

Oregon State Bar Sustainable Future Section

Photo: J. Michael Mattingly

The Long View

Diane Henkels Receives OSB President's Sustainability Award

In November 2012, Diane Henkels received the Oregon State Bar President's Sustainability Award. The award was created in 2010 to recognize extraordinary leadership by an Oregon lawyer or law firm in promoting sustainability within the Oregon State Bar and legal profession. The Executive Committee of the Sustainable Future Section congratulates Diane on the Bar's recognition of her significant contributions to the goals of sustainability in the legal profession.

Since receiving her Master of Studies in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School in 1997, Diane has been deeply involved in environmental law and sustainability. Her practice in Portland and Newport since 2002 has focused on environmental law, sustainability and energy related matters, and tribal law. Sustainability is central to Diane's professional and personal life, as exemplified by her desire to bike everywhere, including to evening meetings.

Diane has promoted sustainability in the legal profession for many years. In 2008, she organized and presented a program on "Sustainability and Law" for the OSB Leadership College. She has written extensively on sustainability topics in numerous Bar publications. Diane served on the Steering Committee of the Oregon Lawyers for a Sustainable Future from its inception in 2006. In that capacity and through the Environmental and Natural Resources Section, she assisted in the formation by the Board of Governors of the OSB Sustainability Task Force, on which she served. As a result of the Task Force's recommendations, the Board of Governors in 2009 approved the formation of the Sustainable Future Section.

Diane has been an active member of the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Future Section since its formation.

Diane's colleagues on the Executive Committee rely heavily on her breadth of knowledge and her creative responses to opportunities to promote sustainability within the legal profession. Among her many activities, she has worked extensively with the OSB staff in assessing the Bar's internal operations from a sustainability perspective.

From 2002 to 2010, Diane served on the Executive Committee of the Environmental and Natural Resources Section and as Chair in 2009. She was recognized for her work in promoting sustainability within the Section and led the successful effort to pass House of Delegates resolutions to increase recycled paper use and long-distance learning tools in Bar operations and services.

The Executive Committee of the Sustainable Future Section acknowledges Diane's tireless efforts to advance the societal goal of sustainability and create a dialogue on how the law relates to the interests of future generations. The President's Sustainability Award is well-deserved recognition of Diane's significant commitment, leadership, and volunteer ethic. ■

