

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN ACTIVITIES

The International Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan held its Annual Meeting on October 7, 2004 in Novi, Michigan. After the business meeting, the Section hosted a program on International Trade: The Future of WTO, NAFTA, CAFTA, FTAA and other FTA's. Bill Kelly from Ford Motor Company, Jeanne Broad from General Motors, Dan Bringa from the U.S. Trade Representatives Office, Andrew Rudman from the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Alan Dunn, Esq., Stewart and Stewart, Washington, D.C., gave an outstanding presentation.

The Section's November meeting was held at Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone's Troy office. After the business meeting, Professor Gregory Fox from Wayne Law School, an expert on international public law, spoke on the topic of legal issues associated with the war in Iraq.

The Section's January meeting was held at the law offices of Berry Moorman PC in Detroit during week of the North American International Auto Show. Robert Rothman, General Motors Chief Privacy Officer was the featured speaker on the topic of *International Data Privacy Legislation*.

The Section issued a call for papers for its 2005 International Law Student Essay Contest on the topic of the *Applicability of the Geneva Conventions to Persons Viewed as Terrorists*. Howard B. Hill was the able chair of this effort. The essays were judged by Professor Steven Ratner of the University of Michigan Law School faculty and Professor Gregory Fox of the Wayne Law School faculty. The Section will award a \$1,000 honorarium to the winner at the Section's Annual Meeting in the Fall 2005. Also, the winning articles will be published in the *Michigan International Lawyer*: Winter Edition.

Section members responded to the requests for support from Wayne State and University of Windsor law faculties and participated in the Jessup Moot Court and Niagra International Moot Court competitions. The Section will continue to hold meetings at the law schools around the state, expand the student essay contest, invite law students to join as student members, and participate in law school events like these to expose the students to the international practice of law.

The Section's spring meeting was held at the University of Detroit Law School. It was well attended by a very diverse group of members and law students. Stuart Deming made a very informative presentation on the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and, in particular, how its accounting and record keeping provisions lie at the core of the developments with Sarbanes-Oxley.

Publication of the *Michigan International Lawyer* continues with the support of section members submitting excellent articles. It is distributed in hard copy and on the State Bar of Michigan web site.

Upcoming section events include a strategic planning session June 14, 2005 to be held at The Detroit Athletic Club, and a tour of the US Department of Homeland Security facilities at Wayne County Metropolitan Airport.

The International Law Section Annual Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Novi, Michigan on October 6, 2005. A program on the topic Doing Business in China and India will follow the business meeting .

Sincerely,

Randolph M. Wright
Chair

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