



Admissions Ceremony (1)

16 June 2008

Chief Justice's observations

You today join a vibrant Queensland legal profession, a profession which has adapted well to the quite substantial changes in approach which have occurred in recent years. Examples are the embrace of the mechanisms of alternate dispute resolution with consequent retreat from adversarialism, and the extent to which court presentations are now reduced to writing with consequent limitation on oral advocacy; and in the solicitors' offices as in the courts, electronics have provided almost indispensable new tools facilitating the disposition of our work. As you enter this exciting new world, we urge you to rise above the utilitarian: always remember the essence of your newly acquired professionalism, its embrace of the ideal of public service; recognize the critical importance of continuing legal education; suffer no dereliction in your dedication to the highest ethical standards; look

broadly towards the community, participate in pro bono schemes and voluntary community endeavour; and recognize that every human being, to survive and flourish, depends on the support of others, especially so with professionals subject to the pressured demands of contemporary life. You have to this point achieved very highly and that leaves us sanguine as to your future prospects. You leave with our congratulations, and our acknowledgement of the undoubtedly valuable assistance which will have been given to you by your parents, family and friends. You have our warm good wishes for your future professional careers.