

**American Bar Association  
Law Student Division**

**Liaison Reports  
October 2010**

**Divisions**

**General Practice, Solo and Small Firm  
Grant A Beardsley  
Stetson University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco from August 4-8. At the Meeting, I attended as many GP-Solo Division meetings as possible.

- At the Membership Benefits meeting, I learned of the decline in student membership. Student membership has dropped about 1,000 members from last year, and it will be my job to think of ideas of promoting the Division to law students.
- At the Council Meeting, I observed how the Division operates and was informed of the goals of the Division. At the meeting, the new Division Leaders took their positions for the first time, including my position as Law Student Division Liaison. Each leader gave a short report. As Liaison, I gave a report, which consisted of an introduction and my general goals while in the position of liaison. At the meeting I spoke with the Young Lawyer Division Liaison, in hopes of a collaborative effort to increase both young lawyer and law student membership in the Division.
- A main goal of mine was to introduce myself to as many GP-Solo members as possible, and get to know why they are members, and what benefits they get from being apart of the Division.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco from August 4-8. At the Meeting, I attended the required liaison meetings, including the Law Student Division Annual Meeting Orientation and the Liaison Orientation. My involvement at these meetings were strictly focused on gaining as much information about my role as a liaison and how I can be a benefit to the Division.

**ISSUES:** A main issue facing the GP-Solo Division is low law student membership. This correlates with the Law Student Division's interest of keeping membership numbers high - both GP-Solo and LSD want high membership. GP-Solo is attempting to reach law students, because the fact of the matter is that approximately 70% of lawyers end up in small firm or solo practice.

**PROJECTS:**

- I am updating the GP-Solo Membership Board website;
- Review the GP-Solo Member Benefit website and think of ideas to improve it for the fall meeting;
- Write an article that will be sent to the LSD magazine "Student Lawyer" promoting GP-Solo and describing the benefits law students get by being a member; and
- Contacting as many ABA reps before orientation so promote GP-Solo in an attempt to reach more incoming 1L students to become members.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I emailed a majority of the Division leaders in an attempt to keep an ongoing conversation between the Division and GP-Solo. I am in contact with a former LSD Liaison, Alan Fowler, who will be a great resource to bounce ideas off of and mentor.

I met a speaker after one of GP-Solo's panel presentations at the ABA Annual Meeting who is from Orlando that I hope to keep in contact with. She mentioned that she could use some help for the fall meeting in Austin.

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## **Government and Public Sector Lawyers**

**Jessica M. Simmons**

**Florida Coastal School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. During the Annual Meeting, I attended the council meeting and two CLE's that pertain to my entity (Public Interest Career, and 24,000 Federal Government Jobs). During the council meeting I got a chance to introduce myself to my entity. I was also able to take part in the voting process.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. During the annual meeting, I attended liaison training, 5th Circuit Meeting, career fair, and my entity meetings.

**PROJECTS:** I am working on organizing a Government and Public Interest career fair for all of the ABA schools in the state of Florida. I am also working on putting together a government and public interest career panel for my law school. I will attend the Fall Leadership Summit for my region and solicit other law student leaders to organize similar career panels and also seek involvement to help plan the career fair for the spring semester. As the membership chair for my local school chapter, I am planning a membership drive for the spring semester. I also intend to write articles for submission in the Student Lawyer and entity newsletter.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The immediate past chair for the entity, Gwendolyn Hodge, passed away on September 29, 2010. The entity gave a memorial for her during the Fall Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona.

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**Judicial**

**Tony Thomas**

**Stetson University College of Law**

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**Senior Lawyers**

**Rebecca Ward**

**University of the Pacific-McGeorge School of Law**

## **Sections**

### **Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice**

**Richard A Raiders**

**Temple University Beasley School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Council Meeting at Annual Meeting, San Francisco (participant/council voter); Section marketing meeting Aug 30 (participant), annual kickoff meeting Sept 8 (observer), monthly section leadership meeting Sept 16 (observer).

**DIVISION-MEETINGS:** Annual meeting in San Francisco, Northeast Fall Leadership Conference Oct 1-2.

**ISSUES:** Section has requested student volunteers to assist with short term research projects throughout the year. Section has requested marketing assistance in student outreach, especially with brown-bag conference calls, student skills programming at Section Fall and Spring meetings. Section leadership and council are very actively soliciting student involvement at many levels.

**PROJECTS:** Producing job skills and outreach programming (see above). Section has requested social media assistance - waiting for ABA to provide social media (Facebook, LinkedIn) guidance. Following unofficial section blog, may expand role at blog.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Section also has Homeland Security and Lobbying conferences in spring, has requested student outreach for both events (in DC). Wrote Student Lawyer article, scheduled for publication this fall. Section has requested that I submit another article for Student Lawyer to promote Homeland Security Conference. (note-this section does not typically host events at the Midyear Meeting due to holding three meetings between January and May plus a separate Council meeting).

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**Antitrust Law - Equal Opportunity Committee**  
**Jeri Ostuw**  
**Stetson University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting where I participated in the council meeting. I telephonically attended monthly meetings with the Equal Opportunity Committee.

**DIVISION-MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting where I participated in the Liaison Orientation, CLE's, and other various functions.

**ISSUES:** Student membership to the Antitrust Division.

**PROJECTS:** Assist the Equal Opportunity Committee with its annual plan and to increase student membership.

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**Business Law**  
**Caroline D. Pham**  
**George Washington University Law School**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the 2010 ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. At the Annual Meeting, I attended the Business Law Section Diversity Committee and Membership Committee meetings. In the Membership Committee meeting, I spoke regarding (i) outreach to law students and law schools regarding Section programs, (ii) the success of the Section's Senior Counsel mentoring program for law students at the Fall Meeting, and (iii) various law student publicity and marketing initiatives available to the Section with which I could assist. While at the Annual Meeting, I also took the opportunity to meet and introduce myself to Section leadership and staff and discussed my role with the Section for the upcoming year.

**PROJECTS:** I have made contact with Section staff regarding my role as LSD Liaison, including law student marketing and outreach. I am also working with the Membership Committee. I have discussed and am working on a piece for Student Lawyer magazine, and have reached out to the Section regarding submitting items to the Law Student eNewsletter. I have also reached out and discussed the Fall Meeting with Section staff.

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**Criminal Justice Council**  
**Amanda Valentino**  
**Seattle University School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Criminal Justice Section Conference Call: This conference call was held the beginning of September and I was present on the call and made myself available to help out with the planning of the Spring Litigation Meeting. I will also be attending the Criminal Justice Section Fall Meeting in November in D.C. and the Spring Meeting in Miami.

