SUMMER 2014
VOLUME 45 NUMBER 4

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From the Chair: Council Completes the Comprehensive Review of Standards

The Honorable Solomon Oliver, Jr.
Chief Judge
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

It was my pleasure to host our most recent Council Meeting, which was held June 5-7, 2014, in Cleveland, Ohio, my hometown. During that session, we completed our work on the comprehensive review of the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools commenced in 2008. As I reported in my last column, the Council had considered and acted on most of the recommendations by its Standards Review Committee by the close of its March meeting. At its meeting in June, the Council acted on the remaining items that had gone out for notice and comment. It voted not to adopt a recommendation that the current prohibition on students receiving academic credit for paid internships contained in Interpretation 305-3 be removed. It did vote to adopt proposed Standard 505, which limits the combined total number of transfer credits a student may receive toward the J.D. degree from foreign law schools and L.L.M. programs to one-third of the total credits needed for graduation, as well as new Interpretation 503-3 that provides a “safe harbor” for admitting certain students without an LSAT score. The comprehensive set of revisions will be reviewed by the ABA House of Delegates in Boston during the ABA Annual Meeting.

In addition to its work on the Standards, the Council continues to have a full agenda regarding other matters, including those related to the approval of law schools, requests for variances, requests to acquiesce in major changes, and requests for acquiescence in L.L.M. programs. A report on some of the specific actions taken at our June meeting will be reported elsewhere.

The work of our Council, which bears on the accreditation of law schools, must be “separate and independent,” under authority of the U.S. Department of Education, which recognizes the
Council as the accrediting agency for law schools. However, as discussed by the Managing Director, Barry Currier, in his current column, there is much room for collaboration through the Section of Legal Education with ABA leadership, other ABA Sections, AALS, ACCESS GROUP, LSAC, NALP, as well as other organizations and individuals on matters pertaining to the improvement of legal education and the profession that do not involve decision-making relative to the Standards or accreditation. Some cooperation and collaboration of this type has been going on for a long time. However, in my estimation, more of it needs to be done. This is especially true as we grapple with the difficult issues facing legal education, including those regarding access to and demand for legal services, the cost and financing of legal education, globalism, and the pressure to produce lawyers that are more practice-ready, and many more.

I am proud of the fact that our Section has begun two recent collaborations that have promise. The first is our agreement to serve as the staff for President Silkenat’s recently-appointed task force on the financing of legal education. The other involves collaboration between the Section, the AALS, and ACCESS GROUP, in an effort to ensure that loan forgiveness legislation remains in place, especially regarding those who would work in the public interest. Such efforts, aimed at access to legal education and access to legal services, are critical if law is to remain the vital and successful institution on which so much of our societal interaction depends.
The commencement of the work of the ABA Presidential Task Force on Financing Legal Education, which the Section office will staff, is a good occasion to restate and review the scope of the Section’s work and remind everyone of its split personality.

The Section’s work is divided into two, at this point, unequal parts: the Accreditation Project and what we loosely and rather unartfully refer to as the “Section’s” work.

The Accreditation Project dominates the work of the Council and the staff. It includes establishing the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools and applying and enforcing those Standards on the more than 200 ABA-approved law schools. Importantly, under the rules of the U.S. Department of Education that apply to specialized accrediting groups within professional organizations, the work of the Section on law school accreditation must be “separate and independent” of the larger organization – in this case the American Bar Association of which we are a part.

“Separate and independent” at least means that the Council of the Section, not the Association, is responsible for the establishment and application of the Standards and Rules of Procedure. The ABA House of Delegates, Board of Governors, and senior management can and do play very limited roles regarding law school accreditation.

Within this framework, the management of the accreditation process is also independent of the ABA. For example, the Council, as the governing body of the Section, establishes the budget for the Accreditation Project, including the charges and fees that provides the substantial majority of the funds that support law school accreditation. Decisions about important questions like the accreditation/approval of law school, sanctions for violations of the Standards, the site visit process, questionnaires, management of data collected from law schools, and other matters related to a law school’s accreditation are handled by the Council with the assistance of key accreditation-related committees and the staff of the Managing Director’s Office.
The other part of the Council’s and Managing Director’s work is the administration of the “Section”-side of our work. Like the 20-plus other ABA Sections, Divisions, and Forums, we provide programming, resources, and services for Section members (law school faculty and staff, but many others with an interest in legal education, as well). Chronic understaffing of this part of the operation has hampered our ability to do as well as we want to do in this area, particularly in recent years as the work on the accreditation side of the house has expanded. The staff of the Managing Director’s Office supports the Section-side work along with the support it provides to the Accreditation Project.

