

Dear FBA ILS Board,

Thank you for your service during the past year on the FBA ILS Board -- we've had an incredible year! I am proud to report a sample of our many achievements, and want to thank you all for your leadership and involvement. **We held the final Board meeting of the fiscal year at the FBA National Convention. (The meeting for September 27th was therefore cancelled.)** I hope you'll join me in welcoming the new Executive Board that will take on their next leadership roles on October 1, 2018:

Roger Kobert, Esq. - Chair

Stephanie Moncada Gomez, Esq. - Vice Chair

Beth Persky, Esq. - Treasurer

Federica Hadar, Esq. - Secretary

FY2018 FBA ILS Highlights

1. Awarded FBA National Section Activity Award 2018

2. Held International CLE - The 5th International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform, April 12, 2018, 07:45AM - 05:00PM at American University Law School

The annual International Conference on Legislation and Law Reform focuses on how laws are written in the United States and around the world at the international, national, and subnational levels. It provides an unparalleled opportunity for a wide range of experts to meet and exchange knowledge and perspectives on a topic of great importance to governance: the drafting and reform of laws. Informative presentations from a diverse array of legislative experts.

3. Held University of Georgia Law Mock Interview Program

On April 13, 2018, the FBA International Law Section (ILS) conducted another of its expanding FBA Video Conferencing Mock Interview Programs. Coordinated through the University of Georgia (UGA), School of Law LL.M. program, and with the support of FBA ILS Student Liaison, Adriana-Maria Sarria, Graduate Research Assistant and UGA LL.M. Candidate, nine University of Georgia LL.M. students participated in individualized 1/2 hour video conferencing mock interview sessions with volunteers members of the FBA ILS leadership. This program builds on a program developed by Dean Toni Jaeger-Fine, Fordham University School of Law and FBA ILS Board Member, Raymond Dowd, former FBA General Counsel, Vice President for the Second Circuit, member of the Board of Directors, and President of the Southern District of New York Chapter, and Susan Kilgore, Membership Chair, FBA ILS. During the program, FBA volunteers conducted multiple video conference mock interviews, and provided individualized and detailed feedback to fine-tune student interviewing skills.

4. Held CLE Performance - "22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v. Freeman" -- an historical reenactment

Moderated by Judge Denny Chin of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, the "Cast" of 29 students and FBA members reenacted an immigration case that reached the Supreme Court in

the 1870s. The program was co-sponsored with the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY).

5. Celebrated International Women's Day

Human Rights - Migrant and Domestic Violence Victims: A Roundtable Discussion was held at the Fordham Law School on March 8, 2018 at which the following spoke: Professor Deborah Anker, Dr. Esra Y. Alamiri, Francesca Braga, LLM and Mimi Tsankov.

6. Coordinated the release of the "Statement of FBA President Kip T. Bollin on International Women's Day" (March 8, 2018)

Each year, on March 8, the world marks International Women's Day. Today, the Federal Bar Association joins the United Nations and other organizations and institutions worldwide, as we reflect on the past year of increased consciousness and activism on women's rights, gender equality, and fundamental justice around the globe. The marches, campaigns, and other events of recent months have highlighted the extent of some of the barriers to women's equality – gender discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse, gender violence, and worse. Regrettably, the legal profession and the justice system have not been immune. The FBA supports the full and equal access to, and participation by, all individuals in the Association, the legal profession, and the justice system regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or any other unique attribute.

The FBA recognizes that strength lies in diversity, and that women and girls are the world's greatest untapped resource, with the potential to transform economies and societies everywhere. FBA members, and lawyers in general, have a vital role to play in making gender equality a reality around the world. The theme of International Women's Day this year is: "Time is Now." As the FBA marks the occasion, we redouble our commitment to the values of diversity, equality, and justice for all; and we stand with all of those – both women and men, lawyers and non-lawyers – who are working to advance gender justice and to make the world a better, fairer place for everyone. It is a job that we all must share.

