



AABANY ADVOCATE

Asian American Bar Association of New York

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2016 Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Sylvia Chin: Drawing Strength from Challenges

By Simone Nguyen
AABANY Program Associate

As a child, Sylvia Chin was told by her mother, “Good children are seen, but not heard.” AABANY is glad that Sylvia, the recipient of AABANY’s 2016 Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award, grew out of that shyness to become the community leader and builder that she is today.

The Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award honors an exceptional leader in the legal profession who is of Asian Pacific American (“APA”) descent or has demonstrated dedication to APA issues in the community. AABANY is proud to honor Sylvia, who has not only blazed a trail for others to follow, but has also served the community as a mentor and role model and made a lasting impact on the APA community through her dedication and commitment. We sat down with Sylvia to learn more about her unique path and singular drive.

The only daughter of a Chinese American family

living in New York City, Sylvia went on to become a partner at White & Case LLP at a time when the number of minority partners at big law firms could be counted on two hands. In doing so, she carved a path that opened the door and blazed a trail for generations of attorneys and leaders to come. She admits that nothing in her career or her life



2016 Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award recipient Sylvia Chin, Partner Of Counsel at White & Case LLP, is a founding Board member, past president, and longtime supporter of AABANY.

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SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT



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Diversity and inclusion (“D&I”) are fundamental to Skadden’s success as a global law firm, giving us a wealth of different perspectives from which to address our clients’ most pressing issues across industries, geographies and cultures. We strive to develop initiatives at Skadden that address strategic D&I and talent development goals while continually inculcating inclusion principles into the fabric of the firm. Recognizing that excellence and diversity are inextricably intertwined, Skadden seeks to recruit, retain and promote a talented, diverse group of attorneys and staff throughout the firm. Our approach includes professional development, training and community building programs that are intended to be far-reaching within the firm, as well as pro-

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The Advocate regularly spotlights AABANY’s corporate sponsors and gives our sponsors an opportunity to showcase how their work aligns with AABANY’s mission and contributes to the legal community at large.



An AABANY Gold Level sponsor and longtime partner, Skadden has sponsored and/or hosted many AABANY programs over the years, including (clockwise from top left): AABANY’s 3rd Annual Fall Conference in 2012; the 7th Annual Winetasting and Networking Reception in 2014; the AABANY/NAPABA In-House Counsel Leadership Summit in 2015; and AABANY’s 27th Annual Dinner in 2016.

Letter from the President



AABANY President
Susan Shin

Dear AABANY Members and all attendees:

I welcome you to AABANY's 7th Annual Fall Conference: "Speak Up, Rise Up, Lift Up." AABANY is very excited to present this full day of valuable professional opportunities. Whether you are a 1st year law student or a seasoned practitioner, our flagship Annual Fall Conference has something for you. In addition to a full and diverse slate of CLE and non-CLE programming, our conference also features law firm pitch sessions, networking opportunities, a plenary lunch session, and our second annual Diversity Career Fair and Expo, where AABANY provides a forum for first round interviews and employers hosting informational tables to provide information to prospective employees.

We are grateful to be hosted this year by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. We would like to especially thank the firm for their gracious hospitality and continued sponsorship. Over the years, AABANY and Skadden have been wonderful partners and we hope to continue to work closely with Skadden in the future. We thank Skadden Partner Dwight Yoo, also AABANY's President-elect and Co-Chair of the Fall Conference Planning Committee, for his leadership and guidance in helping us organize this year's Fall Conference.

We thank you, our members, supporters, sponsors, fellow volunteers and practicing attorneys for joining us today and sharing in one of our premier events of the year. Thank you to our esteemed panelists and moderators for sharing your knowledge and expertise (as well as your time on a Saturday).

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate and highlight a few recent accomplishments of some of AABANY's members and friends:

- Judge Denny Chin and Congresswoman Grace Meng were honored by the OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates at their National Convention held in Jersey City, New Jersey;
- Judge Denny Chin and Kathy Hirata Chin were named one of Crain's New York Power Couples alongside the Clintons and Carmelo & Lala Anthony;

The AABANY newsletter endeavors to share in a non-partisan fashion information of concern to the Asian American legal community of New York. The officers and directors of AABANY do not necessarily share or endorse any particular view expressed in articles published in this newsletter. Statements published herein are those of persons concerned about the Asian American legal community and willing to share their concerns with their colleagues. Proposed articles or letters to the editor should be sent to AABANY Newsletter, Asian American Bar Association of New York, 45 Rockefeller Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, New York 10111 or e-mail: main@aabany.org; submissions may be excluded or edited by virtue of space or other reasons. Private individuals may publish notices and advertisements, which the editors feel are of interest to members on a space available basis at the following rates: 3.75" x 1" - \$40.00; 3.75" x 4.5" (quarter page) - \$70.00; half page - \$120.00; full page - \$220.00. For advertising information call AABANY at (718) 228-7206 or e-mail main@aabany.org.

