



**Asian American
Bar Association
of New York**

AABANY Year-End Report for 2011

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Asian American Bar Association of New York

AABANY Year-End Report for 2011

January 24, 2012

Introduction

AABANY's year begins on February 1 and ends on January 31. As we approach the end of another year, AABANY looks back on a highly productive and fruitful year

AABANY's membership numbers have grown. In 2011, we count nearly 800 active members with an additional 700 on our mailing list so that AABANY regularly reaches out directly to more than 1500 members and subscribers.

The theme for 2011 was "Get Connected @ AABANY" as AABANY engaged in various initiatives to highlight the importance of networking and showed its members and the APA legal community the ways in which joining AABANY furthers the development of a professional network. AABANY created a series of videos spotlighting several current members who got connected with opportunities through their involvement with AABANY. As part of the "Get Connected" campaign, AABANY vastly expanded its digital presence and outreach by actively using social media. AABANY has been prominent on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube. Over the summer, AABANY officially launched its blog, We Blog @ AABANY. Visit us at <http://blog.aabany.org/>

AABANY's biggest event remains the Annual Dinner, and as described below, we had one of our biggest last February. Other flagship events include the Annual Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception organized by the Corporate Counsel and In-House Counsel Committees and the Fall Conference. The latter saw participation by more than 200 attendees and included fifteen excellent programs presented by AABANY's committees.

2011 saw the launch of two new committees: the Academic Committee, dedicated to promoting and advancing the interests of APAs in the legal academy and APA lawyers who seek to pursue that path; and the Intellectual Property Committee, launched to serve APA lawyers who practice in that specialty.

Three committees were re-named to better describe their work: the Corporate Counsel Committee became the In-House Counsel Committee, the Community Practice Committee became the Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee and the Pro Bono Committee became the Pro Bono and Community Service Committee.

Through the work of AABANY's committees, the association was able to offer 26 free or low-cost CLE courses for members and the legal community in the New York City area. More than 60 CLE credits, including 7 credits in ethics, were provided through these programs. In addition, AABANY publicized and promoted numerous co-sponsored CLE events or CLE events organized by

other bar associations and groups to expand the opportunities for AABANY's members and constituents to obtain CLE credits throughout the year.

Other important initiatives launched by AABANY in 2011 include a formal Mentorship Program and the *AABANY Law Review*, a scholarly journal focusing on legal issues affecting APAs and a platform for legal scholarship by APA lawyers and law professors. During 2011, AABANY laid the groundwork for the creation of a legal referral service aimed at serving the needs of the APA community.

AABANY continued its alliance with MinKwon Center to help provide legal assistance and support to the APA community through free legal clinics and other programs organized by MinKwon Center. MinKwon Center also spearheaded the creation of ACCORD, the Asian American Community Coalition on Re-districting and Democracy, to give the APA community a greater voice in the re-districting debate, and AABANY was a founding member of the coalition.

In 2011, AABANY worked with the Asian American Arts Alliance (a4) on a number of events, as described further below, and looks forward to continuing to work with a4 in the future.

AABANY has enjoyed fruitful relationships and collaborations with many diverse and mainstream bars, including the South Asian Bar Association of New York, the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, the Network of Bar Leaders, the New York County Lawyers' Association, the New York State Bar Association and the New York City Bar. AABANY continues to work with the Joint Minority Bar Judicial Internship Program to match law students of color with judicial clerkships. AABANY also remains active with judicial screening panels, including the New York County Democratic Party's judicial screening panel and the joint minority bar association judicial screening panel.

In addition to the many AABANY leaders and members who spoke at AABANY's many CLE programs throughout the year, several AABANY leaders and members were invited to speak at events hosted by other bar associations and groups, as described more fully below, including Vincent Chang, the Hon. Denny Chin, Yang Chen, James Chou, Sylvia Chin, the Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan, John Flock, Parkin Lee, Linda Lin, Kin Ng, the Hon. Peter Tom, Vinoo Varghese, and Pauline Yeung-Ha.

Many AABANY members and leaders, past and present, were mentioned in the news and trade publications, including: the Hon. Denny Chin (two *New York Times* articles); the Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan; the Hon. Toko Serita; AABANY Director Vinoo Varghese; Intellectual Property Committee Co-Chair Jane Chuang and her partner, Michael Yim, among others. To read these articles, go to AABANY website (www.aabany.org), point to the "News" menu item and on the drop-down menu, click on "In the News."

Finally, 2011 proved to be a banner year for recognizing AABANY members and leaders. We congratulate:

- Vincent Chang, New York City Bar Diversity Champion Award

- Andrew Hahn, New York City Bar Diversity Champion Award
- Vinny Lee, Super Lawyer Rising Star (Intellectual Property Litigation)
- Bobby Liu, NAPABA Best Under 40
- Don Liu, NAPABA Trailblazer Award
- William Wang, Brooklyn Law School APALSA Alumni Award
- Michael Yap, Corporate Leadership Award, APALA-NJ, and Rutgers APALSA Leadership Award
- Pauline Yeung-Ha, Super Lawyer Rising Star (Elder Law), New York Magazine's Best Lawyer 2012 and NAPABA Best Under 40
- Rosemary Yu, named Co-Director of the Immigrant Affairs Program at the New York County District Attorney's office

We also congratulate Justice Jeffrey Oing on being appointed to the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court. Justice Oing is the first Asian American to serve in this esteemed position. Congratulations to the Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan on being elected President of the NAPABA Judicial Council. Congratulations to Karen Wu, Pro Bono and Community Service Committee Co-Chair, for being recognized as NYSBA Outstanding Young Lawyer. She will receive her award at the NYSBA Annual Meeting being held in New York at the end of January. Congratulations also to Parkin Lee who will be honored with a Justice in Action Award at the AALDEF Gala to be held on February 8.

Below is a chronological listing of AABANY events for the past year, followed by reports from AABANY's committees which contain information about other events they organized or presented.

February

On February 7, AABANY, along with SABANY, the LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York (LeGaL) and numerous other LGBT community groups and organizations co-sponsored an LGBT Asian American/South Asian Lawyers Presentation at Sullivan & Cromwell. More than 50 attorneys attended and Ben de Guzman from the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance traveled from Washington, DC to share insights into the current political climate. Glenn Magpantay, AALDEF Staff Attorney and former AABANY Director, helped organize the event.

On February 23, AABANY held its 22nd Annual Banquet at Cipriani Wall Street. AABANY exceeded last year's numbers with approximately 560 attorneys, judges, prosecutors, in-house counsel and dignitaries in attendance. AABANY honored Timothy B. Goodell, General Counsel of Hess Corporation, Irene Chiu, Managing Director and General Counsel of NAL Pharmaceuticals Ltd, and Diane Yu, Chief of Staff and Deputy to the President of New York University, and a former Board member of AABANY. Mr. Goodell gave the keynote speech. David Lat of Above the Law served as the Master of Ceremonies while comedian Dan Nainan provided the entertainment. AABANY also

awarded the AABANY MVP Award to Recording Secretary William Ng. Another silent auction was held successfully and many of the attendees stayed for the after-party held at Cipriani.

March

On March 8, the Hon. Denny Chin gave the Korematsu Lecture at the New York University School of Law to discuss major trials in APA history, including the Yasui, Vincent Chin, Massie and Tokyo Rose trials. Past lecturers include Hon. Doris Ling Cohan, Hon. Kiyoo Matsumoto and the AABANY team that re-enacted the Trial of Minoru Yasui.

Also on March 23, AABANY co-sponsored a CLE program on Summary Jury Trials with the Network of Bar Leaders, the Metropolitan Black Bar Association and the Muslim Bar Association of New York. Hon. Lucindo Suarez, Statewide Coordinating Judge for Summary Jury Trials, presented the program.

On March 26, AABANY and the MinKwon Center teamed up to present a free legal clinic to the Asian American community. Immigration, labor, housing and foreclosure were among the issues for which legal expertise was given. Many attorneys volunteered their time to assist members of the community with their legal questions.

On March 29, AABANY together with numerous other APA and minority community associations hosted a fundraiser at Gstaad to benefit the victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. We raised \$4000 for the Red Cross and Japan Society to provide disaster relief.

April

On April 14, Parkin Lee, AABANY member and Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary of the Rockefeller Group International, Inc., spoke on the panel of the NYSBA's Smooth Moves program at the Stanley Kaplan Penthouse. This free CLE event, "Creating a Professional Home Where All Can Thrive: Diversity Best Practices in the Legal Profession," provided career strategy advice for attorneys of color.

Also on April 14, AABANY Director and past Membership Secretary, Will Wang received the alumni award at the 22nd Annual Alumni Dinner of the Brooklyn Law School APALSA. Sharon Hom, Executive Director of Human Rights in China, and Kevin Kim, the first Asian American candidate to win a Democratic primary in District 19 covering Northeastern Queens, also spoke at the dinner.

On April 16, AABANY co-sponsored a Citizenship Clinic with MinKwon Center in Flushing, Queens, to help Asian Americans in the community with their questions about the process of applying for citizenship.

On April 20, AABANY co-sponsored the launch reception for the 2011 Joint Minority Bar Judicial Internship Program (JMB JIP) at Kaye Scholer with numerous other APA and minority bar associations. AABANY President Linda Lin introduced the speaker, Hon. Denny Chin, who shared some thoughts on clerking for judges from state and Federal courts in New York. Kaye Scholer Partner

and former AABANY Director Ben Hsing and SABANY President Rahul Agarwal also spoke about the program.

On April 26, Judge Denny Chin delivered the 48th Annual Charles Evan Hughes Memorial Lecture at the NYCLA. The Lecture is named after former Supreme Court Justice Charles Evan Hughes, one of the founders of Hughes Hubbard & Reed, and is sponsored by that firm. Judge Chin's presentation on "My Path to the Bench" touched upon his general observations about adjudicating federal cases. In attendance were Parkin Lee, Gordon Eng, Vincent Chang, and, Judge Chin's wife, Kathy Chin.

At the end of April, AABANY began using an e-mail delivery service that allowed it to send out its weekly announcements with graphics and links back to content on the website. The service also allowed AABANY to track open rates and click rates, to get a better sense of which items in the e-mails were of interest to the recipients.

May

May started with the New York Law Journal publishing AABANY President Linda Lin's article "The Asian American Experience" in the Law Day edition. President Lin wrote eloquently about the continuing vitality of the rule of law to Asian Americans, a topic appropriate not just for Law Day but for APA Heritage Month.

