GLOBAL **NEWS**



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A D V A N C I N G T H E B U S I N E S S O F I N T E L L E C T U A L P R O P E R T Y G L O B A L L Y CREATING, PROTECTING, AND COMMERCIALIZING INNOVATION | MANAGING AND MONETIZING INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

President's Message:

Significant Progress Made On This Year's Goals

By Michael Lasinski, President, LES International

Since I last wrote to you all in October, we have made significant progress on this year's goals. As a reminder, in addition to everything else we do, we are trying to make significant progress in the following areas:

- Revamp the Website (and make it society friendly).
- Consider Global Organizational Memberships (to target multi-national organizations and support Society recruiting efforts).
- Create a Partnership Position to Manage Business Development and Consider Alternative Funding Sources.
- Continued Support for the Thought Leadership Program.
- Rethink (and enhance) our Committee Support Systems.

We are taking these one at a time. After all the wonderful work our internal LESI team did, we have hired a website design company to design and implement a revamp for the LESI website. Our hope is to launch the new site by the LESI annual meeting in late April. However, that is an ambitious goal and we may need a bit more time.

We have moved into the pilot phase for global organizational memberships. During our meetings with the LES USA & Canada board members during their wonderful annual meeting in Chicago, we were able to make progress and discuss what a pilot program could look like, and we are hoping to move forward this month. We know we will make mistakes, but our expectation is that we will learn from them and move this important initiative forward. Our goal is to offer our corporate community new ways to

interact with us and with LES programs taking place around the globe.

We have hired a business development consultant to help us package our offerings and target current and new companies that want to partner with us. We have found that we have been reactive in the past, and this is our chance to be proactive. Fewer and fewer companies want to simply sponsor our events. Instead, they want to partner with us and help us facilitate substantive discussions around IP and licensing and provide forums for building valuable relationships within our community. These companies are looking for ways to make a difference in the work that we do, and they are happy to support those efforts financially. I am excited about the output of this effort and will update you next time on its results.

The LESI Thought Leadership Program is off to a great start again this year. Please go to https://lesi.org/events/lesi-thought-leadership-program for updated information on our programs. If you are interested in SEPs, the Unified Patent Court (UPC), or artificial intelligence in the health-care industry, joining one or more of these important programs is a great way to get educated on the latest developments. Of course, as with last year, these areas will be a focus of the programming at LESI2024 in Madrid, Spain in late April, so please consider attending that as well.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't take time to write

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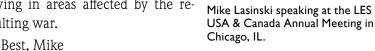
Deadlines: December 1, March 1, June 1 and September 1

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about the difficulties our LES Israel society members are currently living with. My wife and I were in Jerusalem for LESI's Pan-European meeting when the conflict started. It was terrifying and heart breaking at the same time. We know the war in this region has been difficult on so many levels for all impacted, and it is impossible to discuss it in detail in an update like this. That said, I know from all of the LES members that I have spoken with in the last months that our thoughts and certainly our prayers are with all those living in areas affected by the resulting war.





Workshop session at the LES USA-Canada Annual Meeting.



Closing reception at the meeting in Chicago.