

Michigan International Lawyer

INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION

VOLUME 27 No. II, SUMMER 2015

MIL Editorial Staff hosted by
Wayne State University Law School

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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed herein are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the International Law Section or the Editors.

Dear Members and Colleagues,

At this writing, school is letting out, summer is upon us, and another year of activity of the International Law Section is drawing to a close. As I prepare to pass the baton to Daphne Cunningham as our new Section Chair for 2015-16, planning for our annual meeting is well underway. See further details below.



David B. Guenther

Provide Educational and Interesting Programs for Members

The Section continues to have as its primary goal providing educational and interesting programs for its members. I am pleased to report that we've had two excellent Programs since my last letter:

- March 12, 2015: At the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, we continued our “doing business” series with two speakers on “Doing Business in Canada.” Marco Dolfi, Principal of Miller Canfield LLP (Ontario), spoke to members about “Tips and Traps for Inbound Investment” into Canada, based on his experience as a Canadian-trained specialist in cross-border transactions. Daniel D. Ujcz, Of Counsel at Dickinson Wright, spoke about “Navigating the U.S.-Canada Border,” drawing from his experience as a U.S.-trained attorney, president of the Ohio-Canada Business Association, and a former officer in the Canadian government. Members gained helpful practical insights into the various transactional, corporate and structural, employment and labor, tax, trade-related, IP and security issues they may need to consider when advising clients doing business in Canada. Special thanks to Bruce Thelen and Troy Harris for their help in recruiting these speakers and to the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law for their generosity in hosting the Section,
- May 27, 2015: At the Bloomfield Hills office of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, members heard two presentations relating to “Foreign Investment from China.” Douglas J. Smith, Senior Vice President at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, spoke on potential investment from China and its potential magnitude and significance for Michigan. Barbara Kaye and Charley Meng, both attorneys with Honigman, spoke on potential M&A and corporate issues, U.S. and Chinese regulatory reviews and approvals, and post-closing issues when dealing with investments from China into the United States, based on their collective experience with investment from China in the automotive and other U.S. industries. Charley Meng also addressed important cultural

Michigan International Lawyer Submission Guidelines

The *Michigan International Lawyer*, which is published three times per year by the International Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, is Michigan's leading international law journal. Our mission is to enhance and contribute to the public's knowledge of world law and trade by publishing articles on contemporary international law topics and issues of general interest.

The Michigan International Lawyer invites unsolicited manuscripts in all areas of international interest. An author is encouraged to submit a brief bio and a photograph for publication. An article, including footnotes, should contain between 1000 and 3000 words.

Articles can be submitted for consideration in hard copy or electronic format. Manuscripts and photographs cannot be returned unless accompanied by a \$5 check or money order made payable to Wayne State University Law School for shipping and handling.

The Michigan International Lawyer will consider articles by law-school students and may publish student articles as part of a regular column. A student should submit the article either through a law-school faculty member or with a law-school faculty member's recommendation.

Submissions should be forwarded to:
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Michigan International Lawyer

Publication Deadline Dates

Fall Issue
Articles due August 15

Winter Issue
Articles due January 15

Summer Issue
Articles due April 1

The *Michigan International Lawyer* is published three times per year by the International Law Section, State Bar of Michigan, 306 Townsend Street, Lansing, Michigan 48933-2083.

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and social issues and considerations when dealing with Chinese investors, business partners and attorneys. Members left the program with a much deeper understanding not only of potential legal, cultural and social issues when advising clients on investment from China, but also of the potentially enormous significance of such investment for Michigan and other U.S. states in the increasingly near-term future. Special thanks to Neil Woelke for recruiting Doug Smith from the MEDC, to our Secretary (soon to be Chair-Elect) Lara Phillip for recruiting Barb Kaye and Charley Meng, and to Honigman and its attorneys for their generosity in hosting the Section once again. Members enjoyed Chinese food while networking.

Planning for our annual meeting continues. Daphne Cunningham, Chair-Elect and soon to be Chair of the Section for 2015-16, is busy preparing a program on a range of compliance issues for U.S. companies. The annual meeting and program will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at the Walter P. Chrysler Museum in Auburn Hills, Michigan, a private museum with more than three floors of antique, custom and concept vehicles intended to tell the Chrysler story. This promises to be an excellent program in a unique and memorable location. Please be alert for messages on our list-serv as we provide more program details.

Increase Membership and Diversity of Membership

The Section's second goal for 2014-15 continues to be to increase membership and diversity of membership. The Section has been resoundingly successful in increasing the number of members, which climbed from 413 at the end of 2014 to 592 in June 2015, an increase of about 43%. Some of this increase may be attributable to the change in our Section dues, which we eliminated for law students and new lawyers in their first two years of practice, effective in 2014. More broadly, however, we can only conclude that more and more members of the Bar are realizing the importance of international issues and considerations to their legal practice and their clients' business operations, regardless of the specific practice area or business sector.

