

7/11/02 - REVISED

## **Report of Chair Education of Lawyers**

The Section on Education of Lawyers continued its mission of providing a forum for integrating the bench, bar and academia to improve the legal system in Virginia. Our section co-sponsored a CLE program on the USA Patriot Act with the Criminal Law Section at the annual meeting in June. Panelists included The Honorable Jerry Kilgore, Attorney General for Virginia; Professor John Douglass, University of Richmond School of Law; Professor Craig Lerner, George Mason School of Law; Mike Smythers, Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia; and Peter White, with the firm of Hunton & Williams. Michael Herring, with the Criminal Law Section, served as moderator. The speakers reviewed the history as well as key provisions of the USA Patriot Act. They also explored the issue of balancing individual civil rights with national security interests. George Somerville, chair of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee, deserves recognition for helping to put together an outstanding program that was well attended and received excellent feedback.

This year, the Professionalism Course for Law Students, developed by our section and the Standing Committee on Professionalism, was offered to first year students at each of Virginia's seven law schools. Although attendance continues to be voluntary, the sessions were well attended, and student evaluations were positive. Special thanks go to The Honorable Waugh Crigler and George Mason Law Professor, Michael I. Krauss, for their continuing support and direction of this successful program. Thanks also go to

Professor Krauss and Justice Kinser, chairs of the Education During Law School Committee, and the committee's members for their help and participation in the programs. The section plans to continue these programs on an annual basis.

A new initiative undertaken this year by the Section is the examination of emerging trends and issues in the legal system related to the bench, bar, and academy in Virginia. Ed Lowry chairs this newly formed committee whose work will be ongoing next year. Although the committee's work is still very much in the formative stages, input was sought from Michael Glasser, Ben DiMuro, Jeannie P. Dahnk and Tom Edmonds about the formulation of the Section's plans. Their insights and guidance have been valuable.

Professors Lynn Marie Kohm and Eric DeGroff continued to do an outstanding job as editors of the section's newsletter. Two editions were published. Both contained timely articles on topics of interest to all members. At the end of the year, Professor Kohm announced her retirement as editor due to other commitments. Her dedication and hard work is appreciated by all and we shall miss her next year. On behalf of the Section, I also want to express our gratitude to Professor DeGroff, who has graciously agreed to continue as editor next year. Many thanks to both for a job well done.

Each of Virginia's seven law schools contributes to the Section's annual operating budget. In addition, the section seeks support from law firms in the state. This year's Fundraising and Law Firm Contributions Committee did an excellent job of soliciting support for the section's programs, expanding our financial base. Ray Diaz served as chair of the committee. Members included Bill Broaddus, Ed Lowry, William Poff, and George

Somerville. On behalf of the Section, I want to thank the following firms for their generous support: Christian & Barton, LLP, of Richmond, Edmunds & Williams, of Lynchburg, Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, of Roanoke; Glasser & Glasser, PLC, of Norfolk; Hunton & Williams, of Richmond; McGuire Woods LLP, of Richmond; Michie, Hamlet, Lowry, Rasmussen & Tweel, of Charlottesville; Rees, Broome & Diaz, of Vienna; Sands Anderson Marks & Miller, of Richmond; Troutman, Sanders LLP, of Richmond; and Woods Rogers & Hazelgrove PLC, of Roanoke. The section plans to continue its effort in the coming year to expand the number of law firms who make a contribution to our section's 2002-2003 operating budget.

Although the Section had much to celebrate this year, it was with great sadness that our members learned of the tragic death of Board member Dean L. Anthony Sutin of Appalachian Law School. During his short time on the Board, he contributed much to the work of the section and was committed to furthering collaborative efforts among lawyers, judges, and academicians.

At the section's annual business meeting, The Honorable Cleo Powell presented the Nominations Committee's report. The following new officers were elected for the 2002-2003 bar year:

Margaret Ivey Bacigal, Chair

The Honorable Rudolph Bumgardner, Vice Chair

Raymond J. Diaz, Secretary

In addition, the following new board members were elected to three year terms:

For a second term:

Raymond Diaz, Esquire

The Honorable Rudolph Bumgardner

The Honorable Cynthia Kinser

For a first term:

Professor Joan M. Shaughnessy, Washington and Lee School of Law (elected to first full term after serving out another member's unexpired term)

The Honorable Ed Burnette

Professor Winston S. Moore, George Mason School of Law

Outgoing members include Robin Wood, former Chair of the Section, and Professor Michael Krauss. Both contributed immeasurably to the work of the section and the section expresses its heartfelt thanks to them for their service.

I also want to express my appreciation to each member of the Board for their tireless efforts on behalf of the Section this year and for their work on our standing committees. These include: Admissions to the Bar, Annual Meeting Planning, Education During Law School, Emerging Trends in the Legal Profession, Fundraising and Law Firm Contributions, Newsletter, and Nominating Committee. All contributed to further our mission and support our various programs. Thanks to everyone for helping to make this a productive year and I shall look forward to working with you again next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Professor Margaret Ivey Bacigal, Chair