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All Officers and Directors, except for the Executive Director, serve as volunteers in their personal capacities and the listing of their employers is only for identification purposes.

Thanks to Corky Lee for the photos of Bobby Liu, Sonia Low, Terrence Shen, Brian Song, Irene Tan.

Thanks to Karen Zhou for the photos of Dwight Yoo, Susan Shin, Jeff Ikejiri, Francis Chin, Amy Ngai, Jung Choi, Diane Gujarati, Sapna Palla, Manisha Sheth, Larry Wee, Yang Chen.
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Message from the President

February 13, 2018

Dear AABANY members and supporters:

I feel privileged to have served as President of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) this past year. One of the largest and most active minority state bar associations, AABANY continues to be a leading voice for Asian Pacific Americans (APA) and instrumental in advocating for and executing positive changes in law firms, companies, the judicial branch, government and the public sector, law schools and the broader APA community.

I want to say thank you to our talented and driven board of directors, committee chairs and staff. While it has not been easy for me balancing the demands of a law firm partner, family life, volunteer commitments and faith with the demands of this leadership position, your passion and dedication have consistently inspired me and kept the organization moving forward.

AABANY should be proud of the many accomplishments it achieved over the past year, many of which are described in detail in AABANY’s 2017 Year End Report and on its website www.aabany.org. We, however, should be cognizant that there is still work to be done. I am encouraged by the significant interest expressed by our members and supporters to lead or participate in our many initiatives, including a soon-to-be-launched initiative to address the disproportionate underrepresentation of APAs in law firm partnerships and to help talented APAs achieve the promotion their talent deserves.

I believe AABANY is in a much stronger place today compared with where it was in the past, and similarly will be in an even stronger position next year under the leadership of James Cho, our incoming President. I look forward to working with you on AABANY initiatives in AABANY’s new fiscal year and seeing firsthand the progress AABANY makes.

Respectfully,

Dwight S. Yoo
Mission Statement

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. 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.

History

In 1988, the New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities, headed by noted African American attorney Franklin Hall Williams, examined the treatment of minority litigants and court employees. Following hearings in New York City on June 29th and 30th of that year, Rockwell Chin approached Commissioner Serene K. Nakano to discuss the need for an organization for Asian American attorneys. While Chinese and Korean American lawyer associations existed, there had never been an association of Asian American lawyers in New York.

Further impetus came when the National Asian American Bar Association (later called NAPABA) Planning Committee invited various attorneys in New York City to Chicago in October 1988. A core group, including Rockwell Chin, Glenn Ikeda, Yat T. Man, Steve Min and Serene K. Nakano, worked to found a formal association of Asian American lawyers: drafting organizational documents, reaching out to New York and nationwide bar groups, and contacting other Asian American attorneys.

Announcing AABANY’s incorporation on October 20, 1989, the group invited attorneys to an inaugural reception at New York University Law School on November 9, 1989. Among the speakers were Judge Dorothy Chin Brandt, Judge Randall Eng, Judge Peter Tom, past president of the American Immigration Law Association Benjamin Gim, Professor Sharon Hom, AALDEF Program Director Stanley Mark, and former NYPD Deputy Commissioner Hugh Mo. All of the speakers emphasized the unfulfilled need for AABANY. The reception was a resounding success, with over 180 attorneys and law students attending. Before the meeting concluded, over 60 people had joined AABANY.

AABANY, operating under an interim board during its first year, hosted further receptions, including evening social events, as well as a meeting at Brooklyn Law School at which Hoyt Zia, then the first President of NAPABA, spoke. Newly formed committees also sprang into action. The Issues Committee, co-chaired by Rockwell Chin and Marilyn Go, began research on redistricting, assisted lobbying for bias crimes legislation and spoke out against bias incidents. The Business Law Committee, co-chaired by Ken Chin and Marilyn Go, established a speaker series of prominent Asian American attorneys. The Events Committee hosted a fall picnic. Prompted by concerns raised by law students at the picnic, Chin Fong and James Minamoto established a student mentor program, presenting a job skills workshop to help law students hone interviewing skills.

On January 12, 1991, AABANY held its first annual meeting, electing Serene Nakano, Doris Ling-Cohan, Steve Min, Glenn Ikeda and Marilyn Go as officers and Rockwell Chin, Sylvia Fung Chin, Merlin Liu, Stanley Mark, Qazi Moid and Judge Peter Tom as directors.

Now one of the most prominent and active minority bar associations in New York, AABANY has approximately 1,000 members, including practicing attorneys in the private and public sectors, in-house lawyers, judges, professors and law students.
Awards and Recognitions

Hon. Denny Chin, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, was presented the New York Intellectual Property Law Association (NYIPLA) Outstanding Public Service Award at NYIPLA’s 95th Annual Dinner in honor of the Federal Judiciary.

Hon. Randall T. Eng, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, received the Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award at the 2018 AABANY Fall Conference held at Fordham University School of Law.

Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan received NAPABA’s Women’s Leadership Award at the 2017 NAPABA National Convention.

Hon. Peggy Kuo, United States Magistrate Judge, Eastern District of New York, was honored at the Association of Asian American Yale Alumni 9th Annual Lunar New Year Banquet.

Hon. Sanket Bulsara was appointed to serve as United States Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York.


Hon. Phyllis Chu was inducted into New York City Criminal Court.

Hon. Phillip Hom was inducted into the Civil Court in Queens County.

Hon. Charles Y.J. Liu was inducted into the New York City Civil Court.

Hon. Frances Wang was inducted into the New York City Civil Court.

Preet Bharara, former United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, was honored at the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration hosted by the Office of Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown on May 16.

Kathy Hirata Chin, AABANY member and leader of the AABANY Trial Reenactment team, was named one of the New York County Lawyers Association’s Outstanding Women in the Legal Profession. She was also named one of the Top Women Super Lawyers in the New York Metro 2017 edition.

Parkin Lee, a longtime member of AABANY and a valued member of AABANY’s Advisory Committee, received the Sen. Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award at the 2017 NAPABA National Convention.

Diane Gujarati, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Criminal Division at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Southern District of New York and AABANY Board Member, was honored at the SABANY Annual Gala with the Litigation Achievement Award.

Andy Hahn, Partner at Duane Morris, and former AABANY, KALAGNY and NAPABA President, was named one of the New York Law Journal’s Distinguished Leaders of 2017.

Glenn Lau-Kee, Partner at Kee & Lau-Kee, PLLC and past AABANY and NYSBA President, was honored at MOCA’s 6th annual Celebration of Community Heroes. MOCA recognized Glenn for his immeasurable contributions “to the Chinese American community, the legal community, and the world around him.”

Nelson Mar, a senior staff attorney and education specialist at Bronx Legal Services, received a Medal of Distinguished Service from Binghamton University.

Pauline Yeung-Ha, Chair of AABANY’s Compensation Committee, Co-Chair of the Pro Bono & Community Service Committee, and past Board Member, was honored as one of Brooklyn’s Women of Distinction.

Larry Wee, Board Member and Co-Chair of the Corporate Law Committee, was named one of the 2017 Outstanding Asian Americans in Business by the Asian American Business Development Center.

Connie Montoya, past President of FALA New York and past Co-Chair of AABANY’s Litigation Committee, and Congratulations to leader of the AABANY Trial Reenactment Team, Kathy Chin, who won several honors this year!

We were honored to robe Hon. Phillip Hom during his induction as the newest APA judge in New York’s judiciary.
Julie Ko, past Board Member, were honored at the Brooklyn Law School 2017 APALSA Alumni and Friends Dinner as Distinguished Alumni.

Margaret Ling, Co-Founder of the AABANY Real Estate Committee, Co-Chair of the Asia Practice Committee, and former Board Member, received an honor from the New York Chinese American Bankers Association for dedicated and outstanding service.

The following members and friends were named Top Women Super Lawyers and Rising Stars in the New York Metro 2017 edition. Only 5% of attorneys are recognized as Super Lawyers, and only 2.5% of attorneys under 40 years of age are selected as Rising Stars: Ching-Lee Fukuda, Sidley Austin; Eve C. Guillergan, Eve Guillergan PLLC; Former Immigration Committee Co-Chair Tsui H. Yee, Law Offices of Tsui H. Yee; Commercial Bankruptcy & Restructuring Committee Co-Chair and former Secretary Ligee Gu, Halperin Battaglia Benzija; Joyce Kung, Sive Paget & Riesel; Wenjie Sun, Dai and Associates; Jennifer H. Wu, Paul Weiss; and former Pro Bono Committee Co-Chair Karen I. Wu, Perlman & Perlman.

Jung Choi, AABANY Director, was named one of NAPABA’s Best Under 40

James Lin, past AABANY Board Director and Co-Chair of the AABANY Prosecutors’ Committee, was appointed as Deputy Bureau Chief for the Supreme Court, Grey Zone Trial Bureau for the Kings County District Attorney’s Office, under Acting District Attorney Eric Gonzalez.

Brian Lee, Past Co-Chair of the Prosecutors’ Committee, was promoted to Chief of the County Court Bureau at the Nassau County District Attorney’s Office.

Vince Chang, past AABANY President, was elected Vice President at the New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA) Annual Meeting at the Election and Induction of Officers and Directors.

Dai Wai Chin Feman, AABANY Board Secretary and former Co-Chair of the Litigation Committee, was named a partner at Dorsey & Whitney.

Calvin Woo was appointed to the Connecticut Bar Foundation Board of Directors, a non-profit organization that works to ensure equal access to legal services for all, regardless of power or resources.

At the NAPABA Convention, Justice Doris Ling-Cohan received NAPABA’s Women’s Leadership Award.

We’re proud that AABANY boasts so many of the Brooklyn Law School APALSA’s honorees from different years.
# Annual Dinner 2017 Sponsors

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OCA-NY
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Visiting Nurse Service of New York
Membership Director’s Report

Membership Committee
Tristan Loanzon, Membership Director
Cary Chan
Jack Chen
Amy Ngai

According to AABANY’s by-laws, the Membership Committee shall consist of the Membership Director and at least three Active Members appointed by the President. The Membership Committee develops recommendations for programs and services that meet the needs of the membership and encourages new members to join the AABANY.

Continuing the popular series, the Membership Committee hosted Get to Know AABANY Happy Hours in February and July at District Social. These events were well-attended by old and new members and were used as a popular forum for AABANY members to connect and reconnect. Another Get to Know AABANY Happy Hour is scheduled for February 20, 2018.

The Membership Committee also continued the practice of road shows, whereby prominent AABANY members will pitch at law schools, firms, or other venues. Throughout the year, the Committee has held recruitment presentations at Fordham Law School and Cardozo Law School. We also attended the annual Bar Association Night at the New York City Law Department. Those who are interested in bringing an AABANY presentation to their APALSA, firm, or other venue should contact the Membership Director.

Done in conjunction with the Student Outreach Committee, the Student Discount Initiative, which we started in 2016, continued in 2017 to attract law student membership. For the last two years, student members have constituted a quarter of AABANY paid members. We continue to work closely with the Student Outreach Committee to provide meaningful programming to assist with the transition between law school and professional life.

Over the year, AABANY membership has held steady between 1,050 and 1,170. Please help us keep our numbers strong by renewing your memberships and inviting others to join.
Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer
Amy Ngai

In 2017, AABANY encouraged its members to take charge and lead change in their communities. AABANY has continued to raise the profiles of its members and promote mentorship of the APA and local communities.

For the 2017 fiscal year (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018), the Board approved a general operating budget of approximately $680,000, including a committee budget of about $65,000. Year after year, our budget has steadily increased, reflecting the continuous organizational growth of AABANY. Along with the expansion of the number of committees, we have also seen a rise in attendance at our networking, community outreach, and CLE events.

As of February 5, 2018, our investment account balance is $572,902.69 and our operating account balance is $359,738.70. Under a conservative investment policy, AABANY’s total performance return as of February 5, 2018, (including cash and investments), year to date is 4.9% and its year to year is 6.3%.

We thank you for your continued support and involvement this year and as we head into our fiscal year in 2018, we encourage you to join us in serving our community and advancing our profession.
Under the leadership of President Dwight Yoo, AABANY’s year of Take Charge / Lead Change saw many accomplishments and embodied a sense of progress. Many of our members were elevated to high positions in the profession and many earned honors or recognitions for their public service or their professional accomplishments. This year, we responded to unpredictable times by acting as a forum for dialogue and an advocate for justice. We provided many opportunities for our members and community at large to learn about cutting edge issues and established a Community Response Task Force to respond proactively to the rapidly changing legal landscape. Acting as a resource for the members of Chinatown’s community, the monthly AABANY Pro Bono Clinic continues to be a source of pride in public service. Among other victories, we strived hand-in-hand with other organizations to establish Korematsu Day for Civil Liberties and the Constitution in New York City.

We thank our members, friends, sponsors, and community partners for their continued support of our mission as we look forward to promoting and advancing the fair administration of justice for all. For those interested in celebrating the beginning of next year’s theme, Serving Our Community, Advancing Our Profession, visit: bit.ly/aabanyad18. We hope to see you at Cipriani Wall Street on February 28, 2018 for our Annual Dinner.

In the following pages, we offer highlights from the past fiscal year (April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018), as well as from the last Annual Meeting and Annual Dinner.
ANNUAL MEETING, FEB. 15

AABANY held its Annual Meeting at Arnold Porter & Kaye Scholer LLP, hosted by President Susan Shin who presided over the election of officers and directors. After she called the meeting to order and established quorum, she welcomed Treasurer Amy Ngai and Membership Director Tristan Loanzon to give their reports on an extremely fruitful year. As announced by Membership Director Tristan Loanzon, the winner of the Membership Challenge to sign up or renew members was the Litigation Committee. The Committee of the Year was shared by the Government Service & Public Interest Committee and the Pro Bono & Community Service Committee, who have collaborated on several important projects this year, including the monthly pro bono walk-in clinic. The title of AABANY MVP was awarded to Chris Kwok, for his tireless work as Issues Committee Co-Chair informing the Board on politically charged topics in a measured way during a politically tumultuous year.

ANNUAL DINNER, FEB. 22

Our 2017 Annual Dinner: Take Charge | Lead Change kicked off an exciting year. As we reflected on the progress that we have made in the Asian American legal community, we recognized the continued need to embrace leadership. For their service and dedication to our community, we were proud to honor:

- Attorney General for the State of New York Eric Schneiderman,
- Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Gibson Brands Lee Cheng, and
- Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York Marilyn Go.

We also honored White & Case LLP with the Law Firm Diversity Award. We recognized the 2017 Don H. Liu Scholars: Jaclyn Castelar, Ellis Liang, and Quyen Truong. As we look ahead to serving our community and advancing our profession in 2018, we thank every person who made our last year of progress possible. Thank you to all the sponsors of the evening, who can be found on page 8, and everyone who worked to make the dinner a success.
Throughout his career, Lee Cheng has advocated for Asian Americans.

In his remarks, Attorney General Schneiderman underscored the vibrancy of the Asian community in New York.

Hon. Marilyn Go is a giant in the community and has been steadfast in her support of AABANY since its inception.

AABANY is proud to boast strong female leaders: Manisha Sheth, Sapna Palla, Diane Gujarati, and Susan Shin.

Hon. Marilyn Go is a giant in the community and has been steadfast in her support of AABANY since its inception.

Beatrice Leong (left) and Francis Chin (right) join ED Yang Chen in congratulating AABANY MVP Chris Kwok.

Congratulations to Don H. Liu Scholars Ellis, Jaclyn, and Quyen. We wish you luck in your bright futures.

Congratulations again to our honorees, as well as White & Case, winner of our 2017 Law Firm Diversity Award.
APA HERITAGE MONTH

- **Kicking Glass From the Courtroom to the Boardroom, May 9:** AABANY co-hosted a video screening of *Kicking Glass* at Fried Frank in celebration of APA Heritage Month. The video updates the original *Kicking Glass* which was made for the 1995 NAPABA National Convention and explores the strides made by APA women attorneys in the profession, then and now. Fried Frank attorneys and guests watched the video in both New York and DC. Following the screening, AABANY VP of Programs and Operations Naf Kwun moderated a discussion with Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan and Judiciary Committee Co-Chair and Past President Linda Lin. They covered in greater depth some of the themes and issues touched upon in the film, such as work-life balance, not self-selecting out from one’s career, and the role of networking and mentorship in career advancement.

