

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director
Brad Sprayberry, Board Liaison

FROM: Jennifer Gallinson, Section Chair

DATE: February 1, 2018

RE: Lawyer PD Section Update

Below is a brief summary of the contributions in our group:

I. Work Group Reports

- **Education Work Group:**

The following articles were also published in the NALP Bulletin on behalf of our section: 1) *Best Practices for Partnering with External Coaches* (Jen Rakstad); 2) *Harnessing the Power of Purpose* (Maria Minor); 3) *Keep it Fresh, Keep it Focused; Innovative Techniques to Improve Lawyer Learning* (Karen Febeo & Kristin Heryford); and 4) *What Can Lawyers Learn from Surviving a (Simulated) Plane Crash Together* (Virginia Melvin). The next step for this group will be assisting on any member submissions for the 2018 PDI conference.

- **Law Firm/Law Student PD Collaboration**

We have been collaborating with Elisabeth Beal on the law school side. The Law Student PD section published a booklet summarizing their over 30 interviews with Law School PD professionals. Next, they will look to the Lawyer PD section to conduct similar interviews. Elisabeth reported that this initiative is on hold for now. We will continue to encourage collaboration between the sections.

- **Membership Work Group**

Jeannette continues to reach out via phone call and email to new members to welcome them and offer them any assistance they need in accessing the group's resources. She implemented a plan to run NALP Connect reports to stay on top of any new additions.

- **Best Practices Work Group**

Michele Bendekovic and Kay Nash requested members contribute to the “best practices” resources to continue to add to the Library/Resources page on NALP Connect. We are working on an upcoming webinar and considering the topics: Impostor syndrome/bias and “Finding Joy.” We plan to run this program in the next quarter.

II. Other Section News

Our Quarterly Call took place on January 30th. We had a nice showing of both new members and “regulars.” A few hot topics arose. First, we discussed the evaluation process and whether there is anything new or different that firms were doing to re-vamp their system. The short answer was “no” though many members were interested in moving toward a more streamlined evaluation. The second topic was mentoring, and a member asked whether any firms were doing anything innovative or interesting on this topic. It was noted that Ida Abbott wrote an update to her fantastic mentoring publication. Another firm mentioned that they were looking at pairing attorneys from their firm with a mentor outside of the firm, for example, an alumnus of the firm. This pairing was very successful and they are presenting at a program. The group liked the idea of integrating alumni initiatives and mentoring especially in the area of client development/client service. Another idea that was raised was to pair mentor/mentee groups across practice areas to ensure that attorneys were integrating outside of his or her group or department.