- Presiding Justice Randall Eng received an honorary doctorate from St. John's University School of Law and gave the keynote speech at the St. John's University School of Law commencement in May, 2016;
- Don Liu was named Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and General Counsel of Target Corporation;
- Austin So was named General Counsel, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary of StoneMor Partners L.P., a Fortune Global 500;
- Tsui Yee was recognized as one of the Outstanding 50 Asian Americans in Business by the Asian American Business Development Center;
- Advisory Committee member Dennis Hopkins was named as one of four New York City Bar Association 2016 Diversity & Inclusion Champion Award honorees;
- Donna Chiu received one of five New York City Bar Association's 27th Annual Legal Services Awards, which recognizes those who provide outstanding full-time legal assistance to New York's poor;
- Sylvia Chin and Vince Chang were honored during the New York County Lawyers Association Asian Practice Committee Reception for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month;
- Margaret Ling delivered the keynote address at the New York Law School 125th Reunion and was elected to the Board of the New York Law School Alumni Association;
- Sonia Low and Blaise Chow were both honored at the Brooklyn Law School Asian Pacific American Law Students Association 2016 Alumni Luncheon; and
- Diane Gujarati was nominated by President Obama to serve on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Congratulations to all!

We are looking forward to seeing you at the NAPABA Convention in San Diego this year, in November 2016. We eagerly anticipate the rest of the AABANY year and our 2017 Annual Dinner on February 22, 2017, at Cipriani Wall Street. Save the date!

Respectfully,

Susan L. Shin
AABANY President

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has been easy, and she carries herself with a self-possessed confidence that comes from her exceptional work ethic and creativity, but mostly from the support of others.

Sylvia is one of the founding Board members of AABANY and has been a faithful friend to our organization ever since. Sylvia married her husband Edward after graduating from New York University, where she was a scholarship student who majored in Journalism and East Asian Studies. Together, they attended Fordham Law School at night, while working during the day. Always pulling his weight in raising their two sons, Arthur and Benjamin, her husband was supportive of Sylvia's career at every point, even as he was also a Big Law partner.

In 1989, three years after Sylvia was elected to partner at White & Case, she joined AABANY's inaugural board, led by the vision of Serene Nakano. Sylvia believes that an organization is shaped by the values of its leaders, and her leadership of AABANY as Director, and later as President (1994-1996), has helped build this organization from the ground up. "It's crucial," explained Sylvia, "that AABANY be representative of the diverse Asian American population of New York, to be as inclusive as possible, not only in terms of ethnicity and culture, but also geography, gender, age, practice areas and types of practice."

Under Sylvia's leadership, AABANY transformed from an organization serving Asian American attorneys to an organization of Asian American attorneys serving the community. The AABANY Asian Crime Victims Project and the AABANY Foundation (now the Asian American Law Fund of New York) are both among Sylvia's several brainchildren and demonstrate Sylvia's commitment to the community.

The Asian Crime Victims Project offered crime victims help in the Chinese, Korean, and Japanese languages, and was manned by AABANY members who were as distinguished as Sylvia, including at least two future Presidents of AABANY. Through the Asian Crime Victims Project, those who had the foreign language ability to serve their clients were able to use these same abilities to serve victims of crime. Feeling as though they could be heard despite the language barrier instilled in the many beneficiaries of this program a new faith in the law and criminal justice system. Although the need for this type of outreach is obvious today, Sylvia's initiative sparked necessary interest in serving marginalized Asian populations at a time when resources were more limited.

The AABANY Foundation lives on today as the Asian American Law Fund of New York (AALFNY), a nonprofit which Sylvia leads as its president and which works with AABANY to help the Asian American community in New York, in particular budding Asian American attorneys. When asked why she continues to organize and sponsor programs for young Asian American attorneys, Sylvia explained that, "As an Asian lawyer, I feel an obligation to other Asian lawyers." After almost forty years of legal practice, Sylvia has seen the industry change—albeit slowly—from a cold and unyielding place for minorities to a slightly more inclusive profession. Although Asian American attorneys



Sylvia, front row at the far left, is a founding Board member of AABANY. Pictured is AABANY's Annual Banquet at Peking Park Restaurant in 1997. Back row, L to R: Chris Chang, Terrance Yang, Hon. Denny Chin, Benjamin Limb, Richard Koo, S.J. Khalsa, Rocky Chin, and Glenn Lau-Kee. Front Row: Sylvia Chin, Hon. Randall Eng, Margaret Hahn, Linda SooHoo, Hon. Marilyn Go, and David Horn.



Sylvia founded the AABANY Foundation, now the Asian American Law Fund of New York ("AALFNY"), and currently serves as its president. Among other initiatives, AALFNY provides scholarships to Asian American law students who are committed to using their legal knowledge and training to benefit the APA community in New York. Pictured is the 2016 AALFNY Board at the AALFNY-AABANY Summer Reception in June, 2016, where the Community Service Scholarship was awarded. From L to R: Vincent Hull, Francis Chin, Rocky Chin, Emily Chu, Naf Kwun, Kenneth Yoon, Paul Nguyen, Vince Chang, Linda Lin, Huhnsik Chung, and Sylvia Chin.

still face barriers today, AALFNY continues to take gradual steps to aid them in their development by awarding Community Service Scholarships. The Community Service Scholarships capture the spirit of service that Sylvia and other members of AABANY have tried to cultivate in the Asian American legal community.

