



2008

Year in Review

The women of Eckert are a dynamic team of professionals, possessing a wealth of knowledge, experience and talent. Individually and collectively, each is committed to providing clients with solutions that are effective, practical and smart. Their ability and keen perspective are integral to the firm's success. You will find women in every office and every practice area of the firm.

Look closer, and you will find Eckert women...

- Shaping the future of the firm through their work on the Board of Directors, Associates, Benefits and Compensation committees;
- Chairing or co-chairing several of the firm's practice groups;
- Winning significant cases and negotiating favorable deals for clients in diverse industries;
- Publishing articles and lecturing from the podium; and
- Participating in and being recognized by countless professional and charitable organizations.

In all of their endeavors, and for all their diversity, the women of Eckert share a common vision: to excel in their profession. Each woman is a remarkable example of how to stretch and grow, personally and professionally, and how to represent clients with ability and integrity.

The achievements of Eckert women in 2008 are as numerous as they are noteworthy, as are the accomplishments of the WIE organization in its inaugural year. We hope that you enjoy reading about these successes as much as we enjoyed sharing in them.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Internal Promotions

- In 2008, the firm announced several changes in practice and office management as well as the election of two new board members, including WIE members:

**Sandra Mihok**, appointed as the Co-Chair of the Tax, Estates and Benefits Group;

**Heidi Hamman Shakely**, appointed as the Member-in-Charge of the Harrisburg office;

**Dorothy Davis** and **Wendy West Feinstein** (ex officio), newly-elected members of the Board of Directors.

- In April, Washington D.C. litigator and WIE member **Laura Stover** was promoted to Member.

### Speaking for Eckert Seamans

- **Bernie Munley** co-chaired the Pennsylvania Bar Association (PBA) Commission on Women in the Profession's (WIP) *2008 Fall Retreat and Leadership Forum*. The event was a rousing success, and in addition to Bernie's efforts, **Kathy Gallagher**

participated as a panelist in the *Creating Your Own Strategic Plan* session. The theme of the program, "Taking Your Legal Leadership Skills to the Next Level," featured CLE sessions covering topics including: communicating as an effective leader; personal branding; rainmaking and business development; law firm economics and client relationship management. The firm also sponsored the luncheon and keynote address, delivered by Dian Ogilvie, Esq., Senior Vice President and Secretary, Toyota Motor North America.

- **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** served as planning chair and faculty for a number of American Law Institute-American Bar Association ("ALI-ABA") conferences and seminars this year, including: *Trademark Law: What's New*; *Hot Topics in Internet Law for Business Lawyers: Don't Get Caught in the 'Net*; *Tiffany vs. EBay: Roadmap for Avoiding Liability or Short Detour for Trademark Owners?*; and *Litigating Trademark, Internet, and Unfair Competition Cases*.

- **Wendy West Feinstein** and **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** served as faculty at the Pennsylvania Bar

Institute 2nd Annual Intellectual Property Law Institute.

- **Kitt Turner** and **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** spoke at ALI-ABA's seminar, *Intellectual Property Licensing Today*, on avoiding bankruptcy pitfalls in intellectual property licensing matters. In addition, Kitt and Bobbi recently served as faculty (and Bobbi as planning chair) for ALI-ABA's seminar titled *Negotiating Business Issues in Intellectual Property License Agreements: Getting the Best Deal in a Changing Global Economy*.

- **Jennifer Rawson** spoke at and served on the planning committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute seminar, *How-2-Practice Estates and Trusts*. She also spoke at the *Creditor Claims and Contested Claims Against a Decedent's Estate* session at the Estate Law Institute in Philadelphia. In addition, she made two presentations to over 100 Consol Energy retirees and their spouses on the subject of *Estate Planning: What is it and Why do you need it*.

- **Heidi Hamman Shakely** participated as a panelist at the Pennsylvania Bar Institute 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Insurance Institute, on the topic of the value of Errors & Omissions ("E&O") insurance coverage for agents and brokers. In addition to Heidi's and others' efforts, **LaToya Winfield** provided legal research and **Jennifer Eul** contributed to the written materials. Heidi also participated in another PBI seminar as a course speaker planner, titled *Business Insurance*.

- **Kitt Turner** served as planning chair and panelist of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's *Advising Troubled Companies and Their Boards* seminar. The program, a live webcast, was so successful that the PBI has instituted it as an annual program, which will be presented three times in 2009.

- **Eileen Lampe** served as a panelist at the Pennsylvania Association for Justice course, *Advanced Topics in Medical Malpractice*.

- In February, **Wendy West Feinstein** spoke at the PBI Civil Litigation Update.

- **Janet Linn** served as moderator at the New York City Bar Roundtable Discussion titled *In re Bilski*.

