

DOCKET CALL NEWSLETTER

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Young
Lawyers
Conference



Virginia State Bar

Students Sample Legal Profession During Summer Institute

Katrina Randolph

Erica James already knew she wanted to be a lawyer. She just needed some help figuring out what that meant, practically speaking. “I told my principal what I wanted to be,” said James, a sophomore at Richmond’s George Wythe High School. Her principal, Earl Pappy, told James about a summer program sponsored by the Young Lawyers Conference. James was on her way.

James and 17 other Richmond-area high school students (including one rising freshman) spent a week this summer learning about the real world of law at the Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute. The program, held at the University of Richmond’s T.C. Williams School of Law, was designed to give high school students—especially minority students—a comprehensive introduction to the legal profession. Students prepared for and participated in a mock trial, interacted with lawyers socially and talked with lawyers and judges about the legal profession. They also attended college admissions and financial aid seminars. This was the second year for the program.

“My desire is to have more people who look like me in the profession,” said Jennifer McClellan, a new YLC board of governors member and the institute’s director. “When I was in high school, I

had parents who would give me any opportunity I needed to succeed. Unfortunately, not every student in Virginia is that fortunate. There are a lot of somewhat focused but distracted students who, if given a chance, could be just as successful as I am,” she said. McClellan is a regulatory attorney with Verizon Communications.

McClellan, fellow YLC board member Jimmy Robinson and more than 30 other lawyers, Virginia State Bar staff and law school students volunteered hundreds of hours to plan and implement the pro-

gram. Participants included the Honorable Roger Gregory of the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Honorable Margaret Spencer, chief judge of the Richmond Circuit Court, Brian Jackson, general counsel for Ukrop’s Supermarkets and First Market Bank and YLC President Katie Uston.

The participants “gave their full attention,” said Robinson. “And the kids were asking hard questions—even questions about salaries and work-life bal-

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Participants in the Oliver Hill/Samuel Tucker Law Institute, held at the University of Richmond’s T.C. Williams School of Law, are pictured above with Oliver W. Hill.

Message from the President

Kathleen Uston



I am honored and delighted to serve this year as president of your Young Lawyers Conference. If you are reading this message, you are already a member of the YLC, a dynamic organization comprised of **all** Virginia attorneys who are either thirty-six years old or younger or who have been practicing for three (3) years or less. You should be proud of your membership in the YLC, and we invite you to become involved. We offer invaluable and nationally recognized services to Virginia's citizens through committees including our Emergency Legal Services, which recently was called into action in the wake of Hurricane Isabel.

We all owe a debt of thanks to Brett Zwerdling, YLC ELS Chair, Shawn Copeland, our YLC Board liaison, and their counter-parts with the VBA/YLD, Valerie Long and Richard Ottinger. Brett, Shawn and the others literally sprang into action in the days before and after the hurricane struck, putting aside professional and other commitments to help those in need. In fact, Brett, without power himself for many days afterwards, toiled tirelessly on his cell phone to ensure that the needs of Virginia's citizens hard hit by Isabel were being met. The quality and significance of the work of the YLC has been recognized and awarded on a national level. The importance of the YLC's efforts, and the extent to which the Virginia State Bar relies upon us, is underscored by the fact that our acting president sits *ex officio* on both the Virginia State Bar Council and the Council Executive Committee, putting the YLC in the unique position of intimate and hands-on participation with the leaders of the VSB, the judiciary and the government of the commonwealth.

The YLC also aims to assist our membership with exceptional programs like our upcoming **Professional Development Conference**, offering CLE and other programming devoted to issues of unique significance to Virginia's young attorneys. There is no other place where you can earn over **6 hours** of CLE for only **\$125**, so mark your calendars now for March 12-13, 2004. Dan Gray and his committee have put together a superlative group of speakers, including members of the judiciary and attorneys of great acclaim. This will truly be a conference no young lawyer, or lawyer of any age for that matter, will want to miss! If you would like to join the ranks of these extraordinary attorneys, who not only work endless days and into the night, and are probably, like most of you, slaves of the billable hour with families at home as well, please check out our Web site at www.VaYoungLawyers.org.