On May 3, AABANY took part in Community Law Day at Foley Square to educate the public about the law and how they can obtain access to justice and legal assistance through referral services, volunteer attorney programs and other means.

On May 5, AABANY members attended the program, "To Be Seen and Heard: The Emergence of an Asian American Political Voice in New York" at the SUNY Global Center, featuring a panel discussion about Asian American political engagement and participation in New York. Executive Director Yang Chen, who chairs the Binghamton University Asian and Asian American Alumni Council, organized the panel. AABANY co-founder Rocky Chin moderated the program, which included Prof. Lisa Yun, co-founder of the Asian and Asian American Studies program at Binghamton; Margaret Chin, City Council Member; Chung Seto, senior advisor to Comptroller John Liu; State Assemblywoman Grace Meng, an AABANY member; and City Council 2009 candidate Kevin Kim, also an AABANY member. Comptroller Liu presented closing remarks at the end of the panel discussion.

On May 8, AABANY joined KALAGNY and numerous other APA community groups and organizations for an afternoon of music, performances and fun at the 32nd Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Festival, also known as the CAPA (Coalition for Asian Pacific Americans) Festival at Union Square.

On May 13, Michael Yap, former AABANY Board member and Chief Legal Officer of International Investments, Prudential, received the Corporate Leadership Award at the APALA-NJ

Annual Dinner. AABANY leaders, including Immediate Past President James Chou, Director Margaret Ling and Executive Director Yang Chen, were in attendance.

On May 17, AABANY, represented by Executive Director Yang Chen, appeared at a press conference with seventeen other bar associations at the New York City Bar to announce their support for legislation to recognize same-sex marriage in New York. Also on hand were the Presidents of the New York City Bar Association, Samuel W. Seymour, and the New York State Bar Association, Stephen P. Younger, and leaders of many other bar groups. A month later, on June 24, the New York State legislature passed the Marriage Equality Act which was signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, taking effect on July 24.

In May, the New York City Bar Association announced the winners of the Sixth Annual Diversity Champion Award. The recipients included: Sheila S. Boston, Chair of the Diversity Committee at Kaye Scholer LLP, S. Jeanine Conley, partner at Baker & Hostetler LLP and President of the Association of Black Women Attorneys, Vincent T. Chang, partner at Wollmuth Maher & Deutsch LLP and former AABANY President, and Andrew T. Hahn, Sr., partner at Duane Morris LLP and former AABANY and NAPABA President. It was the first time in the history of this award that any Asian Americans were selected. Executive Director Yang Chen introduced Vince Chang and the Hon. Denny Chin introduced Andy Hahn.

On May 25, AALFNY and AABANY co-sponsored a Spring Reception at Debevoise & Plimpton to recognize the recipients of the AALFNY Community Service Scholarship: Prathiba Desai from CUNY Law School, for her work with the Somaly Mam Foundation on developing a manual for attorneys to use in assisting sex-trafficking victims in civil litigation, and Sapna Patel from Boston University School of Law, for her work with MFY Legal Services.

June

The Hon. Peter Tom was the invited speaker for the APA Heritage Month Celebration held on June 2 at the offices of the NYC Law Department. AABANY and SABANY co-sponsored the event. Judge Tom, a trailblazer among Asian American lawyers, was the first Asian American judge elected to the New York State Supreme Court from New York County and was the first Asian American appointed to the Appellate Division.

CAPABA, the Connecticut NAPABA Affiliate, hosted the Northeast Regional Conference from June 3-4 in Stamford, Connecticut. AABANY members performed the Tokyo Rose trial re-enactment led by the Hon. Denny Chin. Judge Chin gave a keynote speech on his judicial career, his ascent to the Second Circuit and what it has meant for the APA community. Parkin Lee, General Counsel at the Rockefeller Group, also gave a keynote speech and shared his lessons gleaned from three decades in practice.

On June 7, the New York City Bar's Foreign and Comparative Law Committee co-sponsored with AABANY a reception for 46 judges and scholars visiting from China. The event was organized by the Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan. Judge Ling-Cohan also hosts the judges during their month-long stay

in New York, educating them about the United States legal system and jurisprudence. The reception was covered by the *New York Law Journal* and the Chinese press.

On June 10, with help from AABANY Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee co-chair Timothy Wong, AABANY took part in the 8th Annual Caren Aronowitz Unity in Diversity Celebration at the New York State Supreme Court Rotunda. Numerous court and bar organizations provided food and performances showcasing the many diverse cultures that make up New York.

On June 16, AABANY co-sponsored with the Network of Bar Leaders a CLE program on the Disciplinary Process and How to Defend Against a Disciplinary Complaint. The Network of Bar Leaders is a consortium of nearly fifty bar groups in New York, including many diverse and specialty bars.

July

July began on a sad note with news of the passing of the Hon. Oymin Chin. She had been a Housing Court judge since 1998 and died on July 1 at the age of 57. AABANY honored the request of Judge Chin's family to make a donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

On July 18, President Linda Lin sent a letter on behalf of AABANY to the 2011 Commission on Judicial Compensation urging an immediate pay increase for New York State court judges together with future indexed cost-of-living adjustments. AABANY echoed the position of other bar associations, including NYCLA and NYSBA.

On July 21, AABANY partnered with the Asian American Arts Alliance (a4) for a happy hour at Angels and Kings. Approximately 60 artists and lawyers filled the place, and the event included live performances by members of a4. Liza Sohn from AABANY and Executive Director Andrea Louie from a4 organized the evening.

August

In August, AABANY officially launched the AABANY Blog, We Blog@AABANY, to provide another outlet for outreach to our members and the general public. AABANY also uses Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube, to communicate with members and the larger community.

On August 3, AABANY joined several other minority bar associations at the NYSBA Committee on Diversity and Inclusion's first Minority Law Student Conference Day at Fordham Law School. The conference included programs on what law students can do with their law degree, resume writing and interviewing skills and dressing for success.

On August 11, NAPABA's Entertainment Law Committee together with the Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF) presented a seminar on distributing a completed film via digital distribution channels such as on-line streaming and video-on-demand. Among the panelists was Theo Cheng, co-chair of AABANY's Judiciary Committee and an active member of the Intellectual Property Committee.

AABANY was one of the Community Partners for the screening of “The Learning” at the Asian American International Film Festival, now in its 34th year. The film is about four Filipino women who leave their families and homes behind to teach in the inner city schools of Baltimore.

AABANY, together with numerous other minority bar associations interviewed judicial candidates for Civil Court and Supreme Court in Kings County and New York County and issued ratings for each candidate that appeared before the panel. AABANY was privileged to carry out the important work of this screening panel.

September

On September 17, AABANY participated in the MinKwon Citizenship Clinic in Queens. It was a great opportunity for attorneys to give back to the community by providing basic legal consultation and assistance with citizenship applications.

Also on September 17, AABANY held a successful Second Annual Fall Conference at Skadden with more than 210 attendees. AABANY’s many committees contributed 15 programs, providing CLE credits in various areas. During the luncheon, Sharon Hom, Executive Director of Human Rights in China, delivered inspiring remarks about Asian American attorneys and attorneys in China, and the challenges that both continue to face. President Linda Lin announced the launch of the AABANY Law Review and introduced its first Editor-in-Chief Jen Yue Connor Yim. Many attendees stayed for the cocktail reception, where James Hong, Civic Participation Coordinator at MinKwon Center, spoke about the work that MinKwon has been doing to mobilize the Asian American community in New York to engage in the redistricting process. Also during the reception, AABANY officially kicked off its inaugural Mentorship Program. Julie Kwon, Mentorship Program Coordinator, introduced the program and invited the first class of AABANY mentors and mentees to meet each other in person for the first time.

On September 20, Executive Director Yang Chen spoke on the state of diversity in the legal profession in New York at the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession (IILP) Symposium at Skadden. He also spoke in the opening panel of the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals Fall Conference at White & Case on September 27 on targeted initiatives to promote diversity in law departments and law firms.

October

AABANY’s basketball team, formed by Communications Committee co-chairs Will Wang and Will Ng, won its division in Asian recreational league FastbreakNYC.

On October 6, Michael Yap, past Board member of AABANY and Chief Legal Officer of Prudential’s International Investments business, was honored at the Rutgers APALSA’s Mela, a dinner to celebrate Asian American achievements in the legal profession.

AABANY member and 2010 honoree Peggy Kuo was featured extensively in the first episode of the five-part PBS series “Women, War & Peace” talking about the groundbreaking work she did as a prosecutor in the Hague War Crimes Tribunal.

On October 4, AABANY co-sponsored with the Network of Bar Leaders and the Metropolitan Black Bar Association a free CLE program on Attorneys’ Liens and Legal Fee Enforcement.

On October 12, AABANY and the New York City Bar Committee on Minorities in the Profession co-sponsored a seminar entitled: “Minority Attorneys: You’re An Up and Coming Talent - Be More, Do More and Discover More By Reaching For The Leader Within You.” Past AABANY President and 2011 City Bar Diversity Champion Award recipient Vincent Chang was a panelist.

On October 29, AABANY and MinKwon Center co-sponsored a free legal clinic for the Asian American community. Held in MinKwon’s offices in Queens, the community was able to receive free legal advice in various areas including immigration, housing, foreclosure and labor.

During October, AABANY leaders spoke at various bar association programs:

- On October 11, Vinoo Varghese, AABANY Board member, moderated a CLE program on Accounting for Lawyers at NYCLA.
- On October 12, past Prosecutors’ Committee Chair Kin Ng, spoke at NYCLA’s public forum on Multi-Lingual Lawyering.
- On October 13, Executive Director, Yang Chen, spoke at the New York State Conference of Bar Leaders Fall 2011 Workshop: “Leading Lawyers,” in the program on “Social Networking Part IV - Digging Deeper.”
- On October 19, Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee Co-Chair Pauline Yeung-Ha spoke at NYSBA Trust and Estates Law Section Diversity Committee’s program “Breaking it Down: the Nuts and Bolts of Estate Planning and Administration” on “How to Administer the Estate.”

Pauline Yeung-Ha, partner at Grimaldi & Yeung, was recognized as Super Lawyer Rising Star 2011 (the only elder law attorney to receive this recognition in New York) and New York Magazine’s Best Lawyer 2012.

