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## Annual WBA/WBA Foundation Dinner

The WBA and WBA Foundation will host their Annual Dinner on Tuesday, May 25, at the historic and elegant National Building Museum.

Since 1964, the WBA has presented its **Woman Lawyer of the Year Award** at the Annual Dinner. This award is the WBA's oldest award, and is given each year to recognize a woman for her exceptional achievements in the legal profession and/or for her extraordinary contributions to the advancement of women in the profession. This year, the WBA is proud to present the Woman Lawyer of the Year Award to **Nancy Duff "Duffy" Campbell**, Founder and Co-President of the [National Women's Law Center](#), one of the nation's preeminent women's rights organizations.

For over 35 years, Ms. Campbell has participated in the development and implementation of key legislative initiatives and litigation protecting women's rights, with an emphasis on low income women and their families. Ms. Campbell has been named by *Working Woman* magazine as one of the top 25 heroines whose actions over the last 25 years have advanced women in the workplace, and by Trinity College as a Woman of Genius. In addition, she has been selected for inclusion in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who of American Women*. She also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for her work to improve child support enforcement, and was appointed by Congress to the U.S. Commission on Child and Family Welfare.

Ms. Campbell is the recipient of the DC Bar's William J. Brennan Award, in recognition of her exemplary legal career dedicated to service in the public interest, was honored by the Center for Law and Social Policy at its 25th Anniversary Dinner, and has been recognized by her law school as an "NYU Alumnus/Alumna of the Month." She has served on the DC Bar Board of Governors, including its Executive Committee, and is currently a member of several other Boards and Advisory Committees. Ms. Campbell is also a Fellow of the American Bar Association.

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### **Mon., May 3, 2010**

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Harnessing the Power of Social Media

Ms. Campbell received her undergraduate degree from Barnard College of Columbia University and her law degree from New York University School of Law. Prior to the National Women's Law Center, she was a law professor at Georgetown University Law Center and Catholic University School of Law, as well as an attorney with the Center on Social Welfare Policy and Law (now the National Center for Law and Economic Justice) in New York.

Ms. Campbell will be introduced by **Brooksley E. Born**, retired partner of Arnold & Porter LLP and former law clerk to Judge Henry W. Edgerton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Ms. Born currently chairs the Board of the National Women's Law Center, which she helped to found, and has served on the Boards of the American Bar Association, American Bar Foundation, and ALI-ABA.

The WBA and WBA Foundation are also pleased to be hosting **Valerie Jarrett**, Chair of the [White House Council on Women and Girls](#) and the Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, as the keynote speaker. Prior to her current position, Ms. Jarrett served as Co-Chair of the Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team, and Senior Advisor to Obama's presidential campaign. She also served as Finance Chair for President Obama's 2004 run for the U.S. Senate.

For additional information about the WBA/WBA Foundation Annual Dinner, including tickets and sponsorship opportunities, visit [www.wbdc.org](http://www.wbdc.org) or call 202-639-8880. Proceeds from the Annual Dinner also help support the WBA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) educational and charitable organization that advances the interests of women lawyers, seeks to improve the legal

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profession generally, and aids the most needy members of our community, particularly at-risk women and girls.

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## Navigating the Corporate Matrix: Advancing Women in Corporate Law Departments

By **Laura A. Wilkinson, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP** and **Sarah Johnson Auchterloine, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**



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On March 10, 2010, the WBA continued its Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women with a day-long summit entitled **Navigating the Corporate Matrix: Advancing Women in Corporate Law Departments**. This summit was the third phase of an effort that began in 2006 to address the retention and advancement of women in the legal profession.

The first two phases of the Initiative focused on women's development as leaders in DC law firms. Phase I addressed strategies for women to develop their skills as managers and rainmakers in law firms. Phase II provided concrete suggestions for addressing the combined impact of gender and race that affects the success and advancement of women attorneys of color. The literature, ideas, and suggestions garnered in Phases I and II are reported in WBA publications: **Creating Pathways to Success** (WBA 2006) and **Creating Pathways to Success for All** (WBA 2008).