- **Laura Stover** co-presented *Negotiating Contracts for the Public and Private Sectors* at a seminar for women-owned businesses, sponsored by the Women Presidents' Educational Organization ("WPEO") and Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

- **Jana Grimm** served as a panelist for the *Negotiating Skills for Women* workshop during the Washington County Athena Award celebration.

- In April, **Heather Russell Fine** worked with Flex-Time Lawyers, LLC to host a meeting and panel discussion in the firm's Philadelphia office. The panel's topic, *Forging Generational Bonds*, brought together a diverse panel. In an interactive exchange, the "Boomer" panelists and those individuals representing "Gen Y" discussed issues involving workplace flexibility with emphasis on work/life balance. The panel also discussed how to develop effective mentoring relationships and role models in a diverse workforce where aspirations are evolving and technology is changing the way we think about corporate culture. **Chuck Forer** participated as one of the panelists.

- Several WIE members spoke at firm-sponsored CLE events this year, including: **Allison Feldstein**, **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway**, **Ursula Knight**, **Audrey Kwak** and **Sandra Mihok** at the firm CLE in July; and **Kim Craver**, **Allison Feldstein**, **Clare Gallagher**, **Christina Kepplinger**, **Mariah Lewis** and **Miranda Nickles** at the HR Forum in November.

## Appointments

- **Kathy Gallagher** was selected by U.S. Senator Arlen Specter to serve as one of his seven appointees to the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for the Western District of Pennsylvania. She is one of fourteen appointees to the bipartisan Commission, which is charged by Senator Arlen Specter and Senator Bob Casey with submitting a list of qualified individuals for the current vacancy in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, as well as any other such vacancies which may arise during the current session of Congress.

- **Bridget Montgomery** was reappointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to its Committee on

Rules of Evidence. This is Bridget's second term on the committee. The Supreme Court's Order reappointing Bridget also re-designates her at the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

- **Carol Cocheres** was appointed to two influential Harrisburg-area boards in 2008, including the Harristown Development Corporation, a prime force in the redevelopment of downtown Harrisburg and CREDC, the Capitol Region Economic Development Corporation, which is the economic development arm of the Harrisburg Regional Chamber and the leading organization for promoting and performing economic development activities in Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties.
- **Ursula Knight** was appointed as an assistant adjunct professor at Boston University School of Law, teaching in the area of Biomedical Forensic Science.
- Southpointe office attorneys **Jana Grimm** and **April Morgan Hincy** were both elected to the Washington Area Humane Society Board of Directors.
- Pittsburgh corporate attorney **Sarah (Shannon) Carlins** was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood Legal Services Association (NLSA) by the Board of Governors of the Allegheny County Bar Association. NLSA provides legal services to the poor in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler and Lawrence counties through such means as a telephone helpline, weekly People's Law Clinics, and most significantly, representation at court proceedings and administrative hearings.
- Boston associate **Julia Vacek** is a founding member and on the Board of Directors of an organization called Associates for Civil Rights (ACR). ACR is a sister organization to the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law of the Boston Bar Association (LCCR). As a newly established and fast growing organization, ACR's mission is to promote awareness among law firm associates and the Boston legal community at large of contemporary civil rights issues, and to provide opportunities for young lawyers and other members of the Bar to address such issues in meaningful ways. ACR's major initiatives thus far have included a speaker series on

various civil rights issues and a collaboration with the Boston Public schools wherein associates from participating firms helped teach eighth grade civics classes. Julia also serves on the Housing Discrimination Subcommittee.

- Harrisburg associate **LaToya Winfield** was appointed to the Advisory Board of the Wilkes University Law School Planning Initiative, which is responsible for helping to shape the curriculum of the proposed law school. Wilkes' law school would be the first in the Wilkes Barre-Scranton region, and strives to be open by the 2010-11 school year and graduating students by 2013.

### In the News

- **Wendy West Feinstein** was featured in the "Women in the Profession" supplement to *The Legal Intelligencer* and *Pennsylvania Law Weekly*. She and nine other attorneys from across the Commonwealth were selected by the editors of the publications to participate in a roundtable discussion focused on the continuing concerns in the legal community, including the hiring and retention of female attorneys and the perceived generational conflict between senior women attorneys and their younger counterparts.
- **Allison Feldstein** penned an article for the July/August 2008 issue of *Dynamic Business* magazine titled "ADA Amendments Are On The Fast Track."
- **Kitt Turner** wrote and was quoted on bankruptcy-related topics for several legal and industry journals in 2008, including *Bankruptcy Law 360*, *Business Credit* magazine and the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.
- **Sandra Mihok** contributed an article to the July issue of *Workforce Management Magazine*, titled "The Most Common HIPAA Privacy Mistakes Employers Make."
- **Tara Lattomus** wrote an article titled "Creditor Can Make Fiduciary Duty Claim Against Delaware Corporation in New Jersey" for the March 18 issue of *Delaware Law Weekly*. The article was also reprinted in *The Legal Intelligencer*.
- **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** wrote and was quoted on IP-related topics for several legal and industry

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journals in 2008, including *BNA's Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal* and *AmLaw Daily*.

