



DON'T MISS PORTLAND, OR
OCTOBER 28-31, 2009

The Sidebar

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

2008 AAFPE National Conference Foundations of Teaching

AAfPE held its 27th Annual Conference at the Hyatt Regency at Reunion Hotel in Dallas, Texas, October 15-18, 2008. President Marisa Campbell set the theme of this year's conference: "Foundations of Teaching" and 300 attendees were offered a robust range of educational sessions.

Teaching issues were addressed in a variety of sessions including Best Practice – Effective Group Projects, Mission (Accomplished): Teaching to Your Mission, Using Acting Theory in the Classroom, Best Practice – Developing a Distance Learning Course, Tenure Track: How to Shine as a Paralegal Educator, Teaching Techniques for Students with Special Needs, Pedagogical Suggestions from Seasoned Teachers: Master Teaching Techniques, Creating Quality Syllabi and Engaging Students Through Humor. In all, 39 educational sessions were offered.

Representatives of the American Bar Association were available throughout the conference to answer specific questions as well as hold an open forum, and conduct sessions on approval, re-approval, and interim report issues.

In addition to having booths in the Exhibit Hall, vendors held software demonstrations to help educators better



Kathryn Myers —Conference Committee Chair

utilize their products, and vendors also supported AAFPE through sponsorship. Their participation and support of AAFPE is greatly appreciated.

Pre-conference technology workshops were presented by Sanction® and Case Map®. From hands-on workshops, to sessions on a wide variety of topics, there was something for everyone at this conference.

One of the best rewards that comes from attending AAFPE conferences is networking with colleagues from around the country. Regional meetings and roundtables for Associate, Baccalaureate and Certificate degree programs were offered. First-time attendees networked with each other, current Board members and past presidents at an orientation session.

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REMINDER Pay AAFPE Dues

Membership renewal notices were mailed at the end of September. Please remember to pay your dues. The cut-off date for inclusion in the AAFPE directory is **January 31, 2009.**

Inside This Issue:

One Good Thing	2
Election Results	3
Bylaws Changes	3
Nancy Caine Harbour	3
Helen Bongard	4
Cengage Learning Excellence in Teaching	4
Steve Dayton	5
Mary Carol Parker	6
NFPA News	7
Robert LeClair Honored	8
Members Recognized for Service	9
Calendar of Events	10
Regional Meeting Survey Results	10
Directory Survey Results	11
AAfPE Board Meeting Summary	12
Portland Call for Proposals	13

The optional evening activity on Thursday evening was the Texas State Fair. A caravan of vans made loops between the conference hotel and the Fair beginning at 6:00 p.m. A couple of hundred AAFPE members (some with family members in tow) experienced the largest state fair in the country and consumed masses of fried food.

At this year's conference, AAFPE went green. The Board made a commitment to the environment, and heavy binders of the past were replaced with accordion folders decorated with the conference logo. Handouts were distributed at each session

and, upon returning home, attendees received a link for access to all handouts for all sessions.

The National Conference Committee is already hard at work on next year's conference. The 28th Annual Conference will be held in Portland, Oregon, October 28-31, 2009. If you would like to propose an educational session, be a panelist or facilitator, or have any suggestions to help make next year's conference even better, please contact the Chair, Kathryn Myers, at kmyers@smwc.edu, Nicholas Riggs at nriggs@sullivan.edu, Paul Guymon at pguymon@harpercollege.edu or Joan Spadoni at jspadoni@baypath.edu.

One Good Thing

Steve Dayton, Editorial Board Chair, posed the question: *What "One Good Thing" did you learn at the annual meeting?*

Here are some responses:

- From **Suzanne Kissock** (Missouri Western State University): As a program director who is in the midst of re-approval, I was grateful for the information and advice from the ABA representatives and fellow AAFPE members who have already been through re-approval. I returned home with a long list of things to accomplish, but also much more confident that we will be able to demonstrate the good work that our program is doing. Thank you to all!!
- **Dora Dye** (City College of San Francisco): Every session that I attended was outstanding. The speakers were well prepared. The slideshows were interesting; I was so glad to be able to spend more time listening and participating rather than taking copious notes as conference attendees were given access to the slideshows following the conference.

The vendors offered so many excellent publications and services. The Business Meeting and elections took place without any blood-letting.

What I enjoyed the most was the opportunity to meet colleagues who face the same challenges: running a program, working with faculty, dealing with unprepared students, and working within a budget that keeps shrinking.

I want to thank Talley Management and the National Conference Committee meeting under the direction of Kathryn Myers for a rewarding and memorable conference. See everyone in Portland!

- **Pat Nozinich** (Southwest Tennessee Community College): Actually, I have two good things. I found your coverage of the e-discovery materials to be very informative, particularly the specific suggestions on drafting interrogatories/requests for production to cover ESI materials. My second

"good thing" was the assessment portion of the conference. I picked up some great ideas for modifying a program's mission statement and goals for measuring them.

