

# NALP BOARD STANDARD LIAISON REPORT

**March 31, 2021**

My Name: Morgan L. Smith, Professional Development Director  
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Organization: American Bar Association  
Section: Commission on Women in the Profession (CWP)

Chair or Key Person: Maureen Mulligan, Chair  
Chair or Key Person Email: mmulligan@peabodyarnold.com (*leaving to sit on the bench in the coming months*)

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

I attended the midyear business meeting at the ABA Midyear Conference in February and participated on the initial Strategic Planning call in March..

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

Men in the Mix Toolkit now available. *The primary purpose of Men in the Mix is a) to better understand why some men hesitate to join or support "women's groups" and b) to give women additional tools and best practices for encouraging men to join the conversation on advancing women in the legal profession. This toolkit addresses hurdles, psychological and otherwise, that men may face whether they're considering involvement in a women's affinity group or just having a conversation about the disparities faced by their women colleagues. The content for the toolkit was developed through four programs held across the country.*

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

LinkedIn post on Day of Conversation. The Commission announced a national Day of Conversation on race, ethnicity, and gender in the legal profession scheduled for 4/27. This is a great opportunity to see the Commission's This Talk Isn't Cheap toolkit in action. Your organization can address barriers to equity by holding a 60- to 90-minute virtual discussion on April 27th using the toolkit.

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

Launching Leaders Retreat in Scottsdale, AZ. Being revamped to a virtual event in 2021.

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

As a part of the planning committee for Launching Leaders, we are working on moving the planned in-person retreat to a virtual event in early 2021.

I will continue to work to identify overlapping interests of CWP and NALP.

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

I have volunteered to help with CWP's next strategic plan and hope there will be opportunities to encourage partnering with NALP.

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

Milana Hogan continues to be involved with CWP on Grit-related projects and is starting a project around developing and leading gritty teams.

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

The CWP is focused on maintaining the focus on diversity efforts amid the pandemic and continues to research issues related to women's professional development in the legal profession and provide tools and resources to effectuate change.

NALP members will benefit from a front row seat at the Commission and the ABA now with the focus and work around gender issues in the profession.