

AIP Communicator

March 2011



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Joint Committee Scores Big Win in DC Council

by Ronald R. Stinson PRP, CP-T
National Association of Parliamentarians
and Mary Remson PRP, CP-T
American Institute of Parliamentarians

We are pleased to jointly announce a major legislative victory won by the American Institute of Parliamentarians, National Association of Parliamentarians, and the American College of Parliamentary Lawyers in Washington, DC.

This win was scored December 21, 2010, when the DC city council passed a comprehensive corporation act which recognized the rights of member-governed not-for-profit organizations.

Working with local AIP and NAP members, the Joint Committee on Public Policy (a joint venture between AIP and NAP, with the participation of the Robert's Rules Association) drafted and advocated for modifications to the new law which codified many of the protections for

members found in parliamentary authorities and which excluded these organizations from certain statutory requirements that were not consistent with the democratic nature of their governance structure.

The joint committee organized the Coalition of Democratic Process which included the National Bar Association and several community organizations to promote the legislation locally. The committee is now targeting other jurisdictions across the United States to ensure that these rights become mainstays for member-driven not for profits.

The new language approved by the council has many benefits for member-governed organizations. It recognizes the authority of the members in such areas as elections, setting

(CONTINUED TO PAGE 4)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Celebrations



Happy New Year! There is an age old tradition of making New Year resolutions however I'm not sure how many still practice this tradition. Just between me and

you, I make a resolution every year. This year, I want to be healthier and maybe lose a few pounds, but those are very personal goals which I hope last past Valentine's Day.

As we begin this New Year, we can celebrate the success of a joint partnership that American Institute of Parliamentarians and National Association of Parliamentarians have with The

by Mary Remson, CP-T, PRP

Coalition for Democratic Process. This is a very dynamic group of AIP and NAP members who have joined together to successfully add and modify language to the Subpart D Member-Governed Corporations of the DC Non-Profit Code. This group of committed members worked tirelessly to make a difference and they were successful. Please join with me to congratulate this team. Please review a more in-depth article which describes their excellent work in greater detail elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are very excited to make available to the members and the general public for sale several historical parliamentary books and pamphlets from the AIP archives. Many of

(CONTINUED TO PAGE 4)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Additional information regarding dates and registration will be available on the AIP website at <http://www.aipparl.org> as they become available.

March 15, 2011

CP Exam registration deadline for June exam period
CPP Exam registration deadline for June exam period

May 16, 2011

CPP Exam registration deadline for July exam

June 2 - 8, 2011

CP Exam period (previous registration required)

June 2011

Riddick Practicum

CPP Exam

July 15, 2011

CP Exam registration deadline for October exam period

July 28 - 30, 2011

AIP Annual Session
Missauga, Ontario, Canada
CPP exam

October 3 - 9, 2011

CP Exam period (previous registration required)

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Deadline for submissions for the newsletter are the first day of February, May, August, November. Items can be sent to communicator@aipparl.org

East Coast Practicum: June 2011

“The only things certain in life are *death and taxes.*” ...Benjamin Franklin

“*And change.*” ...Jane Doe, Parliamentarian

East Coast Practicum Change Agents

June 10 - 12, 2011

CCMIT Conference Center
Baltimore, MD

\$475 (AIP members) by May 10

\$550 (non-AIP member) by May 10

\$550 (AIP member) May 11 and after

\$695 (non-AIP member) May 11 and after

Registration information available at
www.aipparl.org or
888.664.0428

Change is the name of the game at the east coast practicum in June. Participants will look at motions that bring about change, including Amend, Reconsider, Amend Something Previously Adopted, Appeal, and Suspend the Rules (If those aren't enough, changes of agendas, bylaws, minutes, and officers will be thrown into the mix). And, while we're at it, let's apply all of these concepts to scripting, presiding, and opinions.

This year, for the first time, practicums are choosing to honor some of the path-

makers that have advanced the profession to its status today. You will know them as your teachers, mentors, authors, and general gurus in the field of parliamentary procedure. George Demeter, author of *Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure*, will be thus honored at the east coast practicum outside of Baltimore in June. It has been said that, if you're confused by something in Robert's, check it out in Demeter. This is because, while Demeter follows Robert's closely, he has a way of phrasing and explaining differently that is easier for some to understand. We think you'll find the emphasis on Demeter's body of work an interesting addition.

One of the best things about a practicum is that everyone, from novice to expert, attends the same classes and learns with everyone else—the novices bring a fresh perspective and interesting questions, and there's always a cadre of experts to offer opinions on any subject. If we're lucky, everyone will have the opportunity to see a CPP

examination on the last day. This “total immersion” event offers you the very best of parliamentary education in a setting designed for teaching and learning. There's also a one-hour introductory session on Thursday evening for those who would like to get a head start with a review of the basics. Again this year, we offer the ever-popular “cameo” topics on the central theme.

