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Message From Your President



Since I joined the Legal Industry Council as a board member four years ago, my involvement has exposed me to some of the brightest and most capable Facilities Managers in the legal industry. The common thread we all share is the willingness to network, learn from each other's experiences, and help one another make sound business decisions. I believe what keeps us strong is our passion to develop our knowledge, grow, advance the facilities profession, and mentor those coming up through the ranks.

The LIC values these principles and has been working hard toward providing professional development opportunities for its members. The LIC recently concluded its second CFM study group, which was free to LIC members and spearheaded by members who achieved their CFM designations in 2012. The study groups were very interactive, and we found that members of the group really pulled together and encouraged one another to reach their goals of attaining their CFM. As a result of this collaborative effort, 88% of the members in these study groups who took the exam passed on their first try!

Although still in the early stages of discussion, we are hoping to establish an SFP study group early in 2014 for those who want to attain their SFP designation. If anyone is interested in signing up, you may contact me at mjlesage@stoel.com. Stay tuned for more details.

World Workplace in Philadelphia is just around the corner. This is a great opportunity for educational sessions, touring the expo floor for new products, and networking with other facility professionals and members of the LIC. This year we have a strong presence of board members who will be attending World Workplace (four of us!), and we are really excited to spend time with other LIC members who will be attending.

The LIC is planning two separate meeting events for all participating members of the LIC. We invite you to join us for a light breakfast on Wednesday, October 2 at 8:30. We'll gather informally and welcome your suggestions for our newsletter, webinars, roundtables, and professional development possibilities in 2014. We are also planning to meet for dinner on Thursday, October 3. More details will follow to all members who have registered for World Workplace.

I hope you can join us in Philadelphia, and I look forward to meeting everyone!

NEW CFMs

Congratulations to our colleagues who took advantage of the Council's CFM study group, led by Mike Lesage and Craig Oakman, and have recently earned their certification! For additional study group information please see the **President's Letter**.



Michael Mudd is Office Services Coordinator at Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, OR. He started with the firm 13 years ago as an offices services clerk and, after receiving training and mentoring in procurement procedures, was promoted into his current position.

"It was critical that I joined my CFM study group to work and study weekly with people who were in the same situation as I was. It was essential to have peer support and those collaborations definitely helped with my success on the CFM test."



Mark Roberts, Facilities Manager at King & Spalding LLP in New York, has been with the firm for 17 years. He had nine years of previous law firm experience.

"The study group gave me the confidence to move forward in taking the exam. The intensive review of all the competencies strengthened my resolve to do well."

Phyllis Medler – see below

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Phyllis Medler has been Facilities Manager at Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP in Oakland, CA, for 15 years. She started with the firm right after high school as a receptionist, copy and file clerk, and over her 27 years with the firm has worked as a legal secretary, as executive assistant to the managing partner, management committee and executive director, in HR and as assistant administrator, which led her into facilities. While working full time she studied for secretarial certification, an Associate's degree, a Bachelor's degree, a human resources professional certification, her FMP certification and her CFM certification. Because Phyllis completed her CFM studies a few years ago, she credits the Legal Council's CFM study group with helping her refocus on achieving that certification.

What is one achievement of which you are particularly proud?

In July 2003, Wendel Rosen became the first law firm in the country to gain third-party certification as a "Green Business" and it was quite an accomplishment for a law firm back then. Certified by the Bay Area Green Business Program (Greenbiz), we underwent a rigorous process to earn the certification. The process included working with the electrical company and water district to meet the energy and water conservation requirements. We started composting and upgrading our facilities with more sustainable materials including buying "green" disposable plates, flatware, cleaning products, etc. At the time, there were no vendors selling 100% post-consumer recycled paper so we had to have it manufactured by the pallet load. We've been recertified three times since. We are also a Certified B Corporation, which means we meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency.

What would you like to share with fellow Council members that would allow us to know you better?

I love working in facilities! I am currently working toward a Master's degree in Public Administration with the goal of taking my facilities knowledge and experience into the public sector. My dream is to manage a huge campus in the future. At home I have a wonderful 9 year old son who has just started the 4th grade.

Upcoming Events



[IFMA World Workplace 2013 Conference & Expo](#)

October 2-4, 2013
Philadelphia, PA

[CLICK HERE](#) to register



[Legal Council Meeting & Breakfast @ World Workplace 2013](#)

October 2, 2013
8:30am - 10:30am
Convention Center 115C

[Council Pavilion @ World Workplace](#)

October 3, 2013
9:00am – 9:30 and 3:30pm – 4:00pm
October 4, 2013 10:15am – 10:30am
Convention Center, Broad Street Atrium, 100 Level

[Legal Council Dinner @ Garces Trading Company](#)

October 3, 2013
6:00pm
1111 Locust Street
Philadelphia, PA

[Awards of Excellence Luncheon](#)

October 4, 2013
1:15pm – 2:15pm
Convention Center, Terrace Ballroom



[CLICK HERE](#) to join the LIC group on Linked In and follow pertinent discussions.

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About the LIC: *The Legal Industry council shares information among FMs from law firms and legal departments in corporations, academic institutions and government agencies. Discussions center on topics such as space planning and utilization, creative office services, outsourcing, regulatory information, emerging technology and software solutions.*