Many advantages flow from having both the Accreditation Project and the Section work under the jurisdiction of one Council and supported by the work of the Section’s staff. On balance these benefits outweigh the challenges that arise from time-to-time from the Council’s dual role. For example, during the work of the ABA Task Force on the Future of Legal Education, chaired by former Indiana Chief Justice Randy Shepard (a former Council Chairperson), it was difficult to keep clear that the Task Force was created by ABA President Bill Robinson, staffed by the ABA Center for Professional Responsibility, and was not connected in any way to the Council or the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Certainly the Council was interested in the Task Force’s work and a number of its members had been actively involved with the Council or the work of the Accreditation Project. The recommendations of this Task Force, many of which were directed at the accreditation process that the Council manages and controls, were considered by the Council. But, these recommendations were not and could not be binding on it, given the Council’s “separate and independent” authority.

Current ABA President Jim Silkenat has now appointed a successor task force to specifically examine the financing of legal education. Its charge is broad, and the issues it will consider are fundamental to the health and future of both the profession and law schools. Again, this is a Presidential Task Force, not a Section project. For a variety of reasons, the Section will provide staff support for the work of this new task force. That work fits very nicely within the Section-side of the Section’s work. However, it is not to be conflated or confused with the accreditation-related work that the Council controls and the Managing Director’s Office manages on law school accreditation.

Flowing from the work of the Task Force on the Financing of Legal Education might be the need for conferences and programs, web resources, books, or other materials or programming for law schools. That fits neatly into the Section-side of our work. Also flowing from the Task Force’s work might be the need to modify a Standard, collect additional data, or take other actions that fall within the ambit of the Accreditation Project. If so, the Council will take those matters up in the normal course of its work as the accrediting agency for the J.D. degree.

Historically, the Council has been able to wear both hats comfortably. That will no doubt continue to be true. It is important, however, that those who follow the Section’s work and the work of the larger Association on matters that touch legal education remember the Section and Council’s dual role, as well as the limited role that the larger Association can play in the accreditation process.
John F. O’Brien is 2014 Kutak Award Recipient

John F. O’Brien, dean and professor of Law at New England Law | Boston, is the 2014 Robert J. Kutak Award Recipient. The ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and the Kutak Rock national law firm established the Robert J. Kutak Award in 1984. The award is given annually to an individual who has contributed significantly toward increased cooperation among legal education, the practicing bar, and the judiciary. Most recipients have been members of the Section and active participants in its work.

John O’Brien has been dean of New England Law | Boston since 1988 and has the longest continuous service at a single institution of any law school dean in the country. In 2012, he was named one of the most influential people in legal education in a nationwide survey conducted by the National Jurist.

A native of Staten Island, New York, Dean O’Brien received a B.A. in 1973 from Manhattan College; a J.D. in 1977 from New England Law | Boston, where he graduated first in his class; and an LL.M. 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, heading the northeast region’s tax shelter program. He joined the faculty of New England Law | Boston in 1985, teaching constitutional law and federal income taxation, and served as associate dean for two years before being
named dean. Currently, he teaches personal income tax and in the past has also taught taxation of business entities and legal research and writing. Under Dean O’Brien’s leadership, the law school achieved membership in the Association of American Law Schools.

Dean O’Brien has fostered collaboration among the bench, bar, and legal academy in many ways. His law school is recognized nationally for attracting a broad range of distinguished visitors, including Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr., and Associate Justices Harry Blackmun, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Anthony M. Kennedy, Sandra Day O’Connor, Antonin Scalia, and Clarence Thomas; Dr. Hans Blix; Attorney General Janet Reno; and United States Senator John F. Kerry. Several of the justices have taught classes at New England Law | Boston.

