



## **BACFI QUARTERLY UPDATE: No 5. February 2011**

### **NEWS**

Tickets for the **SEMINAR AND AMITY SUPPER on 30<sup>th</sup> March** are going fast: book with [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org) to secure yours. See below for further details.

**STOP PRESS ! All your questions on the new Bribery Act 2010 answered. BACFI's first out of London event will be Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May at St Phillip's Chambers, Birmingham !** See below for details and book with [events@bacfi.org](mailto:events@bacfi.org).

At the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** on 8 December 2010, Lord Hoffmann's talk on the work of the **Financial Markets Law Committee** was a sell out. The following BACFI officers were elected: Chairman: Tricia Howse, CBE. Vice Chairmen: Christiane Valansot and Lucinda Orr. Treasurer: William Sprigge. Hon Secretary: Helen Fletcher Rogers. General Committee: all the above plus Esme Chandler, Sheila Richardson, Ian Beeby, Rupert Macey-Dare, Simon Broomfield, Brett Wilson, Stephen Potts and Stuart Bazley.

***BACFI congratulates:***

***Lorinda Long, on her election to the Bar Council.***

***Sarah Clarke, on her appointment to the Bar Standards Board.***

### **Bar Council (BC) pension fund**

Richard Salter QC is chairing a Bar Council group to examine all options for dealing with accruing pension fund liabilities. Consultants Bluefin are assisting the group which is due to make a report at the Bar Council meeting on 12.3.11. BACFI has been campaigning hard to ensure that the option of closing the scheme as a defined benefit scheme and moving to a defined contribution scheme (thus reducing future accruals) is properly examined and that decisions are not made behind closed doors.

BACFI will continue to lobby for greater transparency in BC governance.

## PROFESSIONAL ISSUES

The new Chairman of the Professional Issues sub committee (PISC) is Esme Chandler.  
[esmechandler@gmail.com](mailto:esmechandler@gmail.com).

**BACFI Priorities for 2011 are:**

- **Representation**

**BSB Consultation on Regulating Entities:** you can see the BACFI response here  
[http://www.filewiz.co.uk/bacfi/response\\_to\\_entity\\_regulation.pdf](http://www.filewiz.co.uk/bacfi/response_to_entity_regulation.pdf)

BACFI met Dr Vanessa Davies, the **new Chief Executive of the Bar Standards Board (BSB)** on 26.1.11. Dr Davies has kindly agreed to speak at our Legal Practice Forum on June 30<sup>th</sup> and will be attending the Amity Supper.

**Bar Standards Board appointments:** Vanessa is keen to have more CFI Barristers on the BSB's committees and she wants hard rather than anecdotal evidence as to why we do not apply. Vacancies have just been advertised and even with an extended return date, the response has been disappointing. What is it that deters us from applying for BSB appointments, when we always seem to get plenty of interest in Bar Council vacancies ? It is really in our interest to have fellow employed barristers playing a direct part of the regulatory process and shaping the Bar for the future.

Please send your comments to [hfrogers@bacfi.org](mailto:hfrogers@bacfi.org)

BACFI will be meeting the **Legal Services Board (LSB)** soon. We will be expressing our concerns about Bar Council transparency, the plight of non-practising barristers and the forthcoming Legal Education Review.

**BSB CPD Review & Consultation:** you can see the BACFI paper to the CPD Review team here [http://www.filewiz.co.uk/bacfi/submission\\_to\\_cpd\\_review\\_group.pdf](http://www.filewiz.co.uk/bacfi/submission_to_cpd_review_group.pdf). Thanks to everybody who assisted with this paper. The review is now not due to report until February and the BSB has indicated that it will put the recommendations out for full consultation in March 2011.

- **Education**

**New Practitioners' Programme Advocacy and Ethics Training:** Further NPP training courses tailored to the needs of the employed bar will be held, we hope, by all four Inns during the spring of 2011. If you are an NP wishing to attend one of the courses, please make sure that you ask for the EB session. If you have any difficulty registering for one of these courses or if you attend one, please give feedback to [hfrogers@bacfi.org](mailto:hfrogers@bacfi.org)

We shall be holding our popular **Ethics Roundtable** again on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**CPD seminars:** BACFI remains an accredited provider of CPD seminars and we will be ensuring that each event in our programme (below) carries points. BACFI has been lobbying for

a simpler, self-accreditation system for CPD that recognizes the need for soft skills and reflects the requirements of the employed bar.

- **Support**

**Pupillages:** are down from 460 to 402 this year and there are still very few EB Pupillage Training Organisations (PTOs). The BSB has 3 or 4 applications pending and **we would like to hear from anyone whose firm has applied**, so that we can continue to monitor the difficulties. Contact [hfrogers@bacfi.org](mailto:hfrogers@bacfi.org).