- **Photography Exhibit & Conversation with Photojournalist Corky Lee, May 23:** AABANY, together with Cleary Gottlieb, co-sponsored a photo exhibition by Corky Lee, the renowned Asian American photojournalist. During the event, participants enjoyed a viewing of Corky’s work, which chronicled the Asian American experience within the larger fabric of American history. They also had an opportunity to vote on the photos they found the most interesting. In a conversation moderated by Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok, Corky Lee recounted his experiences documenting the Asian American community over the last four decades. Corky also explained the history and the backstory of eight of the photos that received the most votes from the audience. To conclude the night, AABANY was honored to present Corky Lee an award as the “Undisputed Unofficial Asian American Photographer Laureate” and for a lifetime of documenting the American experience.

- **ABACUS: Small Enough to Jail, May 24:** AABANY, KALAGNY and FALA New York co-sponsored a screening of *ABACUS: Small Enough to Jail* at the IFC Center. The documentary told the story of the Manhattan County’s prosecution of the Chinatown-based Abacus Federal Savings Bank, owned by the Sung family. Abacus was the only bank that was criminally prosecuted by the Manhattan District Attorney’s office in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. At the end of the screening, film producer Mark Twenty years later, *Kicking Glass* continues to ask the question: How do we deal with bias in the workplace? Corky Lee is our community’s Undisputed Unofficial Asian American Photo Laureate. Past President Andy Hahn led the talkback following the screening of Abacus. Past President Susan Shin brought together three branches of government to talk about the virtues of public service.
Mitten and the Sung family joined a short Q-and-A session with the audience, moderated by past AABANY President Andy Hahn. They answered questions about the filmmaking process and the family’s 5-year legal battle with the prosecutors. The Sung family recounted the challenges they faced as a community-based bank that supported the needs of the immigrant community, reflecting cultural dynamics that the prosecutor’s office seemed oblivious to.

We also gratefully acknowledge the following groups for helping us promote the screening:
- Asian American Arts Alliance
- Binghamton University Asian and Asian American Alumni Council
- FF Fraternity
- Harvard Business School Asian American Alumni Association

Afterwards, Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok led a contingent to MacDougal Street for some pizza, food and drinks at Denino’s Pizzeria, where the group continued discussing the many important issues raised in the film.

- **For the Public Good, May 30:** Immediate Past President Susan Shin hosted “For the Public Good – APA Lawyers Taking Charge & Leading Change,” a discussion with Acting US Attorney for Southern District of New York Joon Kim, US Court of Appeals Judge for the Second Circuit Denny Chin, and U.S. Rep. Grace Meng. This special event for APA Heritage Month featured three prominent Asian Pacific Americans serving in each branch of the federal government. The speakers shared personal stories on how they entered public service and why they continue to work towards the public good. They spoke about their calls to public service, how they manifested success and faced hardship in their personal careers, and how the legal community can continue to foster diverse leaders. The event drew over 200 people to the law firm of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP.

- **This Land is Our Land: Oyama v. California, May 31:** In another exciting installment by the AABANY Trial Reenactment Team, *This Land is Our Land: Oyama v. California* presented issues of racism and discrimination pertaining to property rights. In 1934, Kajiro Oyama, a Japanese American farmer, purchased six acres of land in Chula Vista, California. In 1937, he bought two adjacent acres. At the time, California’s Alien Land Law prohibited “aliens ineligible for American citizenship” from owning land, and under federal law, Oyama was ineligible for naturalization, even though he had been living in this country for some twenty years. Oyama bought the land in the name of his son Fred, who was born in California. The State of California brought an action to escheat the land to the State, on the grounds the land was purchased in Fred’s name as a “fraud upon the People of the State of California.” The case would eventually reach the United States Supreme Court. This presentation by members of AABANY, including Cadwalader attorneys and the Honorable Denny Chin of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, told the story of Kajiro and Fred Oyama through a dramatic reenactment accompanied by historic photographs.

**AABANY @ AAJA’S ANNUAL TRIVIA BOWL, JUNE 17**

AABANY participated in the 2017 Trivia Bowl organized by the Asian American Journalists Association of New York, held at Broad Street Ballroom. AABANY has fielded a team almost every year since its inception. AABANY was hopeful of repeating their first place finish last year, but it was a tough Trivia Bowl this year with challenging questions that managed to stump our team of trivia buffs. Through five rounds covering
various categories (such as New York, Current Events and Fake News), our team hovered around second and third place, ultimately finishing in fifth. Our team was disappointed, but we congratulate Newsday for winning this year’s Trivia Bowl. We thank our team members: Tsui Yee, Gabriel Arce-Yee, Gary Malone, Louis Villiella, Nelson Mar, Kevin Hsi, Steven Shapiro, Lia Tieu, Yang Chen, and Chris Kwok (Team Captain). We also thank the following judges who kindly agreed to give up their Friday night to serve as judges at the Trivia Bowl: Hon. Charles Liu, Hon. Laurie Lau, Hon. Alex Tisch, Hon. Toko Serita, Hon. Margaret Chan, and Hon. Gerald Leibovitz.

SPRING USTA TENNIS EVENT, JUNE 17
Margaret Ling organized the Spring USTA Social Tennis Event with the United States Tennis Association and the Asian American Business Resource Group. Over 50 attendees from AABANY and other Asian not-for-profit groups attended and were treated to tennis and refreshments at the Billie Jean King Tennis Center on the site of the National Tennis Center which is the venue for the US Open.

PROSECUTORS’ COMMITTEE RECEPTION, JUNE 22
The Prosecutors’ Committee held their highly anticipated Annual Reception at New York County Lawyers Association. Regarded by many as one of the funnier and more inspiring events of the year, the event honored the following distinguished individuals: Hon. Danny Chun, Deputy Administrative Judge, Supreme Court, Kings County, Criminal; and Deputy Chief Ellen Chang, Internal Affairs Bureau, New York City Police Department. For more information, go to page 61.

10TH ANNUAL WINETASTING & NETWORKING RECEIPTION, JUNE 27
AABANY held its 10th Annual Winetasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Partners and Senior In-House Counsel at NYY Steak in midtown Manhattan. As was the case last year, we had great attendance of over 125 people at this invitation-only event, jointly hosted by the Corporate Law Committee and the In-House Counsel Committee. This annual reception is one of AABANY’s flagship events and provides important networking opportunities and chances to

New York Yankee Steakhouse housed the invite-only participants for the Annual Winetasting & Networking Reception.

Sponsors receive a set amount of invites to the Winetasting; others are reserved for Advisory Committee members.
develop lasting relationships. For more information about the event, go to page 45.

DEFENDER AND SAVE MY SEOUL AT AAIFF 2017, JUL. 25 TO AUG. 5

Remarkable stories are told every year at the Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF), the first and longest running festival for Asian American cinema in the country. At the 40th Annual AAIFF, AABANY cosponsored two films: Defender, the intense and personal story of San Francisco Public Defender Jeff Adachi, who strives to combat racism, police brutality, and injustice against minorities while showing the critical role of the public defender in the justice system; and Save My Seoul, which follows two Korean-American brothers while they unravel the dark complexity of the sex trade in Seoul, and the broken culture that causes it.

AABANY FALL CONFERENCE, SEPT. 23

AABANY held its highly successful and well-attended Annual Fall Conference at Fordham University School of Law. With this year’s theme of Take Charge | Lead Change, AABANY presented an engaging and timely set of programs on a variety of topics. In addition to CLE Programs, we transformed the Group Mentoring workshops into a formal Professional Development Coaching Series, kicking off this year-long series with one-on-one or small group sessions that took place throughout the day at the Conference.

During the Conference, registrants, in-house counsel and Elite and Gold level sponsors had the opportunity to participate in Pitch Sessions. The Pitch Sessions provided a platform for law firm attorneys/solo practitioners and legal service vendors to make meaningful connections with in-house counsels and other participants interested in legal services, and included over eleven participating companies.

AABANY continued its “Bootcamp: Road to the Bench” series, the Judiciary Committee’s premier Fall Conference workshop focused on providing valuable information for anyone seeking to one day become a judge. Speakers such as the Hon. Judy Kim of the New York Criminal Court spoke on the process of application review and getting endorsements,
followed by a mock interview with Hon. Sanket Bulsara.

Attendants were also invited to the Third Annual Diversity Career Fair & Expo, which featured selected public sector, corporate sector, and law firm employers who hosted informational sessions, meet-and-greets with interested applicants, and conducted First Round Interviews. Nine employers, including various District Attorney offices, conducted interviews on site, and 17 hosted informational tables.

A luncheon plenary session titled “Golden Venture: 25 Years Later” discussed the experience of the hundreds of undocumented immigrants from China after the freighter Golden Venture ran aground in Queens in 1993 and the relevancy of their experience to the state of immigration law then and now.

At the conclusion of the day, all participants were invited to stay for the Cocktail Reception to connect or reconnect with peers, friends and colleagues from AABANY.

At the Reception, AABANY honored Hon. Randall T. Eng, Presiding Justice, Appellate Division, Second Department, with the Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award in recognition of a career marked by historic firsts and for his years of groundbreaking service for the APA community.

**AABANY @ NAPABA CONFERENCE: FRED KOREMATSU AND HIS FIGHT FOR JUSTICE, NOV. 3**

The annual NAPABA Convention serves as a forum for Asian American communities from across the country to come together to learn, connect, and reflect on shared experiences and shared value. It is an important event in shaping our community’s collective direction. As such, AABANY was proud to represent in strong numbers, with members winning different honors and speaking in several different panels. Notably, in another captivating performance by the AABANY Trial Reenactment team at the NAPABA Conference in Washington, D.C., we told the story of Fred Korematsu, a Japanese-American who was convicted of violating internment orders during World War II. In *Korematsu v. United States*, the United States Supreme Court upheld the forced internment of American citizens without due process based on government claims of military necessity. The case, although heavily criticized, has never been overruled, and
has been used recently to justify discrimination against Muslims. Korematsu had his conviction vacated by a rare writ of coram nobis and was subsequently awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Special guest appearances by Fred’s daughter Karen Korematsu, lead coram nobis counsel Dale Minami, and then-acting Solicitor General Neal Katyal delivering their own words made this moving event even more poignant.

AABANY GOES TO THE THEATER: A DEAL, DEC. 8

More than 30 AABANY members and friends came out for a theater outing to see “A Deal,” at Urban Stages Theater. Among the attendees were Margaret Ling, Co-Chair of the Asia Practice Committee and Real Estate Committee, Judge Peggy Kuo, EDNY, and Sylvia Chin, Partner/Of Counsel at White & Case. The play is a dark comedy about a young Chinese actress in New York and her parents from China who experience a series of misadventures in their attempts to buy an apartment for her in 2015, at a time when real estate investment in New York by Chinese buyers hit a historic high. AABANY filled about half the theater. The other half included high school students from New Hyde Park in Long Island. The audience thoroughly enjoyed the play, written by Zhu Yi, an award-winning playwright and screenwriter who received her MFA from Columbia. After the play, Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok moderated a talkback that included Zhu Yi and Margaret Ling discussing the pertinent and timely issues raised in the play about the realities of the New York real estate market and the implications of increased wealth from China coming into the US. Several of the theater-goers continued their conversations at Molly Wee Pub around the corner from the theater. They got to meet and speak with Zhu Yi, who joined us.

AABANY ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY AT DAVE & BUSTER’S, DEC. 15

AABANY held its holiday party once again at Dave & Buster’s in Times Square. Our members brought along their families and friends for a night of food, drinks and games to celebrate the holiday season, and the first 50 members to arrive received Power Cards preloaded with points. Our holiday party-goers enjoyed the many gaming
options that were available and munched on classic snacks such as quesadillas, wings, sliders and pigs in a blanket in the Empire room. Thanks to our past interns Quentin Wong, Jason Cheung and Josh Gelinas for helping out with registering our guests.

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PANELS & CLEs

AABANY Co-Sponsors A Short & Happy Guide to Networking Book Presentation, Apr. 24

AABANY co-sponsored a book presentation reception at Fordham Law School for A Short & Happy Guide to Networking by Desiree Jaeger-Fine. Dean Matthew Diller presented welcoming remarks. Judge Denny Chin gave special remarks to introduce the author, Desiree Jaeger-Fine. Desiree explained why she wrote the book, as an introverted LL.M. student who was told of the importance of networking upon her arrival in New York and not knowing the first thing about how to network. The concept of meeting up with strangers and having coffee in hotel lobbies but not being able to ask for a job during the meeting was completely befuddling to her. Lucky for us, she figured it all out and wrote it up in a concise volume designed to demystify the process for the rest of us. After her remarks, Desiree drew business cards from a basket for a raffle to give away ten Kindle copies of her book. Executive Director Yang Chen was one of the fortunate ten.

AABANY @ New York Diversity Forum, Apr. 28

The New York Diversity Forum consisted of a series of sessions that addressed key issues impacting traditionally underrepresented and marginalized groups and provided a unique opportunity for cross-cultural collaboration among community leaders. The forum was structured to allow partnering organizations to address issues critical to their members with the goal of promoting greater understanding and enabling a constructive dialogue between community/identity interest groups, bar associations and members of the community. AABANY presented the final session of the day, entitled “Legacy of Exclusion: Learning the Lessons of History, from the Chinese Exclusion Act to the Current Immigration Executive Orders,” in conjunction with SABANY. Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok moderated a panel comprised of Prof. Rose Cuisin Villazor, UC Davis School of Law; Amol Sinha, President-Elect, SABANY; and Annie J. Wang, AALDEF Staff Attorney. The panel covered the history of Chinese and Asian exclusion through immigration laws, the concept of colorism as a pervading theme in America’s discourse on race, nationality and citizenship, and the lasting legacy of this history to present day.

AABANY Co-Sponsors Caregiver Rights, May 11

FALA New York presented a CLE program on Caregiver Rights at Phillips Lytle, co-sponsored by AABANY. Michael Yim, Partner in Sedgwick’s New York office, served as moderator. Dana Sussman, Deputy Commissioner for Intergovernmental Affairs and Policy at the NYC Commission on Human Rights, spoke on the protections afforded to caregivers under the New York City Human Rights Law. Olivia Quinto, Associate at Outten & Golden, covered the legal protections available under state and Federal law.

AABANY @ The Trial of Two Pizzas, Aug. 10

AABANY members attended the Trial of Two Pizzas, which was held at the ABA Annual Meeting in New York City. During this event an old rivalry was put to rest at last: both New York thin crust pizza and Chicago deep dish pizza are well-loved, but only one can be the best! Presided by AABANY-member Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan, the Trial of Two Pizzas took place at the New Year End Report 2017 / Asian American Bar Association of New York

Former AABANY Intern Quentin Wong calls his shot at the AABANY holiday party at Dave & Buster’s.

Who doesn’t need a short and happy guide to networking? Available on Amazon!
York Hilton Midtown on Thursday, August 10th. The Trial of Two Pizzas was included in the CLE in the City Series, as part of the ABA Annual Meeting.

**Steve Chung’s Group Mentoring, Aug. 24**

In the final installment of Group Mentoring, former AABANY Board Director and Chief Counsel of Disney/ABC Steve Chung offered a breakdown of stereotypes, misconceptions, and attitudes about leadership and presence. In an intimate group setting, Steve analyzed common habits of speech and body language among Asian Americans. Reflecting on both the common good and bad behaviors seen at AABANY and at senior levels in corporate law departments, Steve directed a conversation about qualities that might otherwise be described as ‘intangible’ in order to demystify how potential leaders are sought out. At the program’s conclusion, he also thanked Paul Weiss partner Larry Wee for his support of the Group Mentoring program from its inception. Since Steve’s departure, the program has been rebranded and retooled as the Professional Development Coaching Series, which kicked off at the 2017 Fall Conference.

