2011 Kutak Award
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The Uniform Bar Exam
A law school dean discusses the uniform bar examination and the importance of timing as the key to introducing the UBE throughout the states and effecting its broad adoption.

Publications Programs Offer Writing Opportunities
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Paulette Brown, a member of the Section’s Council, is one of this year’s recipients of the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

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John Feerick to Receive 2011 Kutak Award
By Mary McNulty, Editor

John D. Feerick, professor and former dean at Fordham University School of Law, is the 2011 Robert J. Kutak Award recipient. Throughout his career, John Feerick has enthusiastically served the bar, the judiciary and legal education. Shortly after his graduation from Fordham Law School, he served as an advisor to the ABA Commission on Electoral College Reform and as a member of the ABA Special Constitutional Convention Committee. From 1992-1994, Professor Feerick was president of the 23,000-member Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He also served the New York City Bar as a member or chair of a number of its committees, including the Special Committee on the New York Constitutional Convention of 1967 and was the founding chair of the Justice Center of the New York County Lawyers’ Association Justice Center.

In 1964, Professor Feerick served as a member of the ABA Conference on Presidential Inability and Succession, which led to his participation in the drafting of the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Two years later, he received a special award for his work to help secure the passage and ratification of the amendment. The book he wrote on the subject, The Twenty-Fifth Amendment, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

For the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, Professor Feerick was chair of the Standards Review Committee, the Professionalism Committee, and the Board of Visitors Committee. He was a member of the Section’s Wahl Commission, chairing its Academic Standards Subcommittee. In February 2000, Professor Feerick chaired a one-day conference on The Legal Education Continuum that brought together law school deans, bar presidents and executives, and bar foundations to explore ways to bridge the gap between the law schools and the practicing bars.

From 1995 to 1999, Professor Feerick was a director of the American Judicature Society and in 2003 chaired the New York State Commission to Promote Public Confidence in Judicial Elections, which recommended and helped to secure the adoption of a statewide system of judicial qualification commissions.

An Expert Arbitrator and Dispute Mediator
Known as an expert arbitrator and mediator of disputes, Professor Feerick has served as NFL special master and arbitrator, NBA arbitrator, chair of labor disputes at the Jacob Javits Convention Center, and as designated chair of labor disputes occurring at national political party conventions in 1992 and 2004. Professor Feerick also chaired the committee that produced the 1994 Model Standards for Mediators of Disputes. Earlier this year, he received the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution’s D’Alemberte Raven Award, which recognizes outstanding service in dispute resolution.

The Recipient of Numerous Awards and Honors
The list of Professor Feerick’s honors and recognitions is exhaustive, including awards from the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, Citizens Union, Citizens Committee for Children, Brooklyn Legal Services, Hudson Valley Legal Services, Angela House for Homeless Women, the National Association of Public Interest Law, the Association of American Law Schools, the American Irish...
Historical Society, the New York State Bar Association, the New York City Bar Association, the New York County Lawyer’s Association, the American Arbitration Association, the Fund for Modern Courts, the New York Network of Bar Leaders, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, the American College of Civil Trial Mediators, the Archdiocese of New York, and the New York Celtic Medical Society.

A Successful Career in Both the Private Sector and Legal Education
Professor Feerick earned a B.S. degree from Fordham University and an LL.B. degree from Fordham Law School, where he was editor-in-chief of the *Fordham Law Review*. He was also awarded an honorary LL.D. from Fordham University. After law school, Professor Feerick was a lawyer with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom from 1961 to 1982. He became dean of Fordham Law School in 1982 and held that post until 2002. In addition to his current position as the Sidney C. Norris Public Service Chair, Professor Feerick is the founder and director of the Feerick Center for Social Justice, which was established in 2006 by the then-dean William Michael Treanor.

A United States Army veteran, Professor Feerick served in both the 77th Infantry Division and the 4th Judge Advocate General’s Corps. With his wife Emalie, Professor Feerick has six children and 11 grandchildren.