While the Initiative's first two phases focused primarily on law firm practice and law students, the third phase addresses the growth and promotion of women in corporate environments, which present a different array of challenges and opportunities for female counsel. The research, observations, and recommendations of the summit's many participants will be shared in the Initiative's third report, **Navigating the Corporate Matrix**, to be distributed at the **WBA Annual Dinner** on May 25, 2010.

Summit participants packed the sixth-floor conference room at American University's Washington College of Law. Opening remarks were provided by WBA President **Consuela Pinto**, Initiative Co-Chair **Monica Parham**, and the Washington College of Law's Associate Director of Women and the Law **Daniela Kraiem**. The first plenary session began with a panel of in-house counsel leaders from the region: **Micki Chen** (Verizon), **Lori Knauer** (DuPont),

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**Hyacinth Kucik** (Freddie Mac), and **Joyce Slocum** (NPR), and was moderated by **Amy Bess** (Vedder Price). These attorneys provided suggestions for how to land an in-house position after practicing in a firm and what it takes to be successful in that role, especially given the flat organizational structure of most in-house law departments. All participants agreed that teamwork skills, the ability to balance risks, and fully understanding the business are necessary components of success. They further suggested that in-house counsel embrace new areas of law and develop relationships with the company's business people.

The second plenary session explored the strategies for success and best practices of chief legal officers: General Counsel **Robert Stern** (Sodexo) moderated a panel comprised of General Counsels **Elizabeth Abdo** (Host Hotels), **Danielle Aguto** (France Telecom North America), and **Denise Esposito** (Emergent BioSolutions). The panelists described their varied pathways to success and how they acquired and honed their managerial and business communication skills. They also described ways to measure success in a corporate law department where there often are few opportunities for promotion. For instance, an individual attorney's markers of success could include gaining visibility with key managers and business persons, requiring less oversight from superiors, and becoming part of the department's succession plan. All panel members stressed the importance of partnering with internal business clients and helping to develop solutions for the business clients to consider rather than simply saying "no."

A highlight of the conference was the keynote address by **Anastasia Kelly**, former partner at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering LLP and former General Counsel at several of the nation's largest businesses, including most recently AIG. Ms. Kelly walked the audience down her career path, beginning with her first years as a law firm associate in Dallas and working mother of twins to her first in-house position as Chief Legal Officer of Fannie Mae. She provided a frank, funny, and real image of her leadership at Sears, Roebuck and Co., MCI Worldcom, and AIG. Her personal stories about developing relationships with key business leaders and the importance of managerial communication illuminated and punctuated the messages of the morning's panelists.

After Ms. Kelly's lunchtime address, summit participants joined one of four breakout sessions covering various topics of interest to both in-house and law firm counsel: best practices for corporate law departments; skill development and strategies for success for junior and mid-level in-house attorneys; strategies for success in promotion to senior levels; and career enhancement through managing relationships with in-house clients and law firm counsel. These sessions presented the opportunity for open discussion and opinion-gathering in a smaller setting.

The final plenary session of the day provided the ideas and perspectives of the business side. Panelists were Counsel and Senior/Executive Vice-Presidents **Charisse Lillie** (Comcast), **Maureen O'Connell** (News Corporation), and **Deena Williamson** (Williams Lea). **Tricia Daniels** of Deloitte Financial Services moderated. Panelists described the quick pace of the corporate environment and the elusive work-life balance. They again stressed that corporate counsel must understand the company's business and financial imperatives. The panel also provided more detail on how to effectively communicate messages about risk to their non-lawyer business colleagues.

After closing remarks by WBA President-Elect and Initiative Co-Chair **Holly Loiseau**, attendees finished the day with a networking reception honoring the many successes and surmounted challenges of the summit's panelists. Although the summit was developed to promote the retention and advancement of in-house women, it was clear by the end of the day that the many suggestions and recommendations for success in the in-house legal environment are applicable throughout the legal profession.

