

## **ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar 2011-2012 Council Nominees**

### **Chair: John F. O'Brien**

#### **Dean, New England School of Law (Automatic under the Section Bylaws)**

**John F. O'Brien** has been dean of New England School of Law since 1988. A native of Staten Island, New York, he received a BA in 1973 from Manhattan College; a JD in 1977 from New England Law | Boston, where he graduated first in his class; and an LLM in taxation in 1980 from Boston University School of Law. From 1977 to 1985, he was a senior attorney in the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service. In 1985, he joined the faculty of New England Law | Boston, teaching Constitutional Law and Federal Income Taxation. He served as associate dean for two years before being named dean. Dean O'Brien previously served as chair of both the Accreditation Committee and the Independent Law Schools Forum of the Section. Before serving as chair of the Accreditation Committee, he was involved in the accreditation process, serving as special fact-finder and as both member and chair of law school evaluation teams. He is admitted to practice in Massachusetts, the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, the United States Tax Court, and the United States Supreme Court. He has received honorary doctor of laws degrees from New England Law | Boston (1998) and from his undergraduate alma mater, Manhattan College (2006). Dean O'Brien currently serves as the chair-elect of the Council.

### **Chair-Elect: Kent Syverud**

#### **Dean and Professor, Washington University School of Law (Nominated for election to a one-year term)**

**Kent Syverud** is the dean and Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor at Washington University School of Law. Before coming to Washington University in 2006, Dean Syverud was the Garner Anthony Professor of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School for eight years, and spent 1987 to 1997 at the University of Michigan Law School, first as a professor and then as professor and associate dean for academic affairs. Prior to joining legal education, Dean Syverud was an attorney at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering in Washington, D.C. and clerked for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor at the U.S. Supreme Court and Judge Louis F. Oberdorfer at the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. He is a member of numerous legal education organizations including the Law School Admission Council (chair of the board of trustees, 2005-2007; board member,

1999-2008), the American Law Institute, and was president of the American Law Deans Association from 2003 to 2005. From 1998 to 2004, Dean Syverud was editor of the *Journal of Legal Education*. He was also an expert witness on behalf of the University of Michigan in the case of *Gutter v. Bollinger et. al.* before the U.S. Supreme Court. Dean Syverud earned a BS, *magna cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service; a master's degree in economics from the University of Michigan Rackham School of Graduate Studies; and a JD *magna cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School where he was Order of the Coif and editor-in-chief of the *Michigan Law Review*. His previous Section activities include serving on the 2006-2007 Accreditation Policy Task Force, co-chairing the 2009 Deans Workshop Planning Committee, and participating on site evaluation teams, several times as chair. Dean Syverud is the current vice chair of the Council.

**Vice Chair: The Honorable Solomon Oliver Jr.**  
**Chief Judge**

**U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio  
(Nominated for election to a one-year term)**

Solomon Oliver Jr. was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio by President Bill Clinton in 1994 and was appointed Chief Judge in 2010. Judge Oliver holds a JD from New York University School of Law. He also holds a BA from the College of Wooster and an MA in political science from Case Western Reserve University. From 1975 to 1976, Judge Oliver was a law clerk for former Federal Appeals Judge William Hastie in the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Judge Oliver has been a member of the legal profession for more than thirty years, and was a practicing lawyer with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio, for several years before entering private practice and teaching. From 1982 to 1994, he was a professor at Cleveland State University's Cleveland Marshall College of Law and served as associate dean from 1991 to 1994. Judge Oliver also taught political science at the undergraduate level at the College of Wooster, and was a lecturer in law teaching trial practice at Case Western Reserve University Law School, before joining the faculty at Cleveland-Marshall.