The young attorneys that AALFNY seeks to nurture have a long way to go to match the long history of service that Sylvia has under her belt. In her own career, Sylvia engaged in *pro bono* legal work from nearly her first day at White & Case, when she worked with a global nonprofit to provide financial inclusion to low-income women as a means of alleviating poverty. That practice continues; her current projects include structuring micro-finance loans for institutions in developing nations and coordinating a survey of financial inclusion regulatory policies in close

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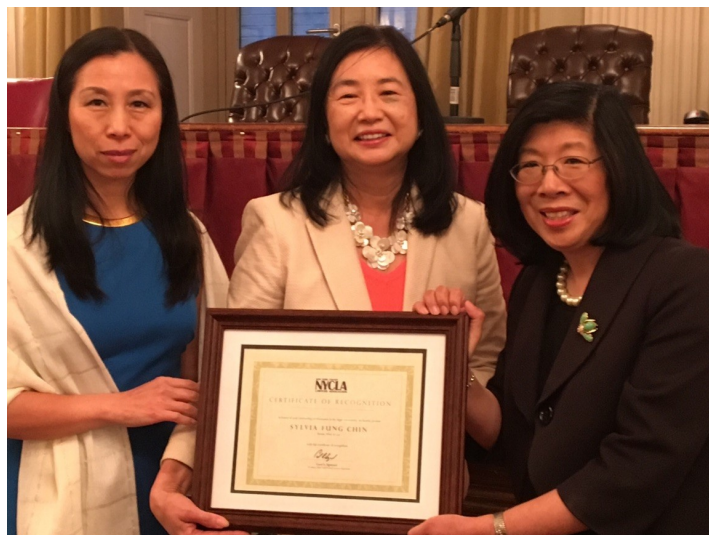
to 100 countries.

To survive as a young associate, Sylvia relied on her exceptional talent. Unlike most corporate attorneys from the Baby Boomer generation, Sylvia clerked. As a clerk during a time before technology simplified judges' dockets, she grappled with a giant physical chart of about a hundred cases. Sylvia remembers the demands from every direction: managing dockets and pre-trial conferences, analyzing motions, researching cases, drafting opinions and jury instructions, and charting the course of multiple cases as more came in.

Everything that she loved about clerking, she found to be equivalent in the corporate world. The reason that she can seamlessly navigate from capital markets to project financing and from consumer privacy policies to asset securitizations with such ease is that she never shied away from a complex transaction. Just as she had to conjure creative solutions for her judge, she developed an issue-spotting and problem-solving mentality for corporate transactions. Much of the advice that Sylvia gives to others, she has employed in her own life: "View every setback as a new challenge. Use the opportunity to learn from the challenge." Indeed, her ability to persevere stems from her willingness to take on difficult assignments.

With respect to the most significant barrier to her advancement in the 80s—the fact that she was an Asian American woman whom one client referred to as Suzy, as in Suzy Wong—Sylvia recalled being determined to ignore slights. She acknowledged that, although there was discrimination at that time, she chose her battles wisely and never dwelled on the obstacles she endured that her peers did not. For that, she thanks two white male partners at White & Case who groomed her for leadership before she even knew what the word "mentor" meant. They gave her opportunities to manage and close large complex transactions and supported her partnership candidacy. "I really was clueless about the process, I thought that it all just came with hard work," Sylvia recalled. "Afterwards, I realized how lucky I was that I had these incredible colleagues rooting for me." By focusing on the tasks at hand without a thought that she might be standing in as a representative for her entire race and gender, she demonstrated that an Asian woman could effectively analyze complex issues, organize a team, negotiate persuasively and command a boardroom.

For those who have seen the video project, *Kicking Glass*, Sylvia's experiences served as a takeoff point to speak about the hurdles faced by Asian American women in the legal profession. The mastermind behind the 1995 video project, Sylvia and White & Case sponsored the revival of *Kicking Glass from the Boardroom to the Courtroom: Two Decades and Counting* in 2015. Addressing many of the same issues—juggling stereotypes, dealing with unconscious biases, balancing work-life issues—the 2015 video revisited some of the same women who were interviewed in 1995. Though the same stereotypes for Asian women—submissive, hardworking, unimaginative, followers, not leaders—still persist twenty years later, they take a different and more subtle form today. Produced by AABANY's Women's



On June 14, 2016, Sylvia (center) was honored with the New York County Lawyers' Association's Certificate of Recognition.

Committee, the 2015 *Kicking Glass* is just one of many ways that Sylvia has sought to open the dialogue with and for Asians in America.

Sylvia embodies the spirit of community-building. Off the top of her head, she can cite statistics and studies about how diversity directly improves the workplace—that companies where women sit on the board of directors tend to be more profitable and successful—all with a perceptive humor that cajoles agreement. As a Baby Boomer, she admires the gumption of Millennials who are willing to take risks, to start over and change careers at the drop of a hat.

Unlike many other professional women in her generation, she advocated for those who came behind her. For some, it seemed that once a woman or minority advanced to a high level, they would necessarily eschew all markers of what made them different. Sylvia, however, says, "I can't pretend that I'm not Asian but I can work to ensure that I am not one of a few Asian American leaders, but one of many."