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## WBA Receives NCWBA Outstanding Member Program Award



The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations (NCWBA) has named the WBA a winner of its 2010 Outstanding Member Program Award. The WBA's boot camp program, *Hit the Ground Running: Practical Skills You Need to Succeed*, will be recognized at the NCWBA's 2010 Women's Bar Leader Summit, to be held in San Francisco in August 2010.

The NCWBA Outstanding Member Program Award was first presented in 2008 and recognizes women's bar programs and services that primarily provide training and other benefits for their members. The purpose of the award is both to honor the work of the organization selected and to inspire other women's bar groups to consider creating similar programs in their own associations and communities.

*Hit the Ground Running: Practical Skills You Need to Succeed* is a full-day, hands-on training program for third-year law students and judicial clerks, planned by the Law Student Project of the WBA's Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women. The innovative and unique program, first held on February 7, 2009, utilized both lectures and small groups, and applied learning workshops to provide training in three skills critical for success: effective communication, self promotion, and building internal and external networks. The program was designed to address a need that was identified during Phase I of the WBA's Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women: women lawyers traditionally learn critical skills necessary for success too late in their careers to have an impact. This finding was underscored by new research that shows that women lawyers have a short period of time when they begin their legal careers, in some cases just 12 weeks, to develop the relationships necessary for success.

Members of the Law Student Project designed the boot camp curriculum and created comprehensive faculty guides. Faculty members then trained attendees on both the substantive skills and how to critique participants. The faculty included approximately 40 practicing attorneys from the Washington DC legal community. Professional trainers conducted group lectures on effective communication and self promotion skills. During breakout sessions following the group lectures, students had an opportunity to practice the skills just learned and received constructive feedback from faculty members. The day ended with a lecture on networking skills followed by a speed networking reception.

This program was designed to be easily replicated by other bar associations and law schools, and was featured at the Ms. JD Annual Conference in November 2009.

*Hit the Ground Running* was offered at little or no cost to area law students through the support of sponsoring firms and other supporters: **LexisNexis, Huron Consulting Group, Kroll Associates, Inc., Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, and WBA Foundation Board Members.** Space for the event was donated by **Howrey, LLP** and **Reliable Copy** produced all materials.

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## President's Column: Year in Review



**By Consuela Pinto, WBA President**

Time has certainly flown by. It is hard to believe that a year has passed since I wrote my first President's Letter. As I sit at my laptop drafting my final letter as President of the WBA, I am awed by all that we accomplished this past year. The power of this organization to address the ever-changing needs of our members, the profession, and the DC community is nothing less than remarkable.

Career development was a major focus of this bar year. Now more than ever before, attorneys at all levels need to think creatively about their careers, revitalize and expand their networks, and develop strategies for addressing negative work experiences. To that end, the WBA hosted several programs, including a speed mentoring reception; an interactive program featuring **Anna Rappaport**, who guided the attendees through exercises focused on overcoming negative work experiences; panel presentations on alternative careers, job opportunities in the non-profit sector, strategies for securing a judicial appointment, and how to run for political office; and an interactive program with **Ellen Ostrow** on expanding personal networks by building social capital. Finally, through the generous support of a several professional career coaches, the WBA was able to offer free coaching sessions to our unemployed members. The sessions were munificently donated by **Ellen Ostrow, Naomi Beard, Jeannine Rupp, Kate Neville, Anna Rappaport, Nina Pan, Deborah Katz Solomon, and Cathleen Szebrat**.

Additionally, the WBA stepped up its long-standing commitment to community service. We hosted a breast cancer legal advocacy workshop; participated in the Susan G. Koman Race for the Cure; conducted a three-month food drive to benefit the DC Capital Area Food Bank's Food for Kid's Program; identified volunteer opportunities available throughout the DC community; and honored Washington, DC attorneys who have made community service their life's work. Finally, on May 15, we will host a beautification day at an inner city elementary school.

