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## CURRICULUM VITAE

### SECTION A

#### PERSONAL DETAILS

<b>Title</b>	Dr
<b>Surname</b>	Sukhraj-Ely
<b>First Name</b>	Praveena
<b>Nationality</b>	South African
<b>Gender</b>	Female
<b>Race</b>	Indian
<b>Disability</b>	Blind
<b>Identity Number</b>	
<b>Postal Address</b>	42 Windswawel Street Monument Park, Extension 4 Pretoria 0181
<b>Work Phone</b>	
<b>Cell Phone</b>	
<b>Alternative contact number</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	

#### PERSONAL PROFILE

I am an admitted advocate of the High Court of South Africa. I hold four degrees, including a PhD in Public Policy. I have fifteen years' invaluable work experience including middle and senior management, as well as specialist experience in legal and policy research, legal drafting, litigation, stakeholder management, policy analysis and development, strategic planning, financial and personnel management. I am an activist for Disability Rights issues both Nationally and Internationally and am keenly involved in voluntary work for disabled peoples' organisations with a view to promote and protect the rights of people with disabilities. I also deliver sensitisation and motivational addresses to diverse groups of people to help with empowerment and development of individuals. I am the First Vice President of the International Council for the Education of people with Visual Impairment (ICEVI) based in London. I am the Chairperson of the Disability Chamber of the National Information and Communication Technology Forum established by the Department of Telecommunications and Postal services.

## SECTION B

### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

#### TERTIARY EDUCATION

- Qualification**

**Institution**

**Year Obtained**

**Thesis Topic**

Doctor of Philosophy (Public Policy)

University of Kwazulu-Natal

2009

Inclusive Education Policy and Practice: Promoting the Rights and Needs of Visually Impaired Learners and Students in South Africa
  
- Qualification**

**Institution**

**Year Obtained**

**Subjects**

**Dissertation Topic**

Master of Arts (Political Science) (**Cum Laude**)

University of Natal

2002

Democracy and Public Policy in South Africa

States and Justice

Research Methodology

Rawls from the Metaphysical 'A Theory of Justice' to Apolitical 'Political Liberalism'
  
- Qualification**

**Institution**

**Year Obtained**

Bachelor of Laws (LLB - postgraduate)

University of Natal

2000
  
- Qualification**

**Institution**

**Year Obtained**

**Major Subjects**

Bachelor of Social Science

University of Natal

1998

Legal Studies

Political Science

## **SECONDARY EDUCATION**

- **Qualification** Matric (Senior Certificate)
- Institution** Arthur Blaxall School for the Blind
- Year Obtained** 1995
- Subjects** English, Afrikaans, History, Mercantile Law, Physiology, Home Economics

## **CERTIFICATE COURSE**

- **Certificate** Legislative Drafting
- Institution** University of Pretoria
- Year Obtained** 2007

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Nineteen distinctions obtained at university  
Master's degree in political science obtained cum laude  
Two Deans Commendations  
Selected as a member of the International Honours Golden Key Society  
Recipient of the following awards:

- Pius Langa Scholarship
- Archbishop Dennis Hurley Scholarship
- African Academia Scholarship
- Black Lawyer's Association Scholarship
- DAAD Scholarship
- National Research Foundation Bursary

## **SECTION C**

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

<b>▪ Employer</b>	Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (Chief Directorate: Promotion of the Rights of Vulnerable Groups)
<b>Period</b>	1 April 2014 to date
<b>Job Title</b>	Director: Persons with Disabilities
<b>Key Functions</b>	<p>Conducting international and national legal, social and policy research</p> <p>Project management</p> <p>Report writing</p> <p>Conducting comparative research</p> <p>Distribution, analysis and collation of questionnaires</p> <p>Consultation with external and internal stakeholders</p> <p>Organising and facilitating workshops and conferences for professionals and the wider public sector</p> <p>Drafting Issue Papers and Discussion Papers on collated research material</p> <p>Providing Legal Support and Advice</p> <p>Assist by giving input and opinions on developing legislation and policies</p> <p>Advocacy and Awareness Raising</p> <p>Development and Co-ordination</p> <p>National and Regional coordination of Courts and other branches within the Department</p> <p>Management of staff</p> <p>Financial management of allocated budget in accordance with the requirements of the Public Finance Management Act</p> <p>Knowledge management</p> <p>Strategic Planning within the Directorate</p>

<b>▪ Employer</b>	Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (Civil Litigation Unit)
<b>Period</b>	1 May 2009 to 31 March 2014
<b>Job Title</b>	Senior State Advocate
<b>Key Functions</b>	Acting as Counsel on behalf of Government Departments in Civil Litigation matters

Providing legal advice and litigation services to the Minister, Director-General and Chief Litigation Officer on legal matters concerning the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development

Preparation and drafting of legal documents

Attending legal consultations and pre-trial conferences

Engaging in negotiations and preparing settlement agreements where necessary

Conducting legal research and preparing legal opinions

Court appearance as Counsel in civil matters

Managing and Supervising junior advocates and support staff

▪ **Employer**

Department of Justice and Constitutional Development  
(South African Law Reform Commission)

