

Highlights

Societies' News

Meetings

New Members

Reviews

ADVANCING THE BUSINESS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GLOBALLY

## Reaching Out To The National Societies

By Patricia A.O. Bunye, President, LES International



As an umbrella organization, LESI interacts with its individual members through our 33 national and regional societies. It is therefore imperative to make available all the necessary tools and best practices to enable them to deliver value to their respective individual members.

With this in mind, I spent the months of July and August on separate conference calls with the National Presidents of Europe, the Americas and Asia Pacific. Time differences and other professional obligations made scheduling and actually holding the calls challenging. Nevertheless, these calls were valuable opportunities to hear the views of our National Presidents on three issues:

**1. The main goals and challenges identified by the Long Range Planning Committee.** All National Presidents were

requested for their input on the main goals and challenges faced by LESI for consideration and inclusion in the 3-5 Year Strategic Plan being drafted by the Long Range Planning Committee for possible approval by the LESI Board in Vancouver. The approved 3-5 Year Strategic Plan will be presented at the next International Delegates' Meeting in Paris. A similar consultation process will likewise be conducted with the various LESI committees.

**2. Proposed National Presidents' Meeting/Workshop at the Winter Planning Meeting in Bangkok.** This will be expanded to include other national leaders such as Secretaries and Treasurers and will focus on best practices that may be adopted by each national society. Arrangements will be

made for those who cannot participate in person to join the call via Skype or other electronic means. Regional leadership meetings are also being considered.

**3. Call for representation of national societies in LESI committees.**

The month of August kicked off with my first visit to a national society: LES India, which held a two day workshop on "Intellectual Property



Traditional Indian lighting ceremony opened the two-day LES India workshop at the ABB GISPL's premises. From left: Dr. Santosh Mohanty, LES India International Delegate and a champion of the LES IT and Software Industry Advisory Board; Dr. Raj Hirwani, President of LES India; Patricia Bunye, LESI President; and Mr. GNV Subba Rao, Managing Director of ABB GISPL.

*"India is touted as the world's youngest start-up nation with 72 percent of start-up founders being below 35 years of age."*

Management for Start-ups and New

President, continued on Page 2

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### Quick Links:

[www.lesi.org](http://www.lesi.org)

[www.lesi.org/les-nouvelles](http://www.lesi.org/les-nouvelles)

[www.lesi.org/les-societies](http://www.lesi.org/les-societies)

[www.les-europe.org](http://www.les-europe.org)

[www.les-asiapacific.org](http://www.les-asiapacific.org)

### Call For Content

We request contributions from all societies and individuals about important events, changes in the law in your country or region, conferences, annual meetings, board changes, and the like from your society. You can submit articles or announcements to the editor or use the form on the website at the following address: [www.lesi.org/les-societies/les-global-news/submission-form](http://www.lesi.org/les-societies/les-global-news/submission-form).

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### President, continued from Page 1

Ventures” on 04-05 August 2016 in Bengaluru (Bangalore). The workshop theme was very timely and appropriate considering that their Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, had just announced at the beginning of 2016 the “Start-up India” initiative, which aims to foster entrepreneurship and promote innovation by creating an ecosystem conducive to the growth of start-ups.

India is touted as the world’s youngest start-up nation with 72 percent of start-up founders being below 35 years of age. Close to 4,400 technology start-ups exist in India and the number is expected to reach over 12,000 by 2020. This should be an interesting development that our Young Members Congress can take a look at.

More than the substantial content of the workshop (which covered topics such as IP protection, risk and compliance, emerging trends in IP in India, and issues and challenges faced by Indian start-ups), I welcomed the opportunity to sit down with the leadership of LES India. It was also encouraging to meet local participants who were attending an LES event for the first time. A clear indicator that the event was a resounding success was that, even before it was over, many of them were asking when the next one would be. Kudos to LES India President Raj Hirwani, Secretary Sunil Krishna and International Delegate Santosh Mohanty! ■



### Publications Survey

Dear LES Member,

Thank you for partaking in this important survey prepared by the Publications Committee. The Publications Committee is one of LESI Management Committees created at the 2015 LESI Annual Meeting in Brussels in order to maximize the value of LES publications to its members and the readership.

The Committee is conducting this survey to gather valuable opinions and input from LES members relating to *les Nouvelles* and the *LESi Global News* and plans to use the survey results to make improvements to LES publications.

The survey results will be presented at the 2017 LESI Winter Planning Meeting in Thailand and published in the *Global News*.

Sun R. Kim  
Chair, Publications Committee

To participate in the survey go to:  
<http://survey.constantcontact.com/survey/a07ecqkvnxzioneiar2/start>

### Obituary—

#### Edmund G. Astolfi

We are sad to inform you of the passing of Edmund Astolfi on August 13, 2016. For many years, Mr. Astolfi had been active in the Licensing Executives Society (LES USA & Canada) as:



chairman of numerous domestic and international committees, member of the Board of Trustees for seven years and Vice President of the USA and Canada’s Society’s Eastern Region. In 1993, he chaired the LES Online Committee, which established an electronic information service for the worldwide LES membership. His extensive service earned him, in 1993, the Award of Honor, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a member of LES (USA & Canada), and in 1998 the Society elected him a Life Member.