**ISSUES:** I know that the entity would like to involve more law student participation this year in their programs, especially with the spring legal writing competition.

**PROJECTS:**

1. I am planning to work with a non-law student member to hold a spring panel discussion for law student members in the Pacific Northwest to attend, network, and become more involved in the Criminal Justice Section.
2. I am beginning to work with another non-law student member/senior attorney in the section to solicit law student participation with a holistic project he is undertaking. The initial goal of this project is to study, and educate the bar about, nontraditional models of criminal defense representation that reflect the task force's view of excellence.
3. Working to efficiently advertise the Criminal Justice Section's spring legal writing competition to interested students.

**Criminal Justice - Corrections Committee**  
**Abby Schwartz**  
**Loyola University Chicago**

**PROJECTS:** Prof. Branham has put me in charge of communications for the committee. There are several major things on which she wants me to focus:

1. Sending an email out to the list serv encouraging people to send in any pertinent info/ articles about corrections, as well as including interested law students.
2. Collecting that information
3. Per my suggestion, compiling that information and sending it to the Tech Manager so that it may be posted on a special page on the committee website so that it is organized and also will direct traffic to the committee website.
4. Sending out a biweekly newsletter with the link to the webpage with the new information
5. Requesting the top 10 policy resolutions, then send them to the Tech Manager who will add a page with links to those.
6. Mostly my work thus far has been emailing between three people in order to set the above up, and now I will begin the compiling of information.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I am hoping to get in touch with someone with ABA Law Student Division to find out whether there is a list serve of students interested in Criminal Justice/ Corrections so that I may add them to the list serve, direct them to the site with up-to-date info, and even perhaps make a facebook page.

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**Criminal Justice - Criminal Procedure, Evidence, and Police Practices Committee**  
**Lindsay Sullivan**  
**Chapman University School of Law**

**ISSUES:** Committee would like to continue to monitor the cases, and decide whether sufficient time has passed to submit a report to the CJS Council recommending that the Section establish policy on this important issue. In particular, we will consider whether to make statements

1. Explaining the relationship of Crawford and the Bruton doctrine,
2. Exploring the possibility of greater use of depositions for purposes of preservation of testimony in criminal cases, and of a rules change facilitating such use, and
3. Suggesting methods by which jurisdictions might effectively cope with the doctrine of Melendez-Diaz, which makes forensic laboratory analysts subject to the requirements of the Confrontation Clause.

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**Criminal Justice - Defense Functions and Services Committee**  
**Sonia Wilson**  
**University of Alabama School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** The next meeting of the Defense Function Committee will be held November 5, 2010 at noon in Washington, D.C. during the Criminal Justice Fall Meeting. Unfortunately I will not be able to attend this meeting, but will be present on the conference call.

**ISSUES:** The Defense Function Committee is preparing a resolution for the Criminal Justice Section to send to the House on justice in tribal areas: Gideon issues, forensic science availability, etc.

**PROJECTS:** It is my goal to attract as much student involvement in the the Defense Function Committee as possible, as well as in the broader Criminal Justice Section. I hope to gain insight into the best ways this might be done through the discussion of Membership needs at the Fall meeting. In particular, I have an interest in working to bring students information about career opportunities in indigent defense.

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**Criminal Justice - Immigration Committee**

**Charlotte Alvarez**  
**Harvard Law School**

**MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. At the Annual Meeting, I attended several CLEs hosted by the Criminal Justice Section. In August, I also attended a teleconference regarding CJS Committee Chairs Policy Training. While at the Annual Meeting in August, I attended several LSD events, including the Assembly.

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**Criminal Justice - International Committee**

**Latasha Towles**  
**Valparaiso University School of Law**

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**Criminal Justice - Juvenile Justice Committee**

**Jessica Chiappone**  
**Nova Southeastern University**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Juvenile Justice Committee meeting at the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. I am truly honored to be able to work with such amazing and dedicated professionals. I think your level involvement can depend on your hard work and dedication but in my case I feel it is also a result of being treated as an equal and not "*just a law student*." I believe we all work together for a such an important cause and that is what makes our committee so wonderful.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended the Law Student Division Meetings while at the ABA Annual Meeting in August. As a returning liaison, I tried to welcome the incoming liaisons and answer any questions they had relating to their new positions.

**ISSUES:** More student volunteers for research. Our entity tries to propose at least one new policy recommendation each year and continually need the help of law students to do voluntary research for us.

**PROJECTS:** The Criminal Justice Section's Fall meeting is being held in Washington DC from Nov. 4-7. The Juvenile Justice Committee will be meeting to discuss the new policy topics we will be working on this upcoming year.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I will be expressing the importance of making re-entry and pre-release services a major focus for juveniles involved with the criminal justice system.

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**Criminal Justice - Prosecution Function Committee**

**Ben Kappelman**  
**Suffolk University Law School**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I represented the Law Student Division at the committee's San Francisco meeting in early August and its Washington, D.C. meeting in early November. I answered questions concerning the Law Student Division and listed to the committee's ideas and concerns on issues that affect law students.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** In August, I attended Law Student Division meetings, including liaison orientation, at the national meeting in San Francisco.

**ISSUES:** The committee is very interested in the development of the John R. Justice Grant Program. The program will make payments to qualified prosecutors and defenders in the coming year. Each state administers its own program funding, and the Bureau of Justice Assistance oversees the program nationally. The committee is considering ways to ensure the program remains viable and relevant in allowing young lawyers to obtain and keep public service jobs.

**PROJECTS:** The committee will solicit input from law students who plan to become prosecutors on how the John R. Justice Grant Program has impacted their career plans. The committee is interested in hearing from law students who have applied for program funding and those who have decided not to apply for funding.

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**Criminal Justice - Sentencing Committee**

**Joseph Regalia**

**Boyd School of Law - UNLV**

**MEETINGS:** Because I was appointed later in the year, I have not had the opportunity to attend an entity meeting. Upon appointment, I contacted the Co-Chairs and Vice-Chair of the Sentencing Committee to introduce myself. I plan on being very involved with the Sentencing Committee, and am arranging to attend all upcoming virtual and in-person meetings. I asked the Co-Chairs to consider delegating a project to me or assigning some other capacity so that I can be more involved than simply attending these meetings.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The two primary focuses of the Sentencing Committees' energy over the past year has been the elimination of mandatory minimum sentencing, and urging the Sentencing Commission to make greater use of alternatives to imprisonment.