- **Tracy Spencer** (Lamar Institute of Technology): The session on using humor in class was AWESOME! I just love some of the quirky things that grab students' attention. When The Court thinks her or she is Dr. Seuss, how can it be boring?
 - **Cathy Underwood** (Pulaski Technical College): I really enjoyed the teaching competition, and picked up several tips on ways to present material to students. The one I enjoyed the most was the per stirpes/per capita discussion. I use the same kind of flowcharts, but the concepts still seemed fuzzy for my students. Watching Susanne go back and forth between the flowchart, the rule sort of made the light come on.
 - **Gayle Miller** (College of Lake County): The extra special something that I got out of the conference was from the session on group projects. It was the concept of "Dud Island" as a place for group project members who are voted out of their respective group for non-participation of bad behavior! All "Duds" end up in their own group in exile. I love this idea and plan to implement it immediately!
- Thank you AAFPE volunteers!
- **Karen Nelson** (Hamline University): ...that I received from the conference was reinforcement that many of the ideas for program improvement that swim in my head are possible to implement. I always benefit from the outside-the-box ideas that are shared and return more motivated to achieve a higher standard for our students.



Anita Tebbe conducts the election

ELECTION RESULTS

The election for the 2009 Board of Directors was held at the AAFPE Annual Conference in Dallas, Texas on October 17, 2008. Anita Tebbe conducted the election with her usual efficiency.

The following officers and directors will serve on AAFPE's leadership team:

President-Elect

Nancy Caine Harbour

Eastern Michigan University

Treasurer

Ed Husted

University of Alaska-Fairbanks

Director –

Certificate Programs

Steve Dayton

Fullerton College

Director –

North Central Region

Mary Carol Parker

Maryville University

In addition, **Bruce Hamm** of Syracuse University, was elected as the ABA Baccalaureate Program Representative.

Congratulations to all who ran, and commendations for their willingness to volunteer their time to advance AAFPE's ambitious organizational goals.

Bylaws Changes Adopted by Members

Membership in attendance at the AAFPE Business Meeting held on October 17, 2008 in Dallas voted to approve the following Bylaws changes:

- (1) The treasurer shall APPROVE deposit OF all funds and ~~make~~ APPROVE all disbursements, subject to approval of the Board of Directors and as provided in the budget. The treasurer shall be the chair of the Finance Committee, which committee shall prepare a budget for the ensuing fiscal year which shall be adopted by the Board of Directors. All disbursements of the Association funds must be by Association check, ~~signed~~ APPROVED by the treasurer or the president. The treasurer shall submit a written financial report at each regular meeting of the Association and of the Board of Directors.
- (2) Standing and Special Committee Chairs SHALL BE ANY MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING. All Standing and Special Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the president.

The proposed Bylaws change regarding voting by proxy was withdrawn prior to a vote.

Greetings from Nancy Caine Harbour AAFPE's New President-Elect

Thanks so much for electing me as AAFPE's President-Elect. With the AAFPE membership behind me and our enthusiastic Board of Directors surrounding me, we will be able to continue the great things that AAFPE does.

For those of you that I have not yet had the pleasure of talking with, here's a little bit about me. I was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. I have a BA in Journalism from the University of Detroit and worked as a newspaper reporter in Virginia and New York before I returned to U of D for law school.

While in law school, I met my husband, who went to U of M. Now, this fact means nothing except at this time of year when a certain football game is played! I was a trial lawyer for over 28 years, practicing civil trial law in Michigan. (No, my husband would not leave Michigan!)

The opportunity to work in education came five years ago, when I was asked to teach at Eastern Michigan University in the Paralegal Studies Program. Before I knew it, I was the Paralegal Program Coordinator and haven't looked back! As Program Coordinator, I started coming to the AAFPE annual conference. I was hooked on this organization from the first meeting. You are all wonderful to be with and to learn from.

Over the next few years, I hope that AAFPE will continue to work on our Access to Justice (ATJ) initiative. The topic of ATJ always generates much enthusiasm at the Annual Conference. We need to keep this spirit throughout the year through productive work. Those of you that I have met, know about my passion in this area. My commitment to the paralegal's role in ATJ came about through the community clinic organized as a joint effort between EMU's paralegal program and the Washtenaw County bench, bar and government. Since it began in 1974, our EMU clinic, staffed by our paralegal students under attorney-faculty supervision, has helped over 8,000 community patrons with civil court forms in the areas of family law, landlord-tenant, probate and small claims. I hope that all of you interested in an ATJ project at your institution will remember to call on me and members for help.

I look forward to working for and with you. Finally, I want to thank all of you who have sent me notes to offer your help! I will need the help and, never fear, I will contact you!

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and I look forward to talking with you in the New Year!

Introducing Helen Bongard Baccalaureate Program Director

I was absolutely thrilled to be selected as the Baccalaureate Program representative on AAFPE's Board and will work hard in following Nancy Harbour's footsteps as she assumes the role of President-Elect. I've been trying to be a better giver in life so this is a wonderful chance for me to give back to AAFPE and its members.

