

AABANY's Quarterly Report: November 2015 to January 2016

During AABANY's Fourth Quarter from November 2015 to January 2016, we continued charting new frontiers through offering important and productive programming, networking opportunities, and community outreach while also preparing our transition into AABANY's next fiscal year.

Our Nominations Committee recommended the following slate of candidates to be elected as officers at AABANY's Annual Meeting on February 9:

- *President-Elect*: Dwight Yoo, Partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP
- *Vice President, Programs and Operations*: Marianne Chow, Corporate Counsel at Hearst Corporation
- *Vice President, Finance and Development*: William Ng, Associate at Littler Mendelson, P.C.
- *Treasurer*: Amy Ngai, Associate at Gurfein & Douglas LLP
- *Secretary*: Lige Gu, Associate at Halperin Battaglia Raicht LLP
- *Membership Director*: Tristan Loanzon, Principal at Loanzon Sheikh LLP

Our Nominations Committee nominated the following members to join our Board of Directors:

- James Cho, Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney's Office
- Jung Choi, Senior Counsel at Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Suhana Han, Partner at Sullivan & Cromwell
- Sapna Palla, Partner at Wiggin and Dana
- Manisha Sheth, Partner at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP
- Irene Tan, Associate Counsel at AIG
- Pauline Yeung-Ha, Principal at Grimaldi & Yeung LLP

President Will Wang approved the formation of an Asia Practice Committee in December 2015, bringing our total number of Committees to thirty-two. Dai Wai Chin Feman, Dorsey & Whitney LLP, joined as Co-Chair of the Litigation Committee.

We are currently well underway in fundraising efforts for corporate sponsorship of our 27th Anniversary Dinner to be held on *February 24, 2016* at Cipriani Wall Street, with the theme, *Speak Up | Rise Up | Lift Up*, for fiscal year 2016. As our largest fundraiser of the year, with projected attendance of approximately 800 people, the Annual Dinner provides the necessary funds for AABANY's programming year-round.



Awards and Recognitions

AABANY recognizes and congratulates the many members of its community, achieving great success and acquiring numerous awards in different fields of law. We congratulate the following members and friends:

Judge Donald Leo, who was appointed as Criminal Court Judge in Kings County.

U.S. Congresswoman Grace Meng, who was honored at Cardozo Law School's Seventh Annual Black, Asian Latino Law Student Association Alumni Dinner.

Rio Guerrero, Immigration and Nationality Law Committee Co-Chair, who was honored by the Pan American Concerned Citizens Action League, Inc. (PACCAL) for his leadership and service in the legal profession.

Brian Song, Military & Veteran Affairs Committee Chair, who was the first Korean American to be elected to the BakerHostetler Partnership.

Special Events



November 5-8, 2015 New York once again made a strong showing at the **Annual National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA") Convention**. Held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside from Nov. 5-8, the NAPABA Rising Convention brought together over 1,500 Asian Americans from all across the nation. Josh Hsu, former law clerk to the Hon. Denny Chin, and Karen Wu, past Co-Chair of the Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, were each recognized with NAPABA Best Under 40 Awards. The NAPABA Civil Rights Committee, which was formerly chaired by AABANY co-founder Rocky Chin, took home the NAPABA President's Award. Some of AABANY's own Co-Chairs – including Vincent Roldan, Dwight Yoo, Lige Gu,

Jenny Lee, Jane Chuang, and Chris Kwok – also ran the show during the NAPABA Committee Meetings. On Saturday, Nov. 7, the AABANY Trial Re-enactment Team, led by Hon. Denny Chin and Kathy Hirata Chin, took to the stage at the NAPABA National Convention to perform **Vietnamese Fishermen v. KKK**. Set in the aftermath of the Fall of the Saigon, when Vietnamese immigrants arrived in the Gulf Coast and became fishermen, the case recounts their experience as targets of terrorizing tactics from the Ku Klux Klan designed to drive them out. The Vietnamese fishermen fought back with a lawsuit seeking a preliminary injunction against these actions. Including our Trial Reenactment, our members and friends spoke on no less than 25 panels.



