

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION OF THE
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

A meeting of the Council (“**Council**”) of the International Law Section (“**Section**”) of the State Bar of Michigan (“**State Bar**” or “**SBM**”) was held on November 16, 2010, at Ginopolis on the Grill - Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334.

The following voting members of the Council were present in person: Cameron S. DeLong, Margaret A. Dobrowitsky, Jeffrey F. Paulsen, A. Reed Newland, Linda Armstrong, Debra Auerbach Clephane, Michael Domanski, Greg Fox, Dave Guenther, Silvia Kleer, Tricia Roelofs and Eve Lerman. Student Council Members in attendance: Tim Kaufmann and Sam Saif. SBM Board of Commissioner Liaison Margaret Costello was also in attendance.

Other Members of the Section also attended the meeting. Names and contact information for each of the attendees will be filed with these meeting minutes.

CALL TO ORDER

Cameron DeLong, Chairperson of the Section, called the meeting to order at approximately 4:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chairperson circulated an agenda for the meeting, which was approved as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS

At the Chairperson’s request, attendees introduced themselves and described their professional affiliations.

NOTICE AND QUORUM

The Secretary presented a written notice of the meeting that was mailed or delivered to all members of the Council and to Members of the International Law Section in accordance with the Section’s Bylaws. The Secretary said that the notice will be filed with the minutes of the meeting. The Secretary declared that a quorum was present at the meeting, without objection.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

The Secretary circulated a draft of the minutes of the Council meeting held on May 19, 2010. After discussion, upon motion made and supported, the Council approved of the minutes without correction.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The Treasurer, A. Reed Newland, presented the financial statement of the Section for the twelve months ended September 30, 2010 and the related detailed trial balance for the same period,

prepared by the Finance & Administration Division of the State Bar.

The Treasurer noted that total revenue for the Section, which comes from member and student dues, for the fiscal year, was \$12,005.00, with total expenses for the same period of \$17,081.35, resulting in a negative net income of -\$5,076.35 for the fiscal year. The beginning fund balance on October 1, 2009 was \$26,599.73 and the ending fund balance as of September 30, 2010 was \$21,523.38. The Treasurer noted that expenses were spent in the last fiscal year to bring interesting program events to the members and to encourage member participation and involvement in Section meetings and activities. The Chairperson noted that the State Bar encourages its Sections to spend money on activities in support of the Section members and that a Section funds balance should be approximately two times its annual revenue. After discussion, upon motion made and supported, Council approved of the financial statement.

MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER

Melina Lito, Senior Editor gave a status report on the Section's publication entitled *Michigan International Lawyer* ("MIL"). Ms. Lito reported that the fall edition of the MIL for the current fiscal year was published in October 2010 and that the winter and spring issues would be published in February 2011 and April 2011, respectively.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chairperson reported that the International Business and Tax committee has been active through the leadership and programming efforts of committee chair Michael Domanski. The Chairperson received no report from Andrew Doornaert, committee chair of the International Trade committee. Richard Goetz, the chair of the Emerging Nations committee, had a scheduling conflict and was unable to attend today's meeting. The Chairperson did report that Mr. Goetz would be asked to provide a report at the Sections' next meeting on his recent trip on behalf of the Section to the International Bar Association meeting in Vancouver. Debra Auerbach Clephane reported that the International Employment Law and Immigration committee has been active, including providing a presentation at the January 2010 Section meeting. Ms. Clephane indicated that she hoped to collaborate with the Immigration Section of the State Bar with a program possibly highlighting recent immigration/employment changes involving NAFTA. Ms. Clephane also recognized Ms. Linda Armstrong for her efforts on the committee. Professor Greg Fox, chair of the International Human Rights committee, reported on the presentation at the April 2010 Section meeting and that due to his time commitments that he is recommending that Mr. Andy Moore of UDM replace him as committee chair. Professor Fox highlighted (a) recent communication with U.S. Government officials regarding the treatment of Iraqi's who were unable to obtain U.S. visas; (b) programs regarding nuclear non-proliferation; (c) programs regarding corporate responsibility with regard to human rights issues, mentioning Ford Motor in particular; and (d) his desire for the support of Amicus Brief writing.

A brief discussion then ensued as to whether the Section leadership should recommend supporting amicus briefs and the concern that the Section membership may have widely divergent opinions on the proposed amicus briefs. The Board of Commissioner liaison, Margaret Costello, clarified the SBM's process on matters of "public policy". Comments were provided by Professor Fox and other Section members. The Chairperson noted that the Section Officers

would have further discussions about whether the support of amicus briefs would be in the best interests of the Section members. The Chairperson further reported that an updated list of committee chairs would be sent to the section members and that the Section website would be updated as appropriate. Finally, the Chairperson encouraged members of the Section to join the committees to assist the committee chairs and to let him know if a member was interested in joining a committee.

SBM DIVERSITY PLEDGE

The Chairperson provided a hand out of the recently approved and published Diversity Pledge of the SBM and the ability of individual members and law firms to sign on to the pledge. The Secretary then provided further information as to the three focus groups held across Michigan to discuss and vet the content of the pledge; noting that promoting Diversity was one of the main objectives of the newly elected SBM President. Various questions were raised and comments were made and discussed by committee members. Upon motion made and supported, the Council and Section members present authorized the Chairperson to have the Section sign to acknowledge the Section's support of the SBM Diversity Pledge.