**The State of Play: Journalism and the Law in the Age of Trump, Sept. 28**

The panel included the following journalists:
- Anupreeta Das (Special Writer, The Wall Street Journal)
- Cristian Farias (Legal Columnist, New York Magazine) and
- Juan Carlos López (Anchor/Senior Correspondent, CNN en Español)

The panel included the following media lawyers:
- Vernon Chu (General Counsel, BBC Worldwide North America),
- Katie Fawors (Senior Attorney, Knight First Amendment Institute) and
- Diego Ibarguen (First Amendment Counsel, The Hearst Corporation).

Panelists discussed the benefits and challenges brought on by the burgeoning ways through which people consume news today, especially through social media. While there are many “distractions” in the media space, some journalists found that non-traditional media outlets such as Twitter, Facebook and blogs have created more context for their work and augmented their role in helping their readers parse through the facts and stories. Many of them also felt a heightened sense of responsibility to keep politicians honest and democracy alive through their work as journalists, and to steer their audience to news that they need, not necessarily what they want. Cristian also saw social media as a tool to help him develop a rapport with his readers, and to better understand and formulate his ideas before writing an article.

**Portrait Project Panel with Justice Goodwin Liu, Oct. 17**

California Supreme Court Justice Goodwin Liu presented the first-ever comprehensive study of Asian Americans in the legal profession, A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law. A panel comprised of members of the federal judiciary, private sector, and academia engaged in a robust discussion on the findings of this study and their implications. Panelists included Justice Goodwin H. Liu, Supreme Court of the State of California, Sandra Leung, Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, and Judge Kiyo Matsumoto, United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Justice Goodwin Liu will be joining AABANY for our 2018 Annual Dinner as an honoree.

**AABANY Co-Sponsors How to Go In-House and Succeed, Oct. 23:**

AABANY co-sponsored the Muslim Bar Association of New York’s How to Go In-House
and Succeed, which featured a dynamic panel of senior in-house attorneys from Mitsui, Bristol-Myers Squibb (represented by AABANY Board member Jung Choi), Bank of America, and Bloomberg, discussing their transition into an in-house role and tips on succeeding in the corporate environment.

COMMUNITY & STUDENT OUTREACH

AABANY Community Response Task Force (CRTF)
The Community Response Task Force was created in response to the rapidly emerging legal challenges to our communities in 2017. AABANY members recognized the significant role attorneys could play in protecting and advocating for the rights of minority and disenfranchised communities and many AABANY members sought ways to contribute to the effort. We established the Community Response Task Force in order to quickly and effectively mobilize actions and direct our resources and abilities in response to emergent issues. The Task Force seeks to:

1. Identify issues of importance to either the Asian American community or to the greater public dialogue;
2. Proactively develop the ability to effectively and efficiently respond to urgent needs; and
3. Act as a central coordinating body for community-wide and inter-community efforts.

Since its creation in the summer of 2017, the CRTF has organized multiple emergency legal clinics, coordinated resources for Get Out the Vote efforts, analyzed legal events on the horizon that may require a response, and created a strategic plan for such future actions. It has developed the capacity to rapidly respond to current events. For example, the CRTF organized a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Renewal Immigration and Mental Health Clinic in October, in direct response to the announcement to rescind DACA protections by the Attorney General. In less than three weeks, the CRTF successfully brought together numerous resources and ran an effective clinic.

The Task Force also coordinated and collaborated with multiple Asian advocacy organizations, including AALDEF, Congresswoman Grace Meng’s Office, and NYC Councilmen Peter Koo’s Office. After the Ninth Circuit injunction that temporarily reopened DACA, the Task Force built on the prior experience to again rapidly pull together another DACA clinic, with more planned for the near future.

In the next year, the CRTF intends to further develop its emergent pro-bono clinic model, organize legal observer trainings for rallies and mass actions, coordinate community education events, and expand its efforts into voter education and election protection. It will also continue to vigilantly identify legal issues that will impact the Asian American community and develop the networks necessary to effectively respond to such issues.

AABANY Co-Sponsors Reception for the New York State Liberty Defense Project, May 2
AABANY was proud to be among the many organizations that attended a Reception for Attorneys hosted by the New York State Liberty Defense Project. Held at New York Law School, AABANY was joined by attorneys from law firms, bar associations, law schools and advocacy organizations all of whom partnered up to be part of the Liberty Defense Project. As stated on its website: “With the Liberty Defense Project, New York State launches the first-in-the-nation, state-led public-private project to assist immigrants, regardless of status, in obtaining access to legal services and process. Governor Cuomo continues our legacy of protecting the rights and freedoms of all New Yorkers.”
AABANY Co-Sponsors The Asian American Vote Presentation, June 22 and June 27
The Asian American Vote, co-sponsored by AABANY and the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF), was held at Ropes & Gray LLP and Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. The panels presented AALDEF’s multilingual exit poll in the 2016 Presidential and Congressional elections, and analyzed key electoral issues affecting the Asian American community.

AALFNY & AABANY Summer Reception, June 29
AALFNY and AABANY held their joint Annual Summer Reception at Baker & McKenzie LLP. Given to law students who serve the Asian American community, the AALFNY Community Service Scholarship Awards were presented to Jane Lo, working with AALDEF, and Marissa Wong, working at the Kings County District Attorney’s Office. Devika M. Balaram and Ruhi Behal, working with Queens Legal Services, received the AALFNY/SABANY Public Interest Fellowships, which enable outstanding law students to spend their summer working unpaid in the public interest sector that focuses on the needs of the South Asian community. This year, we were also proud to honor Sanket Bulsara, Deputy General Counsel of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Sanket gave inspiring remarks on his path in the public service and the importance of pro bono work in a lawyer’s personal and career development.

AABANY Co-Sponsors Pro Bono DACA Renewal Clinic, Oct. 1
AABANY, AALDEF, the New York Coalition for Asian American Mental Health, and the Chinese-American Family Alliance for Mental Health held a free one-day legal and mental health event. The event provided information and resources for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients. Volunteer attorneys were on-site to help eligible DACA recipients complete their renewal forms to meet the Oct. 5, 2017 renewal deadline.

Poll Monitoring on Election Day
AABANY issued a call for volunteers to help AALDEF (Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund) with poll monitoring on Election Day to protect the rights of Asian American voters. First-time volunteers were required to sign up for training sessions taking place at various law firms on several dates and times throughout October. AABANY was the CLE provider for these trainings in New York City.

Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition, Oct. 14
The Northeast Regional of the 2017 Hon. Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition, sponsored annually by the NAPABA Law Foundation, took place at Brooklyn Law School, where nine teams from the northeast region, representing American University Law School, Brooklyn Law School, Fordham, Northeastern, and St. John’s, faced off in an appellate advocacy competition. In addition to Brooklyn Law School, its APALSA, and NAPABA, the competition was also hosted by AABANY, with special thanks to Francis Chin and Samuel Yee for coordinating the event. Law students competed for $10,000 in scholarships. The competition was open to all students but was especially designed to reach out to APA law students and provide an opportunity to showcase their writing and oral advocacy skills. Each law school team presented compelling arguments, while the judges pressed the attorneys often with sharp questions. At the conclusion of each round, the law student teams received constructive feedback from the attorneys who volunteered as judges. The winners of the Regional, Northeastern Law School, advanced to the National Competition in Washington D.C. in November.

We asked the question: What does journalism and law mean in the age of Trump?
We were proud to support the NYS Liberty Defense Project, which helps protect the rights of all New Yorkers.
AABANY Speaks Up

• **AABANY Joins Ninth Circuit Amicus Brief on Immigration:** AABANY joined NAPABA in an amicus brief in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to support the preliminary injunction of President Trump’s March 6, 2017, revised executive order barring refugees and individuals from six Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States. The Trump Administration’s appeal in this case, *State of Hawaii v. Trump*, arises from the first legal challenge to the revised executive order, which was brought on March 7, 2017, on behalf of the State and Ismail Elshikh, Imam of the Muslim Association of Hawaii. NAPABA filed an amicus brief on March 12 supporting the plaintiffs’ request for a temporary restraining order. On March 15, Judge Derrick K. Watson of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii granted the temporary restraining order, which he converted into a preliminary injunction on March 29 to extend the block on the travel and refugee restrictions. The U.S. District Court in Maryland has also enjoined the visa ban on Oct. 17, 2017, and the Administration’s appeal in that case is pending in the Fourth Circuit, where NAPABA filed an amicus brief on Nov. 17, 2017.


• **AABANY Joins Amicus Brief in the Ninth Circuit and Fourth Circuit:** AABANY joined amicus briefs in both the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit to support the preliminary injunction of President Trump’s Sept. 24, 2017, revised executive order, which was announced in Sept. 2017 and set to take effect Oct. 18, 2017. On Oct. 17, 2017, Judge Derrick K. Watson of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii granted the temporary restraining order. NAPABA filed an amicus brief in this case on Nov. 22, 2017. The U.S. District Court in Maryland also enjoined the visa ban on Oct. 17, 2017, and the Administration’s appeal in that case is pending in the Fourth Circuit, where NAPABA filed an amicus brief on Nov. 17, 2017.

• **AABANY Joins Second Circuit Amicus Brief on Discrimination:** AABANY is pleased to announce that it is a co-signatory to the amicus brief in *Zarda v. Altitude Express*, Inc. In that case, Donald Zarda filed suit against his former employer, Altitude Express, alleging that he had been terminated due to his sexual orientation, in violation of the New York State Human Rights Law and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. The amicus brief asks the 2nd Circuit to overturn existing precedent and expand the definition of “sex” in Title VII of the Act to include sexual orientation in employment discrimination.
AABANY Testifies at City Council in Support of Fred Korematsu Day, Oct 25:
The New York City Council’s Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations, chaired by Council Member James Van Bramer, held a hearing on Res. No. 792 to name January 30 annually as Fred T. Korematsu Day in New York City. The hearing was attended by many supporters of the legislation and kicked off with testimony from Fred Korematsu’s daughter, Karen Korematsu, Founder and Executive Director of the Korematsu Institute, who called in from the West Coast. AABANY was privileged and honored to offer its testimony in support of Korematsu Day. Speaking on behalf of AABANY, Executive Director Yang Chen explained how AABANY’s Trial Reenactment project educates lawyers and the larger community about the stories of Asian Pacific Americans like Fred Korematsu who have helped to shape American legal, political and social history. AABANY premiered its latest trial reenactment, “Fred Korematsu and his Fight for Justice,” a week later at the NAPABA National Convention. On December 19, 2017, the New York City Council passed Res. No. 792.

AABANY Appears at City Hall for Fred T. Korematsu Day Press Conference and NYU Cantor Film Center for Inaugural Korematsu Day Celebration: On Tuesday, January 30th, AABANY Members attended a Korematsu Day Celebration at the NYU Cantor Film Center. The event, which was co-sponsored by AABANY, featured prominent speakers such as Jack Chen, the director of the APA Institute at NYU; Daniel Dromm, an openly gay City Councilman who helped pass a resolution that established Jan. 30th as Korematsu Day in New York City, and Karen Korematsu, long-time activist and daughter of Fred Korematsu. Throughout the event, guest speakers remarked on the importance of Korematsu in Asian American History, connecting his legacy to APA community outreach and condemning the parallels between Korematsu’s case and the current Administration’s stances of immigration, deportation, and detention. As moderator and AABANY co-founder Rocky Chin stated in the panel, “We are taking one step forward but two steps back.” While each speaker brought their own expertise to the table—whether it was government, law, or activism—all topics were united around the theme of standing up for what is right. Students from public NYC high schools participating in the Asian American Advocacy Program (ASAP) remarked on the importance of ethnic studies curriculums at schools, while panelists from various non-profit organizations such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY) emphasized the consequences of current legal decisions on immigrant deportation and detention. Overall, the event was a fantastic way to celebrate Korematsu’s legacy—the audience even sang “Happy Birthday” at the end of the event to celebrate what would have been Fred Korematsu’s 90th birthday.

AABANY joined in celebrating New York’s first Korematsu Day.
Committee Chairs

ACADEMIC
Seth Endo

ASIA PRACTICE
Alex Hao
Christina Ying
Margaret Ling

CAREER PLACEMENT
Rob Leung
Jeff Ikejiri
Daphne Ha
Christina Nguyen

COMMERCIAL BANKRUPTCY AND RESTRUCTURING
Vincent Roldan
Jessica Liou
William Hao

CORPORATE LAW
Ed Lee
Larry Wee
Ting Chen

GOVERNMENT SERVICE & PUBLIC INTEREST
Jonathan Hernandez
Kevin Hsi
Beatrice Leong

IMMIGRATION LAW
Poonam Gupta
Amanda Bernardo
Susan Akina

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL
Duane Morikawa
Blossom Kan
Grace Fu

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Charles Chen
Shannon Zhu
Jeff Tang

ISSUES
Chris Kwok
Song Kim

JUDICIARY
Rob Leung
Linda Lin

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW
Joane Wong
David Mou
Bryan An

LGBT
Glenn Magpantay
John Vang

LITIGATION
Lisa C. Chan
James Shih
Ona Wang

MEMBERSHIP
Tristan Loanzon
Jack Chen
Amy Ngai
Cary Chan

MENTORSHIP
David Sohn

MILITARY & VETERAN AFFAIRS
Brian Song
Michael Krouse

NEWSLETTER
Naf Kwun
Albert Suh
Marshall Amores

PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE
Sam Lui
Pauline Yeung-Ha
Ariana Pabalan

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Francis Chin

PROSECUTORS
James Lin
Helen Ahn
Myongjae Matthew Yi

REAL ESTATE
Margaret Ling
Cary Chan
Anthony Fong

SOLO AND SMALL FIRM PRACTICE
Cary Chan
David Lu

STUDENT OUTREACH
Tristan Loanzon
Edwin Kim
Jonathan Li

TAX
JoonBeom Pae
Sahang-Hee Han
Rich Williams

WOMEN’S
Karen Shen
Yan Sin

YOUNG LAWYERS
Ona Lu
Albert Suh
Tiffany Miao
Standing Committees

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair
Bobby Liu

According to AABANY’s by-laws, the duties of the Audit Committee shall be to:

i. supervise the financial affairs of the Association;
ii. annually prepare for submission to the Board a proposed income and expense budget of all activities of the Association for the Fiscal Year;
iii. meet with the Treasurer to discuss and review the system of internal controls and procedures;
iv. recommend to the Board the selection of independent auditors of the Association for the Fiscal Year;
v. meet with the Association’s independent auditors to discuss the scope of the annual examination;
vi. review the annual report from the Association’s independent auditors and any reports on any material recommendations made concerning management of funds or recommendations on internal control and recommend to the Board what actions should be taken with respect thereto;
vii. review with such auditors any material questions or problems with respect to accounting records, procedures or operations of the Association that have not been resolved to their satisfaction after having been brought to the attention of management and recommend to the Board what actions should be taken with respect thereto;
viii. review and recommend to the Board investments for the Association’s assets;
ix. regularly review the existing investments of the Association’s assets and recommend to the Board whether such investments should be terminated and recommend to the Board possible new investments for such assets;
x. report to the Membership at the Annual Meeting the status of all investments of the Associations; and
xi. perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Committee Co-Chairs
James Chou
Ligee Gu
Mike Huang

The mission of AABANY’s Awards Committee is to seek out opportunities for our members and friends to be recognized for their exemplary work and leadership in the APA legal community and communities it serves. In addition to seeking out opportunities for our members to be recognized, the Awards Committee advocates and offers full support to our members during the nomination process. Identifying the need for APA leaders in our community to be recognized for their achievements and contributions, the Awards Committee is committed to raising the profile of APA attorneys whose work and service have made a meaningful impact.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair
Pauline Yeung-Ha

The Compensation Committee annually reviews the salary, bonus (if any), and benefits that AABANY provides to its staff and makes necessary recommendations. It will be the Committee’s responsibility to review and recommend to the Board any salary or benefits for new staff hires. In addition to reviewing salary and benefits, the Committee is working on developing human resources policies such as paid time off, sick days and employee grievance to ensure best practices as AABANY grows. The Committee is also discussing development of a clear description of employee roles and responsibilities to cross-train staff. The Committee seeks to create policies that ensure all staff works together as seamlessly as possible in their respective roles.
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Committee Chair
Amy Ngai

According to AABANY’s bylaws, the Finance Committee shall:

a. supervise the financial affairs of the Association,

b. annually prepare for submission to the Board a proposed income and expense budget of all activities of AABANY for the Fiscal Year,

c. review and recommend to the Board investments for AABANY’s assets,

d. regularly review the existing investments of AABANY’s assets and recommend to the Board whether such investments should be terminated and recommend to the Board new investments for such assets,

e. report to the Membership at the Annual Meeting the status of all investments of AABANY and

f. perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Co-Chairs
Tristan Loanzon
Jack Chen
Amy Ngai
Cary Chan

According to AABANY’s by-laws, the Membership Committee shall consist of the Membership Secretary and at least three Active Members appointed by the President. The Membership Committee develops recommendations for programs and services that meet the needs of the membership and encourages new Members to join the AABANY. For the Membership Director’s Report, go to page 10.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair
Dwight Yoo

According to AABANY’s by-laws, the Membership Committee shall consist of the Membership Secretary and at least three Active Members appointed by the President. The Nominations Committee seeks out and vets potential candidates for AABANY’s leadership.
Academic Committee

Committee Chair
Seth Endo

The Academic Committee’s mission is to serve AABANY members who are in the legal academy and to foster greater interaction between the legal academy and practicing attorneys. This committee also oversees the publication of the AABANY Law Review.

