

Memorandum

To: Jessica Sisco, NALP Board Liaison, Experienced Professionals Section
From: Natalie Quinn & Heather Spielmaker
Date: June 21, 2021
Re: NALP Experienced Professionals Section Quarterly Board Report

Summary

As the new co-chairs for the NALP Experienced Professionals Section, we are pleased to provide you with this update on the activities of our five work groups. Our section has been actively collaborating since we received our charges, and we look forward to a very productive year. This quarter we held a section call on May 14 and a vice-chair call on June 15. Our section call focused primarily on introducing ourselves, soliciting vice-chairs and work group volunteers, and encouraging RFP submissions. Our vice-chair call discussed reports and future plans for each work group. Lastly, we submitted for approval the addition of the “Managing Your Own Professional Development” Work Group.

Work Groups

- **Annual Education Conference Planning / Bulletin+ Article and Webinar Planning**
Vice-chairs: Hedy Aponte (Step toe & Johnson), Allen Howell (Samford University), and Mary Beth Walsh (Dykema)
 - This work group held a Zoom meeting on June 4 to collect and formulate programming ideas. This discussion meeting generated 20 RFP ideas and one webinar idea.
 - This work group plans to create a google doc with the list of RFP ideas and solicit for panelist volunteers through NALPconnect.
 - We have been in contact with section members via NALPconnect and direct outreach to discuss proposal ideas, including joint submissions with other sections. A few members from last year have already indicated they plan to resubmit RFPs. We’re continuing to facilitate brainstorming among section members.

- **Experienced Professionals/Newer Professionals Collaboration**
Vice-chairs: Lisa Feden (Ballard Spahr) and Elizabeth Granlund (UC Berkeley School of Law)
 - This work group has reached out to the co-chairs of the Newer Professionals Section as well as the vice-chair of the Q&A work group for the Newer Professionals Section to discuss upcoming programming for the year.
 - Ideas for programming from this work group include:

- Host a webinar for newer professionals where experienced professionals discuss their career paths.
 - Host a webinar with recruiters from other industries to discuss the work they do and some of the innovations they are seeing within their industries.
 - In collaboration with the AEC Planning/Bulletin Article/Webinars Work Group, submit a bulletin article or resource guide for newer professionals on tips/tricks that will help propel them in their career (email etiquette, coming to your manager with both the problem and a possible solution, organizational and time management skill building, looking for ways to be innovative within your role, etc.)
 - Lastly, they plan to host focus groups for newer professionals to ask questions they feel like they should already know, but don't (e.g., what is the difference between litigation and transactional work?, what do all the acronyms stand for?).

- **Knowledge Management**
Vice-chairs: Susanna Brennen (Miller Canfield) and Christine Whitehead (Goodwin Procter)
 - Susanna and Christine served as vice-chairs of this work group last year. They connected with the co-chairs of the KM Advisory Group led by Elisabeth Beal and Andy Hales. The Advisory Group plans to touch base after they fill a few more vice-chair positions.

- **Managing Your Own Professional Development**
Vice-chairs: Kendra Brodin (Taft), Katie Ball (Ballard Spahr), Amy Mallow (Holland & Knight), and Dorianna Phillips (Lane Powell)
 - As we mentioned above, this work group was approved and added on May 28.
 - They are in the process of scheduling their first meeting to discuss programs for early fall.

- **Member Relations**
Vice-chairs: Kari Mitchell (Morgan Lewis) and Robin Thorner (St. Mary's University School of Law)
 - The first priority of the Member Relations group is to engage with current EP members. An informal brainstorming/networking Zoom meeting will be held on July 15th at 4:00 the pm EST. The information will be circulated within the NALP EP thread on NALP Connect. Quarterly events will follow, with the next tentatively planned for October.
 - Secondly, the work group will focus on welcoming new members to the Experienced Professionals section. By the end of August, they will send a formal welcome email to new EP members which will include an overview of the group, a list of contact information for select group leaders, an invitation to join one of the committees, and various other items. The welcome email will continue to be sent to all new members on a rolling basis.