



**LESI Committees:**

***End of Year Report for the 2022 International Management and Delegates Meeting – May 8, 2022***

*Submitted: 22 March 2022*

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<b>Committee Name</b>	Young Members Congress
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<b>Chairs and Vice Chairs</b>	Chair: <b>David Swain</b> (LES China (Hong Kong Sub-Chapter)) Immediate Past-Chair: <b>Georgina Busku</b> (LES Hungary) Incoming-Chair: <b>Kilian Schärli</b> (LES Switzerland) Vice-Chair of Communications: <b>Anna Giedke</b> (LES Germany) Vice-Chair of Mentoring: <b>Bridie Egan</b> (LES Australia & New-Zealand) Vice-Chair of Membership, Committees: <b>Sam Wiley</b> (LES USA/Canada) Vice-Chair of WILA: <b>Eszter Szakács</b> (LES Hungary) Vice-Chair for Asia-Pacific : <b>Roberto Carapeto</b> (LES Japan) Vice-Chair for Latin America: <b>Christian Thomae</b> (LES Mexico) Vice-Chair for Pan-American region: <b>Stacey Dunn</b> (LES USA/Canada) Vice-Chair for Pan-European region: <b>Mustafa Çakir</b> (LES Turkey) Vice-Chair for 6 <sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-American Conference: <b>Merri Moken</b> (LES USA & Canada) Vice-Chair for 8 <sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-European Conference: <b>Alberto Dalle Ceste</b> (LES Italy) Vice-Chair for 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual LES YMC Asia-Pacific Conference: <b>Reena Mitra-Ventanilla</b> (LES Philippines)
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<b>LESI Board Liaison</b>	Ichiro Nakatomi
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## Summary

The YMC is a group of professionals aged 40 or under (or young at heart!) who have converged within LES to share knowledge and to grow with each other as peers. We've also been known to have the odd "get together" from time to time! Spanning across the globe, the YMC has expanded since its inception to include its own regional events in Europe, the Americas, and Asia-Pacific. I am sure you will agree our reputation precedes us.

To say that the world has been through some difficult times in the past couple of years is a huge understatement. On the plus side, LES and the YMC have continued to go from strength to strength, adapting with the times as we have all had to do. In 2020, even though we were not able to meet in person, our immediate past-Chair, Georgina Busku, arranged a fantastic YMC Tournament in which YMC members and young professionals from around the world competed to be crowned as the Ultimate YMC Champion. The YMC also hosted a number of webinars including on the future of IP licensing in which the panel wore some novelty Christmas jumpers (no-one ever said the YMC doesn't know how to have fun).

With the above, it leaves me to say that the YMC is an ever-growing, ever-evolving, ever-lively group of consummate professionals. In 2021, we tried to continue that tradition with events/webinars hosted around the world, including our coveted regional conferences, this year held as online and hybrid events (a mixture of online and in-person meetings where safe and possible to do so). This resulted in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-American Conference hosted in New York, USA, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-European Conference hosted in Milan, Italy, ending 2021 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual LES YMC Asia-Pacific Conference hosted in Manila, the Philippines

The organisers (including support from each local national society – LES USA/Canada, LES Italy, and LES Philippines) put in a huge amount of work for each event, so thank you very much to all of them for everything they've done to put these together. A big thank you to John Paul, Ichiro Nakatomi, Georgina Busku, Dana Colarulli, and Esha Cruickshank for their support throughout the year. Thank you to our sponsors, your support is always appreciated. Thank you to our speakers and moderators for providing their time and insights. And finally, I thank all the attendees for coming along to the events and supporting the YMC.

I hope you all have great IMDM and Annual Conference and to see you (hopefully some day soon in person!) at the LES and YMC events in the months to come.

