Association will be offering junior members of the Bar the opportunity to receive guidance and support from leaders in the profession. For senior barristers the program will be an opportunity to develop effective leadership skills and encourage and support emerging talent at the NSW Bar.

The program will be building upon the successful 2014 program designed in conjunction with McCarthy Mentoring, the Women Barristers Forum and the Equal Opportunity Committee.

The 2015 mentoring program will be an opportunity to assist members of the junior Bar to fulfil their potential and to receive support during their second year at the Bar.

Benefits for Mentors

- Encourages the retention of high quality barristers by assisting them to develop the necessary networks and skills to succeed at the Bar.
- Assist you, as a mentor, to reflect on your own practice and professional goals.
- Contribute to the ongoing success of the NSW Bar and the transfer of knowledge and relevant traditions to members of the junior Bar.

The mentor / mentee relationship is quite different to that of a tutor / reader – there is no expectation to analyse their pleadings, provide work or introductions to solicitors etc. and it is much less time consuming. While you may give advice on particular matters, much as one would under the ‘open door’ policy that most chambers adhere to, the real focus is on having an overview of the mentee’s practice, their concerns and ambitions, and in that context, providing encouragement and general advice for their development as counsel. Despite initial reservations on what I could contribute, I have found being Yvette’s mentor a rewarding experience.

Michael McHugh SC

Benefits for Mentees

- Receive the benefit of experience from more senior barristers.
- A growth in knowledge, confidence and expertise to perform at a higher level in practice.
- Tap into the strong network at the Bar and the information resources that it offers.
- Begin the discussion about transitioning your practice from being a Reader in chambers.
- A chance for reflection and clarity around professional and personal goals and strategies to achieve them.

Michael’s advice has been invaluable in helping me to deal with the difficult situations that invariably arise during one’s first few years at the Bar. Our discussions have helped me to broaden my focus, and have encouraged me to give real thought to the things that I want to achieve from my practice and the life that I want to lead at the Bar.

Yvette Guo

Application form and further details

Members of the Bar who completed the Bar Practice Course in 2013 are eligible to apply to be **mentees** in the 2015 program. Any member of the Bar with over five years seniority including senior counsel, or former members of the Bar, may apply to be **mentors**.

The 2015 mentoring program adds to the suite of services offered by the Bar Association to members of the NSW Bar. The program will be managed by a working party comprising representatives from the Women Barristers Forum, the Equal Opportunity Committee and the NSW Bar Association.

Why Choose this Program?

- A structured mentoring program.
- Strategic matching of mentees with the ideal mentor.
- Open to both men and women.
- Training workshops for mentees and mentors.
- Formal evaluation of the Program.

How to apply

To express your interest in joining the mentoring program in 2015, fill in the form below and return to the Bar Association.

Your name

Chambers

Email address

I wish to be a

Mentor

Please send your completed form to:

Mentoring Program 2015

The New South Wales Bar Association

Selborne Chambers

B / 174 Phillip Street

Sydney NSW 2000

DX 1204 Sydney

enquiries@nswbar.asn.au

Tel: 02 9232 4055

Coaching relates primarily to performance improvement in a specific skills area and usually within the current job. Mentoring relates primarily to the identification and nurturing of potential for the whole person.