



WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

January 2015 Newsletter

P.O. Box 936 • Sacramento, California 95812
www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org

WHAT'S INSIDE

December Luncheon Highlights	1, 5
- Kerri Ruzicka	
January Luncheon Announcement	2
President's Corner	3
- Rebecca Dietzen	
Coaching Corner	4
- Wendy Green	
Meet the 2015 Board	6-12
Announcements & News	13-14
Award Nominations	15
WLS Mission Statement / WLS Board Members	16
WLS & Member Affiliate Flyers	17-19

December 2014 Luncheon Highlights

By: Kerri Ruzicka, 2014 Programs Vice-Chair

As luck would have it, the End-of-Year Celebration luncheon fell in the middle of the worst storm in recent memory, which deterred most people from leaving their homes that day, present company excluded. Yes, despite the horrible weather, The Women Lawyers of Sacramento and their guests braved the wild elements to fill the Lucca's banquet room to capacity with holiday joy. Instead of the regular sit-down meal, Lucca provided a delightful catered meal with heavy hors d'oeuvres, and champagne was offered to celebrate the end of a very productive year. WLS offers its thanks to Lucca for its wonderful food and service this year.

The celebration began with the presentation of the Francis Newell Carr Achievement Award to Justice Kimberly J. Mueller, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California. The Francis Newell Carr Achievement Award was established by WLS in 1994 to honor the late Justice Frances Newell Carr, who was a founder and first president of WLS in 1962. The award is presented annually to an outstanding lawyer, judge, or scholar in the Sacramento area, based on three criteria: the individual's professional achievements, commitment to furthering legal opportunities for women in the law, and contribution to the lives of women and children in our community.

Without question, Justice Mueller is deserving of the Carr Achievement Award. Her career has spanned everything from picking tomatoes and melons in 1981 as an agricultural fieldworker to appointment as the first U.S. District Judge of the Eastern District in 2010. In between those two positions, she served on the Sacramento City Council from 1982-1992, was an adjunct professor at both McGeorge School of Law and U.C. Davis

School of Law, and had her own practice in Sacramento after working as an associate at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. Although her participation in, and commitment to, the lives of women and children are too numerous to mention here, Justice Mueller also worked diligently to help further the quality of edu-



L to R: Francis Newell Carr Awardee, Justice Kimberly J. Mueller, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California; 2015 WLS President, Rebecca Dietzen; 2014 WLS President Maralee Eriksen

education for local school districts in the effort to create the Twin Cities Unified School District out of Grant Joint Union High School District and several local elementary school districts, acted as Director of the Rotary Club of Sacramento's Youth Inventive Program and served on the steering committee and volunteered for Operation Protect and Defend. She continues to be active in mentoring and guiding women into positions of leadership in legal and judicial fields of practice.

Join Us At This Month's Luncheon

"2014 Ethics Roundup: What Bad Lawyers Can Teach Us About Best Practices"

Featuring Attorney **Natalie Vance**

January 22, 2014

Lucca Restaurant
(See Page 2)

Continued on Page 5

January Luncheon

Featuring Natalie Vance

TOPIC: 2014 Ethics Roundup: What Bad Lawyers Can Teach Us About Best Practices



Natalie Vance is an experienced litigator, representing professionals and business entities in matters relating to professional malpractice, employment, and business disputes. Known for proactive, results-oriented litigation, Ms. Vance has successfully litigated jury trials, bench trials, binding arbitrations, FINRA arbitrations and appeals.

Ms. Vance moved from San Diego to open Klinedinst's Sacramento office in 2004, but continues to maintain a statewide practice, utilizing Klinedinst's Southern California locations.

WHEN: January 22, 2015

WHERE: Lucca Restaurant and Bar, 1615 J Street, Sacramento, CA

TIME: 12:00-1:15 p.m.

MENU: Patchwork Salad, Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich, Spaghetti & Meatballs or Ricotta Gnocchi with Bolognese. **Each menu item comes with choice of soda or iced tea.**

COST: \$30.00 for current WLS members, past presidents of WLS, and judges; \$35.00 for all others, except law students, whose cost is \$25.00. Without advance reservation, it may not be possible to get the entrée of your choice.

RSVP with menu choice online at www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org (please use the Note function to identify name of attendee and menu choice) **or with confirmation of mailed check by January 20 to Kresta Daly at kdaly@barth-daly.com or Kelly Babineau at kbabineau@yahoo.com.** Please mail your check, payable to WLS, with menu choice **for receipt by January 20** to WLS, Attn: Luncheon, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95814. **Please indicate if you are a current WLS member, past president, or judge on the check.** WLS is charged for cancellations. Payments must be received in advance and are not refundable. Seating at the door is subject to availability.

This Program qualifies for MCLE ethics credits.

Please bring any unused toiletries and women's personal items to the luncheon for donation to Maryhouse, a non-profit organization that helps homeless women and children.



President's Corner

By: *Rebecca Dietzen*

*H*appy New Year and welcome to 2015 with

Women Lawyers of Sacramento! This year marks the 53rd year of this fine organization and I am honored to serve as President. My motto this year is analogous to my husband's favorite cooking advice—for best results, take the highest quality ingredients and do the least amount possible to them. For WLS, the ingredients are excellent board members, quality programs, and a dedicated membership. Check, check and check!

Please take a moment to meet our board members, highlighted in this month's newsletter. Our organization continues because of these women and I am grateful for their time and dedication.