Well aware that recruitment and retention must be more than tall white men drinking beer and watching football, Sylvia developed intensive training programs not only for young associates but also for young partners that covered legal topics as well as business and personal development skills. She oversaw the restructuring of the New York office at her firm and initiated an upward review process. Recognizing the importance of support groups, Sylvia started the Asian affinity group at White & Case (a group that other affinity groups unabashedly emulate). Every Lunar New Year, one can find the area around her office at White & Case festooned in bright red and gold under a large paper dragon. She encourages women to not be afraid to advocate for other women, as well as to ask for help if they need it. Building a support network could not be more second nature to her. Despite the demands of her career, she continues to serve the legal community. Currently, Sylvia:

- Serves on the governing Council of the ABA Business Law Section after chairing its Diversity and Inclusion Committee

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AABANY at NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference

By Yang Chen
AABANY Executive Director

A AABANY members and friends came out in full force at the NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference, held in New York City this year during the weekend of August 19 through 21 and organized by KALAGNY.

The conference kicked off on Friday evening, August 19, with a welcome reception at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea, featuring an address from D. Stephen Mathias, Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs of the United Nations.

The conference programs took place on Saturday, August 20, at New York Law School. Among the panelists and moderators in the diverse array of programming were the following AABANY leaders, members and friends:

- **An-Ping Hsieh**, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Hubbell Inc., recipient of AABANY's Corporate Counsel Leadership Award in 2015;
- **Jung Choi**, Senior Counsel, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, AABANY Board member;
- **Clara Ohr**, Legal Counsel and Compliance Officer, LUKOIL Pan Americas, LLC, past AABANY President;
- **James Cho**, Assistant US Attorney, EDNY, AABANY Board member and co-chair of AABANY's Government Service and Public Interest Committee;
- **Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan**, Appellate Term, 1st Dept., New York Supreme Court, founding AABANY Board member;
- **Margaret Ling**, attorney-at-law, Co-Chair of AABANY's Real Estate Committee and Asia Practice Committee;
- **Lisa Lim**, Partner, Akerman LLP, AABANY member;
- **Robert Moy**, Partner, Forchelli, Curto, Deegan, Schwartz, Mineo & Terrana LLP, AABANY member;
- **Steve Madra**, the Madra Law Firm, AABANY member;
- **Suhna Pierce**, Associate, Morrison & Foerster, AABANY member;
- **Hon. Peggy Kuo**, US Magistrate Judge, EDNY, AABANY member;
- **William Wang**, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the New York State Attorney General, Immediate Past President of AABANY;
- **Susan L. Shin**, Partner, Arnold & Porter LLP, AABANY President;
- **Christopher M. Kwok**, Supervisory ADR Coordinator,

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Summer and Fall 2016 Highlights

By Simone Nguyen

AABANY Program Associate

AABANY continued to be active throughout the summer and heading into fall, with a slew of special programming, panels, CLEs, and committee meetings. With such a wide variety of topics and formats, our programming offered something for everyone.

Special Events

June 2, 2016 AALFNY and AABANY co-hosted their annual **Summer Reception** at Baker & McKenzie's New York Office, honoring AABANY Director Manisha Sheth for her recent appointment as Executive Deputy Attorney General for Economic Justice by New York State Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman. AALFNY's Community Service Scholarship and AALFNY/SABANY (South Asian Bar Association of New York) Public Interest Scholarship were also awarded.

June 9, 2016 The AABANY Prosecutors' Committee celebrated its **8th Anniversary Reception** at the New York County Lawyers Association by honoring two trailblazers in Public Service: Hon. Alexander Jeong (Justice of the New York State Court of Claims, Deputy Administrative Judge, New York City Criminal Court) and Diane Gujarati (Deputy Chief, Criminal Division, United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York).

ers of local bar associations. The discussion at the New York City Bar focused on the regulation of lawyers. Some of the topics included the history in the U.S. of the legal profession as a self-regulated profession, the role of court administration in New York, the role of bar associations with respect to ethics opinions and law reform, the changes being faced by the legal profession because of technological advances, and the evolving role of law firms and bar associations in international legal practice. Thanks to Glenn Lau-Kee (whose parents helped to found the US-Asia Institute) for organizing the meeting and the visit.



August 28, 2016 For those who were finally able to locate the **AABANY Annual Picnic** at Heckscher Picnic Area in Central Park, a good

time was sure to follow. The afternoon included banh mi sandwiches, a water balloon toss game, three-legged races, Frisbees, and group baby-sitting for the many babies and children who tagged along for the fun.



September 6, 2016 AABANY joined the **rally at City Hall** to support **Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan's** efforts to get re-elected after the New York County Democratic Committee Independent Judicial Screening Panel determined that incumbent Justice Ling-Cohan does

not merit continuation in office as a New York State Supreme Court Justice, a decision which AABANY found to be unprecedented and particularly unexpected, given her record as a jurist and her stature as a trailblazer in the legal community.

Panels and CLEs

June 22, 2016 The AABANY Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee presented a CLE and Networking Event: **Part I of the Nuts & Bolts Series: Ethics and IOLA Accounts**, attend-



June 23rd, 2016 AABANY co-sponsored a trial reenactment by the National Filipino American Lawyers Association, the Filipino American Lawyers Association of New York and the Filipino American Lawyers

Association of Oregon entitled **Justice Denied: Wards Cove Packing Co. v. Atonio** at the 16th Biennial Conference, "A Pinoy State of Mind: Building Our Roots," hosted by the Filipino American National Historical Society at John Jay College.