Under the leadership of Dean O’Brien, New England Law | Boston established and operates three centers that allow students to work with faculty to provide public service and collaborate with local bar associations and agencies. To promote connections between the bar and the academy, New England Law | Boston also sponsors memberships for its students in the Boston Bar Association. New England Law | Boston was founded in 1908 to provide opportunities in law to women who were largely excluded from the profession at the time. Under Dean O’Brien’s leadership, the school has expanded its historic mission of providing opportunities to diverse populations and collaborates closely with the Boston Lawyers Group, which is dedicated to identifying, recruiting, and advancing attorneys of color.

Dean O’Brien served as chair of the Section’s Council from 2011 to 2012, during which time he led the Section through turbulent times for legal education. Dean O’Brien has also served as chair of the Accreditation Committee and been actively involved in the accreditation process, serving as special fact-finder and as both member and chair of law school evaluation teams. He has also served as chair of the Section’s Independent Law Schools Forum.

Dean O’Brien served for three years as president of the Consortium for Innovative Legal Education, Inc., a group of four law schools that offers joint study abroad programs and visit-in policies for students. He is a former member of Boston’s civilian police review board, formally known as the Community Ombudsman Oversight Program, which was established in 2007 by Mayor Thomas M. Menino to review accusations of serious misconduct against Boston police officers.

Dean O’Brien 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 will be honored at a special reception on Friday, August 8, 2014, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 p.m., at the Hilton Back Bay in Boston during the ABA Annual Meeting.
Rosalie Wahl served as the Section's Chair from 1987 to 1988 and chaired the 1995 Commission to Review the Substance and Process of the ABA's Accreditation of American Law Schools, commonly known as the Wahl Commission. Ms. Wahl passed away in 2013. The Minnesota Historical Society Press has published a book on her life and work written by Lori Sturdevant, a columnist for the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*. We talked to Sturdevant about the project.

**Syllabus:** Can you describe how you came to frame Rosalie Wahl’s story within the context of the Minnesota Women’s Movement?

**Sturdevant:** I always understood Rosalie’s rise to be an important step in the Minnesota Women’s Movement. The announcement of her appointment to the Minnesota Supreme Court was a high point in what amounted to a plenary session for that movement. I was a young reporter in 1977 assigned to cover the Minnesota Women’s Conference, a one-of-a-kind statewide assembly whose purpose was to draft recommendations for that year’s National Women’s Conference in Houston. My first exposure to Rosalie was her memorable speech acknowledging that appointment.

Rosalie underscored her connection to the women’s movement when I interviewed her in 2009-10. “I owe it all to the women,” she said often. She referred both to her appointment, for
which feminists had lobbied hard, and her election victory in 1978. For politically active feminist organizations that were born in the early 1970s, that election was a major statewide test. Rosalie’s solid win represented their coming of age as a political force.

**Syllabus:** Were there stories that you learned through your research that surprised you?

**Sturdevant:** I was previously unaware of how difficult Rosalie’s childhood had been. Minnesotans were told when she ran for office that she had been a farm girl in Kansas. *Her Honor* tells the rest of the story. She lost her mother and her family was divided when she was nearly four years old. She was raised by her mother’s parents until her grandfather and younger brother were killed in a train accident when she was nearly eight. She then lived with her grandmother and, with modest financial support from an unmarried aunt, rode out the Depression in truly humble circumstances. She lost her fiancé to a training accident during World War II. Those experiences taught her self-reliance and resilience. The women in her life showed her examples of strength and mutual support.

I also saw how her early ideas about the justice and the value of the law were formed. When her grandfather and brother were killed by an errant train engineer, no criminal charges were filed. No civil case was pursued because local lawyers insisted on an up-front payment from the family that Rosalie’s family could not afford. No financial recompense was ever paid by the railroad for the loss of two lives, one of them a family breadwinner. Rosalie developed a strong sense that justice should have been on her family’s side, and that access to the courts should not be limited by one’s means.

**Syllabus:** What impressed you the most about the women that you profiled in the book?

**Sturdevant:** Three things:

• Their optimism. Rosalie is a case in point. “We will not give one inch to despair!” she says at a low point in 1982. She and the other women pressing for change believed that history was on their side.