November

AABANY was well-represented at NAPABA’s 23rd Annual National Convention: Sustainability, which took place in Atlanta, Georgia at the Omni CNN Center from November 17 through 20. Judge Denny Chin, past AABANY President, was the keynote speaker at the installation banquet and he shared his experiences from his fifteen years on the bench as a United States District Court Judge. NAPABA presented its Best Under 40 award recipients, where AABANY was represented by Director Bobby Liu, General Counsel at MD Sass, and Pauline Yeung-Ha, Co-Chair Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee and partner at Grimaldi & Yeung. Don Liu, General Counsel of Xerox and AABANY member, was honored with NAPABA’s prestigious Trailblazer Award.

As a luncheon speaker at the Bar Leadership Institute held on the first day of the NAPABA Convention, AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen spoke about AABANY's experience as the first affiliate with a full-time executive director. Also at the Convention, Judge Chin led the AABANY re-enactment team in a program entitled "Race, Color and Citizenship: Ozawa and Thind," which re-created cases in which the Supreme Court upheld the denial of naturalization to two Asian Americans on the basis of race. The cast was comprised of AABANY members and directors: Vincent Chang, Yang Chen, Francis Chin, Lauren Lee, Susan Moon, Esther Nguonly, Liza Sohn, Vinoo Varghese, Jessica Wong and Michael Yap. Several AABANY members appeared as panelists in various CLE programs during the Convention, including Sylvia Fung Chin, John Flock, Parkin Lee, and Hon. Doris Ling Cohan.

At the Convention, New York State Supreme Court Justice, the Hon. Doris Ling-Cohan, was elected President of the NAPABA Judicial Council. Formed in 1996, the Judicial Council consists of APA judges and judicial officers, active and retired. The group seeks to encourage judicial service by APA attorneys across the country. As President, Judge Ling-Cohan will continue to advance the Council's mission.

December

Vincent Chang sat on a New York County Lawyers Association (NYCLA) panel at a public hearing on December 2 that addressed the impact of present and future budget cuts on the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. Chief Judge Loretta Preska of the SDNY and Chief Judge Carol Amon of the EDNY testified about the effect that budget cuts would have on public safety and the administration of justice.

On December 9, many AABANY members and friends gathered at Pranna for AABANY's Annual Holiday Party. They shared some holiday cheer over drinks and a delicious spread that included satays, beef sliders, lamb sliders, popcorn shrimp, edamame falafel and sweet potato fries.

On December 20, AABANY joined other diverse bar associations in a press release responding to public statements made about Hon. Evelyn LaPorte. Judge LaPorte was criticized for her handling of the arraignment of Lamont Pride in November 2011. Pride was later arrested for his alleged involvement in the shooting death of NYPD Officer Peter Figoski. The other bar associations that signed the press release are: Metropolitan Black Bar Association, Puerto Rican Bar Association, Nigerian Lawyers Association, South Asian Bar Association and Association of Black Women Attorneys. New York State Senator Eric Adams, of the 20th Senatorial District, in Brooklyn, NY also signed the press release.

January

On January 19, AABANY Director and past President James Chou spoke as a panelist in the program "Demystifying Judicial Screening Panels: How You Can Actively Participate in the Judicial Selection Process," held at the New York City Bar Association and co-sponsored by AABANY with several diverse and mainstream bar associations.

On January 20, AABANY organized a theater outing to see David Henry Hwang's latest play, *Chinglish*, about the perils and misadventures (often hilarious) of doing business in China when dealing with language and cultural barriers. Attendees not only got to enjoy a wonderful show; they got to network before the show with members of the New York chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) and enjoyed a post-show hangout with the cast at a bar right next to the theater.

Academic Committee Report

Chair: Elaine Chiu

The Academic Committee is one of the newest AABANY committees. Its mission is to serve AABANY members who are in the legal academy and to foster greater interaction between the legal academy and practicing attorneys.

The Committee's first event was a panel entitled "Blazing a Trail to the Legal Academy" at the Second Annual Fall Conference in September 2011. The panelists were an impressive group including Shane Dizon, Assistant Director of the Academic Success Program and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Hofstra University School of Law, Anjum Gupta, Assistant Professor of Law, Rutgers School of Law-Newark, Adil Haque, Associate Professor of Law, Rutgers School of Law-Newark and Alanna Rutherford, Adjunct Professor at University of Connecticut School of Law and Partner, Boies, Schiller & Flexner.

The Committee looks forward to planning more discussion groups involving legal academics and practicing attorneys in the coming year.

Audit and Finance Committee Report

Chair: Kevin Chu

According to AABANY's by-laws, the duties of the Audit and Finance 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.

Over the past year, the Audit and Finance Committee successfully drafted and implemented AABANY's Investment Policy Statement on June 14, 2011. The Investment Policy Statement's primary goals are to: (1) Define and assign the responsibilities of all involved parties with respect to AABANY's investments; (2) Establish a clear understanding for all involved parties of the investment goals and objectives of Reserve Funds assets; (3) Offer guidance and limitations to the Investment Manager regarding the investment of Reserve Funds assets; (4) Establish a basis for evaluating investment results; (5) Manage Operating Funds and Reserve Funds assets according to prudent standards as established in common trust law; and (6) Establish the relevant Investment Horizon for which the Reserve Funds assets will be managed.

During 2011, the Audit and Finance Committee also interviewed and retained William Skody, a CPA for nonprofits, as AABANY's tax accountant.

Communications Committee Report
Co-Chairs: William Ng and William Wang

The Communications Committee oversees all initiatives by AABANY to communicate with its members, constituents, the Asian Pacific American community and the community at large. It is responsible for issuing press releases and communications about important legal issues and developments that are relevant and of interest to its members, the Asian Pacific American community, and the general public. It also disseminates information about AABANY events and the achievements of AABANY members and others in the Asian Pacific American community.

The Communications Committee publishes the AABANY Advocate, a quarterly newsletter that highlights AABANY events and regularly profiles the work of judges, lawyers, community members, and AABANY's sponsors. The AABANY Advocate includes articles written by members about legal news, recent cases, and networking and career opportunities. In 2011, the AABANY Advocate profiled distinguished members such as Chanwoo Lee, dubbed "The 7 Train Lawyer," who maintains a criminal defense practice in Flushing, Chinatown, in addition to her many civic and bar association responsibilities.

In 2011, the Communication Committee created the association's "Get Connected @ AABANY" campaign, which emphasized AABANY's ability to "connect" members through networking, mentorship and outreach. The Committee posted short video interviews on its website of both lawyers and law students, who used the association's network to obtain legal internships and connect with other lawyers to succeed in their practice and career.

This year, the committee issued nine press releases to share significant news and achievements of AABANY and its members, such as, announcing the selection of former AABANY Presidents Andy T. Hahn and Vincent T. Chang, as the 2011 New York City Bar Diversity Champion Award Winners. The Committee also issued press releases in support of important legal issues, such as, President Linda Lin's letter to 2011 Commission on Judicial Compensation, recommending an immediate increase in judicial compensation for New York State judges and justices.

The committee aggressively increased its social media presence by sharing and promoting AABANY news and events via Facebook, Twitter (@aabany), LinkedIn, and Tumblr. The committee created, "We Blog @ AABANY," the association's blog, where AABANY bloggers wrote entries on recent legal news and posted information about local Asian Pacific American cultural and community events as well as sister bar association programs.

Finally, the committee created AABANY's first membership survey to obtain information about our members' demographics, legal practice, and program preferences. The survey, which was distributed to over 1,500 members and subscribers, also invited feedback on how AABANY could improve member benefits, services and communications.

The Communications Committee looks forward to another busy and successful year in 2012.

Corporate Law Committee

Co-Chairs: Mike F. Huang and P. Stephen Kim

The Corporate Law Committee consists of law firm attorneys who are interested in sharing their ideas and experience as law firm practitioners, with respect but not limited to issues facing Asian-Pacific American lawyers, through conferences, CLE classes and social networking events.

The Corporate Law Committee sponsored a number of highly successful events in 2011. First, the Corporate Law Committee, together with the In-House Counsel Committee, jointly co-sponsored the Fourth Annual Summer Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception for In-House Counsel and Attorneys on June 23, 2011 at the Aicon Gallery in downtown Manhattan. Nearly 100 in-house lawyers and law firm attorneys were in attendance, including in-house counsels from the New York Yankees, BBC Worldwide Americas, Autonomy Capital, Macquarie Funds Group, Graham Packaging Company, Taconic Capital Advisors, MD Sass, Xerox Corporation, Natixis North America and General Electric. The continued success of this event has made it one of AABANY's signature summer events for its members and sponsors.

The Corporate Law Committee worked together with the Pro Bono and Community Services Committee in organizing a highly successful CLE event on July 11, 2011 discussing various issues and considerations involved with establishing 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

Finally, the Corporate Law Committee, together with AABANY's executive director, continued its "law firm roadshow" where members of the Corporate Law Committee and AABANY's officers travel to, and met with, diversity committee members and other attorneys at the various New York City law firms. The law firm roadshow not only acts to help promote, awareness, membership and participation amongst attorneys at law firms, but also seeks to engage with AABANY's law firm sponsors to commence a dialogue regarding how AABANY, and the Corporate Law Committee, can continue to improve and strengthen its relationship with these attorneys.

In 2012, the Corporate Law Committee looks forward to continuing the success of past events, such as the Annual Summer Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception for In-House Counsel and Attorneys and participation in the Fall Conference. Additionally, we look forward to incorporating new members that would like to become an active part of the Corporate Law Committee to help build on our past success .

Government and Public Sector Committee

Co-Chairs: William Ng and Richard Tsai

AABANY's Government and Public Sector Committee presents programs geared to the concerns of APA lawyers working in the government and public sector, through CLE seminars, career panels, networking events, and other programs.

In April 2011, the Government and Public Sector Committee and the Prosecutors Committee presented a panel on "Life After Public Service (part 2)" at McCarter & English. The conference room was filled to capacity as the attendees listened and interacted with the panelists: James Cho, U.S. Attorney's Office, Civil Division, Eastern District of New York, Richard Chin, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), Dan Chu, New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board, and Carol Kanarek, a provider of career-related services to major law firms.

