

**2006-2007 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

Section Name: International Law Section

Mission Statement: The International Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan provides education, information and analysis about the field of international law through meetings, seminars, the Section's website, public service programs, and publication of the *Michigan International Lawyer*.

Officers and Council Membership:

Chair: Lois E. Bingham

Chair-Elect: Peter Swiecicki

Secretary: Frederick J. Frank

Treasurer: Nicholas J. Stasevich

Term Expires 2007: William H. Dance
Eve C. Lerman
Margaret Dobrowitsky

Term Expires 2008: Narinder J. S. Kathuria
Ashish Joshi
Andrew Segovia

Term Expires 2009: Cameron S. DeLong
Andrew P. Doornaert
Richard G. Goetz

2006-07 Council Meeting Schedule (date and location): The International Law Sections holds approximately 4 Regular Council Meetings and one Annual Meeting each year. For the 2006-07 period, the ILS meeting schedule is as follows:

DATE	TYPE OF MEETING	LOCATION
October 19, 2006	Regular	Yazaki North America, Inc. Canton, MI
December 5, 2006	Regular	Butzel Long Bloomfield Hills, MI
February 13, 2007	Regular	Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn Detroit, MI
April 10, 2007	Regular	MSU College of Law East Lansing, MI
June 21, 2007	Regular	The Detroit Athletic Club Detroit, MI
September 20, 2007	Annual	The Fairlane Club

		Dearborn, MI
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Events/Seminars: ILS held or will hold the following events:

Date	Event	Time	Location
December 5, 2006	Robert Smolik (Speaker) U.S. Department of State Diplomat in Residence Univ. of MI – Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy <u>Topic:</u> “Perspectives on a Career in Foreign Service”	6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Butzel Long Bloomfield Hills, MI
December 15, 2006	ILS Webinar featuring Rita Lowe (Speaker) CMS Cameron McKenna (UK) <u>Topic:</u> “Insolvency Proceedings in the UK”	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Internet
February 13, 2007	Hon. Vincente Sanchez (Speaker) Consul General of Mexico <u>Topic:</u> “US and Mexico Relations”	6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Honigman Miller Detroit, MI
February 22, 2007	Career Opportunities in International Law and Business Panel & Round Table Discussion for Law Students	4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	DoubleTree Hotel- Dearborn Detroit, MI
March 24, 2007	Citizenship Day in Metro Detroit (Section Pro Bono Initiative) Co-sponsor with the MI Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association	9:00 pm -5:00 pm	International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit Detroit, MI
April 10, 2007	Mary Bedekian (Speaker) Professor of Law and Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution Program at MSU College of Law <u>Topic:</u> “International Arbitration: The Need for Transparency”	6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	MSU College of Law East Lansing, MI
May 22, 2007	“Business and Legal Challenges for Automotive Suppliers in China and India” Panel Discussion	2:00 pm– 5:00 pm	Amway Grand Plaza Hotel Grand Rapids
June 5, 2007	"Reasonable Care Standard for Importers in 2007" Panel Discussion Co-Sponsored with Automation Alley	1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Automation Alley Troy, MI
September 20, 2007	“Global Outsourcing” Panel Discussion	2:00 pm– 5:00 pm	Fairlane Club Dearborn, MI

Other Section Activities:

1. ILS publishes the *Michigan International Lawyer* three times a year with assistance from Wayne State University School of Law. The mission of the *Michigan International Lawyer* is to enhance and contribute to the public's knowledge of world law and trade with articles of contemporary international law topics and issues of general interest. The journal is mailed to all Section members and is also available on the Section's website at michbar.org/international.
2. ILS sponsored the **2007 International Law Student Essay Contest**. The contest is open to all law students enrolled at any Michigan law school. ILS offers a first prize of \$750 and a second place prize of \$250 to the students who write the best original essays on a topic selected by judges.
3. ILS created an ad-hoc Strategic Planning Committee comprised of current ILS Officers and former Section Chairs. This committee met several times to discuss the direction of the Section over the next 5 years. The proposed plan will be presented to the Council at the June 21, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Council.
4. ILS created an ad-hoc Bylaw Review Committee to review and proposed amendments to the Section Bylaws. The proposed amendments have been approved by the ILS Council and will be presented to the Section for approval at the September 2007 Annual Meeting of the Section.
5. The ILS Council approved changes to the ILS Standing Committees resulting in (a) the consolidation of the International Business Law Committee and the International Tax Committee into one committee renamed the International Business and Tax Law Committee; (b) the elimination of 3 committees; (c) the renaming of 2 other committee to more accurately reflect substantive topics covered by such committees; and (d) the creation of a new committee, the International Human Rights Law Committee. In addition, the ILS Council adopted defined responsibilities for volunteers serving as Chair or Co-Chair of any ILS Standing Committee.

Article VIII, § 1

Every Section and State Bar entity so directed by the Board of Commissioners or Representative Assembly shall annually make a written report containing a summary of its activities during the association year which shall be submitted to the Secretary on or before May 31. Annual reports may not exceed five 8 1/2" x 11" pages unless a waiver of this limitation is approved by the Executive Director.

Please submit your report via e-mail to smcmann@mail.michbar.org

Resources Provided by the State Bar of MI: The State Bar helped ILS update its website, as well as order letterhead and envelopes. In addition, it facilitated the release of press releases on Section activities to area legal publication and media outlets. State Bar negotiated fix fee services offered thru third party providers such as conference call capability and email list serve capability were extremely helpful to the promotion of Section activities.

Future Goals and Activities:

Adoption of revised Bylaws for the Section; Implementation of the 5 Year ILS Strategic Plan

Chair/Co-Chair Contact Information:

Chair: **Lois E. Bingham**
Yazaki North America Inc
6801 N Haggerty Rd # 4625E
Canton, MI 48187-3538

Phone: (734) 983-5054
Fax: (734) 983-5055
e-mail: lois.bingham@us.yazaki.com

Chair-Elect: **Peter Swiecicki**
Baker & McKenzie
3 West Lane
Dearborn, MI 48124

Phone: (313) 510-6450
e-mail: piotr.swiecicki@bakernet.com

Return to: ***Susan McMann - smcmann@mail.michbar.org***
Sections and Committees Administrator