

COLUMBUS BAR ASSOCIATION
Professionalism Committee Meeting
Moritz College of Law
March 8, 2006

Professor Greg Travaglio made a brief introduction to students. Pam Vest, Chair of the Committee, briefly described the mission of Professionalism Committee. The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the January 11, 2006 meeting were accepted.

Law School Professionalism Initiative: Mark Petrucci reported on the CBA efforts to integrate professionalism concepts into the curriculum at the law schools. The Law School Professionalism Initiative is now underway and there is a list of CBA attorneys who are willing to volunteer their time and expertise to assist law school faculty as they incorporate professionalism into the core curriculum. The hope is that law faculty will use practitioners to bring real life experience to the subject of professionalism. The CBA page with the listing of lawyers who are willing to volunteer their time can be found at <http://www.cbalaw.org/profinitiative/>. Mark urged the committee to encourage law school faculty to use the resource.

Committee Chair: Pam Vest noted that her two year tenure as chair of the committee will end in June. She encouraged committee members to consider becoming the new Chair of the committee.

Professionalism Day: Capital University Law School, March 29, 2006 - Pam reminded the committee members that some members of the CBA will participate in the professionalism program at Capital. This has become an annual event with CBA members acting as facilitators for student discussions of the professionalism scenarios. Pam encouraged members to contact Professor Lance Tibbles if they wish to participate.

Featured Speaker: Honorable Thomas M. Rose, Judge, United States District Court Southern District of Ohio, Western Division (Dayton)

Judge Rose reviewed his over thirty years of legal experience (18 years in private practice, 12 years on the state bench and 4 years as a federal judge). Judge Rose said that professionalism is not just important, it is absolutely mandatory. He noted that the vast majority of attorney with whom he has worked as a lawyer or who have appeared before him have conducted themselves in a professional manner. He reminded the students that an attorney has a duty not only to the client, but to the opposing party, the court and the profession. Judge Rose feels the key ingredients of professionalism are competency, dedication to the client and the profession and to be respectful -- and on time! Discussion followed.

The next meeting is April 12, 2006 at Capital University Law School.

Minutes prepared by Kate Graham