In June 2011, this committee and the Real Estate Committee presented a financial planning workshop for attorneys working in the government and public sector at Wells Fargo. Richard Tsai moderated a panel that included Nancy Zahzam, Director of Financial Aid at Brooklyn Law School, who spoke about loan forgiveness on Federal student loans; Jimmy Quan, Wells Fargo Financial Advisor, who spoke about saving, investing and general financial planning; and Chau Huynh, Private Mortgage Banker, Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, who spoke about buying a home. Margaret Ling, chair of the Real Estate Committee, gave practical tips about due diligence for the first time home buyer.

The Government and Public Sector Committee presented at the AABANY Fall Conference in September 2011 a CLE program on e-discovery issues of social media and cloud computing. Moderated by co-chairs William Ng and Richard Tsai, the panel included Nolan Goldberg, senior counsel at Proskauer and founding member of the litigation department's Electronic Discovery Task Force, and Mark Berman, a partner and Ganfer & Shore LLP. Nolan Goldberg has written and presented extensively on emerging issues and trends in both technology and law. Mark Berman is a regular columnist in the *New York Law Journal* addressing electronic discovery under New York State law, and is the Secretary of the E-Discovery Committee of the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association.

In 2012, Lillian Wan plans to join Richard Tsai as co-chair of the Government and Public Sector Committee. The Government and Public Sector Committee will continue to co-sponsor informative programs with other AABANY committees.

Immigration and Nationality Law Committee

Co-Chairs: Rio Guerrero and Tsui Yee

Our committee provides a forum for U.S. immigration law attorneys, and those interested in immigration law, to network professionally and socially. We deliver timely and valuable continuing legal education courses concerning fundamentals and/or changes in U.S. immigration law. We also promote the professional and ethical practice of U.S. immigration law in the community.

On January 27, 2011, our committee presented at the law firm of Clifford Chance, a Brown Bag Lunch Continuing Legal Education course devoted to hot topics in U.S. business immigration law – including EB-5 investor visas and immigration issues affecting Asian-Americans.

On March 24, five of AABANY's committees (Women's, Real Estate, Young Lawyers', Student Outreach and Immigration), along with the Society of Young Lawyer Entrepreneurs, co-sponsored a program on Jump Starting Your Legal Career to offer a broad perspective on how to navigate today's job market. This program was geared toward law students, recent graduates and those in transition, to help figure out their options in the current legal job market.

On September 17, 2011, during the AABANY Fall Conference, Committee Co-chair Rio Guerrero spoke on the panel Setting Up Shop: The Nuts and Bolts of Solo and Small Firm Practice.

Throughout the year, Committee Co-Chairs Rio Guerrero and Tsui Yee dedicated their time, effort and office resources toward the development of AABANY's Legal Referral Service. In addition, committee members pledged their commitment to LRS participation involving mentoring and pro bono case representation.

During the upcoming year, the Committee is already planning an EB-5 Investor "Green Card" CLE. Further, once AABANY secures its professional liability policy, the Committee intends to begin conducting regular immigration outreach and clinics.

In-House Counsel Committee

Co-chairs: Duane Morikawa and Neena Reddy

The In-House Counsel Committee (“IHCC”) consists of in-house counsel 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 with in-house counsel members. The IHCC has sponsored events such as CLE courses and networking events.

The IHCC held a kick off meeting on April 11, 2011 to introduce the new co-chairs, discuss the events planned for the year and meet existing and new committee members.

As in years past, the main event for the IHCC was the Fourth Annual Summer Wine-Tasting and Networking Reception for In-House Counsel and Attorneys on June 23, 2011, co-hosted by the IHCC and AABANY’s Corporate Law Committee (“CLC”) at the Aicon Gallery with the generous support of various law firms, as described above at p. 14. The attendees represented in-house counsel from over 34 corporations and other institutions and attorneys from 24 law firms. As in previous years, feedback regarding the event was enthusiastically positive, and current plans are to continue with this annual event.

The IHCC participated in the Second Annual AABANY Fall Conference on September 17, 2011 by sponsoring several CLE courses, including co-sponsoring with AABANY’s Young Lawyers Committee a panel on Transitioning from the law firm practice to in-house, co-sponsoring with AABANY’s Litigation Committee a panel on Privilege Concerns: In-House and In Practice, and sponsoring the General Counsel Roundtable. We are pleased to report the panel discussions were well-received and well-attended.

Intellectual Property Committee
Co-Chairs: Jane Chuang and Karen Lim

AABANY's Intellectual Property Committee ("IP Committee") seeks to promote the skills and knowledge of, and opportunities for, practicing and aspiring intellectual property lawyers in the New York area; to provide information to artists, authors, and inventors within the community about the protection and use of intellectual property; and to serve as a forum for U.S.-Asia intellectual property issues.

Following the success of the program, Hot Topics in IP Law: Forging Your Path as an IP Practitioner (featuring panelists Eugene Chang, Partner, Wilkie Farr & Gallagher; Ashima Dayal, Partner, Gilbert & Davis; and Jennifer Sim, Senior Corporate Counsel, Gap, Inc.) at AABANY's first Fall Conference in September 2010, co-chairs Karen Lim and Jane Chuang proposed the formation of an AABANY IP Committee.

On February 1, 2011, co-chairs Jane Chuang and Karen Lim spoke to New York area law students about careers in intellectual property at the Diversity in IP event hosted by New York Law School. The other panelists were Lynn Oberlander, General Counsel, The New Yorker; Nadja Webb, Vice President & Senior Counsel, Business & Legal Affairs, VH1; and Preston Young, Intellectual Property Law Department, IBM

On March 3, 2011, AABANY's IP Committee officially launched with a kick-off CLE presentation on Litigating IP Cases, featuring former AABANY President, Hon. Denny Chin.

On March 30, 2011, the IP Committee held its first meeting at Quinn Emmanuel, courtesy of committee member Eric Huang. Committee members began planning events for the year. Bobby Pierson, an associate at Fitzpatrick Cella, proposed the IP Skills Workshop series. The IP Committee voted to hold bi-monthly meetings.

On April 27, 2011, the IP Committee organized a panel discussion, IP 101 for Visual and Performing Artists, co-sponsored with the Asian American Alliance for the Arts (a4) and Asian American/Asian Research Institute (AAARI).

On May 18, 2011, the IP Committee presented the first event of its IP Skills Workshop Series. The topic was Trademark Registration.

On June 1, 2011, the IP Committee convened for its second meeting at Kaye Scholer, courtesy of committee member Ben Hsing, to continue planning events for the year. Ben Hsing proposed a series of patent skills development workshops.

On July 26, 2011, the IP Committee met at Fulbright & Jaworski, courtesy of committee member Gina Shishima. Beginning with this meeting, the Committee invited speakers on various IP law topics to address its members. Committee member Lee V. Pham discussed the American Express

IP Zone, an online platform developed by the company that allows users to trade and value intellectual property assets.

On September 17, 2011, the IP Committee presented two programs at AABANY's second Fall Conference:

- Lessons from The Social Network: Legal Issues for Start-ups focused on the legal pitfalls faced by start-ups in intellectual property, employment, and corporate law, and how to avoid having to defend lawsuits in these areas. Co-chair Jane Chuang was the moderator and a speaker, together with employment lawyer Michael Yim (Yim & Chuang LLP) and corporate lawyer Nazish Agha (Agha & Agha LLP).
- U.S.-Asia Trademark Issues provided an overview of various trademark issues that arise in our global economy, including what U.S. companies should be aware of when seeking to protect their trademarks in China, what Chinese companies should take heed of when seeking trademark protection in the U.S., and the use of Geographic Indicators to protect the intellectual property underlying traditional arts and crafts in South Asia. Co-chair Karen Lim was the moderator and a speaker, together with Casey Daum (Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu, P.C.) and Jayashree Mitra (White & Case LLP)

On October 13, 2011, the IP Committee met at the offices of American Express, courtesy of committee member Lee V. Pham. Committee member Theo Cheng delivered a presentation on his experience and insights in the Grokster and Napster litigations. Stephanie Spangler was introduced as the newly-appointed Secretary of the committee.

On November 2, 2011, the IP Committee presented the second event of its IP Skills Workshops Series, on IP Due Diligence. Committee member Josephine Liu provided tips on conducting intellectual property due diligence on corporate deals, focusing on patent and trademark issues.

On December 1, 2011, the IP Committee held its last meeting of the year at Wells Fargo, courtesy of Jimmy Quan, a friend of the committee. Eric Lee, Editor, Intellectual Property and Technology Group, Practical Law Company, discussed the newly-enacted America Invents Act and its anticipated impact on the practice of patent law.

In December 2011, the IP Committee started a subgroup on AABANY's Linked-In page to facilitate member postings and discussion on topical IP law issues.

Events that the IP Committee has planned for 2012 include:

- February 2012 - IP Skills Workshop III: Trade Secrets to be hosted at Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto and co-presented by committee member Bobby Pierson.
- February 2012 – IP Committee meeting, featuring speakers on IP career paths.

- Winter 2012 – Property Outlaws book signing with Professor Sonia Katyal at Fordham, to be co-sponsored by the Student Outreach Committee.
- Winter 2012 – Patent Practice Basics, an introduction to the practice of patent law for students and early-career practitioners, to be presented by committee members Eugene Chang and Lucian Chen at Willkie Farr & Gallagher.
- Spring 2012 – fashion event and fashion law panel. This two-part series kicks off with a networking and shopping event, and wraps up with a panel on fashion law, to be co-sponsored by the Women’s Committee.
- Fall 2012 - U.S.-Asia Data Privacy and Technology Transfer Issues.

Additionally, the IP Committee anticipates organizing events on developments in copyright law; patent litigation at the appellate level; and a patent law skills series which will feature segments on the Hatch-Waxman Act and follow-on biologics. Also in the works is a project for members to contribute IP posts to AABANY’s blog.

Issues Committee

Chair: Joe Gim

AABANY's Issues Committee examines and considers a variety of issues that impact, directly or indirectly, the Asian Pacific American 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.

This year AABANY's Issues Committee has responded to a number of hot topic legal issues that affect the APA community and provided information and analyses to the AABANY Board on such topics as:

- AABANY's participation as a founding member in the Asian American Community Coalition On Redistricting and Democracy ("ACCORD") which advocates for redistricting of election lines to be inclusive of contiguous Asian American communities in New York.
- NYPD's alleged extreme use of force on an elderly Chinese man in Manhattan's Chinatown
- AABANY's participation in urging the passage of the Marriage Equality Act of 2011
- AABANY's endorsement of legislation creating an independent body to oversee redistricting to replace the present LATFOR system.
- AABANY's endorsement of legislation supporting expansion of language access to city agencies

AABANY's participation in ACCORD in 2011, included participating in the formation of the coalition, and presenting testimony drafted by the Issues Committee and delivered by Yang Chen on September 7, 2011, at the Queens LATFOR public hearing. AABANY continues to participate in the coalition by attending regular meetings and offering legal support as needed.

