



MINUTES

Executive Committee Call

April 25, 2023 | 4 PM

Participants: Jill Dutton, Laura Eshbach, Bridgett Fisher, Vanessa Hunsberger, Dwight Van Winkle, Brent Williams-Ruth, and Randy Winn.

Quorum achieved.

Approval of March 2023 Meeting Minutes

The Executive Committee approved the meeting notes taken at our March 2023 meeting.

There being no motions for discussion and vote, participants discussed the following matters:

Upcoming Mini CLEs:

- Dwight hasn't heard back from one of our speakers and has therefore been unable to submit the WSBA's mini-CLE form on time. This might mean the CLE has to be postponed.
- Bridgett is working on a potential mini-CLE.
- Randy has a potential speaker for May 19 but WSBA has expressed concern that the timeframe is too short for offering the program for CLE credit. Advantages to postponing: attendance will be higher if we can offer CLE credit and people don't have a lot of time so prefer to have a learning opportunity that gets them credit. BUT is July a good time for a program? Attendance could be low during the summer. To honor speaker's time, let's look at another time for the program that is not May or July.
- Jill recently met some potential speakers with expertise on the issue of the repatriation of stolen antiquities; we could look at a program on this topic later in the year.
- Jill made a lot of other connections in the countries she visited as part of her sabbatical that we could reach out to about presentations! Proposal: put together a calendar or step-by-step process for approaching the experts that Jill is willing to connect us with based on topics that we think are interesting/current for our section's members. And brainstorm how to bring together speakers in other related areas, such as a panel on gender norms in India connecting Landesa's work with the gender issues experts that Jill met. Other idea: connect US perspective and international perspectives to tease out learnings in international law.
- Jill is looking to connect with an International Bar Association that could give us additional ideas for programs.

Section Elections:

- We have candidates for all Executive Committee positions
- Laura will fill out the WSBA form to recruit a Young Lawyer Liaison -this role isn't defined in a particular way; there is flexibility with how the role shapes up. Young/new lawyers are very active and have the ability to expose the section to new ways of working and the topics of greatest interest to them.

Section Website/Listserv:

- WSBA is working on some website updates for us but we are rather limited in what we can do within the required format.
- WSBA does not moderate listservs; the sections are in charge of setting rules and norms for using them. The listservs are an easy way of contacting all members. Sections are able to set up alternative platforms for communicating too if they'd like. Question: what form of communication do members prefer? Are some forms better internationally? We could even turn this into a discussion topic to explore dos and don'ts of communication around the globe and the different concerns that come with each platform.
- Randy made a plug for submitting positive letters to the editor for the WSBA's Bar News to counterbalance many of the negative comments that get published.

Board of Governors Update:

- There is a proposal to make the state desk book a member benefit only. There is a concern that this could affect similar publications put out by other entities. It's also unclear whether this is something that members want as part of their membership.
- Strategic Planning Council will be proposing that WSBA purchase five buildings in Washington to have regional offices. A concern is what advantage does this give WSBA?
- Weigh in if these issues concern you!

Meeting adjourned at 5 PM.