

# WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2022: October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

*The mission of the Washington State Bar Association is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.*

**Instructions:** In accordance with the WSBA Bylaws, Committees, Other Bar Entities (excluding Regulatory Boards<sup>1</sup>), Councils, and Sections must submit an annual report to the Executive Director. The information below should reflect the activities and outcomes from the fiscal year October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022. Information in the annual report will be provided to the Executive Director and Board of Governors, and may be published for other purposes, such as *Bar News*, volunteer recruitment messaging, and other WSBA activity-based reporting.

It is recommended that completion of the annual report be a collaborative effort with members of your entity, the BOG liaison, and staff liaison.

**Submission Deadline is Monday, October 17:** Please submit by emailing to Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor at [carolynm@wsba.org](mailto:carolynm@wsba.org).

<b>Name of Entity:</b>	International Practice Section
<b>Chair or Co-Chairs:</b>	Eriko “Elly” Baxter
<b>Staff Liaison:</b> <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Carolyn MacGregor
<b>Board of Governors Liaison:</b>	Matthew Dresden
<b>Purpose of Entity:</b> <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
The International Practice Section (the “IPS”) is broadly focused on the practice of law internationally, which includes the study legal developments in various jurisdictions and practice areas including immigration, business, tax, trade, intellectual property, privacy, and international dispute resolution, as well as providing a community for our members connect with and support each other. Our members represent a wide variety of backgrounds and practices, including full-time and part-time practitioners, government, business, non-profit, foreign lawyers, academia, internationally-focused law students, retired professionals, and those who are simply intellectually interested.	
<b>Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:</b>	
The IPS’s strategy has been three-pronged: education, mentorship, and community/communication. We recruit speakers for and host CLEs on a wide variety of	

topics relating to the practice of international law and collaborate with other organizations on CLEs. We also provide a CLE through our annual spring event where experienced lawyers present a topic of their expertise through a panel discussion. Further, we provide a mentorship program that matches practicing lawyers with law school students interested in the international practice of law to assist with their professional development. We also provide a law student with real-world experience and networking opportunities through our Huneke Fellowship program. Finally, we communicate with our members through our section listserv, and encourage our members to connect with each other through it and our networking receptions.

**How does the entity's purpose help further the mission of the WSBA "to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice"?**

The IPS provides professional development and educational services for members of the Bar. Our educational services help ensure that attendees are informed and up to date on legal developments, which contributes to maintaining the integrity of the legal profession. Further, our CLE program focuses on international law, which often introduces unique legal viewpoints to US lawyers, and thus provides our legal community great opportunities to think critically about championing justice in the light of world trends and standards.

**2021 -2022 Entity Accomplishments:**

1. The IPS made 11 mini-CLEs (totaling 14 CLE credits) available at no additional cost to Section members. Two of those 11 mini-CLEs were for ethics, providing 2.5 ethics credits in total. Also, two mini-CLEs were provided free of charge to everyone, including non-IPS members. After each free CLE, the IPS's membership number increased, presumably, in part, as a result of successfully attracting prospective members through those CLEs.
2. The IPS held a virtual Spring Event that included a 1.5-hour panel discussion on cannabis and psychedelic law. One of three panelists was a Canadian attorney experienced in the area of law.
3. The IPS awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to our 2021-2022 Huneke Fellow, University of Washington 3L Abby Jiang. Abby attended almost all IPS Executive Committee monthly meetings and assisted our Mentorship Program by, among other things, promoting the program among law students in Washington. The IPS selected Aldrin Jude Panganiban, 2L at University of Washington School of Law, as the 2022-2023 Huneke Fellow.
4. The IPS administered a foreign lawyer/law student Mentoring Program to foster business relationships and to provide an opportunity to learn about legal practice in each other's home countries and practice areas. Seven mentors and 14 mentees participated the program this year.
5. The IPS held the annual meeting in September in an outdoor setting of a local restaurant. 46 people attended, including non-IPS members and law students. The Incoming Chair and Outgoing Chair received much positive feedback, including an email expressing the writer's passion to join the IPS EC and an offer to provide a CLE from a prestigious law firm.

6. Upon explaining the IPS Sponsorship Program, Davis Wright Tremaine agreed to continue to be our Special Event Sponsor by contributing \$2,000 to support our activities. The IPS also recognized Dorsey & Whitney, Harris Bricken, and University of Washington School of Law as our Special Event Sponsors based on their in-kind contributions to our section. The IPS greatly appreciates their generous contributions to us.

