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Director

May 17, 1994

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Re: May 27 FJC Board Meeting

Agenda Item 7 is attached for your information and any comments you may wish to make by Tuesday, May 24.

Ralph

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
OF THE US COURTS
COURT ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION

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Federal Judicial Center Board Meeting

May 27, 1994

Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building,
Washington, D.C.

Agenda

Board Committee Meetings, 10:30–11:45

*Please come to Suite 6-100. Note: Use the South Lobby elevators.
The Education Committee will meet in the Sixth Floor Conference Room.
The Research Committee will meet in the FJC Conference Room.*

Lunch, 12:00

Lunch will be served in the FJC Education Center on the Concourse Level.

Board Meeting, 1:00–3:00

1. Minutes of February 4 Meeting
2. Director's Memorandum
3. Continued Participation in the Judicial Fellows Program
4. Amendment to Center Code of Conduct
5. Report on National and Regional or Circuit-Based
Judicial Education Programs
6. Report on Center Manuals
7. Division Update Reports
8. Demonstration of Experimental Interactive Multimedia
Educational Program

Agenda Item 7 Division Updates

For information

The following reports describe the primary activities of the Center's divisions since the last Board meeting and major programs planned for the future.

Court Education Division

Center education programs for support staff—the largest Center activity in terms of budget and personnel—continue their shift away from wholesale reliance on national and regional seminars and toward greater use of training within the individual courts. This trend accords with efforts to make Center education and training a part of the personnel management plans of clerks of court, chief probation officers, and other local managers. An important part of local training are Center-developed “package” curriculum programs—self-contained curriculum, with lesson plans, visual aids (including videos in some cases), discussion guides, and quizzes. The enclosed brochures describe these package programs in more detail.

The table on the following page shows the trend away from national and regional programs and toward local programming. Over the last three years, the number of participants in national and regional programs has remained about the same, while costs have declined. On the other hand, participants in local programs have increased, as have the costs of the programs, but, because the per-person costs of local programs are much lower than those of traditional seminars and workshops, the budget impact has been modest. Greater use of local programs has also required greater expenditures for pilot tests and seminars for local trainers. Overall, even as Center appropriations have declined over the last two years, the Center has trained more court staff.

	FY1992		FY1993		FY1994 (proj. as 5/02)	
	# of Parti- cipants	Cost (in 000s)	# of Parti- cipants	Cost (in 000s)	# of Parti- cipants	Cost (in 000s)
National/Regional Programs	2,086	\$2,610	2,402	\$2,344	2,119	\$1,934
In-court Programs	16,694	579	17,020	557	17,886	883
Pilot and "train-the-trainer" pro- grams	243	183	1,000	354	1,011	538
TOTAL	19,023	\$3,372	20,422	\$3,255	21,016	\$3,355

Note: Costs shown are for participant travel only, and as such are somewhat misleading: they do not reflect the significant shift in personnel resources within the Court Education Division. Staff members who once spent most of their time coordinating national and regional seminars now devote considerable time to designing and writing curriculum packages, and working with the Center's Publications & Media Division and Planning & Technology Division to prepare related curricular support material.

The rest of this report describes some of the division's current and future major program emphases.

Management and Leadership Development Programs

The Center conducts management and leadership programs for all levels of court personnel. Some major examples include the following:

National court management conference

The April conference for district court management teams combined the Center's annual or biennial seminars for chief district judges, clerks of court and district executives, and chief deputy clerks. Plenary and separate sessions were built around the conference theme—managing successfully in an era of scarcity. The first two days of the week-long conference were devoted to orientation for new chief district judges, and chief judges to-be, and their clerks of court. The Court Education Division and Judicial Education Division had lead respon-

sibilities for the conference, which drew also on the resources of the Planning & Technology Division and Research Division. ~~The Administrative Office provided several faculty members.~~

Maximizing productivity program

This is a large, multipart local training effort, designed for use on the local level, to help court managers increase staff productivity through one or more of three strategies now heavily stressed in the management literature: "team-based management," "total quality service," and "process improvement." The programs will be announced through a videotape prepared by the Center's Publications & Media Division; court managers who express interest in the program will be invited to attend an orientation workshop in July. A cadre of court managers who have had relevant experience in their own courts units will serve as "peer advisors" for each strategy.

