

Administrative Law Section

On December 6, 2007, the Administrative Law Section Council selected officers for 2008: Chair Stephen Gobbo, Chair-Elect Mark Burzyk, Treasurer W. Josh Ard, and Secretary Richard Patterson. Michael Watzka was appointed to a council vacancy. The council plans to fill another vacancy by appointment; interested section members may submit an application to sigobbo@aol.com. Plans are underway for a program in May, hosting all three Public Service Commissioners.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Sign up now for the award-winning Annual Advanced Negotiation and Dispute Resolution Institute, to be held March 13 at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. This year's Institute will feature internationally renowned mediator Michelle LeBaron, speaking on cultural issues, handling conflict, and much more. The Institute will also feature an insurance industry panel to share its mediation concerns and goals. Registration is available through ICLE.

Business Law Section

The Small Business Forum presented a seminar entitled "Attracting and Winning New Business" in January. More seminars are planned on this and other topics in 2008, and will be presented at various loca-

tions. The next council meeting will be held March 6 at the State Bar, Lansing. Mark your calendars for this year's Business Law Institute, to be held June 13 and 14 in Dearborn. Watch for our monthly e-newsletter or visit <http://www.michbar.org/business/> to learn of upcoming events.

Consumer Law Section

The section continues to work with the Campaign to Protect Michigan Consumers to provide effective consumer laws in Michigan. Section member Dani Liblang and a representative from the Real Property Law Section participated in a special edition of "Ask the Lawyer" dealing with foreclosures on December 20, 2007. The morning talk radio show originates in Lansing, but has affiliate stations around the state.

Insurance and Indemnity Law Section

We have been busy, even over the holidays. Our membership continues to grow and was at 220 in early January. Many have volunteered for committee assignments, and some have suggested possible new committees. We have received a lot of submissions for our quarterly publication, the *Journal of Insurance and Indemnity Law*, which debuted in January.

Intellectual Property Law Section

The section will present "Latent Dangers of Common Patent Prosecution Practices" on February 20, 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth (CLE credit: 6 hours). The fee for this unique opportunity, which will provide years of benefit to your practice, is \$995; however, State Bar members may attend at the discounted rate of \$795, which includes all lecture and text materials, attendance at the program, a catered lunch, and refreshments. For details, visit <http://www.michbar.org/ip/calendar.cfm>.

Litigation Section

The Litigation Section will continue its Masters in Litigation Series with a program

entitled "Internet Investigative Research: The Cybersleuth's Guide to the Internet" on March 11 in Plymouth. The section's annual summer conference will be held at the newly renovated Shanty Creek Resort on July 25 and 26. Nationally known speaker Jerry Williams, known for his "hands-on" negotiations seminars, will be the featured speaker. Register at <http://www.icle.org>.

Prisons and Corrections Section

Representative Mark Meadows and Michigan Sheriffs' Association Director Terry Jungel were guests at the Prisons and Corrections Section Council meeting in December 2007. The council took a public policy position in favor of HB 4475, which, in part, confirms the Parole Board's power to grant medical paroles. The council is planning a springtime summit meeting on budgetary cuts in the corrections area. Details will be announced soon. The council welcomes applicants for two existing vacancies.

Real Property Law Section

"Chicago Style: Deep Dish Development" will be held March 6–8 at the Sofitel Water Tower Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. The section would like to thank Marie Racine of Racine & Associates and Gregory Gamalski of Giar-marco Mullins & Horton PC for planning this conference. Registration fees: first-time attendees, \$375; section members, \$425; non-section members, \$475. For more information, visit www.michbar.org/realproperty/ and click 2008 Winter Conference or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7378.

Taxation Section

The 2008 Annual Tax Conference will be held on May 28 beginning at 8:30 a.m. at The Inn at St. John's in Plymouth. The section is accepting applications for 2008 grants to organizations that provide assistance to low-income taxpayers. Applications must be received by April 1. Past recipients of these grants have included law school tax clinics and other charitable organizations. For information about qualification and application requirements, visit <http://www.michigantax.org/grantprogram.cfm>. ■