The year led off with the December swearing in ceremony where we also honored the 2014 Frances Newell Carr recipient, the Honorable Kimberly J. Mueller. A woman of tremendous accomplishments, Judge Mueller has also been a consistent supporter of Women Lawyers of Sacramento and has been a personal mentor of mine since 2004 when I served as her first judicial extern. I am honored to have shared her special day. On January 10, executive committee and I led a productive orientation, with nearly all of our board members present. The Board is already hard at work and ready to de-

liver the high caliber of events our membership and the legal community has come to expect. First up is our January luncheon featuring Natalie Vance, an experienced litigator in the malpractice arena. Ms. Vance's presentation will focus on what bad lawyers can teach us about best practices. The luncheon includes ethics MCLE. Please join us.

Please also take a moment to renew your membership! Your membership is vital to the success of our organization and we are thankful for your support. If you renewed in October or later, your membership is active through 2015. We continue to work out the kinks of our transition to our enhanced website and are working to reactivate members who were inadvertently notified of an expired membership. You will also see an enhanced online and social media presence of WLS as we seek to increase our visibility.

People sometimes question the relevance of an organization focused on women lawyers--aren't we past the need? The short answer is, no, we are not. While we have come a long way, it will always be relevant to bring people together to focus on fairness, equality, and the advancement of women. I welcome your calls (916.606.3212) or emails (rad@rdietzen.com) this year as we continue our efforts to provide opportunities for leadership, networking, and mentorship. On behalf of the 2015 Board, I hope you will join us.

Coaching Corner

By: Wendy A. Green, Co-Chair Publicity & Community Relations Committee

This is a continuing series of articles about Coaching For Attorneys, a book authored by Cami McLaren and Stephanie Finelli. Ms. Green is not a coach of any kind.



Happy New Year! If you are like me, a new year brings with it reflection, assessment, and goal-setting. I hate to admit that I am one of those people who makes resolutions and then rarely keeps them, but by doing it year after year I have learned that merely making resolutions is not enough. It takes awareness, it takes intention, it takes experimentation, and it takes work to effect change in our lives, and most of us need help.

About five years ago, I actively sought help to change my life. In early 2009, I had been unemployed for several months and was barely surviving on contract work. One of the attorneys for whom I performed contract work was local attorney Stephanie Finelli. As Stephanie and I got to know each other, she learned that I was at a crossroads; I was a newly single parent, my children were very young, the job market was terrible, and I was unsure I wanted to continue practicing law. She introduced me to the concept of coaching and to Cami McLaren, a former attorney and certified business coach, and together they recommended I undergo some coaching to help me figure out how I could create the life and career I wanted. With Stephanie's and Cami's encouragement, I signed up for an intense 10-week coaching program and the rest, as they say, is history. It would take a separate series of articles to describe all that I gained from that coaching experience, but suffice it to say I came out of the program with renewed energy and enthusiasm, with a new set of ideas and tools, and was optimistic about my future. I made significant changes in my life that year because of what I learned in the program. I have received additional coaching over the past five years and I continue to use many of the tools I learned. I have remained friends with Stephanie

and Cami over the years, I am still in contact with most of the people who were part of the program with me (who came from all over the country), and I stay in contact with my coach from the program.

Cami and Stephanie's enthusiasm for coaching manifested in a big way. In 2014, the American Bar Association published a book they wrote to bring coaching tools, ideas, and skills to attorneys. By writing *Coaching for Attorneys*, Cami and Stephanie hope to assist attorneys in practicing their own way, and in a way that is most fulfilling to each individual attorney. I am privileged to say I participated in some of Cami's research for the book, and I was one of many who provided feedback about the book's title and cover art. The book includes tips and tools for how to create the outcomes you want in your life, how to be accountable to yourself and others for the choices you make, how to measure your level of commitment in everything you decide to do, values-based living, the importance of self-care, managing time and energy, communication skills, determining and following your personal purpose and vision, how to enroll others to support your goals, and the importance of trust. Since its publication, I participated in a 12-week book study of *Coaching for Attorneys* with about 20 other Sacramento women lawyers (many of whom are members of WLS). Because I am such a fan of coaching, of Cami and Stephanie, and of the book itself, I chose *Coaching for Attorneys* as the subject of my monthly articles this year. Stay tuned ... and get ready to grow.

*Wendy A. Green is Co-Chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee and an associate at Hansen, Kohls, Sommer & Jacob, LLP. You can reach her at wgreen@hansenkohls.com. If you are interested in purchasing *Coaching for Attorneys*, visit www.mclarencoaching.com/coaching-for-attorneys.*

December 2014 Luncheon Highlights (Continued from Page 1) By: Kerri Ruzicka

The second award, the Tamara Dahn Scholarship award from California Women Lawyers (CWL), was presented to Natalie Keeve, a McGeorge Law School evening student. Tamara Dahn, an immigrant from Germany, spent a considerable amount of her career serving as a legal aid lawyer on issues involving access to housing and health care. She was a tireless advocate for women lawyers seeking to move into leadership positions and was the first woman President of the Placer County Bar Association. Tamara was committed to the advancement of women, particularly low-income women and women of color.



Left to Right: Tamara Dahn Scholarship Awardee, Natalie Keeve; WLS and CWL Past-President Patricia Sturdevant

Natalie has a solid record of service to her community and advocacy for low-income children and families. She currently serves as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Placer County, advocating for children in the foster care system. During law school, she also interned with the Regional Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission educating tenants on their legal rights and advocated for crime victims at the Victims of Crime Resource Center. She has

also volunteered at a homeless shelter in Los Angeles and Schools on Wheels where she tutored homeless children. WLS was very happy and proud to award the Tamara Dahn scholarship to Natalie.

