



## WSBA Professionalism Committee Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2012

### Present

Gretchen Leanderson, Chair  
Hunter Abell  
Mark Arthur  
Jackson Bennett  
Jacob DeGraaff  
Linda Frischmeyer  
David Gardner  
Sims Weymuller  
Pam Inglesby, staff liaison

### Absent

Nancy Isserlis, BOG Liaison  
Sean Gamble  
Paul Gill  
Sarah Lee  
Judith Lonnquist  
Tina Mares  
Christine Palmer  
Matthew Pierce  
Suchi Sharma  
Juliana Wong  
Jim Yand

Chair **Gretchen Leanderson** called the meeting to order.

### Subcommittee updates

*Law school outreach:* The spring term law school presentations ended with a joint presentation to both PR classes at Gonzaga University, taught by Kim Pearson and Brooks Holland. Committee member David Gardner, who participated in the presentation, suggested that the deposition video be eliminated or reduced as it is very out-of-date and over-the-top. He will send Pam ideas for reducing the presentation to 50 minutes which would be helpful for the University of Washington presentations. This summer there will be one PR class at Gonzaga, taught by Brooks Holland; David will talk with him about scheduling a presentation.

*Member outreach:* Chair Jacob DeGraaff reported that he has been asked by WSBA's Education and Professional Development Department to draft a Professionalism chapter for the Civil Litigation deskbook.

### Upcoming CLE presentations

Committee members are involved in several upcoming CLE presentations:

- Presentation at WSBA Solo/Small Practice Convention (July) – Sims Weymuller
- Presentation at Washington State Association for Justice Convention (August) – Sims Weymuller
- Panel discussion at Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association Annual Convention (September) – Gretchen Leanderson

It was agreed that the role of the committee in member outreach is twofold: to be a resource for entities that want to offer continuing legal education on Professionalism-related topics, and to reach out and offer to put together such programs for law-related groups. The committee will develop its own list of speakers for use in developing presentations. It isn't yet clear whether the prezi will be needed in these presentations, so further development of it is on hold.

### **Future of the Committee**

Pam Inglesby reported that several events are being held which offer WSBA members the opportunity to ask questions or comment on the development of a new WSBA budget following the license fee reduction mandated by the recent member referendum:

- Town Hall meeting, May 10th (yesterday); recording will be online next week
- Online chat with President Crossland, May 21st, noon
- Special Board of Governors meeting, May 22nd

Pam noted that "everything is on the table" in the budget discussions meaning that some committees may be eliminated, restructured, or staffed differently to save money. The Board of Governors has a Committee on Committees that will review the annual reports of all committees this summer and make recommendations to the full BOG. It was agreed that the Professionalism Committee's report should list everything the committee has accomplished so far this year, and list the following goals for next year:

- Continue law school presentations
- Nominate more WSBA members for Random Acts of Professionalism awards
- Continue lawyer outreach work, as described above
- Revisit the committee's structure and processes, including frequency of meetings, role of staff, etc., in an effort to be more efficient and cost-effective

Gretchen and Pam will draft the annual report and circulate it to the committee for comment.

### **Committee Business**

The minutes of the April 2012 meeting were approved, with one correction.

Future committee meeting dates are June (TBD), July 13, August 10, September 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Inglesby