The east coast practicum will be held Friday, June 10 - Sunday, June 12 at the renowned CCMIT Conference Center near Baltimore-Washington International Airport (BWI). All major airlines fly to BWI, so fares are very competitive. If you're an East Coaster, you can take the train to the BWI Amtrak station. From either the airport or the train station, CCMIT runs a free shuttle to their facility. Transportation couldn't be easier.

How would you like an “all you can eat” buffet three times a day? At the same time, if you're Weight Watching, how about being able to choose from a very wide array of beautiful foods? This is the lure of the widely varied cafeteria at CCMIT. Breakfast and dinner are included with the room fee for those who stay there and offered at a small additional expense for those who don't. Lunch is included in the practicum fee. You can even request that a light meal be held for you if you arrive after 7:30 p.m. to stay at the facility.

Where else can you get a world-class education in parliamentary issues and practice at a world-class faculty, at such a low price? Compare the \$475 early bird registration fee (before May 10) with any other three-day professional seminar registration fee. Then look for the half-hour morning and afternoon breaks with continuous chef-created snacks, and movie night for your entertainment. You can't beat the deal.

The Curriculum Director for the Riddick Practicum is Colette Trohan, CPP-T. Registration information can be found at www.aipparl.org/calendar; the schedule will be posted as soon as it's available. Meanwhile, if you have questions, you can call Marie Wilson, CPP, the General Coordinator, at 860-669-4443.

2011 Annual Session,
Ontario, CA
July 28 - 30, 2011
Mississauga, Ontario,
Canada



What is a practicum?

An AIP practicum is a 2-3 day intensive training program in parliamentary procedure. They have a long tradition in AIP's history, dating back to 1960s gathering at the farm of Floyd M. Riddick, parliamentarian for the U.S. Senate.

Practicums are highlighted with hands-on experience, a mixture of professionals and novices, and great opportunities to meet people.

JOINT COMMITTEE SCORES BIG WIN WITH DC COUNCIL (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

agendas, and establishing their own decision-making processes. It clarifies the relationship between the members and the board of directors in these associations. It also makes it less likely that an organization's governing documents would inadvertently conflict with the statute.

These changes will make it possible for member-driven organizations within the district to manage their own affairs and for parliamentarians to better serve their clients.

Michael Malamut, chairman of the original joint effort that urged the American Bar Association to make changes to its proposed model act, together with original committee member Burke Balch, provided technical assistance and drafted the language for the modifications to the proposed DC legislation. They supported the efforts of local AIP and NAP leaders, Darlene Allen, Rosalie Stroman, and Joe Hairston in negotiating with the DC legislative staff.

These leaders as well as Balch, Henry Robert III and Past AIP President Jim Jones

provided testimony at the council hearings on the necessity of protecting members' rights and the benefits of the Coalition's proposed language to all not-for-profits. Along with many other local parliamentarians they maintained a vigilant eye on this statute throughout the long process until the final vote.

The Joint Committee on Public Policy was approved by AIP and NAP in 2009 to monitor (and advocate for) public policies that aid and promote the parliamentary profession. As the leaders of our respective organizations, we both have been strong supporters of this initiative.

Edra Anderson of Texas serves as chairman of this joint committee and has been brilliant in keeping this issue moving forward. The committee's members are Alison Wallis, Helen McFadden, Jim Jones, Roger Henshaw and Daniel Ivey-Soto. It is a sub-committee of the original Joint Committee on the ABA Model Act which includes both national presidents in addition to Burke Balch, Michael Malamut, Mark

Schilansky, Ann Rempel, and Henry Robert III.

We also need to express appreciation to the local AIP and NAP members who supported the national organizations' advocacy efforts. This includes Margaret Smith Perkins, Donna Powell, Ferial Bishop, Karen Herbert, Susan Eads Role, Loretta Tillery, Peola McCaskill, and Winston McCaskill. Special thanks goes to Joe Hairston who arranged the strong and timely support of the National Bar Association, Darlene Allen and Rosalie Stroman who acted as local coordinators for this initiative as well as Burke Balch and Michael Malamut for their legal analysis and drafting work.

This is a big step forward for the parliamentary profession and an example of how collaboration between our organizations on these types of matters works for the good of all. We encourage each of you to stay abreast of these issues as the Joint Committee continues its work across the country.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

these books and pamphlets are one of a kind and we are looking for a few good homes in which to place them. Information will be forthcoming soon regarding the sale of fifty (50) or so packages of historical parliamentary books and pamphlets. The actual process for putting the books up for sale has not been fully worked out, but all members and AIP contacts will be notified in advance of the date.

