

NALP BOARD LIAISON REPORT
ABA COMMISSION ON LAWYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
October 2024 Report

NALP Liaison:

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Organization:

American Bar Association Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs (CoLAP)

CoLAP Chair: Yvette Hourigan

Director, Kentucky Lawyer Assistance Program (KYLAP)
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Report any meetings/webinars/calls/conferences attended in the last 3 months:

- July 22, 2024 (CoLAP Law School Monthly Meeting)
- August 2, 2024 (CoLAP Monthly Meeting)
- September 16, 2024 (CoLAP Monthly Law School Meeting)
- September 27, 2024 (3-hour CoLAP Meeting during Annual Conference)
- I also attended bi-weekly meetings of the ABA Well-Being Pledge Signatory Committee as I am a member of that committee as well. The Well-Being Pledge Signatory Committee is a CoLAP subcommittee.

Report any notable information or project of interest to NALP/NALP members within the last 3 months:

- The Law School Subcommittee continues to discuss the impacts of earlier OCI programs on law student mental health during the general CoLAP monthly meeting. We discussed this both in the general meetings and in the Law School Subcommittee meetings.
- The ABA Section on Legal Education and Admissions is currently accepting suggestions for revisions to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools. CoLAP is discussing whether they will be writing a letter suggesting mandatory well-being courses in law schools as a submission.
- CoLAP is in the final stages of drafting a Model Rule on Conditional Admission to be approved by the ABA. I will continue to monitor and provide updates on this issue.
- There will be a new survey to update the well-being data from the 2016 lawyer study. It will be the “2026 Lawyer Well-Being Research Project.” I will send more details when they are available and post information on NALP Connect if a survey is open.
- The Law School Working Group put together a list of resources for Law Student Mental Health Day on October 10, 2024. This corresponds with World Mental Health Day. I distributed these resources through NALP Connect.

Report any upcoming project or event of interest to NALP:

- The CoLAP Annual Conference is was held on September 24-26, 2024. The theme was “Transformations: Satisfaction, Competence, and Well-Being in All Stages of Life, Law, and Recovery.”
- The ABA Well-Being Pledge Committee is currently in the middle of the Pledge recommitment process with legal organizations recommitting to the Pledge or committing for the first time. There will be a new chair. The November 2024 workshop was postponed.

Future CoLAP Business Meetings:

- November 6, 2024
- Monthly CoLAP and Law School Meetings

Report any goal(s) you hope to accomplish by end of your term:

I look forward to sharing ideas and information between NALP and CoLAP for the benefit of both. As I get to know CoLAP better, I will be able to share more information and be creative in suggesting ideas for partnership and collaboration on topics and initiatives of mutual interest.

Identify any other NALP members(s) who also play a role of note with this entity:

- Robin Belleau, Director of Well-Being at Kirkland and Ellis will now be the Chair of the ABA Well-Being Pledge Committee!

Identify what significant benefits there are for NALP to continue this liaison relationship:

- The well-being of lawyers and law students is a priority for both NALP members and member organizations and for the ABA.
- The Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs has a great deal of insight and information on well-being programs, policies, and initiatives throughout the profession, both for law schools and legal employers.
- The membership/focus of NALP/CoLAP are similar: legal employers and law schools.
- We have valuable information to share with each other and opportunities to collaborate to serve our shared constituencies.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as Liaison to the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or wish to further discuss this report or other initiatives of CoLAP, the ABA Pledge Committee, or other well-being-related questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Brodin, NALP Liaison to the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs