

MEMORANDUM

TO: NALP Executive Board
FROM: Kelly Ryan and Anna Hanzelka, Lawyer PD Section Chairs
DATE: October 16, 2025
RE: Lawyer PD Section Board Report – October 2025

Below please find a report of the Lawyer Professional Development Section's activities since the last Board Report in June 2024.

Section Meeting – September

Our section meeting this quarter focused largely on the upcoming PDI conference. Rudhir Krishtel joined for about 20 minutes to discuss his upcoming breakout session and confirm that the ideas he and his team have for the program resonate with the audience. I also put in a plug for Anna and my's breakout session.

A few weeks before the section meeting, there was a lot of interest on NALP Connect on the topic of mid-level training. That group of people met before the section meeting, but Melissa Robles, who led the initiative, joined the meeting to share the takeaways from the discussion. Potential topics for mid-level training (whether in a conference-style format or as standalone topics) were: managing up, supervisory skills, workload management, wellbeing, personal financial planning, firm economics, the path to and role of a junior partner, alternate career paths, and understanding and making use of 'firm leadership' time or other valuable but non-billable time.

After that, we had a prompt from the participants on competencies – do you have them, how were they created, potential obstacles, how often do you revisit and refresh your competencies. This took up the remainder of our time.

The attendance at this meeting was higher than average, with more than 40 professional joining. I find this especially impressive given the timing of the meeting – September-November is by far my busiest time of year with first year starts, evaluations, and all the other typical job responsibilities. Anna and I have tried to use multiple methods to get our dates/times on calendars and it seems to have some impact.

Work Group Reports

Education Work Group – Roz Wright, Laura Friedman

We had a number of proposals submitted to PDI and AEC with the encouragement of the Lawyer PD section. We have a list of the programs that were not approved for PDI, which we plan to review and see if any of those topics would be a good webinar or article. We have not yet received the programs that were not approved for AEC, but will do the same with that content.

Lawyer/Law Student PD Collaboration – Susanne Aronowitz

Sarah Hadjimarkos had to step down this quarter due to competing demands. We are looking for another law firm professional to join Susanne in this collaboration. She is working with the Law Student PD liaison to identify areas for collaboration.

Best Practice in Lawyer PD – Marcia Weldon, Kori Carew

Nothing to report.

AI in the Workplace – Elise Tincher, Michelle Rodriguez

Update delayed due to a personal illness. Will include in the next report.

Lawyer Career Coaching/Advising – Fairuz Abdullah, Mary Maher

Nothing to report.

DEI Liaison – Doug Ebeling

Nothing to report.

Small/Midsize Lawyer Professional Development Liaisons – Rob DeToni, Kate Harrison

Nothing to report.

Wellbeing Champion – Pascale Bishop

Nothing to report.