



From the President

April 2018

The Future is Now for the Federation

The FDCC continues to distinguish itself as the pre-eminent defense organization in new and exciting ways.

In Philadelphia we held the first of its kind advanced trial technology training program called Tech U. The Federation is the **only** organization identifying the latest technologies available for attorneys to use in the courtroom and the training on how to use them.

The 2018 class came to Philly with technology skills ranging from novices to skilled. Each left with the know how to make presentations to mediators, judges and juries in ways they never knew were possible using new technologies.

Hands-on workshops were offered to provide individual training. The participants were then tasked with creating their own mediation presentation, opening statement or closing argument to the group using the different technologies. We were blown away by the talent and creativity that each recipient of the Master Technology Advocate Certificate demonstrated.

The reviews from Tech U were off the charts. Your fellow Federation brethren thought this was one of the best programs they had ever attended because it actually gave them the knowledge, skills and confidence to raise the bar in their courtroom advocacy.

Without question, each participant will now walk into any courtroom with a clear advantage over their opponent. Obviously, this is good news for the Federation and for the clients that hire Master Technology Advocates!

Bob Christie headed up the program that included a presentation from one of the country's top plaintiff's counsel along with a Federal Judge. Other Evolve Committee members who assisted with the program were Steve Embry, Jack Delaney and Tom Oakes. A big thanks to everyone who helped make this one of the best programs offered by the Federation!

London Meeting

Not to be outdone by the events in Philadelphia, the FDCC's first ever European Regional Meeting in London was also a big hit. This meeting is the latest step we are taking to accomplish our long standing goal of expanding the Federation's geographic footprint so that we are poised to meet the demands of an ever increasing global economy.

The meeting included attendees from nearly a dozen countries including in-house counsel. The program on cyber security and international arbitration was equal parts entertaining and informational. We closed out the meeting with an enjoyable cocktail reception.

The meeting provided an opportunity for US defense counsel to meet their London clients as well a great networking opportunity for our International Members. There was a genuine excitement about the meeting and plans were already being discussed for the next meeting.

Natalie Vloemans and Anthony Perrotto moderated the program and were instrumental in planning the meeting. They were assisted in the planning by Mike Shalhoub and Carlos Concepcion. I want to thank each of them for all their help with the meeting. A special thanks goes out to Carlos for allowing us to use his London office for the meeting.

AIDA Meeting

Immediately following the London meeting many Federation members participated in the AIDA Europe Meeting in Warsaw, Poland. AIDA is an international association focused on insurance law. The Federation has had a long alliance with AIDA which has benefitted both organizations by sharing American and International legal perspectives on insurance.

We had a chance to address the conference and share with them information about the Federation and what distinguishes us from other groups. They clearly liked what they heard as several attendees inquired more about the organization and membership opportunities. Overall, our outreach efforts have been very successful as we will have dramatically increased the numbers of our International Members by the end of this year.

The future of the Federation is now – make sure you are part of it!

Scott Kreamer