- **Sarah (Shannon) Carlins** co-authored an article with **Jeffery Alexander** for the New York State Bar Association *Health Law Journal* titled "Successor Liability in New York Post-Berger."

### Honors

- Three WIE members were named among The Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup>, including:

**Kate English**

**Roberta Jacobs-Meadway**

**Heidi Hamman Shakely**

Best Lawyers compiles lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting exhaustive peer-review surveys in which thousands of leading lawyers confidentially evaluate their professional peers.

- **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** was ranked by her peers and clients as a leader in Intellectual Property law in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business 2008* rankings guide. Noted the guide: "A recent addition to Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, Roberta Jacobs-Meadway is commended by clients and peers for being at the 'top of her field' and the 'best trademark attorney in Philadelphia'. Her 'impressive and excellent quality' work spans trademark, unfair competition and trade dress issues."

Chambers' selection process is based on interviews with in-house law departments and with other attorneys around the country.

- Three WIE members were recognized as New York and Pennsylvania Super Lawyers<sup>®</sup>, respectively, for 2008 by *Super Lawyers Magazine*, including:

**Roberta Jacobs-Meadway**

**Janet Linn**

**Kitt Turner**

Additionally, six WIE members were selected for inclusion in *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition 2008*, including:

**Kimberly Craver**

**Kate English**

**April Morgan Hincy**

**Brya Keilson**

**Christina Kepplinger**

**Anita Murray**

- **Roberta Jacobs-Meadway** was recognized by *The Legal Intelligencer* and *Pennsylvania Law Weekly* as one of the 25 Women of the Year, an accomplished group of women that includes judges, corporate counsel and public advocates. The publication noted that "her newsworthy arrival to Eckert Seamans marked the resurgence of the firm's IP practice in Philadelphia."

- Pittsburgh associate **Sarah (Shannon) Carlins** was recognized by *Pennsylvania Law Weekly* and *The Legal Intelligencer* as a 2008 Lawyer on the Fast Track. With the help of a panel of judges, the editors of both publications selected Sarah as a future leader of the state's legal community.

## OFFICE INITIATIVES

### Boston

The Boston WIE chapter hosted an event on Thursday, November 13 at the Boston Children's Museum, themed *Sip, Savor and Shop*. The event included a trunk show of various women vendors selling everything from fine jewelry to accessories to art and pottery to sweets and children's gifts. The event also featured award-winning children's author, Peter H. Reynolds, owner of the Blue Bunny Bookstore in Dedham, MA and Fablevision. His book, *The Dot*, with a central theme of "make your mark and see where it takes you" was the message of the event. He graciously attended, read his book and signed copies. Fifty percent of the proceeds from the sale of his book and a contribution from the vendors was donated to the Boston Children's Museum.

The event was quite a success. About 150 women attended – including lawyers, clients and friends of the firm, all of the male members of the Boston office, as well as **Tim Ryan**, **Wendy West Feinstein** and **Kitt Turner**, visiting from the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia offices, respectively. Guests have continued to pass along kind words of gratitude and support:

"I just wanted to drop you a quick note to tell you how great I thought your event was. It was truly unique and it was great to see some old friends and meet some new people as well. It was obvious a lot of time and attention went into the planning and the concept and I thought it was perhaps the only

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memorable lawyer-networking event I've been to. And of course, it is always nice to see firms do more than talk about supporting women."

Added Deborah Rush, Senior Vice President – Institutional Services Group from Century Bank, "I've been meaning to call you all day long to say THANK YOU for inviting me last night. It was a fantastic event and you should take a bow! I can't even begin to imagine the effort involved in preparing for an event of that scale. At the risk of repeating myself, I will tell you once more, it was my favorite event this year (and I have been to quite a few). It figures that a women inspired, women planned and women supported event would be just perfect."

Kudos to the entire Boston office, and especially to **Ursula Knight, Julia Vacek** and **Donna Frati** for their exceptional leadership, planning and coordination of the event.

Also, **Ursula Knight** and **Julia Vacek** spearheaded an Eckert donation to a book drive, sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the Massachusetts Bar Association, to benefit Reach Out and Read (ROR), a national organization helping to make early literacy a standard part of primary care. Part of the ROR mission is to ensure each child between the ages of six months and five years receives a developmentally appropriate book at every visit to the pediatrician.

