



PUBLICATIONS

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Injecting a fresh perspective and forging camaraderie through effective publications

The main project for the Publications Committee (“PC”) this term is to revive the production and circulation of a print publication as a service to all Members of the Bar, in particular to those who are less Information Technology-savvy and do not receive or have access to regular email circulars sent out by BC.

Previously, printed copies of each issue of *Praxis* and *Insaf* were sent out to Members of the Bar but with rising costs, the number of issues decreased and the format of publication changed. For the whole of last term, only one issue of *Praxis* was published, and only in soft copy.

To appeal to a changing membership landscape, PC initially contributed ideas and suggestions to produce a lifestyle magazine, one that is more relevant to younger Members of the Bar, in addition to a newsletter – a compilation of circulars, web reports, book recommendations, obituaries, Disciplinary Orders, library updates and other information disseminated by BC – that contains purely information for Members of the Bar. The proposal and budget for these publications were tabled at the Finance Committee meeting in July 2010.

However, as *Praxis* was already an established publication, the Finance Committee advised PC to retain the current format and hype it up to appeal to younger Members of the Bar, while retaining the publication’s level of professionalism. It was subsequently suggested that PC reconsider a proposal for collaboration submitted to BC in 2009 by LexisNexis.



After indepth discussion, a consensus was reached to enable BC and LexisNexis to collaboratively produce and distribute print copies of *Praxis* to Members of the Bar. The finalised proposal was approved by the Finance Committee and BC in September 2010. The new partnership with LexisNexis will alleviate BC’s cost

concerns (BC will only bear distribution costs, while LexisNexis will bear all production and printing costs) while also generate some income by way of advertising revenue, in particular by taking advantage of LexisNexis' larger pool of advertising contacts. It also ensures the magazine has a professional team on board to assist in the production of a better quality magazine that Members deserve, and can be proud of.

Work on the first co-produced issue of *Praxis* started in September 2010. As before, *Praxis* will contain many articles and commentaries on current legal topics, disciplinary notifications and highlights of recent Bar events. Interesting additions to *Praxis* are a look at a lawyer's out-of-office hobbies, lifestyle features and some puzzles for our readers, to help Members occupy their time while waiting in courts or at the Land Office! The Jan-Mar 2011 issue of *Praxis* went to print in February 2011. The *Praxis* editorial team anticipates that the legal fraternity will be pleased with the publication's new layout and content.

Acknowledgment

I would like to take this opportunity to express my most heartfelt thanks to Azman and Ai Lin, without both of whom I could not have undertaken this massive project. A special thanks also goes out to Noor Arianti and Brendan Siva who assisted in the editorial work, members of the Publications Committee for their individual contributions, and to Ivan Yap, Razlinawati Razali, Aniza Zaharuddin and the LexisNexis team for their tireless hard work.

Syamsuriatina Ishak
Chairperson

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For any enquiries, please email:
ailin@malaysianbar.org.my