

# NEWS LETTER

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE



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Empowering Excellence, Advocating Integrity. SAMLA - Shaping the Future of Medico-Legal Standards in South Africa.

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Non-Profit Company reg No 2005/013822/08

# NEWS LETTER

Issue 3/2024

## CONTENTS

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Note from the Editor	Page 2
Reminder of the Annual General Meeting	Page 3
It's a goodbye but not the end - Prof Lerm	Page 3
Welcome - Adv. Dr Anton van den Bout	Page 4
Welcome - Ms Sybil Abrahams	Page 5
Resignation - Adv Carlos da Silva SC	Page 6
Highlights of SAMLA 2024	Page 7
Foundation Course 2025 dates available	Page 8
National Conference 2025	Page 9
Note from National Chairperson	Page 10

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Dear SAMLA Members

It's hard to believe that another year is nearly behind us. In this issue, we're excited to bring you a selection of insightful articles. As with any thriving organization, change is essential for growth. We're welcoming new directors, launching a refreshed website, and much more. Stay tuned for all the exciting updates!

Wishing you all a joyful and festive season! Travel safely, and we look forward to seeing you in 2025.

Warm Regards.



**Maryke Pienaar**

Editor, SAMLA Newsletter

19 November 2024

# SAMLA Annual General Meeting

Please remember to attend the SAMLA AGM meeting on Tuesday 19 November 2024 at 19:00. An email was sent by Christa last Wednesday with details about the Annual Meeting. Kindly make sure to join the virtual meeting.

It's goodbye,  
but not the  
end

SAMLA NEWSLETTER OF 8 Q2 2023  
PAGE 7

Prof Lerm

It's goodbye, but not a final goodbye, to Prof Lerm, whose term of office as Non Executive President ends this year, but he is willing to continue to serve on the SAMLA Board. Prof, thank you for accepting the nomination as a Director. Your continued commitment and involvement is greatly appreciated.

## Adv. Dr Anton van den Bout



“I was really surprised when Prof Stellenberg phoned me and asked whether I was willing to be the new Non-Executive President of SAMLA. I immediately realized the responsibility this position comes with, as well as what I needed to stand fully in the the big shoes of Judge Neels Claassen and Prof Henry Lerm. I am prepared to serve again and want to be part of the process to bring SAMLA to newer heights.

It immediately reminded me with uneasiness about prominent members of SAMLA who just disappeared. I was never able to fully understand why members who are committed to Medico-Legal practice do not want to be a member and contribute anymore. When I think back to the very beginning of SAMLA and its promise of being a developing powerful force in the rather new field of the combination of Medicine and Law one could become pessimistic about consistency of people who were enthusiastic initially.

I however for some time do see a new dawn under the guidance of members getting involved and taking the lead in giving strong guidance, like Prof Lerm and Prof Stellenberg. They are an inspiration for the members taking over in the coming years. SAMLA is growing gradually and will be a force to be reckoned with in society. Members will be highly respected in our Courts and Medico-Legal circles. For me to be able to contribute again will be an honor and I really hope for all the other members too!”

A photograph of two women in a modern office hallway. One woman is seated in a wheelchair, wearing glasses and a dark blazer. The other woman is standing, wearing a grey turtleneck and brown pants, holding a green mug. A large, semi-transparent gold circle is overlaid on the top left of the image.

Ms Sybil Abrahams

We are pleased to welcome Sybil Abrahams, who has graciously accepted the vacant administrative position on short notice. With a background as a teacher and years of experience in university administration, she has kindly agreed to lend her expertise to SAMLA.

Ms Abrahams, we are thrilled to have you on board!

Welcome

# Resignation

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Adv Carlos da Silva SC (Deputy Chairperson: Legal and Chairperson Education and Training) resigned November, 2024, after the completion of the second offering of the medico-legal certificate program.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Adv da Silva SC for his hard work and unwavering willingness to assist especially with our education activities.