Management institute for mid-level court executives

This pilot program is an extension of the Center's institutes of the last several years for senior court executives. Next August's program is for ~~deputy circuit executives, assistant district court executives, chief deputy clerks, deputy chief probation officers, deputy pretrial services officers, supervisory senior staff attorneys, and deputy circuit librarians.~~

Strategic planning for probation and pretrial staff in N.D.N.Y.

This is the division's second presentation of a ~~"future search"~~ program for a court or court unit and related agencies and publics. The division offered such a program last fall for the Southern District of California Bankruptcy Court. Next September's program will bring seventy-two participants to an interactive strategic planning seminar to promote planning by the Northern District of New York's probation and pretrial services offices. Other participants will include court personnel (including several judges and the clerk of court), representatives from the Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Marshal's Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, public defenders, state and social service agencies, and private contracting agencies, such as drug and mental health providers.

Leadership development program

This program helps mid-level managers improve their skills and thus their suitability for top-level management positions in the courts. The division began the program three years ago for probation and pretrial services personnel at the request of the Judicial Conference Committee on Criminal Law; the first class of participants is scheduled to graduate next December. The Center is now pilot-testing, in the Fourth, Federal, and D.C. Circuits, a similar two-year program for clerks' offices personnel.

Other Programs

Below are some additional division offerings of possible interest. The two brochures provided with this report give more extensive information on package programs.

1994 probation and pretrial services interagency summit

In March, the division convened the second of its "summits" to enable representatives of the Center, the AO, the Sentencing Commission, and the advisory council of chief probation and chief pretrial services officers to identify training needs in the context of current sentencing policies and supervision trends and priorities.

Workshop on supervising Native American offenders

This special-focus program for probation and pretrial services officers, held this month, will address supervision and treatment issues relevant to Native American offenders, such as the reservation culture, fetal alcohol syndrome, and victim services.

Other probation and pretrial services programs

Three other package curriculum programs for officers recently, or soon to be, released are (1) training guides for the supervision of HIV-positive offenders, (2) a self-assessment program to provide officers techniques and tools to gauge their performance in supervising offenders, and (3) "effective practices" guides to collect effective practices used by probation and pretrial services officers known for their expertise in a particular topic.

Diversity workshop for women judges and senior women court managers

This program, to be held this month on a trial basis, will identify organizational dilemmas unique to women, ways to function more effectively in organizations, gender-related issues in the judicial system, and theories about female personality development.

On-line seminar for experienced training specialists

This program uses an “electronic classroom” technique to allow geographically separated court employees to participate in a seminar using personal computers equipped with modems.

Computer-assisted instruction programs

The interactive computer program on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure will be released this month. A planning committee has begun preparation of a similar program on bankruptcy rules; it is scheduled for release in late 1995.

Judicial Education Division

Since the last Board meeting the Judicial Education Division has provided the following education programs:

- Three workshops for circuit and district judges of the Ninth Circuit, the Tenth and Eleventh Circuits, and the Third and Fourth Circuits. (See item 5 *supra* for more information on the overall strategy for presenting national “mega-meetings” and circuit-based programs.)
- Two major workshops for bankruptcy judges.
- A program for nearly 350 federal defender office attorneys, provided under our agreement with the Administrative Office whereby the Center plans and administers seminars and workshops for defender personnel, with the costs billed directly to the defender services appropriation. The Center also receives an annual reimbursement for its personnel and administrative costs.

- Two more financial accounting seminars, presented in cooperation with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants pursuant to a program approved by the Board at the May 1993 meeting. The AICPA has made a grant to the FJC Foundation to help support these programs.
- A program on international law in cooperation with the American Society of International Law and Georgetown Law Center.
- The National Conference on Court Management (with the Court Education Division). The conference, which embraced the division's annual conference for chief district judges, is described in the Court Education Division report *supra*.