At our board orientation in August, retired Senior Justice Henry Whiting addressed our board and shared with us his insight on the importance of volunteering to do bar work with the YLC. By working together in the YLC we all "help make each other better lawyers." As Justice Whiting so eloquently informed us, bar service,

such as that to which the YLC is dedicated, truly enhances the quality of life, permits and restores balance and keeps in perspective what truly matters in our lives and in our profession—humanity, humility and service. On our Web site, at www.VaYoungLawyers.org, you will find a complete list of all of our committees and other volunteer opportunities, including our Wills for Heroes program, that began last year in Arlington and is to be expanded to other areas of the commonwealth this year. Board member Maya Eckstein and Carson Sullivan, the committee chair, will be heading up the Wills for Heroes programs this year, and need all the help they can get with this incredibly valuable service to First Responders, true heroes one and all.

And without the network of YLC circuit representatives across the state, like Jerry Hall (17th Circuit), Diane Lewis (31st Circuit), Eric Monday (21st Circuit) and Ben Fitzgerald (20th Circuit), little could be accomplished. They are the YLC's lifeline to Virginia's young attorneys in their circuits, and they welcome your calls with any questions you may have. If you do not know who your circuit rep is, simply go to our Web site at www.VaYoungLawyers.org and find out.

Our new and greatly improved Web site is easily navigable and full of information, photographs of recent YLC events and programs and offers on-line volunteer sign up forms, all thanks to the hard work of board member, Jackie McIntyre (2nd District). Jackie was able to accomplish all of this while holding down a federal judicial clerkship, caring for her young son and getting ready to welcome her second child early next year. Finally, thanks to the hard work and dedication of Jeff Geiger, editor of the *Docket Call*, the YLC has a publication dedicated to our membership, containing articles and information of particular interest to young attorneys. Jeff has carried on the tradition of excellence of the award winning *Docket Call*—contact him if you would like to assist with articles, photography, or in any way you may be able.

I have mentioned above only a small handful of the great programs in which you can become involved, and the names of just a few of the YLC's stars—during the course of this year, you will be hearing about many more of them in this column. My goal this year is to enlist the services of volunteers who want more from the practice of law than a paycheck at the end of every month. Those of us fortunate enough to have a law degree are in a unique position to offer service to our fellow citizens, our fellow attorneys and to our noble profession. I hope you will take up the call, join in on the work of the YLC and change your life this year!

A solo practitioner, Katie Uston is the YLC president and can be reached at law@uston.com.

Legal Ethics Corner

Jeffrey Hamilton Geiger

Q Goodbye, billable hours; hello, write-offs. Welcome to the three most dreaded words: conflict of interest. I am representing the administrator of the estate, who happens also to be the fourth (and last) husband of the deceased. While the husband says there is no will, it must have slipped his mind. Finding a will magneted to the couple's refrigerator, other family members probate the will. However, the will names no executor and the husband remains as the administrator. Surprise, surprise, the deceased leaves nothing to her fourth husband, who chooses to take his statutory elective share. Now, the beneficiaries are asking the court to declare that certain real estate does not belong in the augmented estate. Do I have an impermissible conflict by continuing to represent the husband as both administrator of the estate and in his individual capacity in claiming the elective share?

A Don't throw out those time sheets just yet. Rule 1.7 sets forth the general rule concerning conflict of interest situations. **First**, are there two clients? In other words, is there adversity in representing the husband both in his administrator and individual capacities under these circumstances? No. Simply because the husband owes certain fiduciary obligations to the beneficiaries does not impart parallel fiduciary obligations upon you as his attorney under Rule 1.7(a). In Legal Ethics Opinion 1778, the committee found persuasive an opinion from Oregon that "representing one individual in several different capacities is not the same thing as representing different individuals" for purposes of the rules governing multiple client conflict of interests. Here, there is only one client: the husband. To require the hiring of yet another lawyer to represent the husband "would be unnecessary and wasteful."