I grew up in Ithaca, Michigan (hold one hand up so it looks like a mitten and point to the middle of the mitten with your other hand — that's Ithaca) which is a small farming community. A "later bloomer", I started college at age 26 and graduated with a history degree from Alma College at 32. While in college I worked full-time first as a title examiner and then for two years as legal assistant to the managing partner of Hubbard, Fox, Thomas, White & Bengton, a Lansing, Michigan law firm. A year after graduating with my bachelor's degree I moved to Lexington, Kentucky and entered the University of Kentucky College of Law. After graduating from UK in 1991 I embarked on a general civil practice in Lexington. In March 1992 the director of the Pro Bono program suggested I contact Sullivan University about teaching paralegals — which led to three wonderful years as an adjunct. I discovered that I loved teaching, so when the college offered me the position of program director in 1995, I jumped at the chance! For the past 13 years I've been program director at Sullivan University's Lexington campus and am assisted in teaching students by our fine paralegal faculty, some of whom have been here all of those 13 years.

My part-time law practice today is restricted to cases involving children. I've been appointed to represent children in divorce cases and am a Guardian ad Litem in addition to representing parents in dependency, neglect and abuse actions, termination of parental rights cases, and adoptions. In 2004

Fayette Family Court created a Family Drug Court and I am one of four attorneys representing children and their parents in that program. I now know a lot more about drugs than I ever thought I would! Family Drug Court provides a unique way of dealing with substance abusing parents in an effort to re-unite families and is totally unlike a typical, adversarial court setting. The judge, prosecutor, defense attorneys, social workers, treatment providers and drug court staff work together to make decisions as a team. Last December we held a holiday party for the participants and their children and the prosecutor was Santa and I was Mrs. Claus.

While I'm passionate about helping ensure that children are protected, teaching lets me be creative in ways that aren't available in the law. Our university's Quality Enhancement Plan has focused on faculty development the past four years and I get really excited about coming up with new ways to engage students so they are active participants in the learning process.

Living in the Bluegrass is perfect for me. I'm a diehard UK basketball fan and I enjoy all of the "horsey" activities that abound in the Horse Capitol of the World. I enjoy riding my horse Thaddeus and having my dogs Lucy and Chevy tag along. I've also recently resumed sewing and am now trying my hand at quilting. In June I helped escort 22 people on a Legal London trip two adjuncts and I planned. Now that I have a passport, it's hard to keep me home! My next trip is to Paris during our spring break in March 2009.

I look forward to working with the other Board members and serving the baccalaureate programs as their representative. Please feel free to email me at hbongard@sullivan.edu with suggestions and advice. Have a happy holiday season!

2008 Cengage Learning Excellence in Teaching Competition

This year's teaching competition was extraordinary. **Linda Chin** of St. John's University distinctly explained the complexities of disparate treatment and disparate impact on employment law. **Monica Jayroe** (Faulkner University) taught how to morph an IRAC from its classic form into a motion. **Suzanne Kissock** of Missouri Western State University invented an Introduction to Law unit that was fascinating and relevant to freshmen.

Susanne Ninassi (Marymount University) won the \$500 Cengage prize with her lesson on the difference between per stirpes and per capita in probate division of property. It is a difficult concept, and Susanne made it very clear, intelligible and entertaining with her PowerPoint® examples and her scenarios.

To those of you who have "played students" — become participants next year. You have a year to prepare. You'll be brilliant. Apply by contacting Mary Kubichek at kubichek@caspercollege.edu.

Steve Dayton — An Introduction

First, let me say thank you for this great opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors as Director of Certificate Programs. Overseeing both a degree and certificate program at my institution has been a challenge as the needs of both constituencies are different. After 15 years as both a program director and instructor, I believe I can represent the needs of and be a voice for certificate program directors.

I have attended AAFPE conferences for over 13 years and during that time never really thought of running for a position with the organization. That was until I was contacted by Carolyn Smoot in August and asked if I would consider running for the position. I was honored. Many of my friends have served on the Board and I saw the hard work and dedication it required. At first, it appeared to be a daunting task, but the more I thought about it, the more I felt it was my turn to contribute to an organization that I had garnered so much wisdom and knowledge from in the past.

Reflecting on the past meetings with AAFPE, I am reminded that, like Jeane Dibble, my first AAFPE conference was in Memphis, TN. It was four weeks after I was discharged from the hospital after collapsing in court with a ruptured appendix and three weeks after my wedding date. That was in 1993. My association with AAFPE has endured — the marriage didn't. And since that first meeting, I have enjoyed travel to wonderful cities that I would probably have never considered visiting: Indianapolis, Tampa, Orlando, Portland, and the like. And with each new conference, came new and wonderful friends. As many of us know, being in law and, in particular, private practice is seldom conducive to cultivating strong friendships, but being a member of AAFPE fills that niche.

My route to law was circuitous. I was born in Allentown, PA (Sacred Heart Hospital for those from the area) and transplanted to California when I was seven. I was primarily reared in Southern California, but after graduating from high school I relocated to the Big Apple (which I love to this day). In the early seventies, I returned to California to complete my education, attaining a bachelor's degree in both Speech Communications and Public Relations. While working as marketing director for a computer company and teaching speech at Orange Coast College, I met a woman whose husband was having trouble negotiating a songwriting contract for a movie he was also acting in. While I knew little of the law, I had always loved the entertainment industry and was pretty good at arguing (while in college I was on the speech team and was awarded first in the nation for persuasive speaking).