SBM-ILS LINKEDIN GROUP

The Secretary introduced the idea of creating a LinkedIn Group devoted to the interests and members of the Section; noting that social media has become much more prevalent; and that the free network would create a forum for members to stay connected, provide information and provide a discussion platform for members to communicate. The Secretary noted that other SBM sections have created Group LinkedIn sites and he requested input and discussion as to what Section members thought. Various members asked questions and provided further thoughts, including questions regarding the time commitment to maintain and update the Group website, how this would give an opportunity for two way communication as the Section's current listserv is a message only system, whether the site would be limited to Section members, and potential liability questions. Ideas about the use of additional or alternative social media sites, including Facebook were also discussed. Members volunteered to participate if needed. The members agreed that the Section leadership should further explore whether creating a social media connection would be in the best interests of the members.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chairperson reported that he was pleased to see the attendance at the Section meeting and he encouraged members to continue to attend meetings and participate.

Master MIL Authors and Publications Schedule: The Chairperson provided a hand out that outlined a proposed schedule for MIL authors and publication dates. The Chair encouraged the large Michigan based law firms to commit to at least one article per year and/or at least one program speaker per year. He suggested that the fall edition of the MIL could be targeted for articles provided by the large law firms. The Chairperson also suggested that the winter edition of the MIL be targeted for articles and/or program speakers by the Section Officers and Council members. Finally, the Chairperson suggested that the spring edition of the MIL be targeted for

articles by the Section's committees, reminding the committee chairs that article writing and speaking by the committees were part of the committee chairs commitments under the Section's By-Laws. A brief discussion ensued, including whether each MIL edition could be dedicated to a particular theme. The Council and Section members in attendance did not object to the Chairperson's plan and the Chairperson indicated that the suggested MIL schedule would be sent and published and that he would make contact with the chairpersons of the large law firms' international departments.

Joint International Arbitration Program with UDM School of Law and SBM Dispute Resolution Section: The Chairperson provided a hand out of a proposed program indicating that Troy Harris of UDM contacted him to discuss collaboration with UDM and other SBM sections. The Chairperson noted that the anticipated expense to the Section would be \$500 and that this program would be in addition to the Section's regular scheduled meetings. The Chairperson requested Section member feedback and input and comments were given including whether the disadvantages of using arbitration would also be presented. The Chairperson asked for those interested to let him know and that hearing no objections that he would proceed to discuss this potential collaboration.

Possible Joint Social Event with the SBM Antitrust Section: The Chairperson reported that he was contacted by the SBM Antitrust Section to collaborate on a social event that could include third parties and/or that could also include a third party presentation. It was noted by the Chairperson that the Antitrust Section has between 350 and 400 members. After discussion, the members agreed that the Chairperson should continue to explore this potential collaboration.

UDM International Law Society: The Chairperson reported that he was contacted by the UDM International Law Society about a potential joint program focused on international law matters. It was suggested by a member that it be considered that the event be expanded to encompass all five Michigan based law schools.

2010-2011 Council Meeting Schedule and Program Planning: The Chairperson provided a hand out the proposed Council meeting and program dates in January, March and May. After discussion, including potential law student schedule conflicts, the Chairperson indicated that the dates would be published on listerv and on the Section's website; but that he was reserving the right to change the dates in the event of currently unknown circumstances.

The Chairperson indicated that he had hoped to have a discussion regarding preferred and recommended topics for the upcoming Section meetings, but that due to time constraints, that he would call a Council meeting by telephone to discuss topics and meeting locations for the remainder of 2010-2011.

ANNUAL MEETING & PROGRAM

Chair-Elect Margaret Dobrowitsky circulated a draft list of potential topics for the Section's Annual Meeting to be held in September 2011. The Chair-Elect stated that the Section decided to hold its 2010 annual meeting in Dearborn rather than during and with the State Bar of Michigan's Annual Meeting which was held in Grand Rapids. It was noted that the SBM 2011

annual meeting would be held in Dearborn and that the Section had held its annual meetings in conjunction with the SBM annual meetings in the past. It was also noted that the majority of Section members were from Southeast Michigan. The Council and Section members discussed the list of proposed topics, ideas of locations for the meeting, asked questions and provided suggestions. The Chair-Elect indicated that she would set up a conference call for Council input as she hoped to have a selected topic by the January 2011 meeting.

POST-MEETING RECEPTION AND PROGRAM

The Chairperson reminded attendees that dinner would be provided, that a program would be presented, and that a networking reception would be held immediately after the adjournment of the Council meeting.

The Chairperson introduced Mr. Ashish Joshi, a shareholder and partner of Lorandos Joshi, as well as the program to be given by Mr. Joshi entitled "International Investigations". The program was well received with many questions asked of Mr. Joshi and much discussion amongst Section members.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey F. Paulsen, Secretary
International Law Section
State Bar of Michigan