In addition, the Issues Committee held a meet-and-greet at Kenyon & Kenyon hosted by John Flock on July 12, 2011 that was well attended.

In 2012, AABANY's Issues Committee will continue 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.

Judiciary Committee

Co-Chairs: Vincent T. Chang, Theodore K. Cheng and James Chou

AABANY's Judiciary Committee seeks to increase the number of qualified Asian Pacific Americans in the federal and state judiciary and to preserve and promote judicial independence.

The Judiciary Committee's efforts fall in four main categories.

1. It screens candidates for the judiciary to determine whether AABANY should formally support those candidates. The methodology for AABANY's screening process is posted on the AABANY website.
2. It recruits and prepares candidates seeking their first judicial office, as well as sitting judges seeking higher judicial office.
3. It lobbies and supports candidates for the judiciary whom AABANY has endorsed.
4. It takes positions and engages in advocacy (speeches, legislative testimony, public fora, amicus briefs, and editorials) on issues related to judicial independence and judicial selection.

Additionally, the Judiciary Committee seeks to increase awareness of issues relating to the judiciary among AABANY's members.

The past year, was another productive year for the Judiciary Committee.

- In 2011, the Judiciary Committee vetted and supported a number of candidates for various positions. Specifically, we vetted two candidates for the federal bench and supported them with letters to Senators Schumer and Gillibrand. We vetted and supported a sitting New York State Supreme Court Justice for a seat on the Appellate Division, First Department. We vetted and supported a candidate for New York City Family Court and helped prepare the candidate for interviews with the Mayor's Committee on the Judiciary. Additionally, we vetted and helped prepare a member of the South Asian Bar Association of New York aspiring to serve as a criminal court judge for an interview with the Mayor's committee.
- The Judiciary Committee participated in open meetings of the New York County Democratic Party's Judiciary Committee to establish the party's 2012 Independent Judicial Screening Panel for Civil Court candidates. The Judiciary Committee also recruited AABANY members to serve on various judicial screening panels.
- With respect to increasing awareness about judiciary matters, the Judiciary Committee authored four articles published in the *AABANY Advocate* discussing the following topics: the importance of increasing diversity on the bench, a primer on magistrate judges, the "Rule of 80" for tracking federal court vacancies, and a profile of the first APA federal judge. Additionally, the Judiciary Committee organized and sponsored a lively and interesting panel discussion on judicial selection at AABANY's Second Annual Fall Conference. The panel

included Judges Denny Chin (Second Circuit), Kiyoo Matsumoto (E.D.N.Y.), Marilyn Go (E.D.N.Y.), and James d'Auguste (Bronx Family Court and Queens Civil Court). The Judiciary Committee also co-sponsored with other minority bar associations a judicial clerkship information event for law students and co-sponsored with the New York County Lawyers' Association a Diversity on the Bench reception during APA Heritage month. Most of the APA judges in New York attended the reception. Lastly, the Judiciary Committee regularly announced magistrate and bankruptcy judge vacancies.

- On the advocacy front, the Judiciary Committee weighed in on two significant issues of concern to the New York legal community. First, the Judiciary Committee worked on a letter to the Chair of the Judicial Compensation Commission advocating increases in the salaries of New York State court judges, who have gone 13 years without a pay raise. President Lin signed and sent the letter on July 18, 2011. Second, the Judiciary Committee worked with other minority bar associations in working on a press release defending Criminal Court Judge Evelyn Laporte against unjustifiable attacks by elected officials. The AABANY Board approved these advocacy statements.

The Judiciary Committee looks forward to continuing its work in 2012. If you have any questions about the committee or about the judiciary and the judicial selection process, please do not hesitate to contact one of the co-chairs.

Vincent T. Chang (vincent.chang@aabany.org)

Theodore K. Cheng (theodore.cheng@aabany.org)

James P. Chou (james.chou@aabany.org)

Litigation Committee

Co-chairs: Tristan Loanzon and William 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.

The Committee met periodically throughout 2011 to plan events geared toward current and prospective AABANY members and to discuss issues of relevance to the litigation practices of its members. Below are some of the events that the Committee organized:

The Litigation Committee hosted a well-attended meeting and discussion on March 31, 2011 at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP. The LC discussed upcoming programs and featured guest speaker Lorna G. Schofield, a prominent litigation partner at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP. Ms. Schofield led the discussion on the finer art of trial advocacy. This meeting was the first in a series of LC meetings centered on judges and leaders in the practice of Litigation.

June 6 saw the Litigation Committee hold a meeting at Carter Ledyar Milburn LLP. LC Member Yasuhiro Saito hosted the meeting, which featured the Hon. Jeffrey K. Oing of the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court. Justice Oing is the first Asian American judge to hold this position. Judge Oing imparted valuable advice to litigators, especially tips on how to become a fine advocate in his courtroom and any other courtroom.

AABANY's Young Lawyers Committee and Litigation Committee organized the 4th Annual AABANY Central Park picnic on July 16 at Central Park's Turtle Pond. Many members came with family and friends to enjoy a beautiful summer afternoon in Central Park. We must report that members consumed a twelve-foot sub and enjoyed a fine summer day, but because of the small space, we did not stage the traditional games of tug-of-war, three-legged race, and Linda Lin's favorite game, the Chubby Bunny.

On September 17, 2011, for the Fall Conference, the Litigation Committee co-sponsored a CLE panel on matters of privilege (in conjunction with the In-House Counsel Committee) and a CLE panel on Valuation in Litigation (in conjunction with the Women's Committee).

On October 12, the Litigation Committee organized a meeting at Loanzon Sheikh's law office. The LC meeting featured the Honorable Judge Dora L. Irizarry of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Judge Irizarry held an inspiring discussion of what is good advocacy in the courtroom and more importantly, what every litigator should know in advancing his or her career. LC members were thrilled to interact personally with Judge Irizarry.

Membership Committee

Chair: Mike F. Huang

The Membership Committee develops recommendations for programs and services that will meet the needs of the membership and encourage new members to join AABANY.

During the course of 2011, the Membership Committee, working in conjunction with AABANY's officers and directors, launched several initiatives aimed at (1) increasing membership and (2) streamlining the administrative burdens involved in maintaining AABANY's large membership roster.

The Membership Committee spent a considerable amount of time in 2011 reviewing, updating and streamlining AABANY's vast membership database. These efforts have produced a much more accurate picture of AABANY's membership roster and have allowed the Membership Committee to produce and provide to AABANY officers periodic reports of membership count, increases, decreases and in each case, separating them by category.

Working together with the President, President-Elect and Executive Director of AABANY, the Membership Committee also helped develop the Sister Bar Program that provided certain specified minority bar associations with preferred membership discounts to encourage individuals that would not have otherwise joined AABANY to join. The Membership Committee also worked with the NY Chapter of the National Asian Pacific Islander Prosecutors Association (NAPIPA) in providing its members with preferred terms of AABANY membership to facilitate the establishment and growth of NAPIPA.

Pro Bono and Community Service Committee

Co-Chairs: Karen Wu and Tony Lu

In 2011, the AABANY Pro Bono Committee was renamed the Pro Bono and Community Service Committee. The committee encourages pro bono service among Asian American attorneys and seeks to support the efforts of the private bar and the non-profit sector to serve those who are denied access to justice.

On July 18, 2011, working with AABANY's Corporate Law Committee, the committee organized a CLE workshop entitled "Changing the World One Charity at a Time – Setting Up a New Nonprofit: Considerations and Alternatives", which was hosted by the Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP. The session featured a panel of experts from the non-profit and private bar: Elizabeth Perez of the Lawyers Alliance of New York, Jean Tom from Patterson Bellknap, and committee co-chair Karen Wu of Perlman & Perlman LLP, the session was well attended by pro bono attorneys and community members with questions about nonprofit formation and governance.

AABANY continued its support of the Minkwon Center, which provides legal services to the Asian immigrant community, by co-sponsoring the Minkwon Center's Citizenship Day on September 17, 2011 in Flushing, where staff attorneys and AABANY volunteers assisted 15 community members with naturalization applications. AABANY members also volunteered for Minkwon's Fall Open Legal Clinic, where community members received consultations on various issues including housing, employment, immigration and foreclosure.

On December 10, 2011, the committee held a community education workshop at the Indochina Sino-American Community Center in Chinatown. The morning session featured Pauline Yeung-Ha of Grimaldi & Yeung, LLP and Kin Ng, Assistant District attorney of the Kings County District Attorney's Office, who spoke to community members about senior financial abuse. In the afternoon, Nelson Mar, staff attorney at Legal Services NYC, spoke to parents about the rights of immigrant children in New York City public schools.

The committee participated in the development of AABANY's Legal Referral Service, set to launch in 2012 (as described below in the Professional Development Committee Report). Through this service, in addition to referring potential clients to attorneys, AABANY will refer indigent community members to pro bono attorneys and legal services organizations.

The committee hopes in the coming year to encourage more public interest attorneys to join AABANY. As a first step the committee has planned an evening cocktail hour for nonprofit staff attorneys, to express appreciation for the work legal services attorneys do. This event will take place on January 31st, 2012.

Professional Development Committee

Co-Chairs : Francis Chin and Robert Leung

The continuing mission of the Professional Development Committee is to help the advancement of AABANY's members in their professional careers. This is primarily done through the administration of AABANY's continuing legal education program. Over the course of this year, we have also laid the groundwork for setting up a legal referral service, designed to provide language access to legal resources for the Asian Pacific American community, as well to provide business development for participating attorneys.

Continuing Legal Education

This year we are proud to have provided 26 free or low-cost Continuing Legal Education (CLE) courses for our members and the legal community in the New York City area. All of our programs are organized and taught by volunteers and are sponsored by generous law firms, corporations, and community organizations. Especially in this current economic climate, we seek to provide these resources without compromise in the quality or educational value of our programs.