December 7, 2015 AABANY collaborated with the New York City Bar Association (NYCBA) to present ***Justice Denied: Wards Cove Packing v. Atonio***, a trial reenactment about discrimination against Filipino and other non-white workers in the Alaskan salmon canneries. Thank you to Judge Denny Chin and Kathy Hirata Chin for once again leading us through the harrowing story. The Wards Cove reenactment premiered at the NAPABA

Convention in 2014 and was performed later at the New York offices of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in 2015. This was the second collaboration between AABANY and NYCBA to present our trial reenactments to a wider audience.

January 6, 2016 AABANY launched our **Historical Trial Reenactments Website**, an online educational resource. Since 2007, under the leadership and directions of Hon. Denny Chin of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Kathy Hirata Chin, Partner at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, AABANY has produced and performed a series of trial reenactments based on notable trials and cases involving Asian Americans. Performed by a core team of AABANY members at the Annual NAPABA Conventions, each dramatic program utilizes the format of a reenactment of an historic trial or appeal. We invite you to visit reenactments.aabany.org to relive and to learn about important aspects of American history that have too often been overlooked, ignored, or forgotten. The reenactments began as educational programs aimed at lawyers but due to the scope of issues and the power of each story to shed new light on neglected chapters of American history, their audience and influence have grown. Each case marks a different chapter in Asian American history, and each case had a significant impact on law and society – touching on themes such as race, discrimination, loyalty, human and civil rights, and the struggle for justice against bigotry, government persecution, and public opposition. AABANY’s online resource provides access to each of the nine trial reenactment scripts so far, news articles and information about past performances, and information on upcoming trial reenactment programs and performances. The site also provides instructions and guidelines about how you can perform one of AABANY’s trial reenactments yourself.

Panels & CLEs



November 13, 2015 Our Labor & Employment Law Committee of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) hosted **Mark Gaston Pearce**, Chairman of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for a discussion on his life and career path – his perspective and path to policy maker. Spearheaded by Joane Wong (Founding Member of the Labor & Employment Law Committee) and David Mou (Vice Chair of Labor & Employment Law

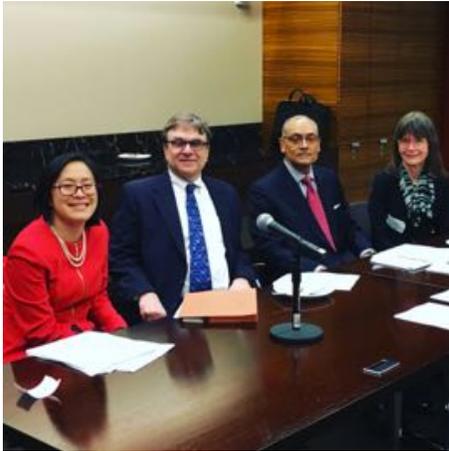
Committee), the event was co sponsored by the Labor & Employment Law Section of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), Metropolitan Black Bar Association (MBBA), and the Murphy Institute – CUNY. It was held at the offices of Outten & Golden LLP, who generously provided space and support services for the event. Drawing an audience of over 75 on a Friday night was no easy feat, and those that attended heard an intimate conversation as Chairman Pearce shared stories of his experiences as an undergrad at Cornell University and State University of New York at Buffalo Law School. After law school, he worked at the NLRB for 15 years until he had an offer at age 40 to go into private practice. He described the challenges and risk of leaving his comfort zone and jumping into private practice, where he eventually was a founding partner of a labor and employment firm. When President Obama was looking to fill slots in the NRLB, Chairman Pearce had an opportunity to rejoin the Federal government, coming full circle in his career. He also answered tough questions about implicit bias and diversity issues in the legal profession.



December 3, 2015 Steve Chung led **Group Mentoring: Creating a Strategic Approach to Advancing Your Career**. Steve is Senior Vice President of News for NBCUniversal and he is also a Director on AABANY's Board. This event was the first in what Steve hopes will be a regular series focused on various topics dealing with career advancement. In this first session, Steve spoke directly and candidly to a packed room about knowing yourself and developing the ability to present yourself in a positive way.

He engaged the group in written exercises and discussions around this topic. He and Paul, Weiss Partner (and Corporate Law Committee Co-Chair) Larry Wee presented role-playing exercises to demonstrate how a younger attorney interacts with (or should interact with) a more senior attorney or a person of authority. Some of the participants got up and shared with the group who they are and what is important to them. Steve offered constructive feedback and advice to each of them. At the end of the evening, Steve asked all the participants to write down their top takeaways from the session and to come up with at least two ways to take action from those

takeaways. Steve offered many valuable ideas, concepts and thoughts that trying to encapsulate them all in a few sentences or a paragraph does not even come close to capturing all the insights and wisdom that he imparted.



January 13, 2016 The Judiciary Committee hosted **Bootcamp: Road to the Bench: The Written Application** at Seyfarth Shaw. This workshop provided hands-on advice on how to present yourself and your accomplishments most successfully. Examples of judicial application forms were provided in advance for participants to ask the in-depth questions about the common mistakes and how to avoid them: How do you choose your best cases, references, and attributes? How do you write the essay or cover letter? How do you handle shortcomings? How does the selection panel view references? Who you should choose as a reference?

The speakers for the evening included: Hon. Elizabeth Stong, Hon. Barry Cozier, and Robert Begleiter. The Honorable Lillian Wan of Kings County Family Court moderated. The resounding take-away from the panel: The judicial process starts well before the written application. A good, highly qualified judicial candidate is a person who has thoughtfully considered their experience and how it would affect their performance as a judge. A good applicant prepares their references and has been respectful to not only their friends, but also their adversaries. The hardest part of the process, according to Judge Stong, is looking in the mirror and asking whether or not you might be staring back at a judge one day.



January 19, 2016 AABANY co-sponsored **So Ordered: Judge Lorna G. Schofield's Do's and Don'ts for Your Legal Career**, hosted by Filipino American Lawyers Association of New York and Milbank's Asian Pacific Islander Network. Judge Schofield joined the federal bench in 2012. Prior to her judicial appointment, she was a litigation partner at Debevoise & Plimpton and served as an Assistant US Attorney in the Southern District of New York. The first Filipino-American to serve as an Article III federal judge, Judge Schofield has been active with the American Bar Association, holding many leadership

positions including Chair of the Section of Litigation. The evening proved to candid and insightful.

January 19, 2016 The Real Estate, Solo & Small Firm Practice, Tax, and Asia Practice - organized a CLE program entitled "**Getting Ahead of the Inbound Curve: Business, Real Estate, and Tax Considerations for Foreign Investment in U.S. Real Estate.**" Held at the offices of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP in New York, in a large

conference room filled to capacity, the attendees learned from an expert panel about tax laws that apply to foreign entities seeking to invest in the United States. Alex Yong Hao, Partner in Jun He and Co-Chair of the Asia Practice Committee, began with an overview of investment trends by Chinese companies in the United States, noting the high level of investments by Chinese in real estate. Next, Baker Tilly Partner Don Ryu presented an overview of the tax codes that apply to foreign investors. JoonBeom Pae, Tax Committee Co-Chair and Associate at Weil, Gotshal, continued the discussion of tax laws applicable to non-resident aliens and foreign companies investing in the United States. Pietro Stuardi, the Senior Tax Manager at Baker Tilly, discussed the various structures available to foreign investors and the tax consequences of each. The audience was highly engaged, offering pertinent and challenging questions to the panelists.



January 20, 2016 Our Career Placement Committee continued its ever-popular Getting-on-Track series with **Networking for Lawyers**, where panelists shared honest information on how to be memorable and get the most out of networking. Panelists shared how they insert themselves into the conversation, how they hate people who ask them out for a drink and ask for business thirty minutes later, and what to do if they're worried they won't stick out. Our speakers included: Pauline Yeung-Ha, Partner,

Grimaldi & Yeung LLP; Austin So, Division General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Heraeus Incorporated; Robert Leung, Partner, Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP; Yang Chen, Executive Director, Asian American Bar Association of New York; and Jeff Ikejiri, Director, RGP Legal, who acted as moderator.



January 21, 2016, AABANY's Immigration and Nationality Law Committee and KALAGNY co-organized a CLE program entitled **(Almost) Everything You Wanted to Know About EB-5 and Didn't Have Anyone To Ask (Part 1)**. The event was held at the offices of Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Midtown Manhattan. Julia Yong-hee Park, the Managing Director of Advantage America EB-5 Group, spoke for over two hours discussing the ins and outs of

the EB-5 Immigrant Investor program, covering a wide breadth of topics including the immigration rules, securities law aspects and the current political calculations of different interest groups that are reshaping the program. Nearly 60 people attended the conference and filled the large conference room at Dorsey, evidencing the heightened interest in the EB-5 Immigrant Investor program.

Community Outreach



December 9, 2015 AABANY's Pro Bono and Community Service Committee launched its **Monthly Pro Bono Legal Clinic** at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association in the heart of Chinatown. This clinic will take place on the second Wednesdays of each month and is designed to provide free legal advice to members of the Asian American community. Those in need of legal advice make appointments with the CCBA. Volunteer attorneys from AABANY then meet with them between 6:30 pm and 8:30 pm. We are extremely proud of the good work that can and will be done for the community.

December 16, 2015 Our Pro Bono & Community Service (PBCS) Committee held a free **Legal Services Clinic** at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. Volunteer attorneys assisted elderly and disabled community members complete applications for Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE). PBCS Co-Chair Samuel Lui led the training for the 8 volunteers, some of whom acted as interpreters for the clients. Volunteers helped 6 people complete SCRIE applications. The remaining clients received advice on their various legal issues. The clinic helped a total of 14 people. Government Service & Public Interest (GSPI) Committee Co-Chair Anita conducted an impromptu presentation on SCRIE for additional walk-ins.

Networking

November 19, 2016 AABANY hosted a **Joint Committee Fall Networking Event** at Duane Morris, LLP, co-sponsored by AABANY's Real Estate, Solo and Small Firm Practice, and Tax Committees. This was a great opportunity to network with people in other committees and learn more about the new Asia Practice Committee that was currently in formation.



December 11, 2015 AABANY held its **Annual Holiday Party**. People came out, brought their friends, and celebrated the holiday season with AABANY over a delightful round of drinks.



December 14, 2015 Members of AABANY's Prosecutors' Committee gathered for a **Holiday Cocktail Party** at Tavern on Third to celebrate the end of another productive year. Prosecutors from all District Attorneys' offices in the five boroughs were represented plus Nassau County. A noticeably dressed down Kin Ng, in t-shirt and jeans, mingled amidst the sea of suits and ties. Some non-ADAs managed to sneak in, including some Assistant Attorneys General and even some law firm partners

(yes, we are talking about past presidents Rob Leung, Andy Hahn and current President Will Wang). They even let Executive Director Yang Chen slip in. Security was apparently very slack. The party started in the Private Library Room in the back but the crowd soon spilled out to the main bar and the high tops right outside the Library Room. Attendees feasted on wings, chicken tenders, sliders and fries, washed down with a wide selection of beers and drink available at the bar.



January 26, 2016 AABANY's Real Estate Committee, together with Citibank Commercial Banking Group, AREAA New York East Chapter, and First Nationwide Title Agency, held a **New Year Networking Event** at the Citibank building in Court Square in Long Island City. Gathering on the 50th floor with fabulous views of the Manhattan skyline, the attendees got to mix and mingle with bankers, brokers, lawyers and other professionals in the real estate industry.

Margaret Ling, Co-Chair of AABANY's Real Estate Committee, moderated a short discussion about all the new and exciting development projects happening in Queens. During the presentation, one of the speakers, George Eliopoulos, passed around his hat to collect business cards, after which he drew one card out of the hat to award a special prize. The lucky winner was none other than AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen who went home with a rubber chicken.

January 28, 2016 AABANY's newest committee, the Asia Practice Committee, co-sponsored a **Lunar New Year Networking Event** with the ABA Section of International Law's China Committee, the Chinese Business Lawyers Association (CBLA) and the New York office of Akerman LLP. More than 60 invitees registered for this invite-only event held at Ackermann's offices in midtown Manhattan. Guests networked over drinks and hors d'oeuvres. This event was the latest in continuing collaborations between AABANY, the ABA Section of International Law's China Committee and the CBLA.