Increasing membership is a concern for AIP as it is for most member-driven non-profits. Membership of AIP is currently at 734 as this is a small increase over last year; we are pleased to be growing and showing a rise. We are adding several new members per month, but we still have a long way to go to reach a goal of 800 active members by May 31, 2011.

AIP will continue in offering the best parliamentary training in the world. The AIP West Coast Practicum held January 27-29, 2011 on Committees and Boards was an awesome event. The mock convention held during the practicum provided the practical experience that was invaluable. The coordinators Ann Rempel, CPP-T and Dollie McPartlin, CP-T are to be commended for a job well done. The training plan which included a convention would not have been successful without the intense planning of instructors, Colette Trohan, CPP-T and Craig Henry, CPP-T. Fantastic and job well done by all! Mark your calendars for the upcoming AIP East Coast Practicum on June 10-12, 2011 and the Annual Session & Public Workshop to be held in Mississauga

Ontario Canada (need your passport) July 27-30, 2011.

Finally, AIP's focus is to continue partnering with other non-profit organizations; strengthening our administrative operations; providing to the public various levels of parliamentary educational opportunities; and ensuring that AIP remains financially sound.

Happy New Year and let's keep those resolutions.

Mary Remson, CP-T

AIP ANNUAL SESSION

The 2011 Annual Session will be held in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, July 28-July 30, Thursday-Saturday.

The Annual Session will be preceded by a board meeting and a Public Workshop on Wednesday, July 27, 2011.

A reception and Bylaws Review session will be held Wednesday evening.

The Assembly will be held at the Novotel Toronto Mississauga Centre in Mississauga. Hotel information, and session information is available at <http://www.croon.ca/AIP/indexframeset.html>



THERE IS STILL TIME TO GET YOUR DOCUMENTS!

Bottom line: Since June 2009, everyone arriving in Canada by air, land and sea has needed a passport.

Best Advice: If you haven't already, apply now for your U.S. passport. If you need a passport right away, get a passport within 24 hrs with www.rushmypassport.com.

In Depth: Passport requirements have been a complicated and ever changing issue for U.S. travelers to Canada for the past few years. Visitors from any country other than the U.S. have always needed a passport to enter Canada. On the other hand, because of a friendly border crossing agreement between Canada and the United States, Canada Border Services did not require U.S. citizens to present a passport to enter Canada. This friendly border crossing agreement used to be mutual; however, now the requirement is that U.S. citizens must have a passport to return home. Canada will not allow a U.S. citizen into the country who does not have the proper documentation to return home. A passport is a must.

Don't wait! The U.S. application process is already backlogged. Apply for your passport now!



Top: The Annual Session is the annual business meeting for AIP, but time is always made for educational programs, which include small group work in addition to lecture presentations.

Bottom: Members of the 2010-11 Board of Directors.

2011 WEST COAST PRACTICUM



Parliamentary Journal Call for Submissions

The *Parliamentary Journal* seeks quality articles of interest to AIP members.

Articles concerned with the simple aspects of parliamentary procedure may be of interest to new members; while articles focused on more nuanced elements of procedure are welcomed by more advanced members. Regardless of how technical your article is, it may find a welcome reception in the *Parliamentary Journal*. Submit your articles to the editor at pj@aipparl.org, who will determine its suitability.

DEADLINES...

CP and CPP Exam Sign-Ups

March 15, 2011

- CP Exam registration deadline for June exam period
- CPP Exam registration deadline for June exam period

May 16, 2011

- CPP Exam registration deadline for July exam

July 15, 2011

- CP Exam registration deadline for October exam period
- CP Exam period (previous registration required)



Additional Practicum Photos can be found at <http://2011practicum.shutterfly.com>

NEW MEMBERS TO AIP

The following individuals joined AIP from August 1 through December 31, 2010. Be a supportive member and contact any who live near you.



Agatha Armstrong
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Bruce Bergman
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Harahan, LA 70123-5008

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

AIP's generous members have made contributions to the funds of their choice from August 1 through December 31, 2010. We invite you to consider making one of more these funds the recipient of your generosity.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Alyce Baker, Chapter #2, in memory of Donna El-Din, PhD

UNRESTRICTED FUND

Virginia L. Dalton
Jean S. Mostrom
Mary L. Randolph, CPP-T, PRP
John W. Stump



SILENT GAVELS

*We bid farewell to the following
AIP members:*

Toni Bagley, CB, PRP
Lakeland, FL

Darlene Cummings-Corley
Akron, OH

Norman Horrocks
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia,
CANADA



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SCENES FROM 2010

