

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: October 7, 2025

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

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

Our meeting this quarter was held on September 25th, 2025 from 3 PM to 4 PM Eastern. During this meeting, we worked to provide helpful, relevant, and timely content. Specifically, we invited two of our colleagues to share what they were doing in terms of required 1L professional identity formation courses, as well as Tom Lee from Penn State, who presented on his professional development conference. Thereafter, we invited attendees to share what they are doing in terms of new PD programs launched in response to the changing recruiting environment. Finally, we shared news of a joint project with the Lawyer PD section, designed to identify and close gaps between law school and the practice.

Our next two meetings are scheduled for:

- January 7, 2026 (3 PM Eastern)
- February 25th, 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 have actively worked to encourage Section members to submit proposals for the AEC in Hollywood, Florida in April. We have not been apprised of the results of the conference planning committee's review. 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. This proposal was accepted, and we are working with our Lawyer PD colleagues to put this program together.

IV. Upcoming Projects

- a. Plan and execute a 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, all of which have been accepted:
 - 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, as we did in our September meeting.