Robert J. Kutak Award
Robert J. Kutak was a founding partner of the national law firm of Kutak Rock, LLP. Mr. Kutak, who passed away in 1983, dedicated his career to public service and the improvement of legal education and the legal profession. The Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and Kutak Rock established the Robert J. Kutak Award in 1984. The award is given annually to an individual who has contributed significantly toward increased cooperation between legal education, the practicing bar, and the judiciary. Professor Feerick will receive the 2011 Kutak Award at a reception on Friday evening, August 5, at Le Meridien King Edward Hotel in during the ABA Annual Meeting.

2010-2011 Kutak Award Committee
The Uniform Bar Exam: A Benefit to Law School Graduates

By Veryl Victoria Miles

Veryl Victoria Miles is dean of The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law, where she has taught since 1998. From 1997 to 1999, she was the law school’s associate dean for academic affairs. Miles served for two years (2001-2003) as deputy director of the Association of American Law Schools. She received her B.A. from Wells College and her J.D. from The Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law.

The article can be accessed from the link below.


Editor’s note: At the time that the article was published, only Missouri and North Dakota had adopted the UBE. Since then, three more states have become UBE jurisdictions: (Alabama, effective July 2011), (Idaho, effective February 2012), and (Washington, effective July 2013).
Publications Programs Offer a Myriad of Writing Opportunities

By Mary McNulty, Editor

The Section’s Publications Committee was formed in 2010 to provide guidance for the Section’s existing publications and to begin to build a publications program that would take advantage of Section’s members’ vast knowledge of legal education and to provide non-dues revenue for the Section. The program also offers Section members a variety of publishing opportunities.

The inaugural Publications Committee is chaired by Bryant Garth, dean of Southwestern Law School. Its members include Daniel Thies, law clerk to the Honorable Jerry Smith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; Laurel Terry, professor at Penn State University, The Dickinson School of Law; and Barry Vickrey, dean of the University of South Dakota School of Law. Working with Rick Paszkiet, the ABA Deputy Director for Book Publishing, the committee is building an acquisitions plan for the next several years. To that end, the committee has identified a list of topic areas for acquisition:

- How-to Manual on Assessment
- Distance Education
- How-to Manual on Clinics
- LLM Guidebook
- Legal Writing
- How to be an effective law teacher/How to craft exams
- How to be a Law School Administrator
- Buildings/Bricks & Bytes
- Law School Form Book (looseleaf format or online)
  - Constitution
  - Character and Fitness forms
  - Faculty Evaluation Forms
  - Annual Report to the Dean
  - Tenure Policies
- The Law Student Summer Experiences
  - Associates
  - Study Abroad

Section members with expertise in the above topic areas are encouraged to consider writing for the ABA and for the Section. Opportunities exist for both book and periodical publications. On the Syllabus home page, you will find guidelines for writing for the Section’s newsletter. If you interested in book publishing, visit the ABA Publishing site for author guidelines and the author book proposal form.

Our first acquisition is Best Practices for Building a High-Tech Law School, by April Mara Barton, assistant dean for academic computing at Villanova University School of Law. Currently in production, we hope to debut the publication at the Section’s Bricks and Bytes Conference next March in San Diego. In addition, a number of book proposals submitted to ABA Book Publishing offer opportunities for the Section to co-sponsor titles with other entities. The Committee will be reviewing several such manuscripts later this year.

Legal Expert Author Pool Offers Writing Opportunities for Minority Legal Professionals

The Section is participating in The ABA Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity’s Legal Expert Author Pool (LEAP), a complimentary service for diverse lawyers and professionals. LEAP establishes and maintains a pool of authors who have expertise and willingness to write for periodicals; and facilitates connections between those authors and ABA Publishing. To learn more and to sign up for the Legal Expert Author Pool, visit LEAP or contact the Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity at 312.988.5667 or diversity@american-bar.org
Section Member to Receive Margaret Brent Award
By Lindsay Clark, Membership & Marketing Specialist

The Section is pleased to announce that one of its own Council members, Paulette Brown, has been named as a recipient of the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, to be presented at the upcoming 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association in Toronto.