No End-of-Year Celebration would be complete without words from our esteemed outgoing President, Maralee Erickson. Maralee highlighted the WLS Board's accomplishments for 2014. In 2014, the Board continued its upward trend in membership and launched its new and improved website with searchable online membership directory and event RSVP/payment capabilities. The Grants and Awards Committee awarded seven scholarships to deserving law students and awarded grants to organizations in our community serving the unmet needs of women and children. The Board continued its tradition of presenting terrific luncheon programs putting on a successful ArtFest event to benefit WLS Foundation. WLS' many successes over this past year are the result of the dedication of the talented attorneys on our board and the support of our members.

The WLS Board presented Maralee with a beautiful engraved decanter and spa gift certificate as a small token of appreciate for all of her hard work and astounding leadership over the past year. Maralee truly gave of herself to WLS and her commitment showed in the tremendous accomplishments this year.

The Celebration ended with the swearing in of the new 2015 WLS Board. WLS congratulates the outgoing board with their many accomplishments for the year and eagerly welcomes the new 2015 Board Members and their commitment to moving WLS forward and building on the accomplishments of 2014. Happy New Year to all and may this be the best year ever for WLS.



Below: The Incoming WLS 2015 Board with incoming President Rebecca Dietzen being sworn in by the Honorable Emily Vasquez, Sacramento County Superior Court

Meet The 2015 WLS Board



Suzanne M. Alves is vice-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee. This is her second year on the WLS Board. Suzanne has been an attorney with Freidberg Law Corporation (formerly Freidberg & Parker LLP) since 2007. Joining the Bar in 1998, Suzanne specializes in complex commercial litigation and appellate work, primarily on the plaintiff's side. When not working on improving her briefing skills, Suzanne enjoys spending time with her husband, her two daughters, and their menagerie of pets.



Ellen Arabian-Lee is co-chair of the Newsletter Committee. Ellen is the founder of her own law firm, Arabian-Lee Law Corporation, in Roseville, and her practice focuses on civil litigation, with an emphasis on employment law, personal injury, and business litigation. She also serves as a legal consultant to a number of non-profit organizations. Ellen has been practicing law for twenty-four (24) years and she is a Martindale-Hubbell AV rated attorney. Ellen is also an editor for Sacramento Lawyer Magazine, and co-Editor-in-Chief of the Defense Comment Magazine, published by the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California & Nevada. She is a graduate of Santa Clara University School of Law, and she enjoys playing competitive tennis and soccer, and spending time with her husband, children, and friends.



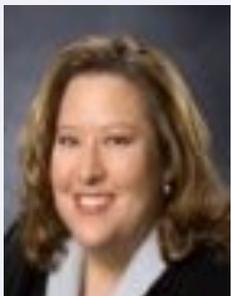
Kelly Babineau is vice-chair of the Programs committee. She has been practicing criminal defense since 1997. After practicing law as a public defender for over 10 years, she opened her own firm in 2009. She represents clients in state, federal and administrative proceedings. When not in trial, she enjoys cycling, hiking and yoga, but her passion is for food and wine and hopes to start a food blog sometime in the near future.



Julia Blair is co-chair of the Development Committee. She is a Senior Attorney at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. Her areas of practice include higher education, legislative analysis, and State government law. This is the 4th year that Julia has served on the WLS Board of Directors. Julia also serves as a WLS delegate for the Conference of Delegates. In her free time, she enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband and five children.



Kristin Blocher returns to the Board as co-chair of the Membership Committee. Kristin's areas of practice include civil litigation and transactional business law with an emphasis in intellectual property, trusts and estates, real estate transactions, and employment. She received her bachelor's degree from Westmont College and her law degree from McGeorge School of Law. Out of the office, she enjoys playing with her dog, running, snowboarding, cooking, researching and indulging her passion for wine.



Melissa Borrelli is co-chair of the Career Advancement and Retention Committee. She is happy to continue to be involved with the WLS Board for a seventh year. She is a graduate of UC Davis for both her BS and JD. She also earned an LL.M. in Health Law at Loyola University, Chicago School of Law. She works as a Senior Attorney and Manager of Compliance at Western Health Advantage, a local health plan. She is also a newly elected member of the Board of the California Society for Healthcare Attorneys. She is happily married with two children.



Kim Bucholz is vice-chair of the Career Advancement and Retention Committee. Kim grew up in Folsom and received her undergraduate degree from UC Santa Barbara. She graduated from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 2007. After law school, Kim worked in the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office and then for McGeorge as a staff attorney. Kim directed the Victims of Crime Resource Center and currently conducts mental health proceedings as a hearing officer. Additionally, she practices estate planning as principal of the Law Offices of Kimberly Buchholz. Kim lives in Land Park with her husband, daughter, son and dog.



Carmen-Nicole Cox is co-chair of the Legislation and Bar Delegations Committees. She is a trial attorney in the Sacramento office of Weintraub Tobin Chediak Coleman Grodin Law Corporation. Carmen is a trial attorney providing litigation expertise in the fields of trusts & estates, employment and labor, and complex commercial litigation. This is Carmen's third year as a proud member of the WLS Board.



Miranda Dalju is co-chair of the Judicial & Other Appointments Committee. She serves as staff counsel at the Department of Health Care Services on the Administrative Litigation team. Previously, Miranda served Governor Schwarzenegger as Assistant Deputy Appointments Secretary, where she facilitated appointments to more than one hundred boards and commissions at county and State levels. She is a member of the Legal Forum Against Human Trafficking and provides pro bono work in collaboration with Opening Doors, Inc. Miranda attended McGeorge School of Law (Juris Doctor) and UC Berkeley (Bachelor of Arts).



