



## Sections on Facebook!

The "Sections of the Washington State Bar Association" facebook fan page has recently been launched. The WSBA is very eager to enter into the world of social media as a way to reach out to more members in a different forum.

Below are the details about how you as section leaders can help promote the sections fan page.

To help promote the page and keep it lively, following are several suggested early steps:

- "Like" the sections of the Washington State Bar page. When you do so, others will see this and 'like' too!
- Write on the Page Wall often – this can be a comment about a section activity or a piece of info you think other section members would find interesting.
- "Like" or comment on Page status updates often (these appear in your News Feed)
- RSVP to the events you are attending and leave feedback.
- Post photos of events.
- Click "share" at the bottom left corner of the page. You can either post a note to your profile or send a message to specific individuals inviting them to become a fan of the page.
- If you have any questions or concerns about Facebook or social media in general, please contact [Paris Seabrook](#).



Register Now!

2010 Bar Leaders  
Conference  
Wenatchee

"Transformation:  
Crisis and  
Opportunity"

June 4-6, 2010

Keynote Speakers:  
Governor **Christine  
Gregoire** and  
**Professor  
Luis Ricardo Fraga**,  
Associate Provost for  
Faculty Advancement,  
Russell F. Stark,  
Director of the Diversity  
Research Institute at the  
University of  
Washington

## Law Student Members—Section Bylaws

Several years ago, the Board of Governors approved amending the WSBA Bylaws to allow law students to join any section as a non-voting member. Unless currently stated, the bylaws of each section also need to be amended to include similar language. Information will be sent to the sections soon regarding a plan for obtaining BOG approval to amend the bylaws of those sections which currently don't address law student membership.

## Top Questions for CLE

While always on the go, we were recently able to catch Mark Sideman, WSBA-CLE director, and ask him a couple of questions that frequently pop up about section seminars.



### What is the first step in setting up a CLE or mini-CLE?

WSBA-CLE and sections work together to develop and produce successful continuing legal education programs. If there are questions on any element of presenting a CLE, there are several ways to have those questions answered. First, if you go to: <http://www.wsba.org/cle/minicleinfo.htm> you will find procedures, guidelines and timelines for all CLE programs including “mini-CLEs.” Second, most sections have an assigned seminar development specialist from the CLE Department with whom you can always call and ask questions. Third, call WSBA-CLE Director Mark Sideman at 206-727-8220 or e-mail Mark at [marks@wsba.org](mailto:marks@wsba.org).

### What makes a CLE successful?

Developing good CLE programs depends on a lot of factors, but first and foremost is starting the process early. Finalizing the program agenda late (i.e., too close to the actual date of the program) is the main reason programs do not register well. Creating a compelling program is actually harder than it may appear, and working with the CLE Department in identifying topics, collaborating on recruitment of faculty, and having everyone involved working together is both more fun and usually results in a more successful program.

A tip to having a CLE program work well is having all the faculty meet to discuss the topics and the overall program. Face-to-face meetings are best, but even a phone conference can make an enormous difference in the quality of the program. When you set up doing a program with WSBA-CLE, section members who are working on the program (i.e., seminar chairs, co-chairs, and faculty) will receive packets of information that provide all the details and timelines people need to know, such as when materials need to be submitted and the preferred format

### Any final thoughts or comments you’d like to share?

On a final note for now, WSBA-CLE is planning some exciting new developments. Look for more communication from the department in the near future.

## Dues Are In and Section Membership Is Steady!

A common conversation heard among leaders of the WSBA sections is one about membership. How many members do we have now? How many did we have at this time a year ago, two years ago? How can we increase our membership? Look for suggestions on the latter in an upcoming issue of SectionLand.

For the 2009-2010 section membership year, there’s good news! As of early April, membership in the sections has increased by 16% compared to a year ago. Of the WSBA’s 27 sections, 25 have seen an increase in members for the same time period. The increases may be the result of various factors...we know there is an enormous networking opportunity when involved with a section, including the expansion of mini-CLEs and lunchtime brown bags on a variety of topics.

## Your trip from SeaTac just got easier...

**Executive Committee members coming from SeaTac to downtown Seattle**

Sound Transit Link light rail now travels from SeaTac Airport to downtown Seattle! Click [here](#) for more information.