Second, the prohibitions contained in Rule 1.7(b) are not triggered. In material part, Rule 1.7(b) provides that a "Lawyer shall not represent a client if the representation of that client may



be materially limited by the lawyer's responsibilities to another client or to a third person." Application of this provision would arise if the attorney had "some additional, competing duty to another client or a third person or a competing personal interest of his own." With respect to the estate, your duty is solely to represent the husband in his capacity as the administrator—you owe no competing duties to the beneficiaries. However, even though you are not imbued with any additional fiduciary duties to the beneficiaries by virtue of your representation of the administrator, you should be mindful of

your client's fiduciary duties to them and the prohibition in Rule 1.2 against assisting a client in criminal activity or fraud.

Jeff Geiger is counsel in the Richmond office of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller. You may reach him at jgeiger@sandsanderson.com.

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Docket Call welcomes contributions from members of the YLC.

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Address Change?

If you have moved or changed your address, please see the VSB Membership Department's page on the Web for an **address update form** at www.vsb.org/membership/.

YLC President Profile:

Kathleen Uston

Jennifer L. Campbell

Katie Uston, the YLC's new president, exudes enthusiasm and optimism that is contagious. Originally from Tiburon, California, this mother of two and solo practitioner is dedicated to serving the community. After her admission to the Virginia Bar in 1991, Uston became involved with the Young Lawyers Conference as a way to meet other lawyers and to serve the legal community and the public. "We are fortunate to have this legal knowledge and skills. It is important to give back to the community that gave us this opportunity."

Demonstrating an affinity for puzzles and problem solving at an early age, Uston's mother encouraged her to pursue a career in either law or medicine. Following graduation from Miami University of Ohio, Uston turned to the law and obtained her degree from George Mason University School of Law.

As a solo practitioner, Uston's practice focuses on attorney ethics, contracts litigation, landlord-tenant law and real estate matters. She is also of counsel to David Rosenfeld, P.C. Uston enjoys the life and flexibility of being a solo practitioner. However, early in her practice, she discovered that one disadvantage of being a solo practitioner is that she lacked colleagues



with whom she could bounce ideas. Her solution: immersing herself in the YLC.

Attempting to list all of Uston's accomplishments is a daunting task. The YLC bestowed upon her its Award for Outstanding Service three times and Uston's service with the YLC includes: YLC president-elect in 2002-2003, YLC secretary in 2001-2002 and YLC circuit representative from 1993 through 1997. Not only is she active in the YLC, Uston is involved with the Alexandria Bar Association and served on the American Bar Association National Conferences Team, and as vice-chair of the ABA Solo and Small Firm Committee. When asked about her high level of involvement,

Uston explained that everyone gets involved at different levels. "I've always been the type of person to take on more of the job." Uston has done this by taking on the YLC presidency for the 2003-2004 year!

Jennifer Campbell is an attorney with the Department of Defense Office of Hearing and Appeals and can be reached at campbelj@osdgc.osd.mil.

MARKETING MANNA

Mary L.C. Daniel

Discount your bill, not your timesheet. Never discount the importance of telling your client about every moment you put into their matter. In the land of the billable hour, we sometimes face internal criticism for discounting bills; however, when you note to the client that you are either doing them a favor or acknowledge that a matter took more time than perhaps it should, it gives an air of reasonableness. This client will usually continue using your services, even when they know that discounts will not occur in the future. More importantly, this client will recommend you to others as being fair, reasonable and honest.

Mary L. C. Daniel practices with The Daniel Group, P.C. in Winchester. You may reach her at mdaniel@ntelos.net.

SAVE THE DATE!

Virginia State Bar
Young Lawyers Conference

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

March 12-13, 2004
Darden School of Business
University of Virginia
Charlottesville

A 6.0 hour CLE for younger lawyers
in their first 10 years of practice.

You can't afford to miss this one!