For more information on the AABANY Law Review, please visit their website or contact Linda Lin at linda.lin@aabany.org.
Asia Practice Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Alex Hao
Margaret Ling
Christina Ying

AABANY’s Asia Practice Committee (“APC”) was formed in 2015 in order to provide support, networking, and resources for attorneys and law students interested in an Asia Practice. Since its inception, it has also focused the growing needs of Asian attorneys and law students arriving in the United States, helping to familiarize them with career placement and American working culture. The APC often partners with AABANY’s Real Estate, Solo & Small Firm Practice, Tax, and Immigration Law Committees to organize and present CLE and networking events for the Asian American community. In particular, the APC offers many educational programs on representing Asian clients domestically and abroad. With the global influx of the Asian investors in the New York metropolitan area, the APC has also connected with prominent Chinese law firms and corporations in New York.

This year, the APC has organized, presented, and sponsored the following events:

1. November 16, 2017: A delegation of prosecutors from Shanghai visited prominent AABANY member Judge Denny Chin, United States Judge for the Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Co-Chair Margaret Ling assisted in hosting these 30 visiting Shanghai prosecutors on behalf of AABANY. At this event, Judge Denny Chin presented a discussion of his experience as a federal judge, gave a tour of his courtroom and chambers, and exchanged gifts with the delegation.
2. November 17, 2017: APC Co-Chairs Margaret Ling and Christina Ying supported the newly formed not-for-profit professional organization for Asian women, the Mudan Club, by attending their inaugural gala at the Yale Club.
3. December 6, 2017: The APC co-hosted a CLE and networking event with AABANY Real Estate Committee entitled, “Building a Taller Flushing: Zoning, Air Rights and Development,” sponsored by Chase Bank. APC Co-Chairs Margaret Ling and Christina Ying spoke on a panel that was attended by 70 attorneys and other real estate professionals.
4. December 8, 2017: The APC organized its members to attend AABANY’s outing to “A Deal,” a play at Urban Stages, written by Zhu Yi about Asian investors in New York’s real estate market. Margaret Ling was a panelist on the post-show talkback with the playwright Zhu Yi, moderated by Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok.
5. February 8, 2018: The APC co-sponsored a Lunar New Year Reception with NYCLA’s Asian Practice Committee, KALAGNY, and FALA New York. The event was sponsored by HSBC and held at NYCLA.

The APC has the following events planned for the remainder of this fiscal year:

6. February 21, 2018: The APC, Real Estate Committee, Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee, Tax Committee, and Immigration Law Committee will present “EB-5 and Foreign Investments in the US: Inbound Real Estate and Tax Considerations” at Baker Tilly Virchow.
7. March 2018: The APC plans to host “Block Chain Technology,” with speaker James Thanasules, Chief NYS Counsel at Amtrust Title Insurance Company. The event is a joint partnership with Bank of America: Merrill Lynch Private Wealth Management, the AABANY Real Estate Committee, KALAGNY, and Amtrust Title Insurance Company.
8. March 2018: The APC hopes to host a Diversity & Inclusion CLE with NYCLA’s Asian Practice Committee for newly admitted attorneys.
Career Placement Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Daphne Ha
Jeff Ikejiri
Robert Leung
Christina Nguyen

Our Mission
The Career Placement Committee seeks to match qualified AABANY candidates with open legal positions and offers programming throughout the year that focuses on various aspects of career development. AABANY members who are aware of open legal positions or who are interested in learning about new opportunities are encouraged to contact the Committee (careers@aabany.org).

Diversity Career Fair & Expo
The Career Placement Committee hosted its Third Annual Diversity Career Fair & Expo at the AABANY Fall Conference, which attracted over two hundred attendees. The event included a variety of participating employers ranging from public and private sector, to in-house law departments. Participants included:

- American Express
- Dechert LLP
- Grimaldi & Yeung LLP
- Kobre & Kim LLP
- Legal Aid Society
- Legal Assistance of Western New York
- Legal Services NYC
- Legal Services of the Hudson Valley
- Lenox Hill Neighborhood House
- New York City Law Department
- New York State Attorney General’s Office
- Sonia and Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program
- U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps
- District Attorney’s Offices for all five New York City boroughs and Nassau County
- United States Attorney’s Offices for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York

During the Diversity Career Fair & Expo, participating employers held informational sessions about careers and job opportunities at their respective companies. Some employers also hosted first-round interviews for selected candidates. Several applicants were pre-screened for the interviews, leading to a productive session of interviews on the day of the Fall Conference.

Other Programming
In 2017, the Career Placement Committee hosted our “Getting to Know the CPC” Kick-Off and Meet-Up event at Paul Hastings LLP to meet Committee members. Attendees included members who were actively seeking or simply thinking about a career move. Attendees discussed what they sought in their careers and how the Committee could help. The Committee enjoyed the opportunity to get to meet its members and to learn about their skill sets and career goals to better match them with potential job opportunities. In addition, Committee Co-Chairs and the Vice Presidents held an in-person meeting in 2017 to discuss ongoing initiatives, future programming plans, and feedback from the Diversity Career Fair.

The Career Placement Committee looks forward to continue hosting interesting and relevant programming for its members and to continue identifying and fulfilling prospective job opportunities.
Organizational Structure

In 2016, the Career Placement Committee formed an Executive Committee to help further our mission and provide more AABANY members an opportunity to get involved with the organization. This Executive Committee consists of the following roles: VP of Communications, VP of Programming, and Co-VPs of Employer Relations and Membership.

Looking Ahead

In 2018 and 2019, we will continue to offer interesting and unique Career Placement programming, including our popular “Getting on Track” series. We will continue our “Getting to Know the CPC” series as small group functions – coffees or brown bag lunches – that give the Co-Chairs, Executive Committee, and members a chance to get to know each other on an individual basis.

We believe this will help us further our mission and better position us to help members pursue career opportunities.

We also plan on further developing our infrastructure to allow for better interaction with our members, prospective employers, and those who are looking for career advice and placement. We hope that these improvements lead to more job opportunities and placements for AABANY members.

Past AABANY President Robert Leung is known for his level-headed advice for people at all levels of their career.
Commercial Bankruptcy & Restructuring Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
William Hao
Jessica Liou
Vincent Roldan

The Commercial Bankruptcy & Restructuring Committee was formed to raise awareness of bankruptcy related issues to non-bankruptcy practitioners, as well as provide networking opportunities for Asian American bankruptcy/restructuring professionals.

In 2017, the Bankruptcy Committee continued to further those goals by presenting a CLE panel at the AABANY Fall Conference entitled “Adapting to Amazon: Strategies For A Changing Marketplace.” This panel discussed the challenges faced by the retail industry due to shifting consumer shopping habits, as well as competition from fast-fashion retailers and e-commerce. The panel explored strategies from various perspectives, including the landlord, tenant, secured lender, and investor.

The Bankruptcy Committee also had its annual dinner at Osamil in Korea Town in February 2017. This dinner was partially sponsored by Reorg Research and brought together APA restructuring lawyers and financial advisors, turnaround consultants, and law students.

Over the summer, the Bankruptcy Committee co-sponsored AABANY Karaoke Night with the GSPI, Labor & Employment, and Young Lawyers committees. The event was well-attended and provided AABANY and non-AABANY members with an opportunity to network and learn more about the various committee involved.

Finally, the Bankruptcy Committee continues to be active in industry groups such as the Turnaround Management Association, American Bankruptcy Institute, and the New York Institute of Credit, and encourages APAs within these groups to become members of AABANY.

Our committee looks forward to 2018 and is planning new events. As always, we welcome and encourage new and existing members to join our committee and share with us their experiences, feedback, and ideas. Please feel free to contact us at william.hao@aabany.org, jessica.liou@aabany.org, and vincent.roldan@aabany.org.

To get on the mailing list for the delicious Bankruptcy Committee Dinners, reach out to the Committee Co-Chairs.
Corporate Law Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Ting Chen
Ed Lee
Larry Wee

The Corporate Law Committee consists of corporate attorneys who are interested in sharing their ideas and experience as practitioners on a variety of issues facing APA lawyers through conferences, CLE presentations, and social networking events. We seek to establish a forum in which our members can exchange ideas and experiences with one another and to help our members establish stronger relationships with other APA lawyers in the New York region.

On June 27, 2017, AABANY held its 10th Annual Winetasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Attorneys and Senior In-House Counsel. We held the Winetasting at NYY Steak in midtown Manhattan. As was the case last year, we had great attendance of over 125 people at this invitation-only event, jointly hosted by the Corporate Law Committee and the In-House Counsel Committee. This annual event is one of AABANY’s flagship events and is directed towards a significant segment of our membership. The event provides important networking opportunities for our members, our law firm sponsors and our corporate sponsors, including our Diamond Sponsor, Summit Financial Disclosure, LLC and headline event sponsor, Prosperian Wealth Management.

On August 24, 2017, the Committee, together with longtime AABANY stalwart, Steve Chung, hosted a Group Mentoring Session at the offices of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, LLP. As usual, Steve offered participants his amazingly insightful and practical advice on presentation skills, effective executive presence and interviewing. Steve, who left New York to become Chief Counsel at Disney-ABC Media Networks in Los Angeles, deserves a huge thank-you from the Committee. Steve and Committee Co-Chair Larry Wee also presented at the Columbia APALSA conference in February 2017. The Committee looks forward to a similar networking presentation at Columbia APALSA in February 2018.

AABANY’s Corporate Law Committee also presented “How to Pitch” on September 14, 2017, in anticipation of the AABANY Fall Conference. This event featured a dynamic panel of senior in-house attorneys who 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. This panel offered practical strategies for attorneys who want to become more savvy and effective in developing new business and marketing their firm. The speakers were from companies signed up to participate in the Pitch Sessions at the Fall Conference, so the panel presented a great opportunity to hear directly their thoughts on what makes an effective pitch.

The AABANY Fall Conference is always an important event for the Corporate Law Committee, and the 8th Annual Fall Conference, held on September 23, 2017 was no exception. Committee Co-Chairs Ed Lee and Larry Wee, participated as mentors in the Professional Development Coaching Series at the Fall Conference, a program that the Committee believes embodies one of the primary goals of the Committee, which is the professional advancement of APA attorneys. The Committee also co-hosted two Fall Conference panel discussions:

i. The Committee hosted IPOs for Dummies, an introduction to the basic structure and process, regulatory framework and business realities and incentives of various IPO participants and constituents (including issuers, equity sponsors, underwriters and management). The panel was moderated by AABANY President Dwight Yooc, presented by Committee Co-Chair Larry Wee and co-hosted by Diamond Sponsor, Summit Financial. It presented a practical workshop on working effectively at the financial printer in connection with an IPO or other securities issuance.

ii. The Committee, co-hosting with the Young Lawyers Committee and Elite Fall Conference Sponsor, Prosperian, also presented Financial Management for Young Attorneys, which explored the theoretical underpinnings of wealth management as well as practical steps that young (and young at heart) attorneys can take to successfully manage their finances with a purpose.

iii. Larry Wee also moderated the General Counsel Roundtable: Leading Change Through Example,
which was sponsored by the In-House Counsel Committee and chaired by IHC Co-Chair Duane Morikawa. The diverse panel featured Courtney Browne (General Counsel, Birchbox), Kelly Koyama (Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Marc Jacobs International, LLC), LaTanya Langley (General Counsel, BIC) and Michael J. Rhee (Vice President and General Counsel, The Durst Organization). The panel was a dynamic, inspiring and lively discussion of real-life ways the panelists overcame challenges at their respective workplaces to truly “lead through example.”

This coming year, the Committee looks forward to sponsoring and hosting a number of events throughout the year, including continuing the success of past events, such as the Annual Winetasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Attorneys and In-House Counsel and participation in the Fall Conference. Additionally, we hope to launch several new events and involve more members who would like to become an active part of the Committee.
Committee Co-Chairs
Jonathan Hernandez
Kevin Hsi
Beatrice Leong
AABANY’s Government Service and Public Interest (“GSPI”) Committee looks to promote a greater number of APA lawyers to join public interest law and public service and address the concerns of APA lawyers working in these areas. The Committee thus organizes and presents programs geared toward these concerns through CLE seminars, career panels, networking events, and other programs. The Committee actively seeks to work with and co-sponsor events and activities with other Committees and other public interest organizations that further AABANY’s mission.

For the GSPI Committee, 2017-18 was a year of continued growth and new ideas under the leadership of new co-chairs Kevin Hsi, Jonathan Hernandez, and Beatrice Leong. The new co-chairs aimed to continue developing an active membership base while promoting an environment in which lawyers involved and/or interested in government service and public interest work can connect.

The GSPI Committee continued its partnership with the Pro Bono & Community Service (“Pro Bono”) Committee to provide free legal services to the Asian American community. GSPI held four joint meetings with the Pro Bono Committee on April 26, June 7, October 19 and November 13. These meetings provided opportunities for all members to network, exchange ideas, and discuss ways to strengthen the monthly pro bono clinic. Additional joint meetings are being planned including a joint Lunar New Year holiday dinner and meeting in Chinatown.

The GSPI Committee was active in participating in Asian Pacific American Heritage Month events in May 2017. In commemoration of APA Heritage month, AABANY co-sponsored SABANY’s reenactment of Justice Denied: Wards Cove Packing Co. v. Atonio on May 10, 2017. The reenactment was narrated and led by the Honorable Judge Denny Chin of the Second Circuit and Kathy Hirata Chin. GSPI Committee Co-Chairs Jonathan Hernandez and Kevin Hsi also participated by taking roles in the presentation, which was held at the NYC Law Department.

On May 30, 2017, the GSPI Committee co-sponsored “For the Public Good – APA Lawyers Taking Charge & Leading Change,” a discussion with Acting US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, Joon Kim, US Court of Appeals Judge for the Second Circuit, Hon. Denny Chin, and U.S. Representative Grace Meng. This special event for APA Heritage Month featured prominent Asian Americans serving in each branch of the federal government. The speakers shared personal stories on how they entered public service and why they continue to work towards the “public good.” The event drew over 200 people to the law firm of Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP to meet and network.

On June 27, 2017, the GSPI committee co-sponsored “Disparities in our Justice System” with SABANY at

At the Fall Conference, the GSPI Committee presented, “And Then They Came for Us.”

GSPI member Nelson Mar led the Special Education Initiative for Asian American children with disabilities.
Government Service & Public Interest Committee

the NYC Law Department. A panel of criminal and civil experts discussed how different outcomes in our civil and criminal justice systems exist for various groups within our society. We held a thoughtful discussion addressing some of those disparities by touching upon access to justice, immigration, criminal justice reform, and impact litigation.

On July 11, 2017, the GSPI and Pro Bono Committees co-hosted “Pro Bono Training: Special Education Hearings for Asian American Children with Disabilities,” a training session for a newly launched pro bono project. Held at the law firm of Paul, Weiss, the event attracted an at-capacity crowd interested in learning how to represent low- and middle-income Asian American parents of children with disabilities in their fight to obtain a fair public education for their children in NYC public schools.

