



# WSBA

## WASHINGTON YOUNG LAWYERS DIVISION

To: WSBA Board of Governors  
From: John M. Brangwin, WYLD President  
Re: WYLD Quarterly Report (March 2007)  
Date: February 16, 2007

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Thank you for the opportunity to report on the current status of the Washington Young Lawyers Division (WYLD). The theme for this year is "Succeeding in Practice." To help young lawyers achieve success we have provided guidance and training in professionalism, quality of life, networking, career development, and skills training. The WYLD has been very busy during the second quarter of FY 2007 and we continue to make plans for the remainder of the year as summarized below.

### **Board of Trustee Meetings**

Board meetings were held on December 2, 2006, and January 24, 2007. Important agenda items for both meetings included discussion on RPC 1.5; the Practice of Law Board's Legal Technician Pilot Project; selection of the new associate editor of *De Novo*; 2007 WYLD elections and the new At-large seat; the 2008 ABA-YLD Fall Conference; and Trustee District reports. The next Board meeting will be held on March 24 in Wenatchee. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual LaSD statewide conference. This year the WYLD has partnered with LaSD to co-host the conference which is entitled: Lawyer Services and Young Lawyers Present: Evolution of a Legal Career. In April, the Board will meet in Seattle and participate in the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth and Law Forum.

### **2007 WYLD Elections**

The WYLD is currently seeking applications for the following districts: At-large, King County District, Snohomish County District, Southwest District, Spokane County District, and President-elect. Again, we would like to express our gratitude to the Board of Governors for approving the WYLD's request for the addition of the At-large seat to the Board of Trustees. The Board and the WYLD Committee for Diversity will be working together to solicit qualified candidates for this new position. The deadline for all applications is May 1, 2007.

### **WYLD Committees**

The **CLE Committee** will sponsor two CLE's this spring. A seminar on electronic evidence discovery will be presented on April 4 and on May 10 they will present a CLE on mediation and complex litigation.

The **Committee for Diversity** will be working with the Minority Bar Associations to recruit candidates for the At-large position on the Board. The Committee is also researching the possibility of hosting a sensitivity training this fall which would be open to the entire WYLD.

*Working Together to Champion Justice*

The **Pro Bono/Public Service Committee** is planning to expand the *Wills for Heroes* program in North Seattle and Yakima. The committee is also working on a spring immigration law clinic with Seattle University's Access to Justice Institute.

The **Membership Committee** is sponsoring the Young Lawyer Express No. 7, a free CLE, in Leavenworth on Saturday, February 24, 2007. Speakers include prominent attorneys from the Wenatchee area including the Honorable John E. Bridges of Chelan County Superior Court. The event will also include a winery tour and group dinner following the CLE and on Sunday there will be skiing at Stevens Pass.

### **2007 Bridging the Gap Conference**

The WYLD and the KCBA-YLD will co-sponsor the 2007 Bridging the Gap Conference for young lawyers and law students on March 2-3, 2007, in Lynnwood. This low-cost, two-day CLE extravaganza will provide practical skills training in negotiation, mediation, legal writing, ethics, networking, client development and relations, law practice management, and much more. This nuts & bolts program is designed to put new lawyers on the fast track to success.

### **2007 Pre-Law Student Leadership Conference**

The 2007 Pre-Law Student Leadership Conference will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2007, at the Yakima Convention Center. The Conference is designed to introduce high school students from across the state, particularly minority and underprivileged students, to the legal profession and court system. Volunteer attorneys from around the state are working together to plan student workshops and recruit volunteers to participate in facilitating the workshops. Ron Knox, WLI Advisory Board Chair, will be the keynote speaker at the conference luncheon.

### ***De Novo***

At the January 24, 2007, Board meeting Cynthia B. Jones was appointed as the new associate editor of *De Novo*. Ms. Jones will begin an eighteen-month term on April 1, 2007. Following the successful completion of her term as associate editor, she will then assume the editor position for an additional eighteen months. The Board would like to extend their thanks and appreciation to Jason Vail, the outgoing editor of *De Novo*. Jason's outstanding contributions have made a tremendous impact on the quality of our publication and aided *De Novo* in gaining national recognition from the ABA-YLD with an award for top newsletter in 2005-2006.

### **YMCA Mock Trial Program**

The WYLD is again working with the YMCA Youth and Government Program and the Washington Judges Foundation to sponsor the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual High School Mock Trial State Championships. The event will be held in Olympia on March 23-25, 2007. In addition to financial support, the WYLD assists the YMCA in recruiting volunteer attorney raters and provides publicity for the event. This program offers young lawyers the opportunity to join forces with judges and attorneys from all levels of state and local government in supporting the education of our state's future leaders.

The WYLD appreciates the continued support of the Board of Governors and WSBA staff.