

Memorandum

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

From: January 24, 2019

Re: Lawyer PD Section Update

The PD Section continues to work on initiatives identified at the beginning of the 2018-2019 season. Spring is shaping up to be a busy time for the Education Work Group and the Best Practices Work Group. Detailed information on the individual work groups are below.

I. Work Group Reports

Education Work Group

We announced on the section's January 23rd quarterly call that the RFP process has begun for PDI. Katie Creedon, the work group's vice-chair, continues to be a vital resource for those interested in submitting a proposal by offering guidance on the proposal process and assisting in finding a co-presenter. We will continue to remind section members to submit proposals up until the deadline of March 31st and will refer them to the RFP proposal guidelines to ensure that their proposal meets the program's criteria.

Law Firm/Law Student PD Collaboration

I reminded the section of our collaboration with Elisabeth Beal of the LSPD section on compiling a booklet summarizing PD programs at law firms. I encouraged individuals interested in sharing non-proprietary information to reach out to Elisabeth so law students are able to review and consider the range of professional development opportunities offered by law firms. The LSPD section working on this initiative has stated they hope to publish their findings by April's annual education conference.

Best Practices Work Group

Tamesha Keel has organized another webinar slated to run in March. The topic will focus around the #MeToo movement in law firms, in particular what role PD professionals play in the movement and how we can help implement change. Lauren Rikleen of the Rikleen Institute for Strategic Leadership will lead the webinar. Details on the webinar will be announced when finalized.

Ashley DeBrino gave an overview of the 2018 PDI conference. One of her biggest takeaways from the conference was we all experience some resistance and how critical it is for

PD professionals to enhance our presence in order to contribute to the ever changing needs of law firms.

Membership Work Group

Cindy Haynes continues to welcome new members to section and serves as a resource for those who want to learn more about how to get involved in the section.

Professional Identity Formation Work Group

There has not been any further movement on the Professional Identity Formation front. We await to connect with members of the LSPD section on the next steps from the Holloran Center.

II. Other Section News

We wrapped up the section call with Melanie Priddy giving a great overview of NALP's Principles for a Fair and Ethical Recruitment Process. While these changes largely affect those in recruiting, it was important for the LPD section to learn about the changes given that many of us hold positions in overall talent management. Melanie noted in the discussion that students may have more of an opportunity during the offer stage to showcase their softer skills, particularly in negotiation. Learning about a candidate's ability to negotiate early on might have an impact on professional development programming, however, at this stage, it is too soon to tell.

As we move towards spring, I hope we are able to revitalize the collaborations we have begun with the LSPD section. As my time serving as LPD Section Chair winds down, I will work to ensure that these initiatives continue with the transition of new section leadership.