The Section has succeeded in recruiting additional law students. Special thanks (with a nod to Bob Rothman) to Muneeb Sadiq, our new law student representative from Cool-ey Law School, and (with a nod to Troy Harris and Carmen Reyes) Sarah Hazimi, our new law student representative from University of Detroit Mercy Law School for 2015-16. The Section is still looking for law student representatives from the University of Michigan Law School, Michigan State University College of Law and Wayne State University Law School. Young lawyers are the Section's future. The Section would welcome any suggestions or additional efforts to increase law student involvement and attendance.

The Section also appears to have succeeded, albeit for reasons that are not clear, in expanding its geographic outreach. While the vast majority of the Section's members continue to be located in southeast Michigan, the percentage of members outside of southeast Michigan appears to have grown dramatically. Based on State Bar of Michigan demographics, out of a total of approximately 592 members in June 2015, 359 members, or about 60% percent of the Section's total membership in Michigan, lived in only three counties in southeast Michigan, comprising Oakland County (187 members), Wayne County (140 members), and Washtenaw County (32 members). This number is down, however, from 71% at the end of 2014. The number of members outside of southeast Michigan in this same time period has nearly doubled, from 121 members to 233 members, or about 29% to more than 40% of the Section's membership. The Section's Council and officers seriously considered holding the Section's May 2015 meeting in Grand Rapids or Lansing, but based on the low turnout in Grand Rapids for the simulcast of our January 2015 meeting (the simulcast's stalwart organizer, Elliott Church, was the sole attendee) and comparatively sparse member demographics in Grand Rapids and Lansing (a total of 41 members in Kent County and

28 members in Ingham County), the Section concluded that there was little purpose to be served by holding a meeting in central or west Michigan that was likely to be very lightly attended. The Section continues to explore SBM Connect, the State Bar's new website platform for sections, and other technologies to make the Section virtually, if not physically, accessible to members outside southeast Michigan. Members with ideas in this regard are encouraged to contact the Section's officers and Council members.

The Section has met with at best limited success in its efforts to increase the personal diversity of its members. We are still looking for a Diversity/Inclusion coordinator. A membership that shows diversity not only of race and gender, but also of national origin, language, legal system, practice interest and professional experience would seem a prerequisite for an "international" section such as ours, particularly in an increasingly international Michigan economy. Members interested in serving as a Diversity/Inclusion Coordinator are requested to contact the Chair or other officers.

We look forward to you joining us at our annual meeting in September at the Chrysler Museum. Further information on the location, program topics and presenters will be provided via the ILS listserv and the ILS LinkedIn website.

All members of the Section are invited and encouraged to attend the Section's quarterly Council meetings as well as the programs that typically follow. Our Council meetings

typically begin at 4:30pm and Programs at 5:30pm. We have food, drinks and networking before and after our Program and usually conclude by 7:00pm. If you have suggestions for programs or activities that you think should be considered by the Council, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Section's officers or any Council member. We welcome all suggestions.

The primary means by which the Section's officers communicate and distribute notices of meetings and programs is through the Section's email listserv. If you have not received email notices of the Section's recent meetings and programs, please go to the Section's page on the State Bar of Michigan website or contact the State Bar of Michigan to sign up for the listserv. If your email address has changed, please sign up again with your current email address.

Please enjoy this issue of *Michigan International Lawyer*. I look forward to seeing you at the next Section event. If I can be of assistance to you or if you would like to talk with me about the issues and activities of the SBM International Law Section, please feel free to call me at (734) 761-9000 or email me at guenther@cmplaw.com.

Sincerely,

David B. Guenther
Chair, 2014-2015
International Law Section

Editor's Note

This is the second in a series of annual issues of the Michigan International Lawyer devoted to international law programs at the five Michigan law schools. In this issue we highlight law students' summer experiences abroad. Future issues will explore individual law schools' international programs as a whole. Contributions from all Michigan law schools are welcomed and encouraged.

Professor Gregory Fox, Faculty Editor

WMU-Cooley's Commitment to Foreign Study Spans Three Decades

By International Programs Office

Western Michigan University Cooley Law School's commitment to foreign study dates back to the early 1980s when it conducted summer programs in Caen, France in 1981, and Paris, France and Freiburg, Germany in 1983. Some 30 years later, WMU-Cooley offers a semester program in Australia and New Zealand, summer programs in Toronto, Canada and Oxford, England, and an exchange program in Münster, Germany. WMU-Cooley has welcomed over 240 guest students representing more than 100 U.S. and foreign law schools in our programs.