July 18, 2016 AABANY was privileged to take part in the **U.S.-Asia Institute Rule of Law Program** meeting held at the New York City Bar. A group of top law students from

Photo courtesy of Claire Gutekunst

China, who were visiting the United States on a four-week learning tour, made a stop in New York and visited with lead-

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ed by over 35 attorneys, at First Republic Bank at Time Warner Center in Columbus Circle.

July 13, 2016 The Career Placement and Student Outreach Committees hosted **Getting On Track #7: Best Practices for Successful Interviews - Mock Interview Workshop** at RGP's offices in Times Square. Approximately 40 people attended this two-part program that included a panel discussion on how to prepare for and ace an interview, and mock-interview sessions.



July 27, 2016 The Real Estate, Asia Practice, Tax and Solo/Small Firm Committees presented **Part II of Foreign Investments in U.S. Real Estate: Inbound and Outbound with FIRPTA Updates**, a CLE and networking event hosted by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP. Attorneys and Certified Public Accountants on the panel discussed the tax implications of real estate investments by foreign investors. AABANY members received 1.5 CLE credits in Areas of Professional Practice for free.



September 7, 2016 AABANY held its **How to Pitch Panel** at Paul Weiss in advance of Pitch Sessions at the AABANY Fall Conference on September 24, 2016. Moderated by Larry G. Wee, Corporate Partner at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, the panelists, who were senior in-house attorneys actually hearing pitches at the Fall Conference, included Steve Chung (NBCUniversal), Sachin Bansal (RBC Capital Markets), and Flora Lau (Publicis Groupe). Panelists discussed what companies are looking for in an outside counsel, how to get and prepare for a pitch, the dos and don'ts of pitching and other insights into the client development process.



September 8, 2016 AABANY's Government Service & Public Interest Committee, Pro Bono & Community Service Committee, and Student Outreach Committee teamed up with the Cardozo APALSA to present **How to Get Your Foot in the Door: Careers in Government Service & Public Interest** and reception. Panelists told their stories of finding their first jobs and advice about what to replicate and what not to do.



Student & Community Outreach

June 3, 2016 AABANY participated in the **Caren Aronowitz Unity in Diversity Fair** at the Rotunda on 60 Centre Street, an event presented by the Cultural Diversity Committee and the Gender Fairness Committee of the Supreme Court, Civil Branch, New York County, and the New York County Clerk's office.

June 4, 2016 The AABANY Young Lawyers Committee held its **spring community service project** with Publicolor, at Peace and Diversity Academy in the Bronx, where volunteers were paired up with students for a day of painting and informal mentoring.

June 8, 2016 The AABANY Pro Bono & Community Service Committee and Government Service & Public Interest Committee moved the **Monthly Pro Bono Clinics** to Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE) and held an immigration-themed clinic. This free legal clinic takes place the second Wednesday of every month at Asian Americans for Equality at 111 Division Street.

June 30, 2016 The AABANY Government Service & Public Interest Committee, Pro Bono & Community Service Committee and Student Outreach Committee co-hosted a **Reception for Law Student Interns Working in Government or Public Interest** at Lee Anav Chung White Kim Ruger & Richter LLP.



July 13, 2016 The AABANY Pro Bono & Community Service Committee and Government Service & Public Interest Committee held its **Monthly Pro Bono Clinic** at AAFE.

Networking

June 16, 2016 The AABANY Corporate Law Committee and the In-House Counsel Committee held their **9th Annual**

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Summer and Fall 2016, cont'd

Wine Tasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Partners and Senior In-House Counsel, attended by approximately 140 invitees.

June 17, 2016 AABANY co-hosted **"Movie Night: Seoul Searching"** with the Asian American Arts Alliance, Harvard Asian American Alumni Association, Harvard Business School Asian American Alumni Association, FF Fraternity, and Cornell Asian American Alumni Association.

June 22, 2016 The Tax Committee held its own **Seoul Searching Movie Outing** at AMC Empire 25.

August 3, 2016 The Women's Committee found their **soul (cycle)** on the Upper West Side. An incredibly active group of members participated in one of the most grueling and rewarding exercise trends in New York City. Two of the most enthusiastic riders were our Membership Director Tristan Loazon and Vice President Marianne Chow, who sat in the front row and led the charge.



September 8, 2016 The Women's Committee and FALA New York attended the U.S. Open. It was a beautiful evening for tennis in Arthur Ashe Stadi-

um, where everyone enjoyed watching both Women's Semifinals (S. Williams v. K. Pliskova, and C. Wozniacki v. A. Kerber). A great time was had by all, even though Serena Williams lost. We're all looking forward to going again next year!

Committee Meetings

June 1, 2016 The **Joint Pro Bono & Community Service and Government Service & Public Interest Committee Meeting** was held at Legal Services NYC.

June 9, 2016 The **Intellectual Property Committee Kick-Off Meeting** was held at Arent Fox.

June 13, 2016 The **Litigation Committee Kick-Off Meeting** was held at Dorsey & Whitney.

June 15, 2016 The **Immigration & Nationality Law Committee Kick-Off Meeting** was held at Perkins Coie.

