

**Philadelphia Bar Association  
Board of Governors Meeting  
September 22, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. by Chair Regina Foley. Chair Foley welcomed Thomas Bernard, a law student from Ecole des Avocats de Lyon, in Lyon, France, who is serving as an intern at Vice Chancellor Kathleen Wilkinson's law firm. Mr. Bernard is the president of his law school's student bar association.

Upon consideration by the Board, the minutes of the July 28, 2011 Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Joseph Prim presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2011. Treasurer Prim reported that the Association's position is good and that we are under budget on expenses by \$41,000.00. However, dues are below target by \$68,000.00, an issue that is being addressed by the Membership Task Force. The budget, overall, is positive by \$333,000.00, with \$300,000.00 of that amount attributable to an unanticipated percentage fee received by LRIS. After consideration, the report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Chancellor Rudy Garcia began his announcements by reporting that the Association continues to work on the issues relating to the City of Philadelphia's Lobbying Ordinance, including meeting with the staffs of the Board of Ethics and City Council. This week, revised regulations were passed by the Ethics Board, with extensive revisions addressing the Association's concerns. At a meeting held earlier today by the City Policy Committee, a good discussion took place about the revised regulations. Proposed amendments to the Ordinance itself are also being reviewed. Chancellor Garcia stated his optimism that there will be no more litigation concerning this matter.

The Association provided testimony in opposition to a package of immigration bills sponsored by Pennsylvania State Representative Daryl Metcalfe and pending before the House State Government Committee. One bill would, for example, compel law enforcement officers to stop anyone who is suspected of being unlawfully present in the United States, thereby promoting racial profiling of many more citizens than undocumented aliens. The Association has received good press on its testimony. Bills regarding English-only legislation have also been opposed by the Association in previous resolutions.

Chancellor Garcia reported sad news about the passing of Jerome J. Shestack in August. Mr. Shestack was an internationally-recognized champion of civil rights and a past President of the American Bar Association. A memorial resolution for Mr. Shestack was presented to the Board and unanimously approved. Upon further motion that the Association's memorial resolution be presented by Andre Dennis and Abe Reich at the next ABA meeting for ABA approval, the Board unanimously agreed.

Chancellor Garcia also reported on the passing of the Honorable Albert W. Sheppard, Jr. in September. Judge Sheppard created the Commerce Court Program and was a recipient of the Association's Brennan Award. To honor his memory and work, a memorial resolution was presented to the Board and unanimously approved.

Chancellor Garcia also reported on the recent passing of Richard F. Furia, another dedicated member of the Association and former member of the Board of Governors. A moment of silence was held to honor his memory.

Chancellor Garcia reported on other activities, including attendance at the National Conference of Bar Presidents in Toronto, Canada, which took place in August. At that conference, Chancellor Garcia presented on corporate social responsibility. Chancellor-Elect John Savoth presented solo practitioners, Mark Tarasiewicz presented on communications and Charlie Klitsch presented on LRIS innovations.

Chancellor Garcia attended the Conference of World City Bar Leaders in Montreal, Canada in early September. In attendance were leaders of bar associations of major cities around the world, including those from London, Paris, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Moscow, New York, Chicago and Philadelphia. Immediate Past Chancellor Scott Cooper also attended. Chancellor Garcia made a presentation inviting a future conference to Philadelphia, which was unanimously agreed upon by conference leadership; the conference will be held in Philadelphia in September 2014. The next conference will be held in Frankfurt, Germany. Chancellor Garcia thanked Immediate Past Chancellor Cooper for his support.

Chancellor Garcia reported that the People's Law School, sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division, is underway. He thanked YLD Chair-Elect Melanie Taylor for her efforts in support of the program. Chancellor Garcia reported that a presentation was held at Villanova Law School for law students to discuss the benefits of Association membership. He thanked Vice-Chancellor Wilkinson for organizing the event.

Chancellor Garcia also reported that he spoke at the Annual Report presentation by the Interbranch Commission for Gender, Racial and Ethnic Fairness. He also attended and spoke at the naturalization ceremony held at the National Constitution Center on Constitution Day. Presiding over the ceremony were retired U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and U.S. District Judge Cynthia Rufe.

Chancellor Garcia announced that bar election season is upon us and called upon the Board to encourage members to run for election for office. He explained the duties of the Election Committee and announced that the "Nuts and Bolts" meeting for candidates will be held on September 26, 2011.

Chancellor Garcia also announced the upcoming September 27, 2011 Quarterly Meeting, which will honor Judge John Herron with the Brennan Award and feature *The Washington Post's* Eugene Robinson, who will give the Higginbotham Lecture. The Campaign for Qualified Judges will hold a fundraiser at Estia on October 3, 2011. F. Lee

Bailey will speak about trial tips on October 11, 2011. The Bench-Bar Conference will take place from October 14-15, 2011. The National Diversity Summit is scheduled for November 8, 2011.

Chair Foley announced that the Association's website has posted Chancellor Garcia's letter explaining the Association's position on pending immigration legislation and encouraged the Board to read the letter. Chair Foley congratulated the Philadelphia Diversity Law Group on its successful 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon and congratulated PDLG Co-President Danielle Banks for her work organizing the event. She also congratulated Andre Dennis as a recipient of the PDLG's Drum Major Award. Chair Foley invited Executive Director Ken Shear to introduce to the Board the Association's newest staff member, Communications Manager Aimee Cirucci.

