

## PREFACE

As you read through this year's *Immigration & Nationality Law Handbook*, you might notice, despite the volume of articles, that some old friends are absent. This year, we decided to forego updating the core curriculum articles; two developments brought us to this choice. First, the panelists on the advanced and master's tracks turned in a sheer bounty of very topical articles—not surprising, given the added complexities over the last year stemming from the REAL ID Act and retrogression in even more immigrant visa categories. In past editions, about 40 articles comprised the advanced portion of the book; this year, there are over 60 articles and they particularly shore up the asylum/protection, administrative appeal/judicial review, and practice management/ethics categories. I urge you to mine this book; I have no doubt that many of these articles will assist AILA members, no matter what your niche.

Beginning practitioners should not feel abandoned. Having more advanced articles in the *Handbook* complements the fundamentals-track sessions, as those sessions themselves will cover the basics. These articles, in turn, will decrease your learning curve as you acquire the tricky cases in your practices by providing handy tips and strategies from the experienced practitioners. However, should you want the comfort of having immigration law basics close by, we offer you in tandem with this book, our new *Essentials of Immigration Law* by Richard A. Boswell. Professor Boswell has written a comprehensive and well-constructed primer on the entire body of immigration law. I would like to personally thank Professor Boswell for his tenacity and diligence preparing his manuscript in time to be part of AILA's 2006–07 Annual Conference offerings.

And, of course, I'd like to thank the authors of the articles within this *Handbook* for their enthusiasm in committing their knowledge, insights, and experience to a book on which immigration law practitioners can rely for another year (or until comprehensive immigration reform is passed). Thanks, too, to the senior editors, who really devoted themselves this year by reviewing so many advanced and sophisticated articles. I would be remiss if I did not express my gratitude to Tatia L. Gordon-Troy, Silvia S. Wang, Elizabeth R. Bartels, Kathy J. Frazier, and Randy P. Auerbach—the rest of the AILA Publications team—who endeavored mightily to bring this *Handbook* and many other books to fruition for this year's Annual Conference.

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