• Their sense of sisterhood. The women who together advanced the state’s women’s movement were networkers who did not allow differences over party, geography, age, and class to hinder their common efforts. Genuine friendships formed quickly among feminists when, for example, they lobbied for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment or for the election of women to the Legislature. That begins to change, sadly, after Roe v. Wade, which drove a wedge in this state’s women’s movement and ultimately became defining issues for the state’s two major political parties.

• Their faith that a better lot for all, men and women, would arise if women could join men in positions of leadership, particularly in government. These weren’t revolutionaries seeking an overthrow of American government or corporations. They were conservative in their faith in
the existing system, and believed if it could only be properly populated with representatives of all the people, a fairer and more humane society would result.

When I speak with audiences today about that last point, I’m struck by the reaction. Faith that electing good people will lead to positive change has eroded in Minnesota and, I suspect, in the rest of the nation.

I’m often asked to imagine what Rosalie would advise today. I think she would say that just as it took a grassroots movement to tear down gender barriers and make her career possible, it will take a grassroots movement to complete the unfinished agenda of the 20th century women’s movement. Elevating women to positions of power is necessary but not sufficient. Adapting workplaces, schools and other institutions to a society in which men and women share the opportunities and responsibilities of adulthood will require a new mass movement that engages a new generation. I wrote Her Honor because I hope that generation can draw inspiration from Rosalie’s.

To purchase Her Honor: Rosalie Wahl and the Minnesota Women’s Movement, visit www.mhspress.org.
ABA Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities Releases Study on Latinos in the U.S.
Luz E. Herrera
Chair, Commission on ABA Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities

Luz Herrera has been reappointed to serve as chair of the Hispanic Commission for 2014-2015. On July 1, she starts a new position at the UCLA School of Law as the Assistant Dean of Clinical Education, Experiential Learning & Public Interest.

The mission of the ABA Commission on Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities (Hispanic Commission) is to identify and address the legal challenges and responsibilities facing Latinos in the United States. Several months ago, the Hispanic Commission released *Latinos in the United States: Overcoming Legal Obstacles, Engaging in Civic Life*. The report is a culmination of one year of fact finding and testimony, gathered at six regional hearings and private stakeholder meetings across the country, on the wide-array of legal challenges and opportunities impacting the Latino community in America. The eight key findings of the report include: Employment, Housing, Education, Health Status and Access to Quality Health Care, Criminal Justice, Voting Rights, Media and Latino Images and Diversity, and Latinos in the Legal Profession. You may downloaded and print a copy of the report here.

One of the issues raised in the report is the integration of Latinos in the legal profession. While Latinos in the U.S. accounted for 16.3% of the population in 2010, Latinos account for 3.3% of all lawyers, 4.5% of judicial officers, and 3.1% of law professors. The number of Latino law students is also disproportionately small compared to the U.S. Latino population. According to fall 2011 data from the Law School Admissions Council, Hispanic constituted 8.9% of applicants, and 7.6% of those enrolled in ABA-approved law schools.

Please visit the Commission’s website at [www.ambar.org/CHLRR](http://www.ambar.org/CHLRR) for more information about how you can work with us to advance the admission and retention of lawyers who serve the Hispanic community.
Williams Adams, dean and vice chancellor at Western State College of Law will join the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar as deputy managing director in August. He replaces Scott Norberg, who held the position for the last three years and is returning to his faculty position at Florida International University College of Law at the end of the summer.

Bill Adams became dean of Western State in 2009. Previously, he was professor and associate dean for international, online, and graduate programs at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad Law Center, where he also served as director of clinical programs. His prior experience includes serving as Elderly Projects Director at the Center for Governmental Responsibility at the University of Florida Levin College of Law and as a legal services corporation attorney representing indigent persons in Indiana and Florida. He earned his both his bachelor’s degree and J.D. (cum laude) from Indiana University.

Barry Currier, Managing Director for Accreditation and Legal Education, said, “We are very pleased that Bill Adams will join our staff. He will carry on the good work done by Scott Norberg and others who have served in the Deputy Managing Director or Deputy Consultant role. Beyond a deep general understanding of legal education and law schools garnered over his academic career, Bill brings to the position particular knowledge in a number of areas that are important to the work of our office right now and going forward, including non-J.D. degree programs; collaborative programs between U.S. and international law schools; experiential and clinical education programs; academic support programs and bar passage matters; diversity; career services and job placement; and learning outcomes and assessment. His perspective is also informed by his years in practice as a legal services lawyer.”

