

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 24, 2012
To: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director
Victor Massaglia, Board Liaison
From: Layke M. Stolberg, William S. Boyd School of Law, UNLV
Re: NALP Solo/Small Section Board Report

This report summarizes the Section's activities since the June 2012 Board Report.

Section Communication:

The section held an hour long conference call on October 9, 2012. Nineteen section members attended. We discussed the RFPs selected for the conference, the article submitted, and hot topics. Updates from the work groups and a summary of the hot topics/environmental scanning are provided below.

Working Group Updates:

Conference RFPs – The Solo/Small CSO Section submitted a total of 10 RFPs, several of which were co-sponsored with other sections. The following four were selected:

Getting Them to Know, Like, and Trust You: Building Student Support for Your CSO Through Student Involvement Initiatives. By: Markeisha Miner, Jennifer Zwagerman, Jenny Redix Jordan, Stephanie Powell

Establishing Credibility Through Personal Branding. By: Michelle Jackson, Victor Massaglia, Layke Stolberg, Hope Martin

Time Saving Tips: Big Picture Planning & Day-to-Day Details. By: Margann Bennett, Stephanie Richman, Tammy King

Niche Markets: Opening Doors To Opportunities. By: Paula Smith, Gwendolyn Ferrell, Samorn Selim, Suzanne Hill Patrick

Bulletin Articles – Only one article was submitted on behalf of the section. Nikki Harris of my office (Boyd School of Law) submitted an article on counseling students interested in gaming law careers.

New Members –No report.

NALPConnect/Shared Resource Pool – No report.

Environmental Scanning

- NALPConnect usage has increased!

- Discussion Question: Do schools use Symplicity to report to NALP or input data through NALP's ERSS system?
 - Majority of schools appeared to use Symplicity. Those who had used provided tips and things to watch out for (like making sure that the correct firm size is listed for each employer).
- Discussion Question: How does recent media attention to law schools and employment outcomes reporting affect you on a day to day basis? How does it affect your overall job satisfaction? What, if anything, can NALP do to improve any of this?
 - I proposed that the national employment outcomes for the most recent graduating class be released to members (or their availability on website sent in an alert to members) at least one day before released to media. Agreement among group that this would help small/solos and all law school members digest the info, prepare reports and talking points for administration, and respond to calls from local media. Agreement among group that this would be helpful.
 - One school had a faculty member do an internal audit before submitting employment data.
 - One school conducted a survey of incoming students, and a full 25% responded that they were not interested in practicing law; discussion of how focus on "bar passage required" category ignores "person factor."
- Other discussion included sharing ideas and advice for collecting information on bar passage from other states, a job fair website contacting schools, and the work group on the ABA Employment Questionnaire.