Kresta Daly, co-chair of the Programs Committee, is a partner at Barth Daly, LLP. For nearly 15 years, Kresta has defended individuals, corporations, corporate executives, public officials and others in a wide range of federal and state criminal investigations and prosecutions. She lives on a small farm outside of Winters with her husband and their son. She serves on the American Bar Association Commission on Immigration Advisory Task Force as well as the California State Bar Commission on Access to Justice.



Rebecca Dietzen is pleased to serve as the 2015 **President** after six years on the board. An eleven year attorney with extensive civil litigation experience, she now serves as counsel to the Department of Health Care Services' administrative litigation team, primarily defending the Department's audit recovery findings in Medi-Cal provider appeals. Rebecca looks forward to another rewarding year with the WLS membership and her board colleagues — especially her sister, Elizabeth Dietzen Olsen. Rebecca stays busy in her "free" time spending time with her husband and two children (7 and 6), including service as assistant coach to her daughter's soccer team.



Sonia Fernandes, Secretary, is a Senior Counsel at the California Department of Managed Health Care, Office of Health Plan Oversight, where she serves as licensing counsel and assists with the implementation of federal and state health care reform. Sonia, a graduate of University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, is also a board member of the South Asian Bar Association of Sacramento, an advisory committee member of the C.K. McClatchy High School Law and Public Policy Academy, and on the advisory board of My Sister's House. She is also a charter member of the Sacramento Metropolitan Lions Club, and co-chair of her club's Lions Student Speaker Contest. In her spare time, Sonia enjoys travelling and spending time outdoors with her husband and three-year old daughter.



Lauren Foust is co-chair of the Legislation and Bar Delegations Committee. She practices healthcare law as an associate attorney at Porter Scott, where she represents healthcare providers in malpractice actions and disciplinary proceedings. She is also a mentor through the C. K. McClatchy Law and Public Policy Academy. Lauren enjoys spending as much spare time as possible doing outside activities such as skiing, running, and hiking.



Shelley Ganaway is co-chair of the Membership Committee. She is a Supervising Attorney Advisor with the Social Security Administration. Her areas of expertise include issues of disability (pre and post entitlement) and Administrative Law. She is an Executive Committee member of the Schwartz-Levi Inn of Court. She enjoys spending time with her husband and three kids (ages 12, 6, & 1). They enjoy cooking together, traveling, reading, playing board games, and attending gymnastics/dance. She is looking forward to continuing to serve on the WLS Board.



Kim Garner, co-chair of the Development Committee, returns for her fifth year on the WLS Board of Directors. She is Of Counsel at Duggan Law Corporation and specializes in civil litigation. Kim received her B.A. in Sociology from University of California, Berkeley and her J.D. from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Kim also serves on the Board of Directors for the McGeorge Alumni Association as a Vice President. In her spare time, she enjoys wine, cooking and taking a million photographs of her daughter (8 months old).



Wendy A. Green, co-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee, is an associate with Hansen, Kohls, Sommer & Jacob, LLP. Her practice focuses on legal and insurance professional liability defense, business litigation, insurance bad faith defense and civil appeals. Wendy is also a member of the Committee on Administration of Justice for the State Bar of California.



Marcy Gutierrez, vice-chair of the Membership Committee, is Senior Counsel at Lozano Smith. She has been practicing Education Law for 15 years, and formerly worked as a high school teacher. Marcy is also serving her second term as chair of the Law and Public Policy Advisory Committee for McClatchy High School, a program geared toward increasing graduation rates for at-risk students and increasing diversity on the bar and bench. She has two daughters and enjoys boot camp and skiing.



Amy Halloran is co-chair of the Grants & Awards Committee. She has been an estate, trust, and tax planning attorney for over 13 years and is currently an attorney at Williams & Associates. She lives in the Arden Park area with her husband and two daughters. They spend falls on the soccer field, summers with the swim team, and the in-between time bike riding, traveling, and hanging-out with their extended family and friends.



Vanessa Hunter is vice-chair of the Programs Committee. This is her first year serving on the board and she is excited for the opportunity to become more involved in the leadership of WLS. Vanessa is an associate at the Pollara Law Group where her practice focuses on medical malpractice defense and administrative law. Vanessa received her B.A. in English from California State University, Sacramento and her J.D. from McGeorge School of Law. Vanessa enjoys spending her free time with her husband, three wonderful dogs, and one very ornery cat.



Heather Johnston is co-chair of the Membership Committee. This is her second year on the WLS Board. She is an attorney at Trainor Fairbrook, focusing her practice on commercial real estate matters. Ms. Johnston served as a consultant for the parties, interest and premises chapter of the book, *Ground Lease Practice* published by the California Continuing Education of the Bar in 2009. She is a graduate of McGeorge School of Law (J.D., *with distinction*) and U.C. San Diego (B.S.).



Jennifer Hartman-King is excited to begin her third year on the WLS Executive Committee. This year, she is the organization's Vice President. Jennifer is the Managing Partner and one of the Founding Partners of the law firm King Williams & Gleason LLP, a mid-sized boutique specializing in environmental, real estate and business law. Jennifer's practice focuses on environmental and administrative law, including complex multi-party litigation, regulatory advice counsel, administrative enforcement defense, and transactional matters. She is a former Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary to Governor Gray Davis and the busy mother of three young boys. In her spare time, Jennifer enjoys participating in extreme fitness programs, practicing Tae Kwon Do, traveling and various outdoor activities. Jennifer received her Bachelor of Arts degree from UC Davis and her law degree from UCLA.