2003–2004 Circuit Representatives

In 1983, the Young Lawyers Conference established a statewide network of circuit representatives appointed from each of the state's 31 judicial circuits. This network is designed to meet three objectives: (1) to provide a liaison between practicing young lawyers on the local level and the Young Lawyers Conference board of governors, (2) to promote statewide communication and participation among young lawyers in the projects and activities of the conference, and (3) to increase the quantity and quality of public service legal programming throughout the state.

The primary responsibility of each circuit representative is to organize and carry out an annual project for young lawyers in his or her judicial circuit. These projects have ranged from CLE programs to community service projects to Young Lawyers Conference membership projects. Often, two or three circuits combine their efforts to attract a broader audience for the programs. In recent years, circuit representatives have also served as local liaisons for the VSB/VBA Emergency Legal Services Response Plan, helping coordinate the delivery of emergency legal services when the plan is activated in their locality.

If you are interested in becoming a circuit representative or assisting with any of the projects of the YLC, please contact any Young Lawyers Conference board member or your circuit representative.

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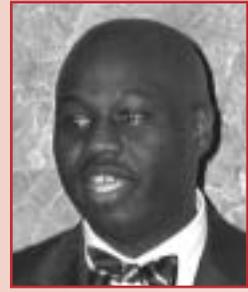
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2003–2004 YOUNG LAWYERS CONFERENCE

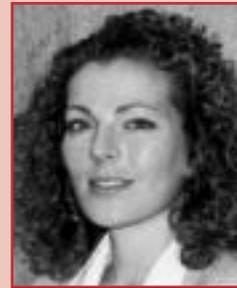
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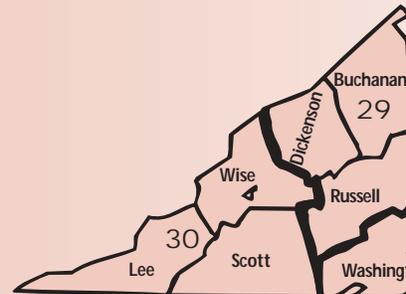
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2003–2004 Committee Assignments

SERVICE TO THE BAR

ADMISSION AND ORIENTATION CEREMONY

This committee is responsible for organizing and staging a special ceremony sponsored twice a year by the conference at which time all newly licensed attorneys are given the opportunity to appear before the Supreme Court of Virginia to be admitted to practice in the courts of Virginia. Because the Court sits in Richmond, this committee is comprised principally of young lawyers practicing in the metropolitan Richmond area. In conjunction with the General Practice Section, the committee also co-sponsors the First Day in Practice Seminar for new lawyers.

Chair: **Bethany G. Lukitsch**

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ANNUAL MEETING

ATHLETICS

This committee is responsible for organizing the "Run in the Sun" 5 kilometer foot race and the "Beach Volley Follies" volleyball tournament, all sponsored by the Conference during the VSB Annual Meeting in June.

Chair: **Jennifer Tatum**

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Fax: (757) 466-0834
jtatum@clarkedolph.com

Liaison: **Kellye Clarke/
Shawn Copeland**

PROGRAMS

This committee plans the CLE program that takes place during the VSB Annual Meeting held in Virginia Beach each June. It is also responsible for lining up a band for the dance sponsored by the conference during the meeting, and for handling details of any other scheduled social events.

Chair: **Jennifer Tatum**

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Liaison: **Kellye Clarke/
Shawn Copeland**

FIRST DAY IN PRACTICE SEMINAR

Chair: **[Vacant]**

Liaison: **Mary Daniel/
Brent Saunders**

NATIONAL TRIAL COMPETITION (Northern Virginia)

Since 1987, the Young Lawyers Conference has hosted one of 11 regional rounds for the Annual National Trial Advocacy Competition. This moot court competition uses the trial court, rather than the appellate court, as its forum. Law schools from Virginia and other mid-Atlantic states send teams to Virginia for the competition. The committee

arranges for courtrooms for the trials, provides judges to preside and evaluate the students' performances, and provides witnesses and bailiffs for the trials. The competition is held on a rotational basis in Richmond, Roanoke, Northern Virginia and Tidewater.

