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Federal Career Service Division

The Federal Career Service Division assisted George Mason University (GMU) School of Law in reaching out to FBA attorneys in the Washington, D.C., area in a “speed networking” event in February for GMU students. Participants in the rewarding evening held in the atrium of GMU’s Arlington, Va., campus included: Bridget Dooling, Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget; Julia K. Douds, Library of Congress; Michael Eisenberg, Law Office of Michael D.J. Eisenberg; Dawn Goodman, Department of Justice’s Civil Division; Jack Hobaugh, Blank Rome LLP; and Neysa Slater-Chandler, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board and chair of the Federal Career Service Division.

The event was sponsored by GMU’s Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office in response to students’ requests to provide guidance on how to network with attorneys. The focus was on providing advice to students who are still in the job market and preparing students to be proactive in their job search. Attorneys sat at different tables, grouped by practice area or type of employer, and students visited briefly at each table and, after a designated period (in this case, approximately eight minutes), rotated to another group of attorneys. Students were advised to be prepared to ask questions about how to network and conduct informational interviews with attorneys; how to take advantage of bar associations; how to research small regional firms, nonprofits, or smaller government agencies; and how to get ready for the fall season when large firms and government agencies concentrate on hiring. Attorneys came prepared to listen and to offer advice—and to enjoy ice cream! During the second half of the event, students, alumni, and bar representatives mingled and enjoyed ice cream sundaes. Suzanne G. Mund, assistant director of GMU’s Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office, can be reached at smund@gmu.edu if your FBA chapter, alumni group, or area law school is interested in hosting a similar event.

Indian Law Section

For the first time in its history, the Federal Bar Association’s Indian Law Conference took place in a tribal community just outside of Santa Fe, N.M., at the Hilton Santa Fe at Buffalo Thunder, located on the Pueblo of Pojoaque. This historic move provided an opportunity for reflection on the relationship between federal Indian law and Indian communities, particularly in an era of political change and promise.

The 34th Annual Indian Law Conference, held on April 2–3, examined issues related to tribal advocacy before all three branches of the federal government through discussions on reservation-based economies, renewable energy, religious freedom, environmental regulation, legal ethics, Supreme Court litigation, and gaming. Other panels addressed opportunities for tribes to use the law as a tool in revitalizing Indian communities, particularly in light of the new presidential administration.

The events started off with the National Native American Bar Association and National Native American Law Student Association reception sponsored by Wal-Mart the evening before the conference. On April 2, participants heard from Gov. George Rivera of the Pueblo of Pojoaque during the luncheon and later enjoyed a reception dinner that featured a special presentation by local Native American dancers. During the luncheon on April 3, Carol Wild Scott, chair of the FBA Veterans Law Section, addressed conference attendees. The luncheon was followed by an awards presentation at which Philip Frickey, professor of law at the University of California at Berkeley, enjoyed the Lawrence Baca Lifetime Achievement

Award and Hon. D. Michael McBride III of Crowe & Dunlevy PC received the Indian Law Section Service Award.

The conference was chaired by Matthew L.M. Fletcher, associate professor, Michigan State University College of Law; Pilar Thomas, of counsel, Lewis & Roca LLC; Kristen Carpenter, associate professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law; and Richard Guest, staff attorney, Native American Rights Fund.

Section on Taxation

The 33rd Annual Tax Law Conference was held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on March 6. Highlights of the conference included remarks by Hon. Douglas Shulman, commissioner of Internal Revenue; Edward Kleinbard, chief of staff



Indian Law Section: At the 34th Annual Indian Law Conference—(top photo) Gov. George Rivera of the Pueblo of Pojoaque giving the luncheon address; (bottom photo) Hon. D. Michael McBride III of Crowe & Dunlevy PC, immediate past section chair and the recipient of the 2009 Indian Law Section Service Award.



Section on Taxation: At the 33rd Annual Tax Law Conference—(left photo, l to r) Section Chair Bill Elwell, American Council of Life Insurers; Danielle Rolfes, Ivins, Phillips & Barker Chartered; Hon. Douglas Shulman, commissioner of Internal Revenue; Terri McField, Internal Revenue Service, Office of Chief Counsel; (right photo, l to r) Section Chair Bill Elwell, American Council of Life Insurers; 2009 writing competition second place winner, David Schneider, third-year law student at George Washington University Law School; 2009 writing competition first place winner, James Kroger, LLM student at Georgetown University Law Center; Teresa Dondlinger Trissell, Internal Revenue Service; and Kari Larson, Latham & Watkins, LLP.

of the Joint Committee on Taxation; and Hon. John Colvin, chief judge of the U.S. Tax Court. Attendees heard an update on tax legislation from chief counsels of five Senate and House Committees. Concurrent sessions throughout the day included sessions focusing on critical developments in the fields of employee benefits and executive compensation, domestic corporate tax, international tax, tax practice and procedures, partnerships and pass-throughs, tax accounting, and financial products. Winners of the 2009 writing competition were also recognized at the conference. First place was awarded to James Kroger, an LLM student at Georgetown University Law Center; second place was awarded to David Schneider, a third-year law student at George Washington University Law School; and an honorable mention was awarded to William Joseph Mills, a third-year law student at the University of Illinois. Following the conference, a reception was held in honor of the winner of the 2009 Kenneth H. Liles Award: Mortimer M. Caplin, commissioner of Internal Revenue from 1961 to 1964.

The Tax Law Conference was chaired by Danielle Rolfes of Ivins, Phillips & Barker Chartered and Terri McField of the Internal Revenue Service, Office of Chief Counsel. The elite sponsors for the 2009 conference included Caplin & Drysdale Chartered; Dewey and LeBoeuf LLP; Ivins, Phillips & Barker Chartered; KPMG LLP; Mayer Brown LLP; McKee Nelson LLP; Miller & Chevalier Chartered; Morrison & Foerster

LLP; and Paul Hastings. The Section on Taxation would like to thank the sponsors for their continued support.

Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section

On March 10, the Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section hosted a panel discussion entitled “Legislative Update of the 111th Congress.” The panelists included two members of the section: David Heymsfeld, staff director, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and Denise Krepp, senior counsel, House Homeland Security Committee. Kathy Dedrick, senior

policy director for transportation for the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, also participated. The panelists spoke about the reauthorization of surface and aviation funding, in addition to the implementation of the 9/11 Act requirements. **TFL**

Sections and Divisions is compiled by Adrienne Woolley, FBA manager of sections and divisions. Send your sections and divisions information and photos to awoolley@fedbar.org or Sections and Divisions, Federal Bar Association, 1220 North Fillmore Street, Suite 444, Arlington, VA 22201.



Transportation & Transportation Security Law Section: At the March 10 panel discussion—(l to r) Kathy Dedrick, senior policy director for transportation, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works; Section Chair Denise Krepp, senior counsel, House Homeland Security Committee; and David Heymsfeld, staff director, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.