He is the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Wooster and the Distinguished Alumni Award from New York University Black, Latino, Asian Pacific American Law Alumni Association. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the Board of Trustees of the College of Wooster and has also served as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States, and as co-chair of the ABA Litigation Section's Minority Trial Lawyer Committee. Judge Oliver previously served on the Section Council from 1996 to 2005 and

has also served on the Accreditation Committee, the Standards Review Committee and numerous site visit teams. Currently, Judge Oliver serves on the Section's Special Committee on the Professional Education Continuum

**Secretary: J. Martin Burke**

**Professor, University of Montana School of Law**

**(Nominated for re-election to a second two-year term)**

**J. Martin Burke** served as dean at the University of Montana School of Law from 1988 through 1993. Currently, Professor Burke teaches Federal Tax, Taxation of Property Transactions, Taxation of Business Organizations, Federal Estate and Gift Tax, and Exempt Organizations at Montana and also has been a visiting faculty member at the graduate tax programs at New York University School of Law, the University of Florida, and the University of Washington. He earned a law degree from the University of Montana School of Law, and an LLM degree from New York University School of Law. Professor Burke is the coauthor of *Taxation of Individual Income, Eighth Edition* (LexisNexis 2007), *Understanding Federal Income Tax, Third Edition* (LexisNexis 2008), *Modern Estate Planning, Second Edition* (2002). He served on the Section's Accreditation Committee from 1996 to 2002 serving as chair in 2001-2002; the Standards Review Committee from 2002-2005, serving as chair in 2004-2005; and on the Task Force on Accreditation Processes from 2001 to 2003.

**At-Large Members Nominated for Election to a Two-Year Term**

**Jane Aiken**

**Professor and Director of the Community Justice Project**

**Georgetown University Law Center**

Jane Aiken joined the Georgetown Law Center faculty in the fall 2007 after ten years at Washington University School of Law where she was the William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law. She is well-known for her work in clinical legal education and evidence. While at Washington University, she was the director of the Civil Justice Clinic in which students act as lawyers under supervision in cases involving a wide array of legal issues focusing on abuse of power. She has taught evidence for 20 years and teaches it occasionally for the Federal Judicial Center.

Professor Aiken is an American Bar Foundation Fellow and the co-chair of the ABA Women's Subcommittee on Criminal Justice. Professor Aiken was a Fulbright Senior Scholar at Tribhuvan Law Campus in Kathmandu, Nepal, during the fall of 2001 and continues her work there, particularly in the area of women's rights. In 2000 and 2001, Professor Aiken was a Carnegie Scholar in the

Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. Her research and writing include many articles about character evidence, domestic violence, and critical pedagogy. She holds a BA from Hollins College and a JD from New York University School of Law where she was a Root-Tilden Scholar. Professor Aiken also received an LLM from Georgetown Law Center as a fellow in the Center for Applied Legal Studies. She currently serves on the Section's Special Committee on the Professional Education Continuum.

**Gregory C. Murphy**  
**Moulton Bellingham PC**  
**Billings, Montana**

Gregory Murphy has been practicing law with Moulton Bellingham PC for 30 years. After earning a BA with highest honors at the University of Montana, Mr. Murphy earned a JD at Notre Dame Law School where he was a Thomas and Alberta White Scholar and served as associate editor of the *Notre Dame Law Review*. After graduation, he served a law clerkship with a U.S. Court of Appeals Judge before returning to Montana.

Mr. Murphy built his reputation in the civil litigation practice, representing large corporations, insurance companies, health care providers, small businesses, and individuals in a wide variety of civil disputes. The scope of matters he has litigated and tried ranges from commercial disputes to personal injury claims, from health care controversies to product liability cases, from antitrust claims to insurance disputes, and from bankruptcy cases to real property matters. Mr. Murphy is admitted to practice in the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, the Montana Supreme Court and all Montana state courts, the Oregon Supreme Court and all Oregon state courts, the Crow Indian Tribal Court, the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Court, the Fort Peck Tribal Court (Sioux and Assiniboine), and the Fort Belknap Tribal Court (Gros Ventre and Assiniboine).

Mr. Murphy's Section activities include serving as chair of the Accreditation Committee from 2006 to 2007, vice chair from 2005 to 2006, and as a committee member from 2002 to 2005. He has also chaired the Montana Board of Bar Examiners, the Multistate Bar Examination Committee and the National Conference of Bar Examiners. Mr. Murphy is currently co-chair of the Special Committee on a Uniform Bar Examination. In 1994, he was elected for life to the American Law Institute. The State Bar of Montana awarded Mr. Murphy its Distinguished Service Award in 2002 in recognition of his leadership in bar admissions.

