



March 2005

A Professional Mediator's Resource Center

Washington Mediation Association eNews

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UMA Update

A substitute bill enacting the Uniform Mediation Act (UMA) passed the Washington House of Representatives on February 28, 2005 by a 93 to 0 vote. An identical version passed the Senate on March 2, 2005 by a vote of 47 to 1. Both bills have been referred to the Judiciary Committee. These substitute bills enact the provisions of the UMA within the context of existing mediation statutes. The joint work group had recommended the repeal of the existing mediation statutes. To review contents and progress of the substitute bills, go to <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/legislature> and type "mediation" under Bill Search.

ECR National Conference

The Fourth National Conference on Environmental Conflict Resolution will be

Dear Kenneth,

Have you taken the time to enjoy some of our recent great weather? Spring is beautiful in the northwest and not to be missed. Recently Kevin Cornwell (President elect) and I attended a region 9 meeting in Spokane. It was great to meet WMA members and get their input on the direction that WMA should take to best serve our members.

Please remember the annual meeting April 29 right before the start of the annual Northwest ADR conference. We look forward to seeing all of you!

ACR Task Force Recommends Certification

The Association for Conflict Resolution's (ACR) Task Force on Mediator Certification recommends that ACR establish a Mediator Certification Program with the following elements:

Presentation of a "portfolio" of years of experience and training; Successful completion of a written knowledge assessment; Periodic re-certification; A process for requesting a waiver of some of the requirements in exceptional or extraordinary circumstances; Potential de-certification for violation of ethical and professional standards; Appeals of decisions at various stages in the certifying process.

The Mediator Certification Program is designed to be purely voluntary and open both to members and non- members of ACR.

The Mediator Certification Program is envisioned to be self-financing. Applicants will be charged a fee for certification (or perhaps separate fees for filing the application and for taking the test) and for re- certification.

[Link to Executive Summary »](#)

Mediator Model Standards of Conduct Revised



Recently, a joint committee consisting of representatives from the American Arbitration Association (AAA), the American Bar Association (ABA), and the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR) completed long-awaited revisions of the Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators. A final draft has been forwarded to the boards of these organizations for

their consideration and approval.

This joint committee has made substantial efforts throughout this project to elicit input from the dispute resolution community. WMA encourages its members to continue their participation in this important work. For a comparison of the 1994 and 2004 standards, go to: <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/dr/msoc/pdf/comparison-94-04.pdf>

held on May 24-26, 2005 in Tucson, AZ. The conference features three tracks and a broad range of topics including understanding ECR principles and practices; engaging multiple parties; and encouraging innovation and new applications. For a conference schedule visit: www.mediusevents.com/ECR2005

CONGRATULATIONS to new and newly certified WMA members!

New Members: Roxanne Cull Clare
Pedersen Jeffrey Colliton Theresa Meade
Catherine Schatzel Louise Grant

Certified Members: Jeffrey Colliton
Roxanne duBois Cull Richmond Fisher
Theresa Meade Joseph Ortiz Catherine
Schatzel Stuart Watson

NW ADR Conference

13th Annual Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference - Creative Conflict Management will be held on Friday, April 29th and Saturday, April 30th at William H. Gates Hall, University of Washington School of Law, located on the University of Washington Seattle campus near the intersection of 15th Avenue NE and NE 43rd Street. Parking is available in pay lots near the campus and in designated campus parking lots/garages.

You may register for both days, for a half-day on Friday, April 29th, or all-day Saturday, April 30th. Registration for either day includes a Friday late afternoon reception. The early registration deadline is April 15, 2005. For more information, go to the conference website at: www.mediate.com/nwadr.

[Go and Register for WMA NOW!](#)

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For additional information, go to <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/dr/>. The Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators link is located at the bottom of the page.

[Additional Information »](#)

News From Washington

New Tools for Online Mediation

Researchers from the University of Massachusetts Amherst have been awarded a \$700,000 National Science Foundation grant to investigate the use of technology to provide improved support for online dispute resolution. The goal of this research is to define an automated dispute resolution process that federal agencies can agree upon. If successful, this could serve as a model and advance e-government mediation services to dozens of federal agencies.

[New Tools »](#)

News and Views



WMA Annual Meeting

This year's Annual meeting will be held on Friday, April 29, 2005 from 10:00 to noon in the Fireplace Room of the Alumni House adjacent to the University of Washington campus. The

Alumni House is located at 1415 NE 45th Street (corner 15th Ave. NE and NE 45th street). Parking is available in the Central Plaza Parking Garage (entrance from Gate 5 off 15th Ave NE). Limited parking may be available in campus lots N1 and N2 accessed from the main UW entrance on NE 45th Street.

This is a new location for WMA's annual meeting and coincides with the NW ADR Conference's move to William H. Gates Hall on the UW campus. To view a UW campus map, go to: <http://www.washington.edu/home/maps/northwest.html>.

WMA Board Elections

WMA is seeking volunteers to replace its retiring board members. This annual changing of the guard affords WMA the opportunity to welcome new members interested in serving WMA and to recognize retiring members for their past service.

For members willing to contribute their time and energy, serving on the WMA Board provides one with the opportunity to help promote mediation as a dispute resolution process in the State of Washington. The Board serves as the governing body for WMA and works to support its members and their interests.

Retiring members include Bob Zeller, Treasurer, region 9; Tom Driver region 4; and Ken Irons, Past President, region 2. Additional vacancies exist in region 6, region 7, region 8, and region 9.

On behalf of the entire WMA family, thank you Bob, Tom, and Ken for all that you have done on WMA's behalf. For more information, go to <http://washingtonmediation.org/news.html>. Nominations close Friday, March 25, 2005.

2005 President's Award

This year four individuals were nominated for the 2005 President's Award. This award is presented annually to the Washington Mediation Association member who, in the opinion of the WMA Selection Committee: "has made a significant contribution to the growth and development of mediation in Washington." All current or former WMA members are eligible to receive this award.

This year's nominees include: Cris Currie, Julia Gold, Laura Pierson, and Nicholas Wagner. WMA would like to recognize these four individuals for their outstanding contribution and commitment to the growth and development of mediation. The President's Award will be presented at WMA's annual meeting on April 29, 2005.

New Board Members

WMA recently welcomed the following new members to its Board of Directors - MJ Redman, region 3; Sharon Winters, region 3; Hank Keaton, region 4; Joyce Ebbert, region 5; Darrell Puls, region 8; and Jack Hebner, region 9. WMA members are encouraged to meet regularly at the local level. Please contact your regional representative for a listing of activities in your region. A Board directory is available at: <http://washingtonmediation.org/board.html>.

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