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**Criminal Justice - Victims Committee**

**Rashida Sims**

**UALR-William H. Bowen School of Law**

**ISSUES:** The entity has a low law student participation. They are interested in increasing law student participation with the committee.

**PROJECTS:** I hope to put on a panel entitled "Crime: It's not just robbery, rape, and murder" at my school to increase awareness of different types of crimes and crime victims and the issues relevant to the victims.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I hope to work with entity staff to create opportunities for law students to get more involved. The entity does much legislative related work, such as crime victims bill of rights and drafting suggested sentencing guidelines, but much of this is not work that many law students seem interested in.

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**Criminal Justice - White Collar Crimes Committee**

**Eric Kleine**

**Thomas M. Cooley Law School**

**MEETINGS:** The next meeting that my division is facilitating is the ABA CJS 2010 Fall Conference, in Washington, DC. It is running from November 4-5 and will be heavily focused on White Collar Crime Issues. I hope to secure funding from my law school to attend this meeting.

**PROJECTS:** Throughout August, I was in contact with my entity's Chair who unfortunately stepped down as chair and there are currently two co-chairs. I tried contacting the new chairs in September but was unsuccessful in doing so to get their thoughts on an idea I had. My school makes it very easy to distribute information electronically on our portal. I was thinking that I could take some of the major issues from the Fall Meeting and put them into an electronic newsletter. Somewhere on that newsletter I could request that students e-mail me if they are interested in receiving more information pertaining White Collar Crime. Based on the feedback I could continue with the newsletter or attempt to obtain a guest speaker for next semester.

Furthermore, if my newsletter receives good feedback, I could send it to my circuit governor and suggest that it be distributed on a larger scale.

I'll have to see what my co-chair's think of this idea before I proceed.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** It was extremely difficult getting in contact with my SBA. I finally had an opportunity to meet with the SBA president a couple of weeks ago, and it took me two months to get accurate information on how to obtain funding. This was extremely frustrating, but things are running much smoother now.

**Dispute Resolution**  
**Vikram Kapoor**  
**Georgetown University Law Center**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, which overlapped with the Section's Annual Meeting. While there, I served on the Section's Council and was active in both the general meeting and long-range planning committee meeting. The Section is very receptive to having more students involved.

**ISSUES:** Generally, students make up about 1/3 of the Section, but do not participate much. For example, even the most robust committee, the Mediation Committee, has trouble reaching out to students and getting them more involved. Part of the problem is knowing why students are involved in the Section in the first place.

**PROJECTS:** I am working closely with a number of committee chairs on various projects, and I actively solicit and spearhead involvement by law school ADR programs. Here are a few examples.

1. The Mediation Committee is hosting a number of events around the country this month, including one in Washington DC (Oct 27) and I worked to spread the news among the Circuit and a number of student organizations in the area.
2. The Arbitration Committee is doing some best practices and reporting work on the FTC, and I connected the Chair with a student who was a former FTC intern.
3. A number of other ADR clubs and individuals are requesting to meet with practitioners and have meaningful projects, and this is something I'm continuing to work on with the Section's senior leadership.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I also Chair the Students Advisory Committee, which has about 70 members and I look forward to revamping that site and utilizing a presence on idealist.org and other sources to build a stronger student base for the Section.

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**Environment, Energy and Resources Law**  
**Brian David Kenyon**  
**Florida State University**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, CA, August 4-8. During that time, the Section held its Fall Council Meeting. At the council meeting I was given the opportunity to introduce myself, and go over some of the law student initiatives that were under development at that time, in anticipation for the Section's Fall Meeting. I also attended the Section's Fall Meeting in New Orleans, LA, September 28 - October 3. I was charged with all law student coordination, which included student lodging, transportation, volunteering at CLEs, networking, and social activities.

**ISSUES:** The Section realizes the necessity for student involvement, and wishes to create a structured system to promote student opportunities. The Section plans to create such a system that will compliment the student opportunities available at Section conferences.

**PROJECTS:** I am a co-chair of the Section's Law Student Outreach Task Force, the group charged with promoting student involvement in the Section. The group's current priority is to develop a system to distribute announcements of student opportunities to the Section's student members. Currently, a system has been outlined and is under review by the rest of the Task Force. The group hopes that the system will be up and running in the next few months. Plan on more details in future reports.

I am also a chair on the planning committee for the Section's 2011 Fall Meeting. The responsibilities associated with this position will not gear up until January, 2011.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Once we are in 2011, I will again head up all law student coordination for the Section's next meeting, the Conference on Environmental Law in Salt Lake City, UT, March 17-19, 2011. This will include promoting the student volunteer scholarships, assisting students with their lodging and transportation, plan social activities, and help coordinate the young lawyer/law student forum.

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**Family Law**  
**Peter Agnone Ruane**  
**Duquesne University School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** The Fall CLE Conference for the Section of Family Law, Fort Worth, Texas, October 20-24, 2010. At the Fort Worth meeting, I took my seat on council. There were two days of council meetings, with CLE on the other days. Each of the Section officers made their reports and discussed plans for the upcoming conferences. We discussed the Model Relocation of Children Act and its adoption as well as other internal matters dealing with our committees and long range planning. On the following day, we heard from an expert on the need for a Uniform Act on Child Support guidelines. It was truly fascinating to see the differences in guidelines from one state to the next. The Council's ultimate conclusion was that there is too much of a difference in state presumptive guidelines to have a guideline for all matters however there may be a need for such an act dealing with exclusively (very) high income cases.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** The Annual Meeting in San Francisco this past Summer - I re-connected with many of my friends in the Family Law Section whom I knew from prior conferences and was able to meet new members. I participated in the remaining meetings of my Division and discussed plans to see everyone in Fort Worth.

**ISSUES:** As discussed below, it seems we share a common concern with the YLD, namely the cultivation of new membership. In these times of economic uncertainty, one way to entice more members to the ABA in general, but specifically our individual sections may be a waiver of the registration fee for first time attendees (both for Young Lawyers and Law Students). We also spoke, in Council, about making the website more useful for the prospective client to search for attorneys, members of the sections, by city and state. Obviously this would be a tremendous incentive to join as it would almost certainly equal new clients.

**PROJECTS:** The members of the Family Courts Committee surveyed the problems in family courts throughout the nation. As one might expect, many of the problems are not particular to one jurisdiction, rather they are universally applicable. We isolated those we felt most important and planned to develop a CLE treating the same. As I am working for a Family Court Judge here in Pittsburgh, this is of particular interest.