I agreed to help him negotiate his contract (which we did successfully) and launched into a new career as a personal manager of talent. Luck was on my side as a friend knew a friend, etc., etc. In a few weeks I was partnered with the mother of Danielle Brisebois who played Molly in *Annie* on Broadway and Stephanie, the little niece of Archie on *All in the Family*. We represented actors, musicians and comics in all media. I absolutely loved it, but as in life all good things must come to an end. A strike by the Screen Actors Guild in the mid to late 1980s was my death knell. In California, only an agent or an attorney can negotiate employment for one in the entertainment industry, yet every personal manager breaks the law. When SAG went on strike, the only client who was earning money for my firm was a comic in Las Vegas who refused to pay us our commission. We sued and the judge stated to me: "You know the rules, so if you are going to negotiate work for your clients, become an agent or attorney." So, off I went to law school — fully intent on returning to entertainment. While in law school, however, criminal law grabbed my heart strings and the entertainment industry became a distant memory.

After law school, while waiting for my bar results, I began teaching at Coastline Community College and Fullerton College part-time in their paralegal programs. I was hooked and knew that no matter how long I practiced law someday I would want to teach full-time in a paralegal program. That opportunity occurred sooner than I anticipated. Fullerton College sought a full-time instructor in 1992. I applied and was hired. During the first four to five years I practiced as well as taught because I was able to primarily teach evening classes. In 2000, I resigned from the practice of law and have dedicated myself to promoting paralegal education in all legal environments.

On a personal note, I have a 34-year old son and 14-year old granddaughter. My hobbies include reading, writing and music collection (I presently have 2,417 compact discs). I love to cook (especially appetizers) and looking at my waistline I also love to eat. In my spare time (which is becoming more and more rare) I enjoy bartending for a friend of mine who owns a restaurant. My favorite vacation spots are Mexico (in particular Merida in the Yucatan), Tahiti and Fiji. Someday, I hope to visit China (I actually had a ticket that I cancelled when my ABA re-approval report was due) and take an African safari. My favorite food is Chinese, provided it is spicy. And while I don't believe in regrets as life is a journey and an education, two things I would do differently if given the opportunity, is to have accepted as clients when I was in entertainment Ron Perlman and Christine Lahti.

Meet Mary Carol Parker North Central Region Director

Hello from St. Louis, Missouri. My name is Mary Carol Parker and I want to introduce myself to you as your new North Central Region Director. I met many of you at the Dallas annual meeting and look forward to working with all of you during my tenure as your director. I would not be in this position if not for the plaintive telephone calls from Jeane Dibble and Carolyn Smoot asking me to take over the position. Both of these women were previous North Central Directors so I know I have some big shoes to fill.

I am the Director of Legal Studies at Maryville University in St. Louis. Maryville is a private university with approximately five thousand five hundred students. Currently there are fifty students in the Legal Studies program. I took over this job from Melody Schroer, who many of you might remember. She is currently running a dive shop on an island in the Caribbean. After a few island departures due to volcanic activity things seem to be going well for her and her husband.

By the time I ended up at Maryville, the university had been without a program director for over nine months. So I stepped into this program in 2006 with a disgruntled student body, no adjuncts in a semester that was to begin in two weeks, no advisory board, no faculty meetings and an interim report for the ABA that was overdue. So I feel your pain. My best advice is to keep your head down, be honest with yourself and others regarding the program status and work, work, work. Thanks to some great help from the ABA, we were able to get everything back on track within a few months.

My path to Maryville and AAFPE was rather circuitous. My undergraduate education is from Parks College of St. Louis University. My degree is in aerospace engineering. After completing my degree I left for sunny California to work as a flight test engineer on the B-2 bomber. It was there that I met my husband, Andy, also an aerospace engineer from University of Michigan. Go Blue! That is a bit of a sore subject at the Parker homestead now with Michigan football having its worst season in over sixty years.

After a few years, I returned to St. Louis to attend St. Louis University Law School, from which I graduated in 1991. My husband completed his MBA and went to work at Express Scripts, a pharmacy benefit management company headquartered in St. Louis. My first job out of law school was working as a corporate lawyer for The May Department Stores Company where I saw most of my paycheck going back to May Company, because some buys are too good to pass up, especially with an employee discount. I spent some time at May Company in their Portland offices and I can tell you it is a great city. I am really looking forward to the

annual meeting in 2009 where a great time should be had by all.

Having had my fill of corporate life, I went to Moser & Marsalek, LLC, an insurance defense firm. As an associate I worked primarily on the defense of medical malpractice cases. I was fortunate enough to have a great mentor and learned much while I was there. In addition to working at the firm, I began teaching in the paralegal program at Meramec Community College in the area of civil procedure. I loved it. Thank you to Nancy Simmons, the Program Director there, for truly taking a chance on a “newbie”, and infecting me with the teaching bug.

After leaving Moser and Marsalek, I was enticed to leave small firm life and start working at Armstrong Teasdale, then the second largest law firm in St. Louis. I continued to do insurance defense work expanding beyond my first love, medical malpractice. It was during this time period I had my two daughters, Caroline, 13 years old, and Clare, 10 years old. The perfunctory puppy, Bandit, followed in 2004.

I was awarded the John C. Shepard award for professionalism in the practice of law by the Missouri Bar. I also attended the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) where I soon began to return to my first love, teaching. With that fell work teaching trial advocacy at Louisiana State University (LSU) to third-year law students during the summer months where I was awarded the Gladys Dreher Award for Teaching Excellence.