WMU-Cooley's foreign study programs are located in some of the most beautiful countries in the world. One of the distinguishing features of our foreign study programs is that nearly all the faculty members are local law school faculty, practitioners and judges.

The "Down Under" Program began in 1999 and expanded to a full semester a few years later. The program takes place during Australia and New Zealand's summer, providing students the opportunity to escape winter in the United States! International

and comparative courses emphasize the laws and legal procedures of the Pacific Rim and Oceania. Law students live and study in Hamilton, New Zealand, for about seven weeks then move to Melbourne, Australia, for the remainder of the semester. Classes in New Zealand are taught on the scenic University of Waikato campus at the Te Piringa - Faculty of Law building. In Australia classes are taught in downtown Melbourne at the Monash Law Chambers.

WMU-Cooley added a summer program in Toronto, Canada, in 2000. In 2015, our program will be in downtown Toronto, returning to the University of St. Michael's College in May and June for the 16th consecutive year. The Toronto program is an economical study abroad program for U.S. law students desiring a study abroad experience, and offers Canadians studying at U.S. law schools the opportunity to go home during the summer and earn law credits. There are two three-week sessions that provide maximum flexibility because students can attend one or both sessions. A variety of international and comparative subjects are offered, permitting students to earn as many as three credits a session.

In 2014, WMU-Cooley foreign study options increased when a summer program in Oxford, England, was offered. The

five-week program provides students the opportunity to live and study in the city of dreaming spires, one of the world's great university towns. Six credits of comparative and international law courses are available.

The exchange program is another foreign study option available to WMU-Cooley students. WMU-Cooley and the University of Münster law school, one of the largest in Germany, started a student exchange program a few years ago. The program permits law students from either school to study at the other as a guest student. So far, Münster students have attended classes at WMU-Cooley's Michigan campuses, and the summer foreign study programs in Toronto and Oxford. WMU-Cooley students have attended Münster during the summer.

Several law students have spoken about their foreign study experiences. We invite you to visit cooleylawschoolblog.com, *Foreign Study* category, to listen to WMU-Cooley students Garrett, Katy-Marie, Xiomara, Eula, Mao, Celine, and more share each of their experiences in their own Blog posts. So whether the foreign study program is "down under" during the winter, or in Toronto, Oxford or Münster over the summer months, WMU-Cooley offers a foreign study program that provides law students the answer to the question - where in the world will I be? 🌍

Studying Law in Kyoto, Japan

By Darren Cole

When I arrived in Kyoto, I evaded the train system entirely. Ultimately, I decided to walk to my hotel. It was undeniably a long walk and I got lost a few times, but it was a great first experience interacting with the welcoming people of Japan. I realized that walking around alone and getting lost in a different country is perhaps one of the most valuable experiences of traveling abroad.

The Michigan State College of Law Kyoto program has given me the opportunity to interact with international students and professors, which in turn has given me a strong yearning to study all around the world. For 4 weeks students live in Kyoto, Japan, taking classes at Doshisha University. Doshisha University was founded in 1875 as an English school by a Protestant educator with the purpose of advancing Christian education. Since its founding, Doshisha has significantly broadened its mission and is one of the most prestigious universities in Japan. This year students were given the opportunity to study courses from Japanese Law to Law and

Religion. It truly was wonderful to study at the university and attend classes taught by professors who are experts in their respective fields. Likewise, the small class sizes allowed me to get to know my professors and the other students in the program on a more personal level.

This study abroad program has allowed me to gain a whole sense of independence and a curiosity for the world. There are many places in Japan that I still have to visit based on the charming pictures I have seen. However, I have learned that it is not just the aesthetic beauty of Japan that is valuable to me. It is the beauty of the feeling you get living in a city filled with history. 🌍



Darren Cole

About the Author

Darren Cole is originally from Scarsdale, New York. He graduated from Syracuse University with degrees in Political Science and Psychology. Before enrolling in law school, Darren worked for Teach for America in Washington, D.C.



Part-time Law School Students Can Participate in Study Abroad Programs

By Eula T. Bacon

Perhaps the most significant lesson I relearned from my study abroad experience is not to make assumptions by completing your research before making a decision. During my first year at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School (Cooley), a faculty member suggested I consider Cooley's Australia Study Abroad Program. I thanked her for the information and continued walking to my 6:00 p.m. class. I attend law school part-time, work full time, and commute to Cooley's Tampa Bay campus. How could I study abroad? The faculty member knows of my part-time status, so why did she think I should consider studying abroad. Perhaps she knew something I did not.

