



President's Report 2011

18 October 2011

Dear VSCL members,

I was appointed president of the VSCL by the VSCL committee following Nic Blackmore taking up an exciting career opportunity in Hong Kong. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the VSCL committee to thank Nic for his many years of service on the VSCL committee, and particularly for his most recent role as our president. He serves as a strong role model and his departure leaves big shoes to fill.

In the past year the VSCL has continued to provide a valuable service to its over 100 members from many different areas of the legal and technical community. Some highlights of the previous year include:

1. Running numerous seminars for our members, including Agile Software Development, Cybercrime, an Insurer's perspective on underwriting IT contracts, numerous sessions on the new Criminal Law practice note on the use of technology and law firm document management technology;
2. The finalisation of the Criminal Practice Note for the use of technology in criminal matters and all the supporting documents and applications which are now available on the Supreme Court website.
3. Participating in the Text Retrieval Conference (TREC) including organising testing of search technologies and techniques. Particular thanks are owed to Sandra Potter and Phil Farrelly in relation to VSCL's participation in this important work; and
4. Designing and launching a new VSCL web site and cloud-based membership management system. This has helped improve our processes considerably in terms of membership renewals and event registrations.

With our work on the new web site on our processes generally, which is still ongoing, we hope to build a strong administrative base to facilitate an efficiently run society and free up time to expand the benefits provided to our members.

VSCL activities planned for the in the coming year include:

1. Increasing the society's membership generally.
2. Promoting VSCL membership to in-house counsel.
3. A president's dinner to be held early next year.
4. A members-only seminar event to be held early next year.
5. Putting in place more opportunities for networking between our members.

6. Encouraging participation in the VSCL (and the VSCL committee) by a wider range of law firms.
7. Formation of a privacy working group to audit our privacy and SPAM act compliance and set parameters for future marketing efforts.
8. Continuing to improve our business processes, particular in relation to our finances. This will include investigating integrating online payment mechanisms into our web site to promote prompt payment and increase convenience for our members.
9. Promoting contribution by VSCL members to the Computers & Law journal.

The VSCL has enjoyed another strong year, and has built a strong administrative base to allow us to deliver more benefits to our members.

I would like to thank the VSCL committee generally for their hard work, and in particular Craig Subocz our secretary, Craig Macaulay our treasurer and Victor Tse our membership officer. However, every member of the committee has worked hard to achieve our success of the last year.

I look forward with excitement to the year ahead and to continuing to enhance the usefulness and relevance of VSCL membership to our expanding membership base.

Kind regards,



Jesse Gleeson
VSCL President