Wanting to try more cases and to get away from the never-ending demand for more billable hours, I went to an in-house position at Allstate Insurance Company in 2001. There I tried about 40 automobile accident and premises liability cases to juries. I continued my teaching load at LSU and NITA where I still teach during school breaks and in the summer. My current position as program director came about a bit as a fluke. I interviewed for the position of adjunct faculty and walked away with a position for which I felt ill-prepared.

I was in my office one day contemplating my plight when an Aspen book representative stopped by to ask if I was going to the AAFPE conference in New Orleans. I must admit I had never heard of AAFPE and quickly got on the website. I immediately knew I had to go and learn from others who held similar positions to mine. So, I dropped everything and went to New Orleans, where the program did not disappoint. I came back with renewed vigor and great ideas of how to improve the program.

Since being at Maryville, I have begun a Guardian ad Litem clinic for the legal studies program. It is a pro bono clinic

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where students help in the representation of juveniles in the court system. It is a great tool for those students who work full-time to complete internship hours in addition to providing valuable pro bono services to the court system. I implemented a mandatory grammar course as an introduction to legal research and writing to help bolster our students' writing skills as well as making speech a required course to improve their oration skills. From attending the AAFPE meetings, I know these are issues we all struggle with in our programs.

My interests outside of teaching include attending my daughters' soccer games, cooking and travel. A few years

ago my husband and I took the family on a tour of the Great Lakes. For those of you who have not visited the Georgian Bay, I would put it on the list of "must sees." The water is so clear you can see many of the shipwrecks at the bottom of Lake Huron. This year the family expedition takes us to Big Sky in Montana and hopefully Glacier National Park.

I look forward to giving back to an organization which has helped me so much in my career. Please contact me with any ideas you may have regarding how we can improve our programs or our organization. And if you have a good idea I can steal, by all means call me! I hope to see you all in Chicago for the Regional Meeting in April along with the ABA technology show.



NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARALEGAL ASSOCIATIONS

• The National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. (NFPA) is pleased to announce that Karen A. Santagata, PACE® Registered Paralegal, of Cleveland, Ohio was appointed as Treasurer and Director of Finance of NFPA on November 4, 2008. Ms. Santagata served as the PACE Education Coordinator and Case Law Coordinator from 2007 to 2008 for NFPA. A member of the Cleveland Association of Paralegals (CAP) and Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association since 2002, Ms. Santagata served as CAP's Vice President, Director of Membership from 2006 to present, Treasurer and Director of Finance from 2005 to 2006, and, and as Secondary NFPA Delegate in 2008. Ms. Santagata has authored articles in The National Paralegal Reporter and has authored and currently teaches CLE seminars and an Ethics Course for the American Institute of Paralegal Studies, Inc. (AIPS)

A paralegal since 1977, Ms. Santagata is employed in the legal department at American Greetings Corporation in Cleveland, Ohio. She received a paralegal certificate from AIPS in November 2003 and a Litigation and ADR Specialist Certificate in April 2004.

NFPA is a non-profit professional organization representing more than 11,000 paralegals and is headquartered in Edmonds, WA. NFPA's core purpose is the advancement of the paralegal profession. NFPA promotes a global presence for the paralegal profession, and leadership in the legal community.

- The International Paralegal Association/Organization category of membership is available to paralegal associations/organizations which are located outside of the United States and do not want to take an active part in the

governance of NFPA, but do want to associate with the mission and the activities of NFPA, and participate in professional and personal benefits offered by NFPA.

- NFPA approved a new category of membership effective October 15, 2008. A military sustaining membership-at-large shall be available to individual paralegals currently serving on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States. Individual military sustaining members-at-large shall not be excluded or discriminated against due to tour of duty outside of the United States of America in applying for or holding Military Sustaining Membership-at-Large or receiving services in NFPA.

With the exception of voting privileges, Military Sustaining Members-at-Large are entitled to the regular rights, privileges, and benefits of membership and to the extraordinary right to speak in debate.

- NFPA delegates voted to approve a Vice President and Director of Marketing board position at the 2008 annual convention. The Vice President and Director of Marketing shall be responsible for all aspects of marketing which will ensure consistency in NFPA marketing efforts and materials. The duties will include the development of NFPA's marketing plan, marketing strategies and promotion materials. The Vice President and Director of Marketing shall supervise all activities concerned with the implementation of the Corporate Partners Program, development and growth of other marketing programs, and shall have other duties as may be assigned by the president. Consistent with the other Vice President board positions, this position will serve a two year term. The first Vice President and Director of Marketing will be elected at the 2009 annual convention.

Robert LeClair Honored

Bob LeClair was presented with an engraved plaque as an AAFPE Honorary Member by President Marisa Campbell on October 17, 2008 at the Annual Awards Luncheon held at the Hyatt Regency at Reunion Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Bob was nominated for this honor by Susan Howery (Yavapai College), Anita Tebbe (Johnson County Community College), Therese Cannon (AAfPE President 1987-88), and Ed Husted (University of Alaska-Fairbanks).

