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**NALP**  
**LAW STUDENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SECTION**

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**TO:** Traci Jenkins, Board Liaison  
**FROM:** Marina Sarmiento Feehan, Chair  
**RE:** Fourth Quarter Report – NALP LSPD Section  
**DATE:** APRIL 2, 2012  
**CC:** Fred Thrasher

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**SECTION HIGHLIGHTS**

We held our final section call on March 28, 2012. I announced the migration of the listservs to NALPConnect and urged members to sign up. Tom Ksobiech (Univ of Alabama) provided further information about the NALPConnect migration and asked for volunteers to assist him. I introduced incoming chair Beth McManus (UPenn) and she gave high level overview of the new work groups. We urged members to start thinking about Annual Conference and PDI Conference RFPs and Bulletin articles now. Additionally, I let members know about the 2012 Diversity & Inclusion Summit on June 8 in Atlanta.

Beth announced the new vice-chairs for the following work groups:

**Annual Conference/Bulletin Planning:** Aisha Johnson (Hofstra) and Suzanne Hunt Levy (USC)

**Law Student and Lawyer Professional Development Sections Collaboration:** Kristine Bridges (UTulsa)

**Lessons from the Experiential Learning Survey:** Meg Reuter (NY Law School)

**NALPconnect/Bibliography:** Still confirming vice-chairs. Have reached out to Susanne Aronowitz (GGU) and Marina Sarmiento Feehan (USF).

**2012 Annual Conference – Section Meeting:**

Incoming Chair Beth McManus will be unable to attend the Section meeting at the Annual Conference. Outgoing chair Marina Sarmiento Feehan will be in attendance to help start and facilitate the meeting. Beth will send scripts to the incoming work group chairs to help them at the Section meeting.

## **Work Group Updates**

### **E Professionalism & Social Networking**

Vice-chairs: *Kristin Hulse; Ginna Galbraith, South Texas College of Law*

- The biggest accomplishment from this work group was a webinar for NALP members. Vice-chair Kristine Hulse gave an amazing webinar in Dec. 2011. The webinar, "Tips and Tricks for Teaching Law Students about LinkedIn" provided valuable advice and guidance on how members can effectively teach law students (or even lawyers) about using LinkedIn professionally.

### **Track Programming:**

Vice-chairs: *Sandra P. Buteau, Georgetown and Beth McManus, UPenn*

- The Compendium of Law Student Professional Development resources announced in the Feb NALPNow. This document contains links to resources pulled from NALP's 2010 & 2011 Annual Education Conference materials, NALP Bulletin articles, books, publications, webinars and presentations.
  - It can be found online at:  
<http://www.nalp.org/uploads/LawStudentPDResources.pdf>.
  - There's a link to it on the Professional Resources > Career Services page and also on the LSPD section page.
- Sandra and Beth to be commended on their work in compiling this new resource.

### **Law Student Lawyer Collaboration:**

Vice-Chair: *Meg Reuter, NY Law School*

- In November 2011, Phase 2 of the Experiential Learning survey was distributed to public service and public interest attorneys. We had nearly 1,000 respondents. As survey results are being examined, a new work group was set up, headed by Meg Reuter, to drill down on the survey results and suggest ways members can use the results for hiring and professional development, etc. Through publications, programs and dialogues, this new work group will look for ways to disseminate the results from the Experiential Learning Surveys (I and II) and help members use the results effectively.

Liaison to Lawyer PD Section: *Kristine Bridges, Univ of Tulsa*

- Kristin published the first of three articles in her series on Law to Lawyer PD.

## **NALP BULLETIN ARTICLES**

Our section members have been prolific bulletin article authors! We had articles published almost every month during this term, resulting in a total of 12 articles that have come out of our section.

*Kudos to the following NALP Bulletin authors:*

Aisha Joseph (Hostra NY) & Dina Billian (Miles Stockbridge), Beth Shackelford, PDI Conf Planning Comm (UGeorgia), Sarra Ziari & Molly Stafford (both UOP McGeorge),

Amanda DiPolvere (Penn State), Pascale Bishop (Kent Law) & Stacy Silverstone (DLA Piper) and Marina Sarmiento Feehan (USF).

The following articles have been published or are scheduled for publication for this quarter:

1. March 2012. Kristine Bridges (UTulsa) & Suzanne Levy (USC). "Building a Law School Professional Development Curriculum."
2. April 2012. Stacey Tidball (UMinn), "Summer Associates and Summer Assignments: Ensuring Quality Work Products."
3. Three Article Series: April, May, June 2012: Kristine Bridges (UTulsa), our Liaison to Lawyer PD section, has collaborated with Lawyer PD section member Michele Bendekovic article series addressing the progressive stages of an attorneys' professional development. The series is entitled, "It's Easy as 1,2,3: Addressing Professional Development Issues from Law School through Retirement."
  - a. Article #1 April 2012: Laying the Foundation" - 1st article addresses laying the foundation for basic professional development concepts for law students through their first post-graduation placement.
  - b. Series Article #2 May 2012: Building Momentum and Sustaining Success"- second article addresses adapting to the first post-graduation placement and options for growing in that placement, or into another placement, and otherwise professionally.
  - c. Series Article #3 – Rounding Out a Great Career" June 2012: final article addresses considerations of attorneys in latter and final stages of professional development.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING**

We have been keeping an eye on the class action law suits filed by former law students against their law schools re: graduate employment and salary statistics. In a key decision, Judge Melvin L. Schweitzer dismissed the lawsuit against New York Law School, *Alexandra Gomez-Jimenez, et al. vs. New York Law School, et al.* The full decision can be found here:

<https://iapps.courts.state.ny.us/fbem/DocumentDisplayServlet?documentId=tirVQewp3WubLLAB61Zy/A==&system=prod>

## **CONCLUSION**

Thank you for the opportunity to Chair the LSPD section. It has been a wonderful learning experience in rallying volunteers from afar. I am proud of what our section has accomplished in light of vice-chairs having to resign from their work groups because for job relocation purposes.