GSPI held a Karaoke Mixer on July 13, 2017 at Karaoke City. The goal of this mixer was to allow members of GSPI and other Committees to network in a fun and unique way. GSPI also used this event to promote upcoming GSPI programs. Over 40 members attended, including the Honorable Doris Ling Cohan.

On August 23, 2017, the GSPI Committee held a Know-Your-Rights presentation in partnership with the Visiting Nurse Services of New York. Over fifty community members were educated by Wills, Trusts, and Estates expert and Pro Bono Co-Chair Pauline Yeung-Ha. The presentation included topics in Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy, Living Wills and issues involving Medicaid. Community members were excited and empowered to make better estate planning decisions for the future.

On September 23, 2017, at the AABANY Fall Conference, the GSPI Committee hosted the panel discussion “Then They Came for Us: APA Immigration Law and Policy.” This panel addressed the issues that have been facing immigrant groups in the United States both historically and in recent years. The panel speakers were Annie Wang (Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund), Hasan Shafiquallah (The Legal Aid Society), Lee Wang (Immigration Defense Project) and Steven Choi (New York Immigration Coalition). The program was chaired by GSPI co-chair Kevin Hsi and former GSPI co-chair Karen Yau, who also moderated this panel.

The GSPI Committee also co-hosted two panel discussions at the Fall Conference called “Pro Bono Primer: Part I and Part II” with the Pro Bono Committee where panelists, including GSPI co-chair Beatrice Leong, discussed common issues faced at the AABANY Pro Bono Clinic.

The 2017-18 year saw the creation of the AABANY Community Response Task Force (CRTF), which was jointly sponsored by GSPI and the Issues Committee. The CRTF is AABANY’s answer to the rapidly changing legal landscape and the need for quick, effective and coordinated responses to the emergent issues that affect our communities. The CRTF is designed to be a clearinghouse of information and coordination for research and assistance on urgent and emerging legal issues. For more information on the CRTF, go to page 24.

Here are the GSPI Co-Chairs at Karaoke Night, an event that gave members the chance to mix, mingle, and sing.

Elder law specialist Pauline Yeung-Ha trained members of the Chinatown community on healthcare, wills, and more.
Government Service &
Public Interest Committee

On January 18, 2018, GSPI co-sponsored an Exhibit Tour of the Museum of Chinese in America to see “FOLD: Golden Venture Paper Sculptures,” in conjunction with the Immigration Law and Intellectual Property Committees. A reception was held at Red Egg following the tour.

Future events being planned in 2018 include Know Your Rights trainings in the areas of housing law and immigrant worker organizing. A joint Lunar New Year holiday dinner/meeting will also take place with the Pro Bono Committee in early 2018.
Committee Co-Chairs
Susan Akina
Amanda Bernardo
Poonam Gupta

The Immigration Law Committee (“Committee”) promotes and advances the interests of the APA community through APA attorneys who practice immigration and nationality law, as well as the interests of APA attorneys and law students who are interested in immigration and nationality law. Our goal is to provide support and professional development for immigration practitioners, many of whom are either in solo or small firm practice by providing CLE seminars, networking opportunities, engaging events to foster an interest in immigration law among AABANY’s members.

It has been a very active year in immigration law and the Committee has been keeping pace with new developments. Soon after President Trump’s inauguration, he issued several executive orders that have had a massive impact on immigration law. Our goal is to provide support and professional development for immigration practitioners, many of whom are either in solo or small firm practice by providing CLE seminars, networking opportunities, engaging events to foster an interest in immigration law among AABANY’s members.

On February 14, 2017, in response to the executive orders, the Committee held a lunch-time informational webinar to explain the orders for AABANY’s non-immigration law practitioners:

• Rio Guerrero, former Co-Chair, spoke about the Executive Order on Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements, which covered a variety of topics, including building a wall along the border with Mexico, increasing the level of immigration enforcement and elimination of sanctuary cities. Rio touched on the many unanswered questions about the order, such as where the money would come from to fund many of the items raised in it. Rio concluded his presentation ominously by stating, “The fear is real, the danger is real for undocumented aliens, including AAPIs.”

• Mariko Hirose, Senior Staff Attorney at the New York Civil Liberties Union, addressed the Executive Order on Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States, signed on January 27, 2017. This order has been more prominently featured in the news and imposed a travel ban on Muslims and refugees. Mariko spoke about the basic terms of the order and then went through the litigations that have sprung up across the country in its wake, from New York and Boston to Seattle and Los Angeles. She concluded with an update on the 9th Circuit’s ruling in Washington v. Trump which affirmed the lower court’s grant of the temporary restraining order (“TRO”) that stayed enforcement of the order nationally.

The hour allocated for the webinar went quickly and was full of useful and topical information.

Next, on a Friday evening, February 24, 2017, the Committee held a timely CLE training on Writ of Habeas Corpus Petitions and Immigrant Detention together with KALAGNY, FALA New York, MuBANY, and the Migrant Center of the Church of Saint Francis of Assisi. The course covered the recent Executive Orders on immigration and provided training on filing habeas corpus petitions. Since the event occurred soon after widespread reporting of the “Muslim Ban” and airport detentions, close to 100 people attended. Most were not immigration law practitioners but others impacted or interested in the topic.

As the year progressed, Immigration & Customs Enforcement officers increased their arrests of immigrants throughout the country. In response, many advocacy organizations and affinity bar associations held Know Your Rights workshops for non-lawyers wondering what to do.


The Committee also organized several events for AABANY members to get to know each other better.

On June 26, 2017, the Committee kicked off the 2017 to 2018 term with a law office housewarming for Tsui Yee, a former Committee Co-Chair, who recently opened her solo immigration practice, The Law Offices of Tsui H. Yee, P.C. Many AABANY members and colleagues came to wish Tsui well
Immigration Law Committee

on her new venture, to dine on Lebanese fare, to get involved in the upcoming events for the term, to share ideas for future events, and to discuss the ever-evolving, often puzzling U.S. immigration law.

On July 12, 2017, the Committee co-hosted a Get to Know AABANY Happy Hour with other AABANY committees including Membership, Litigation, Labor & Employment, and Student Outreach Committees. The social event was a great opportunity for many members and non-members to meet, mingle, and learn about how to get more involved with AABANY and the various committees while enjoying drinks and light appetizers.

During the latter half of the year, the Trump administration announced it would not extend the program meant to benefit “Dreamers” known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”). The administration gave DACA holders whose statuses would expire on or before March 5, 2018 until October 5, 2017 to send their renewal applications for a 2-year extension. In response, on September 19, 2017, the Committee partnered with AALDEF to hold a free webinar training on DACA renewal applications.

The webinar training prepared members to volunteer at a DACA renewal clinic at the Flushing Library on October 1, 2017. Many organizations including New York Coalition for Asian American Mental Health (“NYCAAMH”), AALDEF, KALAGNY, New Economy Project, National Center for Law and Economic Justice (“NCLEJ”), FALA New York, South Asian Bar Association of New York (“SABANY”), MuBANY, and Chinese-American Family Alliance for Mental Health (“CAFAMH”) co-sponsored the clinic. Congresswoman Grace Meng was also in attendance during this community-wide event.

On September 23, 2017, the Committee held a panel at the AABANY Fall Conference with the Labor & Employment Committee entitled, “Complying with the Immigration Law as an Employer.” The speakers included Committee Co-Chairs Poonam Gupta and Susan Akina along with William Ng and Brian Idehan as moderator. The lively discussion focused on how and what employers can and should do to stay compliant with U.S. Immigration and U.S. Department of Labor guidelines and regulations as they relate to their immigrant workforce. The major areas covered included housekeeping tips for employers when sponsoring employees for H-1B visas or making PERM/I-140 filings, keeping track of employee’s expiration and priority dates, maintaining public access files, considering consistent corporate immigration policies, extending H-1B visas beyond 6-years, updating I-9s, and withdrawing H-1B petitions. There was also a lively question-and-answer period.

During the AABANY Fall Conference, Committee Co-Chair Amanda Bernardo was also a speaker during the Conference Plenary session, “FOLD: Golden Venture Paper Sculptures” hosted by the Issues Committee. The Plenary session revisited the Golden Venture incident when a freighter transporting hundreds of undocumented Chinese immigrants crashed onto the Rockaways, in Queens, New York on June 6, 1993. The Conference
plenary session discussed the historical, political, and shifting landscape of U.S. Immigration law and policy before, during, and after the Golden Venture.

The Committee has several exciting events lined up for 2018.

On January 18, 2018, the Committee co-hosted a guided tour of the exhibit that AABANY featured in the 2017 Fall Conference plenary session, “FOLD: Golden Venture Paper Sculptures” at the Museum of Chinese in America (“MOCA”). Selected from MOCA’s collection, over forty sculptures collectively created by the immigrants while detained for years at York County Prison were on display. Through symbolic representations that include caged birds and American eagles, the sculptures give shape to both the quantitative and qualitative time spent waiting for uncertain legal outcomes. The event and post-tour reception were co-hosted by the Government Service & Public Interest and the Intellectual Property Committees.

In celebration of the 2018 Lunar New Year, the Committee co-hosted a Lunar New Year event with the Intellectual Property Committee on February 9.

On February 21, 2018, the Committee will co-host an EB-5 Immigrant Investor Visa event with the Real Estate and Asia Practice Committees. The event is titled, “EB-5 and Foreign Investments: Inbound Real Estate and Tax Considerations” and will be held at Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP. This will be an informative and timely discussion especially because there have been continued and widespread discussion among EB-5 stakeholders of the need to change certain aspects of the EB-5 Regional Center program. CLE credit will be provided.
In-House Counsel Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Grace Fu
Blossom Kan
Duane Morikawa

The In-House Counsel Committee (“IHCC”) is comprised of in-house counsels interested in sharing their ideas and experiences as members of corporate legal departments on a variety of issues facing Asian Pacific American lawyers and providing a support network for in-house counsel members. The IHCC has sponsored events such as networking functions, CLE courses, and other programs.

The main event for the IHCC was the Tenth Annual Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception for Law Firm Partners and Senior In-House Counsel on June 27, 2017, co-hosted by the IHCC and AABANY’s Corporate Law Committee (“CLC”) at NYY Steak in midtown Manhattan with the generous support from our Headline Sponsors, Prosperian Wealth Management and Summit Financial Printing, and our Sponsors, Consilio, Fox Rothschild LLP, Perkins Coie and Veritext. The evening provided an opportunity to bring together IHCC and CLC members, their colleagues, potential new members, and some of AABANY’s top sponsors. The attendees represented in-house counsel from over 60 corporations and other organizations and attorneys from 37 law firms.

The IHCC hosted the Summer Happy Hour, on August 22, 2017, on the rooftop patio at Rock and Reilly’s generously sponsored by RDM Capital.

The IHCC actively participated in the Annual AABANY Fall Conference on September 23, 2017 by hosting the “GC Roundtable: Leading Change Through Example” panel, as well as the In-House Counsel Forum. General counsels and senior in-house counsels were invited to participate in the In-House Counsel Forum to discuss pressing issues of particular importance to in-house counsel. The IHCC also co-sponsored the pitch sessions with the CLC. The pitch sessions provided an opportunity for law firm attorneys to make pitches to in-house attorneys that indicated a current need for legal representation from an outside law firm. In preparation for the pitch sessions, the IHCC co-sponsored a panel on “How To Do A Pitch” prior to the Fall Conference. The IHCC hosted a committee dinner following the Fall Conference generously sponsored by Kelley Drye & Warren LLP.

The IHCC will continue to develop programs and events to meet the needs and interests of its members.
Committee Co-Chairs
Charles Chen
Jeff Tang
Shannon Zhu

The Intellectual Property Committee seeks to:

1. provide practical skills training, support, and opportunities for practicing and aspiring intellectual property lawyers in the New York area,
2. be a resource for artists, authors, and inventors within the community to provide information about the protection and use of intellectual property, and
3. serve as a forum to explore U.S.-Asia intellectual property issues.

The Intellectual Property Committee held a number of events this year starting with two large social events in the summer. One was a mini-golf outing at Pier 25 and another social featured laser tag at Chelsea Bowlmor.

For 2017 AABANY Annual Fall Conference, the IP Committee and SABANY organized a CLE panel consisting of entrepreneurs with law degrees on what challenges they overcame, how they navigate the modern day entrepreneurial business, and how they developed their entrepreneurial mindset to take charge and lead change.

The IP Committee also organized an IP Career event with a panel of law firm IP attorneys from Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, who also generously sponsored the event for AABANY.

This year, the IP Committee also organized an IP Prosecution CLE Workshop sponsored by Fross Zelnick. The event covered the basics of trademarks, copyrights, and design patents and how to file these type of IP applications.

The year ended with a large social bowling event in collaboration with NYU Asian Pacific American Law Student Association. The event allowed law students to mingle with AABANY attorneys and have some fun before finals and Thanksgiving.

During the upcoming months in 2018 before the end of the fiscal year, the IP Committee plans to host more social dinners for Lunar New Year in collaboration with other committees. And of course, if you are interested in getting more involved with the IP Committee, please reach out to the Chairs of the IP Committee. If you are interested in receiving emails about events and IP job opportunities, please subscribe to the IP Committee Listserv. For more description on the past events held by the IP Committee, please check out AABANY Blog under the hashtag #IPCommittee.
Issues Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Song Kim
Chris M. Kwok

AABANY’s Issues Committee examines and considers a variety of issues that impact, directly or indirectly, the APA community and provides recommendations to AABANY’s Board on whether or not the association should, consistent with its mission, take action on the issues, and if so, in what way and to what extent. AABANY’s Issues Committee continues to seek motivated legal talent to join this committee in expanding AABANY’s activity in accordance with its stated mission of advocating for the APA community.

The Issues Committee had an incredibly busy year, building bridges to other Asian American organizations, highlighting important Asian American issues and advocating for political and social change.

On Sunday, May 21, AABANY tabled at the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) Annual Street Fair: “Celebrate as One.” The gorgeous spring weather provided the perfect opportunity to promote AABANY’s mission, and in particular, spread word about the monthly Pro Bono Clinic held in Chinatown every second Wednesday of the month. The Issues Committee represented AABANY and talked to over 60 people and we had a grand time meeting and hanging out with the APA community.

The next couple of days, May 22-23, Committee Co-Chair Song Kim attended 7th Annual NAPABA Lobby Day held in Washington D.C, which turned out to be the best attended Lobby Day ever. With over 160 participants, attendees visited with elected officials in Congress and lobbied on issues of vital importance to the Asian American community.

On Tuesday, May 23, AABANY, together with Cleary Gottlieb, co-sponsored a photo exhibition by Corky Lee, the renowned Asian American photojournalist. Read more about it in the Year in Review section discussing AABANY’s APA Heritage Month events.

On Wednesday, May 24, AABANY, KALAGNY and FALA New York co-sponsored a screening of “ABACUS: Small Enough to Jail” at the IFC Center.

Read more in the Year in Review section discussing APA Heritage Month events.

On June 6, the Issues Committee co-sponsored a talk called “The War on Chinese Restaurants” in conjunction with MOCA’s exhibit Sour, Sweet, Bitter, Spicy: Stories of Chinese Food and Identity in America. Presented by Professor Gabriel “Jack” Chin, a noted scholar of Immigration and Race and Law at UC Davis Law School. Over 60 people attended a well-received talk about the war against Chinese restaurants from the late 1800s to early 1900s.

On July 28, AABANY co-sponsored a screening of Save My Seoul at Village East Cinema, as part of the 2017 Asian American International Film Festival. The film follows Eddie and Jason, two Korean-American brothers who get in over their heads when they are called to South Korea to make a short film on prostitution and sex-trafficking.

On September 20, AABANY played host to a delegation from China representing the People’s Procuratorate of Hainan Province. The group wanted to hear from AABANY about pro bono and public interest law in the United States. Pro Bono Committee Co-Chair Pauline Yeung-Ha spoke about AABANY’s monthly pro bono clinic. Issues Committee Co-Chair Song Kim spoke about public interest law generally and specifically about her work as Staff Attorney at AALDEF. The meeting was hosted by AABANY sponsor Seyfarth Shaw at their offices in the New York Times Building. Past AABANY VP of Programs and Operations James Yu and Seyfarth’s Pro Bono Coordinator Robert Whitman greeted the delegation and spoke about the firm’s pro bono work on behalf of non-profit organizations.