Programs are sponsored by AABANY's committees or with one of AABANY's partners – this year, the Network of Bar Leaders, and the MinKwon Center for Community Action. The role of the PDC is to provide guidance in organizing and documenting the programs according to the requirements of the New York State Continuing Education Board, issue CLE certificates to participants, handle participant questions in regards to CLE requirements and requests for certificate reissues, and making the required periodic reports to the Office of Court Administration.

A day-long CLE event, the annual AABANY Fall Conference, was held on September 17, 2011. Fifteen 1.5 credit programs presented by all of the AABANY committees were offered in a wide range of subjects, including legal blogging, intellectual property protection in Asia, valuation of litigation, and honing in-house counsel skills.

In total, we offered 24 credits of CLE for transitional attorneys (attorneys in first two years of practice), and 37 credits of CLE for non-transitional, experienced attorneys. This included 7 credits of ethics. These would have been free for members except for the cost of the Fall Conference (\$100 for members in private practice, \$75 for public sector members). In comparison, the typical cost of 24 credits from the New York County Bar Association (average of \$40/credit for members) is more than \$960; the cost at the New York City Bar (average \$70/credit for members), more than \$1,680.

Details of the programs presented are included in the attached table as well as in the reports of the other AABANY committees.

Legal Referral Service Pilot Program

Over the course of 2011, we have been setting up the groundwork for a legal referral service. The goal of the service is to connect Asian Pacific American community members that are in need of

legal services with appropriate assistance. Those who are unable to afford representation will be guided to pro bono services performed by volunteers or public organizations that can fulfill these needs. Those that can afford representation will be connected to vetted attorneys that are members of the program. A pre-recorded telephone hotline is being set up, as well as a training program for law student and other volunteers that can handle client intake. We hope to offer the program to the public on a pilot basis during the beginning of 2012.

In conclusion, we have had a very successful year in providing one of the primary benefits of AABANY membership, and we hope to continue our efforts in the next year. We are grateful for the many active AABANY members and friends who have contributed their time and experience for all of our benefit.

Table: Continuing Legal Education Programs offered in 2011

#	Program	Ethics	Skills	Areas	LOM	T	NT	T total	NT total	Committee
1	Business Immigration Law Brown Bag	0.5		0.5		T	NT	1	1	Immigration
2	Litigating Intellectual Property Cases			1		T	NT	1	1	IP
3	Estate Tax Update - Impact on Domestic and International Planning			1			NT	0	1	Real Estate
4	Effective Assistance for Naturalization Application			1		T	NT	1	1	Immigration/ MinKwon
5	IP 101 for Visual and Performing Artists			1		T	NT	1	1	IP/Pro Bono

6	IP Skills Workshops Series Workshop I: Trademark Registration			1		T	NT	1	1	IP
7	The Disciplinary Process & How to Defend a Disciplinary Complaint	2				T	NT	2	2	Network of Bar Leaders
8	Understanding Short Sales, REO's and the Foreclosure Process			1		T	NT	1	1	Real Estate
9	Setting Up a New Nonprofit: Considerations and Alternatives			2		T	NT	2	2	Pro Bono/ Corporate Law
10.1A	Fighting Real Estate and Mortgage Fraud in the Big Apple: PART II	1.5				T	NT	1.5	1.5	Real Estate
10.1B	Developing Skills as In-House Counsel: Building on Law Firm Practice				1.5		NT	0	1.5	In-House

10.1C	Diversity on the Bench and Pathways to the Judiciary: the APA Perspective			1.5			NT	0	1.5	Judiciary
10.1D	Social Media I - Lessons from The Social Network			1.5		T	NT	1.5	1.5	Small Firm / Student Outreach
10.2A	Matters of Privilege: Pitfalls and Challenges in Privilege Law for In-House Counsel	1.5					NT	0	1.5	In-House
10.2B	Setting Up Shop: The Nuts and Bolts of Solo and Small Firm Practice				1.5	T	NT	1.5	1.5	Small Firm
10.2C	Blazing a Trail to the Legal Academy: APAs as Law Professors				1.5		NT	0	1.5	Academic
10.2D	Social Media II : E-discovery Issues of Social Media and Cloud Computing			1.5		T	NT	1.5	1.5	Litigation/IP
10.3A	Valuation in Litigation -- An		1.5			T	NT	1.5	1.5	Litigation

	Introduction									
10.3B	General Counsel Roundtable: Changing Role of the GC in a Changing Environment				1.5		NT	0	1.5	In-House
10.3C	Journey of the Women Lawyer - Entrepreneur				1.5		NT	0	1.5	Women's
10.3D	Social Media III: Blawging - A Discussion About Legal Blogging	1.5				T	NT	1.5	1.5	Student Outreach
10.4A	APA Women in the Law: Reflections And Paving The Way				1.5		NT	0	1.5	Women's
10.4B	U.S.- Asia Intellectual Property Issues			1.5			NT	0	1.5	IP
10.4C	Family Law: Public & Private			1.5		T	NT	1.5	1.5	Government
11	Attorney's Liens and Legal Fees Enforcement	2				T	NT	2	2	Network of Bar Leaders
12	IP Due Diligence			1		T	NT	1	1	IP

	Workshop									
13	Commercial Condos and Co-ops			0.5		T	NT	0.5	0.5	Real Estate
	TOTALS	7	1.5	16	9			24	37	

LOM: Law Office Management

T: Transitional course, appropriate for attorneys in first 2 years of practice

NT: Non-transitional course, appropriate for attorneys beyond the first 2 years of practice

Prosecutors' Committee
Co-Chairs: Cristina Park and James Lin

The goals of the Prosecutors' Committee include the advancement and professional development of Asian-American prosecutors, the establishment of a network between former and current Asian-American prosecutors, the recruitment of Asian-American law students to become prosecutors, and the cultivation of trust and communication between the Asian-American community and the local prosecutors' offices. There are currently over one hundred Asian-American prosecutors serving New York City.

Highlights of the committee's activities for 2011 include:

- **March 18, 2011:** The Prosecutors' Committee along with the Diversity Committee of the New York County District Attorney's office held a screening of the award-winning documentary "Vincent Who?", a film which looked back and examined the aftermath – both socially and politically – of the murder of Asian American Vincent Chin that helped ignite the Asian American Civil Rights movement. Afterwards a Q & A session was held with the film's director, Curtis Chin.
- **April 26, 2011:** As described above at p. 15, the Prosecutors' Committee co-sponsored with AABANY's Government and Public Sector Committee a panel discussion on "Life After Public Service (Pt. 2)" at the law offices of McCarter & English.
- **May 9, 2011:** The Prosecutors' Committee and the Kings County District Attorney's office celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by co-sponsoring an annual event honoring both individuals and organizations for their work on behalf of Asian Pacific Americans in the Brooklyn community. The honorees were: Honorable Justice Randall T. Eng, Appellate Division, Second Department; The Asian Community United Society; and the NYPD Desi Society. Kings County District Attorney Charles Hynes presided over the event and there was a special screening of the documentary "Vincent Who?" The event was held at the Kings County District Attorney's office.
- **May 13, 2011:** The Prosecutors' Committee and the Queens County District Attorney's office celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by co-sponsoring a luncheon for the Asian American prosecutors at the Queens County District Attorney's office. It was both a celebration of diversity at the Queens office and a recruitment drive on behalf of AABANY.
- **June 30, 2011:** The Prosecutors' Committee's Third Anniversary Reception was held at the home of the New York County Lawyers' Association (NYCLA), at 14 Vesey Street. NYCLA was a co-sponsor of this year's event. This year the Prosecutors' Committee honored three "Trailblazers" who were the first Asian American prosecutors in the history of New York: the Hon. Randall Eng, Appellate Division, Second Department, and the first Asian American prosecutor in New York; Hugh Mo, Law Firm of Hugh Mo, P.C., and the first Asian American

prosecutor in Manhattan; and John Flock, Partner, Kenyon & Kenyon, and the first Asian American Executive Assistant D.A. in the Bronx.

Attendees were welcomed by former NYCLA president, a current Executive Assistant D.A. in the office of the Special Narcotics Prosecutor of New York City, Catherine Christian.

Almost 150 people were in attendance, and congratulatory remarks were given by Richard Brown, the District Attorney of Queens County; Robert Johnson, the Bronx County District Attorney; Cyrus R. Vance Jr., the New York County District Attorney; Bridget Brennan, the Special Narcotics Prosecutor of New York City; Tim Koller, an Executive Assistant D.A. for Richmond County; and by Kin Ng, an Executive Assistant D.A. at the Kings County District Attorney's office.

Also in attendance were many judges including Judge Denny Chin, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit; Federal Magistrate Judge Marilyn Go, E.D.N.Y.; and Judge Doris Ling-Cohan, New York State Supreme Court.

A special and surprise appearance was made by the New York City Comptroller, John Liu, who also made some brief congratulatory remarks to the honorees.

The celebration was covered by the Asian media and press: *The World Journal*, *The China Press*, and *Sing Tao*. The event also made it onto the pages of the *New York Law Journal*.

- **July 19, 2011:** In conjunction with the Diversity Committee of the New York County District Attorney's office and the National Black Prosecutors Association, AABANY and the Prosecutors' Committee co-sponsored A "City –Wide Summer Intern Diversity Reception" on The Rooftop of the Empire Hotel, located at 44 West 63rd Street, Manhattan. The event was open to all summer legal interns – private or public sector ones - throughout the city. The event was an opportunity for interns and the attorneys they worked for to sit back, relax, and meet and share their NYC summer experiences with their counter-parts from other offices.
- **December 5, 2011:** The Prosecutors' Committee hosted its first ever charitable event at the Manchester Pub, 920 Second Avenue, in an effort to help the Asian Women's Center of New York (AWC). The evening's festivities were also aimed at recruiting new members. The AWC helps Asian American women and their children who are or have been victims of domestic violence. That aid comes in the form of counseling, housing, and help in the legal system such as criminal, family, immigration, or housing/landlord-tenant court. Attendees were asked to bring donations of dry or household goods, toiletries, and even public transportation MetroCards. Approximately 55 to 60 people came out to celebrate the holidays and help the AWC out! The committee ended up giving the AWC canned/dry foods; various personal hygiene items, including toiletry & dental kits; MetroCards; and tote bags. We hope to make this an annual event and to broaden the number of charities we can help and to increase the donations made.