**Law Student Division Member**  
**(Nominated for election to a one-year term)**

**Erika Robinson**  
**University of South Carolina School of Law**  
**JD Candidate, 2013**

Erika Robinson is a student at the University of South Carolina School of Law (Class of '13). She was awarded a Thurgood Marshall fellowship by the ABA Council on Legal Education Opportunity. She holds an M.A. in the field of education from Ohio University. She has worked in the area of student affairs at Drexel University, Dartmouth College, Ohio University, and the Washington, D.C.-based Schools for Educational Evaluation and Development

**At-Large Members Nominated for Re-election to a Second Two-Year term**

**Morgan T. Sammons, Ph.D.**  
**Dean, California School of Professional Psychology**  
**Alliant International University**

**Morgan T. Sammons** is the dean of the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University in San Francisco, California. A fellow of the American Psychological Association and a diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology, Dr. Sammons currently serves as president of the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology and was specialty leader for U.S. Navy Clinical Psychology. He served as special assistant for mental health to the U.S. Navy's Surgeon General. Prior to that, he served as Director for Clinical Support for the United States Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, directing policy implementation and service delivery for U.S. Navy shore-based military treatment facilities. A prolific author, Dr. Sammons has edited two volumes and published over 40 journal articles. He is an associate editor for the APA journal *Psychological Services*. Dr. Sammons received both his MC and PhD from Arizona State University and completed a fellowship in psychopharmacology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center from 1991 to 1994.

**Edward N. Tucker, CPA/ABV**  
**Ellin & Tucker, Chartered**  
**Baltimore, Maryland**

**Edward N. Tucker** is a senior director with the accounting firm of Ellin & Tucker, Chartered. He has more than 40 years of experience with the firm as a certified public accountant (CPA), specializing in management advisory services, particularly mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, strategic planning, human resources, real estate development, dispute resolution, investment, syndication,

business valuation, and litigation support. Mr. Tucker earned a BS degree in business administration from the University of Maryland and received the designation of CPA in 1963. In addition, Mr. Tucker holds the Accredited in Business Valuation (ABV) credential awarded by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He is active in numerous professional and civic organizations including the American Institute of Certificate Public Accountants, the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants (MICPEL), the Suburban Club of Baltimore County, and the Lancers Greater Baltimore Walk for the Homeless, and is a faculty member of the MICPEL Business Law Institute and the Judicial Institute of Maryland. Mr. Tucker served on the Section's Accreditation Committee from 2001 to 2007.

**The Honorable Charles R. Wilson**  
**U.S. Court of Appeals**  
**Tampa, Florida**

**Charles R. Wilson** is a judge in the U.S. Court of Appeals in Tampa, Florida. In 1999, President Bill Clinton appointed him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. He earned a BA from Notre Dame University. and a JD from Notre Dame Law School. After a clerkship with Judge Joseph Hatchett of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit, Judge Wilson practiced law for five years in Tampa. Subsequently, he was a County Judge in Florida, an U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Middle District in Florida, and a U.S. Attorney for the Middle District in Florida. Judge Wilson is a member of the Advisory Council of the University of Notre Dame Law School, the American Inns of Court, and the American Law Institute. He previously served on the Section's Accreditation Committee.

**Section Delegate to the House of Delegates**

**(Nominated for re-election to second three-year term.)**

**Pauline Schneider**  
**Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP**  
**Washington, D.C.**

**Pauline Schneider** is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP where she practices primarily in the area of public finance. Prior to joining Orrick, Ms. Schneider practiced public finance at Hunton & Williams LLP for 21 years. She holds a BA from Glassboro State College, an MA in urban studies from Howard University, and a JD from Yale Law School.

Ms. Schneider is a member of the National Association of Bond Lawyers and is a former member of the Board of National Association of Securities Professionals. She served as both secretary and president of the District of Columbia Bar and was a member of its Board of Governors. She is a past Chair of the Section's Council and a former chair of the Accreditation Committee. Ms. Schneider is also a former member of the ABA Board of Governors as well as serving on the ABA Nominating Committee, the Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, and chair of the Standing Committee on Election Law. In 1999, she received the ABA's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.