



SABWiL

Igama lamakhosikazi malibongwe

CAREES, CONNECTIONS AND WELL-BEING

"Knowledge is power and it can help you overcome any fear of the unexpected." Shetty

Malibongwe!

Welcome to our 2024 Youth Day event synopsis.

We express gratitude to everyone who attended our event on 'Exploring Dynamic Career Paths, Cultivating Connections, and Nurturing Wellbeing in the Legal Landscape' which was held on MS Teams, 15 June 2024 in commemoration of youth. We want to thank the founder of SABWiL [Adv. Ayesha Tiry](#) as well as panelists: Dr CJ Visser, Adv. Zanele Heinermann, candidate attorney (CA) Khanyisile Ndaba, CA Albert Tshidisho Kale, CA Promise Ndlovu, Khanyi Tshabalala; our team leaders: John Makinta – our President of SABWiL, Lindelwa Zulu – our Treasurer, Ayanda Ndlovu – our Events and Projects Officer, Nino Rodda – our Secretary General and Academic Officer, Nombulelo Gumede – our SABWiL COO whose smart work and logistical support ensured that we had a successful and insightful discourse with budding relations.

Together, we actualise the right to education.

OVERVIEW

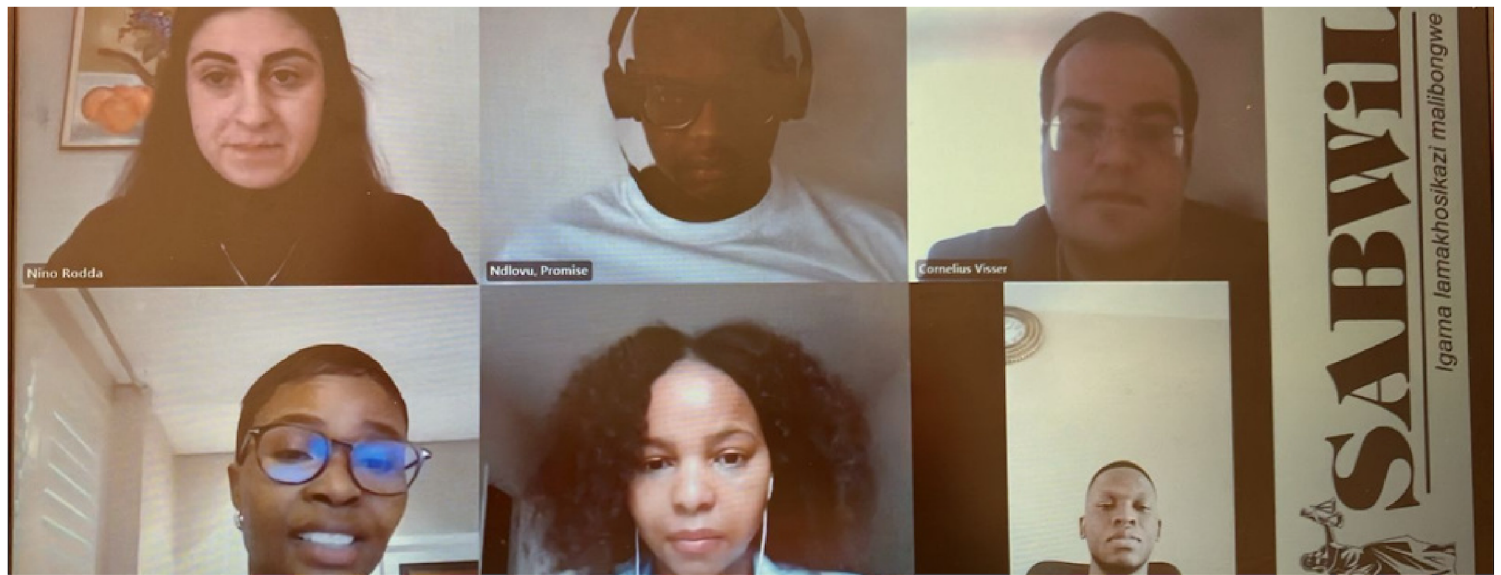
Our aim of the event is to arm law students with the possible legal careers available, empower us with an understanding of each trajectory and help us make impactful choices when considering future journeys. This time SABWiL opted to host a lecturer, an advocate and candidate attorneys, as well a solicitor with specialised knowledge in well-being, to lead the titillating discourse.