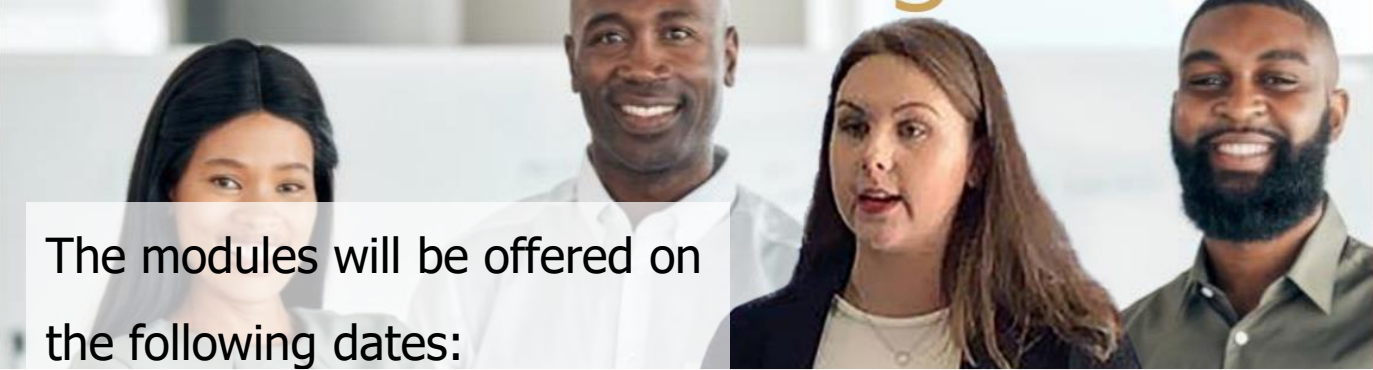
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# Highlights of SAMLA 2024

The Education and Training Committee chaired by Adv Carlos da Silva SC successfully implemented the second offering of the Certificate in Medico Legal Practice Foundation Program. The foundation program was implemented in May 2024 and the last module was offered on 2nd November 2024. Assessment of students will be completed by 20 November 2024, in the event a reassessment is required, it will be done in December 2024.



# UPCOMING Foundation Course



The modules will be offered on the following dates:

<b>Module 1</b>	<b>17 May 2025</b>	<b>Introduction to Foundation of Medico Legal Practice</b>
<b>Module 2</b>	<b>21 June 2025</b>	<b>Introduction to Medical Law</b>
<b>Module 3</b>	<b>12 July 2025</b>	<b>The Interaction between Medical Law &amp; Ethics</b>
<b>Module 4</b>	<b>2 August 2025</b>	<b>Alternative Dispute Resolution vs Litigation</b>
<b>Module 5</b>	<b>23 August 2025</b>	<b>Procedural Issues</b>
<b>Module 6</b>	<b>13 September 2025</b>	<b>Court Procedure and Conduct</b>
<b>Module 7</b>	<b>4 October 2025</b>	<b>Mediation</b>
<b>Module 8</b>	<b>1 November 2025</b>	<b>Quantification of Damages</b>

For more information, contact the Education & Training administrator, Ms Sybil Abrahams, at [support@samla.org.za](mailto:support@samla.org.za) or 076 452 4168

# National Conference

2025

Chaired by Ms Carina Van de Wall SAMLA will be offering a hybrid national conference on the 14 – 15 March 2025 at Kopanong Hotel, Benoni Gauteng.

"BALANCING JUSTICE AND CARE: NAVIGATING MEDICO-LEGAL LANDSCAPES FOR QUALITY HEALTHCARE."

Programme will soon be available.

# Short note from Chairperson

“ From the chair of the National Chairperson  
An exceptional year, during which the board directors showed much commitment and sacrifices to the development and growth of SAMLA. Highlights of 2024 include the completion of the second offering of the Foundation Course in Medico-Legal Practice, preparing for the national conference in March 2025 and registration with SAQA as a professional organization in medico-legal practice. We look forward to the newly designed website which will soon be fully functional. The support of the board directors and members are indeed much appreciated. Wishing all our members and directors of SAMLA a blessed festive season and a prosperous 2025. Keep safe. Prof Ethelwynn Stellenberg”

## CONCLUSION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Prof Stellenberg for her hard work and unwavering dedication to SAMLA.

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## CONTACT

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