I discussed the above membership incentives with the YLD Liaison. Also in attendance at the Fall Conference (and all of them for that matter) was an A.R.T. (Assisted Reproductive Technology). A.R.T. is the most avant garde area of Family Law, in my opinion, and we discussed drawing more Law Students and YLD members to the practice area as well as an idea for an article for publication.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

- Conference Calls scheduled on the above topics.
- I will be in attendance at the Family Law Spring Meeting.
- I also serve on the committees for Young Lawyers Division and Family Courts. I attended both of their meetings and discussed future plans with them.

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**Health Law**  
**Raquel A. Spencer**  
**University of Illinois College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I have attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. At the San Francisco meeting, I was introduced to the Health Law council, and I expressed my ideas for my coming term and participated in the council meeting. I attended the next meeting Council Meeting in Chicago, IL. At this meeting, I reported on the law student activity in the health law section (e.g. how many students had reached out to me, how many students were participating in our Hot Topics Section) and I laid out my ideas for my term on how to increase membership, integrate social media, and health care law career information.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco, and I attended the sessions for Liaisons. It was very informative. The presentation gave us information on how to make our appointments successful. I participated accordingly and discussed my interest in health law and my background.

**ISSUES:** Yes, we are currently trying to organize a list serve of points of contacts at each of the ABA law schools so that we can better inform students of health law on what the ABA health law section offers to law students and members. We

have enlisted the help of GSU Professor Charity Scott. However, any information on points of contact at school concerning Health Law would be great.

**PROJECTS:** I am currently working on a Health Law Tool Kit project, which supplies basic information to ABA-law schools who are interested in starting a Health Law Society (includes how-to information, who you will need to contact, sample by-laws, etc.). I am also serving on a membership committee, and we are currently collecting and organizing points of contact at each of the ABA-approved law schools so that we can better serve ABA law students interested in health law.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** We are currently accepting papers for a writing contest in Health Care Law. We are also sponsoring a health law section "Hot Topics" column on our website, which ABA law students review and write a summary on articles published in *The Health Lawyer*.

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**Individual Rights and Responsibilities**

**Samuel C. Feinson**

**Seattle University School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Annual Meeting - Section Leadership Luncheon IRR Membership Committee - Phone conference to discuss promotion of Fall conference among students.

**ISSUES:** IR&R is currently seeking to get student members more involved in the substantive work of the section (research, white papers, amicus, etc.). I am currently working with the Chair and Director to explore opportunities, and more information from LSD leadership along these lines could be helpful.

**PROJECTS:** We are in the exploratory phase of an active student outreach program.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The Section has waived the registration fee to its Fall Conference for all law students. It will take place in Memphis, TN on October 21-23, and we are currently actively engaging students in the 5th circuit.

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**Individual Rights and Responsibilities - AIDS Coordinating Group**

**Christine Markham**

**Florida A&M University**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Attended ABA Annual Meeting in August 2010 in San Francisco, California. The AIDS Coordinating Committee did not meet in San Francisco. I was unable to attend the October meeting of the Committee in Washington, DC in October 2010. I intend to attend the Committee meeting in February 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia.

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**Intellectual Property Law**

**Krystle Thompson**

**Southwestern Law School**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** ABA Annual Meeting [ABA-IPL Section -- Membership Board Meeting (member of board), Council Meeting (observed), Leadership Development Meeting (observed)], ABA-IPL Membership Board monthly conference call (member of board, Co-Chair of sub-committee), ABA-IPL Young Lawyers/Law Students Board monthly conference call (observed), ABA-IPL Young Lawyers Action Group monthly conference call (member of board).

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** Introductory conference call, ABA Annual Meeting.

**ISSUES:** The ABA-IPL Section is currently seeking to increase Section membership. One promising source of potential new members are law students and young lawyers, so the Section is exploring new ways to increase interest and participation from law students and young lawyers.

**PROJECTS:** I am currently Co-Chairing a sub-committee of the ABA-IPL Membership Board which is exploring new ways to increase interest and participation from law students. Currently deciding on topic to propose a Liaison Note for *Student Lawyer Magazine*.

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**International Law**  
**Jeffrey L. Anderson**  
**Atlanta's John Marshall Law School**

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**Labor and Employment Law**  
**Heather R. Sidwell**  
**University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** The first meeting I attend will be the section's annual CLE Conference, November 3rd-6th, in Chicago. I participate in monthly conference calls with the Law Student Outreach Committee.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I am involved in regular conference calls for the 6th Circuit leadership, as part of my position as the Division's Regional Affairs Coordinator for Kentucky. I have spoken with the Circuit Governor about planning a leadership conference in the spring to be held at the University of Louisville.

**ISSUES:** The goal of the Outreach Committee is to have a national network of coordinators assigned to each accredited law school, who will then host labor and employment law panels at the law schools throughout the year. At this time, there are approximately 60 law schools without coordinators, and some with inactive coordinators.

**PROJECTS:** According to the outgoing liaison, my responsibilities include growing student membership in the section and assisting with recruitment of new coordinators.

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**Law Practice Management**  
**Alexis Lundgren**  
**University of Minnesota**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the Fall Meeting in Washington D.C. and have been attending bi-weekly conference calls for two of my LPM committees.

**ISSUES:** LPM is currently working on new strategies to increase membership. We are currently putting together a value proposition from a variety of different perspectives - LSD, YLD, middle-age, Senior - to try to attract new members.

**PROJECTS:** At the Fall Meeting we discussed putting together a local speaker list of LPM members to distribute to area law schools and student groups so that they can contact people on the list to speak at school events. Speaker topics would not be limited to LPM topics only and would include life experience and career advice topics as well. I hope to piggyback this off of LPM's existing speaker database. The goal is to do a test run of the speaker list at the 4 Twin Cities law schools in order to see if it is worth expanding the list nationally. Working with the former LPM Liaison on the project, the goal is to increase awareness of the ABA and LPM among law students in order to attract new members.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I am on LPM's Membership Development Committee and the Women Rainmaker's Committee. I am also co-chairing the Membership Development Committee for the IR&R Section as well as serving on their *Human Rights Magazine* Editorial Board.

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**Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar**  
**Bryan O'Keefe**  
**Penn State Dickinson**

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**Litigation**  
**Mallory M. Miller**  
**Western State University College of Law**

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**Public Contract Law**  
**J. Elise Maraist**  
**South Texas College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** There has only been one entity meeting to this point, which was the August yearly meeting. I was unable to attend that meeting due to a prior commitment at the Federal Bankruptcy Court. However, I timely reported my inability to attend to my entity Director.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I plan to attend the Fall Roundtable Meeting, October 2, 2010, at my home school South Texas.

