

MEMORANDUM

To: Craig Compton, Board Liaison

Cc: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director

From: Greg Miarecki, Co-Chair of the Law Student Professional Development Section

Date: January 22, 2025

Re: Third Quarter Board Report, NALP Law Student Professional Development Section

I. Leadership

The following NALP members have been appointed to the following roles within the Section:

Co-Chairs:	Greg Miarecki and Tiffany Tucker
Section 303 Work Group:	Sarah Beznoska
Leadership Work Group:	Greg Miarecki
Well Being Champion:	Meredith Barnes
Student Engagement Work Group:	Hailey Floyd
Liaison to Lawyer PD Section:	Julie Dietrich
Liaison from Lawyer PD Section:	Susanne Aronowitz

II. Summary of activities

The Section met initially at the 2024 AEC in Boston, and again on June 5, 2024. We met on October 2, 2024, November 6th, and January 8th, 2025. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 4PM ET / 3PM CT / 1PM PT

At our January meeting, we had over 30 attendees. We hosted Tasneem Khokha of Growth Play for a discussion on how we can support students who are networking in a virtual world. Tasneem provided some great tips on how to assist our students in this realm. We also discussed the impact of precruting on our professional development efforts, and shared ideas re how to address this development.

In addition to these meetings, our section is active in other ways. Specifically:

- Our section members participated in a number of concurrent sessions at PDI in December, and we had more than 30 attendees at the Law School Roundtable at PDI.
- Our section members are working on more than ten concurrent sessions for the AEC in Cleveland this April.
- Our section, together with the Lawyer PD section, hosted a Leadership Development Roundtable on October 29th, with over 40 attendees. Our next session is scheduled for February 12th. (See attached flyer for publicity about the event, which will be going out soon.)
- Our section members have published a NALP Bullet article on leadership development (November) and on aligning orientation with ABA Standard 303 (March)
- We are planning to co-host a session on leadership at the AEC in Cleveland, and are working with Mary Beal to identify a suitable date and time for this event.

III. Strategic Considerations

I believe that the typical section activities should continue, as we have been doing. In particular, we believe that NALP should continue to focus attention on leadership education, as our profession demands that lawyers serve as leaders in many contexts.

On a personal note, my observation is that the NALP structure is heavily layered with committees and work groups, but I have my doubts that there are enough members willing to engage in a meaningful way. I have found it difficult to get fellow members to staff all of the projects and ideas that might sound interesting. I would be happy to discuss further if there is interest in doing so.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMING ROUNDTABLE

WED | FEB. 12 | 1-1:30 PM CT

Join the Law Student Professional Development and Lawyer Professional Development sections for a 30-minute “lightning round” discussion focused on leadership development programs in firms and schools.

HEATHER CRABBE

University of Cincinnati College of Law

Heather Crabbe is the Assistant Dean of the Center for Professional Development at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Alongside her career services responsibilities, she oversees leadership development and professional identity formation initiatives and serves as the College's academic liaison to the Warren Bennis Leadership Institute. Heather is also a dedicated parent leader in her children's school district, where she and her family helped found its DEI&B Committee.



ANJALI DESAI

Foley & Lardner

Anjali Desai is the Director of Coaching at Foley & Lardner, an ICF-PCC certified executive coach, and a former practicing corporate lawyer. She launched the firm's first in-house executive coaching platform and coaches attorneys at all levels of practice on a variety of topics. She also leads the firm's leadership development training efforts for emerging leaders.



LEAH TEAGUE

Baylor Law

Professor Leah Teague serves as the Director of Baylor Law's unique Leadership Development Program, teaches its Leadership Engagement and (LEAD) course and co-author of *Fundamental for Lawyer Leadership: A Skills Guide to Professional Identity Formation*, one of the leading textbooks for lawyer leadership. She was instrumental in the creation of a Section for Leadership within the American Association of Law Schools and continues efforts to enhance the leadership development and professional formation of students on a national level to better prepare future lawyers for their important roles as leaders and difference makers in our society.



GREG MIARECKI

Moderator | University of Illinois College of Law

Greg is the Executive Assistant Dean for Career Planning and Professional Development, and the Director of the College's Leadership Project.



Please register in advance: <https://shorturl.at/OuMmB>