The following year, Cooley launched its Oxford, England Study Abroad Program. Students would live and study at the internationally renown University of Oxford, a university steeping with tradition, located in England, and the origin of American jurisprudence, my new profession. This time I did not let perceived obstacles deter me. I did my research: met with the financial aid and foreign studies staff and discussed a leave of absence from work with my supervisor. Everything came together and on June 28, 2014; I boarded a flight to London, England with great expectations; and two bags each just under the 50-pound weight limit.

I arrived on a Sunday and quickly learned that Oxford is a pedestrian town. I walked from the bus station to campus (with my two bags in tow) on the cobblestone sidewalks present throughout Oxford. My first meal was one hundred percent English: fish and chips at a neighborhood pub. I settled into what would be my home for the next five weeks on Hertford (pronounced "Heartford") College campus, a comfortable room located in a 100-year-old building near Radcliffe Camera.

Classes started on Monday. Two courses were taught by Professor Jonathan Black-Branch (Magistrate in Oxfordshire, Oxford graduate, international business owner, author and Barrister). He told the class that studying abroad has a different rhythm from the traditional law school campus. The schedule allows students more time to consider possibilities. He was right. While in Oxford, we discussed my options including operating an international business based in Florida, completing an externship abroad and using my law degree to advocate for human rights.

My foreign studies schedule was packed: three classes, trips to Bath, London and Paris, high tea, a criminal trial, tours of Middle Temple, Bodleian Library, and Ashmolean Museum,

concert at Christ Church, cookout in the park, Catholic mass in Latin (I'm Baptist) and an outdoor matinee performance of the play, *As You Like It*. The long summer days, with sunrise around 6:00 a.m. and sunsets around 10:00 p.m., gave me time to explore the city. I started each day with an English breakfast of croissants, tomatoes, baked beans, fresh fruit, and of course, hot tea.

Learning alongside a German student, attending courses taught by English professors and countless other study abroad experiences, have given me a panoramic view of the world. I am a better law student and a more enlightened individual because of my time in Oxford. I encourage all law students to consider the learning experience of a lifetime. It is within reach; even part-time law school students can study abroad. 🌍



Eula T. Bacon

About the Author

Eula T. Bacon is a part-time law school student in her third year at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School – Tampa Bay Campus. She lives and works full time for a non-profit agency in her hometown of Sarasota, Florida. Ms. Bacon is an active member in the Tampa Bay Inn of Court, Vice Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board, and Associate Editor for the *Journal of Practical and Clinical Law*. Her community service activities included helping with community legal redress workshops and the Walk to End Lupus Now.



Defense for Children International: Ghana

By Blair Daniels



Each summer Wayne Law sends students overseas to intern at public interest organizations worldwide. These internship opportunities are fully funded by the Program for International Legal Studies. During the summer of 2014, I was fortunate enough to receive a stipend to work in Ghana for two months. I interned at a Non-Governmental Organization called, “Defense for Children International: Ghana” (DCI). The DCI office is located in Kumasi, which is the second largest city in Ghana.

The socio-legal defense team at DCI specializes in issues such as child trafficking, child labor, forced marriage, and violence against women. The defense teams make weekly visits to various schools in and around Kumasi to inform the children of their rights under the United Nations Convention for the Rights of a Child. After every visit, each child was given our contact information and were encouraged to contact our office if a child knew of any violations of their rights. DCI would then provide victims with a lawyer, free of charge, to defend their rights. In order to determine the best course of action to protect women and children, conferences with local politicians and other community leaders were held.

As an intern at DCI, my duties were to write policy and procedure manuals using the United Nations Convention for the Rights of a Child. These manuals were distributed during school visits, and were also used to train incoming employees. I was able to see the differences between the U.S. and Ghanaian court systems. The courts in Ghana are more traditional and are modeled after the British judicial system. Judges wear traditional powdered wigs, black gowns and white ties. Lawyers and judges are required to speak English, while witnesses testifying may speak in their native language, which is directly translated into English for the record.

It was an amazing experience to be part of the team at DCI, which helps victims who have no one else to turn to. There was a specific case of a 13-year-old girl whose par-

ents arranged a marriage with a middle-aged man. She came to our office seeking help and we provided her with a lawyer to protect her. The lawyer settled the case so that the wedding was cancelled. It was decided that the girl’s parents could still maintain custody of her, because this was in her best interest. I was relieved to see that the girl was able to overcome this situation that could have changed her life forever.

