

Remarks from the Chair

EASL continues onward, or at least tries to, in the brave new world...the energy as a group comes from our diverse and terrific members, who regularly band together to ensure that the programs and advocacy efforts remain at their optimum, while still working each day on and in our different practice fields.

The Fine Arts and International Committees continue with their strong member outreach, with the Fine Arts Committee's Co-Chairs **Judith Prowda**, **Carol Steinberg** and **Elizabeth Conroy** presenting several excellent Brown Bag lunch presentations (see the Pro Bono Update), as well as contributing to one half of the programming for the annual Introduction to Entertainment Law program that was held on June 13th. The balance of programming that day focused on Visual Rights. Special thanks are due to the aforesaid Fine Arts Co-Chairs, as well as **Laura Godorecci**, for their invaluable assistance in organizing this event.

Our May 23rd Spring event was also excellent; much credit and gratitude goes to **MaryAnn Zimmer**, who chaired the event. There were three separate seminars: (1) Our usual "Litigation Update" by **Stan Soocher**, (2) a talk by **Ezra Doner** about "Film Revenue and Security Interests: A Case Study," as well as (3) **Barry Werbin's** observations about the "Impact of the Supreme Court's Extension of Copyright Protection to Cheerleader Uniform Applied Designs."

As we head toward the end of 2017, we hope to include a variety of non-CLE meetings from other committees, as well as another roundtable program from the Television and

Film Committee that is similar to the inaugural one at last year's Annual Meeting (the transcript of that meeting is provided herein). Further, EASL, through its Legislation Committee, continues to promote and advocate for our members with regard to possible changes in laws and other governmental policies.



As I meet more attorneys who practice law, no matter the size of the firm or the area of focus, I am often inspired by the consistent level of awareness, interest and empathy that most of them demonstrate to their colleagues in different disciplines, and the way they remain interested in areas of law unfamiliar to them, such as ours, with openness and curiosity. Now that I am solidly in the mature part of my life and profession, I also really enjoy meeting with the "just minted" lawyers, and am constantly impressed by their focus and determination to succeed in a difficult field. My hope is that the EASL Section will continue to develop new ways for all attorneys to develop their professional skills and knowledge by providing support and a community in which to prosper.

Diane Krausz

Editor's Note

I am so pleased to offer a huge issue for your beach and travel reading pleasure. Included in this issue are articles from all EASL Section areas, as well as the *Memorandum in Support of Continued Funding in the Arts* that was sent on the Section's behalf to the Congressional New York Senators and Representatives regarding the National Endowments of the Arts and Humanities and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. In addition, the Transcript from the Annual Meeting in January is published in full, along with citations to the cases referred to during the panels and which appeared in the CLE materials.

I look forward to hearing comments and to receiving submissions from you. Have a wonderful summer.



Elissa D. Hecker practices in the fields of copyright, trademark and business law. Her clients encompass a large spectrum of the entertainment and corporate worlds. In addition to her private practice, Elissa is also a Past Chair of the EASL Section, Co-Chair and creator of EASL's Pro Bono Committee, Editor of the EASL Blog, Editor of *Entertainment Litigation, Counseling Content Providers in the Digital Age*, and *In the Arena*, a member of the Board of Editors for the *NYSBA Bar Journal*, Chair of the Board of Directors for Dance/NYC, a Trustee and member of the Copyright Society of the U.S.A (CSUSA), former Co-Chair of CSUSA's National Chapter Coordinators, and Assistant Editor and member of the Board of Editors for the *Journal* of the CSUSA. Elissa is a repeat Super Lawyer, Top 25 Westchester Lawyers, and recipient of the CSUSA's inaugural Excellent Service Award. She can be reached at (914) 478-0457, via email at echeckeresq@echeckeresq.com or through her website at www.echeckeresq.com.

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