- **The National Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition:** Members of the Prosecutors' Committee volunteered their time and energy to judge rounds at this year's NAPABA Convention in Atlanta this past November. Prosecutor Committee member Samuel Yee did even more and graded student briefs (he also helped "moot" several teams). The members of the Prosecutors' Committee have supported and will continue to support this rewarding and important competition.

Real Estate Committee

Chair: Margaret T. Ling

The Real Estate Committee is chaired by Margaret Ling and provides support and professional development to newly admitted and experienced APA attorneys. For 2011, the Committee has devoted time to mentoring attorneys and advising on job skills, resumes, and interviewing for real estate positions in a weak economy. Specific attention has also been focused on outreach to a new group of APA attorneys who are from Asia and admitted in New York and educating them on how to address the foreign buyer in New York. The Real Estate Committee has continued to focus attention on community outreach to the solo and small firm attorneys throughout the outer boroughs of New York including Queens and Brooklyn. The Real Estate Committee will continue to cross partner and hold joint events with other community not-for-profit organizations including the Asian Real Estate Association of America; the Chinese American Real Estate Association; the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York; the South Asian Bar Association of New York; the Hispanic and Puerto Rican Bar Association; the Metropolitan Black Bar Association; the National Hispanic Association of Real Estate Professionals; Minkwon Center; and the Asian Americans for Equality.

The Real Estate Committee offers CLE seminars and networking events with corporate and bank sponsors including First American Title Insurance Company, Wells Fargo, Chase Bank, HSBC, Citibank and Bank of America.

For the 2011 AABANY Year, the Real Estate Committee organized and/or co-partnered in the following events:

- (1) March 23, 2011: HSBC EB-5 Visa Event: Short Hills Hilton, NJ: Co Partnered with APALA NJ and APABA-PA. Topic discussed tips for investing in the “US EB-5 Visa Foreign Investment/Mortgage Programs for Foreign Nationals.” Venue was Short Hills Hilton in NJ and over 120 attended.
- (2) March 24, 2011: Margaret Ling was a Panelist and Real Estate Committee Co-Partnered on AABANY event: “Jump Starting Your Legal Career: Perspective from In-House Counsel, Government Attorneys, and Solo Practitioners.” Venue was MOCA and over 60 attended.
- (3) April 6, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Co-Partnered on a CLE with Wells Fargo Bank and Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee: “Estate Tax Update: Impact on Domestic and International Planning.” Venue was Wells Fargo office at 399 Park Avenue and over 40 attended.
- (4) May 25, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Participated in a Citibank Seminar: “A Guide to Investing in New York’s Office Condominium Market.” Venue was Citibank Building in Manhattan and over 85 attended.
- (5) June 1, 2011: The Real Estate Committee participated in and Margaret Ling attended the HUD Town Hall Meeting at NYU. The event was sponsored by US Department of HUD, the Asian Real Estate Association of America and the Asian Americans for Equality and focused on fair and affordable housing in the Asian community. Over 150 in attendance.

- (6) June 21, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Co-Sponsored with Citibank a Commercial Banking Breakfast Seminar including a discussion on the state of the US Economy and a focus on the NYC Residential and Commercial Real Estate Market. Venue was Citibank Building in Long Island City and over 35 attended.
- (7) July 19, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Co-Sponsored a CLE Breakfast with Chase Bank; the Asian Real Estate Association; the Asian Americans for Equality; the National Hispanic Association of Real Estate Professionals: "Understanding Short Sales, REOS, and the Foreclosure Process in New York." Venue was Flushing Sheraton and over 100 attended.
- (8) September 14, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Co-Partnered with Asian Real Estate Association for "Autumn Professional Networking Night" at Amber Restaurant, Greenwich Village.
- (9) September 17, 2011: The Real Estate Committee Co-Partnered with AABANY Prosecutor's Committee at the AABANY Fall Conference for: "Fighting Real Estate and Mortgage Fraud in the Big Apple: Part II." Panel included Wells Fargo; Jason Ganfer of Ganfer and Shore, LLP and Margaret Ling.
- (10) November 30, 2011: The Real Estate Committee presented a CLE: "Commercial Condos/Coops," sponsored by Winoker Realty Company; The New York Business Development Corp; Herrick Feinstein and First American Title Insurance Company. Margaret spoke about EB-5 Visas and Title Requirements for Coops and Condominiums.
- (11) January 11, 2012: The Real Estate Committee Co-Partnered with the Young Lawyers Committee and Solo and Small Firm Practice Committees and Wells Fargo Bank : "Financial Services for Young Lawyers and Solo and Small Firms." Venue was Wells Fargo Tower in NYC and 30 attended.

For 2012, The Real Estate Committee will be planning events for the first half of the year:

- (1) February 28, 2012: Chase Bank: Short Sales and Title Insurance and Foreclosure Defenses
- (2) March 2012: Bank of America: First Time Home Buying Requirements
- (3) April 2012: Citibank: Commercial Banking and EB-5 Visas
- (4) April 2012: HSBC: Explaining RE Transactions to Foreign Buyers and their Attorneys
- (5) April 1, 2012: Asian Real Estate Association of America: Global RE Summit: AABANY RE Committee will present a panel
- (6) May 2012: NAPABA Super Regional: Atlantic City, NJ: RE Committee shall organize a panel on Fair and Affordable Housing
- (7) May 2012: Wells Fargo Bank: Condominium Development and New Construction

Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee
Co-Chairs: Timothy Wong and Pauline Yeung-Ha

The Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee, formerly the Community Practice Community, was re-named in 2011. Its goals are to share amongst solo and small APA firms their different business experiences, marketing ideas, and practice management. The Committee provides support and guidance to APA attorneys in starting up and developing their businesses, which include but are not limited to law firm formation, capital funding, technology maintenance, insurance coverage, marketing techniques, and ethical concerns.

Our Committee is unique in that it encompasses solo and small APA firms from many areas of law. Throughout the year, our Committee was fortunate to be able to work with many other AABANY Committees. The Committee successfully organized and/or conducted several events, including 2 CLE programs:

- April 6, 2011 – “Estate Tax Update: Impact on Domestic and International Planning” at Wells Fargo Securities. (1 CLE program collaborated with Real Estate Committee)
- May 17, 2011 – Kick-Off Meeting and Get-Together at B Flat. Co-chairs Timothy Wong and Pauline Yeung-Ha hosted a group of solo and small firm practitioners who took the opportunity to network and talk about their various practices.
- September 17, 2011 – The Committee’s first AABANY’s Fall Conference:
 - “Setting Up Shop: The Nuts and Bolts of Solo and Small Firm Practice” at Skadden. (1 CLE program collaborated with Student Outreach Committee)
 - “Journey of the Women Lawyer – Entrepreneur” (1 CLE program organized by the Women’s Committee)
- December 10, 2011 – “Senior Financial Abuse” at Indochina Sino-American Community Center (ISACC) in Chinatown. Community workshop sponsored and organized by Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, described above at p. 25.
- January 11, 2012 – “Financial Services for Young Lawyers and Solo and Small Firms” at Wells Fargo. Program co-sponsored with Wells Fargo, Real Estate Committee and Young Lawyers’ Committee, described below at p. 43.

Our Committee always welcomes new and existing members to share their experiences and ideas. We will continue to organize events with other AABANY Committees. For the upcoming year, our Committee plans to provide programs specifically geared toward marketing and networking, such as methods to brand your firm, as well as the timing and expansion of a law practice, such as the hiring of new associates and employees.

Student Outreach Committee

Co-Chairs: Benjamin Chan and Liza Sohn

AABANY's Student Outreach Committee ("SOC") seeks to equip APA students with concrete skills to excel academically and professionally. In addition, the SOC acts as a bridge between law students and attorneys, encouraging APA students to be active in the APA legal community. To achieve these goals, SOC sponsors career programs, networking events, and social activities. Currently, there are more than 300 APA law student members in AABANY, and the SOC works with approximately 18 law schools in the tri-state region.

The efforts of the SOC are directed at reaching out and working directly with the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) of each law school to promote the benefits and networking opportunities available to law students who join AABANY. The SOC's outreach to law students is often the first time that students hear about AABANY. Upon graduation, many law student members become active members, committee chairs, directors and officers of AABANY. In 2011, the SOC remained one of the most active AABANY committees, and the SOC sponsored, organized, and participated in approximately 20 events throughout the year.

Annual Banquet. The SOC kicked off the 2011 year by organizing student volunteers for AABANY's 22nd Annual Banquet held at the Cipriani Wall Street on February 23, 2011. The law students were indispensable to the operation of AABANY's premiere event as they registered attendees, ushered them to reception and coat check areas, and manned the auction table. In turn, the students had a unique opportunity to meet prominent members of the legal community and to hear inspirational speeches of the honorees.

Writing Competition Workshop. On May 16, 2011, the SOC, along with the South Asian Bar Association of New York ("SABANY"), and the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York ("KALAGNY"), co-sponsored the **Writing Competition Workshop**, which guided 1L law students through the process of researching, writing, and editing for law school writing competitions.

July Jol. On July 7, 2011, the SOC organized the **July Jol** (jol means "party" in Afrikaans). The summer soiree took place at Public House and drew over 40 summer associates, students and attorneys. This networking event was a celebration of summer and the announcement for SOC's Mock Interview Workshop.

Resume and Interview Workshops. To prepare students for summer internships and on-campus interviews, the SOC sponsored a two-part workshop series. The first was **The 11th Hour Resume Review** at New York Law School, where students received one-on-one resume critiques from attorneys. The second part was the **Mock Interview Workshop**, held at the law firm White & Case LLP. The interview workshop drew many students who received at least three interviews from practicing attorneys who graciously volunteered their evening to prepare students for On Campus Interviews.

NYC Roadshow. During the fall semester of 2011, the SOC made road show presentations at **Brooklyn Law School** (10/11/11), **New York Law School** (9/8/11), **NYU Law School** (10/6/11), **CUNY Law School** (10/20/11), and **Seton Hall Law School** (10/24/11). AABANY Executive Director Yang Chen, and Co-chairs Ben Chan and Liza Sohn spoke with students about its workshops, emphasized the benefits of networking, and forged relationships with APALSA leaders and members. The sentiments of Seton Hall President Qing Guo were shared by many students: “Thank you for coming last night... It was great meeting you and hearing about the opportunities AABANY offers. I look forward to collaborating with AABANY for future events.”

