Theme: Legal Education for a Global Community

Name: Mr Nilesh Bilimoria
Affiliation: Faculty of Arts & Law – School of Law – Laucala Campus – Suva – Fiji Islands
Phone: (679) 3232987
Fax: (679) 3232998
Email address: bilimoria_ni@usp.ac.fj

Title: Legal practitioners convicted, fined and disbarred in Fiji – Is it for Real?

Abstract Submission

Restoring public confidence and maintaining high moral and ethical standards in the practice of law in Fiji, is what my paper attempts to discuss.

My paper highlights the establishment of the Independent Legal Services Commission, and the complaints mechanism pursuant to the Legal Practitioners Decree 2009 (Fiji). How effective is the disciplinary process since the commencement of the LPD in 2009, forms the core of my paper? This discussion is supported by investigating on the number of professional misconduct and unsatisfactory misconduct charges against practitioner's to date. References to the existing institution, the Fiji Law Society established pursuant to the Legal Practitioners Act 1997 (repealed) is also made to determine its success or failure pre-2009 and its effectiveness, if any, during current times.

Is it for real, that members of the legal profession, since the LPD in 2009, are held accountable for their inequities, is the question that guides my paper?