On March 10, 2010, the WBA launched Phase III of its groundbreaking Initiative on Advancement and Retention of Women with a day-long Summit entitled *Navigating the Corporate Matrix: Advancing Women in Corporate Law Departments*. The summit was a tremendous success. Together, we broke new ground on the challenges that impede women in-house counsels' advancement to the highest levels of corporate America. The WBA will release a report outlining the findings of the Summit at the **Annual Awards Dinner**.

The WBA will close this bar year as it does every year with the WBA/WBA Foundation Annual Awards Dinner. This premier event will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, at the historic National Building Museum. This year's dinner will honor those who answer the call to serve the members of our community every day and encourage others to follow in their footsteps. In keeping with this theme, we will honor **Nancy Duff Campbell**, Co-President and Founder of the **National Women's Law Center**, as our **Woman Lawyer of the Year**. For over 40 years, Ms. Campbell has spearheaded the development of women's legal rights through litigation, legislative advocacy, appearances before the Executive Branch and its agencies, and public education. She has participated in the development of key initiatives advancing and protecting women's rights, particularly in the areas of education, employment, health and reproductive rights, and family economic security. Additionally, the WBA and WBA

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Foundation are honored to have **Valerie Jarrett**, Chair of the White House Council on Women and Girls and the Senior Advisor and Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement, deliver the keynote remarks at the Dinner.

I would like to close my final president's letter with a profound thank you to the many outstanding women leaders with whom I had the privilege of working this past year. The past presidents remain active and committed members of our organization, continuously giving their time, ideas, and talents to the WBA. Moreover, this year would not have been such a resounding success without the leadership and wise counsel of the members of the 2009-2010 WBA Board of Directors. I was also extremely fortunate to have a dedicated group of committee and forum co-chairs who furthered the goals and mission of the WBA by executing several high-quality, timely, and creative programs and events. The WBA Foundation also continued to be a valued partner this year. Through its charitable efforts to improve the lives of underprivileged women and girls, the WBA Foundation has extended the reputation of the WBA beyond the legal profession and into the community at large. It was an honor and a privilege to work with each and every one of these talented women.

Finally, I would like to thank the WBA membership for allowing me to lead this wonderful organization. I am honored to have had this opportunity. I look forward to thanking you in person at our Annual Dinner.

Fondly,  
Consuela Pinto

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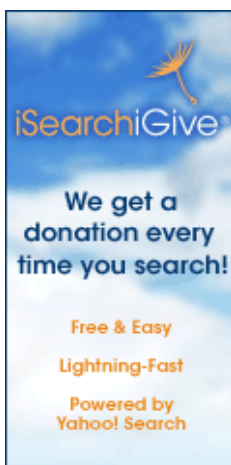
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## Unite for Justice by Giving to the WBA Foundation



By **Diana M. Savit, WBA Foundation President**

On April 27, 2010, the Women's Bar Association Foundation held its first-ever recognition event for the outstanding recipients of the WBAF's grants in 2009-10. [See below for more details about this event and our companion fund-raising effort, *Uniting for Justice*.] Thank you to everyone who joined us as we formally presented the Foundation's monetary awards to the wonderful local organizations that carry out the WBAF's missions of improving the administration of justice and advancing the interests of women and girls.

We decided to turn the spotlight on our grant recipients as a way of reminding everyone of the continued importance of charitable giving, and of the utility of doing at least part of that giving through donations to the WBAF. It probably comes as no surprise that the economic downturn that began in 2008 led to an overall drop in charitable giving in the United States of approximately 5%—a small-looking percentage that actually translates into millions upon millions of dollars. Although final statistics are not yet in, charitable giving for 2009 is also expected to be lower than it was in financially more secure times. On the other hand, women have continued to feel the need and to answer the call to help others. A November 2009 survey in Great Britain, conducted by SKOPOS for MBNA, found that 67% of women had made charitable contributions in the past three years, compared with 37% of men—and that they did so even though more women found it difficult to give. This committed attitude toward giving is best summed up by 41-year-old Lindsey Quinn, interviewed as part of the survey, who said she continued to donate to charity in 2009 because, "a little bit, given often, adds up and in the recession I think that it is more important than ever to do what one can for charities." Precisely! If each of us does what we can, we can collectively make a huge impact.

