



From Left to Right: Cheryl Agris, Esq., (Host) Peter L. Michaelson, Esq., David W. Plant, Esq., Robert B. Whitney, Esq., and Harrie Samaras, Esq. (Panel Leader)

The NYIPLA CLE Luncheon program held on January 14, 2005 featured a panel of distinguished practitioners in the ADR field focusing on mediation of IP cases. The moderator was Harrie Samaras, who co-chairs RatnerPrestia's Dispute Resolution Department. The other panelists included two ADR neutrals, Peter L. Michaelson and David W. Plant. The third panelist, Robert B. Whitney, Assistant General Counsel

of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. provided a very useful perspective of an in-house counsel who has participated in many mediations. The program consisted of two sessions: "Preparation for the Mediation" and "Closing the Deal." Topics covered in the first session included selling the client on mediation, selecting mediation counsel, getting the right people to participate, investing the parties' interests, preparing the client and the mediator for mediation, and what to bring to the mediation session. There was extensive discussion during the second session on ways to overcome an impasse as well as tips for formulating any agreements resulting from the mediation. Information on purchasing a video tape, DVD and/or written materials of this program may be obtained at www.nyipla.org or by contacting the NYIPLA administrative office at (201) 634-1870.