**PROJECTS:** I plan to attempt to mold my law review article into a publishable article in the *Student Lawyer*.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I have contacted some of the ABA Representatives from South Texas and we are continuing to look for opportunities to raise awareness about the American Bar Association. Additionally, I am always on the look out for reputable speakers in the area of contract law that may be interested in speaking at South Texas.

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**Public Utility, Communications and Transportation Law**  
**Raiford Smith**  
**Charlotte School of Law**

**MEETINGS:** I intend on attending the entity's annual Spring meeting in May and the section's Council meeting in April.

**ISSUES:** One of the major issues facing the Section is generating interest in this area. It's an exciting area of the law, but most students and practitioners do not actively seek out this practice area.

**PROJECTS:** I plan to actively promote this area and to raise awareness about the practice of law in this function.

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**Real Property, Trust and Estate Law - Real Property Division**  
**Chibundu Nnake**  
**SMU Dedman School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the 2010 ABA Conference entity meeting. I spoke when asked a question, but for the most part, I sat there listened and took notes. I also introduced myself to the members in attendance.

**PROJECTS:** I will be discussing with them a way to develop an internship, scholarships, and a diversity program, as well as creating a better website. I know that they have been working with the ABA with regards to new website so we will see when that will take place.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Students want jobs and I will try to find a way to assist in creating job opportunities.

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**Real Property, Trust and Estate Law - Trust and Estate Division**  
**Willie Hudson**  
**West Virginia University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. As a returning liaison, I tried to introduce the new liaisons to the RPTE section and answer any questions they had relating to their positions and the RPTE section.

**ISSUES:** The two major issues facing RPTE are 1)law student involvement and 2) increasing revenue to the section.

**PROJECTS:** Currently, I do not have any new projects in development. I do, however, plan on participating in this month's conference call.

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**Science and Technology Law**  
**Derek Soltis**  
**Rutgers University School of Law - Newark**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** The Membership and Diversity Committee for the Science and Technology met. I attempted to participate via phone, however there was something wrong with the call in number. Following up on the material generated from the meeting on membership drive.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** Attending November 3rd circuit town hall.

**ISSUES:** Currently the biggest committee push for me as part of the the Membership committee is attracting and retaining new members. The Science and Technology Law is normally a second choice for membership once members have already chosen a different section.

**PROJECTS:** Working with 3rd district technology liaison to plan meeting for Spring. Working with SCiTech lawyer to get a new web master to update issues.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Working on raising awareness of Legal Tech tradeshow in New York. Working with Seton Hall for them to Mentor Rutgers - Newark for ABA-VITA program. Need to get the contact information from someone on the Seton Hall Vita program that will respond. Have tealked with several VITA newark people and Seton hall students that have suggested people that have not responded.

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**State and Local Government**  
**Margaret R. Good**  
**University of Florida, Levin College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:**

- Annual Meeting in San Francisco - attended CLEs, Council Meetings and Committee Meetings helped invite law students to our Thursday networking reception.
- Fall Meeting in Providence, RI - attended CLEs, Mobile Workshop, Council Meetings and Committee Meetings invited law students to our Thursday networking reception--we had a record number of law student attendees

**ISSUES:** Law student resume database. Law student travel scholarships for each of the Section's meetings Law student involvement in the Section's Diversity Law Hot Topics Forum at the Mid-Year Meeting

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**Taxation**  
**Lillian Bozonie**  
**Franklin Pierce Law Center**

**PROJECTS:** I am working on planning a tax careers day for the New England area as well as a student notebook for the ABA Tax section.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I worked at recruiting students for the ABA Tax section Law Student Tax Challenge and reached out to the local VITA and LITC to see if they wanted to work on a shared day. I also after becoming the Tax section liaison had a phone call with the Tax Section's program coordinator.

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**Tort, Trial and Insurance Practice Section**  
**Christopher Shelton**  
**Loyola University Chicago**

## Forum Committees

### **Affordable Housing and Community Development**

**Myshanda V. Upton**

**University of San Francisco School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Forum on Affordable Housing Meeting (October 2010). I spoke to the entity regarding ways to increase law student knowledge and interest in Forum events and activities. We also discussed the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC and we are looking for a way that more law students can attend, since the date are on or around graduation and finals.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco (August 2010). I attended the Liaison Orientation and made connections with other students from around the country.

**ISSUES:** Membership. The Forum shares the ABA's concerns regarding dwindling membership and brainstormed about ways to increase interest in the Forum. We discussed how to get student involved in the Forum creating organizational memory. We talked about ways to make the ABA and the Forum a priority for students as they transition from law student to attorney.

### **PROJECTS:**

- Law Student Initiative Program at University of San Francisco School of Law. I am working to plan a career panel and program for Bay Area law students.
- Writing for the Law Student Magazine. I am submitting information regarding the upcoming writing competition and LSIP at the University of San Francisco in January.
- Writing for the Affordable Housing Journal. I am working with Tim Iglesias to write a student article for the Journal for Affordable Housing and Community Development. We are discussing several ideas and I expect to have a draft completed by mid-December.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** There is a writing competition for law students. The essays are due to the Forum in January, 2011 and the winner will receive a cash prize and will be presented with an award at the Annual Meeting in Washington DC in May.

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**Air and Space Law**

**Steven Osit**

**Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in Seattle, October 25-27. I introduced myself to the Governing Committee at its semi-annual meeting, and presented some of my goals for the upcoming year. During the meeting, I attended all panel discussions, introduced myself to the other law students in attendance, and solicited ideas from them, as well as other members, on increasing law student involvement and interest in the Forum's activities.

**ISSUES:** The Forum has nearly doubled its law student membership over the past year, but is looking for ways to increase law student participation in Forum activities. There is a substantial portion of Forum members over age sixty, and they recognize law student involvement as an important source for future members and Forum leadership. Despite the large number of law student members, the Forum sometimes has difficulty communicating with them effectively. When law students do participate, the Forum has found the quality lacking in some respects. For instance, the Forum has recently discontinued its annual writing competition due to a lack of quality submissions. The Forum's publication, *The Air & Space Lawyer*, would also like to publish student articles but has not received many contributions that are of sufficient quality. The Forum received a very good response to this year's scholarship program, which awarded three law students travel and lodging expenses to attend the annual meeting. The Forum is interested in ensuring a wider dissemination of the scholarship opportunity so as to attract more applicants with an interest in Air & Space Law. The Forum is also considering diversifying its programming at the meetings, and looking into ways of attracting members from different corners of the industry.