Nearly every tradition values generosity and kindness toward others, particularly the less fortunate. Americans have historically been a generous people. The enormous number of charities and philanthropic institutions in this country (just check your mailbox or email inbox if you have any doubt about the thousands of opportunities you have to help others), the public policy of encouraging charitable contributions by making them tax deductible, the number of

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tribute events every year for those who devote themselves to others, the emphasis upon a person's generosity (in both time and money) whenever biographical information is prepared—these speak for themselves.

The "charity" itself comes from the French *charité*, itself derived from the Latin *caritas*. Over the centuries, it has come to stand for loving kindness; in the past five centuries, it has specifically referred, for most people, to good works and giving to the poor. Islam places *zakat*, or alms-giving, among the Five Pillars of Islam. The community has an affirmative duty not only to collect *zakat*, but also to distribute it fairly.

Hindu law speaks of *dana*—generosity or giving. Buddhism also recognizes *dana* as the practice of cultivating generosity. Buddhists believe that the act of giving helps the receiver, and also improves the giver. Judaism emphasizes that *tzedakah* (usually translated as "charity," but actually derived from word for "justice" or "righteousness") is a religious obligation that is an important part of a spiritual life; *tzedakah*, therefore, is not voluntary but is incumbent upon all, regardless of financial means (because someone is always in greater need).

As we can see, no matter what tradition inspires us—historical, secular, religious, familial, innate feeling—charitable giving is an important component of our humanity, and there are few arguments to be made against it. Money should not be given blindly, however; we are obligated not merely to give, but to see that what we give is used well. This is where the Foundation comes in. We receive grant applications from organizations and evaluate them for compatibility with our mission, which is to support causes near and dear to the hearts of the members of the WBA. We ask probing questions of our grant recipients in an effort to make sure that the dollars with which we are entrusted are used wisely and well. We make grants in larger amounts than most of us could donate individually, thus increasing the impact of each donor's charitable dollars. And we identify worthy causes—particularly new organizations that may not have the resources to conduct expensive fundraising campaigns to reach thousands of individuals—that might otherwise fly under your radar screen. In January, for example, in just a few days, the WBAF identified a girls' school and orphanage in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti that had been destroyed in the earthquake in that country. The Foundation board quickly approved a significant grant to help the **Grace House of Hope for Girls** begin the enormous task of rebuilding. Many individuals added to that grant, allowing the WBAF to make a substantial collective contribution to a needy and worthy cause. (Contributions are still needed and welcome; you can contribute at [www.wbadc.org/Foundation](http://www.wbadc.org/Foundation).)

We ask, therefore, in these trying economic times, that you accept the responsibility to help others who are in even greater need, who are at greater risk, who need our care and concern—and **unite** with the Foundation **for justice** by making a contribution, and by joining us on April 27 to recognize some of the insufficiently sung heroes of the District of Columbia philanthropic world.

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## WBAF Launches "Uniting For Justice" Fundraising and Giving Campaign

On April 27, the Women's Bar Association Foundation launched its new fundraising and giving campaign, *Uniting for Justice*. The campaign is designed to aggressively deepen WBAF's important impact and will strengthen the work of its stellar grantees who directly change lives of women and children in our community.

At a reception held at the law firm of Arnold and Porter, the WBAF presented its first grant awards associated with the *Uniting for Justice* campaign: \$27,500 in grants to nine local organizations supporting the needs of disadvantaged women and girls in the DC metropolitan region.