Fall Conference. On September 17, 2011, the SOC coordinated APA law students volunteers to assist with the organization of AABANY’s highly successful **2011 Fall Conference**, which was hosted by Skadden. The SOC also facilitated a panel about “**Blawging**” featuring legal bloggers Dominic Mauro (Barely Legally), Vivia Chen (The Careerist), James Daily (Law and the Multiverse), Russell Jackson (Consumer Class Actions and Mass Torts), Scott Greenfield (Simple Justice), and Elie Mystal (Above the Law). Thanks to SOC Co-chair Ben Chan for coordinating an enjoyable and thought-provoking panel!

Exam Writing Workshop. October 2011 proved to be one of the busiest for the SOC. The SOC presented past AABANY President Chris Chan’s popular **Exam Writing Workshops** at several law schools including **Hofstra Law School** (10/21/11) and **New York Law School** (11/4/11). The event at New York Law School had a record 70 RSVPs!

Fall 2011 Networking Event. On October 20, 2011, the SOC with the Young Lawyers’ Committee and Inter-APALSA Council (IAC) held a **Fall Networking Event** at Slate, where close to 50 students and attorneys mingled over drinks. The fabulous networking party was impeccably organized by Irene Tan and Jonathan Tan, with the assistance of SOC co-chair Liza Sohn.

Upstate Outreach. On October 29, 2011, SOC continued its commitment to APA students attending upstate law schools with its **Third Annual Upstate Road Show**. AABANY members Chris Chan, Ben Chan, Yang Chen, Francis Chin, Thomas Hou, William Ng and Liza Sohn drove up to Syracuse Law School for the half-day conference. Upstate attorneys Mary Traynor, Shelly Tsai and Josephine Yang-Patyi participated as well. Yang Chen encouraged students to be involved with AABANY in his roadshow presentation. The students attended an exam writing workshop, a resume and interview workshop, and a roundtable discussion addressing what attorneys wished they had learned in law school about legal practice. The event ended with a reception at Anthony’s Pasta, where connections deepened to friendships and mentor relationships. Syracuse Law School President Mark Sweeney wrote, “On behalf of Syracuse APALSA, thank you for providing helpful workshops and an insightful panel discussion. It was a great opportunity for the 1Ls to meet attorneys and other students.” Buffalo Law School APALSA president Melle Xu concurred: “Thank you for organizing this event! All the students from Buffalo Law School, including myself, thought it was wonderful.”

Networking Workshop. On November 12, 2011, the SOC conducted its much anticipated **Networking Workshop** at St. John’s Law School, and law students from St. John’s, Hofstra, and

CUNY participated in learning the basics of networking in an informative and interactive session presented by former AABANY President Chris Chan and Executive Director Yang Chen.

Looking Ahead to 2012. In 2012, in addition to maintaining the distinction of being the hardest working, most fun, and most rewarding committee in AABANY, the SOC looks to continue to strengthen its relationships with local APALSAs. SOC seeks to provide practical, relevant and useful academic and professional development programs to help APA law students obtain internship positions and full-time employment. As the economy has limited the job opportunities available, students have expressed anxiety and concern over post-graduation employment. For 2012, the SOC seeks to continue to provide students with networking and employment opportunities and to provide skills workshops so that APA students are competitive candidates in the job market. Additionally, SOC continues to co-sponsor events with other committees and create avenues for students and young lawyers to get involved in AABANY.

The efforts of SOC in 2011 would not have been successful but for the hard work of SOC Co-Chair Liza Sohn. Thanks for going above and beyond, Liza! Former SOC Co-Chair, William Ng was also instrumental in helping organize a number of events. Thanks to SOC Co-chair Ben Chan for his logistical and operational genius, his popularity with law students, and entertaining emails that motivate students to volunteer every time. Thanks to Chris Chan for his popular workshops – if they were ticketed they would be sold out. Finally, thanks to Yang Chen for his support for SOC and his unflagging dedication to APA law students.

For more information about AABANY's Student Outreach Committee or to contact the co-chairs of the SOC, please e-mail studentoutreach-chairs@aabany.org. To join AABANY as a law student member, please visit www.aabany.org.

Women's Committee

Co-chairs: Vinny Lee and Anting Wang

The AABANY Women's Committee strives to foster the involvement of women in the law and to organize programs geared towards the APA female attorney. This year the AABANY Women's Committee co-sponsored a number of successful events.

On March 24, 2011, the AABANY Women's Committee held a CLE panel entitled, "Jump-Starting Your Legal Career: Perspectives From In-House Counsel, Government Attorneys, and Solo Practitioners," featuring speakers from various sectors of the legal industry including Kelvin Chen, Staff Attorney at Federal Trade Commission, Vincent Hull, Vice President and Senior Counsel at Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Margaret Ling, Vice President and Counsel, Landstar Title Agency, Jason Nagi, Partner at Polsinelli Shughart PC, and Vanesa Pagan, Principal at Vanesa I. Pagan Law PLLC. The CLE was well attended by attorneys and law students alike, and included a very informative discussion. The panel was co-sponsored by four other AABANY Committees (Real Estate, Young Lawyers, Student Outreach, and Immigration Law) and the Society of Young Lawyer Entrepreneurs, and was held at the Museum of Chinese in America.

On May 10, 2011, the AABANY Women's Committee, along with Dewey & LeBoeuf and the Asian American Arts Alliance, presented a Celebration of APA Women Attorneys in the Arts. It featured a lively discussion moderated by Caroline Sun, a former attorney turned painter, with panelists Blossom Kan (writer), Linda Lin (dancer), Clara Ohr (pianist and vocalist) and Samita Sinha (artist, vocalist, composer). The panel discussion was followed by a showcase of the panelists' work. Samita Sinha gave a vocal performance and Linda Lin, with Shea McMillan, gave a dance performance. During the cocktail reception, a pre-recorded piano performance by Clara Ohr played while a slideshow of Caroline Sun's paintings was projected.

On September 17, 2011, the AABANY Women's Committee presented three CLE panels at AABANY's second annual Fall Conference:

- "APA Women in the Law: Reflections And Paving The Way," featuring panelists Kathy Hirata Chin, Partner at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, Peggy Kuo, General Counsel at the New York City Office of Administrative Trials, and Hearings, and Katherine M. Choo, Chief Investigative and Anti-Corruption Counsel of General Electric Company, and moderated by Committee Co-Chair Vinny Lee. In addition to speaking about their own professional paths to success, the panel of seasoned women attorneys provided their insight and guidance on the essential skills for achieving success, overcoming professional barriers, and making a difference in the legal profession.
- "Journey of the Women-Lawyer Entrepreneur" featuring panelists Jane Chuang, Co-Founder & Partner, Yim & Chuang LLP, Audrey Lee, Vice President, Executive Coach and Lead Trainer, Hyun & Associates, Vanesa Pagan, Principal at Vanesa I. Pagan Law PLLC, and Pauline Yeung-Ha, Partner at Grimaldi & Yeung LLP, who also served as moderator. The panelists

shared their experiences and perspectives on the unique issues and challenges facing women lawyer entrepreneurs as they start and develop their own businesses.

- “Valuation in Litigation -- An Introduction,” co-sponsored by the Litigation Committee and featuring panelists Howard Chen, of UB & Co., Yingcong Lan, Senior Manager at Cornerstone Research, and Paul Zurek, Associate at Cornerstone Research and Fellow at Wharton Financial Institutions Center. The panelists discussed a host of valuation issues arising in litigation and various approaches to valuation.

Finally, on November 10, 2011 the Women’s Committee hosted a “Meet and Mingle” (co-sponsored with the New York State Bar Association) at Opia Restaurant & Lounge. The event was well-attended and allowed attendees the opportunity to socialize and catch up in a relaxed and elegant setting.

The AABANY Women’s Committee plans to continue coordinating and hosting innovative and informative programs for AABANY members in 2012.

Young Lawyers' Committee
Co-chairs: Vincent Hull and William Ng

The AABANY Young Lawyers' Committee ("YLC") 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. This year the YLC co-sponsored a number of successful events. In addition to the "Jumpstarting Your Legal Career" event in March (see p. 41), the Central Park Picnic in July (see p. 23) and the Fall Networking event held with SOC and IAC in October (see p. 39), the YLC also held a Summer Networking event at T.G. Whitney's with AALDEF's Young Professionals Committee on May 11. A raffle was held at that event to benefit AALDEF's anti-human trafficking programs.

The YLC was honored to co-sponsor two CLEs at the Fall Conference on September 17:

- *Developing Skills as In-House Counsel: Building on Law Firm Practice* (co-sponsored with the In-House Counsel Committee), which discussed the skill set attorneys should develop to become effective in-house counsel. Panelists included in-house counsel at The McGraw-Hill Companies, Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Natixis, and a legal recruiter at the PeterSan Group.
- *Social Media III: Blawging- A Discussion About Legal Blogging* (co-sponsored with the Student Outreach Committee), which discussed a variety of issues on how to create a successful law blog, what topics to "blog" about, and how to develop a following. The panelists also tackled the ethical issues for "blawgers" and its impact on the practice of law. Ben Chan, co-chair of the Student Outreach Committee and Dominic Mauro of Barely Legal, moderated the panel and led an all-star cast of panelists including Vivia Chen, The Careerist; Elie Mystal, Above the Law; Scott Greenfield, Simple Justice; Russell Jackson, Consumer Class Actions and Mass Torts; and James Daily, Law and Multiverse.

On January 11, 2012, the YLC presented *Financial Services For Young Lawyers and Solo and Small Firms* (co-sponsored by Wells Fargo and the Real Estate and Solo and Small Firm Practice Committees of AABANY). YLC organized a panel consisting of Pauline Yeung-Ha, co-chair of the Solo and Small Firm Practice Committee, and a team of Wells Fargo private bankers, business specialists, and financial advisors to offer their insights on how young attorneys could start or expand their law firms. The Wells Fargo team also gave a presentation on how to establish and manage business accounts and discussed essential financial services needed to develop a successful law practice.

The committee encourages all AABANY members to participate in the YLC and looks forward to 2012.

We thank everyone who took part in AABANY's programs and events in 2011. None of the work we did in 2011 would have been possible without the involvement of our members and sponsors. We hope you will continue to support AABANY in 2012 and in the coming years, and that you will consider volunteering your time, energy and talents to further AABANY's missions, as AABANY continues to expand and grow into the future.

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Kevin Chu – Treasurer
William Ng – Recording Secretary
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