In nominating Bob for this honor Susan wrote, "it feels as if Bob *is* AAFPE to me.... What I mean to say is that I have always felt that Bob LeClair was the heart and soul of AAFPE.... He has given much of his considerable talent, time, love and energy to this organization."

Teri wrote, "This tall, handsome, charismatic, super-intelligent, high-energy guy was always the center of attention everywhere he went. This, I thought, was a force of nature.... People sometimes don't see the work that is behind the public face. Bob is a brilliant conceptual thinker and a serious planner, down to the smallest detail.... Bob has the kindest heart, the most generous spirit, and fiercest loyalty of anyone I know. He also cares deeply about justice and fairness, the values that drove him into the legal profession in the first place and have sustained him during his career."

Ed wrote, "I am confident countless members of AAFPE, both old and new, would agree that the names 'Bob LeClair' and 'AAfPE' are practically synonymous.... Many program directors would concur with my statement that no single individual has been more involved in the success of their program and their participation in AAFPE than Bob

LeClair.... Bob's rare combination of leadership skills, problem solving and wit, sometimes all expressed in the same sentence, and his love and understanding of our pro-

fession are responsible to a large degree for where AAFPE is today as an organization. While our debt of gratitude is too large to ever be adequately expressed, recognizing him as an honorary member is a step in the right direction."

The Board of Directors agreed wholeheartedly that Bob's achievements and contributions deserved recognition as an Honorary Member of AAFPE. Members attending the Awards Luncheon were treated to a taped tribute to Bob by Teri Cannon

and a Bob LeClair slide show presented by Dora Dye.

David Dye, AAFPE President 1986-87, presented Bob with a walking stick carved from wood found in the forest near Big Basin Redwoods State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains of California. The card which came with the stick said, "No walking stick is ever completely finished. It is up to the owner to continue its story."

In accepting the award Bob demonstrated his charm, wit, and intelligence, and his devotion to paralegalism, his colleagues and the Association.



Bob LeClair — exuberant honoree.



Marisa Campbell, Bob LeClair, David and Dora Dye.



"No walking stick is ever completely finished. It is up to the owner to continue its story."

MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO AAFPE

The following members were recognized at the 2008 Annual Conference by Marisa Campbell, outgoing President, for their service and contributions to AAFPE. Each member who was recognized received a certificate acknowledging exemplary volunteer service.

The certificates read in part:

Although AAFPE has a professional management organization to assist with its many operational details, AAFPE has relied extensively upon volunteer assistance from its inception. This volunteer assistance provides the lifeblood for the success of our association. We have many talented and dedicated volunteers, but upon occasion an individual performs services that warrant special recognition by the AAFPE Board.

Pat Adongo	Pacific Regional Representative - LEX Advisory Board
Pamela Bailey	Chair – Publications Committee
John Bradley	Judge – Pearson-Prentice Hall Online Teaching Competition
Clarissa Cota	Host – Pacific Regional Conference
Katherine Currier	Parliamentarian
Marcy Delesandri	South Central Regional Representative – LEX Advisory Board
Charlotte DesHotels	Host – South Central Regional Conference
Dora Dye	Listserv Manager
Judy Gibbs	Chair – International Networking Committee
Thomas Goldman	Judge – Pearson-Prentice Hall Online Teaching Competition
William Goren	Co-Chair – Journal Task Force
Paul Guymon	North Central Regional Representative – LEX Advisory Board Member – National Conference Committee
Bruce Hamm	Chair – Transfer and Articulation Task Force Co-Chair – Access to Justice Committee
Nancy Caine Harbour	Co-Chair – Access to Justice Committee
Lillian Harris	Chair – LEX Advisory Board
Janet Hart	Host – Southeast Regional Conference
Ed Husted	Treasurer and Chair – Finance Committee
Diana Juettner	Host – Northeast Regional Conference
Mary Kubichek	Chair – Cengage Excellence in Teaching Competition
Christine Lissitzyn	Chair – Writing Committee Co-Chair – Journal Task Force
Marissa Moran	Chair – Program Director Survey Task Force
William Mulkeen	Chair – Past Presidents Council Judge – Pearson-Prentice Hall Online Teaching Competition
Kathryn Myers	Chair – 2008 National Conference Committee
Hedi Nasheri	Chair – Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee Chair – Nominations Committee
Janet Olejar	Editor-in-Chief of <i>The Paralegal Educator</i>
Anthony Piazza	Host – North Central Regional Conference
Diane Pevar	Chair – Curriculum Committee Chair – Model Syllabi Task Force
Barry Puett	Southeast Regional Representative – LEX Advisory Board
Nicholas Riggs	Member – 2008 National Conference Committee
Jeff Rubel	Chair – Technology Committee
Carolyn Smoot	Chair – Mentoring and New Member Orientation Committee Chair – Membership Committee
Joy Smucker	Chair – Information Exchange Chair – Soft Skills Committee Chair – Policy Manual Task Force
Joan Fraczek Spadoni	Member – 2008 National Conference Committee
Georgana Taggart	Chair – Membership Application Task Force
Anita Tebbe	Chair – Credentials Task Force
Jean Volk	Northeast Regional Representative – LEX Advisory Board