Chair: **Thomas Leland**

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Liaison: **Jennifer Short**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Chair: **[Vacant]**

Liaison: **Dan Gray/
Katrina Randolph**

PUBLICATIONS/WEBPAGE

Webpage

Chair: **Mark E. Blacknell**
715 North Oakland St.
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 812-8217

Liaison: **Jackie McIntyre**

NEWSLETTER/DOCKET CALL

The editor and editorial board of the *Docket Call* are responsible for publishing four issues of the conference's newsletter each year. The award-winning newsletter, which contains information about the conference's activities and other information of particular interest to young lawyers, is circulated to every member of the conference. The *Docket Call* editor serves as co-chair of the publications committee.

Editor: **Jeffrey H. Geiger**

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jgeiger@sandsanderson.com

Liaison: **Jackie McIntyre**

SENIOR CITIZEN HANDBOOK

Liaison: **Lesley Pate**

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Liaison: **Robin Kegley**

WOMEN & MINORITIES IN THE PROFESSION

This committee was formed to address the particular issues facing women and minority young lawyers, to encourage participation by women and minority young lawyers in the conference and to integrate them into the larger legal community. The committee oversees several high-profile projects each year, including the Annual Celebration of Women and Minorities in the Profession Bench/Bar Dinner, the *Directory of Local & Specialty Bar Associations*, the Board Match Plus Program, and the Minority Pre-law Conference, a seminar to encourage undergraduates to pursue a legal career.

CELEBRATION DINNER, PATHWAYS TO LEADERSHIP, MINORITY PRE-LAW CONFERENCE

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Liaison: **Jennifer McClellan**

SERVICE TO PUBLIC

ACCESS TO LEGAL SERVICES

The conference formed this committee to develop programs and projects designed to increase the public's ability to obtain legal services and legal information. This committee also oversees several subcommittees that sponsor programs to increase public access to legal services. This year, the committee is working with the Virginia Supreme Court to update the tele-court telephone information system to provide easier access to information on Virginia's courts and legal system.

Chair: **James R. Creekmore**

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Ste. 1400, 10 S. Jefferson St.
P.O. Box 14125
Roanoke, VA 24038-4125
(540) 983-7600

EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICES

This subcommittee, in conjunction with VBA-YLD, has developed and implemented a statewide Emergency Legal Services Response Plan, which includes training volunteers and working with other bar organizations to establish communication plans in the event of natural disasters and other declared emergencies.

Chair: **Brett Zwerdling**

Zwerdling, Opplen & Uvanni
5020 Monument Ave.

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Fax: (804) 355-1597

Liaison: **Shawn Copeland**

NO BILLS NIGHT

The Conference, through this subcommittee, conducts No Bills Nights twice annually to provide a forum for the public throughout Virginia to raise legal issues and to seek information regarding their legal rights. The programs began in Richmond in 1984 and have grown every year since. This year, the conference hopes to put on programs in Abingdon, Charlottesville, Danville/ Martinsville, Lynchburg, Fredericksburg, Northern Virginia, Staunton/Lexington, Richmond, Roanoke, Tidewater and Winchester/ Harrisonburg. The programs are sponsored twice yearly in the spring and fall. Several programs are broadcast on local television stations.

Statewide

Chair: **Jason G. Moyers**

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(3) Danville

[Vacant]

(4) Fredericksburg

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(7) Martinsville

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Julia E. Keller

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(12) Winchester

(Vacant)

Liaison: **Robin Kegley**

PRO BONO

This subcommittee was formed to develop programs designed to improve the quantity and quality of pro bono activities of young lawyers and to keep young lawyers informed on the adoption of circuit based pro bono committees

Chair: **Carson Sullivan**

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Liaison: **Maya Eckstein**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAFETY PROJECT

Chair: **Alexandra Elise Brisky**

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abrisky@hunton.com

Liaison: **Lesley Pate**

SENIORS

This subcommittee focuses on the unmet needs of senior citizens for better access to and understanding of the legal system.