Activities in Upcoming Months

- Experimental workshop for all judges of the Fifth Circuit. We will offer a full day of educational programming immediately following the circuit's Judicial Conference as part of an effort to test means of reducing judicial travel time and cost. The Center will cover the cost of the additional day.
- Two workshops for circuit and district judges of the First and Seventh Circuits and the D.C. and Second Circuits.
- Special-focus programs for interested judges in four areas: criminal procedure, American Indian law, environmental law, and voting rights. The voting rights program, which is still tentative, will deal with reapportionment litigation and will be sponsored in cooperation with the National Science Foundation, which has a long-standing interest in the empirical issues related to reapportionment and, because of that interest, would help fund a Center seminar, as it has funded seminars for other agencies.
- Two law and humanities programs:
 - (1) the Harold Medina Seminar, held at Princeton and jointly sponsored by the Center, the Judiciary Leadership Development Council (which brings state judges to the program), and Princeton's Council on the Humanities and Council on Science and Technology (the Center's Interjudicial Affairs Office collaborates on this program as well); and

(2) a program on religion and the First Amendment, to be presented in November in cooperation with the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the National Cathedral.

Planning & Technology Division

Planning support for Judicial Conference committees

Because the major portion of the division's planning work is in support of committees of the Judicial Conference, recent and current projects are described below with reference to the sponsoring committee.

Automation and Technology

The division has a standing invitation to open each meeting with a one-hour presentation on some aspect of technological innovation. Topics have included the "virtual courthouse," computer-aided software engineering, and interactive multimedia video.

Administration of the Bankruptcy System

The division assisted the Research Division in developing the design of the in forma pauperis study, and it expects to help in the bankruptcy appeals study, both discussed in the Research Division report *infra*.

Advisory Committee on the Bankruptcy Rules

The division made a presentation on the virtual courthouse concept at the last committee meeting. The advisory committee has a particular interest in the use of electronic alternatives to conventional procedures. The virtual courthouse—a courthouse that exists only electronically—is an analytical concept that the division developed not as a proposal for implementation but rather as a means of assessing the costs and benefits of technology in support of legal and judicial processes.

Judicial Branch

The division has been working with the committee, and a special subcommittee, in efforts to define specific elements of judicial independence.

Long-Range Planning

The division continues to provide major support to the committee and its subcommittees in the analysis of issues and, beginning this spring, the preparation of the draft plan for eventual presentation to the Judicial Conference.

Security, Space and Facilities

The division also made a presentation to this committee on the virtual courthouse concept.

Other Planning Support

The division has the lead role in the Center's interdivisional long-range planning series: papers analyzing major topics facing the federal judiciary. The papers are designed not only to assist the Long-Range Planning Committee, but, more broadly, to engage judges, others in the court system, and interested observers in debating these issues. Papers to date have dealt with (1) the size of the judiciary and efforts to control it, (2) the federalization of the administration of civil and criminal justice, and (3) federal court governance. The next two papers to be released, both written in the same dialectic format as the first three, will assess alternative dispute resolution and criminal justice policy. A sixth paper will assess the planning implications for the courts of America's growing demographic diversity. ? why?

Technology Development

Educational support

Item 7 describes the interactive multimedia program that the division has developed in cooperation with the Publications & Media Division. The Court Education Division report *supra* references the computer-assisted programs on the federal rules (civil and bankruptcy) that the two divisions are developing, along with the Research Division. The Planning & Technology Division is also working with the Court Education Division on other prototype multimedia programs for supporting personnel education and is evaluating remote training technologies for the division; the technical solution must support twenty-five simultaneously logged-in students.

