

YOUNG LAWYERS

Maya M. Eckstein, president

Membership: approximately 9,000

Budget (fiscal 2007): approximately \$93,000

Officers for fiscal 2008: Daniel L. Gray, president; Jennifer I. McClellan, president-elect; Lesley A. Pate, secretary; and Maya M. Eckstein, immediate past president.

Activities in fiscal 2007:

Throughout the 2006-2007 bar year, the Young Lawyers Conference continued to make positive contributions to the bar and the public. The YLC completed the following sample projects:

Minority Prelaw Conference: The YLC hosts the Minority Prelaw Conference to encourage minority undergraduate students to consider the legal profession as a career. For the first time in fiscal 2007, the YLC held two Prelaw Conferences in different parts of the commonwealth to ensure that the program was accessible to more people. The first was in February 2007 at the George Mason University School of Law, and the second was in April 2007 at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Both were extremely successful, with more than one hundred students attending the George Mason event and more than sixty at Washington & Lee.

Juvenile Rights Handbook: In conjunction with the JustChildren organization, the YLC drafted the *Juvenile Rights Handbook*, which provides young people and their parents with information about juvenile rights and responsibilities in the schools, with the police, and in the courts. The YLC also secured low-cost printing of the handbook, printed several thousand copies, and began distribution efforts.

Professional Development Conference: The sixth annual Professional Development Conference was held in March 2007 at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. The program addressed young lawyers' professional and educational concerns. It included substantive continuing legal education programs and professional development seminars. This year's conference focused on "What Clients Want," about client expectations and needs. Approximately fifty people attended.

Voter education initiative: The YLC worked with the State Board of Elections for a third year to distribute a *Know Your Rights and Responsibilities* brochure. The YLC distributed thousands of brochures to civic organizations, churches, and chambers of commerce.

Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Prelaw Institute: The 2006 Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Prelaw Institute hosted twenty-eight high school students at the University of Richmond for a week in July. The students came from a variety of backgrounds and locales, although most came from Richmond-area high schools. The week's activities included panels of government, private-practice and in-house counsel attorneys; mock law classes with UR professors; academic sessions to prepare students for college and the "real world"; and an interactive discussion with Judge Roger L. Gregory of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. The week culminated in the Mock Trial Program where the students tried a case similar to those completed by first-year law students.

Community Law Week: The Young Lawyers Conference implemented its Community Law Week programs during May and early June. No Bills Night was implemented in Roanoke, Danville, and Northern Virginia, as well as several other localities across the commonwealth.

