

2005-2006 Annual Report of the  
Law Student Section

Highlights of the 2005-2006 Year of the Law Student Section include the following:

**Comedy for a Cause:** This event was held at a Mark Ridley's Komedie Kastle in Royal Oak in November. Attendance was strong and \$300 was given to Wayne County CASA while \$200 was contributed to Ingham County CASA.

**1L Oral Advocacy Competition:** The competition held on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at MSU Law. 32 students representing five Michigan law schools (MSU, Cooley, Toledo, Ave and UofD) competed in the event. Laura Garlinghouse from Cooley Law won the competition with an impressive performance in front of Judges Chris Topa, Carmen Fahie and Jeremy Pickens. Thank you to our other judges: Melissa Burke, Tim Gutwald, Guy Conti, Julia Loper and Jeremy Pickens.

**Membership Open House:** Two open house events were held this year. In the fall, each school hosted an event to sign up new members. Each school was able to boost membership. The Spring open house was held at the State Bar office and attracted a smaller crowd due to its proximity to Spring Break. Next year we will hold all of our open houses at the individual law schools as this strategy was more effective to boost membership.

**Skate for Justice:** The Law Student Section contributed funds to the 2006 Skate for Justice Event.

**Thanks Due for Service Well Done:** Christopher Topa stepped down as Chair after 2 years of service on the council. Many thanks to former members Julia Walbridge, Brian Scott, David McDonald, Mark Bessner, Eric VanSteele, Kahlilia Davis and Tanya Irwin who will soon be taking the Michigan Bar Exam. As always, many many thanks to Susan McMann who helped to make this year successful for the Law Student Section.

**Future:** We have welcomed many new members to our council including co-chair elect's Kelly Heos and Paul Mazzola from MSU Law. We also welcome our new Treasurer John Dabbs and Secretary Chris Persaud from Ave Maria Law. We expect to increase membership through individual open houses in both the fall and spring. The 1L competition will continue to be our main event for the year as it grows in popularity and success. In fall 2006 we plan to host our first golf tournament for section members to meet practicing attorneys in other sections.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lynn Digirolamo**  
2005-2006 Law Student Section Secretary  
2006-2007 Law Student Section Chairperson