Center computer maintenance and development

The division continues to develop automated systems to support the Center's management and administration, and it maintains and enhances the Center's network of servers, work stations, and related hardware and software. Recent and likely future developments include:

- Completion of the Personnel and Leave Tracking System, a client/server application with which the Personnel Office can maintain applicant, employee history, property, and leave information. The system also produces reports specified by the Personnel Office, including salary history, leave, and status reports. The system has allowed the office to forgo hiring a replacement for a staff member who retired last year.
- Installation of a SprintLink connection to the Internet, the world's largest computer network, which will allow Center staff to communicate more effectively with university faculties and others. Security measures are being put in place and tested to prevent unauthorized access to the Center network.
- Testing software (currently being used by the Government Printing Office) for the easy exchange of documents regardless of hardware platform, typefaces, operating system, or application software. The software will allow any Macintosh or PC to read, annotate, print, and store a document produced by the Center. Using software for the electronic exchange of documents has many resource-saving implications, including reduced requirements for overnight delivery services, fax, and document storage. Such software will also decrease the amount of personnel resources required to prepare documents for printing, photocopying, and distribution.

Publications & Media Division

Video Programs

Since the last meeting, the division has produced:

Further programs in the Introducing the Federal Courts series

The division has completed two more programs in its five-part video orientation series for new court employees. These two new videos join the introductory program in the series (which is also available in the interactive version that will be demonstrated to the Board at this meeting) and a program on how criminal cases move through the district courts. The two new programs are:

- How Cases Move Through the Bankruptcy Courts, which depicts the hypothetical bankruptcy case of a family-owned department store to provide an overview of the bankruptcy system and to illustrate the role of clerk's office staff in processing Chapter 7, Chapter 11, and Chapter 13 proceedings;
- The Appellate Process, which examines the structure and organization of the federal appellate court system and provides an overview of the appellate process in the U.S. courts of appeals.

The remaining program in the series, on how civil cases move through district courts, will be produced this year for completion in early 1995.

Introduction to the Center and the AO for new district judges

To give new district judges an overview of the services available to them from the Center and the AO and to help them adjust to their new duties, the division has recently produced *Your First Year on the Bench*. The video uses interviews with three recently appointed district judges and remarks by the directors and staff of the Center and the AO to describe some of the areas in which new judges are most likely to need assistance and the types of support the two agencies can provide. The video will be included in the package of publications and other materials that we automatically send to new district judges shortly after their nomination.

We plan to produce a similar program for new bankruptcy judges next year. We produced a video orientation program last year on administrative matters for new magistrate judges and their staffs. Judges

new to the appellate bench receive a two-part orientation video featuring a roundtable discussion by four experienced appellate judges.

Videos for Court Education Division programs

The division produced an introductory video, Maximizing Productivity, to help launch the Court Education Division's training initiative of that title, summarized in the division's report above.

In the next few months, the division will produce or work on:

Video vignettes to accompany CED's packaged program on workplace skills—These vignettes will depict employee encounters in court settings.

Introducing the federal courts series (civil cases)—Like the criminal, appellate, and bankruptcy programs produced to date, this five-part program will occupy most of the division's video production resources for several months and will require several more months of editing and other post-production work.

Justice Blackmun interviews—As explained in the History Office report, infra, Justice Blackmun has agreed to participate in the office's oral history project but has asked that the interviews be recorded on videotape rather than simply audio. The Center's media staff will do the taping.

Juror orientation—The division will produce a video program to be available to all district courts for use in their juror orientation programs, to replace the currently available but dated program (*And Justice for All . . .*), produced under Judicial Conference auspices by Wayne State University in 1976. The division is keeping the Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management apprised of this work, and the committee chair has designated a committee member to serve as liaison.

Other—The division also plans to redo several of the programs used for the initial orientation of bankruptcy judges and produce an informational video, with the Administrative Office, on the judiciary's equal employment opportunity program.

New Publications and Upcoming Releases

Since the Board's last meeting, the division has edited and prepared for publication

- the Center's *1993 Annual Report*,
- long-range planning papers on federal court governance and federalization of civil and criminal justice; and
- an updated version of the guideline sentencing case law outline.