Currier also expressed his gratitude for Scott Norberg’s work for the Section. “Scott has been a wonderful partner to me, my predecessor Bucky Askew, and the staff. The Council and the key
accreditation-related committees of the Section also appreciate Scott’s contributions to their work and wish him well as he returns to his teaching and research.”
2014-2015 Section Council Slate Announced

The Nominating Committee, chaired by John O’Brien, dean of New England Law/Boston, has completed its work and presented the following slate to the Council. The election of Council officers and members will take place at the Section’s annual business meeting in August during the ABA Annual Meeting in Boston.

Chair (automatic under the Bylaws)

Joan Howland
Associate Dean and Professor
University of Minnesota Law School

Joan Howland is the Roger Noreen Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Information and Technology at the University of Minnesota Law School. Professor Howland teaches American Indian legal history. Her scholarship focuses on American Indian law and culture, information technologies, business management, thoroughbred horseracing and equine law generally, legal research methodologies, and law librarianship. She served on the Accreditation Committee from 2001 to 2006, on the Council since 2006, and as Chair-elect this past year. Professor Howland was a member of the Section’s Law Libraries Committee from 1992 through 1994 and co-chaired that committee from 1994 through 1996.

Professor Howland is active in the Association of American Law Schools and is the current chair of the Committee on Law Libraries and Technology. She is also active in the American Association of Law Libraries, the American Indian Library Association, and the American Library Association. She is a member of the American Law Institute. In 2003, she received the AALL Spirit of Law Librarianship award for her volunteer work with American Indian populations and with indigenous communities in South America. In addition to a J. D., Professor Howland earned master’s degrees in history, library science, and business administration. Prior to joining the faculty at Minnesota, she held administrative positions in the law libraries at U.C. Berkeley, Harvard, and Stanford.

Chair-Elect

The Honorable Rebecca White Berch
Supreme Court of Arizona

Rebecca White Berch was appointed to the Arizona Supreme Court in March 2002 and became its 23rd chief justice in 2009. Before her appointment to the state Supreme Court, she served the state of Arizona as solicitor general, chief deputy attorney general, and as a court of appeals judge. Following graduation from the Arizona State University (ASU) College of Law in 1979, Justice Berch practiced law in Phoenix. In 1986, she joined the faculty at the ASU law school as director of the legal writing program and academic support programs.
Justice Berch currently serves as Vice Chair of the Council. She has also served on the Section’s Bar Admissions Committee, including two years at its chair. Before joining the Arizona Supreme Court, Justice Berch served on the Arizona Bar Examinations Committee. She currently serves on the board of trustees of the National Conference of Bar Examiners and served for three years on the board of directors of the Conference of Chief Justices. In addition to her J.D. degree, Justice Berch holds a master’s degree in English. She has published numerous law review articles, and the law school textbook she co-authored, *Introduction to Legal Method and Process*, is in its fifth edition and is used in law schools throughout the nation. Justice Berch is a strong proponent of pro bono work; the Pro Bono Suite at ASU’s Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law is named in her honor.

Vice Chair
Greg G. Murphy
Billings, Montana

Greg Murphy has been practicing law in Montana for 34 years. After earning a B.A. with highest honors at the University of Montana, Mr. Murphy earned a J.D. 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 on the Ninth Circuit before returning to Montana and joining a civil law practice firm where he remained for over 31 years. He left that firm at the end of 2011 and formed a solo practice in which he concentrates on mediating civil disputes and representing the poor. He has for many years been listed as a Mountain States Super Lawyer, been included in Best Lawyers, and accorded a Martindale-Hubbell AV rating by his peers.

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 currently serves as a Member-at-Large on the Council. His other 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 National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), the Multistate Bar Examination Committee of the NCBE, as well as other committees. 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.
After 49 years as a Senior Director, Edward N. Tucker has become a consultant to 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 B.S. 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 Certified Public Accountants and the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Tucker currently serves as a member of the board of directors of the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs, Inc. Mr. Tucker is a current member of the Council and served on the Section’s Accreditation Committee from 2001 to 2007.

