



The Board of Governors met January 27 in Olympia. For information on this or past Board meetings, please contact Margaret Shane at [margarets@wsba.org](mailto:margarets@wsba.org).

## Annual Olympia Meeting

The Board traditionally holds its January meeting in Olympia. President **Steven Toole** (Bellevue), President-elect **Stephen Crossland** (Cashmere), and Executive Director **Paula Littlewood** had the opportunity to meet with Governor **Chris Gregoire** Thursday afternoon. Friday morning, the Board had its annual meeting with the Washington State Supreme Court.

## President's Report

President **Steven Toole** reported he spoke at the opening of the first session of the 2011 [WSBA Leadership Institute](#);<sup>\*</sup> there are 12 fellows from very diverse backgrounds. He and Executive Director **Paula Littlewood** recently met with the president and executive director of the King County Bar Association; had dinner with Washington's ABA delegation; and had meetings the day before the Board meeting with local Thurston County judges as well as leaders from the Thurston County and Government Lawyers bar associations.

## Executive Director's Report

**Paula Littlewood** announced that the [Moderate Means Program](#)<sup>\*</sup> is gaining steam and enthusiasm — the law schools' coordinators have been hired, and they will begin recruiting students to be trained for the intake function next month. More than 150 lawyers have signed up to participate. The WSBA is pursuing additional funding to keep the [Home Foreclosure Legal Aid Project](#)<sup>\*</sup> going — the demand is greater than ever. Work on the new WSBA website is on track for a March launch.

## Uniform Bar Exam Adopted

The Board of Governors voted to adopt the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) in place of its current Washington state all-essay exam, as well as the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE). The UBE and MPRE will

be used in Washington by the July 2013 exam. The WSBA will continue to test Washington state-specific law in those areas where Washington state law is significantly different from many other jurisdictions, and Indian law, by means of an online learning component and multiple-choice test, and will continue to evaluate the best method for establishing Washington state competency. The Board made this decision after an extensive review lasting more than a year of both the current Washington exam and the UBE. [Read more](#).<sup>\*</sup>

## Bylaw Amendment Adopted on Emergency Basis

Pursuant to WSBA Bylaws Section XVII(c), the Board of Governors (BOG) voted to amend the Bylaws to provide that the BOG Legislative Committee is authorized to hold discussions via e-mail and take action on issues brought before them by voting via e-mail unless one or more Committee member objects. If there is an objection, the Committee shall take up the issue at the next scheduled Committee meeting. This amendment is thus effective until the next BOG meeting on March 18–19, when it will be voted on. The Bylaws require that WSBA members be given this notice. Send comments to [questions@wsba.org](mailto:questions@wsba.org).

## Diversity Update

Diversity Program Manager **Chach Duarte White** reported that a Request for Proposal ([RFP](#))<sup>\*</sup> regarding a WSBA membership study is on track to be issued in February. This is in accordance with one of the WSBA's 2011–2013 strategic goals: to conduct a detailed study of the composition of the legal profession and retention rates within the profession in Washington.

## Law Office Management Assistance Program

LOMAP Program Manager **Peter Roberts** reported on the program, which offers low-cost, confidential professional assistance in the area of office administration to WSBA members. Services include résumé review and career counseling, succession planning, "Law Office in a Box," a resource-filled [website](#), a lending library, and an annual "Roadshow."

## Financial Report

Treasurer and Sixth District Governor **Patrick Palace** (Tacoma) and Deputy Director for Finance and Administration **Julie Mass** reviewed fiscal year 2010 (the WSBA's year runs October through September). The WSBA is solvent and healthy, and received a clean report from the auditors.

## Legislative Issues for the 2011 Session

Although the Board approved 10 legislative proposals, two were merged into one bill to achieve efficiencies, resulting in nine proposals that the WSBA is pursuing. The bill numbers are HB 1051, HB 1052, HB 1053, HB 1221, HB 1267, SB 5057, SB 5058, SB 5085, and SB 5627. All but one of the nine proposals have been heard in the assigned policy committee. Of the eight heard in committee, all have been approved by the policy committee to move forward for a vote on the floor of the house of origin. In addition to working to enact our own bills, of the more than 1,700 bills that have been introduced so far, more than 700 have been referred to WSBA sections for their review, analysis, and, if appropriate, comment. The fast pace of the legislative session has made review of multiple lengthy and complex bills with little notice a challenge at best. The significant contributions from the WSBA have been recognized and acknowledged by many legislators. Stay tuned for floor action and budget battles — there's still much to do in this 105-day session. You can track bills of interest by [setting up a tracker](#)\* on the legislative website.