KEY TAKE - AWAYS

Dr CJ Visser presented lecturing as one of the legal career paths. The learned Doctor spoke about how being a legal academic requires believing in ones ability to make a significant contribution through teaching and research. Its about having a profound passion for a specific field of law, a field that you wished to master, explore and share with others. Lecturing shapes the minds of tomorrow's legal professionals. Being a lecturer is both a responsibility and a privilege. Lecturing requires constant reflection on what and how to teach.

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The challenge is to analyse complex legal material and present them in a way that maintains intricacy, empowering students to think critically and creatively. A critical aspect of being a legal academic is finding and sharing one's unique voice. It is essential to develop this voice and share it through research and teaching. Finding your voice is embracing one's uniqueness and conveying a message in a way that only you can. In Dr CJ Visser's experience the most critical attribute in becoming a lecturer includes curiosity, creativity, analytical skills and bravery. Those who are inspired to become a legal academic, require both hard and soft skills. Effective communication, empathy and collaboration are equally important. To enhance employability of a legal academic, one needs to engage in internships, participate in moot courts, publish research and build a strong professional network, demonstrating commitment to lifelong learning and a proactive approach to professional development.



Dr CJ Visser
Speaker

Dr CJ Visser is a senior lecturer at the Wits School of Law. His research interests lie in the critical examination of the human personality as a legal interest from the perspective of the law of delict and the law of persons. Currently, his research focuses on dignity harms (e.g. hate speech, defamation, and insult among others) within a transformative constitutionalism paradigm.

He is also a co-author of The Law of Injuries online textbook.

He holds an LLB from the University of Johannesburg and an LLM and a PhD from the Wits School of Law.



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Wits School of Law senior lecturer Dr CJ Visser highlights the importance of mentorship which is vital for professional development. One starts by identifying potential mentors in areas of interest. Networking is essential; thus attend seminars, workshops, conferences and engage in meaningful conversations. Platforms like LinkedIn are important in connecting with potential mentors. It is essential to approach potential mentors with respect and professionalism, thus clearly articulate goals and what we hope to achieve from the mentorship. Building a relationship with a mentor is a two-way street. Show appreciation for their time and advice, stay engaged by regularly updating our mentor on our progress and challenges, seeking feedback and be open to constructive criticism. Mentors provide guidance and the support needed to navigate challenges that help us achieve our goals.

Adv. Zanele Heinermann discussed the various ways to grow within the given legal profession. For example, while being an advocate one can also become an arbitrator and mediator. There is a long journey from being a student to becoming an advocate. There is a constant learning and self-awareness that comes with it. It is important to understand what we want as a goal. The legal profession is very demanding requiring deep engagements with endless reading. Being an advocate requires a significant commitment with a strong ethical foundation. Litigation also requires us to be adaptable, resilient and detail-orientated with a handle on time-management.



Zanele Heinermann
Speaker

Zanele is an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa and a member of the Johannesburg Bar (USA). She is also a qualified and accredited Arbitrator and Mediator, serving as a committee member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators-UK (CIArb-UK) and a panel member of the Arbitration Foundation of Southern Africa (AFSA). Zanele holds a BCom Law degree from UNISA and an LLB from WITS, along with specialised certificates in Sustainable Business Strategies from Harvard Business School and Climate Change and Energy Law from WITS. She has contributed to numerous renewable energy infrastructure projects and deeply values the interconnection between business and law. As a wife and mother of two daughters, Zanele is motivated to contribute towards a just energy transition.



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Tshidiso Kale
Speaker

Tshidiso Kale is currently a Candidate Legal Practitioner, practicing in the Johannesburg area.

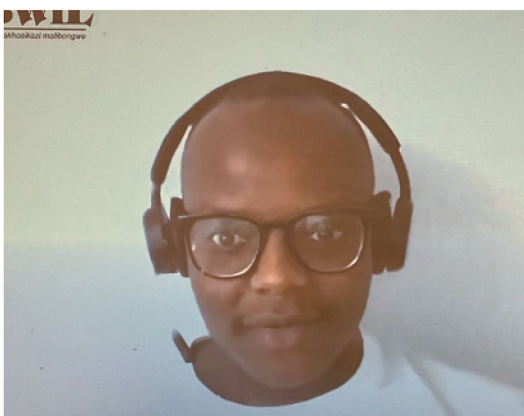
He was the 4th Deputy Secretary General of SABWiL for the year 2022 - 2023.

