



3rd Sub-Saharan OIL • GAS • PETROCHEM Exhibition & Conference

Cape Town 17 - 19 March 2008

For more information: www.fairconsultants.com / www.exhibitionsafrica.com

CAPE Business News

Search Search term

Daily News

GO

Home
News
CBN Services

Trade Leads
My CBN
Advertise

Trade Offers
Jobs
Knowledge Base

Tenders
Press Offices
The Cape

Business Listings
Event Calendar
Subscribe

SA Time 1:21PM

R/\$ 7.80 R/€ 11.30 R/£ 15.20 Gold 915.50 Platinum 1849.50

Currency Converter

Courtesy of Sharenet

Daily News

Sector News

◀ previous page

next page ▶

08 Feb 2008 : USB to launch Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement

Print this article Send to a friend

A centre for training mediators and teaching the concept of dispute settlement will be opened at the University of Stellenbosch Business School (USB).

Called the Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement (ACDS), it will provide an African hub for academic research, development and teaching of dispute settlement theory and practice.

'We need to change the way people think and act when it comes to disputes,' said Professor Barney Jordaan, who will run the Centre. 'Our principal aim is to act as a catalyst and thought leader in this process.'

He maintains that effective dispute settlement practices improve the lives of individuals, as well as the health and sustainability of organisations.

'Dispute settlement is informed by core values such as fairness, affordability, accessibility, accountability, efficiency and cost effectiveness,' says Jordaan.

'Our focus, too, is on Africa and ensuring that African heritage and values are incorporated into developing solutions that suit African conditions,' he adds. 'Our target market includes people involved in disputes, business, legal practitioners and those involved in the administration of justice.' The types of disputes are far ranging and include family, labour and commercial disputes.

The Centre will provide an environment where practice and theory in dispute settlement is given a proper academic underpinning. Through its partnership with Equillore Ltd (formerly known as The Arbitration Forum), a public company that has for the past 10 years been commercially active in the field of enabling dispute settlement, the Centre combines academic excellence with real-world practical experience. The purpose is to become a change agent in the way people think and act in relation to dispute settlement.

So-called alternative forms of dispute resolution have been applied in the labour field, and to a limited extent, in commercial disputes. These include negotiation, mediation, arbitration, as well as hybrid forms of mediation and arbitration.

But litigation has remained the mainstream and principal mechanism for addressing disputes. The alternative mechanisms mostly remain optional, and tend to be used by a few converts.

'It is vital that there is a significant paradigm shift in thinking about mainstream dispute settlement. This applies not only to legal practitioners, but also to Government, business and individuals involved in disputes,' Jordaan explains.

'We need to apply a range of mechanisms in a multi-tiered approach to prevent, manage and settle disputes. Litigation remains an essential part of the arsenal, but this is now the "fall-back", the method of dealing with those disputes that cannot be settled in any other way,' he says.

There is a growing awareness in the public and private sector, both in South Africa and internationally, that disputes ought to be prevented or settled at an early stage.

'The cost of disputes left unattended is no longer acceptable. These costs quickly escalate and are manifested in lost time for management and employees. Also, the escalation in negative emotions, such as anger, frustration and disappointment, results in under-performance and a drop in productivity, the destruction of previously productive business relationships, and, of course, high direct legal costs.

'CEOs and management have increasingly become aware that disputes left unattended will impact significantly on the organisation's bottom line, and that boards of directors and shareholders will no longer turn a blind eye to such avoidable wastage,' Jordaan points out.



Sector News



PRESS OFFICES ADVERTISING

FusionDesign
Internet Adsales
Megapro

BUSINESS SUPPORT

Accelerate Cape Town
City Improvement
Districts
Fair-Bro International
Brokers & Consultants
Wesgro

CLOTHING

No 10

CONFERENCES

Building & Finishings
Expo 2008
Dynamic Corporate
Activities
McGregor Country
Cottages

EDUCATION

Damelin
The Coaching Centre
UCT Graduate School
of Business

FINANCE

Anderson Whittle cc
AWKinect
PayGate
Sharenet

FOOD AND BEVERAGES

Atrous Trading
Global Water Traders
Mustard & Flint

FURNISHING

Decor and Furniture
Treehouse

HEALTH

Natural Medicine
OCSA

HOSPITALITY

The Parkwood

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES

Cape Initiative in
Materials and
Manufacturing
Industrial Flooring
Systems
Loub Chemcare
Oil Africa
Valart

INSURANCE

Carl Greaves Insurance
Brokers
First Link Insurance

MEDIA

CBN
Crystal Clear
Communications
Printed Shadenet
Solutions
Rainbow
Spaceacre

OTHER

Baseline NGN
Powerscreed
SAABC
The Perfect Renovation

PERSONAL

Jane Shonfeld
Luanna

PROPERTY

Calico Place
Colosseum
Fractional Ownership
Manhattan - Cape
Town

Apart from research, the Centre will also offer a number of short courses and post graduate programmes in dispute settlement.

For more information about the Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement contact Prof Barney Jordaan on (021) 975 2050 or 082 417 597.

Should you wish to arrange a pre-launch interview with Prof Barney Jordaan feel free to contact Clayton Swart on 021 918 4388 or send an email to: claytons@usb.ac.za.

Sector Tags:

2008-02-08 | [Leave a comment](#)

Comments:

No comments posted yet.

Login to write a comment.

Note: Use your MyCBN account to login

Username:

Password:

[Subscribe Now](#) [Contact Us](#) [Advertise](#) [Send Us News](#) [Sitemap](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Report a Bug](#) [Terms and Conditions](#)

Site by: Spaceacre Web Design South Africa

© 2007 <http://www.cbn.co.za/> All rights reserved

The Forum
Usher Group
SECURITY
Beta Bastion
Cochrane Steel
SPORT
2010 World Cup Soccer
TRANSPORT
Bid2load
McCarthy Toyota
Kenilworth
TRUCK SEATS
All-Pro
WEDDINGS
Perfect Wedding

BizAssist
SME News
Business Trends
SME Events
Business Advice
Directories
& more...

CLICK HERE



