



WSBA ADR SECTION ANNUAL REPORT – FY18

Name of the Section:	<i>Alternative Dispute Resolution Section</i>	
Chair:	<i>Courtney Kaylor</i>	
Section Information: <i>As of September 30, 2018</i>	Membership Size:	362
	Staff Lead:	Patrick Mead
	BOG Liaison:	Kyle Sciuchetti
	FY18 revenue: \$	\$15,919.67 (as of August 31, 2018)
	FY18 direct expenses: \$ <i>(does not include the Per-Member-Charge)</i>	\$5,275.74 (as of August 31, 2018)
Purpose:	Promoting informed use and best practices of alternative dispute resolution processes by: providing resources; educating members of the bar and the public, and addressing issues relating to the growth and development of alternative dispute resolution services in the State of Washington.	
2017-2018 Accomplishments and Work in Progress:	<p><u>Executive Committee</u> The Executive Committee met for its annual retreat November 10-11, 2017. We began by reviewing the goals and achievements for the past year. That review formed the basis for discussion of key priorities for the 2017-18 year. We concluded with identification of steps necessary to implement these priorities. The “work product” of the retreat were minutes that detailed accomplishments from the prior year, goals for 2017-18, and actions to implement those goals.</p> <p><u>NW DR Conference Planning Committee</u> Each year, the WSBA ADR Section and University of Washington School of Law co-sponsor the Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference. The 24th annual conference was held on March 22-23, 2018 on the UW Law School campus, and was attended by more than 300 attorneys and mediators. FY 2017-18 Section Chair</p>	

Courtney Kaylor made remarks at the evening reception in support of the Conference and the ADR Section.

As in prior years, members of the WSBA ADR Section provided leadership in planning and organizing this nationally recognized ADR conference. Executive Committee member Sasha S. Philip is a co-Chair of the planning committee, and four other Executive Committee members serve on the conference planning committee. In addition, Executive Committee members were selected as presenters for the conference:

Mel Simburg: *Interim Measures in Arbitration – TROs, Preserving Assets, etc.* and *Apology: When and How to Give, How to Receive, How to Coach*

Craig Beles: *Just a Lawyer or “Problem Solver!?”: How Litigators Can Differentiate Themselves in the Marketplace With Their ADR Practice*

Each year, the Section sponsors competitive scholarships to enable those with financial needs to attend the Conference at no cost.

Professional Development Committee

Three Executive Committee members participated in Open Sections Night in January 2018. Also in January, the Section arranged a mixer with the Seattle University School of Law ADR Board for law students and ADR practitioners. In March, the Section co-sponsored a CLE with the King County Bar Association at the WSBA offices on Winning Arguments on Persuasion Strategies. In October, the Section co-sponsored with KCBA a CLE on Civility in Our Communities with a reception for 2018 mediation week. In addition to these events, the Committee continued steps to create an ADR Inn of Court in Seattle. The Inn’s first meeting was planned for October 16, 2018, at the WSBA offices.

Land Use & Environmental Mediation Committee

The Land Use & Environmental Mediation Committee continued to support the use of mediation in land use and environmental matters. Members of the Committee participated on a panel to discuss land use and environmental mediation at the WSBA ELUL Section’s midyear conference held in May 2018. The Committee continues to provide information to the public on land use and environmental mediation on the Committee web page hosted by the WSBA.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee actively monitors legislation and rules relating to the practice of ADR in Washington. We also promote

legislation and rules on policies endorsed by the ADR Section Executive Committee. During the past year we have continued to look at early mandatory mediation through legislation and rules, working with stakeholders, legislators, judges and practitioners at both a state and county level. We have continued to look at legislation requiring early mediation in family law cases concerning parenting. We looked as specific legislation regarding civil arbitration and minimum CLE requirements for arbitrators (HB1128) and legislation requiring mediation between seed buyers and dealers (HB1132). We made no recommendations on pending legislation in the last year. At the end of this fiscal year, the WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics issued a proposed Advisory Opinion to replace Advisory Opinion 2223 regarding the drafting of agreements by attorney-mediators, which we have been working toward for several years. Currently we are in the process of analyzing the proposed opinion for comment.