Members-at-Large Nominated for Reelection

Jane Aiken (nominated for reelection to a three-year term)
Associate Dean for Experiential Education and Professor
Georgetown University Law Center

Jane Aiken is professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center and director of the Community Justice Project. Each student litigates on behalf of a client and works collaboratively on projects that address justice issues that are policy based, require extraordinary remedies or international and comparative law. Over the last three years, she has also taught evidence, torts, and motherhood and criminality. In 2013, she won the Faculty Member of the Year Award. In 2010, she received Georgetown’s Frank F. Flegal Award for outstanding teaching. In her 29 years of teaching, she has directed clinics in which students act as lawyers under supervision in cases involving a wide array of legal issues including domestic violence against women and children, HIV, homelessness, and international human rights.

Professor Aiken held the William M. Van Cleve Chair at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis where she was a professor from 1997 to 2007. She was a Carnegie Scholar for Teaching and Learning and a Fulbright Scholar in Nepal. She writes in the area of evidence, women’s rights and clinical pedagogy. She is a member of the American Law Institute and a fellow with the American Bar Foundation. She was a member of the AALS Membership Review Committee from 2009 to 2011. She is the past co-chair of the ABA Women in Criminal Justice
subcommittee of the Criminal Justice Section and previously served on the Section of Legal Education's Special Committee on the Professional Education Continuum.

Professor Aiken holds a B.A. from Hollins College and a J.D. from New York University School of Law where she was a Root-Tilden Scholar. Professor Aiken also received an LL.M. in Public Advocacy from Georgetown Law Center.

Morgan Sammons, Ph.D. (nominated for reelection to a one-year term)
Executive Officer
National Register of Health Service Psychologists

A fellow of the American Psychological Association and a diplomate of the American Board of Professional Psychology, Dr. Sammons is a past chair of the Council of the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology and was specialty leader for U.S. Navy Clinical Psychology. He also served as special assistant for mental health and traumatic brain injury to the U.S. Navy’s Surgeon General. Prior to joining the National Register of Health Service Psychologists in the summer of 2014, Dr. Sammons was dean of the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University. Previously, 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 60 journal articles. He is an associate editor for the APA journals Psychological Services and Military Psychology. Dr. Sammons received his Ph.D. from Arizona State University and completed a fellowship in psychopharmacology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 1994.

Members-at-Large Nominated for a Three-Year Term

Diane F. Bosse, Of Counsel
Hurwitz & Fine, P.C.
Buffalo, New York

Diane F. Bosse has practiced law in Buffalo, New York for over 35 years. She was appointed to the New York State Board of Law Examiners in 1998 and has been its chair since 2001. She served on the board of trustees of the National Conference of Bar Examiners from 1999 to 2008, serving as its chair in 2006-2007. Ms. Bosse is a past president of the Defense Trial Lawyers of Western New York, and a past member of the boards of directors of the Bar Association of Erie County and of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association.

For the Section, Ms. Bosse served on the Accreditation Committee for six years (2007-2013), including two as committee chair, on the Standards Review Committee for three years (2004-2007), and on the Bar Admissions Committee for two years (2002-2004).

In 2001, Ms. Bosse received the Award of Merit from the Bar Association of Erie County, and she received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for Public Service from the University at Buffalo
Law Alumni Association in 2005. She was honored in 2006 as the Defense Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Defense Trial Lawyers of Western New York. In 2010, she received a New York State Bar Association Award for Excellence in Public Service. She received the Chair’s Award from the National Conference of Bar Examiners in 2012. Mr. Bosse received a Lamplighter Award from the Eighth Judicial District Gender & Racial Fairness Committee. She was named the Bar Association of Erie County Lawyer of the Year for 2014. Ms. Bosse earned a B.A. degree (magna cum laude) and J.D. degree (cum laude) from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