Currently in press are

- *Awarding Attorneys' Fees and Managing Fee Litigation* (monograph);
- the Center's analysis of the operation of mandatory minimum sentences and the interplay between those sentences and the sentencing guidelines; and
- a summary report of the results from the Center's late 1992 national survey of federal judges.

Publications forthcoming in the next several months include

- *The Chambers Handbook for Judges' Law Clerks and Secretaries*;
- Long-range planning series papers on ADR and criminal justice;
- *Manual on Recurring Problems in Criminal Trials* (new edition);
- The several manuals referenced in agenda item 6 *supra*.

Research Division

Because the major portion of the division's work is in support of committees of the Judicial Conference, recent and current projects are described below with reference to the sponsoring committee.

Administration of the Bankruptcy System

Bankruptcy in forma pauperis study

Language in last October's report accompanying the judiciary's appropriation bill directed the Judicial Conference to study: (1) the effect of waiving filing fees in Chapter 7 cases for debtors who are unable to pay fees in installments and (2) the effect of a graduated fee system in Chapter 11 and 13 cases. The Bankruptcy Committee has asked the

Center to assess empirically the impact of allowing debtors to proceed *in forma pauperis* in bankruptcy. We have prepared a design for the study, and the Judicial Conference has approved our recommended pilot sites. Six courts will serve as pilots to test the procedures, and six matching courts will be studied to assure that effects observed in the pilots are not arising from unrelated economic or social conditions. The pilot begins on October 1, 1994, and is to continue for three years.

Bankruptcy appeals

In the Center's survey of research needs of the bankruptcy courts, the bankruptcy judges identified the appellate process as one of the areas needing study. The Center has received similar inquiries about research we undertake from various bankruptcy judges as well as from members of the recently formed joint task force on bankruptcy court structure of the ABA and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. The exact nature of this project is under discussion within the Center in order to design and launch a formal study in the near future. This project is expected to have significant interdivisional involvement with the Planning & Technology Division.

Bankruptcy case-management manual

As previously reported, the division, along with staff of the Bankruptcy Division of the Administrative Office, is compiling a case-management manual for the bankruptcy courts under the supervision of the committee's Case Management Subcommittee. The manual is nearing completion, and a draft will be presented at the upcoming meeting of the committee.

Court Administration and Case Management

Media access to civil trials (cameras in the courtroom experiment)

The Center's report on the thirty-six-month pilot project on cameras in the courtroom, and an addendum to that report, have been delivered to the committee, which will take up the recommendations at its June meeting. The Center is prepared to assist in any pilot study of media access to criminal trials that the Conference may undertake.

Assistance in implementing the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990

The division's study of the CJRA demonstration districts continues on schedule to produce a final report to Congress in December 1995. Staff of the division are regularly called on for advice and information on cost-and-delay reduction procedures adopted by individual courts.

We are assisting the clerk's office in the Eastern District of Missouri with a CJRA-related evaluation of a new program that randomly assigns civil cases to both magistrate and district judges. Under the program, which emphasizes civil case-management strategies to expedite case processing, both types of judges will now handle all aspects of civil case processing, including trials. This service is part of our effort to encourage and support thorough assessment by individual courts of the effectiveness of innovations in case management.

(The "ADR Administration" education, discussed on p. 17 of this agenda item, also bears on the work of the CJRA pilot courts.)

Appellate commissioners

We are nearing completion of our report appraising a Ninth Circuit proposal for creating a new position of appellate commissioner, who would be authorized to perform a range of duties to relieve demands on judge time. Since our last report, project staff have conducted extensive interviews and data gathering on Washington State's appellate commissioner program. Our report will be presented to the committee before its June meeting.

Criminal Law

Sentencing appeals

This research assesses the effects that the right to appeal sentencing decisions has on the workload of the courts of appeals. Using data routinely collected by the AO on appeals filed and offenders sentenced, the report analyzes effects of the Sentencing Reform Act and the Sentencing Guidelines under different circumstances on the rate of appeal in criminal cases and on the workload of the courts of appeals.

