



November 21, 2016

Dear AIPPI-US Members,

This newsletter provides an update on our Division's activities.

AIPPI-US Division Annual Meeting: International Reception - Oct. 28

On Friday afternoon, October 28, AIPPI-US held its Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. during the AIPLA Annual Meeting. **AIPPI President Hao Ma** and **AIPPI Executive Director John Bochnovic** participated in the meeting, as well as **Mark Whitaker**, our president. We completed the formal election process for new officers and Steering Committee members, to lead AIPPI-US in 2017. A new position on the Steering Committee was also created, for the Immediate Past Chair of AIPPI-US, to provide continuity for our future activities. The list of AIPPI-US officers newly elected is:

- Mark Whitaker - President
- Myra McCormack - President-Elect
- Maria Scungio - Chair
- Marc Richards - Vice Chair
- Josh Goldberg - Treasurer
- John Carson - Secretary

The current list of AIPPI-US Steering Committee members is:

- Bing Ai
- Monica Barone
- Chris Carani
- Ray Farrell
- Dave Hill
- Kelly Hyndman
- Sharon Israel
- Andrea Kamage
- Bea Koempel-Thomas
- Sunhee Lee
- Dale Nelson
- John Osha
- Peter Schechter
- Chris Scherer

- Philip Swain
- Kim Van Voorhis

We sincerely thank **Phil Swain** for his leadership as Chair in the last two years, and are pleased that he will continue to provide insight to AIPPI-US, in his Steering Committee position as Immediate Past Chair.

We also welcome **Nick Godici** to AIPPI-US this year. Nick is an AIPLA Board Member, and has agreed to serve as AIPPI-US' liaison with AIPLA.

Immediately following our Annual Meeting, a reception was held for the International Networking Reception, hosted by AIPLA and AIPPI-US. The event was well attended by more than 125, including members of the AIPLA Global Sector Committees. Familiar acquaintances reconnected and new members enjoyed the chance to introduce themselves. We appreciate the support of our sponsors McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Osha Liang and AIPLA, to make this reception a success. We are looking to a challenging and exciting year, which includes preparations for our work at the **AIPPI Sydney Congress** next **October 13-17**.

Call for Sydney panel session topics, Cancun study question topics

The AIPPI International Bureau is now focusing on topics for both the Panel Sessions for the 2017 Congress in Sydney and the Study Questions for the 2018 Congress in Cancun. Each national group is encouraged to submit proposed topics for consideration. Specifically, we have been invited to suggest topics with practical relevance or implications for intellectual property rights; and/or current hot topics or emerging areas of interest in any area of IP law (patents, trademarks, designs, copyright, geographical indications, trade secrets).

Please let me or our AIPPI-US Division Secretary, John Carson, know if you have any suggestions for topics for either Congress, by **Friday, December 1**. With your suggestion, please include a brief explanation that touches on: a) why it is relevant/important, and b) the specific points you think should be explored. The AIPPI International Bureau has requested responses by Monday, December 5, 2016.

Formation of Sydney Study Committees

By the beginning of the New Year 2017, we will form Study Committees, to prepare the US Group reports in response to the four Sydney Study Questions. Preparation of the formal questionnaires is in process-including details of the precise issues to be addressed by each national group report. The general subject matter of each Sydney Study Question is listed below. If you have early interest in participating on a Study Question Committee, please let me know. If you are interested in being on one of these Study Committees (and if you are interested in serving as chair or co-chair), please let me know by **December 31**.

Sydney Study Question Topics

- **Patents:** Patentability of computer implemented inventions
- **Trademarks:** Bad faith trademarks
- **Media/IT:** Protection of graphical user interfaces
- **General:** Quantification of monetary relief

AIPPI International Standing Committee opportunities

In addition to the AIPPI Study Committees on the comparative law issues, as well as AIPPI Statutory Committees (e.g., the Programme and Finance Committees), AIPPI has more than 20 international Standing Committees. These Standing Committees consist of members of AIPPI from different countries around the world that concern various issues of intellectual property law, and are appointed by the AIPPI Reporter General team. The US Group currently has many members already serving on AIPPI Standing Committees.

