

2013 Activities and Accomplishments

The Sustainable Future Section was created in late 2009. In 2010, the Executive Committee devoted considerable attention to organizational activity, including attracting members, adopting a mission statement, developing a web site, creating a newsletter, identifying program concepts, and establishing objectives and priorities.

Building on this organizational activity, the Executive Committee refined and vigorously pursued its primary objectives in 2011 and 2012. In 2013, the Executive Committee continued to provide programs and information, raise awareness and recognize sustainable law office practices, grow Section membership and advance the dialogue about the intersection between the law and sustainability.

Sustainable Future Section

Newsletter

During 2013, two issues of *The Long View* were published.

The Long View has featured a variety of authors and a wide array of sustainability topics.

Except for an initial paper edition, *The Long View* is distributed electronically to minimize paper use and reduce production expenses.

The Long View continues to be edited by Michelle Slater, who is assisted by an Editorial Board comprised of Executive Committee members.

National Exposure

In 2013, the Section received the 2013 State or Local Bar Environment, Energy and Resources Program of the Year Award from the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy and Resources.

The Section was honored with this award based on the activity of the Section as a whole for the year 2012.

Awards

The Section continues to maintain its Partners in Sustainability Program. Also, in 2013 the Section presented its third annual Sustainable Law Office Leadership Award to recognize the most innovative recent practice of a law firm in advancing sustainability. Markowitz Herbold Glade & Mehlhaf PC received the 2013 Award.

Also in 2013, the Section joined the President of the Oregon State Bar in congratulating Section member and incoming Executive Committee member Max Miller on receiving the President's Sustainability Award.

Programs

During 2013, the Section presented the following five programs:

■ Legislative Update:

In January, the Section hosted a legislative update with Representative Jules Bailey, Co-Chair of the House Environment and Energy Committee, and Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

■ Angel Investing—Clean Tech Connections:

In March, Scott Sandler, Fund Manager of the Oregon Angel Fund, and Morgan Rider, National Sustainability Chair for the non-profit CleanTech Open spoke about the connection between CleanTech start-ups and angel investing.

■ Oregon's new Benefit Company Statute:

In June, Jeff Wolfstone and Bill Campbell spoke on Oregon's new Benefit Company Statute.

■ Projected Climate Change Impacts:

Also in June, Dr. Phillip Mote, Director of the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute at Oregon State University spoke on the projected impacts of climate change on natural areas in Oregon.

■ Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan:

In November, Paul Klarin, Oregon Marine Affairs Coordinator, and Jason Busch, Director of the Oregon Wave Energy Trust, discussed Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan on a panel moderated by Stoel Rives' Chad Marriott.

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Study Groups and Outreach

The Section has continued several study groups from 2012. One study group continued to study the feasibility and effect of creating a state office of legal guardian to analyze how proposed legislation and administrative rules might impact the environmental interests of future generations.

It is anticipated that the findings of this study group will be covered in articles in *The Long View* or in the Section's programs in 2014.

The Section also convened a study group to examine the interface between sustainability and various animal welfare rating standards, such as the Global Animal Partnership and Certified Humane. The study group is not anticipated to complete its work until 2014.

Budget

As of October 15, 2013, the Section's projected 2013 expenses were \$6,756 with a projected year-end balance of \$4,270. As in prior years, the Executive Committee continued to spend Section funds conservatively in 2013. The largest expenditures were for the OSB services assessment, awards and special projects.

Also, as in 2012, the increase in costs for awards and special projects were due to increased advertising expenses associated with the Section's Leadership in Sustainability Award and Partners in Sustainability Program. In part due to these increasing costs, the Section is exploring the use of the OSB listserves as a lower-cost advertising alternative.

For 2014, major budgeted expenses again include special projects and awards (\$2000 each) and the increased OSB Support Services Assessment (\$2,400).

With the surplus the Section anticipates at the end of 2014, the Section plans to start planning a more costly CLE program to take place in the next two years, potentially a day-long program focusing on a broader topic of interest or a single event with a nationally prestigious speaker.

Recommendations and Activities for 2014

In early 2014, the Executive Committee plans to review and evaluate the processes and criteria used for the Partners in Sustainability Program and Sustainable Law Office Award to ensure their future vitality and a high level of participation among law firms.

The Long View will be published electronically on a quarterly basis during 2014. The Section is continuing its efforts to expand the distribution list for the newsletter. All editions of *The Long View* will continue to be available on the Section's web site.

The Section anticipates offering between six and eight programs for CLE credit in 2014. Many of the programs are anticipated to be in the brown bag lunch format successfully utilized by the Section in 2012 and 2013.

During 2014, the Section's current study groups will complete their work on how the environmental rights of future generations might be protected by the establishment of a state office of legal guardian for future generations and on the relationship between sustainability and animal welfare rating standards. Findings of these study groups may be covered in articles in *The Long View* or in the Section's programs.

Leadership

At the recommendation of the nominating committee, the Section elected the following slate of officers and executive committee members:

Chair: Jennifer Gates, Chair-Elect: Robin Seifried, Treasurer, Jim Kennedy; Secretary, Ann McQuesten; members-at-large (two-year terms), Janna Aginsky, Monique Hawthorne, Diane Henkels, Max Miller, and Maggie Vining.

Current Chair Michelle Slater will become immediate past-Chair, and executive committee member Dick Roy will continue with a two-year term ending in 2014.

The Section thanks departing Executive Committee members Dallas DeLuca and Bobby Mauger for their service. ■