Chair Foley welcomed LRIS Committee Co-Chairs James Francis and Michael Shaeffer to present a Resolution Adopting Enhancements to the Philadelphia Bar Association Low Fee (Modest Means) Program. The enhancements serve multiple purposes, including addressing the gap of people who do not qualify for legal aid because they make too much money, avoiding the loss of panel members due to unreasonably low fees, which were set back in 1992, and alleviating complaints from clients and lawyers alike regarding expectations on the scope of representation. Those enhancements include changing the terminology from "low fee" plan to "modest means"; changing rates so that they are consistent with the economic reality of 2011; and revising the intake form to clearly identify services that will be provided as well as services that will not be provided, in order to clarify the expectations of the attorney-client relationship. The Co-Chairs explained that the LRIS Committee has spent the last two years discussing these issues, interviewing lawyers and evaluating other bar associations' efforts. They also thanked Charlie Klitsch and Amy Seefield for their work on these issues. The Board unanimously passed the resolution.

Chair Foley invited ABA Delegates Andre Dennis and Abe Reich to report on the actions of the House of Delegates at the ABA Annual Meeting. Mr. Dennis reported that Resolution 107, which urged states to establish clearly articulated procedures for judicial disqualification determinations and prompt review of denials of requests to disqualify a judge, was passed by the House of Delegates. The Association did not take a position on that resolution. A vote on Resolution 122, which sought to adopt the ABA Standards for Language Access in Courts, dated August 2011, and urges courts and other tribunals to give high priority to the prompt implementation of those Standards, was postponed primarily due to concerns by the Conference of Chief Justices as to how the Standards would be implemented and paid for. This is an important issue and will likely come up again at the Mid-Year Meeting. Mr. Reich noted that Resolution 107 does not speak to standards for disqualification by U.S. Supreme Court Justices. He also noted that Judge Anne Lazarus and her task force are specifically looking at issues relating to disqualification and contributions to judicial elections. Paul Kazaras also sits on the task force along with other attorneys and law school professors from across the state.

Chancellor Garcia announced that Mr. Dennis has decided not to continue in his role as ABA Delegate next year and thanked Mr. Dennis for having served in his role with great distinction and to the credit of the Association.

Chancellor Garcia nominated Mary Kate Breslin to the Bar Reporter Editorial Board, which appointment was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chair Foley invited Bench Bar Conference Co-Chairs Shelley Fedullo and Jeff Gross to report on the status of the conference scheduled to take place October 14-15, 2011. The Co-Chairs reported that the conference is in great shape with almost 200 people registered to date. They added that the conference will provide many learning opportunities and that additional sponsors are needed.

Chair Foley invited Diversity Director Naomi McLaurin to update the Board on the National Symposium on Diversity in the Legal Profession, scheduled for November 8, 2011. Ms. McLaurin announced that the purpose of the symposium is to bring together diversity leaders from across the country to share best practices in inclusion and diversity. Robert Grey, who is the second African American to serve as President of the ABA, will serve as the keynote speaker. To date, 212 attendees are registered. Sponsorships are expected to target \$100,000.00, with expenses of \$65,500.00 anticipated. To date, the Association has received checks amounting to \$38,000.00.

Chair Foley invited Chancellor-Elect John Savoth to present on the Andrew Hamilton Benefit, scheduled to take place on November 19, 2011. Chancellor-Elect Savoth announced that the event is the primary fundraising event for the Philadelphia Bar Foundation and that it will take place at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Sponsorships are coming in at a good rate.

Chair Foley invited comments on old and new business. Ms. Banks extended her thanks for the success of the PDLG 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon to Diversity Director Naomi McLaurin and Secretary Sophia Lee. Scott Sigman announced events coming up for the Bar Academy, including an October 26, 2011 Oktoberfest event and a November 3, 2011 event featuring a renowned illustrator of children's books, Joe Krush. Secretary Lee announced that the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania is hosting its Annual Banquet to benefit the William M. Marutani Fellowship on October 12, 2011 and that U.S. Department of Justice Assistant Attorney General Tom Perez will be the keynote speaker. Lou Rulli announced that the groundbreaking of Community Legal Services' new offices took place on September 16 at Broad and Erie Streets.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sophia Lee  
Secretary

Board of Governors  
Attendance  
September 22, 2011

Voting Members:

Present:

Rudolph Garcia	Pedro Ramos
John Savoth	Scott Sigman
Kathleen Wilkinson	H. Marc Tepper
Sophia Lee	Brian Chacker
Jacqueline Segal	John Encarnacion
Joseph Prim	Nikki Johnson-Huston
Wesley Payne	Scott Reid
Regina Foley	Melanie Taylor
Brandi Brice	Judith Stein
Danielle Banks	Ourania Papademetriou
Richard Harris	Cheryl Gaston
Michael Shaffer	David Prewitt
Sean Sullivan	

Absent:

Jeffrey Campolongo	Carolyn Chopko
Kimberly Ruch-Alegant	Sandra Jeskie
Stacy Tees	Thomas Fitzpatrick
Gina Rubel	Julia Swain
Marc Zucker	George Nagle
Scott Cooper	Hon. A. Michael Snyder
Richard Seidel	

Non-Voting Members:

Present:

William Fedullo	Louis Rulli
Larry Beaser	Andre Dennis
Kenneth Shear	Abraham Reich
Judy Stouffer	

Absent:

Sayde Ladov	Cheryl Disch
Wendy Beetlestone	Flora Yarnall
Kim Jessum	Nancy Gimbol
Asima Panigrahi	