June 21, 2016 The **Military & Veterans Affairs Committee Kick-Off Meeting** was held at BakerHostetler.

June 29, 2016 The **Tax Committee** hosted an interactive discussion on tax-related provisions in a stock purchase agreement with a focus on tax covenants. The peer group discussion on mergers and acquisitions was hosted over dinner at the Tang Pavilion. Shiukay Hung (Morrison & Foerster LLP), Rich Williams (Dentons US LLP), Eugene Kim (Barclays) led the discussion with Brian Hamano (Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP).



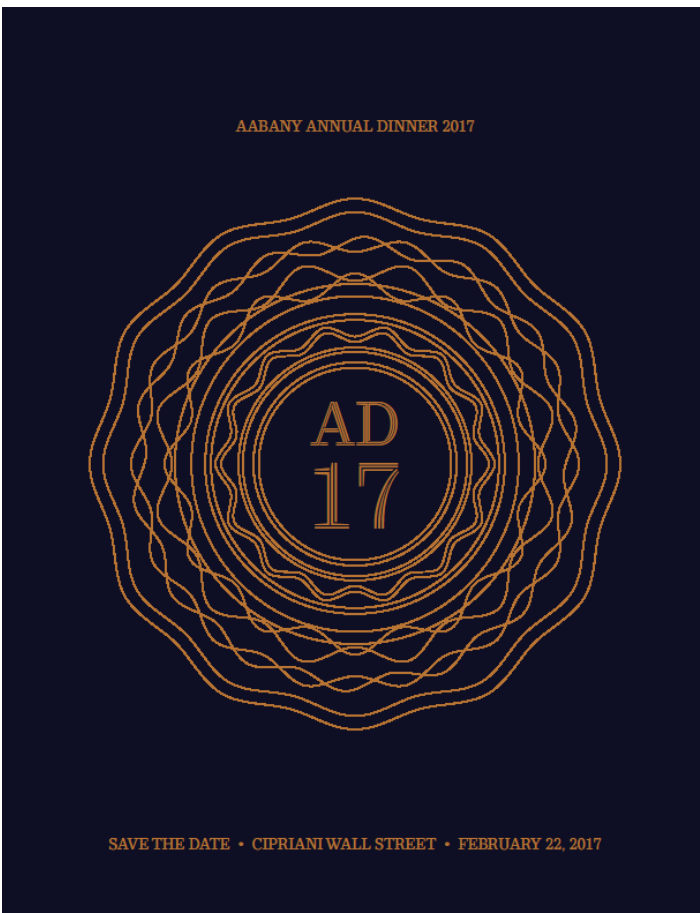
June 30, 2016 The AABANY Women's Committee hosted its **Kickoff Meeting** at Urbanspace Vanderbilt. About a dozen women gathered over breakfast to meet fellow members, share ideas, and learn about programs, events and volunteer opportunities for the coming year.



July 18, 2016 The **Judiciary Committee Meeting** was held at Boies, Schiller & Flexner.

July 19, 2016 The AABANY Labor and Employment Law Committee held a **Kickoff Happy Hour** at Manhattan Proper,

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EEOC, Co-Chair of AABANY's Issues Committee;

- **Jin P. Lee**, the Law Office of Jin P. Lee, AABANY member;
- **Sandra Leung**, AALDEF Board member, AABANY Advisory Committee member;
- **Vinoo Varghese**, Varghese & Associates, P.C., former AABANY Board member;
- **Osamu Watanabe**, General Counsel, Moelis & Co., AABANY member;
- **Kenneth Chin**, Partner, Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP, AABANY member;
- **Sahang-Hee Hahn**, Assistant Vice President and Counsel, Mass Mutual, co-chair AABANY's Tax Committee;
- **Dwight Yoo**, Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flo LLP, AABANY President-Elect;
- **Jimmy Yan**, Special Counsel to the Chief Investment Officer & Deputy Comptroller for Asset Management, Office of the New York City Comptroller, AABANY member;
- **Rachel Jiyoung Yoo**, Law Office of Rachel J. Yoo, AABA-NY member;
- **Elaine M. Calderon**, Managing Attorney, The Calderon Law Practice PLLC, AABANY member;
- **Jane Chuang**, Partner, Lee Anav Chung White Kim Ruger & Richter LLP, past AABANY Treasurer;
- **PC Cheng**, Law Offices of Cheng & Associates, past AABA-NY President; and
- **Hon. Randall T. Eng**, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, presented an inspiring keynote speech during the plenary luncheon session.

After a full day of engaging and informative CLE programs, the attendees enjoyed a cocktail reception on the Rooftop Lounge at New York Law School. An optional dinner was also available in Chinatown at Hop Lee, followed by late night karaoke at

Karaoke City in K-town.

For those who still had the energy on Sunday, a social mixer was held starting at noon at the Biergarten in the Standard Hotel.

