

LAW SCHOOLS COMMITTEE
REPORT PREPARED FOR THE MARCH 6, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING

1. Next Scheduled Meeting of the Committee

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is Saturday, April 5, 2008 at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Faculty Lounge, 651 E. Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. Coffee and bagels will be provided at 10:00 a.m., and the meeting starts at 10:30 a.m.

2. Council Approval

There are no items requiring Council approval at this time.

3. Membership

The Committee is comprised of student representatives from the business law societies from each of the six law schools in the state, their faculty advisors and Business Law Section members. All of the schools are participating actively in Committee activities. An attorney-liaison has been appointed to each of the law schools, including the following individuals: Mark High (Thomas M. Cooley); Gurinder Singh (Michigan); Roger Mali (Michigan State); Paul Rentenbach (Detroit Mercy); Justin Peruski and Doug Toering (Wayne State); and Cristina Walters (Ave Maria).

The Section has included an announcements regarding the Committee in its e-newsletter and ListServ correspondence. The Committee has launched its webpage, adopted a ListServ and prepared a press release for distribution to legal and student newspapers.

4. Accomplishments Toward Objectives

The Committee is achieving its initial goals. We have organized effectively, developed relationships with the appropriate leaders in each law school and scheduled our first social event. Our membership is active and sincerely interested in our programs and events.

We continue to explore the best means for engaging law students in Section activities and continuing to communicate with them as they transition from law school to the legal profession.

5. Meetings and Programs

a. Committee Meeting: The Committee held its initial organizational meeting on January 23, 2008 at the offices of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC. Minutes of the meeting are attached to this Report as Annex A.

b. Spring Fling Social Event. The Committee is hosting its First Annual Spring Fling Social Event on Thursday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dirty Martini Lounge, 42705 Grand River Avenue, Novi, Michigan. The event is designed to be evening of networking and collegiality for attorneys and business law students from across Michigan. Join us for cocktails, appetizers and door prizes. Registration details are available on the Committee's webpage.

c. Presentation at Ave Maria School of Law: The Committee is supporting a program on Securities Law with the Business Law Society at the Ave Maria School of Law on March 12, 2008. The Committee is grateful for the participation of Cy Moscow, partner at

Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn LLP and a recipient of the 2006 Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award, in the program.

d. Publication Opportunities. Student members of the Committee have expressed an interest in pursuing opportunities for publication in the various publications distributed by the Section and its Committees. Detroit Mercy School of Law has established a program designed to assist students with writing, editing and submitting articles to such publications. The Committee intends to discuss its facilitation of such efforts with the editorial boards of the *Michigan Business Law Journal*, *Debtor/Creditor NewsMag* and other publications.

6. Publications

a. Committee Webpage. The Committee launched its webpage on February 7, 2008. The webpage provides information regarding the Committee's mission and purpose, programs and events, past reports, and contact information for Committee leaders and student representatives. The webpage also provides law students with information on how to join the Law Student Section and Business law Section.

b. ListServ. The Committee has implemented a ListServ to send information regarding Committee events and developments to Section members and business law students. We receive regular requests from attorneys and law students seeking to be added to the List.

7. Legislative/Judicial/Administrative Developments

N/A

8. Miscellaneous

N/A

Report submitted by:

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ANNEX A

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN BUSINESS LAW SECTION LAW SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

The meeting of the Law Schools Committee of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan was held at the offices of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC in Detroit, Michigan on January 23, 2008, pursuant to notice duly given. Present at the meeting were Edwin J. Lukas, Cristina Walters, Gurinder Singh, Sayf Fathy (Wayne State), Professor Vince Wellman (Wayne State), Christopher Persaud (Ave Maria), Erica Bell (University of Detroit Mercy) and Moises DeJesus (University of Detroit Mercy). Participating in the meeting via telephone were Dana Peck (University of Michigan), Assistant Professor James Carey (Thomas M. Cooley) and Erin Keeler (Thomas M. Cooley).

1. Call to Order. Committee Chairperson, Edwin J. Lukas, called the meeting to order at approximately 5:05 p.m. Cristina Walters agreed to act as secretary of the meeting.

2. Background on Business Law Section. Mr. Lukas welcomed the meeting participants and discussed the mission and objectives of the Business Law Section. Mr. Lukas described the demographics of members of the Section, the governance structure of the Section, and the benefits associated with Section membership. Mr. Lukas also discussed the factors that lead to the Section Council's approval of establishing the Committee. Mr. Lukas indicated that an important initiative of the Section is to increase membership in the Section and participation in Section activities by young practitioners, and Mr. Lukas cited the Committee as an opportunity to foster achievement of this objective.