According to WBAF's development committee and campaign chair, **Karen Lockwood**, "*Uniting for Justice* marks the launch of a new phase in the WBAF's philanthropic work. Our members' insights and relationships with the community and courts uniquely drives us, as

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women lawyers, to serve the unmet needs with financial support that surpasses what each of us can provide."

The campaign was formulated with the belief that every woman has potential, and that potential must be empowered by a just and effective legal system, by education, by mentoring, by safety nets for children, and by equal access to what is needed.

"With the *Uniting for Justice* campaign, we raise the stakes on our own drive to serve by finding and uniting funding resources and heading them powerfully in the direction needed to bring greater help to changing the lives of our community's women and girls, every day, in every way," Lockwood said.

**Tina Tchen**, Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement, was the special guest speaker at the *Uniting for Justice* reception, and each of the nine grantees was able to offer a brief introduction to their work. The grantees included: **Ayuda, DC Volunteer Lawyers Project, DV LEAP, SisterMentors-Eduseed, Interstages, Legal Counsel for the Elderly, Polaris Project, Survivors and Advocates for Empowerment**, and the **Washington Middle School for Girls**.

For more information about the *Uniting for Justice* Campaign, contact WBAF consultant Karen Paul-Stern at [karen@kpsdevelopment.org](mailto:karen@kpsdevelopment.org). To make a contribution, visit [www.wbadc.org/foundation](http://www.wbadc.org/foundation).

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## Committee & Forum Highlights

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## Challenging Times Bear Unexpected Gifts: Reflections Upon a Year of Career Development Programs

By **Stephanie K. Wood, WilmerHale, and Bronwen Blass, WilmerHale, Co-Chairs of the Career Development Committee**

As new co-chairs of the Career Development Committee, we began our terms last fall with the realization that the economic conditions posed both some practical obstacles for planning programs, as well as a significant opportunity given the increased need for a focus on career-related challenges. Many of the WBA's members and other individuals within the legal community have experienced lay-offs and uncertainty about their sources of livelihood, which has increased their need for useful programs while creating a reticence to spend valuable time and money on bar association activities. In an effort to create a common theme for a series of programs, we considered what types of topics would be worthwhile to potential participants when their discretionary time and funds were more limited than in the past. We also wondered, however, who would be willing to offer their services for these programs free of charge (in accordance with the WBA's policy) when their own sources of income were shrinking. As to the first question, we agreed upon a mission for the committee's programming, and as to the second question, we discovered that challenging times could bear unexpected gifts.

We endeavored to provide programs that conveyed practical and useful skills regardless of whether an individual was seeking a new job, a job that better suited her needs or goals, or simply more satisfaction in her current situation. Despite the challenging economic conditions that are affecting all sectors of the legal community, we received more offers of assistance than anticipated from speakers, vendors, colleagues, and members. At least three of our programs revealed the following related and fundamental lessons: a gracious offer generates more generosity, generosity and reciprocity build relationships, and supportive and reciprocal listening transforms negative career experiences.

### *A gracious offer generates more generosity*

Early in our term, **Ellen Ostrow, Ph.D., CMC, Principal of Lawyers Life Coach, Inc.**, offered to provide complimentary career coaching to WBA members who were unemployed or facing imminent unemployment. She also offered to solicit participation from additional career coaches. Her gracious offer generated further generosity that culminated in eight career coaches who offered complimentary coaching sessions to WBA members. This roster included several of Ms. Ostrow's colleagues at Lawyers Life Coach, Inc.: **Naomi Beard, Esq., CMC, Nina L. Pan, Esq., and Jeannine Rupp, M.Sc.**, as well as several career coaches with their own practices: **Kate Neville, Esq., Founder of Neville Career Consulting, LLC, Anna Rappaport, Esq., Founder of Excelleration, LLC, Deborah Katz Solomon, Esq., Founder of Acuity Legal Consulting LLC, and Cathleen Szebrat, Founder of The O'Toole Firm.** The generosity of each

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of these individuals impressed and inspired us. And each appreciative email from a participant put a smile on our faces, even on hectic days when we were otherwise preoccupied with our own career challenges.