### Philadelphia & West Chester

***Best Practices for Hiring, Mentoring, Developing and Retaining Women in Your Workforce*** was hosted by the Philadelphia/West Chester chapter of WIE on November 19 in the Philadelphia office. The seminar focused on the hiring, training and retention of women, including the professional responsibilities of lawyers and legal departments to promote an enhanced and diverse workplace. **Maureen Fitzgerald** and **Allison Feldstein** covered the hot topics of Family Responsibility and Pregnancy Discrimination, followed by a lively panel discussion led by **Bernie Munley**, featuring Wanda E. Flowers, Esq. – Senior Counsel, Sunoco Corporation; Charisse R. Lillie, Esq. – Vice President of Community Investment, Comcast Corporation and Vice President, Comcast Foundation; Allison Feldstein and Maureen

Fitzgerald. The substantive content was followed by a networking reception featuring wines, cheeses, chocolates and the work of local artists.

The event, a team effort planned by many in the Philadelphia and West Chester offices, was a success with approximately 35 clients and prospective clients in attendance, as well as lawyers from the firm's Harrisburg office. Guests have continued to pass along kind words of gratitude and support, and one guest has already called the firm with a new matter.

### Pittsburgh & Southpointe

On October 23, the Pittsburgh/Southpointe chapter of WIE hosted ***Perfect Pairings: An Evening of Wine and Chocolate*** for clients and friends of the firm at Phipps Conservatory & Botanical Gardens. Representatives from Dreadnaught Wines and Mon Aimee Chocolate shared with the group of 40 women the special nuances and simple pleasures of different pairings of wines and chocolates. In addition to the tasting, cheeses, bite-sized desserts and specialty coffees were served up, as well as good conversation. A delicious time was had by all, and clients have continued to pass along kind words of support:

"Thank you so much for such an enjoyable evening. I'm looking forward to more WIE events. It is a great idea, and with ever increasing numbers of women in in-house counsel positions, I hope to see your events grow," said Krysia M. Kubiak, Assistant General Counsel of Litigation and Claims for Duquesne Light.

Added Jody Noble, Manager of Legal & Environmental Services for Duquesne Light, "What a terrific event last night. Wine, chocolate, flowers and women! Thank you very much for including me."

In addition to this effort, the women of the Southpointe office spearheaded several charitable efforts, including organizing a team for the Washington/Mon Valley Start! Heart Walk. **Jana Grimm, April Morgan Hincy** and **Marcia DePaula** joined with their families and friends to raise funds for the American Heart Association. Also, in conjunction with firm client WesBanco Bank, led a Dress for Success fall clothing drive to support the new Washington County Dress for Success office.

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Finally, throughout the year, a series of breakfast breaks and happy hours were hosted in the Pittsburgh office by **Wendy West Feinstein, Kate English and Kathy Clark**. The gatherings provided a casual, informal setting for Associates and Members to mingle and get to know one another better.

### Washington, DC

Through their sponsorship and involvement with the Women Presidents' Educational Organization ("WPEO"), the Washington, DC office has been very active this year on the WIE front. Some of the highlights included:

- Three WPEO breakfast events, which **Laura Stover, Evelyn Sahr, Jennifer Andrews, Gabriella Cellarosi** and **Gerri Cheverko** (of the White Plains, New York office) have attended and networked with women owned companies and sponsors. The firm has gained visibility in both the DC and NYC business markets, particularly with women owned businesses, through their networking efforts, as well as the firm promotional materials provided to those in attendance at the breakfasts.
- Evelyn and Laura approached the WPEO about setting up a seminar for local women-owned businesses – the WPEO was thrilled with the idea, and ultimately set-up a seminar titled *Negotiating Contracts for the Public and Private Sectors*. Once again, the firm received publicity through the invitation, which was sent to all of the women-owned businesses in the area, and through Laura's participation as a speaker. The event was well attended and the feedback from the WPEO on the presentations was very positive.
- Finally, one of the strategic benefits of the DC office's involvement in the WPEO includes exposure to potential clients. Recently, the owner of an IT staffing company in Connecticut, whom Jennifer met at a WPEO event earlier in the year, phoned to ask for a referral. Jennifer is currently working with **Liz Simon** and **Rob Levy** in Boston on this potential client, as they have recent experience in the acquisitions of IT staffing companies in Connecticut.

### Wilmington, DE

**Margaret England** and **Tara Lattomus** joined forces to start the Wilmington office MS Walk Team.

For a very minimal donation, the firm's contribution to the Delaware MS Walk was promoted through inclusion on the inside panel of 50,000 Walk brochures and logo placement on the back of 1,500 MS Walk T-shirts.

Additionally, **Tara Lattomus** serves as a member of the national and local Delaware chapter of the International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation ("IWIRC"). She is actively involved at the local level as a committee member, and recently organized a happy hour to promote local membership.