**PROJECTS:** Between now and the Forum's next Governing Committee Meeting in February, I plan to draft correspondence to existing law student members, as well as new members, in order to establish an open line of communication and solicit their ideas on how the Forum can work for them. I will also be compiling a list of law schools

and professors with a program on air and/or space law that can be used for outreach initiatives, solicitation of articles for The Air & Space Lawyer, or in planning where to host regional events. I plan to work in connection with the Young Lawyers Division Liaison to get law students to attend a series of regional speed-dating type networking events that are being planned for 2011.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The Forum is also expanding its Internet presence and trying to take advantage of resources like Facebook and offering Webinars to members. I have offered my technical assistance to these initiatives.

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**Communications Law**  
**Alexandra Armstrong Goldstein**  
**American University, Washington College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, August 5-10 where I attended the Forum on Communications Law event that examined "*The Right of Publicity: From Hollywood to DC/From Pop Stars to Politicians.*" I also attended a similar event sponsored by The Forum on Sports and Entertainment Law, "*Right of Publicity Issues in Sports.*"

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I participated in the Student Division Liaison Orientation.

**PROJECTS:** The Forum on Communications Law has an ambitious agenda for the next year. There are quite a few ways that the Forum is reaching out to students, and I have been involved with publicizing some these opportunities.

- The Forum has a Diversity Moot Court Competition that will allow teams of students to compete at the February meeting in Rancho Mirage, California. I submitted an update to the ABA Student Division e-newsletter with dates and information about the competition; the information ran in the edition that was distributed in September.
- The Forum Annual Conference will be held February 3-5, 2011 in Rancho Mirage, California. I hope to help with the event and will coordinate with the Forum leadership to carve out my role in the Annual Conference.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I have been welcomed into the Forum and look forward to working with the leadership over the next year. The Forum Chair, Charles Tobin, is a partner at Holland & Knight in Washington, DC. His proximity and receptiveness to student input has facilitated communication and coordination. On a national level, I have worked with Forum leadership to spread the word about the annual Diversity Moot Court Competition. Mr. Tobin has encouraged students in the DC area to get involved with the DC Bar Communications Law events, and I am spreading the word to local communications law minded students. It is my hope that students in the DC area who are interested in pursuing a communications law career are aware of events that can further their passion and encourage further involvement.

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**Construction Industry**  
**Nathan Jaye**  
**Nova Southeastern University**

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** Attended the Fall Leadership Summit for the 5th Circuit. Met my designated Liaison Coordinator and attended the panel discussions and speaker events.

**PROJECTS:** The previous liaison worked with the Forum leaders on reinstating the writing competition for law students interested in construction law. I am continuing with that project by staying updated on the currently running writing competition through email and teleconference. I also placed a promotional blurb for the writing competition in the November edition of the *Student Lawyer*, under the ABA Offerings section.

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**Entertainment and Sports Industries**  
**Kyle N. Novak**  
**Ohio Northern University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** October 7-9, 2010, I attended The Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries Annual Meeting at the Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. During the three day conference, many panels were offered ranging from litigation issues, sports law practice ethics, anti-trust issues, and new media licensing, just to name a few. At the conclusion of the event we held our mid-year governance meeting. At this meeting several issues were discussed, however the top priorities were increasing membership across the board and delivering more content to existing members

in the form of ongoing CLE's. The focus is specifically on delivering CLE's that continue to address evolving trends in the industry. I included some of my thoughts on how to greater reach the student population with regard to membership as well. The Division Chair as well as all of the entity chairs were very receptive to me and I look forward to working with all of them on a continuing basis.

**ISSUES:** The biggest issue that faces both the entity and the Division is the declining membership as a whole but most specifically the student ranks. Membership is always a pressing issue to the Forum however more emphasis must be placed into gaining more students. There was some debate as to where the emphasis should be placed, on practicing attorneys or on law students. The consensus was that both must continually be pursued as Forum members in the future. The Forum will continue to look to the Division for any ideas to recruit new law students however the main workload will always fall on the membership division of the Forum. It is my goal to provide more support to the membership division in the upcoming year in the form of reaching out to law schools and sports law societies across the nation.

**PROJECTS:** I have started to work with both the membership committee and the young lawyers division representative to the forum on ways to revitalize the mentorship program. The mentorship program would be a great way to pair up veteran sports and entertainment attorneys with law students to help get them acquainted with the types of challenges they might face in practice. This would also be a great way to get young students more involved with the law student division and the Forum as a whole. Additionally, the continuing work to reach out to law schools through their different sports law clubs which request speakers through the Forum membership will also be a point of emphasis.

At this years Forum meeting, there was an hour long session for students to ask questions about breaking into the sports and entertainment law practice. This session was well received by students. It is my goal to have more of these in the future as well as increasing student content at next years meeting. The session this year was an hour long however it could have been much longer due to the immense amount of questions that were being asked. Since there is a strong proportion of students that arrive at the conference every year, it would be logical to increase the amount of content for next year specifically targeted at students.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The March Forum meeting is planning to be held in Cuba for research purposes. This would be a tremendous activity for the Forum however the trip has yet to be finalized. Membership initiatives and delivering more content via the web forums are top priorities.

## **Standing Committees**

**Armed Forces Law**  
**Brett Anthony**  
**Appalachian School of Law**

**MEETINGS:** 2010 ABA Annual Meeting August 5-10

**ISSUES:** The primary issue following the ABA Annual Meeting was a dramatic underfunding allocated to SCAFL by the ABA Finance Committee. This minimizes the ability of the committee to hold meetings and advance both short-term and long-term goals.

**PROJECTS:** I am looking to develop a clinical program to assist veterans in the Gulfport area which can be used as a model for other law schools to promote interest in Armed Forces law. In addition, I will be meeting with other liaisons at Stetson to see if we can organize events that encourage membership in the ABA while increasing student knowledge of the activities that take place in our various divisions and committees.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I will be submitting an article to *Student Lawyer* magazine highlighting the benefits and opportunities available in a career practicing Armed Forces Law.