**Period**

1 October 2006 to 30 September 2009

**Job Title**

Senior State Law Advisor

**Key Functions**

Conducting legal, social and policy research

Legislative development and drafting

Project management

Report writing

Conducting comparative research

Distribution, analysis and collation of questionnaires

Consultation with identified professionals in public and private Sectors

Organising and facilitating workshops and conferences for professionals and the wider public sector

Drafting of Issue Papers and Discussion Papers on research material collated with an aim to create or amend legislation

Advising Government on inconsistencies and policy considerations related to existing and new legislation

Amending current legislation and drafting Bills for consideration by Parliament

- **Self-employment**
  - Period** Society of Advocates of Kwazulu-Natal  
2 January 2003 to 30 September 2006
  - Job Title** Advocate
  - Key Functions**
    - Appearing as Counsel in the High Court in civil and criminal matters
    - Conducting legal research and preparing legal opinions
    - drafting of legal documents
    - Arranging and attending legal consultations and pre-trial conferences
    - Engaging in negotiations with opposing Counsel and entering into settlement agreements where necessary
    - Providing legal advice
    - Managing support staff and practice
    - Assessor to Justice Leona Theron in criminal cases
    - Management of all matters related to the profession
  
- **Employer**
  - Period** University of Natal  
20 February 2001 to 30 April 2005
  - Job Title** Mentor: Commercial Law and Political Science
  - Key Functions**
    - Conducting legal, social and policy research
    - Presentation of course material to various classes
    - Preparation of course material, tests and assignments
    - Marking of tests and assignments
    - Consultations with individual students

## SECTION D

### VOLUNTARY EXPERT SERVICES IN THE NATIONAL and INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENT and NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

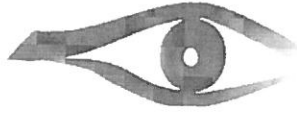
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|-----------------------------|--|
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | South African Disability Alliance (SADA)   |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Vice Chairperson   |
| <b>Period</b>               | 2009 to 2011   |
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB)                                     |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Vice Chairperson   |
| <b>Period</b>               | 2009 To 2011   |
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | Children's Disability Training Centre  |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Chairperson  |
| <b>Period</b>               | 2010 to current  |
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | Blind SA   |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Member of the Executive Board  |
|                             | Chairperson of the Advocacy Committee and Member of the Board                            |
| <b>Period</b>               | 2012 to 2016   |
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | International Council for the Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI, London) |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | First Vice President   |
|                             | Member of International Executive Committee  |
| <b>Period</b>               | 2012 to current  |
| <b>Organisation</b>         | Accessible Books Consortium of the World Intellectual Property Organisation.             |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Director   |
| <b>Period</b>               | April 2015 to current  |
| ▪ <b>Organisation</b>       | Dept of Telecommunications and Postal Services   |
|                             | National ICT Forum   |
| <b>Executive Title</b>      | Interim Chair for Chamber of Disability  |
| <b>Period</b>               | May 2015 to Current  |
| <b>Key Responsibilities</b> | Assist by providing legal support and advice   |

Assist the board with management and advising on strategic direction of the company  
Assist by giving input and opinions on developing legislation and policies  
Assist by consulting and negotiating with stakeholders

## **SECTION E REFERENCES**

<b>Referee (1)</b>	<b>Professor Raphael De Kadt</b>
<b>Contact Details</b>	Cell No.: Email:
<b>Relationship</b>	Professor (Masters and PhD Supervisor)
<b>Referee (2)</b>	<b>Advocate Ismail Hussain SC</b>
<b>Contact Details</b>	Cell No.: Email:
<b>Relationship</b>	Senior Counsel (Mentor and Supervisor)
<b>Referee (3)</b>	<b>Mr Krish Govender</b>
<b>Contact Details</b>	Te' Cell No.: Email:
<b>Relationship</b>	State Attorney: KwaZulu Natal





**BLIND SA**

an agency of the  
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## NOMINATION FOR COMMISSIONERS TO THE COMMISSION FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Dr Praveena Sukhraj-Ely was the Chairperson of the Advocacy and Information Committee of Blind SA, Vice President of International Council for the Education of People with Visual Impairment (ICEVI) and serves as an expert of the Africa Marrakesh Treaty Committee. She has actively promoted and is engaged with Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and more especially for women with disabilities.

We have pleasure in nominating Dr Praveena Sukhraj-Ely as Commissioners to the Commission for Gender Equality.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Jace Nair

CEO

Blind SA

42 Windswawel Street  
Monument Park, Extension 4  
Pretoria  
0181

E-mail:  
Tel W.  
Cell Phone  
Alternative Contact Number:

I, Dr Praveena Sukhraj-Ely, ID No:      Female resident of the Republic of South Africa,  
do hereby accept with gratitude the nomination to serve as Commissioner to the Commission for  
Gender Equality.

  
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Dr P Sukhraj-Ely