

## NALP BOARD STANDARD LIAISON REPORT

**March 20, 2019**

My Name: Morgan L. Smith, Professional Development Director

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My Phone Number: 312-627-2151

Organization: American Bar Association

Section: Commission on Women in the Profession (CWP)

Chair or Key Person: Stephanie A. Scharf, Chair

Chair or Key Person Email: [sscharf@scharfbanks.com](mailto:sscharf@scharfbanks.com)

### **Report any meetings, webinars, calls or conferences with organizations you have attended in the last 3 months:**

I attended the CWPs business meeting at the ABA Midyear meeting in January.

I plan to attend the CWPs business meeting in Chicago in May and the ABA Annual Meeting in August in San Francisco.

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

CWP opposed Resolution 312 on Revisions to the Accreditation Standard (for law schools based on bar passage rates) and the resolution failed at the ABA Meeting. More recently, there has been media coverage of efforts to try again (see NALP Weekly Digest).

### **Attach or include any notable communication of interest to NALP:**

[Bias Interrupters](#) products were rolled out at MCCA this fall. Michelle Mayes is the face of this project and would be a strong speaker on D&I for NALP.

Toolkits (or other product) coming soon from *Guided Conversations* and *Men in the Mix*.

### **Report any upcoming project or event of interest to NALP:**

CWP is planning a possible Conference on the State of Women in the Profession. Further discussions will be a part of the May Business Meeting.

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

I am a part of a group working on a possible pay equity resolution for consideration at the August ABA Annual Meeting.

I am watching for an opportunity to support NALP, the NALP section on Diversity, and others with information and opportunities to collaborate with the ABA's CWP.

**Report any goals suggested for the next year:**

NALP may want to formally offer assistance with the next steps after the ABA Presidential Initiative research project "[Achieving Long-Term Careers for Women in the Law](#)," which went beyond After the JD and looked at women who leave the practice after 20+years as a lawyer.

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

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

The CWP continues to research issues related to women's professional development in the legal profession, and provide tools and resources to effectuate change.

In the #MeToo era, the Commission on Women in the Profession is actively involved in encouraging the ABA to modernize policies and positions. In 2018, Resolutions 302 and then 300 were passed. Additional resolutions around pay equity are being developed for August 2019.

NALP members will benefit from a front row seat at the Commission and the ABA during this time of focus and work around gender issues in the profession.