This year, the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession has selected five women lawyers to receive this distinguished award, which was established in 1991 to honor outstanding women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence in their area of specialty, paving the way to success for other women. The award is named for Margaret Brent, the first woman lawyer in the United States, noted for winning each of her 124 court cases between 1638 and 1648. The award winners are selected each year based on their professional achievements and their role in opening doors for other women lawyers. The Section is thrilled to see such an honor bestowed on Paulette Brown.

Brown is a partner and the first chief diversity officer at Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP. Over the past thirty years, she has held a number of positions, and has focused on labor and employment issues most recently. She is a past president of the National Bar Association, the Association of Black Women Lawyers of New Jersey, and the YWCA of New Jersey. She has been a frequent contributor to books and publications, and a speaker at distinguished scholarly engagements. To say that Paulette Brown has achieved professional excellence and opened doors for other women lawyers would be a bit of an understatement.

A Mentor to Countless Women Attorneys
Brown has been a mentor and a guide to countless women attorneys, though she had no such mentor herself. She did not know any women lawyers as a young adult but wound up sharing a room with two women planning to become attorneys at Howard University, and there her interest was sparked. Though she did not grow up with a role model within the legal profession, Brown’s parents inspired her to achieve academically, and encouraged her to challenge traditional gender roles. She also credits her parents with instilling in her the value of giving back, ingraining a spirit of voluntarism and charity.

Although she has had more than 30 years as a practicing attorney, Brown says she is still learning. In fact, she has sought out peer mentors, even as she continues to mentor new attorneys and students. Her son jokes that she has 216 children, as her love for helping others causes her to stay closely engaged with friends, family, and mentees. One of Brown’s proudest achievements as a mentor is to hear that women she has advised and counseled are now reaching back to help other women, and continuing to give back. Knowing that this legacy continues makes Brown feel she can indeed retire one day.

An Active Member of the Community
Outside of her professional accomplishments and mentorship, Brown gives back to her community and to causes about which she feels passionate. This July, for the fourth consecutive year, Brown will join thousands for the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure 60-mile walk to support breast cancer research. She feels this cause needs her continued support, and this is indicative of Brown’s energy and outlook on mentorship. She sees her role going forward as continuing to encourage women and build support systems for them. She sees success as a combination of hard work and being prepared. We are so pleased that her hard work and dedication have been recognized with the prestigious Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. Please join us in congratulating Paulette Brown.
Council Rules on ABA-Approval for Four Law Schools

At its meeting on June 10-11, 2011, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar made the following decisions on the approval of law schools:

University of La Verne College of Law Denied Full Approval

Charlotte School of Law Granted Full Approval

Elon University School of Law Granted Full Approval

University of California-Irvine, School of Law Granted Provisional Approval
2011 Council Slate Announced

The Nominating Committee has made its recommendations to the Section Chair, the Honorable Christine M. Durham. All of the nominees have indicated their willingness to have their names placed into nomination. The election of Section officers and Council members will occur at the Section’s Annual Business Meeting, Saturday, August 6, 2011 in Toronto.

2011-2012 Nominees

For more information about the Council and Section elections, please refer to the Section Bylaws.
New Format for Take Off Reports and Library Statistical Tables
By Kenneth Williams, Data Specialist

In June of 2011, the deans’ take off reports along with the library statistical tables will be offered in an online format. This system was designed to enable access to the reports faster and easier in the future, and to eliminate many of the problems in the past with delivery services. Schools will be able to go online and download their reports in a PDF format either singularly or collectively, as needed. The online system will feature the most recent set of reports as well as reports from years past for those schools that were subscribers in those particular years. For a nominal fee, schools will be able to access reports for which they were not originally subscribed.

