



The Inns of Court College of Advocacy

The Council of the Inns of Court



Annual Review

2017-2018

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am pleased to present the ICCA's annual review for the year ending 30 April 2018. In the second year of its existence the ICCA has continued to expand the range of its activities in advocacy training. The review is a snapshot of what we have achieved and indicates our direction of future travel.

A theme that has emerged in our training programmes is that, in addition to promoting continuing work on improving training techniques generally, we have found a ready audience for many areas of more specialised training. This review shows the wide variety of our interests.

In parallel with training targeted at newly-qualified and established practitioners, the ICCA team has been working closely with the Council of the Inns of Court (COIC) and the Inns themselves with a view to delivering a radically new form of the Bar Professional Training Course (BPTC). If the Inns and the Bar's regulator, the Bar Standards Board (BSB), permit the course to proceed the responsibility for delivery will fall on the ICCA. It will be a challenge which we are eager to grasp.

In recording the year's activities I have to express my appreciation and warmest thanks for the considerable time and energy so many members of the Bar and the judiciary have devoted to our projects; to my fellow Governors; and to our highly experienced and efficient staff.

The ICCA is, in the most literal sense, a collegiate enterprise dependent on the active support of the four Inns of Court, the Board of COIC and many willing individual participants.

Derek Wood CBE QC
Chairman of Governors



EXPERT EVIDENCE

Convened by Andrew Hochhauser QC, in collaboration with the Specialist Bar Associations, two well-attended training conferences were held in London in July and October 2017, concentrating on case studies involving medical, forensic accounting and economic expertise. They have generated a demand for similar events outside London.

In November 2017 we launched a major and now acclaimed publication jointly with the Royal Statistical Society - *Statistics and Probability for Advocates: understanding the use of statistical evidence in courts and tribunals*.

The guide was accompanied by the issue of detailed Guidance Notes on the handling of expert evidence generally. These materials were presented at a workshop session at the Annual Bar Conference in the same month.

Our working group on expert evidence was expanded and re-constituted in February 2018. It is now chaired by Michael Kent QC. It is actively developing our existing training materials and building links with the Judicial College, Expert Witness Institute and the Royal Society.