3. Mission and Objectives of the Committee. Mr. Lukas discussed the mission and objectives of the Committee. He indicated that the Committee is designed to (a) actively promote and support an interest in business law among law students, (b) increasing the level of awareness among law student of the different career options and areas of expertise in business law, (c) support programs that are initiated by the law school business law societies by identifying program topics and speakers, (d) provide a forum for networking among law students and between law students and Section members and (e) increase participation in Section activities by law students and young lawyers. Mr. Lukas stated that the Committee's goal is to institutionalize the Section's efforts in each of the law schools and establish relationships with students that will carry over following their graduation. Meeting participants discussed the various points raised by Mr. Lukas and agreed that meetings would be held quarterly or more frequently as needed, and that the location of the meetings would rotate among the various law schools. Meeting participants concurred that Saturday mornings or afternoons would be a suitable time for such meetings.

3. Participation on the Committee; Roles and Responsibilities. Mr. Lukas discussed the structure of the Committee and the respective roles and responsibilities of Committee participants. He indicated that participation in Committee activities is open to all members of the Section. He further indicated that the Committee intends to designate specific Section members to serve as a liaison to each of the business law societies, and he discussed the prospective role of

the student representatives from each of the business law societies, their faculty advisors and other law students. Meeting participants discussed the various points raised by Mr. Lukas.

4. Designation of Liaisons to Each of the Law Schools. Mr. Lukas indicated that, while the Committee intended to establish at the meeting the specific individuals who would serve as liaisons to each of the business law societies, there was insufficient participation in the Committee meeting by current Section members in order to do so at the meeting. Ms. Walters and Ms. Singh agreed to serve as liaisons to a business law society in the event that Mr. Lukas was unable to secure commitments from other current Section members. Mr. Lukas agreed to identify potential liaisons, secure their commitment to participate and report back to the meeting participants as soon as the same occurred.

5. Coordination of Speakers and Participation in Law School Programs. Mr. Lukas discussed the Committee's potential role in supporting programs initiated by the business law societies through the identification of topics and speakers for such events. Dana Peck indicated that students are interested in acquiring a better understanding of the scope of "business law" outside of commercial litigation, and that students would benefit from presentations or discussions addressing the same. Sayf Fathy suggested that the business law societies exchange information regarding their respective events and consider inviting students from other schools to participate in the events.

6. Continuity of Participation by Graduating Law Students. Mr. Lukas suggested that an important objective for the Committee should be to identify ways in which the Section and the Committee can maintain contact with students graduating from law school as they transition to private practice. The meeting participants agreed to consider the issue further and discuss the matter at the Committee's next meeting. It was also suggested that the faculty advisors are well positioned to offer insight and experience to the Committee, and that the faculty advisors could be certain the Committee is kept apprised of changes in student leadership in order to ensure continuity of participation.

7. Spring Networking Event. The meeting participants discussed their desire for the Committee to host a networking event at which law students from each of the business law societies could network with other students and members of the Section. Mr. Lukas indicated that potential dates for such an event included either April 2008 or on June 13 or 14 in connection with the Section's mid-year meeting and Business Law Institute in Dearborn, Michigan. Meeting participants discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each potential date. Erica Bell agreed to lead the Committee's efforts at organizing the event and, following consultation with Mr. Lukas and other meeting participants, to determine the date and location of the event.

8. Section Membership for Law Students. Mr. Lukas discussed the manner in which law students may join the State Bar of Michigan and the Section. He discussed the benefits of Section membership and distributed a form to be used by law students interested in the same. Mr. Lukas agreed to circulate the form electronically to the meeting participants following the meeting. Christopher Persaud suggested that the Committee coordinate its efforts with the Law Students Section of the State Bar. It was also agreed that the student representatives would endeavor to encourage their members to join the Section.

9. Communications Plan Regarding the Committee. The meeting participants discussed the ways in which the Committee could communicate its establishment to the public, Section members and law students. Mr. Lukas mentioned the availability of the Committee's web page and the listserv as a means of communication. James Carey suggested that the Committee draft a

press release and distribute the same to various, local legal publications and student newspapers. Meeting participants discussed their potential roles and responsibilities in this regard, and Mr. Lukas agreed to follow up with them in an effort to establish the same.

10. Section Council Meeting. Mr. Lukas indicated that the Council of the Section is holding its next meeting on March 6, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the State Bar Building in Lansing, Michigan. Erin Keeler expressed interest in having student representatives from Thomas E. Cooley attend the meeting. Mr. Lukas agreed to confirm the same with Michael Khoury, Chairperson of the Section, and inform such student representatives accordingly.

11. Business Law Institute. Mr. Lukas indicated that the Section is hosting its annual mid-year meeting and Business Law Institute on June 13 and 14 at the Dearborn Inn in Dearborn, Michigan. Several meeting participants expressed an interest in attending, and Mr. Lukas agreed to provide further details at the next meeting of the Committee.

12. Announcement of April Meeting of Committee. The meeting participants concurred that the next meeting of the Committee will be held in early April at Detroit Mercy School of Law. Mr. Lukas agreed to confirm the specific date with Ms. Bell and inform Committee members accordingly.

13. Meeting Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Law Schools Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/ Cristina M. Walters
Cristina M. Walters
Secretary of the Meeting