## Outside the Box with the Animal Law Section

*Outside the Box* highlights innovative section activities and projects. This spring, the Animal Law Section welcomed its first extern, Nadia Adawi, a 2L student attending Drexel University Law School in Philadelphia. Through the Animal League Defense Fund Externship Program, Ms. Adawi is working ten paid hours a week on a variety of projects identified by the leadership of the section. Her initial priorities include keeping the section abreast of judicial and legislative updates, compiling databases of animal-based municipal laws, and drafting nonpartisan white papers on unresolved legal subjects of interest to the membership.



## Spreading the word...FY 11 Budgets!

Tiffany Lynch, WSBA finance manager, has provided the following preliminary timeline so that section leaders have this on their “coming up” list. In September, the WSBA Board of Governors will approve all fiscal year budgets for 2010-2011, including those submitted by the sections. Sections can anticipate the following timeline (dates subject to change):

- May 24: Budget preparation materials sent to each section's chair, chair-elect, and treasurer.
- July 15: Budgets and related documents due.
- Between July 26 – August 19: If needed, in-person meetings will be scheduled with section representatives and WSBA staff to discuss the proposed budget.
- August 25: WSBA Budget and Audit Committee reviews section budgets prior to forwarding to the BOG for approval.
- September 23-24: Along with all WSBA budgets, those for the sections will be on the BOG meeting agenda for approval.
- By September 30: Each section is sent a final FY 11 budget as approved by the BOG.



## Upcoming Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members

If your section leadership will change this fall through an election conducted by mailed ballot, be sure to contact Toni Doane by early June. Sections conducting an election by mailed ballot should allow at least six weeks for the full process to be completed—from identifying a slate of nominees to notifying all candidates about election results. A basic way to develop a timeline for a pending election is to work backward from when the new section leaders should be on board. In accordance with their bylaws, some sections have a time-driven prior-notification requirement—e.g., members must be notified of the slate of nominees 30 to 60 days prior to the election.



### As of early May, 2010...

9,264 people have joined more than one section.

15,586 total section memberships have been purchased.

## Keeping Your Webpage Relevant

In early February an e-mail was sent to all chairs and chairs-elect requesting the name of a website contact. It is important that each executive committee have at least one person designated to the task of monitoring the section website. Here are some tips to help keep your web pages active and relevant:

- Check the web pages once a week...at least!
- Work to add content, especially to the home page.
- Make sure the calendar is up-to-date.
- Consider the web pages as a resource to members and add links to other websites, documents and pertinent information.
- For any edits you would like made to the pages, contact [Paris Seabrook](#).

## WSBA Website Headed for Makeover!

The WSBA website is going through a complete redesign. The website redesign project is lead by Steve Larsen, deputy director for external relations. As part of a requirements-gathering process, input from various bar groups, including the sections, will be sought. In late March, representatives from several sections attended an initial meeting of website users and engaged in a lively and information input session. This is a major project...stay tuned for periodic updates over the coming months!

### Contact Us!

**Toni Doane, section leaders liaison**

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**Paris Seabrook, sections assistant**

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206.733.5944

**General section inquiries:**

sections@wsba.org

206.443.WSBA/800.945.WSBA

[www.wsba.org](http://www.wsba.org)

## Upcoming BOG Meetings:

- **June 4, 2010**  
Coast Wenatchee Hotel  
Wenatchee  
Agenda due: May 14, 2010
- **July 23-24, 2010**  
Sleeping Lady Resort  
Leavenworth  
Agenda due: July 2, 2010
- **September 23-24, 2010**  
WSBA Offices  
Seattle  
Agenda due: September 3, 2010

## Reimbursement of Section Expenses

### Steps for reimbursement of section-related expenses:

1. Complete WSBA expense report form; include section name, activity, and date.
2. Attach any receipts/invoices (originals).
3. Mail to: Toni Doane  
Washington State Bar Association  
1325 4th Ave., Ste. 600  
Seattle, WA 98101-2539

### WSBA Expense Report:

<http://www.wsba.org/info/operations/finance/expensereport.htm>.

*Exception - CLE faculty expenses are to be submitted to WSBA-CLE.*