

WSBA IP Section  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
02/11/2025

- BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rodney Tullett (RT) (Past Chair); Connie Wan (CW) (Chair); Jim Vana (Secretary-Treasurer); Sunah Lee (SL); Nika Aldrich (NA); Elizabeth Breakstone (EB); Greg Plichta (GP).

A. YOUNG LAWYER LIAISON: Heather Hedeem

B. SECTION LIAISON: Carolyn MacGregor (CM)

C. BOG LIAISONS:

D. WSBA CLE LIAISON: Sally Romero (SR)

- CALL TO ORDER: 4:03 PM

QUORUM: QUORUM

- REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANURARY MINUTES

Motion: Connie Wan

Second: Nika Aldrich

Vote: all

Abstention: 0

Nay: 0

Motion: approved

- THINGS TO BE DECIDED AND WORKED ON

A. ELECTIONS AND APPOINT: ONE VACANCY, AT LARGE

Nominee: Baha Obeidat from Seed IP. Here is Baha's profile:

<https://www.seedip.com/attorneys/baha-a-obeidat>.

Motion:

Motion made by:

Second:

Vote:

Motion:

Discussion: Tabled for next meeting

- SCHOLARSHIPS

We have 15K in the budget to give as scholarships for local law schools. The student awardees will be invited to attend the IP Institute.

- University of Washington: \$5000

- Seattle University: \$5000

- Gonzaga University: \$5000.

**Discussion:** Connie has reached out to all three law schools. No further progress at Gonzaga.

A. PRO-BONO PROGRAM UPDATE

**Update:** The program has started. Seattle U is hosting the program. We have seven applications. DWT and Perkin Coie Pro Bono Programs. Five applications now assigned; volunteers are working with the inventors.

B. JOINT MEETING WITH OTHER SECTIONS: CORPORATE COUNSEL SECTION, INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE SECTION, INN OF COURT

**Discussion:** Program not impacted by government cuts to administrative agencies. Potential for firm marketing on USPTO site based on participation in this program.

C. CLE UPDATES:

IP Mini CLE

- i. Chairs: Connie, Elizabeth
- ii. Date:
  - March 27, 2025: noon-1
    - Topic: IP dispute on Amazon (Part I: Taking down, ? Focal Law)
  - June 26, 2025: noon-1
    - Topic: Domain name disputes (Jen, Focal Law)
  - September 25, 2025: noon-1
    - Topic: IP dispute on Amazon (Part II: Being shaken down, ??)

- iii. Format: Virtual lunchtime CLE

**Discussion:** We decide to offer this CLE events as a series of three mini-CLE event. The CLE will be offered at the last Thursday of each quarter as lunch time mini-CLEs. Connie asked for volunteers or recommendations. Still looking for a speaker for each of March 27 and September 25. The CLE will be free to IP section members and will be \$35 for the non-IP section members. All WA law students can attend for free.

28<sup>th</sup> Annual IP Institute

- i. Chairs: Rodney, Connie, Syed
- ii. Date: April 24, 2025 (Thursday)
- iii. Format: In person with a speaker's dinner on April 23, 2025 (Wednesday)

**Discussion:** Alain and Amazon VP on Amazon marketplace disputes. Nika on design patent. Jim on trademark update. Suggestion for update on government changes to IP environment. Possible USPTO speaker on ethics.

IP Licensing CLE

- i. Chairs: Jim, Sunah
- ii. Date: Q3, 2025
- iii. Format:

**Discussion:** Jim and Sunah will discuss content and speakers.

CLE Timely Topics '25

- i. Chairs: Connie, Rodney
- ii. Date:

- a. Dec. 4, 2024: done
- b. Feb. 12, 2025:

1. 35 U.S.C. § 101 and AI-based Inventions at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB)

A discussion of recent patent eligibility decisions for AI-based inventions at the PTAB and recent patent eligibility guidance for AI promulgated by the USPTO. David Easwaran – K&L Gates LLP, Charlotte, NC

Brett White – K&L Gates LLP, Raleigh, NC  
2. ABC's of Online IP Enforcement  
Alaine Villeneuve, General Counsel, TRX

- c. March 19, 2025: IP licensing/transaction (TBD)
- iii. Format: Remote

**Discussion:** This CLE is now offered as three 2-hr CLE events.

D. Benefit to the section members

- Spotlight
  - i. mini-CLE series: free to the IP members, \$35 for non-members
  - ii. Mentorship Program: Greg, Heather
  - iii. Spotlight on Arts & Entertainment Law, March 7 – 8:30-2:30, 5 credit CLE
  - iv. Networking events
- **Discussion:** Goal is at least 3 events

E. WSBA LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

A. Chair: Elizabeth Breakstone

**Discussion:** No update

F. WSBA election set up form due

- ADJOURN: 4:39