The members of the Membership Standing Committee are: Donovan Kealoha and Virginia Lea Crandall, co-chairs, Judge Colleen Hirai (Ret.), Judge Barbara Richardson (Ret.), Landon Murata, Jodi Kimura Yi, and Brian Kang.

Landon Murata has been working Daniel Padilla and Ross Taosaka on the creation of a current membership list and a mailing list of interested persons for AJS. The Treasurer receives the payment of dues and maintains the list of current members of AJS. The mailing list of interested persons is a list of current members, past members, and persons who have attended an AJS event, served on an AJS committee, or otherwise expressed interest in AJS. Many thanks to Dan Padilla and Ross Taosaka for all of the hard work that they have given to this project.

The committee will be able to use the lists to promote membership by individually contacting persons to renew their membership and encourage new members to join.

With regard to the membership fee for 2019, the committee recommends that the fee be set in the range of $25 to $50. Committee members suggested that a membership fee in the between $25 and $50 would be reasonable and would be in the range of the section memberships of the HSBA. Also, in setting the membership fee, the board should consider what benefits there would be to being a member in addition to demonstrating support of the organization and merit selection of judges and judicial independence. One example of a benefit that the committee recommends the board consider is reduced fees for attending AJS events such as the annual meeting or the 2020 convention. A discount on registration fees for an AJS event would encourage attendance and recruit volunteers.

The committee continues to work on developing projects to increase and encourage membership and participation in AJS. For 2019, the committee recommends more educational programs similar to the Sidebar Program that provide mentorship and career development as a means to increase the interest of young lawyers in AJS. The committee will also continue to encourage membership among judges and candidates for judicial office as well as non-lawyers.

The committee is willing to work with other committees such as the Communications Committee on issuing a newsletter and articles of interest to the membership.