

WSBA Professionalism Committee Meeting Minutes September 14, 2012

Present

Gretchen Leanderson, Chair Hunter Abell Jackson Bennett Jacob DeGraaff Linda Frischmeyer Sean Gamble David Gardner Tina Mares Christine Palmer Matt Muzio, WSBA staff

Absent

Nancy Isserlis, BOG Liaison Mark Arthur Paul Gill Sarah Lee Judith Lonnquist Matthew Pierce Suchi Sharma Sims Weymuller Juliana Wong James Yand

Chair Gretchen Leanderson called the meeting to order.

Subcommittee updates

Law school outreach: Chair Hunter Abell reported that the committee is scheduled to present at Seattle University on September 25th and at Gonzaga University on October 8th. Hunter and Jacob DeGraff will present with Paula Littlewood at Seattle U. Paula Littlewood and David Gardner will present at Gonzaga U. Gonzaga is changing its curriculum to have 1 large PR class a semester for 2nd and 3rd years combined. Hunter reported that the committee is still trying to schedule with the University of Washington. An observation was made that the Prezi should include a slide on substance abuse issues. It was also discussed that we might consider inviting Michael Badger with the Lawyers Assistance Program to the law school presentations and/or to the first year orientations.

Member outreach: Chair Jacob DeGraaff reported that he, Sims Weymuller and Jeanne Marie Clavere are still working on the Professionalism chapter for the WSBA's Civil Procedure deskbook.

Gretchen Leanderson handed out copies of Appendix J to the 2011 WSBA's New Lawyer Education Program, entitled "Courtroom Decorum and Practice Guidelines Adopted June 1994 by the WSBA Board of Governors". She received a copy of these materials at a recent CLE. Jacob DeGraaff suggested that the Professionalism Committee request of the WSBA Board of Governors that it be allowed to update the Guidelines. Linda Frischmeyer offered to be on the

editing/updating subcommittee. It was decided to take up further discussion of this project when the new 2012-13 Professionalism Committee convenes.

Gretchen Leanderson reported that she included a segment on professionalism at a recent Juvenile Issues meeting at the Attorney General's Office. She is also moderating a panel on professionalism on September 16th at the Tacoma Pierce County Bar Association's Annual Convention being held at Alderbrook Resort. Her panel members are: Jeanne Marie Clavere, Pierce County Superior Court Judge Frank Cuthbertson, and Assistant Attorney General Julian Bray.

Random Acts of Professionalism: Tina Mares reported that a number of people have been nominated, but they have not been notified yet. A couple of articles have been written but have not yet been published. There has been some difficulty in reaching a few individuals that the subcommittee wanted to feature. Mark Arthur completed an article but is waiting for a photo before submitting it to the Bar News for publication. David Gardner suggested that next year to increase the number of nominations for Random Acts each committee member commits to "presenting" a nomination at an assigned meeting during the year. This is a suggestion that the 2012-13 committee should discuss as an action item at the October meeting. David added that committee members could reach out to judges for suggestions for nominations as well.

Update on Proposed changes to APR 11

Gretchen Leanderson reported that the BOG is hearing comments and will be voting on the MCLE Committee's proposed changes to APR 11 at its September 21st meeting. The Professionalism Committee had raised concerns with the MCLE committee about the proposed amendment and requested clarifying language in to expressly provide that CLEs on professionalism would continue to receive ethics credits if the program otherwise qualifies for ethics CLE credits. The MCLE Board did not believe it was necessary to make the clarifying language; it believed the proposed language was clear on its face that presentations on professionalism would continue to be eligible for ethics credits as they currently are, if they otherwise meet the criteria for ethics credits. Gretchen plans to attend the BOG meeting to provide the Professionalism Committee's concerns with the proposed language amending APR 11.

Passing the Torch

This was Gretchen Leanderson's final meeting as Chair. Gretchen presented Hunter Abell with a framed copy of the Creed of Professionalism as he takes over as the 2012-13 chair of the Professionalism Committee. She thanked the committee members for the opportunity to serve. She is looking forward to continued service this upcoming year on the committee.

Committee Business

Minutes of the July 2012 meeting were approved.

The next meeting was set for October 12, 2012.

Respectfully submitted, Gretchen Leanderson