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Message From Your President

As April approaches, I am sure many of our thoughts turn to Spring and Summer. Days at the beach, baseball games, picnics in the park. All of these will be a welcome relief to the ravages of Winter we have experienced this year. One commonality for all of these pursuits is that they are all much more enjoyable when shared with other people. Have you ever tried playing Frisbee with yourself at the beach? Imagine a baseball game in an empty stadium (Mets fans not included). It's not that much fun. You need interaction with other people to make it enjoyable. You need to have that contact, you need that connection.



The same can be said of working on the Legal Industry Council which, coincidentally, has elections to its board this coming June. So while this letter seemed ostensibly to be about fun in the sun, it's really about volunteering. We need people to step up, and join the LIC Board. In the past few years we have brought you a "groundbreaking" Benchmarking Survey, an informative quarterly newsletter, an on line community humming with information, and most recently a CFM review course. What we need from *you* is new ideas from new people. Participation is the lifeblood of any organization, and while we have participation it has historically been from a core group of people. As I have said before, the current eight members of the board have served a total of 47 years! I am sure that these same people will serve as needed, but I do not think it's fair to them or to you to continue without some assistance from the constituents. So take those blankets off the windows, turn off "The Cure", and let some sun in. Join up!

If you take the plunge I can almost guarantee that you will not be overwhelmed. You can expect to invest two hours per month on conference calls. We would ask that you participate in projects such as the Benchmarking Survey, help to put together webinars, and hopefully mentor new members of the Legal industry Council. I have been a board member since 1998 and I can tell you I have not only found it extremely fulfilling but I have made some wonderful friends.

If you would like to inquire about how you could serve on the Legal Industry Council Board, please contact any one of the board members. Our e-mail addresses are in this newsletter. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Hopefully one or two of you out there will hear the call. Then we can all go on a picnic together.

Stay Positive,
Mark E. Roberts
President/Legal industry Council



UPCOMING EVENTS!

Webinar and Roundtable:

The Changing Landscape of the Legal Profession will be presented by Todd Baisch, Gensler Principal, and Steve Falkin, Hildebrandt Baker Robbins Managing Director, on Tuesday, **May 3**, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern, 2:00 Central, noon Pacific time. At the same time on Tuesday, **May 10**, there will be a follow up round table during which Council members can discuss issues raised during the webinar and share experiences. Stay tuned for additional information.

IFMA's World Workplace

October 26-28, 2011
Phoenix, AZ, USA

IFMA's WORLD WORKPLACE 2011
The Facility Conference & Expo
Phoenix
Oct 26-28 | Phoenix Convention Center | Phoenix, Ariz., USA

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More details to come.

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.*



IFMA Spotlight

We want to introduce you to the IFMA staff members who now have responsibility for working with and supporting the Legal Council. Please feel free to contact Vanessa Koller, Council Liaison, (vanessa.koller@ifma.org, 281-974-5643), our primary contact, or Kari Stein, Senior Council Liaison (kari.stein@ifma.org, 281-974-5693), at any time with questions about the Council or your membership.

Vanessa



What did you do before becoming Council Liaison at IFMA?

I worked for the service central department of IFMA for over a year processing applications, renewals and transfers. It was also my responsibility to answer incoming calls for all of IFMA and assist members with a variety of needs.

From the perspective of a newcomer to Councils, what opportunities do you see Council members fail to take advantage of?

The online community; it's such a great tool. Being the main point of contact between fellow council members, I think if they are not active in this area they are not getting the full benefit of their council membership.

What is one aspect of your personal life that you'd like us to know about?

I'm a single mother to an eight year old son and I enjoy reading and photography.

Kari

What are your primary responsibilities as Senior Council Liaison?

I work closely to enhance member benefits and grow awareness in the councils. The industry based groups are vital for networking and benchmarking and we are growing fast! I coordinate webinars, events and assist in other council activities. I currently oversee ten councils and five communities.

How long have you worked at IFMA? Four years in May!

What previous positions did you hold at IFMA and for how long?

I have worked in the councils department since joining the IFMA team. Previously, I've held marketing jobs in the vacation and print media industries.

You recently attended Facility Fusion 2011 in Boston. What is the benefit to Council members in attending such an event?

The attending councils were able to network with fellow members, attend courses and take advantage of a more intimate setting. Next year in Chicago, we're looking to take Facility Fusion and make it a combination of what it was this year and enhance the council participation similar to Industries Forum. (Editor's note: no Legal Council members attended Facility Fusion this year.)

What is one aspect of your personal life that you'd like us to know about?

I enjoy playing soccer and I make jewelry as a hobby.



Do you happen to have any interesting articles you have read or written that you'd like to share with your fellow LIC members? Please email genglish@cgsh.com.



Legal Industry Council—Online Community

TIPS FOR NAVIGATING:

After your first login, you must subscribe yourself to the council postings to activate email deliverability to all council postings, similar to the listserv. You are not automatically subscribed to email delivery.



1. Log in to <http://www.ifmacommunity.org>
2. Click on **Forums** on the top left menu tab
3. Click on **Forum Subscriptions** (located on the left hand side of the page, under Shortcuts)
4. You can then change the default setting from not receiving subscriptions to receive postings via email. Click under the **Subscription to "YES"** (to receive postings by email similar to the listserv) or **"NO"** (which means you will need to login to the IFMA Online Community to view the discussions) The subscription's default setting is "NO" in order to change it to "YES" simply click on the "NO".

TIPS FOR POSTING & REPLYING TO QUESTIONS:

1. To **reply** to emails that you receive, you can post your responses (just like the listserv).
2. If you would like to **post a new message/question** to the Legal Industry Council Online Community without having to login to IFMA Online Community, just send your email to this email address for your specific council, lc.council@ifmacommunity.org. This will allow for you to post and reply by email, similar to the listserv tool we were using.

Legal Industry Council Web site

Click here: <http://www.ifmalic.org/>

Check out the LIC Web site for the latest information on conferences, officers contacts and much more!

Legal Industry Council Newsletter



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