The AIPPI Reporter General has invited us to nominate additional US members to the various AIPPI International Standing Committees. Membership in the Standing Committees is an excellent way to become involved in the work of AIPPI. A list of the Standing Committees and their descriptions and scope can be found here: <http://aippi.org/committee/?status=Active> Membership is limited. There are current openings on the following Committees:

- IP & Green Technology Committee - one seat, outside counsel
- ADR Committee - one seat, in-house counsel
- Client Attorney Privilege - one seat, in-house counsel
- Commercialization of IP - one seat, in-house counsel
- Development and IP - one seat, in-house counsel
- Free Trade Agreement - one seat, in-house counsel
- Patent Cooperation Treaty - one seat, in-house counsel
- Pharma and Biotechnology - one seat, outside counsel
- Piracy and Counterfeiting - one seat, in-house counsel
- Trademarks - one seat, in-house counsel
- TRIPs - one seat, in-house counsel
- Unitary Patent/Unified Patent Court - one seat, in-house counsel

There are also two new Standing Committees are in the process of being formed: a) the Trade Secrets Standing Committee, three seats, two outside counsel, one in-house counsel; and b) the IP Office Practice Standing Committee, three seats, two outside counsel, one in-house counsel.

Please contact me, if you are interested in being nominated, or if you have any suggestions for persons who you think should be nominated, by Wednesday, December 7 (Bureau deadline to receive nominations is December 9).

San Francisco 2021 Organizing Committee

During the AIPPI Milan Congress, we had a brief meeting with the AIPPI Secretary General and the AIPPI international secretariat to continue discussions on the planning for the San Francisco Congress.

AIPPI-US has an Organizing Committee formed, but additional team members are needed, especially from California. Committee work will include planning the social and cultural events around the Congress, as well finding local sponsors. If you are interested in becoming of a part of the Organizing Committee, please let me know.

Current members of the organizing committee are:

- Bing Ai (San Diego, CA)
- Daniel Brownstone (San Francisco, CA)
- John Carson (Irvine, CA)
- Georgeann Grunebach (Los Angeles, CA)
- Sharon Israel (Houston, TX)
- Bea Koempel-Thomas (Spokane, WA)
- Eugene Mar (San Francisco, CA)
- Kyu Min (San Francisco, CA)
- Dale Nelson (Burbank, CA)
- John Osha (Houston, TX)
- Marc Richards (Chicago, IL)
- Wayne Sobon (San Francisco, CA)
- Jeremy Taylor (San Francisco, CA)

AIPPI-US Sub-Committees

Membership Sub-Committee - Marc Richards has agreed to lead the Membership Committee work, focused on growth of our national group. We are looking for additional members to join this Sub-Committee.

Corporate Sub-Committee - Andrea Kamage and Alexis Garcha are Co-Chairing this newly established resource for corporate/in-house counsel within the AIPPI-US group; discussions are under way to coordinate this activity with the soon-to-be formed Advisory Committee for corporate counsel established at the Bureau, a result of Steering Committee member Monica Barone's advocacy. We are looking for additional members to join the AIPPI-US Sub-Committee, to discuss projects and goals for 2017 and forward.

AIPPI-US Membership Initiative

We have a continued focus to increase our membership, through our own promotion of AIPPI's mission, improved advertising and promotion of the annual Congress, and additional written work (amicus briefs, questionnaire responses, etc.) prepared year-round. We continue to work within the AIPLA Global Sector Group, and to integrate all of our activities with the other AIPLA international committees and international activities of the Global Sector Group. Our aim is to foster interest among US members of AIPLA who are intrigued by international practice and the harmonization of IP laws internationally. The new US administration will certainly in 2017 have significant influence on IP laws and treaty participation by the US. We will continue to promote AIPPI-US by using the slogan "become an international IP lawyer" as part of our "join AIPPI" membership drive. I welcome ideas and suggestions on additional ways to reach prospective members and engage their participation in our work. Watch for us to open the 2017 renewal season soon!

AIPLA - Mid-Winter Institute

For the AIPPI-US members planning to attend this year's Mid-Winter Institute in Fort Lauderdale on February 1 to 4, we are planning to arrange for a social event, to see old friends and make new connections. Stay tuned for more information.

Conclusion

The AIPPI-US Division welcomes your interest to get involved in committee work, including the preparation for US participation in each annual Congress and Study Question responses. Please take advantage of some of the many opportunities to get more involved in the work of our Division. We are looking forward continued growth in our numbers, and further expansion in our activities. Please contact me to express interest, and to share ideas and recommendations you may have.

“AIPPI-US Division - become an international IP lawyer.”

Happy Thanksgiving to you,

Maria A. Scungio
Chair, AIPPI-US Division