WSBA IP Section
Executive Committee Meeting Agenda
04/08/2025

- BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Connie Wan (CW) (Chair); Syed Abedi (SA) (VICE CHAIR); Jim Vana (Secretary-Treasurer); Sunah Lee (SL); Elizabeth Breakstone (EB); Greg Plichta (GP).

A. YOUNG LAWYER LIAISON: Heather Hedeen
B. SECTION LIAISON: Carolyn MacGregor (CM)
C. BOG LIAISONS:
D. WSBA CLE LIAISON:

- CALL TO ORDER: 4:03 PM

QUORUM: YES

- REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

Motion: Elizabeth Breakstone
Second: Syed Abedi
Vote: All in favor
Abstention: None
Nay: None
Motion: Passed

- THINGS TO BE DECIDED AND WORKED ON

A. ELECTIONS AND APPOINT: ONE VACANCY, AT LARGE

Nominee: Baha Obeidat from Seed IP. Here is Baha's profile: https://www.seedip.com/attorneys/baha-a-obeidat

Motion: Elect Baha to fill at large vacancy (complete current term for vacant position through September, 2025; he can then run for 2 year term)
Motion made by: Connie Wan
Second: Jim Vana
Vote: All in favor
Motion: Passed
Discussion:

- SCHOLARSHIPS

We have 15K in the budget to give as scholarships for local law schools. The student awardees will be invited to attend the IP Institute.

- University of Washington: $5000
- Seattle University: $5000
- Gonzaga University: $5000.

**Discussion**: All three laws schools have selected scholarship winners.

A. PRO-BONO PROGRAM UPDATE

**Update**: Seattle U is hosting the program. We have seven applications. DWT and Perkins Coie Pro Bono Programs, and one Schwabe attorney, are providing attorney support. Six

applications now assigned; volunteers are working with the inventors. One application still needs to be assigned.

B. JOINT MEETING WITH OTHER SECTIONS: CORPORATE COUNSEL SECTION, INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SECTION, INN OF COURT

**Discussion:** Connie reached out to the International Practice Section, Corporate Counsel Section. No response.

C. CLE UPDATES:

IP Mini CLE

i. Chairs: Connie, Elizabeth
ii. Date:
    - March 27, 2025: noon-1
        - Topic: IP dispute on Amazon (Part I: Taking down)
    - June 26, 2025: noon-1
        - Topic: Domain name disputes (Jen, Focal Law)
    - September 25, 2025: noon-1
        - Topic: IP dispute on Amazon (Part II: Being shaken down, ??)
iii. Format: Virtual lunchtime CLE

**Discussion**: We decided to offer these CLE events as a series of three mini-CLE events. The CLE will be offered at the last Thursday of each quarter as lunch time mini-CLEs. The CLE will be free to IP section members and will be $35 for the non-IP section members. Connie asked for volunteers or recommendations.

28th Annual IP Institute

i. Chairs: Rodney, Connie, Syed
ii. Date: April 24, 2025 (Thursday)
iii. Format: Reception with networking component on April 23, 2025 (Wednesday)

**Discussion**: ~~Alain and Amazon VP on Amazon marketplace disputes.~~

- Director Mary Fuller agreed to keynote the event; has backed out.
- USPTO speaker on ethics?
- 10-15 mins on USPTO pro bono program.
- Nika on design patent.
- Jim on Trademark.
- International perspective: EU, CN (Connie has reached out to these law firms)

IP Licensing CLE

i. Chairs: Jim, Sunah
ii. Date: Oct. 1, 2025
iii. Format: Remote only

**Discussion:** Jim and Sunah will discuss content and speakers.

CLE Timely Topics '25

i. Chairs: Connie, Rodney
ii. Date:
    a. Dec. 4, 2024: done

b. Feb. 12, 2025: Done
1. 35 U.S.C. § 101 and AI-based Inventions at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB)
A discussion of recent patent eligibility decisions for AI-based inventions at the PTAB and recent patent eligibility guidance for AI promulgated by the USPTO.
David Easwaran – K&L Gates LLP, Charlotte, NC
Brett White – K&L Gates LLP, Raleigh, NC
2. ABC's of Online IP Enforcement
Alaine Villenevue, General Counsel, TRX

c. May 21, 2025 (8:30-10:30am PT) IP licensing/transaction (TBD)

iii. Format: Remote

**Discussion:** This CLE is now offered as three 2-hr CLE events.

D. Benefit to the section members

i. mini-CLE series: free to the IP members, $35 for non-members

ii. Mentorship Program: Greg, Heather

**Discussion:** The following organizations have some direct mentoring support and/or indirect networking opportunities. It may be useful to check in on those organizations without current direct mentoring support, as opportunities change over time.

- Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) - IP Section
  - Link: Mentorship Opportunities
- Washington State Patent Law Association (WSPLA)
  - Link: Washington State Patent Law Association – Mentoring Committee and Form
- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
  - Link: Mentoring Committees
- Washington Inn of Court
  - Link: Mentorship opportunity
- King County Bar Association (KCBA)
  - No current IP mentoring but other areas
- Chiefs in Intellectual Property (ChIPs)
  - Networking related, not direct mentoring
- Licensing Executives Society (LES)
  - Networking related, no direct mentoring
- Intellectual Property Owners (IPO) Association
  - Networking related, no direct mentoring
- Washington Intellectual Property Alliance
  - Networking related, no direct mentoring
- Intellectual Property Business Counsel (IPBC)
  - Networking related, no direct mentoring
- Washington Lawyers for the Arts (WLA)
  - Pro Bono related

iii. Networking events

- **Discussion:** Implementation under discussion, discussing format, trying to avoid redundant resources, best way to promote/publicize mentorship opportunities, considering in person networking events

- WSBA LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

A. Chair: Elizabeth Breakstone

- ADJOURN: 4:35