

## **NEW PRESIDENT OF POPA**

Dear POPA Bargaining Unit Members,

As former Vice President of POPA, I became President when Ron Stern retired on December 31, 2005. I firmly believe, however, that my talents and experience are most useful to POPA in my former position as Vice President and Director of Grievances. Therefore, I consulted with the other officers of POPA as well as members of the Executive Committee on my recommendation for a new President. In its meeting yesterday, the POPA Executive Committee followed my recommendations and took the appropriate steps to elect Robert D. Budens, a POPA representative in the chemical area, as President of POPA. The Executive Committee then elected me to my former position as Vice President. I want to thank the Executive Committee for their support in making these changes.

I can't say enough about Bob's qualifications to be President of POPA. Bob has the special qualities and talents to fill the shoes of Ron Stern. Over the last several years, he has worked side-by-side with Ron helping to direct POPA's legislative activities on Capitol Hill as well as its public relations activities such as the POPA Newsletter and communications with the media. In addition, he is one of POPA's more experienced negotiators having been Chair of POPA's Automation Committee and Chief Negotiator on several negotiations.

As we face the many challenges that lie ahead, I look forward to working closely with Bob representing the interests of our members, protecting their rights, and making the USPTO a much better place to be.

Lawrence J. Oresky, Vice President  
Patent Office Professional Association



## **A NOTE FROM NEW POPA PRESIDENT**

Dear POPA Bargaining Unit Members,

I want to thank Larry Oresky for his kind words and support above. I also want to thank him for his many years of unfailing efforts on behalf of employees here at the USPTO. He has been, and I know he will continue to be, a tireless and fearless advocate for the rights of employees. I also wish to thank the Officers and Executive Committee of POPA for their overwhelming support in selecting me to succeed Larry as President of POPA. I am most grateful that I am surrounded and supported by such a wise and experienced group of people.

Most of all, I wish to thank you, our bargaining unit members, for making the U.S. Patent System an incredibly powerful engine that has driven innovation in America for over two centuries. I am honored to have the opportunity to represent you.

We face many challenges in the weeks and months ahead. The agency wants to negotiate a new contract with POPA that will likely try to reduce or eliminate many of our benefits and protections. The agency has just recently issued two proposed rule change packages so that they can increase our production requirements by as much as ten percent, depending on the technology. Soon, the agency is expected to unilaterally implement a patents hoteling program that is fraught with uncertainty for employees.

Only by standing together can we meet these challenges. POPA needs the support of each and every bargaining unit member now more than ever. As Benjamin Franklin said at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, "We must all hang together or, most assuredly, we will all hang separately."

Robert D. Budens, President  
Patent Office Professional Association