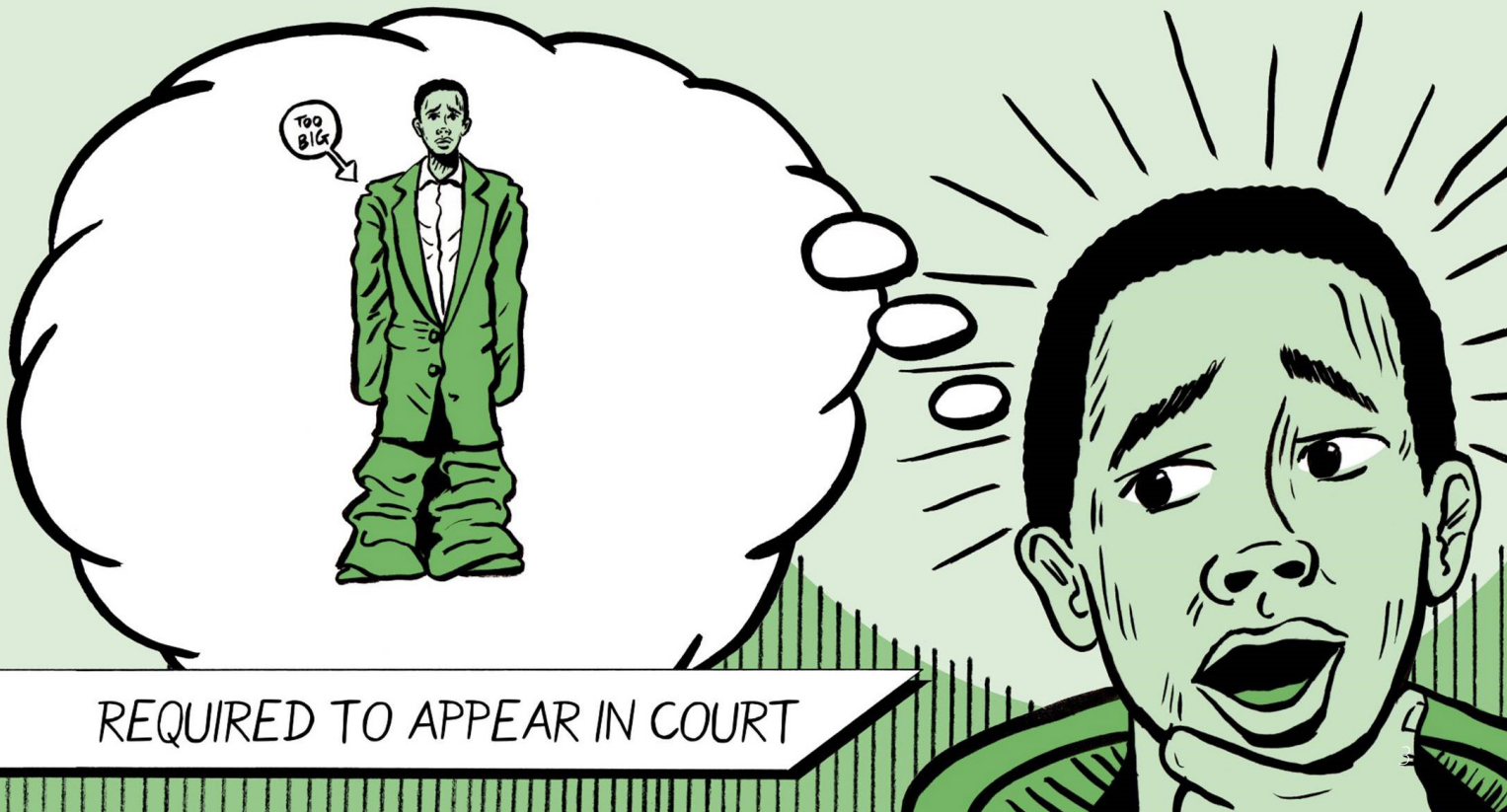
ADVOCACY IN THE YOUTH COURT

The ICCA has responded to repeated criticism of the quality of advocacy in the youth courts by developing detailed advice on the handling of cases involving young defendants. This advice has been widely distributed through animated film and guidance documents.

The current suite of guides was supplemented by the addition of two further documents in 2018:

- Child trafficking and 'County Lines'
- Sexting

All seven guides are accessible for free from the ICCA website.



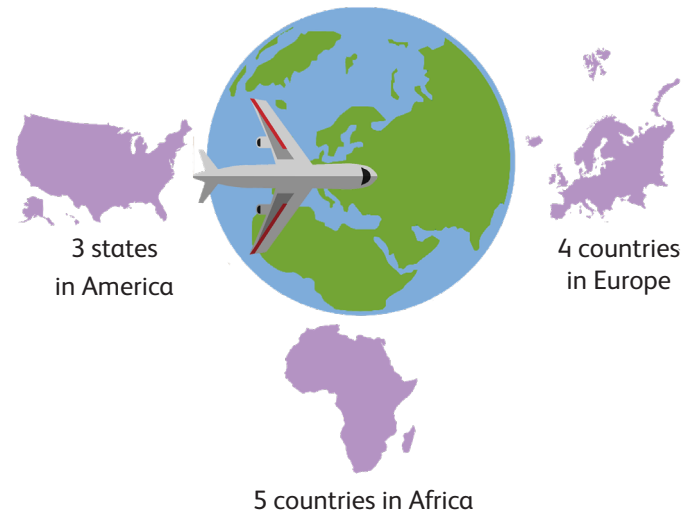
INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY TRAINING

The ICCA has continued to work alongside overseas jurisdictions to develop, enhance and expand advocacy training programmes.

Under the leadership of Judge Stephen Murch the ICCA has delivered advocacy training in Zimbabwe, St. Lucia, Mauritius, South Africa, Nigeria, Warsaw, The Hague, Kuala Lumpur, Sierra Leone, Miami, Guernsey and Malaga, and to the American Inns of Court.