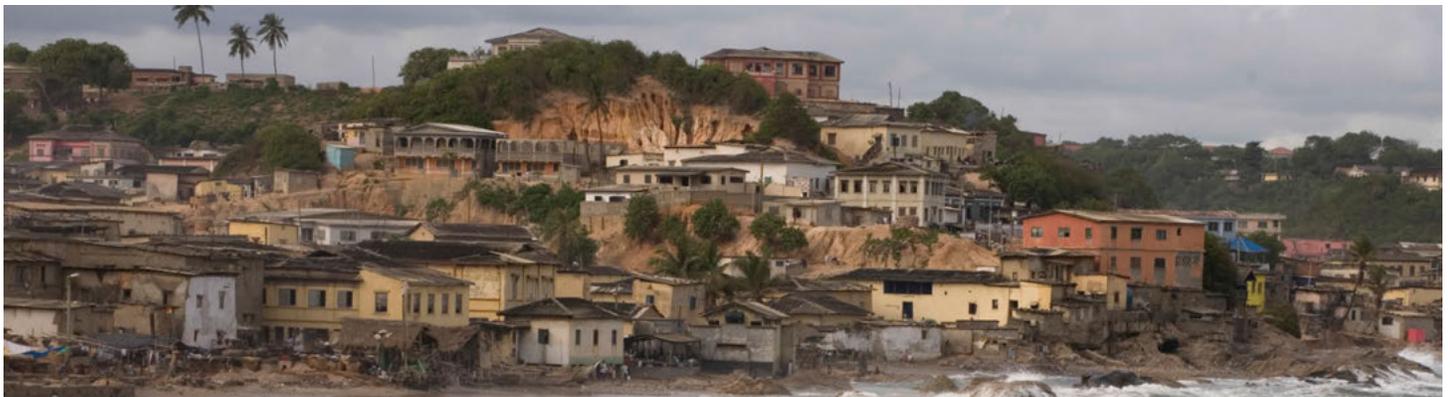
My co-workers in Ghana were very welcoming and invited me to their homes to meet their families. They showed me how to make a national Ghanaian dish, which is a tomato based vegetable and fish stew called Fufu. It is made by pounding plantains and cassava into a dough-like consistency, which is then dipped into the stew. In Ghana, only the right hand is used while eating because it is considered impolite to use your left hand. The left hand also may not be used when pointing at things, or when handing someone money. Ghanaian people were very friendly and understanding when I forgot to use my right hand because they knew I was getting accustomed to cultural norms. I will always fondly remember my time in Ghana and treasure all the lovely people I met there. Someday I would like to return and visit all the friends I made while working in Ghana. 🌍



Blair Daniels

About the Author

Blair Daniels earned a Bachelor’s degree in German at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. She spent a year in Austria teaching English through the Fulbright Commission. Currently she is a rising 3L at Wayne State University Law School. During the 2014-15 school year she was the President of the International Law Student Association. Blair aspires to be a tax lawyer and enjoys solving complex issues.



From Law Books to the Monsoon of the Legal Profession: My Journey with TATA Motors in Mumbai

By George Ligori

Mumbai, India's financial hub, is part of the state of Maharashtra. India has 30 states, hundreds of recognized local languages, and most Indians speak at least three (local language, Hindi, English). The difference between our cultures is wide, but a young educated Detroitter and a young educated Bombayite or Mumbaikar (as locals call themselves) think in the same manner.

"One either loves or hates Mumbai," most travelers would say. Perhaps this is true, but living here for several months may make one feel both *love and hate*. Mumbai is multi-faced and your experience depends on your host, what you do, the depth of your pocket, and where you happen to be in any given moment.

President Obama's visit (the First U.S. President to be invited and the only Head of State attending) during the 66 Republic Day Parade of India is a significant signal for the new US-India relationship. US companies (Ford, Boeing, etc.) have increased their investments and are creating jobs in India.

For a legal practitioner the capital movement from the US to India (and vice versa), together with the outsourcing of labor-intensive jobs to India and the recruitment of young Indian professionals to work in the US, is good news. However, new legal skills are required.

The International Business ("IB") Legal Department of TATA Motors Limited ("TML") is a large office and luxurious apartment compound, with fortune 500 companies, foreign consulates, museum, restaurants, clubs, and more. TML is a member of the TATA Group (a trusted name in India), a large multinational conglomerate that has its "hands" in all business areas.

Within the TML there is the Domestic and the International legal department, each headed by a senior attorney and a key TATA executive. The IB Legal department (where I belong) covers all the international aspects of the TML, including compliance with labor laws, marketing, FCPA, corporate, and international business law.

After a brief discussion with the TML Head of IB Legal, I decided to conduct research on worldwide Product Recall. My goal was to map out recall triggers and assist the TML Country Manager to foresee and respond to any recall related issues if need be. I drafted a general overview of the Recall Issue and how lawyers think about Recalls. My final draft of the Country by Country Report covered over 50 jurisdictions,

and turned out to be an excellent report appreciated by the highest levels of the TML management team.

