

**Fellow of INSOL International** 

International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals

PRESS RELEASE

INSOL International is pleased to announce the first graduating class of the Global Insolvency Practice Course. The successful participants are now formally recognised as a Fellow, INSOL International.

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The Global Insolvency Practice Course is the pre-eminent advanced educational qualification focusing on international insolvency.

With the fast growing number of cross-border insolvency cases and the adoption in many jurisdictions of international insolvency rules and provisions, the turnaround and insolvency profession faces increasing challenges in the current economic environment. The current outlook demonstrates that the practitioners of tomorrow need to have extensive knowledge of the transnational and international aspects of legal and financial problems of businesses in distress.

The format of the fellowship programme is intensive, carried out over a short period of time in three modules. The first module was held in the Netherlands from the 16-18 June 2008 at the Faculty of Law of Leiden University. The second module took place in Shanghai from the 12-14 September 2008, prior to the INSOL annual conference. The last module involved the students utilizing web enabled technology which included a virtual court and undertaking real time negotiations for a restructuring plan involving multiple jurisdictions. The platform for this module was made available through the generous support of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. A number of senior judges from around the world took part in Module C in order for the participants to gain experience of court to court situations. The judges included Hon. Mr. Justice Robert Drain, US Bankruptcy Court; Hon. Mr. Justice David Richards, Royal Courts of Justice, London; Hon. Mr. Justice David Tysoe, British Columbia Court of Appeal, Hon. Mr. Justice Jean-Luc Vallens, Cour Commerciale, France; Hon. Mr. Justice Rajiv Shakdher, High Court of Delhi; Hon. Mr. Justice James Farley, retired judge Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

Admission to the course is limited to a maximum of 25 candidates each year. This ensures academic excellence and the opportunity for good personal contact between students and faculty. Potential candidates must already hold a degree or equivalent to be considered for this programme and must have a minimum of 5 years experience in the field. Participants represent the different jurisdictions of the World.

Mahesh Utamachandani, Senior Counsel and Head of Global Insolvency Initiative, World Bank:

"The fellowship programme will be a very rewarding investment towards a successful career, both through helping the development of professional skills and through fostering a greater understanding of different jurisdictions' cultures and systems."

Professor Ian Fletcher of University College London, a member of the Core Committee responsible for planning the programme:

"Designed and taught by an international Faculty of highly distinguished experts, the INSOL Fellowship Programme offers a unique learning experience. It answers a long-felt demand for a benchmark qualification to identify those practitioners who are in the front rank of transnational insolvency practice in today's challenging global market place."

Bob Sanderson, President of INSOL:

"In the ever increasingly complex capital markets coupled with the continued globalization the requirement for those charged with ensuring the troubled international enterprises are restructured effectively and efficiently is vital. This program meets this requirement."

For further information contact INSOL International 00(44) (0) 20 7929 6679 or e-mail <u>pennyr@insol.ision.co.uk</u>: Core Committee:

Prof. Bob Wessels	Prof. Ian Fletcher	Prof, Janis Sarra	Adam Harris
University of Leiden	University College London	University of British Columbia	Bowman Gilfillan
-		Faculty of Law	

\*INSOL was formed in 1982 and has grown in stature to become the leading insolvency association in the world. It is a valuable source of professional knowledge, which is being put to use around the world on diverse projects to the benefit of the business and financial communities.

## **INSOL'S Mission**

INSOL with its Member Associations will take the leadership role in international turnaround, insolvency and related credit issues; facilitate the exchange of information and ideas; encourage greater international co-operation and communication amongst the insolvency profession, credit community and related INSOL International is a worldwide federation of national associations of accountants and lawyers who specialise in turnaround and insolvency. There are currently 40 Member Associations with over 9,700 professionals participating as members.