The ICCA will continue working alongside local bar associations and law societies, assisting them to develop and implement their own advocacy training provision, and continue delivering their own training programmes moving forward.

We undertook training in
13 countries,
spanning 4 continents



FEEDBACK



90 % of attendees rated our trainers as “excellent”, with the remainder rating them as “good”.



“The advocacy trainers are excellent, friendly, impactful and motivating”

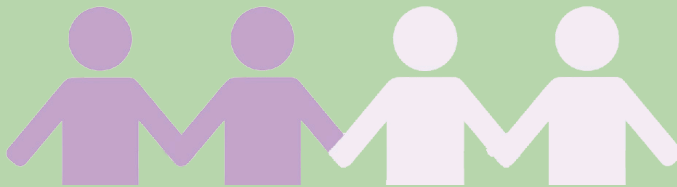
“Outstanding! It was a fantastic event I learnt so much and had a great time!”

“The trainers were patient and very skilled. They were sensitive to the fact that we practise in a different jurisdiction to theirs.”

VULNERABLE WITNESSES

The professional handling of children and vulnerable witnesses in court remains at the forefront of our activities. The Criminal Bar, via the Inns, Circuits and Chambers has trained almost 2,000 advocates. Training for the Family Bar starts in earnest in early 2019.

The materials are undergoing a period of planned revision which includes a revised version of the '20 Principles' and a new legal research paper to reflect current law and procedure. The training is having a clear and positive impact on the quality and length of questioning in criminal trials involving children and vulnerable witnesses.



2,000 barristers have now successfully completed this course, **4,000** will be trained in total.

Training has been provided by:

- 6 Circuits
- 4 Inns
- the CPS



“Training is both recognised and highly valued by relevant experts who work to support victims’ rights and with organisations such as the NSPCC.”

ETHICS

Our committee chaired by Paul Stanley QC continues its work on the refinement of training materials in professional ethics. This topic is under ever-closer scrutiny by the BSB. Greater burdens of responsibility are to be imposed on pupil supervisors and the Inns and Circuits in their training programmes. The ICCA hopes that its committee will be able to offer them valuable support.



THE HAMPEL METHOD

Stephen Lloyd chaired a working group which completed in March 2018 a thorough review of the efficacy of the Hampel method of advocacy training for trainees at different levels of experience. Its recommendations will be debated at a conference in the coming year.

PLEAS IN MITIGATION

During the year HH Judge Anthony Leonard QC embarked on the drafting and filming of a specialised set of training materials for Crown Court practitioners, aimed at training events for advocates at all levels of experience.



OUTREACH

The ICCA takes an active part in the Bar Council's Bar Placement Weeks for school students in London and Manchester by providing a session on the art of advocacy. The ICCA looks forward to generating additional outreach activities of its own if it becomes a provider of the BPTC.



INTERPRETERS AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN COURT

Our training materials on foreign languages in court and the effective use of interpreters were used at the South Eastern Circuit's annual conference on advanced advocacy training in Oxford in August 2017.

WITH THANKS TO...

The ICCA would like to express its thanks to our Chairs, Committees, Working Groups, Facilitators and Trainers who have contributed to the projects and activities of the College over the course of the last year.

ICCA'S BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The work of the College is directed and overseen by the appointed Board of Governors:

- **The Honourable Mrs Justice Andrews DBE**

Judicial Governor

- **Professor Shelley Heard**

Lay Governor

- **Andrew Hochhauser QC**

Vice Chair for SBAs

- **Alistair Macdonald QC**

Vice Chair for Circuits

- **Dr. Catherine MacKenzie**

Academic Governor

- **Philip Marshall QC**

Gray's Inn Governor

- **District Judge Stephen Murch**

Lincoln's Inn Governor

- **Paul Stanley QC**

Middle Temple Governor

- **Sam Stein QC**

Inner Temple Governor

- **William Waldron QC**

Vice Chair for Circuits

- **Derek Wood CBE QC**

Chair



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