Chair: **Usha Koduru**

1006 Ayrshire Rd.
Colonial Heights, VA 23834
(804) 526-0655
ukoduru@hotmail.com

Liaison: **Lesley Pate**

CHILDREN AND THE LAW

This committee is charged with developing new projects to address the unmet legal needs of children. Examples include working with other organizations and courts to educate children about their rights and responsibilities, and training lawyers and laypersons on the representation of children. This committee also sponsors programs for the recertification of guardians ad litem. Past projects include establishing child witness waiting rooms, which the committee will continue this year. The Committee also oversees the Student Day in Court subcommittee or the "Docent Program." This subcommittee organizes efforts to teach children about the court system, including giving tours of courthouses and coordinating lawyer visits to schools. The subcommittee's goal is to establish such programs in every judicial circuit throughout Virginia.

Chair: **[Vacant]**

Liaison: **Amy Van Fossen**

PEER MEDIATION

Chairs: **Gina Marine**

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Sara Berg

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Liaison: **Dan Gray**

STUDENTS DAY IN COURT PROGRAM

Chair: **Shari Patish**

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Fax: (757) 382-3080

Liaison: **Amy Van Fossen**

IMMIGRANT OUTREACH

Chair: **J. Douglas Cuthbertson**

Miles & Stockbridge
1751 Pinnacle Dr., Ste. 500
McLean, VA 21002
(703) 610-8640
Fax: (703) 610-8686

Liaison: **Don Haddock**

PUBLIC EDUCATION

This committee was formed to develop year-round model programs to enhance the public's knowledge of the legal system and to improve the public's perception of the profession, our system of justice and our democratic process. The Community Law Week Committee is a subcommittee of the Public Education Committee.

Co-Chairs: **Christy E. Kiely**

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Liaison: **George Snead**

COMMUNITY LAW WEEK

This subcommittee helps promote the ABA's nationally recognized theme for Law Day each year, by developing programs and sponsoring activities during the first week in May devoted to enhancing the public's awareness and appreciation of the role of law in American life. The focus of the committee is to encourage participation in Community Law Week on a statewide basis through local bar associations. Included among the activities are presentations in the media, programs in the public schools and public forums.

Chair: **Josephine Aiello LeBeau**

655 15th Street, NW, Ste. 900
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 626-5994

Liaison: **George Snead**

WILLS FOR HEROES

Chair: **Meredith B. Miles**

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Liaison: **Maya Eckstein**

**INTERNAL OPERATING
COMMITTEES**

BUDGET AND FINANCE

This committee is designed to enhance the conference's current budgeting process. During this year, it has developed written guidelines that establish a budget planning process for the board of governors.

Chair: **Savalle C. Sims**

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CIRCUIT REPRESENTATIVES

In 1983, the conference established a statewide network of circuit representatives chosen from each of the state's judicial circuits. The network is designed to provide a liaison between practicing young lawyers on the local level and the conference's board of governors, to promote statewide communication and participation among young lawyers in the projects and activities of the conference and to increase the quantity and quality of public service and bar service legal programs throughout the state.

Chairs: **Joshua M. David**

David, Kamp & Frank, L.L.C.
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Liaison: **Dan Gray**

GRANTS AND AWARDS

The Young Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association sponsors a nationwide Award of Achievement competition among bar groups during The American Bar Association's Annual Meeting. Young lawyers' bar groups from all states are invited to enter this competition by submitting either an application for a particular project or a comprehensive outline of all their projects for the year. This committee will compile the application, which is due in June. This committee will also explore grant and other funding opportunities for the conference during the year and will work with the bar to publicize the many achievements and activities of the conference.

Chairs: **Savalle C. Sims**

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MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

The purpose of this committee is to increase participation around the state in the conference's programs and activities. This committee helps encourage the involvement of both newly licensed attorneys and those attorneys who are already established in practice in such conference activities. In particular, the conference desires increased participation from interested attorneys in governmental and corporate environments. This committee has developed a membership brochure designed to inform and educate young lawyers about the many opportunities offered by the conference.