On September 23, 2017, the Issues Committee was proud to plan the Fall Conference 2017 Plenary Session, which focused on the legacy of the Golden Venture: “The Golden Venture crashed into our imagination on June 6, 1993. As its passengers struggled onto the Queens shoreline, news cameras captured the dramatic scene: people dying as they swam to shore, helicopters and rescue boats buzzed in the darkness. For the vast majority that made it to the shore alive, detention and deportation awaited. Ten percent would eventually receive asylum and a path to legal status.”
A decisive moment in the Asian American immigration imagination, our plenary session used Golden Venture to explore the shifting legal and political landscape of becoming an American:

- The use of mass detention of asylum seekers from Golden Venture was unprecedented. Although the legal authority to do so long existed, it had not been previously utilized. This pre-staged the world that was emerging - the use of detention for asylum seekers.

On the panel was Stanley Mark from AALDEF, Andrew Rebatta from MOCA, and Amanda Bernardo, Co-Chair of the Immigration Law Committee. Song Kim, Issues Committee Co-Chair, served as moderator.

In October 2017, the Issues Committee was pleased to launch the AABANY Community Response Task Force. Led by Theresa Lau and Albert Suh, the Community Response Task Force (CRTF) is AABANY’s answer to the rapidly changing legal landscape and the need for quick, effective, and coordinated responses to the emergent issues that affect our communities. Read more about the CRTF in the Year in Review section.

On November 2, Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok spoke on Asian American identity at a Policy Luncheon for NYU Law School APALSA. A well attended and lively discussion was had.

On December 8, more than 30 AABANY members and friends came out for a theater outing to see “A Deal,” at Urban Stages Theater on West 30th Street. Read more about the event in the Year in Review section.

The Issues Committee celebrated as one with the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans.

The Committee led the Fall Conference plenary session, “The Golden Venture — 25 Years Later.”
The Judiciary Committee spearheads AABANY’s work towards increasing the number of qualified Asian Pacific Americans (“APA”) in the federal, state, and local judiciary. It also advocates for the interests of APA judges, including increasing judicial pay and preserving judicial independence.

The Judiciary Committee’s work falls into four main categories:

- Recruiting and preparing potential candidates for the judiciary, including currently sitting members of the bench who seek higher judicial office.
- Evaluating judicial candidates to determine whether AABANY should formally endorse them. The policies and procedures for AABANY’s endorsement process are posted on AABANY’s website.
- Advocating on behalf of and otherwise supporting candidates for the judiciary whom AABANY has endorsed.
- Formulating AABANY’s positions and thereafter engaging in advocacy (e.g., speeches, legislative testimony, public fora, amicus briefs, and editorials) on issues related to the judiciary.

The Judiciary Committee holds quarterly committee meetings to discuss the Committee’s programming, the status of various judicial selection processes, and ways to advance the committee’s goal. The Judiciary Committee welcomes all members to attend and ask questions about the Committee, New York state and federal judiciary, and the NY judicial selection process.

On March 16, 2017, the AABANY Judiciary Committee hosted a robust conversation on judicial screening panels in New York County at the offices of Dorsey & Whitney LLP. The discussion was led by Tristan Loanzon, William Wang, and Steve Madra and focused on the importance of screening panels in maintaining a quality and diverse judiciary, and how AABANY members can be more effective participants in that process. The event was successful and well-received, so the Committee held another similar panel discussion on January 25, 2018, with the aim of trying to get more AABANY members to become interested in serving on screening panels.

On May 17, 2017, the Judiciary Committee hosted AABANY’s inaugural Judges’ Reception, recognizing and honoring newly and recently inducted APA judges and retired APA judges, in celebration of APA Heritage Month. Presiding Justice Randall T. Eng introduced the judges and shared some words of wisdom about the strides that have been made by APAs in the judiciary and the work that continues to increase diversity on the bench. According to Justice Eng, there may not have been much cause for celebrating the diversity of the bench 25 years ago, but there’s still much headway to be made.
We honored the following individuals:

- Hon. Dorothy Chin-Brandt
- Hon. Phyllis Chu
- Hon. Marilyn Go
- Hon. Karen Gopee
- Hon. Judy Kim
- Hon. Peggy Kuo
- Hon. Donald Leo
- Hon. Charlie Liu
- Hon. Ushir Pandit-Durant
- Hon. Raja Rajeswari
- Hon. Frances Wang
- Hon. Kathryn Paek
- Honorable Mention: Diane Gujarati

During AABANY’s Fall Conference in September, the Judiciary Committee once again organized and presented its “Judicial Bootcamp: Road to the Bench” at the Fall Conference geared toward attorneys interested in a career on the bench. The highlight this year was the mock interview with Hon. Sanket Bulsara. Judge Bulsara, who was the latest judge to be appointed United States Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District of New York, showed attendees practical and insightful tips on how to excel at interviews conducted by judicial screening panels, which were drawn from his own experience. We thank all the judges who spoke at the “Judicial Bootcamp: Road to the Bench” and appreciate all the hard work of the program chairs.

On November 17, 2017, the Judiciary Committee held its annual Judicial Leadership Council dinner and discussion. AABANY’s Judicial Leadership Council is made up of individuals influential in the judicial selection process. The Council members come together to share experiences in furtherance of diversity on the bench.

Finally, the important work of the Judiciary Committee would not be possible without the help of its dedicated members. Special thanks to the Judiciary Committee executive board members:

- Vice Chairs - Dai Wai Chin Feman and William Wang
- Chair of Vetting Subcommittee - Bryan An and Naf Kwun
- Secretary - Rena Malik
- Co-Chairs of Pipeline Development - David Mou, Manisha Sheth, and Yueh-Ru Chu
- Co-Chairs of Special Events - Sahng-Ah Yoo, Lawson Hyunh, and Jennifer Chiang
- Research team - Sahng-Ah Yoo

Get involved by contacting Linda Lin and Robert Leung at judiciary@aabany.org.

The Committee cannot underscore enough the importance of judicial screening panels.
Labor & Employment Law Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Bryan An
David Mou
Joane Wong

The Labor & Employment Law Committee (“L&E Committee”) seeks to promote the professional development of lawyers and human resources professionals practicing or engaging in Labor & Employment law through CLE programs, career panels, and networking events. The Committee actively seeks to connect the APA community with the expertise of the lawyers and human resources professionals in the Committee and to promote the education and discussion of workplace issues affecting employees, employers and their families.

In 2017, AABANY’s L&E Committee completed its fourth year. The L&E Committee and its members organized and participated in many educational, social, and networking programs within AABANY.

On June 7, 2017, the L&E Committee organized a Meet and Greet with EEOC Chair Jenny Yang and NLRB’s Kent Hirozawa at Dim Sum Go Go in Manhattan’s Chinatown. This was an excellent opportunity to connect committee members with APA trailblazers in the labor and employment field in an intimate setting. Ms. Yang and Mr. Hirozawa gave insight into their accomplishments and future endeavors over several rounds of delicious dim sum dishes. We’re happy to report that the meeting was a resounding success.

On July 12, 2017, the L&E Committee co-sponsored the Get to Know AABANY Happy Hour along with the Membership, Litigation, Immigration, and Student Outreach Committees on the mezzanine/second floor level of District Social in midtown Manhattan. This was an excellent opportunity to connect committee members with the Committee Co-Chairs, as well as other members throughout AABANY. The gorgeous venue and trays of appetizers broke the ice for returning members and curious prospects, making it easy to chat about anything other than the Committees.

On July 13, 2017, the L&E Committee co-sponsored the Summer Karaoke Networking Event along with the Government Service & Public Interest, Bankruptcy, and Young Lawyers Committees with generous sponsorship support from M&T Bank and Esquire Solutions. Over 40 members convened at Karaoke City in Manhattan’s Koreatown to sing, dance, and admire the stellar and sometimes awkward performances of AABANY’s finest.

For AABANY’s 2017 Fall Conference, held on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at Fordham Law School, the L&E Committee co-hosted a CLE panel titled Complying with the Immigration Laws as an Employer with the Immigration Committee. The panel of experts featured past L&E Committee Co-Chair, William Ng (Littler Mendelson PC), in addition to the Immigration Committee Co-Chairs, Susan Akina (Guerrero Law Firm PC) and Poonam Gupta (White & Case LLP). The conversation was moderated by Brian Idehan (Mona Shah & Associates) and highlighted key issues for attorneys to focus upon when preparing and establishing policies with their corporate clients.

At the 2017 National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Convention in Washington D.C. from November 2-4, Committee Co-Chair, Joane Wong, moderated a panel on the imminent Supreme Court decision, NLRB v. Murphy Oil, that posed the question: Can employees waive their labor-law right to band together to resolve disputes with their boss in courts or in arbitration? Are employment contracts that require employees to waive their right to collective or class action claims enforceable? Panelists included former chairman of the NLRB, Mark Pearce; lead counsel for Murphy Oil, Jeffrey Schwartz of Jackson Lewis; prominent plaintiff/employee counsel, Mark Hanna; and counsel for a relevant Supreme Court case, Archis Parasharami of Mayor Brown. The questions were heatedly debated by the panelists and lots of questions were fielded from the audience.

In 2018, the L&E Committee looks forward to strengthening member relationships within the Committee through more lighthearted social events, while working closely with other AABANY committees, APA organizations and sister bar associations to organize valuable educational programs and networking opportunities for those interested in the labor and employment field.
Committee Co-Chairs
Glenn Magpantay
John Vang

The Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) Committee of AABANY strives to foster the acceptance and advancement of LGBT AAPIs in the law and legal profession. The Committee organizes programs geared toward LGBT attorneys and allies, including our annual networking reception for LGBT Asian American and South Asian Attorneys. The Committee aims to develop and present career and practice development-related programs that cover a variety of practice areas and legal topics. The Committee also seeks to provide a forum for professional and social networking both within and outside of AABANY through unique networking events.

What’s at Stake for LGBT Asians/South Asians Under President Trump

On Thursday, March 15, 2017 the AABANY LGBT Committee hosted a special presentation: “A Sign of the Times: A Legal and Political Analysis of What’s at Stake for LGBT Asians and South Asians.” Nearly two dozen attendees attended to hear a distinguished panel of experts and advocates who reviewed recent executive orders and anticipated policy proposals of the new Presidential administration and their impact on the LGBT Asian American and South Asian community.

Distinguished speakers included: James Esseks, LGBT & HIV Director, American Civil Liberties Union Foundation; Jillian Weiss, Executive Director, Transgender Legal Defense & Education Fund, Inc.; Luis Mancheno, Immigration Clinical Teaching Fellow, Cardozo Law School; John Vang, Center for Appellate Litigation; Connie Montoya, Filipino American Lawyers Association of NY, served as moderator.

Special thanks go to Fried Frank for hosting the panel, as well as LeGaL – The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York, South Asian Bar Association of New York (SABANY), and Korean American Lawyer Association of Greater New York (KALAGNY) for cosponsoring.

Asian American/South Asian Lawyers Networking Reception

On October 24, 2017, nearly 70 members of the bar “came out” to celebrate the diversity within the LGBT and Asian American and South Asian communities.

Partners and associates at corporate firms, government attorneys, solo practitioners, small firms, and public interest lawyers enjoyed this networking reception which raised money for the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance’s legal referral program.

Attendees heard from the Counsel to the NYS Governor Mario Cuomo, Alphonso David. Mr. David remarked, “We are being challenged to define ourselves in this new age. Ensure that the respect and honor we have assigned to diversity...” – Alphonso David
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ASIAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK

LGBT Committee

and inclusivity is sustainable...Our history of accomplishment and respect for diversity now gives us a sense of hope and optimism for what is just on the horizon.” His remarks were followed by special recognition of pro bono and diversity & inclusion champions for LGBT APIs.

Special thanks go to Gibson Dunn for hosting the reception, as well as LeGaL, SABANY, KALAGNY, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA), and South Asian Bar Association of North America (SABA NA).

Education

The Committee also promotes understanding and awareness. On Sept 12, 2017, Committee members also participated in a meeting of LGBT Japanese Lawyers and Professionals with members of LGBT Youth Japan, who came to New York City for a study tour. They discussed the intersection of LGBT issues with the themes of professional development and career advancement as a double minority. The event was hosted by Linklaters LLP.

The LGBT Committee will continue to ensure that diversity and inclusion are sustainable.
Litigation Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Lisa Chan
James Shih
Ona Wang

The Litigation Committee is dedicated to attorneys and law students who are interested in litigation. The committee provides a forum and resources for networking and learning, and sponsors events that are of interest to its members.

On March 25, the Litigation Committee hosted their Trial Advocacy Program (TAP) at Morrison & Foerster. The morning lecture on opening statements was given by Judge Matsumoto, Connie Montoya and Tristan Loanzon, followed by small group breakout sessions in which the students practiced giving opening statements and received critiques from our faculty.

The afternoon lecture on direct and cross examination and closing statements was given by Manisha Sheth, Rodney Villazor and Yasu Saito. Following the lecture, students broke out into smaller groups to practice those skills, receiving feedback from the faculty.

Former Litigation Committee Co-Chair Carolyn Cornell moderated the morning lecture and Former Co-Chair Dai Wai Chin Feman moderated the afternoon lecture. All students received 6 CLE credits in skills from this all-day program.

We thank all the faculty members who participated in TAP:
Hon. Kiyo Matsumoto, EDNY, Keynote Speaker
- Mark Berman, Ganfer & Shore LLP
- Tristan Loanzon, Loanzon LLP
- Steve Madra, The Madra Law Firm
- Concepcion Montoya, Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP
- Kevin Murphy, Frommer Lawrence & Haug LLP
- Yasuhiro Saito, Saito Law Group PLLC
- Manisha Sheth, New York State Attorney General’s Office
- Vinoo Varghese, Varghese & Associates, P.C.
- Rodney Villazor, Smith & Villazor LLP
- Samuel Yee, New York City Police Department

The Litigation Committee also co-hosted the AABANY Annual Picnic on Sunday, August 6, 2017.

At the Fall Conference, the Litigation Committee hosted the program, “Best Practices in Litigation Holds and Document Preservation.”

One of the few AABANY events held on the weekend, our Annual Picnic welcomes friends and families.

The Trial Advocacy Program offers a rare opportunity to workshop practical litigation skills.
Military & Veterans Affairs Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Michael Krouse
Brian Song

The Military & Veterans Committee ("MVA Committee") serves as:

1. a networking and support platform for current AABANY members with a military background, current military members seeking opportunities outside of the military, law students thinking of military careers, and AABANY members interested in issues related to military and veteran affairs;
2. an education and advocacy resource on legal issues related to the military and veterans; and
3. a source for pro bono assistance to military members, veterans, and their families.

On November 8, 2017, in celebration of Veterans Day, the MVA Committee co-sponsored an inaugural Veterans and Military Networking Event along with the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, the Filipino American Lawyers Association of New York, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, the Puerto Rican Bar Association, the South Asian Bar Association of New York, the LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York, the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey, the Muslim Bar Association of New York, the Network of Bar Leaders, the NYC Bar Military Affairs & Justice Committee, and the New York County Lawyers Association. Co-Chair Brian Song held a fireside chat with the Honorable Randall T. Eng, Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, Second Department. Justice Eng discussed his long history of military service, culminating as the State Judge Advocate for the New York National Guard. He also shared how his military career helped him develop as an attorney and the challenges of being a citizen-soldier.

For the remainder of the fiscal year, the MVA Committee plans to host a membership event at a local shooting range.

