

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

The ADR Section and DRAM, a non-profit entity, are collaborating to build a Michigan Business to Business Mediation Program. The idea is to provide Michigan businesses all over the state with a mechanism for early mediation in business disputes. Specialized training for mediators to handle these cases at their normal published rates will be provided by MSU College of Law June 9 and 10. Questions or comments? Contact Tony Braun at rbraun@dickinsonwright.com or (313) 223-3575.

Business Law Section

The section hosted "The Business of Being a Business Lawyer" with the Young Lawyers Section on January 26. The program was a great success and attracted over 80 participants. Stay tuned as the section plans more statewide events. Submissions for the 3rd Annual Scholarship Award program are due April 15; information is available at <http://www.michbar.org/business/activities.cfm>. Interested in becoming involved in section activities? Contact an officer (<http://www.michbar.org/business/leaders.cfm>) or attend the March 9 council meeting in Lansing.

International Law Section

The Convention on the Use of Electronic Communication in International Contracting, adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 2005, is now available for ratification, acceptance, or approval by the member states of the UN. The Convention provides legal certainty and commercial predictability when electronic communications are used in the formation or performance of international contracts. The Convention was created to ensure harmony in the treatment of international contracts negotiated electronically and paper-based transactions.

Legal Assistants Section

Save the date! The Legal Assistants Section's Annual Day of Education is scheduled for Friday, May 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the State Bar building in Lansing. The program includes Litigation and Bankruptcy Law Tracks and a special keynote speaker. This is an excellent opportunity for quality continuing legal education for legal assistants

and paralegals. Look for more information coming soon in *The Michigan Paralegal* and on the section's website at <http://www.michbar.org/legalassistants>.

Probate & Estate Planning Section

An Economics of Law Survey has been sent out by e-mail to all section members (the last survey was conducted in 2001). Please take a few moments to fill out and return this item. A Judicial Survey has also been sent to all probate judges. Results from both surveys will be published later this year in the *Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Journal*.

Real Property Law Section

The April 6 Homeward Bound seminar, "Movin' On Up: Handling Higher End Residential Transactions" will be held 3:30-6:30 p.m. at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy. Speakers are Gregg Nathanson, Sam Messina, Dawn Patterson, Cindi Price, and Kevin Macaddino. More information on all section activities can be found on our website at <http://www.michbar.org/realproperty/> or call Arlene Rubinstein at (248) 644-7378. ♦

