



From Left to Right John Sweeney, Daniel DeVito

On June 24, John Sweeney, a past President of the Association, discussed the NYIPLA perspective on the October 23 report and recommendations of the Federal Trade Commission to reform the U.S. patent laws. John chaired a Past President's Committee that was chartered by immediate Past President John Murnane to formulate a response to the FTC proposals. The other members of the Committee were Thomas Creel, Melvin Garner, Karl Jorda, Robert Neuner, John Pegram, Pasquale Razzano, Al Robin, M. Andrea Ryan and Herbert Schwartz. The Committee's Report was adopted by the Board and distributed to NYIPLA members in May 2005. John discussed the NYIPLA endorsement of the following recommendations: post-grant review, adequate PTO funding, "second-pair-of-eyes" review, balancing the public's interest and the applicant's interest, 18-month publication of all applications, and actual notice or copying for willful infringement. John also discussed the concerns associated with the remainder of the FTC proposal, and fielded numerous questions about the Report.