

2006-2007 Annual Report of the Law Student Section

Highlights of the 2006-2007 Year of the Law Student Section include the following:

Expanding the Governing Council: this year we actively reached out to all our member law schools and solicited representative members to serve on the Governing Council. The response was overwhelming – we went from less than 10 members to over 20. This growth helped us expand our opportunities this year and will be crucial to section growth and activity in the future.

Formation of Standing Committees: we formed the following committees to provide support to GC activities – Membership Committee, chaired by Christopher Persaud of Ave Maria; Competition Committee, chaired by Dwayne Stresman of University of Michigan; Bar Section Committee, chaired by Tony Smykla of Ave Maria; and Student Org Committee chaired by Alan Hamisch of Ave Maria. Committee members also were selected from the ranks of the governing council. The Student Org Committee was later rebranded as the Activities Committee.

Partnership with Other Sections: this year our section partnered with the Environmental Law Section to host on-campus lunchtime speaking engagements. We also secured agreement with several other sections to support these types of events in the upcoming year.

1L Oral Advocacy Competition: The fourth installment of this event was generously hosted by the Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor on Saturday, January 26th, 2008. 32 competitors representing six Michigan law schools (MSU, Michigan, Cooley, Ave, UDM and Wayne State) competed in the event. This year's problem was an election law issue. Aric Tosqui from MSU Law brought home the 2008 crown with an impressive showing in front of our judges in the final round.

The council would like to thank our judges at the event that provided excellent oral advocacy tips for our 1L's. Special thanks go also to the Young Lawyers Section and Candace Crowley for helping us find so many qualified judges. Many thanks as well to the Competition Committee for organizing and executing this event.

Thanks for Service Well Done: Many thanks to former members Chris Persaud, Paul Spaniolo, Rachael Steenbergh, Paul Mazzola, Kelly Heos, Jill Schwab, Tony Smykla, and Stephanie Hanna for their service to the council. As always, many more thanks to Candace Crowley and Heather Anderson who helped make our year successful.

Future - Fall Golf Outing: This event was originally projected to take place in October. The idea was to create foursomes consisting of law student section members with practicing attorneys from other sections. '06-'07 Co-Chair Elect Paul Mazzola did the initial inquiry into the event. Activities Committee Chair Alan Hamisch revived the idea

and will spearhead the planning and execution of this event for Fall 2008. Several sections have already expressed interest in providing partnership support for this event.

We expect to expand our Bar Section Committee activities in the coming year with additional speaking engagements and partnership events (including the golf outing)

We have welcomed many new members to our council from University of Michigan, Michigan State, and University of Toledo. The council welcomed new Chairperson Alan Hamisch from Ave Maria, new Secretary Charles Skinner from MSU and new Treasurer Jessica Greenia from University of Michigan.

Respectfully submitted,

John Dabbs

2007-2008 Law Student Section Chairperson