



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Via ZOOM

26 OCTOBER 2023

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

I report on the affairs of SASLAW for the 2022/2023 year as follows.

Membership

The Society's membership as of October 2023 is sitting at 981, keeping in mind our renewals now come in waves given the new membership system we have that allows a member to register at any period of the year for a duration of 12 months. With the pandemic behind us, we can expect more of our members to return as we continue to maintain the quality standard of SASLAW. We are thankful to all our members for walking through the pandemic period and thereafter as we continue to recover and work towards a more vibrant Society. We are confident that given our marketing activities we can retain members and will potentially to gain more interested members. A big thank you goes to the chapter administrators and the membership portfolio holders on the chapter committees for keeping the energy of the Society vibrant and engaging. Our growing social media platforms have become the backbone of our marketing plans as it allows the Society to have a further reach to our target markets.

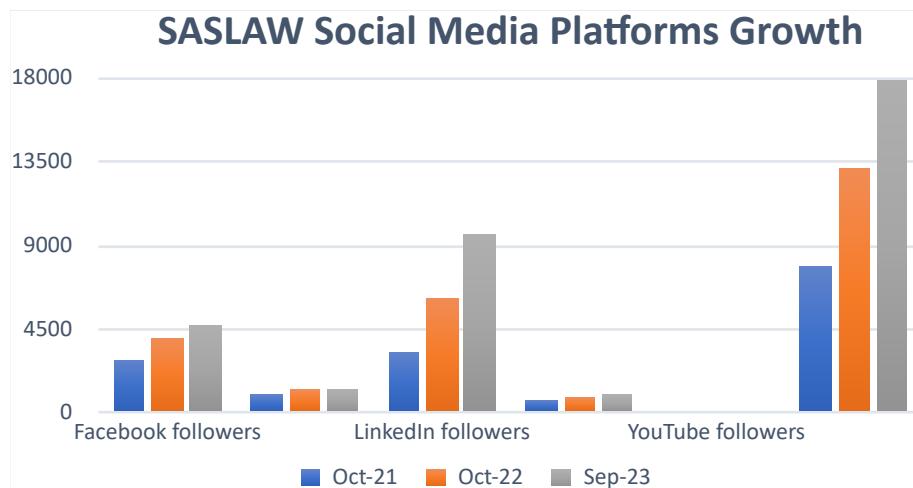
CHAPTER	TOTAL NUMBER OF PAID MEMBERS OCTOBER 2023
Eastern Cape	54
Free State	16
Gauteng	600
KZN	143
Limpopo	6
Western Cape	162
TOTAL	981

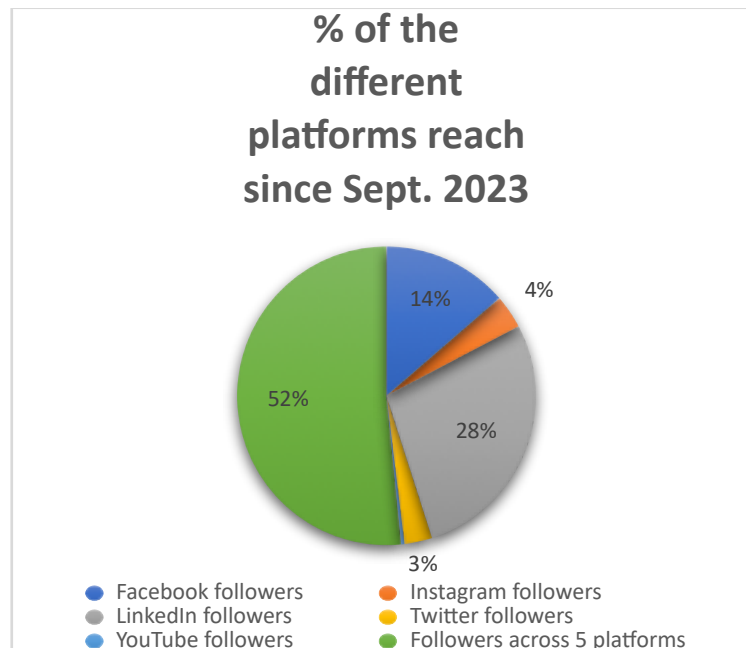
Social Media

The social media platforms have become the backbone of our marketing plans. As seen below, the numbers in relation to our platforms have grown from strength to strength. As from last year, the Conference platform, Swapcard, is available to delegates who registered and attended. It will remain open for the next 6 months where they can access recordings of the sessions as well as network with other delegates.

As can be seen below, this is an indication of the numbers growing since 2021. This is testament to the interest in SASLAW as a society. Thank you to the tech team for the work done for our platforms.