7. Jessup International Moot Court "Qualifying Rounds" Competition

Immediate Past President Brian C. Murphy completed his second Fulbright Scholarship in Sofia, Bulgaria. During the weekend of February 16-18, 2018, Past President Murphy presided over the Jessup International Moot Court "Qualifying Rounds" Competition held at the Supreme Court of Cassation, Sofia, Bulgaria, which is the final court of appeal in the Republic of Bulgaria.

8. Fordham International Law Affinity Event

On January 22, 2018, Fordham Law School Dean and FBA International Law Section Board Member Toni Jaeger-Fine and FBA SDNY Chapter Board Member Ray Dowd hosted a Fordham International Law Affinity Group training and networking event at Fordham Law School. The program involved a series of Mock Interviews with leaders in the legal community, followed by a presentation by the Honorable Denny Chin, and a cocktail reception. FBA International Law Section Chair Mimi Tsankov participated, as well. In addition, I'm proud to report that Susan Kilgore, Membership Chair, FBA International Law Section, went the extra mile, and conducted

a series of Mock Interviews via Skype from Texas for students who were unable to participate in the actual event.

9. FBA Careers Panel at the University of Virginia

On November 3, 2017 current FBA DC Chair and International Law Section Past Chair Brian Murphy presided over this career panel event.

10. FBA SDNY Chapter Co-Sponsored Presentation at Fordham Law School

On November 2, 2017, FBA International Law Section and FBA SDNY Chapter Board Member Mimi Tsankov presented an informal talk to LLM students at Fordham Law School on opportunities within the FBA for law students and younger lawyers. The program is part of an ongoing relationship between Fordham, the FBA, longtime FBA national leader Raymond Dowd, Esq. and Dean Toni Jaeger-Fine, Board Member, FBA International Law Section. The students were excited to join the FBA and learn more about FBA's application for United Nations Consultative Status. Many of them participated in the following jointly-sponsored program: An historical reenactment of "The Case of 22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v Freeman" -- an immigration case that reached the Supreme Court in the 1870s. Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Denny Chin presided over the Reenactment and the program was co-sponsored with the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY).

11. Fordham Law School - Human Rights Adjudication and the FBA

Provided an introduction to human rights adjudication in the US, the role of stakeholders, such as the FBA, in shaping policy and informing debate, and the pending FBA application for UN Consultative Status. Sponsored by Fordham Law School, FBA International Law Section and FBA SDNY Chapter on November 2nd, 2017.

12. U.N. Consultative Status Application

The Section continued to monitor the FBA ILS supported U.N. Consultative Status Application before the U.N.'s NGO Committee of ECOSOC. That involved providing updates to FBA leadership and members of the FBA Government Relations Committee. The FBA ILS engaged in outreach to FBA National regarding Immigration Judge Article 1 status and FBA's planned testimony before the U.S. Senate.

13. Coordinated release of educational materials to commemorate "Day of the Endangered Lawyer" through the posting on the FBA ILS website a series of educational materials.

14. Edited and published articles in The Federal Lawyer Magazine.

The Section publishes a regular column in The Federal Lawyer Magazine and contributes photos and commentary following FBA ILS sponsored events. In addition, the FBA edited the International Law Issue of The Federal Lawyer, and submitted multiple articles for publication.

15. Served on the Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion

In order to support this task force and to support the cause itself, the Section held a number of events designed to welcome diversity and inclusion:

- a. Roundtable discussion - International Women's Day, March 8, 2018*
- b. Historical Reenactment - "22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v Freeman" - March 14, 2018*
- c. Women's Roundtable Discussion - FBA National Convention - September 14, 2018*

16. Held an International Women's Roundtable Discussion on Human Rights at the FBA National Convention

Once again, thank you for your leadership and important contributions to this professional association.

Sincerely,

Mimi Tsankov
Chair, FBA International Law Section