

State Bar of Michigan: Intellectual Property Law Section: Report on the 2008-2009 Year

The Intellectual Property Law Section is composed of 1000+ members interested in matters pertaining to intellectual property. Our core mission is to provide education, information and analysis about issues of concern through a variety of activities including meetings, seminars, and publication of our newsletter.

Events and Seminars

In keeping with our section mission to provide education and information, the section planned and provided three seminars in the 2008-2009 year.

- **34th Annual Summer Intellectual Property Institute** was held at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, July 17-19. The institute included updates on recent developments in Patent Trademark and Copyright Law by Thomas Irving, Leslie Lott and Katherine Spellman; key issues in ethics were covered by John Steele. Our advanced sessions discussed Digital Media and Copyright with Kate Spellman and Register of Copyrights, Marybeth Peters; and how the Latest Changes in Patent Law Affect Strategy with Tom Irving. Our other sessions included an update for the US Copyright Office by Marybeth Peters; Review of ITC proceedings by James Adduci; a Report on Patent Reform Legislation by Steven Miller; Analysis of significant international trademark cases by Rachel Tim and Current matters in the law of design patents by Perry Saidman. The Institute also discussed issues in European Patent Law with Lindsay Casey and was introduced to IP issues in the second life with Martin Schwimmer. IP and Bankruptcy was discussed by Joseph Yang. Over 275 attendees and their families and guests enjoyed the Island and this annual event.
- **2009 Intellectual Property Spring Seminar** was held in Lansing on March 16 chaired by IPLS Council members Donald Wallace and Eric Sosenko. Over 250 attorneys attend the day-long event that featured a tutorial on the recent *KSR* decision and its aftermath presented by Nicholas Godici and a presentation on breaking IP news presented by Richard Marschall. "Strategies for Working with US Customs to Enforce Judgments" was presented by Andrew Langerich of US Customs and Border Protection and Strategies for Drafting and "Updating IP Policies" was presented by Robert Gorwin of AOL. "Valuation of IP" was discussed by Weston Anson of CONSOR and "Risk Management in IP" was presented by David Kramer of Oswald Corporation. Tracey-Gene Durkin presented on Design Patent Protection after *Egyptian Goddess*. The intersection of trademark law and FDA regulations was reviewed by Frances Jagla and the ITC Investigative Procedure

was reviewed by James Aducci. The plenary session was presented by Terrence Berg, US Department of Justice reviewing the recently concluded case, *US v. Ann Lockwood*.

- **October Seminar for Legal Professionals and Paralegals** was held in Grand Rapids and Troy in October 2008. Chaired by IPLS Council members Anna Budde and Scott Keller, the daylong sessions were attended by over 150 individuals and featured a review of PTO procedures, forms and hints from PTO personal on streamlining practice before the PTO.

Service and Publications

- The Section held its **Annual Law Student Round Table** at the Spring IP Seminar. This effort was headed by council member Julia Voutyras. Over 30 students had the opportunity to question representatives from corporate IP departments as well as private firms on all manner of issues.
- The **Fourth Annual Women in IP Breakfast** was held in conjunction with the Summer Intellectual Property Institute. Register of Copyright Marybeth Peters addressed 40 attendees on her perspectives as a lawyer and political appointee through several presidential administrations.
- ***Proceedings of the IPLS*** continues to be published by the Section. This year's editors, Anna Budde and Kevin MacKenzie continued to seek out articles and papers of interest to the section members and print or reprint them for the consideration of the membership.
- **Liaison with the EPO and JPO** – Council member Kevin MacKenzie has been monitoring developments of interest to our section members.
- **State Bar of Michigan Law School for Legislators** -- the section presented a class on Intellectual Property Law for members of the Michigan State legislature as part of the program developed by SBM. Thanks to Joellen Blasczsek and Denise Glassmeyer for this effort.

Ongoing Activities

- **35th Annual Summer IP Institute** – the Section has finalized plans for the 2009 Institute to be held July 23 to July 25 at the Grand Traverse Resort Village in Acme Michigan.
- **October Seminar** – will be held on Monday, October 5, 2009 at the GVSU Eberhard Center in Grand Rapids and Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy. Council members Scott Keller and Jean McCarthy will be the moderators.

- **2010 Spring IP Seminar – Planning** is underway for the seminar to be held on March 22 at the Kellogg Center.

New developments

- **Model State Trademark Bill** – the IPLS council reviewed the text of the Model State Trademark Act at the request of Michigan representatives of INTA.
- **Joint efforts with the Michigan State Legislature** -- the section is exploring the possibility of joint efforts with the New Economy subcommittee of the Michigan House to determine what efforts might be beneficial to the section members and Michigan citizens at large.
- **Amicus Briefs and Legislative Comments** – Patent reform and other legislative and judicial activities are being monitored for future response.

Finances

The Section continues to maintain a solid financial position. As of May 31, 2009, the section has a cash balance of \$56,000.00. The remaining expenses include Spring Seminar, Summer Seminar and the spring edition of Proceedings. The Section will underwrite a portion of the October Seminar. Based upon the current cash position, IPLS Council has voted to maintain the section dues at \$35.00.

Denise M Glassmeyer

Chair, Intellectual Property Law Section

State bar of Michigan

May 31, 2009

2008-2009 IP Law Section Officers and Members

Chair:	Denise M. Glassmeyer (Council Member 2003-06, Secretary-Treasurer 2006-07, Chair-Elect 2007-08) Young & Basile PC 3001 W Big Beaver Rd Ste 624 Troy, MI 48084	Phone: (248) 649-3333 Fax: (248) 649-3338 e-Mail: glassmeyer@ybpc.com
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Chair-Elect:	Frank A. Angileri	Southfield
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(Council Member 2004-07 Secretary-Treasurer
2007-08)

Secretary- Treasurer:	Jennifer Sheehan Anderson (Council member 2006-09)	Bloomfield Hills
Term Expires 2009:	Joellen Shortley Blaszcak (Council member 2008-09) Kevin S. MacKenzie (Council member 2007-09) David L. Wisz (Council member 2006-09)	Pontiac Troy Birmingham
Term Expires 2010:	Anna M. Budde (Council Member 2007-10) Julia Voutyras (Council Member 2007-10) Donald J. Wallace (Council Member 2007-10)	Troy Dearborn Kalamazoo
Term Expires 2011:	R. Scott Keller (Council Member 2007-08, 2008-11) Jean M. McCarthy (Council Member 2008-11) Eric J. Sosenko (Council Member 2008-11)	Grand Rapids Novi Ann Arbor
Immediate Past Chair:	Laura M. Slenzak (Council Member 2001-05, Secretary-Treasurer 2005-06, Chair-Elect 2006-07; Chair 2007-08)	Auburn Hills