



Diversity Committee

April 19, 2017

12 – 1:30 pm

CONFERENCE CALL 1-866-577-9294 Access Code: 52680

The Washington State Bar Association's Diversity Committee is dedicated to implementing WSBA's Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The work of the committee promotes historically underrepresented groups to enter and stay in the profession of law. The Diversity Committee does this through collaborative relationships and community building activities which highlight the numerous societal benefits of a diverse law profession.

In attendance by phone: Allison Ross, Oscar Chaves, Lionel Greaves, Jennifer Cruz, Gov. Rajeev Majumdar, Ailene Limric, Gov. Mario Cava, Navjot Kaur, Robert King, Kris Olmstead, Stephanie Anderson, Gov. Sean Davis, Carrie Blackwood, Chad Arceneaux (Foundation Trustee), Blake Kramer (Foundation Trustee)

Did not attend: Cynthia Chen-Weller, Gov. Andrea Jarmon, Douglas Baier, Laura Reed, Laura Wulf

Staff: Joy Williams, Dana Barnett, Kelly Nee

1. Call to Order and Welcome

Dana Barnett called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. Rajeev Majumdar moved to approve the March minutes, Oscar Chaves seconded the motion, and the committee unanimously approved the March minutes.

2. BOG Update

Mario Cava informed the committee that the BOG elections have finished. Dana Barnett informed the committee that the applications are still open until April 20th for the At-Large Position. Oscar Chaves suggested that the committee be present for the upcoming BOG meeting (May 18th and 19th), especially in terms of the At-Large Position. Dana Barnett will send the committee a reminder about the meeting with information on how to RSVP to attend in-person or watch via the webcast.

3. Committee Appointment Update

Dana Barnett informed the committee that Cynthia Chen-Weller will be rolling off the committee in FY18. Kris Olmstead and Laura Reed will not be returning. Douglas Baier is also no longer on the committee due to relocation. There will be four new committee members joining the committee in FY18.

4. Project Updates and Scheduling

a. 1L

Dana Barnett and the committee applauded Lionel Greaves for all of his work with the 1L activities this year, and a big thank you to all the committee members who participated.

b. Upcoming Event Calendar Review

Dana Barnett asked the committee for suggestions about how to best inform the committee about upcoming events. Lionel Greaves informed that he appreciated reminders the week before events. Oscar Chaves stated that he appreciates reminders about upcoming events in order to be present and involved, he suggested it would be helpful to have reminders about details of the event and what is expected from committee members. Ailene Limric shared that she puts dates into her calendar at the beginning of the year, and it may be unclear which events need participation and representation from the committee, if committee members did not already sign up for them. She suggested that if something has changed on the event calendar, to highlight it and note the change. Kelly Nee reviewed the upcoming events over the next several months (calendar is attached in the meeting materials).

5. Committee Writing Plan

Dana Barnett went over the committee writing plan from the notes from the last committee meeting. Carrie Blackwood is still interested in writing about allyship for the May and June events, to write (a blog post) about creating interest in allyship, inform about allyship, as well as inform about the upcoming events focused on allyship. Dana also reminded the committee about the discussion about writing about different stories about the committee members, instead of doing an article in NW Lawyer, we would write about committee members and their stories in the Diversity Announcements. Ailene Limric brought up that if we just share on the Diversity Announcements, a broader audience would not be reached (and perception would not be changed), Rajeev Majumdar also agreed with the thought that a new audience would need to be reached outside of Diversity Stakeholders. The original idea was to write an article about transforming perception about what a lawyer looks like, with a panel of different stories from committee members. Allison Ross agreed to coordinate the piece, Ailene Limric, Rajeev Majumdar, and Stephanie Anderson volunteered to assist. Dana Barnett will set up a conference call with the committee volunteers. Contact Dana if you want to join the call.

6. MBA Meeting Summary

Dana Barnett informed the committee about the check-ins with MBA leadership. WSBA met with 8 MBA's, and the main summaries of topics were provided in the meeting packet. Dana Barnett also spoke about the discussion around having an Open MBA Night, this would be an event that committee members could participate in and help organize the event for networking opportunities and raising awareness about joining MBA's.

7. Foundation- Give Big

Dana Barnett informed the committee that the Foundation is participating in the upcoming Give Big day. Oscar Chaves and Jennifer Cruz have agreed to give statements to support the ad campaign. Blake Kramer, Foundation Trustee, informed that the Foundation is looking for

personal statements about why a role on the committee is meaningful and how it has impacted committee members personally.

Rajeev Majumdar moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Allison Ross seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned unanimously by committee.

Next Meeting: CONFERENCE CALL 1-866-577-9294 Access Code: 52680, Wednesday May, 24 12:00 – 1:30 PM

If you need special accommodations contact diversity@wsba.org