



4 July 2007

RE: INVITATION TO BE A MENTOR IN THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY LAW SOCIETY'S WOMEN'S MENTORING PROGRAM 2007

The Sydney University Law Society (*SULS*) Women's Mentoring Program is an innovative program which aims to foster the career development of female law students and develop a co-operative network to support and encourage women hoping to enter the profession. It involves pairing each female law student applicant with a mentor who works in an area of particular interest to the student. This is the fourth consecutive year of the Program and it continues to receive positive feedback from students and mentors alike.

The program seeks to provide a diverse range of mentors to cater to the broad career aspirations of the students who participate. We would be honoured if you would accept this invitation to participate.

Mentoring is a two-way process and it can be an extremely rewarding experience for students and mentors alike. For mentors, the benefits of participating in the program include:

- ❖ developing leadership skills
- ❖ sharing knowledge, experience and listening and communication skills
- ❖ promoting your area of work to the University of Sydney law student body
- ❖ the sense of satisfaction which derives from knowing that you have helped a young law student to find direction and achieve her goals

For students, the benefits of the program include:

- ❖ gaining a 'sounding board' to assist with career development and goal-setting
- ❖ developing networks in law firms and other non-law or non-corporate career paths
- ❖ practical advice, tips and guidance from someone who has 'been there'
- ❖ inspiration, support and encouragement

Prospective mentors must be able to attend the Program Launch at Mallesons Stephen Jaques on Wednesday, 1 August 2007 from 6:00pm. There are no other compulsory time commitments and future meetings will be up to each student-mentor pair to co-ordinate. In previous years, students have arranged to meet for lunch or coffee with their mentors perhaps two or three times per year. In other cases, students have 'shadowed' their

mentors for a day in court, chambers or offices, or simply had the comfort of knowing they had someone to call for advice and guidance while preparing for job interviews.

Please let me know whether you are able to participate by sending me an email at women@suls.org.au by 16 July 2007. If you are able to give me any other information about yourself, such as your main areas of practice and/or interest, any previous jobs, studies, voluntary commitments or other relevant information, it would greatly assist me in pairing you with a student who shares those interests.

Should you have any questions about the program please don't hesitate to contact me. I would also welcome any feedback from your experience of the Program in previous years.

The success of the SULLS Women's Mentoring Program relies on your goodwill. We very much hope that you will participate this year.

Kind regards,

Julia Bowes

Women's Officer 2007

Sydney University Law Society

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