Time is valuable everywhere, and in Mumbai everyone is running. While waiting for my Worldwide Recall Project to be reviewed by the experts, I took the initiative to map out the Emission Norms (Regulations) for all the jurisdictions where TML is present. This was a daring attempt, but I initiated what should eventually become a very useful blueprint towards the 21st Century Green Economy for TML.

Moreover, I drafted several Framework Agreements covering different subject matters, including marketing projects, consumer research studies, insurance, and trademark contracts applicable in several jurisdictions. Experienced local counsel conducted the "Dos and Don'ts" review for each jurisdiction (and I had an opportunity to read many) further enhancing my legal expertise.

My legal training with the TML is coming to an end, and my final days are spent in preparing a presentation to inform managers, employees, and my colleagues on the lessons learned from my time with TML. I personally briefed Mr. Ramakrishnan, the CFO and a key TATA Group member. He supported my initiative, provided feedback, and was very happy with my work product.

The business acumen practiced in this very important part of the world, in addition to the hands on legal experience developed in TML, has prepared me well to become a solid bridge connecting the US-India business enterprises. I recommend the Wayne Law program and this program to all students that want to take an adventurous path during their legal studies. 🌍



George Ligori

About the Author

George Ligori is a Wayne Law graduate (JD May 2012) and holds an LL.M. in Advanced International Business Law (June 2013) from Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Global School of Law in Lisbon, Portugal. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and has an interest in business law. You may contact George at georgeligori@gmail.com or (586) 822-6301.

International Organization for Migration: Geneva

By Sarah A. Oliai

Growing up fascinated by Carmen San Diego and all things National Geographic combined with the values of community involvement and social justice instilled by my parents, a career path in international law seemed almost inevitable. After completing my Bachelor's degree at Michigan State University's James Madison College, I sought a law school experience that would give me the chance to make a global impact. I was thrilled when the University of Michigan Law School accepted me. Even prior to starting my first year at Michigan, I had researched the Geneva Externships program and wanted to make this program a cornerstone of my legal education and professional experience.

In January 2014, I landed in Geneva, Switzerland. Within one week, I began working for the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) International Migration Law Unit. I was thrilled to be engaging with colleagues from all over the world for an international organization affiliated with the United Nations (UN). I began immediately drafting a report for the Unit examining best practices to ensure detained migrants' access to justice. Working with another attorney, we contacted IOM offices all over the globe and identified particular challenges migrants faced in accessing the judicial systems and ways local IOM offices work to make a difference. I highlighted programs where IOM trains key actors, including judges and police officers, and provides technical assistance to member-state governments to address these challenges. We submitted our report to the UN's Working Group on Arbitrary Detention in February 2014 to assist the Group as it develops its own guiding principles for those deprived of liberty by arrest or detention and denied access to courts. I used a similar process to work with colleagues in other units at IOM headquarters to write a report for the UN Committee on Migrant Workers, suggesting best practices to prevent labor exploitation and IOM's key regional

and private sector initiatives to promote ethical recruitment and treatment of migrant workers.

Michigan Law prepared me well to make the most of my Geneva experience. In addition to coursework in Transnational Law and International Human Rights prior to beginning my internship, I also completed courses offered by Michigan's rigorous Program in Refugee and Asylum Law. Participating in the Sixth Colloquium on Challenges in International Refugee Law and receiving Michigan's public interest support to work with refugees in Ecuador during my 2L summer furthered my experience. These opportunities, combined with a seminar run by Michigan's professor based in Geneva, provided a wonderful framework to experience significant United Nations events, especially the annual Human Rights Council and its related treaty body meetings. Through Michigan, I was able to engage international law in the fullest sense – at the international organization level where global legal regimes are created, the academic level where these regimes' impact on countries and peoples are dissected and analyzed, and through hands-on field work experiences illuminating how international treaties can make a life-changing difference for those in greatest need of protection. Michigan gave me global exposure as a law student, and I look forward to using this foundation to make an international impact throughout my career. 🌍



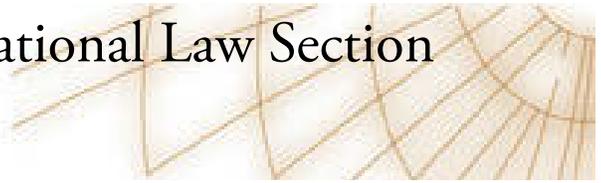
Sarah A. Oliai

About the Author

Sarah A. Oliai is a May 2014 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and currently works in Washington, D.C., as a post-graduate fellow for the Legal Aid Society and as a consultant for the World Bank. She can be reached at oliaisar@umich.edu.



