

**LAW SCHOOLS COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT PREPARED FOR THE
DECEMBER 3, 2016 COUNCIL MEETING**

Please describe your committee's activities during the 2015-2016 year toward achievement of the goals outlined in the Section's Strategic Plan. Each question below corresponds to a specific Section of the Plan, a copy of which is attached and to which reference may be made for further guidance in providing responses. If the question is not applicable to your particular committee or directorship, please note as such.

1. Sponsorship of programs for Continuing Legal Education via a means accessible to Section Members, including holding at least one program yearly (Article I, 3).

Fiscal 2015-2016 activities include:

(a) Members of the Business Law Society of the Auburn Hills Campus of Cooley Law School hosted an event on the subject matter of franchise law, including owning and operating a franchise, franchise laws, and other general matters related to franchises. There was a panel of four attorneys who participated in this event.

(b) The Career Services and Outreach Department of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law held a Detroit Mercy Law Bar Association Fair on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, at the Law School Atrium. Kevin Block and I represented the Business Law Section and the Council at the Fair. At the Bar Association Fair we had the opportunity to discuss the Business Law Section with a number of law students, including the associated benefits and educational opportunities. We also encouraged the students to consider joining the Business Law Section as a student.

2. Addressing substantive legal issues for committee members, including holding regular committee meetings (at least once a year) and reporting on the meetings to the Council (Article I, 4).

- The Law Schools Committee generally does not address substantive legal issues.
- The Committee does not hold meetings of the entire committee. Meetings typically occur at the law school that is hosting a particular event.
- Reports of the programs are reflected in Item 1 above, and are included in the quarterly reports to the Council.

3. Promoting involvement in the committee and making the committee more responsive to members including the designation of a contact person (Article I, 5).

We promote the Law Schools Committee via the Section website, through e-mails to the attorney liaisons and designated law student representatives, and via

calendars at the individual participating law schools (as maintained by the student leaders). I have also met and discussed the Committee and its resources with various law school faculty representatives when the opportunity presented itself. As chair of the Committee, I serve as the contact person.

4. (A) monitoring and raising awareness of laws or developments in laws that affect Michigan businesses and, when appropriate, making recommendations for updates and improvements;

(B) providing assistance to appropriate state government personnel with respect to business-related legislation and rule making;

(C) as appropriate, providing amicus curiae briefs related to business-related issues being addressed by the courts, and

(D) educating Michigan businesses, their owners and employees about changes to Michigan's laws in order to maintain Michigan's ability to attract and retain new business enterprises and enable existing businesses to remain competitive. (Article II, 1).

None of these are part of the focus of the Law Schools Committee.

5. Please comment on your plan regarding succession (Article III, 5).

I do not have a succession plan for this Committee at this time.

6. Please list your Committee's goals and objectives for the next 12 to 24 months and whether you will require additional support from the Section to achieve these goals (Article III, 5).

During the next 12 to 24 months, we expect to continue to promote programs at law schools in the Detroit area, Lansing and Grand Rapids (the University of Michigan chapter rarely communicates with us). Our goal is to offer one or two programs per campus per year. We also make our committee members available at law school events that provide an opportunity to discuss the Business Law Section with the law students.

That said, some law schools this year did not express an interest in hosting an event with Business Law Section speakers. The attorney liaisons have determined that the law students should drive the events, as it results in better turnout and more effective events. The Committee periodically communicates with the students that we have excellent business attorneys available to present on various business-related issues. It is then up to the law students to contact me or the attorney liaisons for their respective schools to assist in arranging an event.

7. Encouraging law students to become members of the Section through participation in events of business law societies, holding two social events each year, and supporting one substantive presentation or panel discussion at each Michigan law school each year (Article IV, 4).

It is my understanding that previously the Council held two social events and sponsored a number of programs at various law schools. The social events were expensive to sponsor and host. At this time, the Committee believes that the most cost-effective way of serving the law students is to sponsor programs at the individual law school campuses. In this regard, it is incumbent on the law students to request a presentation or event of interest and the Committee would contribute its resources to assist with any such event.

Further, Committee members did attend a Bar Association Fair hosted by University of Detroit Mercy School of Law this past fiscal year. At the Bar Association Fair we had the opportunity to discuss the Business Law Section with a number of law students, including the associated benefits and educational opportunities. We also encouraged the students to consider joining the Business Law Section as a student.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark E. Kellogg, Committee Chair
FRASER TREBILCOCK DAVIS & DUNLAP, P.C.
124 West Allegan St., Suite 1000
Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 482-5800
(517) 377-0890 (direct)
(517) 482-0887 (fax)
mkellogg@fraserlawfirm.com

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