## Two New Task Forces

The Board authorized the formation of the Escalating Cost of Civil Litigation Task Force, appointing **Russ Aoki** (Seattle) chair and adopting a charter. The Board appointed members, including **Thomas Dreiling** (Seattle) as chair, to the Admission to Practice Rules (APR) Task Force, which had been authorized at the Board's December 2010 meeting.

## Awards Presented

At a luncheon with members of the local bench and bar, President Toole presented local hero awards to Olympia attorneys [Martha Trupp](#)\*, nominated by the Thurston County Bar Association, and [Jon Tunheim](#)\*, nominated by the Government Lawyers Bar Association. Also presented at the luncheon was the Administrative Law Section's Frank Homan Award, given to [Jeffrey Goltz](#)\*, also of Olympia.

## Other Items of Interest

- The Washington State Supreme Court unanimously adopted a new court rule, [General Rule 34](#)\*, effective December 31, 2010, which provides standards and procedures for waiver of court and clerks' fees and charges in civil cases on the basis of indigency.
- [Mywsba.org](#)\*, your gateway to the WSBA, has been enhanced, so it is easier to find what you're looking for. Using mywsba, you can sign up for the Moderate Means Program, update your contact information, complete all your annual licensing, register for a CLE, view and update your MCLE credits, join a section, and more.

## Upcoming Events

*Many more events are listed on the [Legal Community Events Calendar](#)\* on the WSBA website.*

### February

**February 16:** WYLD Board of Trustees meeting, phone conference

**February 25:** 25th Annual Legal Foundation of Washington Goldmark Luncheon, Red Lion Hotel, Seattle

### March

**March 9:** Annual Norm Maleng Advocate for Youth Award Breakfast Benefiting the Center for Children & Youth Justice, Sheraton Seattle Hotel

**March 18–19:** WSBA Board of Governors meeting, Davenport Hotel, Spokane

**March 19:** WYLD Board of Trustees meeting, Davenport Hotel, Spokane

**March 24:** Annual King County Bar Foundation Breakfast with Champions, Westin Seattle

### April

**April 23:** WYLD Board of Trustees meeting, Red Lion Hotel, Bellevue

**April 29–30:** WSBA Board of Governors meeting, Hilton Hotel, Bellevue

**\* Web Addresses**

**WSBA LeadershipInstitute**

[www.wsba.org/lawyers/leadership\\_institute.htm](http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/leadership_institute.htm)

**Moderate Means Program**

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

**Home Foreclosure Legal Aid Project**

[www.mywsba.org/default.aspx?tabid=161](http://www.mywsba.org/default.aspx?tabid=161)

**Uniform Bar Exam**

[www.wsba.org/media/releases/ube0211.htm](http://www.wsba.org/media/releases/ube0211.htm)

**Membership Study Request for Proposal**

[www.wsba.org/news.htm#rfp](http://www.wsba.org/news.htm#rfp)

**Law Office Management Assistance Program**

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

**Bill Tracker**

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo>

**Local Hero Award Recipient Martha Trupp**

[www.wsba.org/media/releases/trupp0211.htm](http://www.wsba.org/media/releases/trupp0211.htm)

**Local Hero Award Recipient Jon Tunheim**

[www.wsba.org/media/releases/tunheim0211.htm](http://www.wsba.org/media/releases/tunheim0211.htm)

**Frank Homan Award Recipient Jeffrey Goltz**

[www.wsba.org/media/releases/goltz1010.htm](http://www.wsba.org/media/releases/goltz1010.htm)

**GR 34**

[www.courts.wa.gov/court\\_rules/?fa=court\\_rules.display&group=ga&set=GR&ruleid=gagr34](http://www.courts.wa.gov/court_rules/?fa=court_rules.display&group=ga&set=GR&ruleid=gagr34)

**Mywsba**

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

**Events Calendar**

[www.wsba.org/info/event-calendar.htm](http://www.wsba.org/info/event-calendar.htm)