Katie Konz joins WLS as vice-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee. Katie is an associate at Downey Brand LLP. Her practice focuses on general civil litigation and appellate work. In her spare time, Katie enjoys spending time with her three dogs, snowboarding, hiking, reading, and eating.



Jackie Limbo is vice-chair of the Legislation and Bar Delegation Committee. This is Jackie's first year on the board and she is excited to be a part of this organization. Jackie is an associate at Tiza Serrano-Thompson and Associates where she practices insurance defense litigation. She previously spent time in the Sacramento and Santa Barbara Public Defenders offices. Jackie is also a board member for PINC, a local philanthropic organization. In her spare time, Jackie teaches classes at the Dailey Method in downtown Sacramento and enjoys spending time with her new husband and 2 dogs.



Cecilie MacIntyre is vice-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee. She is an attorney at the Department of Managed Health Care in the Office of Legal Services. Cecilie and her husband recently moved to East Sacramento, where they are enjoying learning about the neighborhood. Cecilie also enjoys most outdoor activities, except those that involve very cold weather.



Corrie Manning is vice-chair of the Development Committee. This is her third year serving on the WLS Board, having previously served on the Membership Committee. Corrie recently left private practice to accept a position as Deputy General Counsel for the League of California Cities. In her spare time, Corrie likes to spend time with her husband and two dogs, Violet and Indigo. Corrie also enjoys distance running and watching sports, especially during football season, as she is an avid San Diego Chargers fan.



Katie Nystrom is vice-chair of the Development Committee. This is her second year on the WLS board and she is excited to move her talents to the Development Committee. Katie is an associate at Kronick Moskovitz Tiedemann & Girard where she practices labor & employment law and litigation. Katie is also Membership Chair for the Sacramento Barristers' Club and on the Board of Directors for the Sacramento Ballet. In her spare time, Katie enjoys The Dailey Method, wine, cheering on the Sacramento Kings with her boyfriend, and jogging around Curtis Park with her husky, Indiana Jones (Indy).



Stephanie Ogren is co-chair of the Judicial and Other Appointments Committee. Originally from San Diego, Stephanie moved north to attend UC Davis first as an undergraduate and then received her law degree from King Hall. She is an associate with Delfino Madden O'Malley Coyle and Koewler LLP where she focuses on employment litigation. In her free time, she enjoys running, hiking and exploring Midtown.



Elizabeth Dietzen Olsen is co-chair of the Grants and Awards Committee. She is a policy consultant and counsel to the California Senate Office of Research. Her areas of expertise include public safety issues as well as all issues related to the judiciary. She previously was counsel for the California Senate Judiciary Committee primarily handling civil rights and family law bills. Prior to that, she was an Assistant Public Defender for Sacramento County. Her husband, Dan Olsen, is also an attorney in Sacramento, handling trusts and estates, business formation, debt collection and criminal defense matters. She enjoys spending her free time with her husband and two young children.



Amy O'Neill, the co-chair of the Career Advancement and Retention Committee, is a second year associate at Boutin Jones Inc. where she works in the civil litigation department. This is Amy's third year as part of the Career Advancement and Retention Committee. Amy lives with her husband in Sacramento, and likes to spend her free time doing anything outdoors.



Erika Barbara Pickles, vice-chair of the Career Advancement and Retention Committee, is a senior associate at Jackson Lewis PC, where she practices employment litigation. Erika's practice focuses on the defense of employers in state and federal litigation involving a range of workplace related issues. Erika received her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and her J.D. from the University of San Francisco. Erika enjoys spending time with her husband and three children.



Kelly Pope, Treasurer, is counsel in Downey Brand's litigation practice group. She specializes in business bankruptcy, business litigation and eminent domain. She has been recognized as a rising star in Super Lawyers® Northern California magazine for the past four years. In her spare time, Kelly enjoys reading, golfing, and exploring Sacramento's many fun activities with her husband and three children.



Julia Reeves is an associate attorney with Matheny, Sears, Linkert and Jaime, LLP. Her practice areas include business, civil litigation and fires/explosions. This is Julia's sixth year on the Board of Directors of WLS and she is very excited to be joining the Development Committee as a Co-Chair. In her spare time, Julia enjoys spending time with her husband, who is also an attorney, and their young children.



Tara Rojas is the vice-chair of the Grants & Awards Committee. She is a family law attorney at Goyette & Associates, Inc. where she handles the full range of domestic relations matters, including dissolution of marriage, child custody, support, domestic violence, pre-marital/post-nuptial agreements, and property division. She earned her bachelor's degree from Saint Mary's and her law degree from Pacific McGeorge. In her spare time, Tara enjoys spending time with family and friends. And she is excited to serve on the 2015 WLS Board with these amazing women!



Meghan Covert Russell is vice-chair of the Newsletter Committee. This is her fourth year on the WLS Board, having previously served on the Grants & Awards Committee and the Programs Committee. She is an associate in Kronick, Moskovitz, Tiedemann & Girard's education department. She enjoys volunteering her time with local educational organizations, including having served as a mentor and advisory committee member for McClatchy's Law & Public Policy Academy, and as a volunteer for Operation Protect and Defend. In her spare time, Meghan enjoys spending time with her husband and their 6 month old son, traveling and hoping to get back into triathlons this year.



Kristine Scribner is vice-chair of the Programs Committee. Kristine is an attorney with Porter | Scott and practices business litigation and construction defect law. She is native of the Sacramento area and obtained her bachelor's degree from U.C. Davis and graduated from McGeorge School of Law with a concentration in intellectual property. Kristine enjoys spending time with friends and family, frequenting local restaurants and wineries and traveling.