**Student Health warnings:** BACFI has been lobbying both the BSB and the Inns to ensure that students are kept properly informed of the difficulties of securing pupillage and the consequences of failing to complete their professional training. We do not consider that the current “health warnings” are sufficiently robust when students are incurring such enormous debts during their academic training, and the QLTT fall back has now been closed. BACFI gives annual student talks and is forming a focus group to cover pupillage issues generally.

If you would like to help with this group, contact [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org)

#### **KEY BACFI & RELATED EVENTS – 2011 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

1 <sup>st</sup> March 2011	City Law School Student evening: 6pm onwards, Atkin Building student common room.
30 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	Seminar: <b>European experiences of LPP</b> , followed by <b>Amity Supper</b> , with FBLS, BGJA and Bar European Circuit at Middle Temple. Seminar starts 5.30 pm.
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2011	<b>Birmingham Seminar: the new Bribery Act 2010;</b> with St Phillips Chambers. At <b>55 Temple Row Birmingham, 5pm for a 5.30 start.</b> Drinks kindly sponsored by St Phillips Chambers.
15 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	<b>BACFI Garden Party</b> with Middle Temple
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	<b>Legal Practice Forum</b> at Wragges.
20th July 2011	<b>Ethics Roundtable</b> , with Cass Business School, at Eversheds.
27th Sept 2011	<b>Practical EU law issues</b> for in house counsel, with the Bar European Circuit, at Brick Court Chambers.
29th Nov 2011	<b>Denning Lecture</b> (Lord Justice Mumby, Chairman of the Law Commission) and BACFI Christmas Party, at Inner Temple

For more details, links to maps and full year’s events, please see [diary](#) on website.

Be sure to book your places at events with Sandra: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org)

**Membership drive:** if you know someone in your firm who might like to join BACFI, do point them to our website where the brochure and membership forms can be downloaded:  
[www.bacfi.org](http://www.bacfi.org)

**Reconnection with the Inns:** If you are prepared to serve as an Inn representative, please contact Sandra: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org) As you can see below, we need more volunteers for Inner Temple !

Current BACFI Inn representatives are:

Middle Temple	<a href="mailto:Christiane@valansot.com">Christiane@valansot.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:stuart.bazley@mobileemail.vodafone.net">stuart.bazley@mobileemail.vodafone.net</a>
Gray's Inn	<a href="mailto:Tricia.Howse@hotmail.co.uk">Tricia.Howse@hotmail.co.uk</a> ; <a href="mailto:hfrogers@bacfi.org">hfrogers@bacfi.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:Lucindaorr@hotmail.co.uk">Lucindaorr@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Inner Temple	<a href="mailto:EsmeChandler@googlemail.com">EsmeChandler@googlemail.com</a>
Lincoln's Inn	<a href="mailto:William.sprigge@orange.net">William.sprigge@orange.net</a> Ian Beeby <a href="mailto:ipb@peak-intelligence.com">ipb@peak-intelligence.com</a> <a href="mailto:Simon.broomfield@brooksmacdonald.com">Simon.broomfield@brooksmacdonald.com</a>

**BSB and BC committees: 2011** BACFI members sitting on Bar Council or Bar Standards Board committees and subcommittees:

Bar Council	Tricia Howse, Esme Chandler, Lucinda Orr, Stephen Collier & Lorinda Long
General Management Committee	Tricia Howse
Employed Bar Committee	Tricia Howse, Lucinda Orr, Tim Reading & Sara George,
Professional Practice Committee	Tricia Howse & Sara George
Young Barristers' Committee	Lucinda Orr
Policy Advisory Group	Stephen Collier
Finance & Accounts Committee	Stephen Collier
International Committee	Lucinda Orr & Lorinda Long
European Committee	Lorinda Long
Training for the Bar Committee	Sara George & Tim Reading
Bar Conference Committee	Lucinda Orr
Bar Standards Board	Sarah Clarke

BSB Qualifications committee and its Pupillage panel	Helen Fletcher Rogers
BSB CPD sub committee	Tricia Howse
BSB Wood CPD working party	Sue Edwards
BSB Practising Rules Working Group	Helen Fletcher Rogers

## **EXTRAS**

BACFI has a section on its website for appointments - in particular, opportunities in Europe for a *stage*. The BACFI office holds further details. Three post-graduate students are currently seeking placements or internships in London. You can get their CVs from Sandra: [secretary@bacfi.org](mailto:secretary@bacfi.org).