Development of post-sentence statistical risk-prediction procedures

This project will provide diagnostic tools for probation officers to use in assessing the level of supervision that offenders require. From its inception, this Risk Prediction Scale project has involved a significant amount of planning and coordination with the Court Education, Publications & Media, and Planning & Technology Divisions. Much of the interdivisional work has been directed at designing the most effective and efficient approaches for training federal probation officers in the risk-prediction procedures that will result from this research.

Probation substance-abuse program (drug aftercare) review

We are assisting the AO Probation and Pretrial Services Division in reviewing its substance-abuse program. Center participation includes overseeing, along with staff of the Probation Division, the work of outside contractors assigned to examine the findings of research on substance-abuse treatment programs for offenders, and addressing the need for a management information system for program management and evaluation.

Pretrial release outcomes

This project explores such questions as: How do the profiles of those released under supervision compare with those detained? Have changes in screening practices and detentions had discernible effects on the rate of crime among those released? What effects have the various conditions of release had in terms of ensuring public safety and guaranteeing court appearances?

Resentencing procedures

Several recent developments have created new bases for courts to consider in reviewing prisoner petitions for resentencing, including the retroactive application of amended, and arguably clarified, sentencing guidelines under 18 U.S.C. § 3552(b). In addition, the U.S. Pardon Attorney has suggested the need to explore expanded "compassionate release" under 18 U.S.C. § 3552(a). In her capacity as chair of the committee, Judge Barry has called for amendment of Rule 35 to permit resentencing in cases of "manifest injustice." If Congress repeals mandatory minimums or enacts a proposed "safety valve" for low-level drug

offenders and makes the repeal retroactive, many new cases could become eligible for resentencing. This project will explore what resentencing procedures are being used, what changes would make them more efficient, and what new procedures or case-management techniques might accomplish the fair and efficient resolution of these petitions.

Judicial Resources

Appellate judgeship needs

The committee has put its request for an appellate time study on hold while it reviews approaches to allocating new judgeships. The committee is considering approaches that will not require circuit judges and staff to keep extensive time records.

Other Research Projects

Guidebook for gender studies

The division has produced a manual to assist the gender-bias task forces that about half the circuits have appointed, partially in response to the Judicial Conference's endorsement of a provision in the pending Violence Against Women Bill that encourages such task forces. The division released the first three chapters of the guide in draft form several months ago. The entire guide, in final form, is scheduled for release in June.

Managing mass torts—breast implants

Judge Schwarzer has identified the potential value to district judges of a procedural booklet that describes pretrial processing of mass tort cases such as the breast-implant cases. Such a guide can help judges handling implant cases and provide useful models for coordinating cases within a single state and with cases in federal court. Information for this booklet will come from the review and analysis of federal multidistrict litigation and state court orders, docket sheets, and interviews with state and federal judges who presided over implant cases.

Manual for Complex Litigation revision

Staff of the Research Division are assisting Judge Schwarzer in revising the current edition of *Manual for Complex Litigation*, described separately above in agenda item 6.

Science and technology

The division's science and technology efforts entail a significant amount of interdivisional efforts with the Judicial Education Division. Much of the work completed by the division to develop science and technology protocols and a manual for judges will now serve as the basis for training efforts being developed by the Judicial Education Division.

ADR administration

The division is responding to requests from various courts for assistance in establishing, evaluating, and training participants in various ADR resolution programs, particularly mediation. We hope to sponsor a seminar in September for a representative of each court to provide practical guidance to the courts. An interdivisional working group in the Center is considering how the Center can assist the courts in training ADR neutrals.

Federal Judicial History Office

Judicial Biography Project

Testing of the automated biographical database system developed by the Planning & Technology Division is almost completed; we anticipate that data entry will begin this month. Our plan is to enter the information first for the senior judges and mail their entries to the judges for verification. We hope that we will be ready to do a first mailing to this group in the summer.

Oral History Projects

- The office has been engaged for several years on an oral history project with retired Justices Brennan, Marshall, and Powell, in co-

operation with the Supreme Court Historical Society. On April 8, the same week that Justice Blackmun announced his retirement, we had an initial meeting in his chambers. Tentative dates for interviews are on the schedule for September.