Also in attendance at the Northeast Regional were the following NAPABA Officers, Directors and Staff:

- **Jin Y. Hwang**, President;
- **Alexander M. Lee**, VP for Finance & Development;
- **Tacie H. Yoon**, VP for Membership;
- **Sun E. Choi**, VP for Communications;
- **Steve Y. Reeves**, Treasurer;
- **George C. Chen**, Immediate Past President;
- **Charles H. Jung**, NAPABA At-Large Member;
- **Daniel Sakaguchi**, NAPABA At-Large Member;
- **Tina Matsuoka**, NAPABA Executive Director;
- **Navdeep Singh**, NAPABA Policy Director; and
- **Pang Moua**, NAPABA Meeting Coordinator;

Congratulations to KALAGNY President Bridgette Ahn and all the members of the planning committee, Eve Guillergan, Judy Kim, Karen Kim, James Lee, EJ Thorsen and Rose Yan, for putting together an enjoyable, engaging and informative Northeast Regional Conference! We look forward to next year's Northeast Regional in Philadelphia and the following year's conference in Connecticut. ♦



About the Author: **Yang Chen** is the Executive Director of AABANY, a position he has held since August 2009, and former President of AABA-NY (2008-2009). Prior to his current position, Yang was a partner in the firm of Constantine Cannon, and among the firm's founding members.

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- and its Women's Business Law Network;
- Chairs the First Judicial District of the New York Bar Foundation;
- Serves as the President of the Asian American Law Fund of New York;
- Serves as President-Elect of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers;
- Serves as a Director of the NAPABA Law Foundation;
- Serves as a Trustee of the Fordham Law Alumni Association; and
- Serves on the Governing Committee of the ABA Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity.

Sylvia insists she is not a risk-taker, but if her past is any indication, she will be blazing trails ahead for as long as she can. We are honored to recognize Sylvia with the 2016 Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award.

She distills her experience of almost forty years of practice with these words: "Be true to yourself. Look for opportunities and be open-minded. Give back."♦



About the Author: *Simone Nguyen* is AABANY's Program Associate. She is a graduate of Columbia University, where she studied English and Comparative Literature and East Asian Languages and Cultures.

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where lawyers in the field of LEL and those aspiring to enter mixed and mingled. In this atmosphere of community, the co-chairs informed attendees about upcoming programs and the goals of the LEL Committee – to help each other become exceptional LEL lawyers and to give back to our communities.



Co-Sponsored Events

June 14, 2016 The NYCLA Asian Practice Committee and AABANY co-hosted a **networking reception in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**, and the NYCLA Certificate of Recognition was awarded to AABANY's Sylvia Fung Chin and Vincent Chang.

June 22, 2016 AABANY co-sponsored a **Joint Bar Happy Hour** with the NYS Academy of Trial Lawyers, Metropolitan Black Bar Association, and the New York State Bar Association at Manhattan Proper.♦



About the Author: *Simone Nguyen* is AABANY's Program Associate. She is a graduate of Columbia University, where she studied English and Comparative Literature and East Asian Languages and Cultures.

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cesses that enable us to focus on ensuring that counsel and associates can customize their use of the firm's programs for their individual performance needs and goals. Below are some highlights of the firm's initiatives.

Leadership Development. Successful leadership and business development experiences are important to our attorneys' career development. The firm's D&I initiatives promote this objective by supporting current leaders in their efforts to develop the next generation of attorneys. For example, our U.S. partners and counsel recently completed training programs on cultivating diverse talent through inclusive leadership styles and multicultural competencies. Our D&I initiatives also support future leaders by providing high-potential attorneys with skills and resources that help accelerate their growth. One example is our Women's Leadership Forum for promising women counsel and senior associates, which consists of a six-month workshop on leadership development and provides individualized executive coaching. More than 60 attorneys have participated in the program since its inception, with 20 having been promoted to partner or counsel following their participation.

NAPABA and AABANY In-House Counsel Summit. We also proactively collaborate with women, LGBT and minority bar associations, and other professional organizations to provide, or position our attorneys for, meaningful leadership and client development opportunities. For example, for the past two years, Skadden has hosted the NAPABA and AABANY In-House Counsel Summit that brought together in-house counsel from a variety of corporate legal departments to discuss issues Asian-Pacific American lawyers face. The program has been a great opportunity for Asian attorneys to meet and network with their counterparts in legal departments and gain insight into the life of an in-house lawyer. The firm received mention from Varian Medical Systems, Inc.'s general counsel, Mr. John Kuo, in *The Wall Street Journal* for hosting the summit.

Affinity Networks. Our attorney affinity networks facilitate relationship-building among attorneys with shared interests and backgrounds, and provide a forum in which traditional and peer-mentoring opportunities may develop and flourish. Currently the firm has seven active attorney affinity networks, which are open to all attorneys and include: Asian & Middle Eastern Affinity Network; Black/African-American Affinity Network; Juntos, our Latino/Hispanic affinity network; LGBT Affinity Network; FAM, our parents affinity network.; SkadVets for military veterans; and SWELL – Skadden Women Excelling in Law and Leadership, our women attorneys network. Additionally, our Straight-LGBT Alliance, launched in our New York office in 2014, offers a forum for straight colleagues to be open allies of our LGBT attorneys and staff and to increase our collective awareness of the issues and challenges faced by LGBT people. Each affinity network has up to four partner sponsors, which further expands mentoring opportunities available to diverse associates and counsel.