***Generosity and reciprocity build relationships***

A subsequent evening program presented by Ms. Ostrow demonstrated that generosity of spirit is crucial in fostering relationships that can lead to professional and personal growth. This program addressed the concept of building social capital to accomplish individual goals. Ms. Ostrow describes social capital as the resources available as a result of creating and maintaining meaningful relationships within your professional and personal networks. During the event, an engaging discussion ensued where participants solicited and offered constructive feedback about various personal circumstances where their effectiveness in building these relationships varied. Within a short timeframe, the participants exchanged a treasure trove of practical and insightful advice with each other. The collaborative atmosphere created by this discussion also facilitated the next part of the program where small groups practiced generosity and reciprocity in their interactions. Facilitators assisted each group in expressing individualized needs, e.g., a desire to learn more about securities law and offers of assistance, such as a useful and regular publication and an email introduction to a friend employed at the Securities and Exchange Commission. The key premise being that the generosity and reciprocity should not be constrained to the notion of a bilateral transaction. Instead, by casting an unlimited and wide net of generosity and reciprocity, the offers of assistance flow more freely and render better results.

Participants were quite pleased and in some cases surprised by the results on this exercise. One participant who expressed skepticism about the effectiveness of this approach had occasion to change her mind. By the end of the evening, she had received key information about a job posting in her area of expertise from one participant, and she had offered constructive words of advice to another participant who was facing certain career challenges. In her circumstances and in many others, the spirit of generosity and reciprocity completed its circle and participants exchanged unexpected gifts.

***Supportive and reciprocal listening transforms negative career experiences***

Though they may have been unfamiliar with the formal concept, the participants in the above-mentioned evening program practiced a form of supportive and reciprocal listening. In January, Ms. Rappaport, who also participated in the career coaching mentioned above, led a lunch program where she guided participants through a formal dialogue to assist each other in transforming a negative career experience. Each participant asked a series of questions and simply listened to her partner's responses. These questions were designed to allow the speaker to vent, to categorize, and to move past emotional reactions that were impeding closure and personal growth. Specifically, the exercise included the following questions:

1. Are you willing to let go and move past this experience?
2. What have you been feeling about this experience?
3. What did you accomplish during this experience?
4. What causes you to ruminate about this experience?
5. What do you feel is finished about this experience?
6. What do you feel is unfinished about this experience?
7. What declaration are you willing to make about each unfinished item?
8. What new tools, skills, or knowledge has this experience given you?
9. At the end of this conversation, what will you leave behind about this experience?
10. What is next for you?

At the conclusion of the program, many of the participants, including both of us, experienced a sense of relief or closure about a previously nagging experience. As a result, the next time that a related issue or topic arises in a conversation or within a professional setting, each individual will have a more constructive perspective about it. And if another negative experience occurs, then each participant can utilize this helpful framework to process her reactions in order to gain closure about and personal growth from the situation.

In reflecting upon our year of programs, it became clear that while we began with a desire to give back to the WBA by connecting interested participants with worthwhile resources, we too received some inspiring and unexpected gifts along the way.

**Upcoming WBA Programs**

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### **Catch the Wave: Using Social Media to Add Value to Your Professional Life**

Did you know that social media websites could facilitate the following objectives?

- Connect with other lawyers regarding a particular subject matter
- Increase your accessible resources for a job transition
- Promote your professional brand
- Build your social capital
- Increase your client base

Join us for **Harnessing the Power of Social Media** on May 6, a program about effectively using social media to achieve your career goals while maintaining e-professionalism. This brown bag lunch discussion is brought to you by the **Young Lawyers Forum** and the **Career Development Committee**. The program will be held from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. at WilmerHale.

