

BLS IMF Committee Meeting Minutes
Annual Meeting
June 9, 2021, 1:00 p.m.

1. Welcome and Introduction

- a. Introduction of current IMF leadership team
- b. Announcement was made that meeting was being reported (but not recorded)

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 13, 2021

- a. Motion to approve minutes made by Christina Taylor; motion was seconded by Valeria Angelucci
- b. Motion passed

3. Chair's Report

- a. IMF Sub-Committee Updates
 - i. Communication & Marketing Committee
 - 1. BLS website has been redesigned; Fellows now have their own page
 - 2. Documents relating to IMF can be found on the website, including the Diversity Committee Strategic Plan
 - ii. Networking Committee
 - 1. Networking events that committee was hoping to plan for Spring 2021 did not happen, and committee is looking to planning events for Fall 2021 far enough out from the holidays to increase likelihood of attendance
 - 2. Looking into logistics for having a hybrid in-person/Zoom event and/or event at the Labor Day Retreat
 - 3. James Moon reported on a successful Koyzak Minority Mentoring network event with LGBTQ+ law students that took place in January 2021
 - iii. CLE Committee
 - 1. CLE on Leadership in the Bar took place in February 2021, which was aimed at giving an introduction on Bar leadership

and the path to leadership; the CLE was well-attended and is available to view on YouTube

2. There also was a Racism in the Workplace CLE that took place in February 2021
3. No CLEs currently are set, and the committee is looking for ideas for new programming to put on for the coming year, including potential co-sponsorship opportunities with other committees

iv. IMF Mentor/Mentee Program

1. 38 Mentors and 73 Mentees have signed up for the program
2. The program will run from June 2021 to June 2022
3. Michelle Suarez will follow up with the volunteers from the January 2021 meeting (Angelique Gulla; Zachariah Evangelista; and Nicole McLemore) who will be following up with the Mentors/Mentees at the end of each quarter to ensure they are meeting the requirements of the Pledge program

b. Implementation of IMF Substantive Committee Liaison Policy:

i. Current Liaisons:

1. Business Litigation: Angelique Gulla
2. Bankruptcy/UCC: Lorna E. Brown-Burton
3. Computer and Technology: Adam Duh
4. Corporations/Securities and Financial Services: Toni V. Tsvetanova
5. Intellectual Property: Nicole Reid

- ii. Anyone interested in serving as a Substantive Committee Liaison for the upcoming year can contact the IMF leadership

4. Fellowship 2021-2012 Program

a. Announcement and introduction of the eight (8) Fellows for 2021-2023:

- i. Alejandra Iglesia
- ii. Raina Shipman
- iii. Chemere Ellis
- iv. Raychelle Tasher
- v. Michael Dunn
- vi. Katherine Van de Bogart
- vii. Negin Kordbacheh

- viii. Romy Jurado
- b. The Committee is looking into having an in-person 2021-2023 class Fellows reception (as Labor Day likely will be a hybrid of in-person/video)
- c. The Committee discussed a proposal to add an obligation for future Fellow classes to view the BLS CLEs on the Legislative Process and on Leadership, both of which are free and available on the BLS website
 - i. Motion was made by Christina Taylor to add an obligation for Fellows beginning with the 2022-2024 class to view the BLS CLEs on the Legislative Process and on Leadership; motion was seconded by Mariane Dorris
 - ii. Motion passed

5. CLE Diversity Policy

- a. Mariane Dorris reported on the CLE Diversity Policy issue resulting from the Florida Supreme Court Opinion, *In re: Amendment to Rule Regulating the Florida Bar 6-10.3*, No. SC21-284, issued on April 15, 2021 (Schedule 2 to the Agenda), and a revised policy that was circulated to EC for discussion at the June 2021 meeting (Schedule 3 to the Agenda) (the “Revised Policy”)
 - i. IMF leadership and EC worked on the Revised Policy to address the specific benchmarks that the Supreme Court said were quotas
 - ii. A first revision was circulated on June 2, 2021, and the current Revised Policy was circulated on June 8, 2021, along with the BLS Diversity Strategic Plan and the Big Bar CLE handbook (which formed the basis of the original policy and the revised policy)
 - iii. The Revised Policy removes the benchmarks and changes the effective date to July 1, 2021; the Revised Policy requires a “good faith effort”—language was chosen by IMF and EC and vetted by Florida Bar President Dori Foster-Morales, Florida Bar President-Elect Gary Lesser, Florida Bar Executive Director Josh Doyle, and by the general counsel to the Florida Bar
 - iv. The Revised Policy also changes the provision of the diversity speaker directory to state speakers “may” self-identify instead of “must” self-identify, and changed the word “and” to “or”
- b. Motion was made by Michael Higer that the IMF Committee recommend to EC to approve the Revised Policy; motion was seconded by Rick Gross
 - i. A discussion of the Revised Policy followed
 - ii. The motion carried by acclamation

iii. Judge Specie and Judge Vaughn abstained from voting

6. Other New or Unfinished Business

- a. Motion was made by Valeria Angelucci to present a motion to EC to again extend the Fellow stipend for the 2020-2021 Fellows and the 2019-2020 Fellows for another year; motion was seconded by Christina Taylor
- b. New Fellows were reminded to check their introduction e-mails to review the requirements for meeting attendance at the Labor Day Retreat

7. Adjournment