

## MEMORANDUM

To: Amy Perez, Board Liaison

Cc: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director

From: Greg Miarecki and Julie Dietrich, Co-Chairs of the Law Student Professional Development Section

Date: June 26, 2025

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

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### I. Leadership

We will be serving as co-chairs of this section. We have appointed Jessica Herndon as our liaison to the Lawyer PD Section, and we understand that Susanne Aronowitz will continue as the liaison from Lawyer PD to our Section. We also understand that Carmia Caesar has been appointed as a DEI liaison to this Section. We have not received any outreach from Carmia, but she is welcome to participate in any Section meetings or initiatives.

### II. Meeting Dates

The Section met initially at the 2024 AEC in Cleveland, and again on June 12, 2025. The Section also hosted a “leadership roundtable” in Cleveland, creating an informal environment to discuss leadership development programs. During our June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, we featured a discussion about connecting with members of the Class of 2028, given the accelerated recruiting cycle. Speakers included Julie Dietrich, Suzanne Hard, and Robin Thorner. We also briefly discussed the RFPs for Bulletin articles and AEC sessions. We have three more meetings scheduled for this year, as follows:

- September 25, 2025 (3 PM Eastern)
- January 7, 2026 (3 PM Eastern)
- February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 (2 PM Eastern) (this meeting will be run jointly with the Lawyer PD Section)

We have been in touch with the leadership of the Lawyer PD Section, and are planning to discuss a substantive topic of mutual interest in that session.

### III. Conference Proposals

We are actively working to encourage Section members to submit proposals for the AEC in Hollywood, Florida in April. Additionally, both of us have submitted a joint proposal for PDI with the chairs of the Lawyer PD committee to explore the gaps in professional development that exist

between law school and legal practice. Our intent is to create a session that could be replicated each year, and provide longitudinal perspective on whether and how we are narrowing the professional development gap between law school and practice.

#### **IV. Upcoming Projects**

- a. Plan and execute two leadership-focused roundtables between now and the 2026 AEC in Hollywood, Florida.
- b. The section has submitted a number of proposals for NALP Bulletin articles this year:
  - i. Think Like a Lawyer, Act Like One Too: 1L Professionalism on Display: Small Habits with Big Impact to Acquire and Exemplify the Hidden 1L Curriculum
  - ii. Practical Tips for a Successful Summer: When, How, and What to Communicate to Busy 1Ls and 2Ls
  - iii. Building Skills, Serving Justice: How Pro Bono Work Can Enhance Law Student Development
  - iv. AI as a Career Ally: How Law Schools Can Responsibly Integrate AI into Career Development
  - v. Building Bridges: Working Effectively With Student Groups
- c. We will be hosting substantive discussions during each of our upcoming meetings, rather than a lengthy round of introductions and discussions of upcoming NALP events.