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### **Broaden Your Horizons—Literally**

How often have you dreamed of working overseas in an interesting and challenging legal position? Many lawyers have turned this dream into a reality. On June 15, at 12:00 p.m., the **International Law Forum** and **Career Development Committee** will co-sponsor a panel discussion, **Effective Strategies for Finding Overseas Legal Employment**. At this lunchtime program, attorneys who currently are practicing or recently have practiced law overseas will share their perspectives about how they obtained their position and the benefits and potential pitfalls of international work. These attorneys have worked at U.S. government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private law firms, and private companies. The panel discussion will be moderated by **Ellen Ostrow**, founder of Lawyers Life Coach, LLC. Since 1998, Lawyers Life Coach LLC has provided individual and group coaching to attorneys, with an emphasis on assisting lawyers who are looking to change their practice areas or transition into different careers. If you have a desire to work overseas on a temporary or permanent basis or just want to find out more about international work, please join us for this interesting and informative program.

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### Brooksley E. Born to receive Margaret Brent Award

**Brooksley E. Born**, retired partner at Arnold & Porter and WBA's 1981 Woman Lawyer of the Year, is a recipient of the ABA's 2010 [Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award](#). The award, established in 1991, honors outstanding women lawyers who have achieved professional excellence in their area of specialty and have actively paved the way to success for others. The award is named for Margaret Brent, the first woman lawyer in America. Brent arrived in the colonies in 1638, and was involved in 124 court cases in more than eight years, winning every case. In 1648, she formally demanded a vote and voice in the Maryland Assembly, which the governor denied.

Ms. Born joined Arnold & Porter in 1965, and left the firm in 1996 to serve a three-year term as chair of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. She returned to the firm in 1999 and retired in 2003. In 2009, Ms. Born received the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation's Profile in Courage Award for her leadership in public service.

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### Lorie Masters Selected as Vision 2010 Delegate

**Lorelie (Lorie) Masters**, a Partner at Jenner & Block, WBA past president, and WBA Foundation board member, has been named a delegate for [Vision 2020: An American Conversation About Women and Leadership](#). There are two delegates from each state and DC, each appointed to a three-year term. Delegates will participate in a project dedicated to creating a decade of education and action to promote gender equality, which will culminate in a 100th anniversary celebration of the 19th amendment in October 2020.

### Grace E. Speights Appointed to JNC

**Grace E. Speights** was appointed by the DC Bar to the [DC Judicial Nomination Commission \(JNC\)](#). Ms. Speights is a partner in Morgan Lewis & Bockius. The JNC selects and recommends a panel of three candidates to the President of the United States for each judicial vacancy on the DC Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The JNC also appoints the Chief Judges of the DC Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

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Kimberly Ball  
Rebecca Bond  
Jennifer A. Brennan  
Vanessa Careiro  
Cecille H. Chen  
John Choate  
H. Guy Collier  
Anne Elizabeth Collier  
Tammy Daub  
Melissa LeAnne Dulski  
Lara Eilhardt  
Holli Feichko  
Anne Finken  
Susan Fox  
Precious Murchison Gittens  
Francesca Mariana Soria Guerrero  
Sarah Mali Hall  
Jennifer Heidt White  
Rachelle Hellams  
Angela I. Heverling  
Audrey Jenkins  
Julia Jordan  
Ayesha N. Khan

Colleen King  
Nicole J. Lindquist  
Bridget Bailey Lipscomb  
Shaughnessy Loncar  
Jessica Lyons  
Angie McCarthy  
Charlene Hardy McMillan  
Anna Cindy Meeks  
Maria Mendoza  
Benjamin Mark Moss  
Kelly M. Newsome  
Marcia Lisette Nordgren  
Elizabeth Oyer  
Sylvia Panfil  
Ann Parker  
Cheryl Polydor  
Deidre Robokos  
Merle D. Rockwell  
Laura Schmoyer  
R. Justin Smith  
Jennifer Stillerman  
Rebecca Valentine  
Kirsten Birgit Wegner  
Vickey Ann Wright-Smith

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