



THE RICHARD LINN AMERICAN INN OF COURT
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
www.linninn.org

April 17, 2020

Dear Linn Inn Members,

The world has certainly changed over the last four weeks. For many of us, our offices are now a not-so-quiet corner of our homes and we collaborate with colleagues remotely via video chats and teleconferences. At home, we have been tasked with balancing parenting and teaching duties, sharing office resources with loved ones, and figuring out how to maintain basic supplies without frequently traveling away from home. And when there is time for recreation, we cannot use our beautiful parks, playgrounds, or golf courses. But despite these current and temporary circumstances, we have each other and the Inn. We have a strong community supporting us.

Although our April meeting was postponed, the Inn has certainly been active.

To begin, in an effort to recognize our local first responders who are on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis, the Board recently donated meals to the entire emergency room staff at the John H. Stroger Jr. Cook County Hospital. Please thank PD and MK for helping organize and supervise this service project for our Inn.

As for scheduled Inn events, here is the summary:

- In lieu of lunch at Latinicity, the *Diverse Attorney Mentor Subgroup* held a virtual happy hour on April 13. We thank **OB** for organizing this fun event which was attended by members residing in California, Florida, and Illinois.
- For our *Mentorship Program*, we encourage our mentors and mentees to continue meeting, either by phone or video/web. These relationships are critically important, so please actively continue these discussions and contact Mentorship Chair, **TA**, with questions.
- The next *Programming Meeting* will be held via video conference on **Thursday, May 14**. Details regarding that meeting will be distributed later this month from either our Co-chairs, **CF** and **JA**, or Programming Chair, **BR**.
- Our *Ragnar Team* must now wait until May 2021 to compete in The Great Midwest Race, because race organizers have postponed the event. We are thankful to have **RJ** as our team leader and we encourage our participants to continue training.
- *Annual Golf Outing* is still scheduled for September at Harborside International Golf Club on **Friday, September 25**. Co-chairs, **CL** and **SH**, will provide details later in the year.



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- *The Annual Dinner* was rescheduled at the Four Seasons Hotel. Chair SW will provide details later in the year.

Next, we are pleased to announce that the 2020 Mark T. Banner scholarship winner is **Shreya Santhanam**. Ms. Santhanam is a second year law student at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law and will be graduating in May 2021. While in law school she has served as an intern at Dentons (with a focus on patents and trademarks), taken IP law courses, and actively participated in IP extracurricular activities. She also has held and still holds several leadership positions. Namely, she is the treasurer of the Space Law Society, the president of the South Asian Law Students, the Symposium Director of the Asian American Law Journal, and the faculty chair for the *Womxn of Color Collective* (<https://sites.law.berkeley.edu/wocc>) (*WOCC*). During her interview she explained her role in the *WOCC* and how she organizes luncheons with the women of color faculty to promote them within the community and to help retain them as faculty. As the faculty chair and a person of color herself, she also advocates for hiring more faculty of color. She possesses a sincere interest in pursuing a career in IP and strong desire to promote diversity. She holds a B.S. in Bioengineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is a first-generation professional in her family. We thank **AB**, **MK**, and **Judge RL** for their assistance in selecting our scholarship winner.

In closing, on a personal note, we encourage you to take care of yourself—both mentally and physically. During the current shelter-in-place, eat a balanced diet, remain physically active, practice mindfulness, and maintain proper sleep patterns. And take time to hug your loved ones each day and tell them how much you care about them.

Warmest wishes,

Adam Kelly,
2019-2020 President