

This is my last message as Director of the Practical Training Course. I leave Leo Cussen Centre for Law on the 26 February after eight wonderful years. I am proud to say that entry into the Leo Cussen course is much sought after by Victorian law graduates and the PTC continues to expand. Our online PTC is now larger than the onsite PTC and both draw large numbers of applications for the two intakes each year.

We continue to develop new ways of training in the practice of law. Online technologies now offer numerous sophisticated interactive tools for learning. This allows us to blend a variety of methods into the training program and use online learning methods to support face to face teaching and the reverse.

Our April Information Night is on Tuesday 5 April from 5pm to 7pm. We look forward to welcoming law students to the Leo Cussen premises at 360 Little Bourke Street. They will be guided around the training floors by current trainees and then hear from PTC alumni about their career paths. If you know of any law student thinking about their options for practical legal training, please direct them to our website where details of the Information Night are listed.

I hope the year has begun well for you. As I move on to explore new opportunities in the field of professional learning, I hope that you will continue to keep in touch with Leo Cussen and support its work as a centre for excellence in both practical legal training and continuing professional development.

Best wishes Judith



**Judith Dickson**

### Meet our Alumni

Further to our previous newsletters, we are aiming to profile alumni in each of our newsletters. In this newsletter, we are proud to share the achievements of Alison Tassiou. Don't forget to send in your own personal story or details of other alumni, so that we can look at featuring in future editions. Please email Sharon Hughes at [shughes@leocussen.edu.au](mailto:shughes@leocussen.edu.au) with your suggestions.

**Alison Tassiou**  
**Legal Recruitment Consultant**  
**Taylor Root/The SR Group**



Prior to undertaking the Leo Cussen Centre for Law (then the Leo Cussen Institute) Practical Training Course (PTC) in 2008, I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from Monash University.

Following my professional placement, I obtained a paralegal position at Maddocks, where I worked until my admission to practice in November 2008. My first few months in the workplace, and the positive comments of my new colleagues and supervisors, re-affirmed that Leo Cussen had helped prepare me for the transition from my studies to the workforce.

After admission, I practised as a commercial litigation lawyer for a total of 7 years in a boutique and then mid-tier law firm in Melbourne's CBD. While I certainly enjoyed working as a lawyer, I had always found myself more interested in the mechanics behind running a law firm and, in my view, the most important asset to any law firm: its people.

In 2015, I completed a Diploma of Human Resources Management and subsequently joined Taylor Root, a global legal and compliance recruitment consultancy, as a Legal Recruitment



**LEO**Cussen  
CENTRE FOR LAW  
*beyond theory*

## Alumni Newsletter

March 2016

Consultant. In my current role, I am responsible for recruiting lawyers at all levels across all practice areas in the Melbourne private practice market. I am able to draw on my experience as a lawyer to assist other lawyers with their career goals and to provide a consultative approach to both my clients and candidates.

While I am no longer a practising lawyer, the skills that Leo Cussen nurtured in me remain relevant in my current career. It also provided me with a network of mentors, colleagues and friends, a valuable resource for a legal recruiter and many of whom I continue to keep in touch with to this day (including my now- fiancé who I met at Leo Cussen!).

### **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) calendar year ends soon!**

Don't forget you need to obtain at least 10 CPD units by 31 March as part of your continuing professional development obligations. We coordinate a wide range of conferences, seminars, workshops and publications across many legal topics.

Leo Cussen also has a CPD Publications [Online Store](#) which offers you the flexibility to purchase audio, webcasts, papers and publications online with new products being added regularly.

Some of our up and coming programs include:

- CPD Intensive – 16 March
- Criminal Law Workshop – 16-17 March
- Employment Law Conference – 17 March
- Family Law Intensive – 23 March

To view our full list of programs and to register visit:  
[www.leocussen.edu.au/cpd](http://www.leocussen.edu.au/cpd)

### **Leo Cussen is now on Twitter**

Please follow us on [Twitter](#) for up to the moment updates on Leo Cussen's Continuing Professional Development programs and Practical Training intakes.

Don't forget we also have a company [Linkedin page](#) and also a designated [Linkedin Alumni Group](#) for job postings and general discussions. You can also find us on [Facebook](#) where we now have over 3,300 likes.