AAfPE Calendar of Events

2009

February 20-22

**Board of Directors
Meeting**
Portland, OR

March 1

Educator articles due to
Editor for Spring issue

March 26-27

**South Central Regional
Meeting**
Houston, TX

March 26-28

**Southeast Regional
Meeting**
Atlanta, GA

April 3-4

**North Central Regional
Meeting**
Chicago, IL

April 17-18

**Northeast Regional
Meeting**
Washington, DC

April 23-25

Pacific Regional Meeting
Honolulu, HI

June 1

Educator articles due to
Editor for Fall issue

June 5-7

**Board of Directors
Meeting**
TBD

October 28-31

28th Annual Conference
Portland, OR

November 1

Educator articles due to
Editor for Winter issue

AAfPE REGIONAL MEETING SURVEY RESULTS

A gratifying 45% of membership responded to the Regional Meeting Survey in early September.

Which region includes your institution?

North Central	26.8%
Northeast	24.7%
Pacific	18.6%
South Central	10.8%
Southeast	19.1%

Which regional meeting do you usually attend?

North Central	20.2%
Northeast	21.2%
Pacific	16.6%
South Central	8.3%
Southeast	11.9%
I do not attend regional meetings	21.8%

Of the 48 respondents who made **comments**

- 25 said they did not attend due to budgetary constraints (includes only being allowed to attend one conference a year and choosing to go the national conference)
- A handful cited scheduling conflicts
- Several found the number of sessions offered and the quality of the programs disappointing

Do you prefer a one-day or two-day schedule for the regional meetings?

One-day	41.1%
Two-day	58.9%

What day(s) of the week do you prefer regional meetings to be held? (check all which apply)

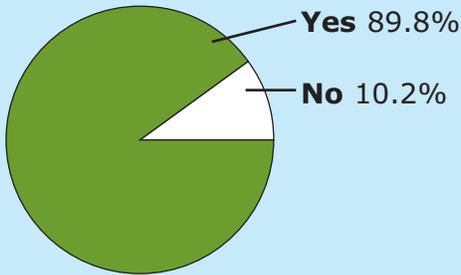
Monday	5.2%
Tuesday	6.2%
Wednesday	6.7%
Thursday	29.5%
Friday	81.9%
Saturday	58.5%
Sunday	9.8%

The AAfPE Board of Directors is grateful to all members who responded to the survey, and will use the data collected in future decision-making regarding regional meetings.

AAfPE DIRECTORY SURVEY RESULTS

127 AAfPE members responded to the Directory Survey – a statistically accurate representation of membership (30% response rate).

Do you refer to the AAfPE Directory?



If you answered Yes to Question 1, how often do you refer to the AAfPE Directory in a year?

1 -5 times a year	46.5%
5 – 10 times a year	31.6%
11 – 20 times a year	14.9%
21 – 30 times a year	1.8%
More than 30 times a year	5.3%

To what sections of the AAfPE Directory do you refer most often? (check all that apply)

Introduction (Association Information)	11.4%
Institutional Members	72.8%
Associate Members	13.2%
Individual Members	31.6%
Honorary Members	0.9%
Sustaining Members	0.9%
Affiliate Members	2.6%
Educational Institutions by State	71.9%
Regional List of All Members	28.1%
Alphabetical List of All Members	52.6%
Institutional Members by Voting Category	0.9%
Institutional Members with Legal Nurse Consulting Programs	3.5%
Institutions with a LEX Chapter	9.6%
Law-Related Associations	18.4%
AAfPE Bylaws	16.7%

54 respondents made **comments** in response to being asked to: *Please let us know what you would recommend changing in the AAfPE Directory to make it more useful.*

- Eight respondents thought the directory should be placed online to eliminate printing costs, save the planet, and remain current.
- Twenty-one respondents liked the directory as it is and didn't want anything changed.
- A couple of respondents asked to have specific courses offered returned to the directory, while four others said the directory was cleaner and easier to read without the courses.
- Suggestions included
 - Inclusion of faculty member names in the directory
 - An index by type of program (e.g., associate, bachelors, post-baccalaureate certificate)
 - A list of ABA approved programs
 - Alphabetize all members and list member status next to the name
 - A section for institutions offering online courses
 - Side tabs and pictures
 - Description of the duties of the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs
 - Organization by state rather than alphabetically

A couple of respondents noted errors in the directory, and Headquarters regrets and apologizes for errors which we made. In order to assure that the most current and correct information will be in the next directory, a form was sent to all program directors requesting updated information on their program and institution.

AAfPE is fortunate to continue receiving support from Aspen Publishers/Walters Kluwer which is willing to print the directory at no cost to the Association.

We are making plans for the next directory, and will incorporate many of the suggestions made by respondents to the survey. Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond.

Summary of AAFPE Board of Directors Meeting October 2008

Mission: To provide greater access to legal services by promoting quality paralegal education.

The AAFPE Board of Directors held its fall 2008 meeting on Monday, October 13 – Wednesday, October 15 and Saturday, October 18, of 2008.

The meeting took place at the Hyatt Regency at Reunion Hotel, site of the 2008 AAFPE National Conference. The National Conference was held Wednesday October 15 – Saturday, October 18, 2008.