James J. Hanks Jr., Esq.
Partner, Venable LLP
Baltimore, Maryland

James Hanks represents publicly- and privately-held corporations and other entities in a wide variety of general corporate law and governance matters. He has advised buyers or sellers in more than 250 mergers or acquisitions, many valued at more than one billion dollars (U.S.) He has also represented parties in cross-border mergers and acquisitions and regularly serves as independent counsel to the boards of directors and board committees of major U.S. corporations. Mr. Hanks is also a senior lecturer at Northwestern University School of Law, a visiting senior lecturer at Cornell University’s business school, and an adjunct professor of law at Cornell Law School, teaching courses in mergers and acquisitions, and comparative corporate law and governance. In addition, he has taught classes in corporation law at various law schools in the U.S., Guatemala, and South Africa, and at the Institute of Law in Beijing. For several years, Mr. Hanks also has been a visiting professor of law at Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany.

Mr. Hanks is the author of the definitive 600-page treatise Maryland Corporation Law and the co-author (with former Stanford Law School dean Bayless Manning) of the third edition of Legal Capital. He is co-editor of the Handbook for the Conduct of Shareholders’ Meetings as well as the author of several law review articles and a frequent speaker on corporation law issues.

For the Section, Mr. Hanks is currently a member of the Standards Review Committee, has served on the Accreditation Committee, and on several site evaluation teams. He has also been active in the ABA Section of Business Law and is a member of the American Law Institute. He earned an A.B. from Princeton University; an LL.B. from the University of Maryland School of Law, where he was editor of the Maryland Law Review; and an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. For a year after receiving his LL.B., Mr. Hanks was law clerk to Judge Charles Fahy of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. For several years, he has appeared in The Best Lawyers in America in three categories: corporate governance and compliance law, corporate law, and mergers and acquisitions law and is also recognized in both Chambers Global (Band 1), Capital Markets: REITs: Maryland Counsel; and Chambers USA Capital Markets: REITs; (Band 1), Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions, Maryland (Band 1), and (Band 1) Capital Markets: REITs, Nationwide.
Raymond C. Pierce  
Partner; Nelson, Mullins, Riley & Scarborough LLP  
Raleigh, North Carolina

Raymond Pierce is a partner in the Corporate Practice Group of Nelson, Mullins, Riley & Scarborough in the firm’s Raleigh, North Carolina office where he focuses on corporate strategy, acquisitions, and commercial transactions. Pierce is also a member of the firm’s Financial Services Practice focusing on corporate governance and bank regulatory matters. From 2005 to 2012, Mr. Pierce served as dean of North Carolina Central University School of Law. During his tenure, Pierce led the law school to several top national rankings, increased funding, and increased applications. Mr. Pierce also directed the law school towards successfully achieving membership with the Association of American Law Schools and the development of the Veterans Law Clinic, which received national recognition for providing legal assistance to U.S. soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Prior to joining North Carolina Central University School of Law, Mr. Pierce was a partner in the national law firm of Baker & Hostetler LLP, representing clients in the steel, energy, construction, and banking businesses. From 1993 to 2000, he served as a political appointee in the administration of President Bill Clinton as Deputy Assistant Secretary for civil rights at the U.S. Department of Education, where he managed the enforcement of federal civil rights laws in education and the development of federal civil rights education policy.

Mr. Pierce currently is a member of the board of governors of the North Carolina Bar Association. Mr. Pierce served on the North Carolina Banking Commission from 2007 to 2013. He has also served on the North Carolina Chief Justice’s Commission on Professionalism, the American Law Deans Association board of directors, the board of trustees of the National Association of Law Placement Foundation, and the executive board of Duke University’s Center on Law, Ethics and National Security. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Syracuse University where he was admitted into the Sigma Tau Delta English Honorary Society, and earned a J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law where he later received a Distinguished Graduate Award and induction into the law school’s Society of Benchers.

House of Delegates Representative  
Nominated for a Three-Year Term

The Honorable Christine M. Durham  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court of Utah

Justice Christine Durham has been on the Utah Supreme Court since 1982, and served as Chief Justice and chair of the Utah Judicial Council from 2002 to 2012. She previously served on the state trial court after a number of years in private practice. She is the past-president of the
Conference of Chief Justices of the United States. She is a member of the Council of the American Law Institute, the Board of Overseers for the Rand Corporation's Institute for Civil Justice, and is a Fellow of the American Bar Association. Past professional service includes the governing boards of the American Inns of Court Foundation, the Appellate Judges Conference of the ABA, the ABA's Commission on Women in the Profession, and the Federal Judicial Conference's Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure. She is also a past president of the National Association of Women Judges, and was that organization's Honoree of the Year in 1997.