Chair: David L. Ginsberg
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Liaison: Vicki Wiese

LONG RANGE PLANNING — NEW PROJECTS

At-Large:
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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair: Lori Elliott
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Oliver Hill Institute—

Continued from page 1

ance." James gained lots of practical knowledge. "I learned many things you need to know, like the proper decorum in the courtroom." In the mock trial, *State of Texas v. Houston Alford*, James and several students defended Alford against a criminal embezzlement charge. She also learned about laying the foundation for testimony, and about the importance of opening and closing arguments.

"It was hard getting ready," said James. "We did not know what to expect. We were trying to make sure we were prepared for everything because we did not know what the judge or what our clients would say, or what the other side would do." The mock trial was the culmination of the week's events. The 18 students were divided into five teams. They competed against each other in trials on the last day of the program. Lawyers served as judges for the competition. McClellan's hope—and the goal of the program—is to spark students' interest in the law. "At least out of 18 students, we are going to get one," she said. If James has anything to do with it, that "one" may be her.

Katrina Randolph is assistant general counsel with Capital One Services, Inc., and can be reached at katrina.randolph@capitalone.com.



YLC Beat

Suzanne F. Garwood

65th Annual Meeting. The annual meeting promises always a weekend of fun family events, informative meetings and networking opportunities and this year was no different. In between the traditional volleyball games, "Run in the Sun" and nighttime receptions, the attorneys at this year's 65th annual meeting took time out to attend CLEs and workshops sponsored by various Virginia State Bar committees. This year's showcase CLE on "corporate meltdowns" offered a primer for what not to do for corporate counsel. Moderated by Thomas E. Spahn, McGuireWoods, LLP, the panel included James B. Comey, Jr., a United States Attorney from the Southern District of New York, George M. Cohen, professor of law at the University of Virginia, Frederick J. Krebs, president of American Corporate Counsel Association, and N. Pendelton Rogers, from Troutman

Sanders, LLP. The focus of the panel was the discussion of the role of ethics in the face of corporate reporting failures.

In addition to "corporate meltdowns," the meeting offered something for everyone—regardless of one's area of practice—from discussions of terrorism and expert witnesses to practical tips from Mary Crane, founder and owner of Mary Crane & Associates, on forming business relationships in social settings.

Mark your calendars for the 66th annual meeting in Virginia Beach from June 16–20, 2004. Hope to see you there!

Leadership Conference. The YLC Board met and discuss the board's goals and projects for the coming year on September 13, 2003, in **Old Town Alexandria**. The YLC Leadership Conference departed from

previous years by meeting in historic Alexandria and changing the format to feature a keynote address and dinner reception with entertainment on the waterfront. Despite the change in location, the importance of the meeting as the kickoff of the bar year remained the same.

YLC President Kathleen M. Uston's primary objective for this year's conference was to address enhancing and increasing communication among the YLC's volunteers and the YLC board. Information about this year's board—who they are, where they work, and the committees on which they serve—can be found at the YLC's Web site at www.vayounglawyers.org.

Suggestions and recommendations for YLC events and programs for the upcoming

YLC Member Spotlight:

Maya Eckstein

Lexine Walker

For natural planner Maya Eckstein, the announcement that she would receive the Sandra Day O'Connor Award for Professional Service at the American Inns of Court Celebration of Excellence came as a complete surprise. "No one told me I had been nominated," she said. The annual award goes to one member of the American Inns of Court, with 10 years of practice or less, who has an excellent record of participation in pro bono activities and work in the public interest.

Now that she does know, Eckstein said she planned to attend the October 11 celebration at the Great Hall of the U.S. Supreme Court—even though she was due to deliver her first child two days earlier, on October 9. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience," she said.

