

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Rebecca Calman, Board Liaison

FROM: Olivia Schmit, Newer Professional Section Chair

RE: NALP Newer Professional Section Quarterly Board Report, April 2021

DATE: Thursday, April 8

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### **SUMMARY**

Over the last quarter, our section work groups have continued to collaborate with other section work groups and task forces. Detailed in this report are work group updates and an overview of our open discussion on our latest section call. I have also included my thoughts on work group organization for the next year and potential great candidates to lead the section or be involved as leaders of workgroups.

### **SECTION CALL**

Our final section call took place on March 4, 2021 via videoconference.

The agenda for our call is below:

- Welcome
- Board Report
- Work Group Updates
  - NALP Integration / Member Relations
  - Expert Conference Calls / Webinars / Advice
  - Bulletin Article Planning
  - Annual Education Conference Planning
  - Q&A with an Experienced Professional
  - Knowledge Management
- Environmental Scanning

## **WORK GROUPS**

### NALP Integration/Member Relations

Vice Chairs: Elizabeth Crane (University of South Carolina) and Kayla Doiron (University of Oklahoma)

The mentorship program has seen success as 12 mentor pairs have been created. Kayla and Elizabeth have overwhelming interest from the experienced professionals – 28 mentors who are willing to participate are not yet matched. On our last call, Elizabeth and Kayla encouraged newer professionals to reach out to them if they would like to participate. To encourage more participation, Tami Diebel and Kathy Greenier discussed this experience connecting with their mentors.

### Expert Conference Calls/Webinars/Advice

Vice Chair: Heather Park (Sidley Austin)

Heather has been working closely with the Q&A with an Experienced Professional Vice-Chairs (Ashley and Christine) and representatives from other sections to coordinate webinars. On March 31st, Heather, Ashley and Christine hosted our third webinar, “Supporting Diverse Professionals and Engaging Allies”. The webinar gathered Diversity & Inclusion colleagues for a panel to advise newer professionals on how to support diverse professionals at their respective organizations/institutions.

### Bulletin Article Planning

Vice Chair: Ginny Mueller (Husch Blackwell)

Below are the upcoming planned articles for this quarter. Ginny has secured article authors through August 2021.

<b>Proposed Issue Month</b>	<b>Tentative Topic</b>	<b>Authors(s) Name, Email</b>
May 2021	Summer Program Planning Tips	Caitlin Raybourn
June 2021	Lessons Learned from Law School Virtual Networking Events	Nicole Netkin-Collins
July 2021	TENTATIVE: OCI-related (Tips for Virtual OCI?)	TBD or Ginny Mueller
August 2021	Getting into a Professional Development Role	Heather DiFranco

### Annual Conference Planning

Acting Vice-Chair: Olivia Schmit (Sidley Austin)

There were no significant updates regarding the annual conference at the time of the meeting. I did, however, encourage everyone to attend the virtual conference (if possible) and to think about topics that they would like to see presented at the 2022 conference.

### Q&A with an Experienced Professional

Vice Chairs: Ashley Julian (Paul Hastings) and Christine Tarr (Southwestern Law School)

Ashley and Christine are working closely with Heather to coordinate and collaborate with other sections to create Q&A and webinar programs.

### Knowledge Management

Vice Chair: Caitlin Raybourn (Kelley Drye)

Caitlin did not have any significant updates from the Knowledge Management Task Force.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING**

During the environmental scanning section of our most recent call, we focused on winter OCI as it had just concluded. One of the topics that was discussed is how we can better prepare the students for virtual interviews going into OCI this summer. Some colleagues on the school side were surprised at the amount of assistance that students requested in preparing for virtual interviews. As a group, we noted the need for more centralized education around best practices for virtual interviewing.

## **SECTION RECOMMENDATIONS**

My recommendation for the section workgroups is to combine the Expert Conference Calls/Webinars/Advice and the Q&A with an Experienced Professional group. In the last two years, these groups have worked closely together and tend to have similar questions and advice. I would suggest combining these two workgroup to create an “Expert Advice” or “Newer Professional PD” workgroup.

Also, it was a great pleasure working with all of my vice-chairs this year and all of them would be great leaders of the group!

cc: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director