Thanks to all those who made it out to the Veterans & Military Networking Event on Nov. 8!
Pro Bono & Community Service Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Sam Lui
Ariana Pabalan
Pauline Yeung-Ha

It is the 2nd Wednesday of the month about 6:00 pm. Carrying two heavy bags of food, I walked up to the second floor of the building. The hallway was narrow with a row of chairs lining up on one side. I could barely walk to the end of the hallway without bending sideways. Already, the chairs were all filled with people. For some reason, every one of them realized that I was an attorney who would somehow help them with their legal inquiries. They were all smiling and greeting me. Wait a minute, I thought, these people are not supposed to be here until 6:30 pm! When I arrived at the small conference room where the rest of the volunteers are, I greeted them and “begged” them to eat the dinner that I brought in first, because they would not have a chance to eat later. Then, I was told that some of the clients have arrived as early as 5:00 pm! They were afraid that they could not get a chance to see an attorney. Some came from as far as New Jersey and Connecticut. When I started to take down each client’s name and basic information, they were very kind and smart: many of them wrote down their name and their legal issues on the small ticket that they have received upon arrival. They were very helpful to me so that in turn, I can be helpful to them!

The Pro Bono & Community Service Committee aims to gather AABANY’s members and serve the community. It runs a monthly clinic since December 2015. In 2017 alone, we have served over 320 people, with over 30 volunteers participating. The Committee continues to encourage AABANY members to assist underserved people and communities. It provides opportunities for pro bono work by developing programs targeting issues affecting low-income people. We also aim to promote AABANY’s partnerships with community organizations and legal service providers.

The clinic is held on every 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, 33 Bowery, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10002.

Aside from the clinic, the Committee has held joint meetings and events with the Government Service & Public Interest Committee. We co-sponsored several public service-oriented projects, including the Special Education Hearings for Asian American Children with Disabilities.

Our hope for the near future is for the clinic to expand to different boroughs like Brooklyn and Queens. In fact, the Committee is currently partnering with Sanctuary for Families in forming a T-Visa clinic that would help victims of trafficking, as trafficking is a huge problem in Asian communities. We are working on having a training for volunteers by March 2018.

Law students and attorneys interested in volunteering should contact Ariana Pabalan at ariana.pabalan@aabany.org and Pauline Yeung-Ha at pauline.yeungha@aabany.org.

Check out these photos from the various Pro Bono Clinics throughout the year. We are so thankful for each and every one of our volunteers.
AABANY thanks the attorney and non-attorney volunteers who donated their time in 2017 at AABANY’s monthly pro bono clinic. Last year, our volunteers served more than 320 individuals, and donated more than 327 hours of pro bono services. AABANY holds its clinic the second Wednesday of every month. If you would like to volunteer, please contact AABANY.
The continuing mission of the Professional Development Committee (PDC) is to advance the skills and knowledge of AABANY’s members as they advance in their professional careers. We provide opportunities for members to work together through our programs.

Continuing Legal Education

This year we are proud to have provided a wide variety of free or low-cost Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs for our members and the New York legal community. All of our programs are organized and presented by volunteers. We seek to provide these resources free or at low cost without compromise in the quality or educational value of our programs.

Programs were sponsored by AABANY’s Committees or with one of AABANY’s partners, which included the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, Asian American Real Estate Association, the Chinese Business Lawyers Association, the Filipino American Lawyers Association of New York, the South Asian Bar Association of New York, as well as the Asian Pacific American Law Student Association at Columbia Law School. We provide guidance organizing and documenting the programs as required by the CLE Rules, issuing CLE credits to participants, and making required reports to the Office of Court Administration.

The eighth annual AABANY Fall Conference was held on September 23, 2017 at Fordham University School of Law. Eleven 1.5-credit programs were presented by AABANY’s committees on civil rights, immigration, business, real estate, intellectual property, litigation, and the popular General Counsel Roundtable. A pro-bono primer training for our pro-bono clinic touched upon the basics of Wills, Trusts, Estates, Immigration, Housing and Family Law. The plenary luncheon recalled from 25 years ago the Golden Venture, a freighter ship that ran aground in the Rockaways. More than 300 Chinese attempted to get ashore to obtain asylum.

In total, we offered 40 credits of continuing legal education. This included more than 5 credits of ethics. All of these credits were free for AABANY members except for the AABANY Fall Conference ($100 for members, which included breakfast, lunch and cocktail hour). This represents a great savings over the cost of CLE programs elsewhere.

AABANY, along with other minority bar associations, petitioned the New York CLE Board to add diversity training as an ongoing requirement for New York attorneys. This year, the Board approved that request: beginning in 2018, experienced New York attorneys will be required to take one credit in the new Diversity and Inclusion category as part of the 24 credits required every two years. We hope to be able to provide programs to serve this need in the years to come.

Hon. Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition

This year, AABANY, led by Francis Chin and Samuel Yee, hosted the Northeast Regional competition at Brooklyn Law School. A dozen student teams tackled this year’s question, which focused upon whether the 4th Amendment required obtaining a warrant to utilize historical and real-time cell phone GPS location information. The final round judging panel was composed of U.S. District Court Judge Pamela Chen, NYC Supreme Court Justice Gilbert Hong, and former AABANY board member and criminal defense attorney Vinoo Varghese. We especially thank all the volunteer attorney-judges and brief graders.

Legal Reenactments

Building Our Legacy: The Murder of Vincent Chin

Brooklyn Law School APALSA students, along with prominent legal scholar Frank Wu and Dean Nick Allard, presented Building Our Legacy: The Murder of Vincent Chin on February 21st. This reenactment traced how the murder of a Chinese-American auto worker led to the start of the modern Asian Pacific American movement. Noted documentary photographer Corky Lee shared his images of nascent activism and talked about his first-hand experiences of that time.

This Land Is Our Land: Oyama v. California

Our legal reenactment team, led by U.S. Circuit Judge Denny Chin, Kathy Chin, and Vincent Chang and joined by UC Davis Professor Rose Cuison Villazor, told the story of the Oyamas in San Diego to an overflowing room on May 31st at Cadwalader in New York. Fred Oyama owned farmland in the San Diego area that was to be escheated to the State of
California due to land laws that discriminated against Japanese Americans. The U.S. Supreme Court in *Oyama v. California*, 332 U.S. 633 (1948) held that the rights of an American citizen to own land “may not be subordinated merely because of his father’s country of origin.”

**Fred Korematsu and His Fight for Justice**
On November 3 at the NAPABA Conference in Washington, D.C., we told the story of Fred Korematsu, a Japanese-American who was convicted of violating internment orders during World War II. Read more in the Year in Review section.

### CLE Programs in 2017

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Prosecutors’ Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Helen Ahn
James Lin
Myongjae Matthew Yi

I. Annual Reception

On June 24, 2017, AABANY’s Prosecutors’ Committee honored Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Danny K. Chun and Deputy Chief Ellen Chang of the NYPD’s Internal Affairs Bureau, at its 9th Annual Reception.

Approximately 100 members (mostly prosecutors from NYC, Nassau County, Orange County and New Jersey counties) and guests filled the New York County Lawyers Association at 14 Vesey Street to capacity to celebrate the occasion.

The evening featured distinguished guests and speakers, each of whom provided congratulatory remarks while inspiring attendees not only to become exceptional prosecutors, judges, and law enforcement officers, but to promote diversity in their fields. Notable guests and speakers included:

- Bridget Brennan, Special Narcotics Prosecutor
- Catherine Christian, Special Assistant to the New York County DA for External and Community Affairs
- Leroy Frazier, Executive ADA, Kings County DA’s Office
- Diane Gujarati, Deputy Chief of Criminal Division, SDNY
- Cicely Harris, Chief Diversity Officer, Bronx County DA’s Office
- Brian Lee, Bureau Chief, Nassau County DA’s Office
- Donald Leo, Judge of the Brooklyn Criminal Court
- Joan Loughnane, Acting Deputy U.S. Attorney, SDNY
- Bridget Rohde, Acting U.S. Attorney, EDNY
- Nitin Savur, Executive ADA, New York County DA’s Office
- Jesse Sligh, Executive ADA, Queens County DA’s Office
- Dwight Yoo, AABANY President

Following the guest speakers’ remarks, co-emcee Helen Ahn introduced the evening’s first honoree, Deputy Chief Ellen Chang, a 25-year veteran of the NYPD and the highest-ranking Asian woman in the NYPD and, given her mother’s Puerto Rican heritage, the first Latina chief. Although there is still a long way to go before NYPD numbers reflect New York City’s Asian female population, Chief Ellen Chang’s committed and dedicated service plays a crucial role in improving the relationship between the community and the police.

Chief Chang spoke of her many years of service in various precincts and her current role in the Internal Affairs Bureau of the NYPD. For many in attendance, it was inspiring to hear Chief Chang speak of the challenges of leadership in the NYPD. The many NYPD officers and sergeants who attended the reception also revealed the extent of the NYPD’s appreciation for Chief Chang as well.

Thank you to Hon. Danny K. Chun and Deputy Chief Ellen Chang for all of their years of dedicated service.

The past couple years, Prosecutors’ Committee leaders Kin Ng, James Lin and Brian Lee have seen their careers soar.
Prosecutors’ Committee

Then, co-emcee Myongjae M. Yi introduced the second honoree, Judge Danny K. Chun. Judge Chun was born in South Korea and immigrated to the U.S. in 1973. He went on to earn his B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and then his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 1987. Upon graduation from Law School, Judge Chun became the first Korean American ever to be appointed as an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan. He served as an ADA from 1987 to 1999, rising to become a Criminal Court Supervisor. In 1999, Mayor Giuliani appointed Judge Chun as the first Korean American Judge in New York. By 2003, Judge Chun became an Acting Justice of New York State Supreme Court to handle various major felony cases in Kings County. Judge Chun continues to be widely respected as a thoughtful and diligent judge who presides over some of the most serious and high-profile cases in Kings County Supreme Court.

AABANY thanks the Prosecutors’ Committee co-chairs, James Lin, Helen Ahn, and Myongjae M. Yi for organizing the event, as well as Kin Ng and the Planning Committee members for their assistance.

II. End of Summer Mixer

Following its Annual Reception, the Prosecutors’ Committee held its “End of Summer Mixer” on August 21, 2017. Approximately 45 prosecutors, interns, law students, and guests gathered at Legends on West 33rd Street to mark the end of summer and to encourage law school interns to apply for full-time positions at various DA offices.

III. Holiday Mixer

On December 11, 2017, the Prosecutors’ Committee held another mixer to celebrate the holiday season. Approximately 30 prosecutors and law interns gathered again at Legends to network and celebrate the holiday season. Many new prosecutors from the Bronx DA’s Office met members of the Prosecutors’ Committee for the first time.

IV. AABANY Fall Conference Diversity Career Fair

With AABANY’s Career Placement Committee, the Prosecutors’ Committee participated again in AABANY’s Diversity Career Fair on September 23, 2017. The Career Fair took place during the AABANY Fall Conference, at Fordham Law School. The Prosecutors’ Committee sponsored three employers: District Attorney Offices from Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens. These three offices conducted first-round, on-site interviews of applicants for internships and full-time Assistant District Attorney positions. Overall the Prosecutors’ Committee felt the job fair was a win-win for both employers and applicants. The Queens District Attorney’s Office extended an offer (which was accepted) for a full-time Assistant District Attorney position. The Manhattan District Attorney’s Office also extended an offer for a summer internship.

We said farewell to our first Program Associate at our end-of-summer happy hour. Enjoy the Los Angeles sun, Simone!
The AABANY Real Estate Committee provides continued advice, support, and professional development to the Asian American attorneys of all levels from solo and small firm practice, law firms, and in-house law departments. The Committee also assists attorneys with placement of legal positions and counsels those attorneys who are transitioning from other legal fields.

The Real Estate Committee has focused on recruiting new AABANY membership from the outer boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn, and Long Island while also welcoming Asian immigrant attorneys to New York City.

The Real Estate Committee holds CLE and networking events centered on various topics of interest including transactions, residential and commercial real estate development, and the latest updates on New York’s Real Property Law and New York City’s Administrative Codes.

The AABANY Real Estate Committee also successfully works on community outreach through its sponsors, including JP Morgan Chase, HSBC, Bank of America, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, Citibank, East West Bank, First American International Bank, Colliers International, Herrick Feinstein LLP, Baker, Tilly, Virchow, Krause, LLP, Forchelli, Deegan, Terrana, McCarter English LLP, Grimaldi & Yeung LLP, and Venable LLP.

The AABANY Real Estate Committee also has reached out to many of the Asian American community groups, including KALAGNY, MinKwon Center, FALA New York, YMCA of Greater New York, Asian Real Estate Professional Association, and Century Development Corporation.

The Real Estate Committee partners closely with the Solo & Small Firm Practice (“SSF”) Committee, Asia Practice Committee, Tax Committee, and Immigration Committee.

For the 2017 AABANY Fiscal Year, the Real Estate Committee organized and presented the following events:

1. June 28, 2017: “Don’t Sign the Contracts Yet!” at Flushing Bank in Brooklyn Heights, a CLE featuring Margaret Ling and David Lu, attended by 50 attorneys. The event was sponsored by Flushing Bank and co-hosted by the SSF Committee.

2. October 18, 2017: “Selling and Purchasing Real Property from an Estate” at Flushing Bank in Manhattan, a CLE featuring Margaret Ling and Pauline Yeung-Ha, attended by 50 attorneys. The event was also sponsored by Flushing Bank, Grimaldi & Yeung LLP, the SSF Committee, and KALAGNY.


The Real Estate Committee works closely with the Solo & Small Firm Practice, Tax, and Asia Practice Committees. Thank you to Flushing Bank, JP Morgan Chase, HSBC, East West Bank, and others for their continued sponsorship!
Real Estate Committee

KALAGNY, YMCA of Greater New York, and the AABANY SSF Committee. Speakers included Christina Ying, Partner at Herrick Feinstein; Brian Strout, Senior VP, City Center Real Estate; George Xu, President of Century Development Group; and Margaret Ling: Co-Chair of AABANY Real Estate Committee.

4. February 8, 2018: “Lunar New Year Celebration,” a reception was co-sponsored by NYCLA, AABANY, KALAGNY, and FALA New York.

Upcoming events:

5. February 21, 2018: “EB-5 and Foreign Investments in the US: Inbound Real Estate and Tax Considerations,” a joint CLE with the Tax, SSF, Immigration, and Asia Practice Committees with sponsorship from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP and Venable LLP.

6. February 27, 2018: “Due Diligence and Residential Real Estate Contracts,” a panel featuring Margaret Ling, Cary Chan, and David Lu, with sponsorship from Flushing Bank and KALAGNY.

7. March 2018: “Representing First Time Home Buyers,” a CLE partnering with the SSF Committee, Queens County Bar Association, and Nassau County Bar Association, with sponsorship from Ridgewood Savings Bank and HSBC.


Over the course of her leadership, Margaret Ling has run dozens of engaging CLEs and networking events.
Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Cary Chan
David Lu

The AABANY Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee focuses on matters related to solo practitioners and lawyers at small firms and community practices. The committee strives to provide support and guidance to attorneys looking to work for themselves through CLE seminars, discussion, and networking sessions. This Committee also works closely with the other AABANY committees to provide education and opportunities to our members.

For the 2017 AABANY fiscal year, the Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee organized and presented the following events:

The CLE was hosted by the AABANY Solo & Small Firm Practice and Real Estate Committees and sponsored by Flushing Bank in Brooklyn Heights. Panelists: Margaret Ling, Co-Chair of the Real Estate Committee and David Lu, Co-Chair of the Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee.

2. October 18, 2017: “Selling and Purchasing Real Property from an Estate.”
This CLE was hosted by the Real Estate and Solo & Small Firm Practice Committees, KALAGNY and Grimaldi & Yeung LLP and sponsored by Flushing Bank at 99 Park Ave, Manhattan. Panelists: Margaret Ling, Esq; Cary Chan, Esq.; David Lu, Esq.; AABANY Co-Chairs.

This CLE was hosted by the Real Estate and Solo & Small Firm Practice Committees, KALAGNY, Chase Bank; Century Development LLC and YMCA of Greater New York. Speakers included: Christina Ying, Esq., Partner at Herrick Feinstein; Brian Strout, Senior VP, City Center Real Estate; George Xu, President of Century Development Group; Margaret Ling: Co-Chair of AABANY Real Estate Committee.

Upcoming events within the current 2017-2018 AABANY fiscal year:

February 2018:
“EB-5 and Foreign Investments in the US: Inbound Real Estate and Tax Considerations”: 1.5 Credit CLE and networking. Joint partnership with AABANY Real Estate, Tax, Immigration, and Asia Practice Committees with sponsorship from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP and Venable LLP.

