

## MEMO

**TO:** Dana Morris

**FROM:** Josie Mitchell, NALP Law Student Professional Development Section Chair

**CC:** Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director  
LeaNora Ruffin, NALP President 2009-2010

**RE:** Law Student Professional Development Section Report

**DATE:** February 12, 2010

### **E-Professionalism Work Group**

This group has been extremely active, communicating quite regularly by e-mail. Recently I participated in a conference call initiated by Sandra Buteau (Georgetown) where they discussed the status of the E-Guide and project assignments for each member. Sandra provided a draft of the E-Guide to the group on January 26 in anticipation of the call. On January 28, Susanne Aronowitz (Golden Gate) sent an e-mail on behalf of the group to the Law Career Services listserv, describing the two e-professionalism programs their work group was presenting at the conference. She asked for input from members about any social media/networking sites, and programs or policies that have been implemented by career offices. The work group also published this request for information on the NALP LinkedIn Group main page.

Three new members have joined the group: Tracy Evans, Louisiana State University; Nancy Lochner, Hamline University; and Heather Day DiFranco.

### **Conference presentations and Bulletin articles for the E-Professionalism Work Group:**

“E-Networking Part 1: To Tweet or Not to Tweet.”

“E-Networking Part 2: Putting Your Best E-Footprint Forward.”

### **Bulletin Article February 2010:**

“To Tweet or Not to Tweet—a Twitter Primer.”

### **Law Student PD Section Update**

We were disappointed the RFP submitted by the Law Student PD Workgroup was not accepted as a program for the NALP Conference, however Claudia Rizzo spoke with Nancy Lochner, Director of Career Services at Hamline University, about facilitating a different program at the conference in San Juan. After some discussion, it was decided to take the program in a slightly different and improved route, and present a program in collaboration with the Lawyer Professional Development Section. An invitation was extended to Ameer McKim to moderate and coordinate the panel presentation. Ameer graciously accepted and is now handling the program. Nancy will be attending the presentation and will be available to assist with the program if necessary.

### **Conference Presentation for the Law Student PD Work Group:**

“Employer Insiders: What Your Students Need to Know to Survive and Thrive”.

## **Law Student/Lawyer Professional Development Collaboration Work Group**

Recently, this work group hosted 2 conference calls for members, on January 11 and January 29. They have been active with regard to publishing articles in the NALP Bulletin, as well as considering several projects. The comprehensive update (attached) was submitted by Sandee Magliozzi and David Diamond, Co-Vice Chairs of the work group. It provides in-depth information about activities in which the group has been engaged in the last quarter, including updates on Bulletin articles. Below are the highlights, which are taken directly from their report.

- I. Update on Bulletin articles submitted for publication (November 2009 and January 2010)
- II. A recent conference call was held to brainstorm project ideas, identify and outline the most workable projects, and set a rough timeline for completion.
  - A. Project ideas discussed were:
    1. Projects in partnership with Lawyer PD Section
    2. Projects in partnership with non-NALP member attorneys, such as small firms and government/public interest organizations
  - B. As a result of the conference call, 3 potential projects were identified.
    1. Forming an Educational Relationship (in collaboration w/Lawyer PD Section)
    2. Moving from Credentials to Competencies in Recruiting (potential collaboration w/Lawyer PD Section)
    3. School Toolkit for Developing PD Partnerships with Small Firms and Public Sector Employers (likely a school-only project)
  - C. Primary goal would be to begin one or more projects prior to the 2010 Annual Education Conference, with the intent of completing projects before the 2011 AEC.

On February 4, the Law Student/Lawyer Professional Development Work Group coordinated a conference call on with the Lawyer Professional Development Section. They have proposed a new project, which they plan to will serve as a pre-cursor to Projects #1 and #2.

1. Project #4
  - a. Identify core competencies meaningful to employers when recruiting students that employers feel should be taught be schools.
  - b. Define global/generic definitions of such competencies and identify how such should be taught by the schools.
  - c. Present all of this information in a Glossary accessible to schools

### **Conference presentation for the Law Student/Lawyer PD Collaboration:**

“Partnering Together to Make a Successful Lawyer”

### **Bulletin Article January 2010**

“Ensuring Presentations by Practicing Lawyers Engage Students”

### **Quick Environmental Scan**

Law Schools and law firms have both indicated this is the busiest January/February they have experienced in some time. Staffing is reduced, hiring processes have shifted, and many are still waiting to see what the economy will look like in a few months. We are all evaluating the proposed changes outlined in the “Commission on Recruiting in the Legal Profession”, and though many people agree change is needed, there are still many concerns and questions about how the new model may look.