Minutes of the Council of the International Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan



A meeting of the Council (“Council”) of the International Law Section (“Section”) of the State Bar of Michigan (“State Bar” or “SBM”) was held on January 21, 2015 at Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School, 2630 Featherstone Rd., Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

The following officers of the Council were present in person: David B. Guenther, Chairperson; Daphne Short Cunningham, Chair-Elect; and Debra Clephane, Treasurer. A quorum of voting members of the Council were present in person. Names of each of the attendees will be filed with these meeting minutes.

Call To Order

David Guenther, Chairperson of the Section, called the meeting to order at approximately 4:40 P.M.

Approval Of Agenda

The Chairperson circulated an agenda for the meeting, which was approved as presented.

Notice And Quorum

Daphne Short Cunningham, Chair-Elect presented a written notice of the meeting prepared by Lara Fettsco Phillip, Secretary of the Section, and mailed or delivered to all members of the Council and to Members of the Section in accordance with the Section’s Bylaws. The Chair-elect said that the notice will be filed with the minutes of the meeting.

Approval Of Meeting Minutes

The Chair-Elect circulated a draft of the minutes of the Council meeting held on November 12, 2014. Upon motion made and supported, the Council approved the minutes without correction. The Chair-Elect reported that approved minutes of the Section’s Council meetings are regularly posted on the Section website at www.michbar.org and that the approved minutes would also be posted to the Section website.

Treasurer’s Report

Debra Clephane, Treasurer of the Section, presented the unaudited financial statement of the Section for the twelve months ending December 31, 2014 and the related detailed trial balance for the same period, prepared by the Finance & Administration Division of the State Bar. The Treasurer

reported that membership had increased resulting in higher revenue from dues for the Section. As of the twelve months ending December 31, 2014 per the financial statement, the revenues of the Section were \$13,370.00, and expenses for the same time period were \$1,824.31 resulting in Net Income of \$11,545.69. The Section’s ending fund balance as of December 31, 2014 was \$14,388.19. The Chairperson noted that the Section’s financial statements are generally reprinted in the *Michigan International Lawyer*.

Chairperson’s Report

The Chairperson, David Guenther, began his report by noting that the Section’s meeting and program was being simulcast to the Grand Rapids campus of Thomas M. Cooley Law School. The simulcast was conducted in response to interest from Section members residing in Western Michigan. In the event that member interest continues, the Section will discuss future simulcasts or plan a quarterly meeting in either Lansing or Grand Rapids.

The Chair discussed SBM Connect, the State Bar’s new website. He stated that SBM Connect members will be able to engage in discussions and post materials of interest on the Section’s website. He further noted that SBM Connect, will allow the Section the ability to post photos, past program materials, and minutes, as well as, update committee members. He further noted that ZeekBeek will provide profile information about members, such as practice area and contact information. Members should log-on to the system to review their profiles and add additional information such as a profile picture, if desired. It is possible that this service could replace Listserv, but further investigation will be necessary relative to cost and functionality.

The Chair also updated the Section on the progress of the ILS Task force on International Dispute Resolution. A mission statement for the committee has been distributed with the materials at this meeting. Troy Harris, the chair of this task force is working with other members to explore ways to make Michigan a leader in this area. The idea of making this topic the focus of one of the Section’s quarterly meetings was also discussed.

The Chair concluded his report by noting that the Section is still in need of law school representatives, a Chair for the Business and Tax committee, and to fill the vacancy of the Diversity/Inclusion Coordinator. Anyone interested in these positions should speak with one of the Section’s officers.

Committee Chair Reports

The Chairperson invited the Section's Committee chairs to report on their activities.

O'Neil L. Woelke, Chair of the International Trade Committee reported that the committee is planning to be more active in the Section and is looking for projects to gain momentum. He noted that the committee would like to get involved in the planning of an upcoming quarterly meeting.

New Business: Upcoming Meetings

March Meeting: The March meeting is being planned for March 18, 2015 at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School. Council Member, James Rayis, will be helping the Section with the arrangements at the Law School and to verify that space is available for that date. Therefore, the date may change due to availability. The planned topic for the meeting is "Doing Business in Canada". The Chair will contact the Essex County Bar Association to invite them to the meeting.

May Meeting: If interest exists, the Section will explore the possibility of holding the May meeting in either Grand Rapids or Lansing. There are 42 council members in Kent

County and two former chairs of the Section. If the decision is made to hold the meeting in one of these locations, the Section will explore the possibility to simulcast the meeting back to Oakland county. Topics for the May meeting are still being explored. Please provide any ideas to the Chair or one of the other Section officers.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:21 PM.