Latika Sharma, co-chair of the Publicity & Community Relations Committee, is an attorney with the law firm of Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould & Birney, LLP. Latika's practice focuses on health care and insurance regulatory matters, medical negligence, hospital liability, and business litigation. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, hiking, reading, and sports.



Theresa A. Stein is vice-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee. In past years, she has served as co-chair of both the Development and Membership Committees. Theresa is a Senior Attorney at the California Department of Health Care Services, where her areas of expertise include health care legislation and Medicaid State Plans. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, cycling, surfing, and acrylic painting. Theresa looks forward to organizing happy hour events this year!



Roxanne Strohmeier, a vice-chair of the Legislation and Bar Delegations Committee, is in her third year at UC Davis School of Law. At UC Davis she is a Senior Sections Editor for the Journal of Juvenile Law and Policy, a board member of the King Hall Women's Law Association, the President of Law Students for Reproductive Justice, and a member of a national Moot Court competition team. Last summer she was a University of California Human Rights Fellow and worked as a legal intern for the national ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project's litigation department. Before attending law school, Roxanne worked as a Program Development Consultant for the California Department of Public Health. She received her B.A. from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her Master of Public Health (MPH) from the University of California, Davis School of Medicine.



Alissa J. Strong is serving a fifth year on the WLS board as co-chair of the Newsletter Committee for 2015. In previous years she has served on the Programs and Membership Committees. She is an associate with Hansen, Kohls, Sommer & Jacob, LLP, where her civil litigation practice centers around professional liability defense, bad faith insurance defense, and business litigation. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, walking and hiking with their dog and playing piano.



Katherine E. Underwood is a vice-chair of the Publicity and Community Relations Committee. This is her second year on the WLS Board. Katherine is a litigation attorney. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Prior to attending law school, Katherine spent six years working as a Corporate Immigration Paralegal in Silicon Valley, California, and Washington, D.C.

2014 Liaisons with the Board

JUDICIAL LIAISON



Justice Hoch joined the California Court of Appeal in January 2011. She previously served as the Governor's Legal Affairs Secretary. Born and raised in California, she is a graduate of Stanford University and received her law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. After law school, she worked in private practice, and then began her 23-year career in state public service. She worked on labor law issues at two state boards before joining the California Attorney General's Office. Next, she was appointed as Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation, and then appointed as Legal Affairs Secretary.

PAST-PRESIDENT LIAISON



Judith Harper was President of WLS 1982 and SCBA President in 1988. She retired from state service as an Assistant Chief Counsel for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in 2010. She later served as an Administrative Law Judge for the California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board, helping to plow through the massive backlog of unemployment appeals that had accumulated during the recession. After law school (and before her twenty years at CDCR) Judy worked for fourteen years in and around the Capitol. Always an energetic participant in various professional and community organizations, she now finds fulfillment in an extremely active retirement life (travel, dogs, friends, 'brain-balancing' and lots more).

Job Announcements & Other News

YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY

Administrative Services Manager

\$100,921 - \$122,678 annual, plus an excellent benefits package



Established in 1959 by an act of the State Legislature and headquartered in historic Marysville, California, Yuba County Water Agency is seeking highly qualified candidates for Administrative Services Manager (ASM). The ASM reports directly to the General Manager and is responsible for planning, directing, managing, and overseeing the activities and operations of the Department which includes human resources, public information, risk management, and administrative services support. Six years of increasingly responsible leadership experience in public administration, human resources management, public information management, or employment legal practice in a public sector setting or with public sector clients and/or in labor relations, including at least three years of management and supervisory responsibility. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in business or public administration, human resources management, organizational development, or a closely related field. A Master's degree in related field is highly desirable. The full recruitment brochure and required resume/application instructions for this position are available at <http://www.ycwa.com/employment/>. Deadline is February 27, 2015. EOE



SAVE THE DATE

2015 Luncheon Schedule

Lucca Restaurant and Bar, 1615 J Street, Sacramento

- January 22
- February 26
- March 26
- April 23
- May 28
- June 25
- July 23
- August 27
- September 24
- October 22
- November 19
- December 10

Lucca
RESTAURANT & BAR

CONTRACT ATTORNEY (ROSEVILLE)

A small insurance defense firm in Roseville is seeking a contract attorney with at least 5 years' experience. Primarily defense commercial liability litigation, involving personal injury, premises liability, business liability, and employment. Excellent research and writing skills and experience in litigation required. Please send cover letter, resume, and writing sample to swalsh@knfirm.com.

SHARED SPACE AVAILABLE (ROSEVILLE)

Move In Ready!! Shared office space available for sublease in existing attorney office. Large executive office with large windows (226 sf), with companion office's (136 sqft) with window and one interior office (132 sqft) ideal for secretary. Office furniture included. Conference room, kitchen and reception area. Secure building in Roseville off of Douglas and Eureka Blvd, close to restaurants and freeway. Contact: swalsh@knfirm.com

Announcements & Other News

Help Educate Future Jurors!

Operation Protect and Defend is a nationally-recognized Sacramento program initiated by former Federal Judge Frank Damrell. Operation Protect and Defend is seeking attorney volunteers to educate urban high school students about their rights and responsibilities under the law. We provide teachers and students with a focused curriculum, followed by a day of classroom dialogue with judges and attorneys and culminating in both essay and arts contests and recognition of winners at the annual Law Day dinner.

