

MEMORANDUM

NALP Newer Professionals Section

To: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

CC: Amy Jones Mattock, NALP Board Liaison

From: Sandra R. Minea, Newer Professionals Section Chair

Date: April 5, 2018

Re: NALP Newer Professionals Section Board Report – 4th Quarter

SUMMARY

The Newer Professionals Section had a great final quarter. We got a couple of new ideas off of the ground and hopefully that will keep things moving as we head into next year.

We held our fourth and final quarterly call on March 29th, 2018. Again, in addition to updating the group on what our Work Groups have been up to (these updates are noted below), we also had some guest speakers. To further our charge of helping our members “graduate” into other NALP sections, we had Jacki Herzog from the Recruiting Section and Kay Nash from the Lawyer Professional Development Section talk on the call about their respective sections and how NALP Newer Professionals can become involved in them. It was great to learn that even though these seem to be employer-side-focused groups, there is actually much room for school-side involvement!

As usual, our section still struggles with getting members engaged. We have a core group that is engaged, but have trouble getting other members to participate. In trying to combat that, though, we have launched the two new initiatives previewed in the last board report, and I am happy to report that they seem to be going well. Our new “Dear Abby”-style feature for NALPconnect, where Newer Professionals can seek advice from Experienced Professionals, and which we are calling NALP Expert Q&A, has been launched and is going great. We have been working with the Experienced Professionals Section, which has been incredibly engaged and helpful! We are currently posting questions/answers every week or so, and hope to keep that up. Our challenge there is getting newer professionals to send in questions, but we hope that this will pick up. It is my recommendation that we create this a work group next year to handle this feature; it requires a fair bit of work and planning (that some of my vice-chairs of other groups are graciously handling amazingly!), but it would also create another position to get additional Newer Professionals involved (and engaging with Experienced Professionals!).

We have also begun hosting “Open” calls, where members can drop in and ask questions. We held one at the end of February, where we had a couple of callers asking questions about conference attendance (both Newer Professionals Forum as well as the Annual Education Conference). It is my hope that this continues on an even more regular basis next year.

I have been working with Catherine Clement, the incoming Chair, and I am confident she will keep our momentum going. I am also excited to help her with the new ideas she wants to put into place!

WORK GROUPS

NALP Integration

Vice Chair: Courtney Dredde Carter (Jenner)

Per usual, Courtney continues to do great work with this work group. Her and her team have been reaching out to welcome the newest members of our group as they join, and have been continuing to post articles to NALPconnect to encourage discussion there.

Ask the Experts

Vice Chairs: Mary Beth Nielsen (SMU)

Mary Beth has another great webinar in the works titled *Summer Time and the Livin' Ain't Easy: Managing OCI*. She is currently putting together the panelists, and it sounds like she has several great ones, based on the suggestions of others. She continues to help pair up Newer Professionals with Experiences Professionals, hopefully setting up a great, long-lasting relationship!

Bulletin Article Planning

Vice Chairs: Katy Van de Weghe (Wachtell) and Chelsey Parrott-Sheffer (Seyfarth)

Our Newcomer's Corner schedule is entirely full, but they encourage our members who may have ideas to write feature-length articles. On our last call, we proposed that any members who submitted a proposal that was not accepted should reach out to them about potentially turning it into a feature-length article. We have also asked members to start thinking ahead for next year! Below is a list of articles submitted on behalf of our group since September.

Author	Title	Issue
Robin Thorner	"Breaking Down Silos"	February 2018
Hollis Hanover	"Four Roadblocks You" Encounter When You're New on the Job and How to Navigate Around Them"	March 2018
Jessica Fijolek	"The Importance of Building Relationships with Key Stakeholders"	April 2018

Annual Education Conference Planning

Vice Chair: None

Again, I encouraged people to start thinking of RFPs and to reach out to me or to Catherine if they wanted to do one or if they either had an idea and didn't want to present or wanted to present but didn't have an idea, so that we could pair people up!