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**Bar Activities and Services**  
**Christopher Hurtado**  
**Yale Law School**

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**Election Law**  
**Micah B. Haber**  
**University of Minnesota Law School**

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**Judicial Independence**  
**Nicholas D. Wittenberg**  
**University of Toledo College of Law**

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**Law and National Security**  
**James Jeffrey Mustin**  
**Texas Tech**

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** ABA Law & National Security Lawyer "Jurga" (Oct 1-2, Washington DC). The Jurga provided a forum for academicians, policymakers, and national security lawyers to meet and discuss best practices for teaching national security law.

**ISSUES:** The biggest issue in Law & National Security is currently assessing which schools have national security law programs so that we might provide better support for them.

**PROJECTS:** We currently have a questionnaire out to all law schools for the purpose of assessing their national and homeland security programs. We are working with the Admin Law section on this. Once we assess the existing programs, we will attempt to support existing programs and establish new entities.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The 20th Annual Review of Law & National Security will take place on Washington, DC, on November 4-5. Also, there will be an ABA-sponsored Homeland Security forum (in conjunction with Admin Law) next March.

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**Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants**  
**Sopi Mitil**  
**Florida A&M University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. This meeting provided me with the opportunity to familiarize myself with the entity leadership and learn about the initiative that the committee is currently involved with.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended the Law Student Division 5th Circuit Fall Leadership Summit.

**PROJECTS:** I plan to work on the Loan Repayment subcommittee. This subcommittee continues the work of the former ABA Commission on Loan Repayment and Forgiveness, with a particular focus on encouraging development of state LRAP programs. It also coordinates with other groups that are lobbying for changes in federal statutes/rules governing loans and that are supporting development of law school loan repayment assistance programs.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** ABA Day in Washington April 12-14, 2011 Washington, DC Equal Justice Conference May 18-21, 2011 Las Vegas, NV

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**Legal Assistance for Military Personnel**  
**Mervin Ashley Alexander Garry**  
**Cornell Law School**

**ISSUES:** The Standing Committee on Legal Assistance to Military Personnel has as its primary mission to foster the growth of military legal assistance programs, promote legal assistance to military personnel, and maintain close liason with important governmental entities such as the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security in an effort to enhance legal services available to eligible legal assistance clients. Specifically, *Operation Enduring LAMP* is an ongoing project of the Committee which is a consortium of state and local bar associations that have made a commitment to assist military legal assistance providers with civil law matters affecting service members.

**PROJECTS:** I hope to in the near future work on recruiting more law students to assist in *Operation Enduring LAMP* in areas where this worthwhile initiative is active in their communities.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** In March 2010 the Committee hosted a CLE in conjunction with the NC State Bar. The CLE took place at Pope Air Force Base with Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC. The CLE covered such topics as the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, Working with Legal Assistance Clients suffering from PTSD, Estate Planning, and Consumer Education/Consumer Scams.

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**Legal Services**  
**Kong-Sun Chan**  
**Whittier Law School**

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**Public Education**  
**Samantha Midkiff**  
**The University of Akron School of Law**

**MEETINGS:** I attended On the Docket 2010: The 2009-2010 Supreme Court Term, a program sponsored by the Division at the Annual Meeting. The Standing Committee did not meet at the Annual Meeting, but I did meet Division Director and Associate Director.

**ISSUES:** The entity would like to encourage Division involvement in Law Day, May 1, 2011. This year's focus is the Legacy of John Adams.

**PROJECTS:** I will be assisting with Law Day and promoting youth civic education and engagement. I will learn more about the projects at the Standing Committee's fall meeting.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** The Division of Public Education maintains a website to track the Supreme Court's activities. Students interested in following the court will find it interesting and informative.

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**Substance Abuse**  
**Morgan Windbiel**  
**Chapman University School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended all of the CLE seminars either hosted or co-hosted by the standing committee during the Annual Meeting. I also attended the standing committee's business meeting during the Annual Meeting. During this meeting, I gave input on some of the issues facing law students in order to give input about the potential direction of the standing committee's webinar series. Additionally, I have participated in all further teleconference meetings.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** During the Annual meeting, I attempted to attend all of my liaison meetings and information sessions as well as any of my entity meetings and events.

**ISSUES:** The standing committee is in the process of finalizing a webinar series. The first topic will be on as yet to be released sub-regulations for Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. The second topic will be legal issues associated with prescription drug abuse. Each of these webinars will be available to both ABA members as well as non-ABA members. The standing committee has been in communication with the CLE center in planning these informational sessions.

**PROJECTS:** As of now, I am going to get involved with the promotion of the webinars once the topics and content are finalized. I also plan on helping announce the upcoming seminar that will be hosted by the standing committee at the Midyear Meeting.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I recently wrote an article for the ABA newsletter, addressing the goals and plans set forth by the standing committee.

## **Commissions**

### **Domestic Violence**

**Mary Allison Iglehart**

**Stetson University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the Annual Meeting in San Francisco, and I attended the CLE offered by the Commission focusing on domestic violence in the workplace.

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended several of the Law Student Division meetings while in San Francisco including the meeting for the candidates for Delegate, the mixer, and the circuit meetings as well.

### **PROJECTS:**

1. I have a "*Liaison Notebook*" article in the upcoming October issue of *Student Lawyer Magazine* promoting Domestic Violence Awareness Month and providing suggestions for ways to get involved with the issue on campuses.
2. I am organizing a Domestic Violence Panel presentation at my school with a judge, a prosecutor, and a victim's Advocate.
3. I am looking into holding a collection drive at my school.

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**Homelessness and Poverty**

**Anupa Iyer**

**Seattle University School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I will be participating in the Commission's Fall Meeting via phone conference

**ISSUES:** The Commission on Homelessness and Poverty is planning a session at the ABA Midyear Meeting entitled "*Innovative and Holistic Legal Services and Pro Bono Initiatives to Help Veterans.*" The Commission has requested Liaisons to seek support from their Division. This session will examine emerging best practices that are enabling veterans to return to the workforce and avoid homelessness and other poor outcomes that they suffer when returning from war. The session will highlight model pro bono programs that are evolving to assist veterans holistically with the diverse array of challenges they confront upon returning home from theatres of conflict. This session will examine the experiences of specific veterans advocacy programs that utilize pro bono volunteers to help veterans in myriad ways such as accessing benefits, modifying child support obligations, and eliminating legal barriers to reentering the workforce. Multi-organization and interdisciplinary model programs will be featured prominently, and panelists will demonstrate special interviewing techniques for use with clients who are veterans. Unique issues related to helping female veterans, especially those who have suffered sexual abuse in addition to the trauma of warfare, veterans with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) will also be discussed. This program specifically discusses methods to get law students involved around advocacy for veterans. Veterans issues and veterans courts are an emerging area of law that students maybe interested in. I recommend that the division support this initiative.