This is the second year of our curriculum focus on due process issues related to jury selection, responsibilities of jurors, pre-trial publicity and the right to a fair trial. Time commitments are minimal in relation to the great impact this program has on students, many of whom are receiving recognition for the first time in their school career.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Coordination with high school government and art teachers;
- Planning for January attorney CLE luncheon
- Participating in "Dialogue on America" classroom visits
- Selecting essay contest winners;
- Coordinating April 2015 art show reception and Law Day dinner.

Please contact Kelly Lincoln, klincoln@boutinjones, or Ann Kanter, akanter@kanterlaw.com and let us know your interest in participating!

WLS Accepts & Publishes Readers' Announcements

If you have an announcement to share with the WLS members, please email the Newsletter Co-Chairs, Ellen Arabian-Lee at ellen@arabian-leelaw.com and Alissa Strong at astrong@hansenkohls.com. We will endeavor to publish your announcement in an upcoming edition of the WLS Newsletter (space permitting). The submission deadline for each issue is the 1st of that month. Please attach any digital photos or art that you would like to accompany your post.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF WLS? HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR WLS MEMBERSHIP?

Please remember to return your membership application/renewal form (located at the end of this newsletter) and payment to WLS.

Award Nominations



Announcement for State Bar Education Pipeline Award

The California State Bar's Council on Access & Fairness is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Education Pipeline Award. The award will be presented during the State Bar 2015 Annual Meeting in Anaheim in October. If you would like to request that WLS support a nomination for either of these awards, please contact Elizabeth Dietzen Olsen at Elizabeth.DietzenOlsen@sen.ca.gov, Tara Rojas at tara@goyette-assoc.com or Amy Halloran at amy@williamslawassociates.com

The State Bar of California Education Pipeline Award was established in 2008 by the Board of Governors to recognize outstanding efforts of law-related educational programs that train and support students to become interested in the judicial system and careers in the law. All California kindergarten through college educational programs are eligible. Programs must demonstrate successful efforts to increase student awareness about the judicial system and knowledge about the legal profession and careers in the law.

Nominations must be e-mailed, faxed or postmarked on or before, **March 31, 2015**.

For information concerning these awards, please contact Patricia Lee at 415-538-2240 or visit <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/AboutUs/Awards/EducationPipeline.aspx>

Announcement for State Bar Diversity Award

The California State Bar's Council on Access & Fairness is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Diversity Awards. The award will be presented during the State Bar 2015 Annual Meeting in Anaheim in October. If you would like to request that WLS support a nomination for either of these awards, please contact Elizabeth Dietzen Olsen at Elizabeth.DietzenOlsen@sen.ca.gov, Tara Rojas at tara@goyette-assoc.com or Amy Halloran at amy@williamslawassociates.com

The State Bar of California Diversity Awards were established in 2001 by the Board of Trustees to recognize outstanding efforts to promote diversity in the legal profession, in particular, to recognize efforts that ensure the full and equal opportunity of all persons for entry and advancement in California's legal profession.

Nominations must be e-mailed, faxed or postmarked on or before, **March 31, 2015**.

For information concerning these awards, please contact Patricia Lee at 415-538-2240 or visit <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/AboutUs/Awards/DiversityAwards.aspx>



State Bar of California Loren Miller Legal Services Award Announcement

The State Bar of California Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Loren Miller Legal Services Award. The award will be presented during the State Bar 2015 Annual Meeting in Anaheim in October. If you would like to request that WLS support a nomination for this award, please contact Elizabeth Dietzen Olsen at Elizabeth.DietzenOlsen@sen.ca.gov, Tara Rojas at tara@goyette-assoc.com or Amy Halloran at amy@williamslawassociates.com

The Loren Miller Legal Services Award, named after the late Loren Miller, an African American lawyer and judge who was a leader in the civil rights movement, was established in 1977 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the State Bar of California. It is considered a lifetime achievement award and is given annually to a lawyer admitted to practice in California who has demonstrated long-term commitment to legal services and who has personally done significant work in extending legal services to the poor. Previous award recipients include the staff of legal services organizations such as directors of litigation, executive directors and private bar attorneys.

Nomination forms must be received on or before, **11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on Monday, March 16, 2015**. Previous nominations are accepted, but must be resubmitted with updated information for the calendar year 2014. Self-nominations are accepted.

For information and questions regarding the Loren Miller Legal Services Award, please visit <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/AboutUs/Awards/LorenMillerLegalServices.aspx>

WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

Mission Statement: Women Lawyers of Sacramento supports and encourages every woman lawyer in her career aspirations and helps promote a society that places no limits on where a woman's skills and talent can take her. Women Lawyers of Sacramento dedicates itself to (1) promoting the full and equal participation of women lawyers and judges in the legal profession, (2) maintaining the integrity of our legal system by advocating principles of fairness and equal access to justice, (3) improving the status of women in our society and (4) advocating for equal rights, reproductive choice, equal opportunity and pay for women, and current social, political, economic, or legal issues of concern to the members of Women Lawyers of Sacramento.

Foundation Mission Statement: Women Lawyers of Sacramento Foundation is the charitable arm of Women Lawyers of Sacramento. This charitable organization seeks to address the unmet needs of women and children and raises funds to support legal educational opportunities and community programs that satisfy these needs.

Principles: Women Lawyers of Sacramento is premised on the belief that women deserve equal rights, respect and opportunities in the workplace and in society at large. Women Lawyers of Sacramento endeavors to support and enhance the participation and representation of women in significant leadership and management positions in the legal profession. Women Lawyers of Sacramento also strives to eliminate all forms of bias, discrimination, and harassment, including all forms of violence against women and children, and supports diversity in the legal profession, in legal education, and in society in general. We work toward these goals through mentoring, legislative and administrative advocacy, community service, networking, educational seminars, and open forums of discussion focused on advancing and supporting women.