**David Swain**  
Chair

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-American Conference

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-American Conference was held virtually on 18 June 2021. The program included two panels:

- (1) "**International Issues in SEP and FRAND Licensing**" with speakers **Hiroyuki Hagiwara** from Paul Hastings, **Benjamin Holtermann** from Kather Augenstein, **Lisa Nguyen** from Latham & Watkins, and **Ian Liu** from Deacons, with **David Swain** from Lewis Silkin as the moderator; and
- (2) "**Successful Licensing and Implementation of AI-related Technologies**" with speakers **Dr. Jonas Block** from IPwe, **Daniel Dardani** from MIT Technology Licensing Office, **Shayne Phillips** from Anaqua, and **Paul Gagnon** from AppDirect, with **Vincent Bergeron** from ROBIC as the moderator.

The event also included two networking breaks: a structured “intro to YMC” break where senior members were paired with new YMC members to introduce them to YMC, as well as a cocktail hour at the end of the program, where participants could enter and networking in the room of their choosing.

The Event had **145 registrants**, 63 of which were not LES members, with around **81 attendees**. The event drew in young members from Asia (27); Europe (35); Latin America (35); and USA and Canada (47). 90 of the registrants expressed interest in one or more LESI or LES (USA & Canada) sectors or communities. The virtual nature of the conference helped to attract new young members and the most common feedback received throughout the event was requests that YMC continue to offer virtual content in addition to in-person events as members expressed that they are not able to attend in person due to budget restraints on them/their firm.

While the event itself did not have a budget, we secured down payments on six (6) sponsorships for the 2022 Pan-American YMC Conference in New York by offering free recognition at the 2021 conference. **MLL, BC&B, Bardehle Pagenberg, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, Brion Raffoul, and ROBIC** sponsored the 2021 conference and agreed to support the 2022 Pan-American YMC Conference in New York.

Lastly, the event would not have been possible without the assistance of the planning committee which included, Merri Moken, Stacey Dunn, Georgina Busku, David Swain, Sam Wiley, John Cravero, and Tejas Shah. A big thank you also goes out to David Swain and Vincent Bergeron for their assistance putting together the panels, and Dana Colarulli for his assistance with the platform and on the day of the event.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-European Conference**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual LES YMC Pan-European Conference was held virtually on 24 September 2021.

The event was organised by LES Italy in close collaboration with **David Swain** (LESI YMC Chair) and **Georgina Busku** (LESI YMC Immediate-Past Chair) who helped the organising team with their precious and continuous suggestions.

The LES Italy team was composed of **Alberto Dalle Ceste** (Chair of the Organising Committee), **Federica Ceccon**, **Francesca La Rocca**, **Melinda Manna**, **Elena Martini**, **Leonardo Maria Seri**, and **Anna Maria Stein**, as well as some LES Italy members, with the supervision of LES Italy President, **Mattia Dalla Costa**, and LES Italy Media Coordinator, **Federica Brotto**.

The event was designed to convey to participants the peculiarities of the Italian culture and had the theme “Made in Italy”. Overall, the event was titled “**3 Fs: Furniture, Fashion, and Food**” to illustrate Italian excellences recognised all over the world and the strategies for the protection of their IP rights.

The program was divided into three parts, one for each main topic (furniture, fashion, and food) with a main speaker who made a speech of 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for Q&A. The main speakers were not all lawyers or IP consultants, but they were the same representatives of Italian enterprises, both small and large, belonging to the different sectors under the 3 Fs. In this way, we gave a direct voice to the protagonists of the enterprises and their experiences in the protection and management of IP rights in world markets.

The speakers were as follows:

- (1) Furniture – **Juna Shehu**, General Counsel at Poltrona Frau S.p.A., an important Italian company, who spoke about the legal protection of the Chaise Longue, a famous Italian design product;
- (2) Fashion – **Angela La Marca**, Brand Manager at OTB S.p.A., a big Italian fashion holding, who spoke about the management of the IP portfolio in a parent company; and
- (3) Food – **Nicola Menin**, owner and founder of Galileo Marketing, who spoke about a burning issue in the food Italian sector: brand protection and commercial strategies for Conegliano – Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore DOCG.

Following each presentation, breakout sessions were moderated by the organising team members, where participants – divided into different “rooms” – had the opportunity to interact with each other, to network, and to discuss the topics of the main speeches. The novelty of the format was that these networking sessions were also attended by external guests – representatives of other Italian enterprises in the sector, who shared their experiences with the participants.

