

**ACC New Jersey Highlights 2016**

**Education:**

*Education programs reached a new level of intellectual content this year. Reviews of the high and interesting content was noted. Our number of programs continues to be high. The addition of bi-weekly committee roundtable meetings (CLE credits earned) has increased the commitment to continued outstanding and relevant programs. Reorganizing the distribution of program types during the All-Day Conference was new this year and proved successful.*

* Hosted over 60 CLE programs to date including 25 at our 14th Annual All-Day CLE Program which brought forth over 300 attendees
* Hosted 3 professional development CLE programs
* Hosted a full year of committee roundtable discussions to further align with Washington
* Ran an All Abilities in the Workplace program which brought national recognition and led to Leslie’s article on same published in The Docket
* Aligned four committees with Washington (Litigation, Financial Industry, Health Law, and WITH)
* Repeated Cyberday 2016 with Lowenstein Sandler
* Provided a Lowenstein webcast via Washington (Safe Harbor)
* Had our first Key Note Speaker (Major MJ Hegar) at the All Day Conference (CLE credits)
* Hosted LIVE Ethics Follies to great reviews (ethics educational credits)
* Outstanding CLE programs include
  + Lessons Learned from the Cyber Trenches (Wilentz and speaker from NJ Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell)
  + Attorney Client Privilege (Ron Chillemi)
  + Ethics Follies Rock of Ages) video/dinner
  + Professional Development – Be Compelling/Networking (Sandra Bodin Lerner)
  + What to do When Law Enforcement Comes Knocking at Your Door (Wilentz)
  + Litigation and Budget Support (Wyatt Partners)
  + Pay Equity: Law, Litigation, and the Gathering of Pay Data (Fisher Phillips)
  + Developing & Implementing an Ethical & Effective Political Activity Compliance Program (Genova Burns)
  + Nazi Looting Legislation (Ray Dowd)
  + Jill Schlesinger – Be Your Own Best Counsel – Financial Planning for Lawyers

**Networking:**

*Increased networking found a place this year in our professional development programs along with our new bi-weekly committee roundtable programs. Like minded attorneys found new colleagues and resources at our committee gatherings. Members found new sources or contact at our professional development events. Our sponsorship appreciation event served as a wonderful networking opportunity for sponsors to meet board members.*

* Spring Cocktail Event remains a nice networking arena
* 14th Annual All-Day CLE Conference remains a solid networking event. We continued the cocktail reception this year to support further networking
* Interesting/unique CLE events such as the Ray Dowd bring much discussion
* Committee roundtable discussions promoted further networking
* Introducing micro-networking events
* Special board dinners promoted networking among board members
* Patriots Stadium event brought forth small group networking
* Fisher & Phillips continues their Interactive Cooking & Cocktail Reception
* Continued networking events with many sponsor firms women’s network committees

**Communication:**

*We experimented with bi-monthly newsletters early in the year, then tri-monthly (once) to see if there were changes in click and readership rates. Tri-monthly showed 8.9% readership, bi-monthly between 6.6 and 8.0%*

* Newsletter publishing times should be discussed – sponsor articles should be considered
  + Consider adding board member highlights
* Sponsor Highlights
* Promoting sponsor programs and announcements
* Weekly email
* Email for new events and programs separate from weekly
* Committee members emails now provided to entire committee
* Program updates can now be sent through registration link email
* CLE certificates now communicated electronically within 48 hours of programs
* CLE evaluations are now to be sent back to me through application – if not, will be followed up with personal email
* Increased communications with other chapters and national
* Communications with members and sponsors very frequent from Executive Director’s desk

**Community Service:**

*We continue with our annual Build-a-Backpack and Book Wrap Holiday Outreach and will continue to add to our service. Pro Bono Events will be increased.*

* The Build-A-Backpack event continues to grow. In 2016 about 350 backpacks were delivered to needy children
* The 2015 Book Wrap event was so demanded that we moved to a ballroom for the 2016 event
* A Veteran’s Charity event/community outreach was added in 2016 for homeless veterans. We will grow this program for 2017

**Diversity:**

*We have had three successful Diversity Summits. This will continue to be an annual event.*

* 2016 proved to be our most popular event for the summits, and among all events, and brought forth recognition from National and other chapters
* All Abilities in the Workplace program in 2016 led to Executive Director extensive project and article published in The Docket as well as her leading a virtual training seminar for Washington for all chapters

**Pro Bono:**

*Pro Bono event is under consideration to be planned with the Pro Bono Partnership for the end of 2016 or early 2017.*

* Our first pro bono event was held in March 2015 where 30 in-house volunteer lawyers met with 12 nonprofit organizations to help with legal questions. We are currently working to plan another initiative
* We joined the Wills for Hero’s Program in 2015 and will do so again at their next event
* In communications with the Pro Bono Partnership to plan another chapter event

**Charities:**

* ACC New Jersey donated $1,000 to the Homeless Veterans in 2016 in addition to 90+ duffle bags full of Veteran’s “wishlist” items
* Contributions to the build a backpack event from ACC New Jersey totaled $2714.95
* Contributions will be made to the book wrap
* Donations were made to The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation, Young Survival Coalition, The Seeing Eye, Tourettes Foundation

**Collaboration:**

*Opportunities for collaboration with National and other ACC chapters abound. Here are a few examples of highlights of collaboration in 2016 and looking forward.*

* Executive Director aligned our committees to match those of ACC National
* Our joint committee work extends to National sending invitations to our combined committee programs
* ACC New Jersey has started 4 new chapters to align with National: Data Privacy, Health Law, Financial Industry, and WITH
* We have purchased the video of Ethics Follies for 2 years and for 2016 brought up part of the cast from our South Texas Chapter to perform LIVE Ethics Follies. This turned out to be a highlight of our programs in 2016 and will be repeated in 2017
* Executive Director worked closely with Washington in effort to continue research on our All Abilities Program and create an article for The Docket for the Chapter. In addition, the program was offered to travel to other chapters and was presented in a virtual training session
* Executive Director will work with Executive Director from New York to plan an event for the ACC Mid-Year Conference in April 2017
* The Wills for Hero’s program is shared with ACC New York