

MEMORANDUM

NALP Newer Professionals Section

To: Lynn Herron, NALP Board Liaison
Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

From: Amber Brugnoli
Assistant Dean for Career Services
West Virginia University College of Law
Chair, Newer Professional Section

Date: October 12, 2016

Re: NALP Newer Professionals Section Board Report – 2nd Quarter

SUMMARY

The summer months saw the NPS active in drafting and submitting RFP proposals for the Annual Education Conference, writing articles for the Bulletin, and preparing for the upcoming “Ask the Experts” webinar series. There was a bit of slow-down in NALP-direct work during the fall recruiting season, but on the recent quarterly call, people seemed eager to once again focus on these projects. Additionally, it was encouraging to have some members on the call who had only VERY recently joined NALP (one within the last three weeks). These individuals expressed their appreciation for the support the NPS and NALP, as a whole, is providing them.

WORK GROUPS

Annual Education Conference Presenters Work Group

Vice Chairs: Lindsae Gogulski (Fox Rothschild) and Maria Saez-Statman (University of Oregon)

The NPS submitted five RFPs for consideration, and two were selected. The chosen seminars are detailed below. Additionally, a few section members have informed me they will be speaking on panels sponsored by other sections. I congratulated them and encouraged them to seek joint-sponsorship of their programs next year, even if they are not the lead presenter.

“Building Law Student Resilience: Practical Tools for Programming and Counseling”

Jordana Laporte, Sarah Rohne

Law students often struggle to overcome hurdles or bounce back from setbacks, both personal and professional. Through various studies, it is clear that the skills that underpin resilience can be learned over time. Thus, law students can develop and leverage these critical skills to heighten their performance, academically and professionally and succeed in their demanding legal careers. This session will educate attendees about the science surrounding resiliency, including grit and growth mindset and positive psychology, and provide concrete tools for law school career development professionals to build resiliency skills in their students through programming ideas and counselling techniques.

“Keep the Train on the Tracks: Identifying Bar Risks to Prevent Derailment”

Amber Brugnoli, Tony Waller, Greg Miarecki, Ray English

Just as employment numbers start to improve, bar passage rates continue to drop. In order to prevent a significant number of unlicensed job seekers, CSOs must work to ensure their voice is heard, from admissions decisions, through graduation, and beyond. The impact bar exam outcomes have on law school rankings—both directly and through secondary effects—makes it imperative that schools identify and engage students at risk of failure. This panel will outline steps taken at four different schools to determine trends in bar passage, the measures taken to improve outcomes, and how the CSO added value to the discussion.

NALP Bulletin Articles Work Group

Vice Chairs: Laura Fischer (Whyte Hirschboek Dudek) and Desiree Jaeger-Fine (Jaeger-Fine Consulting)

Laura and Desiree continue to do great work as they coordinate and remind our members about their upcoming article submissions for the year. Thanks to their efforts, we will have at least 11 Newcomer’s Corner Articles this year and at least two feature articles. Additionally, three other members, including myself, are writing articles for other sections, as well. We continue to recruit individuals for the open months’ Newcomer’s Corner pieces.

Newcomer’s Corners

- July 2016: Maureen Tracy Leo, Boston University School of Law: “Developing Networking Contacts Over the Academic Year”
- September 2016: Amber Brugnoli, WVU College of Law: “Preparing for ABA Reaccreditation Site Visits”
- October 2016: Kathryn E. Van de Weghe, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz: “Handling Your Own Professional Development”
- November 2016: Katrina Denny, Southwestern Law School: “ABA Protocols and Outcomes Reportings”
- December 2016: Lauren Seffel, George Mason University School of Law: “Building Rapport with Students When Stepping Into Counseling Mid-Year”
- January 2017: Laura Fischer, Whyte Hirschboek Dudek: “Associate Transparency in Professional Development”
- February 2017: Dana Neiswander, Michael Best & Friedrich: TBD
- March 2017: Open
- April 2017: Aubrey Johnson, Whyte Hirschboek Dudek: “Tips for Managing Multi-Office Summer Programs”
- May 2017: Open
- June 2017: Open

Feature Articles

- January 2017: Paula Gluzman, University of San Diego: “Getting Involved in Law School City Groups”
- TBD: Lauren Seffel, George Mason University School of Law: “Crafting Survey Questions”

“Ask the Experts” Work Group

Vice Chairs: Courtney Dredde (Jenner & Block) and Sheryl Roberts (Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan)

Following a teleconference meeting with our liaisons from the Experienced Professionals Section in July, these vice-chairs had difficulty the membership to submit ideas for webinars. A few people expressed that with the easily available data out there—webinars, articles, journals, etc.—from NALP, the ABA, and other sources, they didn’t really have any pressing concerns. However, in September, Courtney and Sheryl received three proposals, which they are now working on developing into webinars. The topics are:

- Tips on having a successful first (or second) NALP Annual Education Conference
- Interview Tips and Techniques - tips for us on how best to interview within our departments
- How Career Services professionals connect with their students – what methods are the most successful?

The dates and times for the webinars should be announced soon.

Integration Work Group

Vice Chair: Sandra Minea (Chicago-Kent College of Law)

Sandy coordinated with the NALP staff and has learned how to determine when new members join NALP and the section. She is going to begin tracking this information and reaching out to new members in order to ensure they are getting off on the right foot. Additionally, there has been much discussion of assigning a “conference buddy” to those newer professional who want one. This person would either be a more-experienced newer professional or someone from the Experienced Professionals section who would volunteer to help guide the newer member through the conference, since many agree it can be overwhelming for first-time attendees. We will be able to reach out to these individuals based on who indicates it is their first conference on their registration form.

THANK YOU!!!