7. According to the WSBA Member Licensing Counts as of October 3, 2022, 11 out of 29 sections achieved a membership increase compared to the previous year, and the IPS achieved the second-top membership increase in number, increasing by 22 members, following the Family Law Section (increasing by 25 members, achieving 2.53% increase). Also, the IPS achieved the second-top membership increase rate, which is 9.82%, following the LGBT Law Section (12.15% increase by adding 13 members).

**Looking Ahead: 2022-2023 Top Goals & Priorities:**

<b>1</b>	Increase membership
<b>2</b>	Continued CLE programming
<b>3</b>	Host in-person events for members
<b>4</b>	Promote discourse regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion
<b>5</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.

**Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:**

*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 committee/board done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession? Other?*

Our board consists of diverse members from various practice areas and backgrounds. We promote inclusion by encouraging discourse from all board members during each meeting with regard to section planning and programming. We also focus on fostering a relationship with foreign trained attorneys at the University of Washington Law School through mentorship opportunities and IPS events.

**Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA.**

*For example:*

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison*
- *Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.*

The IPS appreciates excellent support from the WSBA staff throughout the year. Carolyn MacGregor, Julianne Unite, and other WSBA staff were extremely helpful to us in navigating us to navigate compliance with WSBA rules and regulations. The IPS is a very active section and thus constantly faces questions in how to achieve our goals, such as our section webpage updates, ideas to implement e-newsletter, and an in-person annual general meeting under

COVID restrictions. WSBA staff’s approaches, manners, and communications are always professional, kind, punctual, helpful, and thoughtful in order for us to achieve our goals. It may often be difficult to work with lawyers for various reasons; however, WSBA staff ALWAYS maintain their professional demeanor which we appreciate, respect, and take our hats off for.

The WSBA MiniCLE team also greatly supported the IPS. Shanthi Raghu has been indispensable for the success of the IPS’s CLE program. Our EC members regularly communicate with her for our monthly CLEs, and we truly appreciate her professional responses and guidance in providing our CLEs. The IPS uses not only the WSBA’s webinar tool but also law firms’ tools, which make the CLE process a little complex. But Shanthi is always willing to support us to make sure everything is in place, including when we had a Zoom meeting with a sponsoring law firm right before holiday season. Kevin Plachy also helped us during the first few months of this term. When we accidentally had a delay in process in fall, Kevin acted quickly and brought everything back to where it should be. Rex Nolte is another strong supporter for us especially during the CLEs. When we showed a video clip first time through the WSBA webinar tool, he graciously agreed to stay until the video ended. Also, there were multiple times he acted promptly by sending the CLE links to registrants when the producer/EC member received emails from those registrants who misplaced the links. We felt very secure and greatly supported by the WSBA MiniCLE team’s outstanding services.

We have been privileged to have Matthew Dresden as our BOG liaison, who is our former Chair and also is a long-time member of our section. Matthew is always open for discussion, and attends our EC meetings and provides us with detailed updates on the BOG’s activities. This year, the potential issues concerning the Bar Structure had been heavily discussed, and because Matthew knows the IPS very well, we could fully rely on his opinions and professional judgement, which we could trust to be beneficial to our Section.

<p><b>SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section’s 2021-2022 member benefits:</b></p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;</li> <li>• 4 mini-CLEs produced</li> </ul>	Disseminated 61 emails via section listserv, announcing section activities and other beneficial information to section membership	Newsletters/publications produced
	11 mini-CLEs produced	Mini-CLEs produced
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity

	Hosted 2 annual events: spring event in June (virtual) and annual meeting in September (in person)	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
	\$1,000 scholarship awarded	Recognitions/Awards given
	Provided 2 free mini-CLEs to everyone, including non-IPS members	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Other (please describe):
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Other (please describe):
<b>SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2021-2022 legislative activity.</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.	Bills reviewed
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Bills tracked
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Comments proposed
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Bills proposed/drafted
<b>Entity Detail &amp; Demographics Report: To Be Completed by WSBA Staff</b>		
<b>Size of Entity:</b>	14	
<b>Membership Size: (for Sections Only)</b> <i>(As of September 30, 2022)</i>	246	
<b>Number of Applicants for FY23</b> <i>(October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)</i>	6	
<b>Number of current volunteer vacancies for this entity</b>	0	
<b>FY22 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only:</b> <i>As of September 30, 2022</i>	\$16,336.94	

October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022 (FY22)

<b>Direct Expenses:</b> <i>As of September 30, 2022. For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	<b>\$9,410.30</b>
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<sup>1</sup> Supreme Court Boards (Access to Justice Board, Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) provide annual reports to WSBA to support its responsibility under [GR 12.3](#), to provide oversight and monitor compliance with applicable rules and orders. Boards have the option to use the WSBA template or to share their annual reports to the Washington Supreme Court.