- We will be assisting Gail Galloway, the curator at the Supreme Court, in conducting interviews with several of the justices concerning their experiences during World War II. This material will be used in the Court's exhibit on World War II.
- We expect to begin a series of interviews with the first major cohort of women federal judges in the fall of 1994. These interviews will be conducted by Sarah Wilson, the Center's 1994–1995 Judicial Fellow. She is an attorney at the Justice Department and is completing a dissertation in American Studies at Yale University on the development of constitutional sex discrimination law in the 1970s, based in part on the personal files of Justice Ginsburg.

Court Records

- At the suggestion of the History Office, the National Archives will begin a reappraisal of federal district court case files based on disposition codes.
- We plan to publish a manual for preservation of judges' papers, combined with a directory to judges' papers in manuscript collections, before the end of the year.

Interjudicial Affairs Office

State–Federal Relations

- *State–Federal Judicial Observer* — This March, the IJAO started its second year of publishing the *Observer*, with articles on the increasing federalization of criminal and civil cases, trends in judicial education, and judicial experience with electronic arraignments. Three more issues are planned for the year, in June, September, and December.

- State–federal “cooperation protocols”—The office prepared the first in what it hopes will be a series of model protocols for state and federal courts to adapt and adopt as a means of resolving actual or potential areas of tension. The first protocol deals with resolving scheduling or calendar conflicts.
- State–federal councils—The office responded to information requests from the chief justices of Michigan, Utah, and Rhode Island. There are now about thirty active councils. The chief of the office also attended a daylong meeting of the National Judicial Council of State and Federal Courts in Williamsburg, Virginia, in March to discuss methods of improving relations between state and federal judges and courts.

International Activities

- Visiting Foreign Judicial Fellows program—The Center began the Fellows program in 1992 and has had, in addition to those listed below, three other participants, judges from Australia, Czechoslovakia, and Egypt. Fellows receive no financial support from the Center other than office space and use of a computer. The Interjudicial Affairs Office provides research advice and entrées to courts and related agencies. The fellows, in addition to their research activities, meet with Center staff in informal seminars.

Beginning in January, the Center had in residence two fellows, Judge Saleem Sheikh from Pakistan and Justice Yuri Ulturgashev from the Republic of Khakasia, Russian Federation. Judge Sheikh studied the protection of rights of persons accused of crimes and wrote a paper on that subject, as well as one on judicial education in Pakistan. He returned to Pakistan at the end of March. Justice Ulturgashev is studying the criminal justice system in the United States and has prepared three papers, the first a comparative study of the American and new Russian legal system, the second on plea bargaining, and the third on the American jury system. Justice Ulturgashev’s fellowship ends May 20. As part of their respective study programs, both judges visited local courts and other legal institutions and met with state and federal judges.

The office also arranged for the reception by the Center of two visiting fellows next fall. A member of the Bulgarian Supreme Court will begin a five-month residency at the Center in mid-September. He will be joined later that month by a trial judge from New Zealand.

Apart from visiting judges, the office has also arranged for brief Center residency this summer as a visiting scholar by a former judge and legislative draftsman from Ethiopia. The Center has previously hosted visiting scholars from Romania, Russian Federation, and Ukraine.

- ~~Judicial Conference International Judicial Relations Committee~~—The office provided support for the committee's first meeting last March, including background information about international judicial and court programs generally as well as the international activities of the Center in particular. The office arranged for the attendance by the committee chair and one of its members at an Eastern and Central European judges conference in Warsaw in June. Staff support for this committee will be continuing.
- ~~Briefings~~—In addition to its regular short briefing programs for foreign judges and legal officials, the office prepared and presented daylong programs in February, March, and April for members of the Russian Constitutional Court, the Russian Arbitrage (Commercial) Court, the Egyptian Court of Cassation (Supreme Court), and the National (Supreme) Court of Estonia.