Justice Durham has been active in judicial education, and was a founder of the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education. She helped create and lead the Utah Coalition for Civic Character and Service Education and served on the Utah Commission on Civic Education. She was an adjunct professor for many years at the University of Utah College of Law, teaching state constitutional law, and served for twelve years on the Utah Constitutional Revision Commission. She has received honorary degrees from four Utah universities and has been recognized nationally for her work in judicial education and efforts to improve the administration of justice. In 2007 she received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence; and in 2008 she received the "Transparent Courthouse" Award for contributions to judicial accountability and administration from the Institute for the Advancement of the Legal System at the University of Denver.

Justice Durham served on the Section’s Council from 2004 to 2012, including one year as its chair in 2010-2011. She received her A.B. with honors from Wellesley College and a J.D. from Duke University, where she is an emeritus member of the Board of Trustees.

Law Student Division Member
Nominated for a One-Year Term

Izaac Rowe
University of Nevada-Las Vegas
William S. Boyd School of Law
JD expected May 2015

Izaac Rowe is a student at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law and was the ABA’s 14th Circuit Governor for Nevada and Northern California from 2013 to 2014. He also serves as the Student Bar Association’s evening vice president and chief financial officer for the Financial Law Society. Mr. Rowe is a legal intern for the Clark County Public Defender and a parking arbitrator for the University of Nevada.

Previously, he worked as a certified mediator for Dean Dunn and Associates, as a legal law clerk for the Nevada Attorney General’s Office, and as an IT professional for the State of Nevada’s Depart of Child and Family Services. Mr. Rowe holds dual degrees in psychology and political science from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.
Law School Decisions Rendered by the Council in June

The University of California, Irvine School of Law was granted full approval by the Council at its June 2014 meeting. The law school was opened in 2009 and was granted provisional ABA approval in June 2011.

The Council granted acquiescence in the application of Pennsylvania State University Dickinson School of Law to operate the independent and fully approved law schools. Formerly, the university operated a single law school with two campuses in University Park and Carlisle. The two schools are:

The Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University-University Park (Penn State Law)

and

The Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University-Carlisle (Dickinson Law)
Join us at the ABA Annual Meeting in Boston

ABA Annual Meeting
August 7-12, 2014

Section Headquarters Hotel
Hilton Back Bay
40 Dalton Street
Boston, Massachusetts
800.370.1233

Section Schedule

Thursday, August 7
Chair’s Dinner
6:00-9:30 p.m.
By Invitation

Friday, August 8
Council Meeting
Closed and Open Sessions
Hilton Back Bay
Belvidere AB

Kutak Award Reception
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Hilton Back Bay
Maverick AB
Saturday, August 9
Deans Breakfast
8:00-10:00 a.m.
Hilton Back Bay
Belvidere B
Registration Required

Annual Section Business Meeting
10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
Hilton Back Bay
Westminster
Comments Invited for Law Schools Scheduled for Accreditation Site Visits in Fall 2014

Pursuant to the Department of Education criteria, the Section is required to give notice of, and solicit comments about, the law schools scheduled for upcoming site visits. Interested parties wishing to comment on current compliance with accreditation standards by law schools undergoing accreditation site visits during fall 2014 are encouraged to submit signed, written comments to the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar by August 15, 2014.

Law schools undergoing accreditation site visits in fall 2014 are:

- University of California-Hastings College of Law
- University of Dayton School of Law
- Duke University Law School
- Indiana Tech Law School
- Loyola Law School-Los Angeles
- University of Maine School of Law
- University of New Mexico School of Law
- University of North Carolina School of Law
- Pace University School of Law
- St. Mary's University School of Law
- Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
- University of Tulsa College of Law

Written comments should be sent to:

Shirley Gonzalez
American Bar Association
Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
321 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654-7598
shirley.gonzalez@americanbar.org

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 related to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools will be considered.