



June 02, 2009

TO ALL BOSTON CONFERENCE DELEGATES and PRAC PRIMARY CONTACTS

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is just weeks since we attended PRAC's 45th International Conference in Boston. I hope that your travels onward were productive and pleasant. I thought now was the time to send you a short report to remind you of all we achieved.

Following Saturday evening's opening reception and dine-around, we enjoyed a tour on Sunday of the academic hotspots of Harvard and MIT and were then entertained to dinner in WilmerHale Partner homes.

The business program began Monday morning at the Boston Harbor Hotel with an introduction from our Host Firm's Co-Managing Partner, Bill Lee, which included an insight into the issues and challenges being faced by law firms in the current market. This was followed by a Country Briefing presentation from William Burgess; two pre-assigned One on One Meetings between member firms to discuss areas of mutual interest; and then a special presentation from Ben Heineman, former Counsel of GE, entitled *"Doing Business in Emerging Markets – High Performance with High Integrity"*.

After lunch on Monday, the entire afternoon was host to PRACTice Management's Strategic Planning for Law Firms session – which addressed *"Leadership Issues for Law Firm Leaders in time of Uncertainty and Global Economic Turbulence."* This featured special guest facilitator Prof. Ashish Nanda, Faculty Director and Research Director at the Program on the Legal profession at Harvard Law School and drew on the tenants of Harvard's Continuing Legal Education and Business Program course. This session proved to be lively and entertaining – our special thanks to all participants. For additional information and to download course materials from this session, visit the PRAC web site here: http://www.prac.org/materials/ConferenceMaterials/2009_BOSTON/Materials.html

On Tuesday our business meetings took place at the Boston Offices of our Host where a Public Seminar was presented to PRAC Delegates and local clients. The seminar topic "From Conception to Litigation: Patent Law Issues in the United States, Japan and China" featured panel presentations by various Delegates and WilmerHale lawyers. For additional information and to download materials from this session, visit the PRAC web site here: http://www.prac.org/materials/ConferenceMaterials/2009_BOSTON/Materials.html

Tuesday afternoon's Banking & Workouts Session incorporating business development – *"Cross Border Mergers and Acquisition in Turbulent World"* - featured guest speaker Murray Beach, Managing Director, TM Capital Corp and who also provided an introduction to M&A International Inc., an alliance of mid-market M&A specialists. For additional information and to download materials from this session, visit the PRAC web site here: http://www.prac.org/materials/ConferenceMaterials/2009_BOSTON/Materials.html.

The Board of Directors met Tuesday afternoon and the following are the salient points from that meeting:

1. Membership

Following a full report and discussion of the Membership Committee Report, the Board voted in favor of the committee's recommendation that given the current financial climate, the issue of Central America be put on hold pending further review.

2. Financial

Following a full report, the Board approved the 1st Quarter 2009 and Revised 2009 Budget.

Discussion also included the pro-active measures PRAC is taking given the current economic climate to help lessen the financial impact on its members, including an overall reduction to the 2010 budget with resulting member dues.

3. Policy & Planning

Following a full report, the Board approved clarificatory language revisions to the Statement of Policies and Objectives.

4. Nominating Committee

Following a full report, the Board voted unanimously in favor of the Committee's recommendation for future leadership positions: Chair – Ray J. Batla (Hogan & Hartson – Washington); Vice-Chair – Jorge Perez-Taiman (Muniz Ramirez Perez-Taiman & Luna-Victoria - Peru) in each case for a 2 year term commencing January 1, 2010.

PRAC Boston Conference Materials can found at the PRAC web site Private Libraries
http://www.prac.org/materials/ConferenceMaterials/2009_BOSTON/Materials.html

Tuesday evening's Closing Dinner took place in the splendid surroundings of the Boston Public Library and included an on-site tour of the Library; a fitting and worthy climax to a wonderfully organized conference in this most elegant of North-American cities.

We are truly grateful to our hosts at WilmerHale for all their hard work and hospitality in making our visit so memorable.

And so we move on to Beijing, from 17 - 20 October, where we will be hosted by King & Wood and offered the opportunity to learn new things and exchange views on issues of topical interest in one of the world's most exciting cities. I look forward to seeing you all there.

With warm regards

Patrick Sherrington
PRAC Chairman