That kind of super-powered time management has enabled Eckstein to balance a heavy workload at Hunton & Williams with a wide array of community service projects. Shortly after arriving at the firm in 1997, she became involved with the YLC's Pro Bono Committee. Working with the YLC gave her the opportunity to meet lots of attorneys from around the commonwealth, and she has enjoyed the constant flow of new ideas and new programs. Through the YLC, Eckstein has worked with the Wills for Heroes Program, the Crime Victim Compensation Program and the Virginia Domestic Violence Safety Project. As part of Hunton & Williams' Community Service Committee, she has volunteered with the Women's Advocacy Project and helped

clients with landlord-tenant issues through Central Virginia Legal Aid.

Not only has Eckstein served as chair of the YLC Pro Bono Committee, she has also earned recognition as the R. Edwin Burnette, Jr., Young Lawyer of the Year. A member of the board of directors for the Virginia League of Planned Parenthood and of the Flagler Home for homeless women and their children at Saint Joseph's Villa, Eckstein was on the 2002 *Inside Business* Top 40 Under 40 list, which recognized Richmond-area residents under the age of 40 for their contributions to the community.

"My firm is very supportive of pro bono work," Eckstein said. "Any work I've wanted to do, any case I've wanted to take, they've always been very supportive." Eckstein credits her firm with encouraging attorneys to do pro bono work through its many service programs, not merely permitting them to make room for community service. Other young lawyers, particularly those in smaller firms, may find themselves struggling to give back to their communities. Eckstein advises those having a harder time to start small.

"Do what you can," she said. "Even if you just help one person a year, that's one more than would have been helped otherwise. You'll feel good doing it, and you'll be helping someone else."

Lexine Walker is an attorney with Lexis Nexis in Charlottesville. You may reach her at lexine.walker@lexisnexix.com.

year are always welcome and can be submitted at www.va-younglawyers.org/submitevent.shtml or by email to Jacqueline MacIntyre at Jacqueline_McIntyre@vaed.uscourts.gov.

Emergency Legal Services. As you all know, Hurricane Isabel had a devastating impact on Virginia residents. Flooding, power loss and property damage are just some of the things that Isabel left in her wake. In the hopes of minimizing the suffering for Isabel's victims, the YLC's Emergency Legal Services Committee reached out to Virginia attorneys the night before the impending storm to identify those persons who were willing to take telephone calls from disaster victims, provide assistance in dealing with insurance companies and, if possible, representing victims in legal actions. If you're not on the committee's list of volunteer attorneys, but would like to be, please contact Brett Zwerdling of Zwerdling, Oppleman & Uvanni. Brett's contact information is: 5020 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230, (804) 355-5719, (804) 355-1597 (facsimile), bzwerdling@zandolaw.com.

Upcoming Events. Coming up in the months ahead, the YLC has planned the following events:

- December 5, 2003—The YLC board members hold a Board Meeting in Richmond.
- January 9, 2004—The YLC board members hold a Board Meeting in Tidewater.
- March 12–13, 2004—YLC Professional Development Seminar to be held at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.
- April 30–May 1, 2004—The YLC board members hold a board meeting in Wintergreen.

Suzanne Garwood is an associate in the Washington, D.C. office of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart L.L.P. You may reach her at sgarwood@kl.com.

Save the Date—

Spring 2004 Professional Development Conference

Daniel L. Gray

The YLC Professional Development Conference Committee announces that the Third Annual Professional Development Conference will be held on March 12 and 13, 2004, in Charlottesville, Virginia, at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. The conference will focus on litigation and include seminars on the following topics:

- Practice Before the Virginia Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and Trial Courts
- Malpractice Traps
- Evidentiary Privileges
- The Young Lawyer and Bar Counsel
- Improving Legal Writing with Ed Good
- Designing the Second Stage of Your Career: Partnership, Solo Practice or Government
- Moving From Second Chair to First Chair
- Volunteerism: Opportunities
- Depositions with Robert Scully
- Evidentiary Issues

While designed for attorneys who have been practicing between three and ten years, the conference is open to all interested lawyers. A brochure with detailed program and registration information will soon be circulated, so save the date for this extraordinary program. For additional information, please contact Dan Gray at dgray@shoun.com.

DOCKET CALL

Virginia State Bar Young Lawyers Conference
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