**PROJECTS:** I am currently working on a project to transform delivery of legal aid services to low-income people, by engaging law students. This project has been drafted and submitted to legal aid providers in Washington State. This project recommends using law students to provide information and referral services to clients, under attorney supervision, at homeless shelters and other access points for services. Additionally, I have offered support to SU's Public Interest Law Foundation to help them start their veterans child support advocacy program. I plan on working on raising awareness about the Commission's summer scholarship among the law schools.

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**Lawyer Assistance Programs**

**Sandy Al Fordham**

**Atlanta's John Marshall Law School**

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**Mental and Physical Disabilities Law**

**Rina Shah**

**University of Houston**

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**Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession**  
**Tanieka Alashea Thompson**  
**Thomas M. Cooley Law School**

The ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession is an entity whose mission is to address the lack of racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession by increasing diversity in all areas of the legal profession.

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I had the pleasure of attending the business meeting at the Annual Conference in San Francisco, California August 5-7. The Commission sponsored various programs and panels, which were all very interesting to attend including, MeLawyering: How to be your own best advocate (this session emphasized self-advocacy). Also, Next Steps: Emerging Issues in Diversifying the Legal Profession. During the Commission's business meeting there was emphasis on increasing the involvement of the law students and young lawyers in diversity programs. It was an awesome experience to meet the members of the Commission and gain insight on the progress of the various projects of the entity.

**PROJECTS:**

- **The History Project**, this is an archive of the histories of various individuals that have made a significant impact in the ethnic and racial integration of the legal profession.
- **The American Bar Association Minority Counsel Program**, November 3, 2010, Tribune Tower, Chicago, Illinois. This program promotes diversity in the legal profession through education and relationship building between corporations and lawyers who are racially and ethnically diverse.
- **The Spirit of Excellence Awards**, ABA Mid-year Meeting, February 12, 2011, Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA. This award ceremony is held to highlight the accomplishments of lawyers who work to enhance racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession.
- **The National Conference for the Minority Lawyer**, This annual conference provides various CLE programs designed specifically for minorities in the legal profession.

**ISSUES:** The issues being discussed during the business meeting include encouraging firms to encourage attendance of young lawyers at diversity conferences and various programs.

**HELPFUL LINKS:** The Commission has a [link for minority student scholarships](#).

**PROJECTS:** Increasing membership and involvement of law student members in the ABA.

I look forward to working with the Commission and fulfilling the mission of the entity. Please visit the ABA Commission on Ethnic and Racial Diversity in the Profession on the ABA website [www.abanet.org](http://www.abanet.org).

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**Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**  
**David C. Bell**  
**Whittier Law School**

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**Women in the Profession**  
**Kimberly E. Gomez-Ortigoza**  
**Chapman University School of Law**

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**Youth at Risk**  
**Zachary Paul Ulrich**  
**Pepperdine University School of Law**

## **Other ABA Organizations**

### **ALI/ABA Continuing Professional Education**

**Richard Mitchell**

**Valparaiso University School of Law**

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**Children and the Law**

**Tianna Jade Mays**

**West Virginia University College of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** I attended the ABA Annual Conference in San Francisco in early August. There, I had the pleasure of meeting the Director of the Center. Additionally, I attended a round-table discussion on the legal implications of adoption disruption at the international and domestic levels. During this discussion, I took notes for the Director as he facilitated the discussion which included participants such as: local judges, social workers, and family law practitioners; some of which participated via telephone.

**PROJECTS:** Currently, I am working on a report that would identify a plan to recruit new members who are specifically interested in child advocacy.

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**Professional Responsibility**

**John-Paul Singh Deol**

**UOP McGeorge School of Law**

**ENTITY MEETINGS:** Annual Meeting of the Center Coordinating Council - Introduction. Fall Meeting of the Center Coordinating Council - Participated in Membership Workshop to Give Ideas Re: Increasing Law Student Member Numbers

**DIVISION MEETINGS:** I attended meetings with my circuit both at the Annual Meeting and at the Fall Leadership Summit in LA. In both, I have acted as Executive Lt. Governor and Liaison and have listened carefully to what other students are saying so that I could help the CPR potentially to increase its membership numbers and better serve law students.

**ISSUES:** The CPR is very interested in both increasing law student membership numbers and better serving law students. Please see "other relevant issues" for details on our discussion re: law students and the CPR's goals.

**PROJECTS:** I plan to work with the CPR to implement some of the items discussed in "*other relevant issues*."

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** Law Students - build awareness.

- Consider lowering dues rate of \$20, but do not offer it for free. Eliminate hard copy mailing of Model Rules (professors will dictate which books they buy for professional responsibility courses anyway, so they don't necessarily need this extra copy).
- Develop social media outlets (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn) to engage them.
- Work with ABA Membership on participating in ABA Day at law schools 60 events were held last year.
- Host career panels and developing networking opportunities with senior lawyers.
- Consider providing older CLE programs (audio, iPod) free they don't need the CLE, but many are still interested in the topics.
- Develop relationships with law school ethnic groups (e.g. Hispanic, Asian law student groups on campus)

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**Rule of Law Initiative - Europe & Eurasia Program**

**Anton Vozheiko**

**Thomas M. Cooley Law School**

**MEETINGS:** Attended the ABA Annual meeting in San Francisco. Took part in Liaison Orientation. Attended the entity-sponsored event on elimination of violence against women as a tool of war.

## **Project Directors**

### **Mental Health Initiative**

**Taylor Denslow**

**University of South Carolina School of Law**

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**Veteran's Advocacy Initiative**

**Javier Centonzo**

**Stetson University College of Law**

**ISSUES:** We need to update the *Duty Bound* website. I have contacted the officers regarding moving forward with an email to update the list of student participants in the program.

**PROJECTS:** I am still updating the Veterans Toolkit and working on a referral service. The ideas and plans I have for the *Duty Bound* website are on hold until I can get the list of participants purged and updated.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** I have received some forwarded emails about other initiatives for veterans and members of the military.

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**Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Programs**

**Dana Blake**

**Oklahoma City University**

**PROJECTS:** Currently working on an outline for interested schools/students who want more information about how to run an effective VITA site. I have been in contact with many students who are interested in having a VITA site at their school however they are finding the handbook to be difficult to navigate. The outline will provide a step by step process of the VITA program as well as a timeline for when certain aspects of the preparation should be completed. Also, an updated IRS contact sheet is being created.