“Due Diligence and Residential Real Estate Contracts”: 1.0 Credit CLE and Networking. Joint partnership with AABANY Real Estate Committee, KALAGNY with sponsorship from Flushing Bank. Speakers: Margaret Ling, Esq; Cary Chan, Esq.; David Lu, Esq.; AABANY Co-Chairs.

March 2018:
“Representing First Time Home Buyers”: CLE and networking. Joint partnership with AABANY Real Estate Committee, Queens County Bar Association and Nassau County Bar Association. Sponsored by Ridgewood Savings Bank.


In June, the SSF Committee taught, “Don’t sign the contracts yet! At least not until you do your due diligence.”
Student Outreach Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Edwin Kim
Jonathan Li
Aakruti Vakharia

The Student Outreach Committee (SOC) strives to equip Asian Pacific American (APA) students with concrete skills to excel academically and professionally. In addition, the SOC seeks to serve as a bridge between law students, attorneys, and other legal professionals, encouraging APA students to be active in the APA legal community. In this regard, the SOC sponsors and cosponsors a variety of outreach initiatives, career and skills programs, networking events, and social activities. Currently, law student members make up the largest group in AABANY. The SOC works with approximately 18 law schools in the tri-state region.

Throughout 2017, the SOC has continued its work to serve and connect with law students by hosting a variety of events and programming. Due to its large student and recent graduate base, the SOC has also assisted in recruiting and coordinating volunteers for committee-level and organization events as requested and needed by other AABANY committees.

On June 27, 2017, the SOC helped organize student volunteers for AABANY’s 10th Annual Winetasting & Networking Reception for Law Firm Partners and Senior In-House Counsel at NYY Steakhouse.

On July 12, 2017, the SOC joined the Membership, Litigation, Immigration, and Labor & Employment committees in hosting the “Get to Know AABANY” Happy Hour where APA law students were able to meet committee members and learn more about the Committees.

On August 12, 2017, the SOC joined the Young Lawyers Committee and Litigation Committee in hosting the AABANY Annual Picnic in Central Park.

The SOC began recruiting Fall Conference volunteers over the summer and ultimately managed 40 volunteer positions for AABANY’s Fall Conference on September 23 at Fordham University School of Law. Volunteers assisted with registration, CLE certificates, logistics and staffing support, photography, as well as a variety of tasks in preparation for the conference the evening prior. The SOC organized two panels, entitled “How to get Jobs in Non-traditional Ways,” where students received advice and tips on finding jobs, networking, and building relationships, and “Tomorrow’s Lawyer: Evolving Legal and Technological Landscape.”

The SOC organized and participated in “Roadshow” Outreach Events at various law schools during the Fall 2017 semester. On September 13, the SOC presented to students at Cardozo Law and Brooklyn Law. On September 14, the SOC presented to students at Fordham. On October 12, the SOC organized a roadshow to Albany Law School followed by a networking event with local APA lawyers. In the Spring, the SOC plans to continue its outreach efforts with other law schools.

On October 19, 2017, the SOC worked with NYU APALSA in hosting a resume workshop, pairing practicing attorneys with law students. The SOC plans to host a second resume workshop in the Spring.

On November 7, 2017, the SOC and Cardozo APALSA hosted a professional development and networking workshop led by legal recruiter Katherine Loanzon from Parker + Lynch Legal and Executive Director Yang Chen from his own networking experience. The workshop was interactive and engaged students in controlled scenarios to help build skills and comfort with networking.

In 2018, the SOC looks forward to providing APA law students in the tri-state region with new, informative, and practical career development programs, and volunteer and networking opportunities.

Volunteers at the 10th Annual Winetasting came from far and wide to make the evening a success.
This year marked a period of unprecedented growth as the Tax Committee expanded its growing list of activities. This year’s highlights included a Career Panel at the New York University School of Law, Tax Club Dinners, and robust CLE panel discussions, in addition to the ongoing networking events hosted by the Committee.

In 2017, the Tax Committee hosted several Tax Club Dinners, which have quickly become one of the Committee’s signature events. On May 31, 2017, Shiukay Hung (Counsel, Morrison & Foerster LLP), Libin Zhang (Partner, Roberts & Holland LLP), and JoonBeom Pae (Counsel, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP) held a Tax Club Dinner at Tang Pavilion and led a group discussion of the controversial Destination-Based Cash Flow Tax and Corporate Tax Reform. On August 1, 2017, Rich Williams (Partner, Dentons) and Shiukay Hung hosted a Tax Club Dinner and discussed Real Estate Tax Reform and tax issues relating to Bitcoin, Blockchain & Initial Coin Offerings. On October 19, 2017, Shiukay Hung and Rich Williams hosted a Tax Club Dinner and led a lively group discussion on the House Republicans’ newly released Tax Plan. These Tax Club Dinners were well attended and provided both newcomers and members of the Tax Committee an opportunity to network while obtaining important information on key tax updates.

On September 8, 2017, the Tax Committee hosted its own CLE panel at the NAPABA Northeast Regional Conference in Philadelphia. The topic was “Who Wins (and Loses) Under the Trump Administration’s Tax Policy,” and the discussion focused on key aspects of Republican tax reform proposals in the areas of international, federal, and state and local taxation. The panel included guest speaker Scott Sebastian (MassMutual Financial Group) and Tax Committee co-chairs JoonBeom Pae and Rich Williams. Tax Committee Co-Chair Sahang-Hee Hahn (MassMutual Financial Group) moderated the discussion.

On September 23, 2017, the Tax Committee hosted a CLE panel at the AABANY Fall Conference. This year’s topic was “The Melting Impot: The Intersection Between Immigration and Tax,” and the discussion focused on key tax considerations for United States immigrants or other taxpayers with limited English proficiency. The panel included guest speakers Eunkyong Choi (NYC’s Advocate), Frank Agostino (Agostino & Associates PC), Brenda Stuart-Luke (Internal Revenue Service), and Darol Tucker (Office of the National Taxpayer Advocate). Tax Committee member Rebecca Ulich-Balinskas (Morrison & Foerster LLP) served as the program chair and moderator.

The Tax Committee also continued to host social events for the benefit of its members. On March 31, 2017, the Tax Committee held its Kick-Off Dinner at Landmarc (Time Warner Center), and those who attended enjoyed an evening of mingling.
Tax Committee

merriment, and delicious pasta. On September 26, 2017, Tax Committee member Brian Hamano (Gibson Dunn) organized a networking event co-sponsored by the Committee and NYC Office of Taxpayer Advocate which was held at his firm’s New York office, and attended by Judge Juan F. Vasquez (U.S. Tax Court) and a diverse group of tax practitioners.

On January 25, 2018, the Tax Committee hosted a Career Tax Panel at the New York University School of Law. The discussion, entitled “Interview Tips over Sushi Lunch with Tax Professionals,” focused on how to best prepare for a tax job interview. Tax professionals from law firms and accounting firms invested their time and talents to improve the interviewing skills of ambitious students seeking to further advance their own careers in tax.

This year has been one of significant progress for the Tax Committee. We look forward to further expanding the scope of our events and membership in the coming year!
Women’s Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Karen Shen
Yan Sin

The Women’s Committee strives to foster the advancement of women in the law and to organize programs geared toward the APA female attorney. The Committee aims to develop and present throughout the year career and practice development-related programs that cover a variety of practice areas and legal topics. The Committee also seeks to provide a forum for professional and social networking both within and outside of AABANY through unique networking events.

This past year, the Women’s Committee hosted monthly breakfast meetings at Urban Space. The monthly standing meetings fostered a sense of community for Committee members and potential members. It was a great opportunity to introduce potential members to the Women’s Committee and AABANY at large. Over coffee and croissants, our members bonded over job experiences, created elevator pitches, learned of upcoming events, and shared their stories from working to going to law school to interning at a firm or agency.

On August 8, 2017, we organized a court visit with the Hon. Pamela K. Chen, United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of New York. Judge Chen discussed her upbringing in an immigrant family, her career in the Justice Department and how she became a federal court judge. She went over a real fact pattern with us so we would get a taste of the type of cases she saw. Afterwards, we observed oral argument and sentencing in some cases.

For the Fall Conference, the Women’s Committee with Jane Chuang and Ligee Gu organized the two-part program “Rainmaking for Women Attorneys – How to Get Business and Take Charge of Your Destiny.” Moderated by Ms. Chuang, the first part of the program consisted of a panel of esteemed women lawyers who shared their thoughts and experiences on business development. The second part of the program was a break-out session in which the panelists guided attendees in small groups on how to develop their own individual business plan strategies and business development activity checklists. Attendees learned effective strategies for business development and came away with a tailored action plan to jumpstart their client base.

Building on the momentum and great turnout of the “Rainmaking for Women Attorneys” program at the Fall Conference, the Women’s Committee with Ms. Chuang and Ms. Gu followed up with

Client relationships are complicated. The Women’s Committee Fall Conference panel asked how gender weighs in.

This year, the Women’s Committee took a deep dive into analyzing what practices make for a good businesswoman.

Judge Pamela Chen welcomed us to her chambers on the morning of August 8, 2017.
Women’s Committee

“Women Rainmakers: Creating and Cultivating (Potential) Successful Client Relationships” on November 14, 2017. Ms. Chuang hosted and moderated a panel that featured another distinguished slate of women lawyers who shared how they cultivated their own networks and established business relationships over time. Attendees learned practical tips on building networks, from making the initial contact to maintaining the relationship.

To wrap up the year, we organized a court visit with Hon. Randall T. Eng, who was the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division, 2nd Department, Supreme Court of the State of New York, who has since retired.

We look forward to developing more events and seeing you in 2018!
Young Lawyers Committee

Committee Co-Chairs
Ona Lu
Tiffany Miao
Albert Suh

The AABANY Young Lawyers Committee focuses on the concerns of lawyers admitted to practice ten years or less but is open to all lawyers and law students. Activities include networking receptions, panel discussions and CLE courses of interest to newly-admitted attorneys.

AABANY members enjoyed food, friends, and fine weather at the AABANY Annual Picnic on Sunday, August 6th. Dumplings and banh mi sandwiches were served, and friends and family both young and old took advantage of a beautiful day in Central Park. Whether lounging on picnic blankets, catching up with old friends, meeting new faces, or watching over the kids, the picnic was a relaxing way to cap the summer for everyone.

On Tuesday, June 8th, AABANY’s Young Lawyers Committee participated in a Battle of the Bars: Trivia Night, along with thirteen other bar associations in the New York metropolitan area. In a spirited night of pub trivia, we are proud to announce that AABANY came in third place in the competition. As a prize for this victorious win, a donation was made to a legal charity of AABANY’s choice — the Don H. Liu Scholars Program. We are extremely proud of our team effort and thank all the members of AABANY team that night. Congratulations to LeGal for finishing first and the Brooklyn Bar for winning second place!

As a part of the Young Lawyers Committee’s Work-Life-Balance initiative, members gathered on December 4, 2017 for a relaxing post-work yoga class at the Zo Lounge in Rockefeller Plaza. With the cold weather, year-end stresses, and holiday planning in mind, the yoga instructor curated a class with physically restorative poses and mindful meditation. After class, members continued to nourish their bodies and minds with a vegan dinner at byChloe. For many members this was their first yoga class or first time trying vegan food!

The YLC’s upcoming events include a Spin Fundraiser at Swerve Fitness and a Committee Dinner.

AABANY’s YLC battled it out at Trivia Night on June 8, 2017.

The YLC strives to help its members achieve work-life balance. Physical and mental health are crucial components.
Mentorship Program

Committee Co-Chairs
Shruti Chopra
Ed Chen
David Sohn

The Mentorship Program was initiated in response to a demand for a more formalized program after a long history of AABANY members engaging in informal mentoring relationships. Currently, there are over 100 mentors and mentees participating in the program.

The mission of the program is to connect mentors with mentees and provide them with the structure and opportunities to support professional growth and development. When matching mentors with mentees, the program focuses on personal interests and hobbies, in addition to practice areas, to facilitate long-lasting relationships that are compatible both personally and professionally. Paired-up mentors and mentees meet on their own as well as at a variety of AABANY events.

The Mentorship Program was delighted to announce Baker & McKenzie LLP’s gracious and generous support of AABANY as exclusive sponsor of the 2017 Mentorship Program.

On November 15, 2016, the Mentorship Program launched the 2016-2017 program at a reception hosted by Baker & McKenzie at its offices in Midtown Manhattan overlooking the New York Public Library and Bryant Park. Over 70 mentors and mentees, as well as attorneys from Baker & McKenzie’s New York City office, attended the event, providing an opportunity for participants and attorneys to meet and introduce each other.

Baker & McKenzie continued hosting events for the Mentorship Program on April 18, 2017 and on June 29, 2017. These events were to provide a setting for mentors and mentees to meet together and to network and deepen the mentorship bond.

As 2017 came to an end, the Mentorship Program is planning ahead for 2018 and looking to add additional events, including networking and panel discussions. The 2018 Mentorship Program is expected to launch in March 2018.

For the upcoming year, the Mentorship Program will continue to organize networking events and other opportunities to support its participants’ professional growth and advancement. Moreover, it will be developing guidelines to help foster meaningful and rewarding mentoring relationships.

Thank you to Baker & McKenzie for their sponsorship of the Mentorship Program this year.
AABANY Advocate
Produced by the Newsletter Committee

Annual Dinner 2017

- Breaking Barriers: Kin Ng, First APA to Lead Major Trial Bureau in NYC Prosecutors’ Office
- Practicing Immigration Law in the Age of Trump
- Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the U.S. Executive Order: What It Means for the Crimmigration Lawyer
- Immigration Executive Orders Signed in January 2017
- The Day-to-Day Immigration Practice Under Trump
- Letter from Outgoing President Susan Shin
- Letter from Incoming President Dwight Yoo
- 2017 AABANY Law Firm Diversity Award Winner Spotlight: White & Case

Spring 2017

- Fireside Chat with Joon Kim, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York
- Sponsor Spotlight: Kobre & Kim
- Letter from President Dwight S. Yoo
- AABANY Participates in Inaugural New York Diversity Forum
- AABANY Celebrates 2017 Annual Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street

Fall 2017

- Interview with Hon. Randall T. Eng, Recipient of the 2017 Norman Lau Kee Trailblazer Award
- Sponsor Spotlight: Baker McKenzie LLP
- New York Law Journal Distinguished Leadership Honoree Andy Hahn
- Letter from AABANY President Dwight Yoo
- Practitioner Update on Changes to USCIS Procedures
- Perspectives on A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law
In August 2017, we bid farewell to AABANY Program Associate Simone Nguyen. After more than three years in that role, Simone proved herself to be an invaluable and indispensable member of the AABANY family, contributing greatly to our growth and development as one of the leading bar associations in New York. Her absence has been felt by our Board Officers and Directors, Committee Chairs, staff, and members, many of whom had grown accustomed to her sunny disposition and constant willingness to be helpful and supportive at many of our events, large and small. AABANY’s loss is Los Angeles’s gain. Although she is now on the other side of the country, she kindly agreed to help us put together the 2017 Year End Report. She will always be a welcome member in the AABANY Tribe.

AABANY thanks its Legal Interns for all their able and much appreciated assistance during 2017.

- Jason Cheung (Winter-Spring 2017)
- Kevin Liu (Summer 2017)
- Quentin Wong (Summer 2017)
- August Gweon (Summer-Fall 2017)
- Josh Gelinas (Fall 2017)
- Nikita Datta (Fall 2017)
Bar Association Partners

American Bar Association
Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey
Chinese Business Lawyers Association
Federal Bar Association
Filipino American Lawyers Association of New York
Hispanic National Bar Association
Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York
LGBT Bar Association of New York
Metropolitan Black Bar Association
Muslim Bar Association of New York
Nassau County Bar Association
Network of Bar Leaders
New York City Bar Association
New York County Lawyers Association
New York State Bar Association
South Asian Bar Association of New York

In Memoriam

AABANY mourns the loss of its esteemed members:

Norman Lau Kee (1927-2017)

Annual Dinner
2018

Serving Our Community, Advancing Our Profession

February 28, 2018

Cipriani Wall Street
55 Wall Street