The Board continued its work on strategic planning, including a review of earlier strategic planning sessions. The Board heard reports from the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board reviewed financials for the past year. AAFPE made money at the 2007 Baltimore conference but we will likely lose money with the Dallas conference. Attendance is down slightly. There is concern about the profitability of the Portland conference, with the increase in airfare and the distance for so many members.

The Board discussed increasing registration and membership fees. These were increased last year. Nevertheless we need to continue to look at the general increase in overall costs (food, services, and publications) and measure that against the need to increase registration and membership fees.

The Board looked at its own travel, food and lodging expenses and these have decreased over the past five years. The Board will continue to look at

ways to cut costs and increase revenue. Despite recent losses, the Association is doing well. All CDs and the sweep checking account are government insured.

The Board discussed the 2009 National Conference in Portland, Oregon and the 2010 National Conference in Indianapolis. The Board is considering several East Coast cities for 2011 including Philadelphia, Hartford, and Pittsburgh.

The Board discussed the 2009 regionals. All of the spring 2009 regionals have dates and locations in place. There will be a meeting of the regional hosts during the Dallas National Conference. The Treasurer noted that often when we lose money at the national conference we make money at the regionals.

The Board discussed the Listserv policy that is now restricted to members and a few other groups. The Board considered requests for access for administrative assistants to member departments and program directors. The Board approved access to administrative assistants at the request of member program directors.

The Board considered a second request for member advisory committee members. After discussion the Board approved Listserv access for advisory committee members at the request of member program directors.

The Board further approved a request for access to the Listserv by a new paralegal association, AAPI.

The Board met with Anita Tebbe, Chair of the Credentials Committee, and discussed the Business Meeting, elections and voting procedures. As Chair of the ABA Approval Commission, Anita also spoke to the Board about Approval Commission tasks and the approval process. The backlog for site visits was a concern of many Board members. Anita reported they are currently one and a half years behind and they are hoping to close the gap to one year by the end of 2008.

On October 18, following the conference, the Board evaluated the 2008 National Conference. There were many positive reviews of the conference. Attendance was better than expected with a number of people registering on-site.

The Board heard a brief report from the Access to Justice Committee and several proposals were tabled to the February Board meeting. With Bruce Hamm's election to the ABA Approval Commission he will no longer be able to serve as chair of the ATJ Committee. Newly elected President, Carolyn Smoot, will be making committee chair appointments, including the ATJ Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Smucker
AAfPE Secretary

The AAFPE website now hosts
an **Employment Opportunities** page.

Member institutions may post job openings by contacting AAFPE at
info@aafpe.org.



American Association for Paralegal Education
28TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Portland, Oregon • October 28-31, 2009

PORTLAND 2009 THE 21ST CENTURY PARALEGAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE: February 1, 2009

This application MUST be completed and received by AAFPE by February 1, 2009

SOME TOPIC AREAS TO CONSIDER:

- New kinds of jobs for paralegals
- New courses and skills we should be teaching
- Latest technology for paralegals
- Access to justice
- Alternative ways to teach/study abroad
- Electronic research
- Looking to the future – changes that are coming
- Teaching tips and creative classrooms

Title of Your Presentation: _____

Brief Description: _____

Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

For consideration of your proposal

- Provide complete mailing information, phone and e-mail address.
- Submit a separate form for each session proposal.
- Provide a session content outline.
- Provide a 50-75 word session description suitable for inclusion in conference marketing.
- Provide the above items by **February 1, 2009** or your presentation will not be considered.

Materials

- All handouts for reproduction must be received at AAFPE Headquarters by **July 15, 2009**.
- Acceptable electronic formats include Word®, WordPerfect®, PowerPoint® or PDF.
- Each speaker is limited to conference materials of **15 pages**, front and back.
- Any copyrighted materials should include a permission letter from the publisher.
- The Conference Chair and Meeting Manager reserve the right to approve and edit session materials.
- Most sessions are scheduled for one hour and 15 minutes. Please allow time at the end for questions and answers.

Reminders

- Late submissions will not be considered.
- Session presenters do not receive an honorarium, reimbursement for travel expenses, nor waiving of conference fees, but they do receive recognition in the conference brochure for their valuable contribution to paralegal education.
- Attendees have paid for and expect to receive complete hand-out materials. Should you miss the deadline of **July 15, 2009**, you will be responsible for providing enough handouts for attendees. **AAFPE will not cover on-site copying of session materials.**
- Speakers should remember that members attend these sessions for educational purposes. While speakers may mention books, articles, tapes or DVDs they have authored or edited, sale of such material is permitted only in the exhibition hall by registered exhibitors.

Equipment

- If chosen to participate at the Annual Conference, an Equipment Request Form will be sent with your confirmation materials. However, when planning your presentation, please consider:
- AAFPE **will** provide LCD projector, screen and lavalier or table microphones for individual session rooms. All other needs will be the responsibility of the speaker.
- **Limited** Internet access will be available. Please advise if access is **necessary** for your session.

Signature: _____

Date _____

FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY AAFPE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1, 2009

Proposals should be e-mailed to **AAFPE Headquarters** info@aafpe.org or mailed to:

AAFPE 2009 Annual Conference CFP

19 Mantua Road, Mt. Royal, NJ 08061

Telephone: 856-423-2829 • Fax: 856-423-3420