Dinner And Program

The featured topic was "*Doing Business in Mexico.*"
The program was very well attended.

Respectfully submitted,

Daphne Short Cunningham, Acting Secretary 2014-2015
International Law Section
State Bar of Michigan

2014-2015 Roster, State Bar of Michigan, International Law Section

Officers

Chair: David Guenther
Chair-Elect: Daphne Cunningham
Secretary: Lara Phillip
Treasurer: Debra Auerbach Clephane
Immediate Past Chair: A. Reed Newland

Committee Chairs

Business and Tax: TBD
International Trade: Neil Woelke
Emerging Nations: Richard Goetz and Tim Kaufmann
Employment and Immigration: Linda Armstrong
Human Rights: Andrew Moore
International Dispute Resolution: Troy Harris
Mentor-Mentee: Gregory Fox

Diversity Coordinator

TBD

Commissioner Liaison

Colleen A. Pero

Council Members

Timothy Attalla (2015)
Linda J. Armstrong (2015)
Neil Woelke (2015)
Troy Harris (2016)
Aysha Jamil Kasham (2016)
Timothy Kaufmann (2016)
Douglas F. Duchek (2017)
James Y. Rayis (2017)
Robert L. Rothman (2017)

Law Students Representatives

UDM Muneeb Sadiq, JD Candidate 2016
WMU-Cooley Law School, Sarah Hazimi,
JD Candidate 2017

Michigan International Lawyer

Professor Gregory Fox
Shahar Ben-Josef, Senior Editor
Alison Mueller, Student Editor
Corey Neil, Student Editor

Treasurer's Report

For the six months ending March 31, 2015

	Current Activity March 2014	Year-to-date March 2015	Year-to-date March 2014
Revenue:			
International Law Section Dues	70.00	14,315.00	14,210.00
International Stud/Affil Dues			<u>40.00</u>
Total Revenue	<u>70.00</u>	<u>14,315.00</u>	<u>14,250.00</u>
Expenses:			
ListServ	50.00	150.00	125.00
Meetings	1,163.61	2,840.98	1,607.01
Annual Meeting Expenses			(250.00)
Telephone	15.31	97.84	101.06
Newsletter	338.19	2,496.58	2,156.55
Postage			50.07
Miscellaneous		<u>102.17</u>	<u> </u>
Total Expenses	<u>1,567.11</u>	<u>5,667.57</u>	<u>3,789.69</u>
Net Income	(1,497.11)	8,627.43	10,460.31
Beginning Fund Balance:		<u>14,388.19</u>	<u>14,068.30</u>
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>14,388.19</u>	<u>14,068.30</u>
Ending Fund Balance		23,015.62	24,528.61

Treasurer's Report

For the seven months ending April 30, 2015

	Current Activity April 2014	Year-to-date April 2015	Year-to-date April 2014
Revenue:			
International Law Section Dues		14,315.00	14,210.00
International Stud/Affil Dues			<u>40.00</u>
Total Revenue		<u>14,315.00</u>	<u>14,250.00</u>
Expenses:			
ListServ	25.00	175.00	175.00
Meetings		2,840.98	1,681.01
Annual Meeting Expenses			(250.00)
Telephone	16.09	113.93	136.64
Newsletter		2,496.58	2,156.55
Postage			55.39
Miscellaneous		<u>102.17</u>	<u>72.08</u>
Total Expenses	<u>41.09</u>	<u>5,728.66</u>	<u>4,026.67</u>
Net Income	(41.09)	8,586.34	10,223.33
Beginning Fund Balance:		<u>14,388.19</u>	<u>14,068.30</u>
Total Beginning Fund Balance		<u>14,388.19</u>	<u>14,068.30</u>
Ending Fund Balance		22,974.53	24,291.63

Calendar of Events

International Law Section, State Bar of Michigan, Annual Meeting,
Auburn Hills, MI, 17 September 2015

State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting
Novi, MI, 7-9 October, 2015

Private Equity Transactions Symposium 2015
London, England, 12 November 2015

Building on the Foundations for a Successful Future: Economic Development and the Rule of Law in Africa
Livingstone, Zambia, 18-20 November 2015

7th Biennial Global Immigration Conference
London, England
19-20 November 2015

Mergers & Acquisitions in the Technology Sector: Current Asian and International Trends
Seoul, South Korea
19-20 November 2015

Third Party Funding and International Arbitration: a 360 degree perspective
London, England
3 December 2015

The New Era of Taxation: The keys to providing legal advice on tax law at the cutting edge of a rapidly changing world
Mexico City, Mexico
3-4 December 2015



Michigan International Lawyer

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