



Annual Report 2011- 2012
(October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012)

Section: Administrative Law
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Section position: Chair
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1. Section highlights and accomplishments in 2011-2012.

The Administrative Law Section accomplishes its work through four standing committees, staffed mostly by board members and officers, but also by section members. The standing committees are: Legislative; CLE; Newsletter; and Publications.

Legislative Committee - Richard Potter, Chair: For the 2012 session the Committee worked on 18 legislative proposals (the number of bills is higher if you count both House and Senate companion bills). The Committee has started to work on items from the 2013 session.

CLE Committee – Kristal Wiitala, Chair: The Section's CLE Committee organized three main events this year across the state. On November 4, 2011, the section presented the Public Records Act Update seminar in Olympia. In conjunction with a reception honoring the 2011 recipient of the Homan Award, Gonzaga Law Professor Larry Weiser, a mini-CLE was offered to members free of charge in Spokane on June 4, 2012. The last event planned by the CLE Committee for this year is "Advocacy in Administrative Law: Recent Developments, View from the Bench, and Practice Pointers" to be offered in Seattle on October 24, preceding the Section's Annual Business meeting.

Newsletter Committee – Merrilee Harrell, Chair: Under the continued leadership of Editor Merrilee Harrell, the Newsletter Committee has kept up its rigorous schedule and published three newsletters: Winter 2011; Spring 2012; and Fall 2012. Each issue includes articles of interest in Administrative Law and a comprehensive list of case summaries on administrative law decisions in the Washington Courts of Appeals, Supreme Court and Federal decisions.

Publications Committee – John Gray, Chair: Jeff Litwak will succeed Larry Berg in 2013 as the Update Editor-in-Chief of the Washington Administrative Law Practice Manual,

published by Lexis-Nexis. Larry Berg, the current Update Editor-in-Chief, will finish the updates for 2012. The Public Records Act Deskbook, published by the WSBA, has two Editors-in-Chief, reflecting the balance on this issue that both the WSBA and the Administrative Law Section desire for this publication. Ramsey Ramerman is one of the two Editors-in-Chief, from the "agency" side of the issues. Greg Overstreet has stepped down as the co-Editor-in-Chief from the "requester" side of the issues, and his successor has not yet been selected. Many hours of work were contributed by the many volunteer authors and senior editors to put out the increasingly recognized and quoted legal authority in this every-changing area.

Homan Award: The 2011 Frank Homan Award was presented to Gonzaga Law Professor Larry Weiser Monday on June 4, 2012, at the Gonzaga School of Law. The award presentation followed the CLE entitled The Spirit of the Homan Award: Administrative Law Today. The section hosted a reception following the award presentation. The Frank Homan Award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated contribution to the improvement or application of administrative law.

2. Section priorities, including new goals, for upcoming membership year.

- Fiscal planning: The Section remains committed to good fiscal planning in light of section financial changes. The Section raised dues \$5 from \$20 to \$25 for 2012-2013 to reflect the change in subsidy from WSBA.
- Website: Trustee Jim Robenalt kept the site updated.
- Board meetings: The board met several times telephonically this year (December, March, May, June, July, October); and twice in person. The June meeting was a hard-working retreat where the Board networked, reviewed its accomplishments and planned for future events. Retreat Chair Suzanne Mager and event planner extraordinaire Margie Gray continue to for the hard work in planning yet another successful retreat.
- Annual meeting: To be held following the CLE on October 24, in Seattle, the Board will review the events of the last year and future plans while enjoying excellent refreshments organized by Rebecca Glasgow. New officers and board members will be elected and installed, with an outstanding slate for next year.

3. Current and new benefits for section membership.

We continue to focus on committee service, events, and publications in provided high value benefits for members.

4. Section community involvement and special financial designations.

Janell Stewart oversaw the section's public service grants program. The section did not receive grant applications this year. The section remains committed to providing such grants and sought out evaluations from past grantees.

5. Section activities supporting the WSBA Guiding Principles

The section is committed to providing networking and continuing education opportunities to members and those interested in administrative law. Board members attended Open Section Night and discussed the section with interested members of the Young Lawyers Division.

Our Board is engaged and committed and remains committed to our various activities and goals.

This board is committed to diversity – that is, all lawyers are welcome as section members and to participate fully in the section. We plan to continue efforts to support and mentor young lawyers and to promote diversity in the legal profession. Our grant program demonstrates our commitment to public service and access to justice.

Any member is encouraged to contact any officer or board member to convey ideas on how the section can improve and deliver benefits to section members. All members are welcome to volunteer for any of the section's committees

6. Section relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.

WSBA staff continues to support the section. At our summer meeting, the section had an exceptional opportunity to discuss WSBA governance and financial issues with Judy Massong.