2014 WLS BOARD

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2014 WLS Board Liaisons

Judicial Liaison: Justice Andrea Hoch, Third District Court of Appeals

Past-President Liaison:
Judith Harper

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
Posted: December 2014

Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills for the Water Resources Law Program

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law invites applications for the position of Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills for the Water Resources Law program. The position may lead to a long term contract with ABA Standard 405(c) status and protections, although the initial term is for one year.

The Water Resources Law program at Pacific McGeorge consists of a J.D. with an environmental concentration, a J.D. to LL.M fast track for working professionals, a LL.M in water resources in domestic or international law, and a J.S.D. in international water resources law. The curriculum emphasizes interdisciplinary water resources classes; simulations and case studies; a robust field placement experience; and advanced substantive law course work. The combination of water resources and environmental science, technology and economics, with strong legal coursework and hands-on training, makes this program unique among other water resources law graduate degrees. Pacific McGeorge has a substantial network of alumni leaders at all levels of water law practice, water resources policy development and government regulation in California. The educational program is expanding with the launch of the McGeorge Water Resources Law Institute, conducting multidisciplinary research, providing a forum for developing collaborative solutions, and facilitating reforms to address challenges relating to water law and policy, including water supply, economic development, and environmental protection.

Responsibilities of the position include classroom teaching; development of online water resources courses, outreach to government, non-profit, and industry practitioners to assist with field placements and jobs for our graduates, leading research projects with J.D. and LL.M students that are interdisciplinary across the University, and helping to build the Water Resources Law program. The position has leadership growth opportunity as the McGeorge Water Resources Law Institute intersects with and broadens the graduate educational program in water resources.

Qualifications include a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field of water resources law; a thorough understanding of water regulation; and the ability to work effectively with diverse students, and other constituents. Admission to practice in California and knowledge of California law, policy and politics is strongly preferred but not required.

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law is an equal opportunity employer dedicated to workforce diversity. We are particularly interested in candidates whose experience in teaching, research or community service has prepared them to contribute to our commitment to diversity and excellence. The University seeks to recruit and retain a diverse workforce as a reflection of our commitment to serve the people of California, to maintain the excellence of the University, and to offer our students richly varied disciplines, perspectives and ways of learning and knowing.

To apply, visit <https://pacific.peopleadmin.com/>. Application review will begin on Monday, January 5, and will continue on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Dog Whistle Politics: Coded Racism and Inequality for All



Ian F. Haney-López
John H. Boalt Professor of Law
UC Berkeley School of Law

Ian Haney-López is one of the nation's leading thinkers on how racism has evolved in the United States since the civil rights era. He is the author of three books and his writings have appeared across a range of sources, from the *Yale Law Journal* to the *New York Times*.

Rejecting any simple story of malevolent and obvious racism, in *Dog Whistle Politics* Ian Haney-López links as never before the two central themes that dominate American politics today: the Republican Party's increasing reliance on white voters, and the destabilization and decline of the middle class—white and nonwhite members alike. He offers a sweeping account of how politicians deploy veiled racial messages to generate middle-class enthusiasm for political candidates who promise to crack down on crime, curb undocumented immigration, and protect the heartland against Ebola, but ultimately vote to slash taxes for the rich, give corporations regulatory control over industry and financial markets, and aggressively curtail social services.

As part of Diversity Week, and a celebration of civil rights, Professor Haney-López's presentation will be followed by a reception honoring Professor Brian Landsberg.

**Co-sponsored by the Pacific McGeorge Capital Center,
La Raza Lawyers Association, SABA and
Women Lawyers of Sacramento**

February 3, 2015

Presentation: 5-6:15 pm | Courtroom

Reception: 6:30-7:30pm | Grand Salon



WOMEN LAWYERS
OF
SACRAMENTO

2015 Membership Application

January 1, 2015- December 31, 2015

(If you join on or after October 1, 2014, you will get the remainder of 2014 FREE)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Please do not include my information in the membership directory
- New Member (Referred by: _____)
- Renewal

Name _____ CA Bar Number _____ Year Admitted _____

Firm/Office _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

APPLICANT STATUS

Active Member: (Member of the CA/Other State Bar, including retired attorneys and law school faculty)

- \$55: 0-5 years in practice/gross income under \$50,000
- \$65: 6-10 years in practice
- \$75: Over 10 years in practice
- \$100 or more: sustaining donor
- \$1500 or more: lifetime membership

Associate Member:

- \$25: Law school graduate not yet admitted to Bar
- \$25: Law school student (Specify year: _____)

Honorary Member: (Justices, Judges, WLS Past Presidents)

- Dues Waived

Add-ons:

- \$85 : California Women Lawyers dues (40th Anniversary pricing EXTENDED! WLS members receive discount off the \$175 annual dues)
- CWL Law School Student Complimentary
- \$____: Foundation donor (tax deductible) \$____ TOTAL enclosed by check payable to WLS. Please return to **WLS Membership, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95814**

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Check those WLS committees in which you are interested in participating or receiving more information:

- Career Advancement & Retention
- Grants & Awards
- Development (WLS Foundation)
- Judicial & Other Appointments
- Legislation & Bar Delegation
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Publicity/Community Relations
- Programs
- WLS Mentor/Mentor Circle Leader (Identified in Directory)

Questions? Please contact Membership Committee Co-Chairs

Heather Johnston at hjohnston@trainorfairbrook.com or Shelley Ganaway at Shelley.Ganaway@gmail.com