

Memorandum

To: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director
Melanie Priddy, Board Liaison

From: Jeanette Forgey, Section Chair

Date: June 19, 2018

Re: Lawyer PD Section Update

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as section chair for the 2018-2019 NALP year. We had a lot of interest from section members to lead the section's work groups to either start or continue collaborations from the previous season. We had our first quarterly call on June 14th and the work groups gave updates on the exciting initiatives they have planned for the year. I hope these initiatives spark interest in other PD members to get involved throughout the year.

I. Work Group Leaders

- Education Work Group: Annual Education Conference/PDI/Bulletin Article Planning Vice Chair: Katie Creedon
- Lawyer/Law Student Professional Development Collaboration Vice Chair: Traci Jenkins
- Best Practices in Lawyer PD/PD for the PD Professional Vice Chairs: Ashley DeBrino and Tamesha Keel
- Membership/Development Vice Chair: Cindy Haynes
- Professional Identity Formation Vice Chairs: Kristen Hulse and Terrene Burke

II. Work Group Reports

Education Work Group

At the annual conference in Hollywood, Florida, the section brainstormed topics for RFPs and potential webinars given the need to discuss relevant topics now. The section held a post NALP conference wrap-up call to discuss the topics and worked to connect those interested in presenting on important topics with other PD members. Sixteen RFPs were submitted on behalf of the section for the 2019 NALP Annual Education Conference. Katie Creedon prioritized the proposals as requested by Jay Richards. The LPD section also submitted 9 bulletin articles for the NALP Bulletin. Topics included career counseling, coaching, resilience, managing difficult personalities, training and mentoring. We have had one volunteer to write an article on the PDI wrap-up and I have asked others in the section to see if there was interest to co-author the article.

Law Firm/Law Student PD Collaboration

Traci Jenkins and I spoke to Elisabeth Beal and Shannon Schabb of LSPD to rekindle the collaboration between the sections to help prepare students for law firm practice. The goal is to interview members of the LPD section to find out what professional development opportunities law firms offer to attorneys. Information collected would be broad and would not compromise any firm proprietary information. Elisabeth has created a set of questions that she will give to LPD members before she speaks with them. Our hope is to provide valuable feedback to the LSPD section on the types of professional development opportunities law firms offer so law schools can spot gaps in PD training for law students.

Best Practices Work Group

Tamesha and Ashley are off the a great start this year. They hope to have two webinars this year. The first would be held in early fall on the associate review process. Tamesha's hope is to have a panel consisting of firms and general counsel who have various review processes. The second webinar the group hopes to host would be in the spring on the Me Too movement and how it relates to diversity and mentoring. Tamesha will also review any articles or RFPs that were not selected to see if they would be appropriate for a webinar. Ashley is working on updating the PD section's Library. She had hoped she could create a folder system on the website to organize the resources by topic, however, we are not there yet! She compiled a document that lists PD resources by subject matter. We will make the document available to members with the hope that we can add additional resources to the library on the subject matters Ashley has identified.

Membership Work Group

Cindy Haynes has created a welcome email to send to new members of the section. She has already reached out to the new PD section members who joined in May and will continue to reach out to new members on a monthly basis.

Professional Identity Formation Work Group

Kristen Hulse and Terrene Burke spoke with Susan Fine of the LSPD's Professional Identity Formation work group to begin collaborating on how to help law students continue their professional identity formation throughout their legal career. One of the initiatives that the group is beginning to focus on is the Professional Identity Framework, which would be aligned with a firm's core competencies. The project is in its infancy, but they hope to survey LPD members in the coming year who are able to share broad core competencies. The list of these broad, basic competencies is to see if they are in alignment with one's professional identity formation. The group also hopes to collaborate on upcoming RFPs between the sections and develop future articles on this topic.

III. Environmental Scan

Addressing Mental Health for Today's Lawyers

I asked the section members on the June 14th call if they were willing to share any initiatives their firms have launched since the release of the ABA's National Task Force on

Lawyer Well-Being report. Firms have provided a list of mental health resources, invited presenters to speak to attorneys on the report's findings and created programming that designates mental health first responders. I will also reach out to members through NALP Connect to see if those who were unable to join the call have instituted other initiatives to address attorney well-being.

IV. Other Section News

The last section call on June 14th had about 10 participants. My goal is to try to schedule the call to avoid conflicts with other section calls where possible. Despite conflicts, I am hoping that with the exciting initiatives our section chairs have planned for the coming year participation in the quarterly calls or in the section initiatives will increase as the year progresses. I am thrilled to chair the section this year and look forward to working with the Board to promote the section and to engage our members throughout the 2018-2019 NALP year.