He read for a Law degree with the University of South Africa, and graduated in 2023.

He is a moot fanatic, having taking part in national moot competitions, and an aspiring Advocate of the High Court.



7th Annual SABWiL Human Rights Court Best Counsel Winner, Candidate Attorney Albert Tshidisho Kale, the 4th Deputy Secretary-general of SABWiL, impressed that it is vital to upskill ourselves and have mentors to guide us through the journey. It is crucial to be patient with ourselves in endeavours to secure articles of clerkship. We need to be patient while we are doing our articles as we are learning while we are employed. We need to be resilient. People who are assisting in our articles might seem as if they are judging us but actually it is a learning process, and it requires a thick skin. It is an important attribute to be reliable – people whom you are working with must see that in you. Effective communication is a key to your workspace. Self-introspection is also very important to find your weak spots and upskilling yourself in that area. Prepare for the interview and know the basics of Civil Procedure. Moot court participation is recommended preparation that affords us that needed edge to step up.



Baker McKenzie Candidate Attorney Promise Ndlovu highlights the need to constantly grow. He states that it is important to be in various student committees, working with various NGO's and being exposed to various skills you need for work-readiness, apart from legal studies.

Promise Ndlovu



Herbert Smith Freehills Candidate Attorney Khanyisile Ndaba impresses that we need to be more than just an LLB graduate. The standard is high. Employees are looking for more in us than just a degree. We need to stretch out and up by diving into recommended readings, asking questions, finding cases and principles. These help craft skills. If we are the smartest person in the room we have to find a bigger room because there is always room to grow; there is always room to learn. We always have to push further. Mooting is a great way to develop. Do more than classmates are doing or are not prepared to do or are not willing to do. All of these extra things speak volumes about us. It also affords us more subject matter to engage on when having interviews with companies. We need to understand about bargaining power. When we are employed we are getting something from them, and they are getting something from us. It is a mutual relationship. So, when walking to the interview, let's ask ourselves – what do we bring to this relationship, because law firm is offering articles, knowledge, the experience and exposure to the industry. Once we start answering these questions for ourselves, we start to think about the gaps and how to overcome these.

Khanyisile Ndaba

Khanyisile is a two-time graduate at the Universities of Stellenbosch and Witwatersrand respectively. Graduating with a Bachelors of Arts, majoring in Politics and Psychology, as well as a postgraduate LLB. She has formed part of various student organisations, some which include the United Nations Association of South Africa, Stellenbosch Chapter and The WITS Moot society. Over the years she has participated in numerous Model UN competitions and Moot Competitions alike. She is currently completing her articles at Herbert Smith Freehills and is extremely excited to see what a future in Corporate law will look like for her.

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Khanyi Tshabalala

Speaker

Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, Khanyi, the founder and CEO of Seize the Light is a dual qualified South African and Australian lawyer. She has extensive experience in banking and finance and practised law in South Africa, New South Wales and London. In tandem, she is a yoga teacher registered with the International Yoga Alliance (200 hours), specializing in breathwork, meditation and yoga.

Passionate about leadership, social impact, DEI, and well-being, Khanyi founded Seize the Light to make yoga and well-being techniques easily accessible and to share her insights and expertise with others. She is highly motivated to inspire and support people to achieve their personal and professional goals and to seize the light in their lives.

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Solicitor Khanyi Tshabalala, Seize The Light CEO, mostly spoke on her valuable personal journey and the importance of constantly caring for our wellbeing. One of the things that is a critical characteristic is – agility. We need to find our voice. If we believe that we have something unique to bring to the table it is imperative that we work on those skills; skills like interpersonal skills, networking, discipline, self-motivation – these are the skills you need to work on. It does not actually matter what we are doing, what matters is how we are doing it, how we are approaching it. That will actually put us in a unique position. Use technology at our disposal to find our voice and to help others who are searching hear that voice too. Tune in for the provocative discourse streaming on [SABWiL YouTube](#). To listen to this audio only, catch us on the [SABWiL Legal](#) Apple podcast. *Ubuntu.*

*A Big Thank You To Everyone
Who Attended The Youth Day
Event!*



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