Schools will be contacted directly with information on how to access the new site. Currently, this is being billed as Phase 1 with other reporting capabilities under discussion for a Phase 2 release date that has yet to be determined.
Annual Meeting 2011—Section Schedule at-a-Glance

2011 ABA Annual Meeting
August 4-9, 2011
Section Headquarters Hotel
Le Meridien King Edward
416.863.9700

Section Meetings and Events
Schedule
Thursday, August 4
Section Office, 2nd Floor
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Council Meeting
Executive Session
Ballroom C, Lower Level
7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Chairperson’s Dinner
6:00-9:30 p.m.
Friday, August 5
Section Office, 2nd Floor
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Council Meeting
Executive and Open Sessions
Ballroom C, Lower Level
7:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Kutak Award Reception
Sovereign, Lobby Level
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

John D. Feerick, Norris Professor of Law and former dean at Fordham University School of Law will receive the 28th annual Robert J. Kutak Award. The Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and the national Kutak Rock law firm established the Robert J. Kutak Award to honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the collaboration of the academy, the bench and the bar. The award is in memory of Mr. Kutak, a distinguished lawyer, champion of legal reform, and an advocate for legal education.

Saturday, August 6
ABA/AALS/LSAC Deans’ Breakfast
Ballroom B/C, Lower Level
7:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Annual Section Business Meeting
Windsor Ballroom A
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

The Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, established by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession in 1991, recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of women lawyers who have excelled in their field and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers.

One of the 2011 honorees is Paulette Brown, Partner, Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, and member of the 2011 Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

Sunday, August 7
Margaret Brent Award Luncheon
Noon-2:00 p.m.
Metro Convention Centre
South Building, 222 Bremner Boulevard
Shirley Gonzalez Joins Accreditation Staff

Shirley Gonzalez joined the Section as a paralegal in May. Previously, Shirley was a paralegal for the Levick Legal Group from 2005 to 2011. She also has worked as a senior legal secretary in Holland & Knight’s Ft. Lauderdale office and as a paralegal for a solo practitioner in Miami. Shirley holds a master’s of jurisprudence in child and family law from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and a BA in paralegal studies from Nova Southeastern University where she was inducted into the Lambda Epsilon Chi, the national honor society in paralegal studies.

Shirley works with the deputy consultant and the associate consultant on integral components of the law school accreditation project, including regular interaction with the Section Council and the Accreditation Committee, the ABA-approved law schools, and affiliated legal organizations.
New Section Publications Available

2009-2010 Annual Report of the Consultant on Legal Education
The Annual Report provides an overview of the activities and accomplishments of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Chapters include lists of law school site inspections and site teams, Section leadership, and ABA-approved law schools.
Product Code: 529008900910

2011 Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements
The Comprehensive Guide sets out the rules and practices of all jurisdictions for admission to the bar by examination and on motion.
Product Code: 529008711ED

2012 ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools
The Official Guide contains comprehensive information on all ABA-approved law schools including admission requirements, tuition and expenses, financial aide, curriculum faculty, career placement, and bar passage rates.
Product Code: 529008512ED
Comments Invited: Law Schools Scheduled for Accreditation Visits in Fall 2011

By Dan J. Freehling, Deputy Consultant

Interested parties wishing to comment on the current compliance with accreditation Standards of law schools undergoing accreditation site visits in fall 2011 are encouraged to submit signed, written comments. Law schools undergoing accreditation site visits in fall 2011 are:

- The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law (Tucson)
- Baylor University School of Law
- University of California–Irvine School of Law
- Chicago-Kent College of Law, IIT
- University of Idaho College of Law
- University of Massachusetts–Dartmouth School of Law
- University of Missouri School of Law (Columbia)
- The Ohio State University College of Law
- Temple University James E. Beasley School of Law

Written comments related to current compliance with accreditation Standards for any of the law schools listed above must be received by September 1, 2011 and sent to

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American Bar Association
Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
M.S. 21.2
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Note: Your comments must be signed. Comments, with the signatures redacted, may be provided to the law school and to members of the site team reviewing the law school. Only comments directly relating to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools will be considered.
The list of law schools and accreditation visit dates for 2011-2012.