To learn more about Skadden's D&I initiatives, visit www.skadden.com/diversity.♦

AABANY • MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Asian American
Bar Association
of New York

Asian American Bar Association of New York

The Asian American Bar Association of New York was formed in 1989 as a not-for-profit corporation to represent the interests of New York Asian American attorneys, judges, law professors, legal professionals, legal assistants, paralegals and law students. Today AABANY has over 1100 members.

The mission of AABANY is to improve the study and practice of law, and the fair administration of justice for all by ensuring the meaningful participation of Asian Americans in the legal profession.

Member Benefits and Activities

- **LEARN**
Attend interesting and relevant Continuing Legal Education (“CLE”) accredited programs on a wide range of topics for free or at discounted rates.
- **NETWORK**
Connect with a diverse network of attorneys in every type and size of practice in a variety of networking settings, including social, community service, and physical wellness events.
- **COLLABORATE**
Get involved in the organization by joining one of AABANY’s 30 different committees, participating in AABANY’s Mentorship Program, or volunteering at one of our signature events.
- **ACCESS**
Access AABANY’s members-only career center database for legal job openings and consult with AABANY’s Career Placement Committee for targeted job advice/guidance.
- **CONNECT**
As an Active Member, get a free membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association “NAPABA” and connect with a vast network of APA attorneys in North America, from coast to coast and in Canada.
- **GROW**
Take on a leadership role within a committee, highlight your practice by speaking on a panel, and raise your profile in the legal community.
- **SAVE**
Get discounted memberships at other bar associations and discounts on entertainment, travel, and shopping with the Working Advantage Program.

Membership Types

- A Active Member** – Any attorney admitted in any state, territory or possession of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, or foreign country jurisdiction who works and/or resides in New York State.
- Annual Fees: Private Sector (10 or less years since admission) - \$75
Private Sector (More than 10 years since admission) - \$125
Public Sector - \$40
- B Associate Member** – Any attorney admitted in any state, territory or possession of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, or foreign country jurisdiction who does not work or reside in New York State.
- Annual Fee: \$50
- C Law Student Member** – Any individual enrolled at an American Bar Association accredited law school who resides or attends a law school in New York State or intends to sit for the New York State Bar Examination, or any graduate of an ABA-accredited law school who is pending admission to the New York State bar and works or resides in New York State.
- Annual Fee: \$15
- D Affinity Member** – Any individual supporting the legal community who is not a licensed attorney, law school graduate, or law student.
- Annual Fee: \$30

AABANY

45 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, 20TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10111
MAIN@AABANY.ORG | (718) 228-7206 | JOIN ONLINE AT WWW.AABANY.ORG



APPLICANT INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Asian American
Bar Association
of New York

☐ MR. ☐ MS. ☐ DR. ☐ HON.

NAME FIRST MIDDLE LAST
HOME ADDRESS PHONE FAX
CITY STATE ZIP CODE EMAIL

Employment Information

FIRM OR ORGANIZATION NAME
BUSINESS ADDRESS PHONE FAX
CITY STATE ZIP CODE EMAIL

Membership Type

I WOULD LIKE TO: ☐ JOIN ☐ RENEW

A Active Member Please select one of the following categories:
☐ Private Sector (10 or less years since admission) - \$75
☐ Private Sector (More than 10 years since admission) - \$125
☐ Public Sector - \$40

B Associate Member - \$50
C Law Student Member - \$15
D Affinity Member - \$30

Contact Preferences

SEND EMAIL TO: ☐ HOME ☐ WORK ☐ DON'T SEND EMAIL

SEND POSTAL MAIL TO: ☐ HOME ☐ WORK

AABANY IS THE NEW YORK AFFILIATE OF NAPABA. SHARE INFO WITH NAPABA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION IN THE DIRECTORY? (Check all that apply) ☐ HOME ☐ WORK ☐ DO NOT LIST

Profile

LAW SCHOOL: GRADUATION YEAR:
PROGRAM: ☐ JD ☐ LL.M. ☐ SJD/PH.D. STATE BARS ADMITTED: ☐ NY ☐ NJ ☐ CT ☐ OTHER ☐ PENDING YEAR FIRST ADMITTED:

☐ FIRM/SOLO PRACTICE ☐ IN-HOUSE ☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ JUDICIARY ☐ STUDENT ☐ EDUCATOR ☐ NON-PROFIT/PUBLIC INTEREST ☐ OTHER

PRACTICE AREA(S):

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES:

Committee Participation - I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

☐ ACADEMIC
☐ AUDIT
☐ AWARDS
☐ CAREER PLACEMENT
☐ COMMERCIAL BANKRUPTCY & RESTRUCTURING
☐ COMPENSATION
☐ CORPORATE LAW

☐ FINANCE
☐ GOVERNMENT SERVICE & PUBLIC INTEREST
☐ IMMIGRATION & NATIONALITY LAW
☐ IN-HOUSE COUNSEL
☐ INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
☐ ISSUES
☐ JUDICIARY

☐ LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW
☐ LGBT
☐ LITIGATION
☐ MEMBERSHIP
☐ MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS
☐ NEWSLETTER
☐ NOMINATIONS
☐ PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE

☐ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
☐ PROSECUTORS
☐ REAL ESTATE
☐ SOLO & SMALL FIRM PRACTICE
☐ STUDENT OUTREACH
☐ TAX
☐ WOMEN'S
☐ YOUNG LAWYERS

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