	Oct-21	Oct-22	Oct-23
Facebook followers	2821	4013	4781
Instagram followers	982	1218	1280
LinkedIn followers	3342	6170	9965
Twitter followers	713	916	1064
YouTube followers	52	95	117
Followers across 5 platforms	7910	13124	17207





We encourage you to follow the Society on these platforms:

LinkedIn - <http://www.linkedin.com/company/sasocietyforlabourlaw>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/sasocietyforlabourlaw>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/SASLAW0>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxRTHdlWmvJDO6Ave0t-N-w>

Facebook conference event - <https://web.facebook.com/events/281738819821201>

Saslaw Probono LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/saslawprobono>

Young Scholar Society (YSS)

The YSS committee was delighted to host its first Hybrid Student Conference at University of Johannesburg on the 7th October 2023. Our sponsor was Standard Bank, and we look forward to a fruitful relationship in the future. Topics presented included “Violence in Strikes; Banking and Finance 101; Careers in Labour Law; Workplace Harassment just to name a few. Our sponsor had an opportunity present as well. We had 181 students registered for the Conference. Each student that attended the Conference receives a 6- month complimentary SASLAW membership.

This year the programme experienced challenges with University of Toronto pulling out at the last minute from the 2023 programme leaving the programme in an unpredictable situation. The programme is currently looking for funding with Chris Albertyn and Nic Preston managing the process in Canada, in conjunction with SASLAW at home in South Africa. We were fortunate to receive a donation from Chris Albertyn of CAD\$5000 to keep the programme running for this year. We had 2 students from Western Law attend the 2023 Probono Canadian Fellowship Student Programme. The students arrived in May and departed in July 2023. They learned a lot about Labour laws in South Africa and also offered some sound feedback and tips for future students of the program.

Pro Bono Project

Since Feb 2011 the number of clients seen nationally has been 31 152. All the project activities are covered in more detail in the report enclosed in this pack. A couple of highlights from the Probono office are the Labour Court Backlog Project and the Acting Judges assistance initiative. The Directors are grateful to the Court staff, and the administrators who work tirelessly for the project. I would like to thank Jacqueline Keet, the permanent attorney in the Johannesburg office, for her commitment.

Seminars and Webinars

28 webinars have been held since June 2022 to date. Some of our highlights for the year were:

- "GETTING IT RIGHT" Test on Review, when is correctness the test on review – as opposed to unreasonableness?
- "Alcohol and Drug Testing: Is the Samancor Chrome v Wilmes Judgment a game changer?"
- "CCMA amended Rules & Forms."
- "Impact of AI for the Legal profession."
- "Consistently Inconsistent? An Examination of the Case Law on Consistency."

We are delighted to be hosting seminars again as the members enjoy the networking opportunities. This year, each chapter held more seminars to accommodate the chapter members, though we continued with our webinars allowing to reach all our members (nationally). We will be keeping the mix of seminars and webinars going forward.

26th Annual Conference

Our 26th Annual Conference was held on the 13th & 14th September in Cape Town. A great change since having it in Gauteng for the past 3 years due to the pandemic. Our members were delighted to come out and physically attend the Conference. Though it was a Hybrid conference we had a lot more delegates attend physically. All our speakers also presented in person. This is testament to the pandemic being behind us and the comfort levels of our delegates coming out to the Conference. Our theme this year was Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG). The speaker line-up this year was diverse and unique, it included a Union Leader, an Economist, experts on the advent of AI in the workplace, to name a few. We were honoured to have the Judge President do the opening of the Conference as well as be part of a panel discussion with the CCMA director. With a conference packed with interesting topics, we received great feedback from our delegates. As most of our speakers and delegates attended physically, it allowed for our traditional networking and interaction. The commitment to hosting a high level, informative, diverse, and leading conference paid off.

A big thank you goes to our Sponsors whose commitment to the Society contributed to another successful conference. We hope the exposure you received this year has been well received. Thank you to the speakers. Finally, (in addition to myself, Venolan Naidoo), much gratitude goes to the other conference

committee members: Sean Snyman, Amandla Makhongwana and Moses Baloyi and the Administrators for their commitment in organizing yet another successful conference.

Finance and Administration

The Audited financial statement for the period ending February 2023 are provided to all members. The society remains in a positive position and our financials remain strong at the end of this reporting period.

The administration and governance of the Society are in order.

Closing Comments

Overall, the 2022/2023 period has been a successful one, with the Society maintaining and achieving its goals for the period, including a successful National Conference and more (physically present) seminars to our members.

We look forward to the 2024 year!

Venolan Naidoo

National President
SASLAW
2022 - 2023