Media & Communications Committee

The Media & Communications Committee supported the Section’s mission by helping to publicize Section events and upcoming activities of interest to Section Members. Additionally, the webmaster added new Ning social platform members to grow the reach of the Section.

Law School Partnerships Committee/ECCL

The Law School Partnerships/ECCL Committee reviewed and provided comment on the proposed amendments to the Civil Rules regarding early mediation. This built on the Committee’s prior work in identifying recommended practices for mediation.

Please quantify your section’s current member benefits:

For example:

- \$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;
- 4 mini-CLEs produced

Quantity	Member Benefit
\$4,500	Scholarships, donations, grants awarded
1	Law school outreach events/benefits hosted
2	Legislative bills reviewed/drafted
0	Newsletters produced <i>Section members are provided timely information through the Section listserv and website</i>
0	Mini-CLEs produced
1	Co-sponsored half/day to multi-day CLEs with WSBA <i>Co-sponsored the 2-day 24th Annual Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference</i>

	2	Receptions/forums hosted
	0	Awards given
	1	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
	2	Other (please describe): <i>Co-sponsorship with KCBA of CLE entitled Winning Arguments on Persuasion Strategies; Co-sponsorship with KCBA of 2018 mediation week CLE on Civility in Our Communities</i>
2018-2019 Goals & Priorities (Top 5)	1	Support and promote the Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference
	2	Reach out to law students and newer lawyers to provide information and mentoring on incorporating alternative dispute resolution practices (ex. mediation and arbitration)
	3	Connect with Section members and ADR practitioners state-wide (beyond Seattle/King County)
	4	Connect and coordinate with other alternative dispute resolution organizations, including other Bar Associations, Dispute Resolution Centers and the Washington Mediation Association
	5	Act to fulfill mission by providing resources; educating members of the bar and the public; and addressing issues relating to the growth and development of alternative dispute resolution services in the State of Washington

Please report how this section is addressing diversity:

(Are you using any of the tools provided by WSBA and if so, how? Have you sought out training or consultation from the Diversity Specialist? How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in your decision-making? What have you done to promote a culture of inclusion within the board or committee? What has your section done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession?)

The ADR Executive Committee welcomes the participation of practitioners who bring a diverse perspective, whether it be based on age, gender, ethnicity, geography, or another factor. For the FY 2018-2019, the Chair and Secretary are women.

As addressed later in the report, the Executive Committee continues to direct energy toward involving new/younger lawyers in the Section to foster age/practice experience diversity.

The Executive Committee has not consulted with the Diversity Specialist or used the WSBA tools, however outgoing Chair (Courtney Kaylor, FY 2017-18) will communicate the availability of these to the incoming Chair (Joanna Roth, FY 2018-19).

Please report how this section is addressing professionalism:

(Does the section's work promote respect and civility within the legal community? Does it seek to improve relationships between and among lawyers, judges, staff and clients? Does it raise awareness about the causes and/or consequences of unprofessional behavior?)

The Section continued steps to create an ADR Inn of Court in Seattle. The Inn's first meeting was planned for October 16, 2018, at the WSBA offices.

Additionally, the work of the Section to further the skills of knowledge of all practitioners—ADR professionals and advocates—supports constructive resolution of disputes in a manner that promotes civility and respectful discourse.

Please report how this section is integrating new and young lawyers into its work:

(How have you brought new and young lawyers into your decision making process? Has the section supported new and young lawyers by (for example) helping to find and prepare them for employment, assisting with debt management, building community, and providing leadership opportunities?)

As an Executive Committee, we frequently consider how we can reach out to support new/younger lawyers; this has been a formal topic of discussion at our annual retreat, is a part of the mission of our Professional Development Committee, and often comes up informally in Executive Committee meetings.

We consistently have numerous Executive Committee members attend the Open Sections night in an effort to connect with new and young lawyers.

We host events for law students and new and young lawyers, including the Seattle University Mixer held in January 2018.

Please describe your Executive Committee's relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.

For example:

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services provided to Section Executive Committee*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison*
- *Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support services to sections.*

The Section has been fortunate to receive excellent support from the WSBA Staff. There have been no issues in our involvement with the Board of Governors.