At the end of the afternoon, to close the event in a dynamic and funny way, there was a game for all participants crafted by a young Italian software engineer, **Ing. Nicolò Santin**.

The event had **116 registrants**, 33 of which were not LES members, with around **80 attendees**. The event drew in young members from: Austria (1); Benelux (4); Brazil (2); Britain & Ireland (4); Czech Republic (4); France (1); Germany (3); Hong Kong (1); India (1); Italy (40); Japan (2); Mexico (4); Philippines (3); Portugal (1); Spain (2); Singapore (1); Turkey (1); and USA (8).

The conference was also attended by LESI President, **John Paul** and by LESI Executive Director, **Dana Colarulli**, who congratulated the organising committee for the success of the event.

The conference was free for all the participants and was financed with the help of several sponsors: **PwC TLS Avvocati e Commercialisti** as “Gold Sponsor”; **Sena & Partners**; **MLL Meyerlustenberger Lachenal Froriep LTD** and **Lenz & Staehelin** as “Silver Sponsors”; and **Eversheds Sutherland**, **Martini Manna Avvocati**, **BM Lex**, and **Studio Legale Tributario Seri** as “Bronze Sponsors”.

It is proposed that the event will be repeated by LES Italy in September 2022 in Milan, hopefully in person, if the pandemic conditions allow it.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual LES YMC Asia-Pacific Conference**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual LES YMC Asia-Pacific Conference was held virtually on 26 November 2021. The program included three sessions:

- (1) “**Let’s Journey Together: Stories of Young Professionals**”, with speakers **Georgina Busku** (Abu Ghazaleh Intellectual Property - Hungarian Liaison Office), **Gabriel Henry Lopez** (MedHyve), and **Jeff Sarmiento** (Last Mile Inc.), and with **Wongrat Ratanaprayul** (Tilleke & Gibbins Indonesia) as the moderator;
- (2) “**Building a Legacy from Innovation**”, with speaker **John Ocampo** (Macom Technology Solutions / GaAs Labs, LLC), and with **Patricia Bunye** (Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia) as the interviewer; and

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(3) “**Recent Issues in Copyright Licensing**”, with speakers **Thursday Alciso** (Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Inc.), **Ria Atayde** (Filipina actress), **Tan Peng Sing** (Where Are the Fruits), and **George Hwang** (George Hwang LLC), and with **Criselda Santiago** (Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia) as the moderator.

At the end of the conference, the participants were given the chance to network with and talk to each other in the main meeting room, as well as join the breakout rooms for a virtual tour of Intramuros (historic walled area within the city of Manila) and a session with Breakout PH (an escape room game).

The conference had **154 registrants** from Australia, Canada, China, France, Hungary, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Spain, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Turkey, USA, and with around **70-80 actual attendees**.

While the event itself did not have a budget, we secured six (6) sponsorships from the Philippines’ top law firms whose lawyers are all active in LES Philippines, i.e., **Fortun Narvasa & Salazar / Pinoy IP Works, Inc.**, **ACCRA Law**, **Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia**, **Romulo Mabanta Buenaventura Sayoc & de los Angeles**, **Quisumbing Torres (member firm of Baker & McKenzie International)**, and **SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan**. The Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Inc. and LES Philippines’ Director Atty. Maria Trinidad Villareal also provided their respective contributions.

Lastly, the event would not have been possible without the hard work of the organising committee which included, Reena Mitra-Ventanilla and Jose Angelo Tiglao (Quisumbing Torres), Rowanie Nakan, Criselda Santiago and Kristine Dy (Cruz Marcelo & Tenefrancia), Celyne Klaire Esden, and Karl Simon Revelar and their entire team, under the supervision of LES Philippines’ President Bayani Loste (Fortun Narvasa & Salazar / Pinoy IP Works, Inc.). A big thank you also goes out to the LES Philippines’ Board of Directors and Advisers for their support, to David Swain, Roberto Carapeto and Georgina Busku for helping put together the panel sessions, the posters and the conference website, and to Dana Colarulli and Esha Cruickshank for their assistance with the platform.

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