Council Meeting | May 10-12, 2018 | Washington, D.C.

Section Director’s Report

Membership

Membership Count Report
The Section has 14,134 members, up 2.6% from this time last year.

Membership Breakdown:

Lawyers: 9,215
Associates: 1,057
Law Students: 3,862

Total: 14,134

(Source: March 2018 Monthly Entity Membership Count Report)

Faculty Group Program Breakdown:

Faculty Group Program Members: 9,967
Individual Members: 4,167

(Source: April 2018 List Manager Report)

Programs/Conferences Update

Law School Development Conference: Rewriting Your Story: Adapting to Changing Donor Demands and Shifting Alumni Expectations

The Law School Development Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, May 29 – Friday, June 1 at the Loews Chicago Hotel. Keynote Speakers include Esther Choy, President & Chief Story Facilitator of the Leadership Story Lab and a luncheon keynote speaker, soon to be announced.

The conference has over 100 registrants thus far and sponsors include Publishing Concepts, Inc., Aluminate, Leadership Story Lab and iModules.
2019 Associate Deans Conference
The Section plans to host a conference for Associate Deans in the Summer of 2019 and will begin building a planning committee and securing a location for the event.

Legal Career Central Webinar Series
The Section is collaborating with the ABA’s Legal Career Central on their free Career Choice webinar series for ABA members. The series highlights different practice areas for law students, young lawyers, or transitioning attorneys. The Section is still working to secure panelists to speak on topics including how to become a tenured law school professor, adjunct law school professor, law librarian, associate dean, trial professor or coach, and/or higher education faculty member at a university or community college in a law-related department.

A webinar on “How to Become a Law School Dean” is scheduled for August 24 and features panelists Dean Danielle Holley-Walker of Howard University School of Law and Dean Michael Hunter Schwartz of University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

Co-Sponsored Programs:

Joint Law Student Division Webinar on Mental Health
The Section co-sponsored a webinar on mental health with the Law Student Division on March 23. The webinar featured the authors of a book by the Law Practice Division titled *The Full Weight of the Law: How Legal Professionals Can Recognize and Rebound from Depression*. A link to the webinar recording is posted on the Section’s Program Materials webpage.

The Path to Law Student Well-Being Podcast Series
The Section is co-sponsoring a podcast series on law student well-being that is hosted by the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs. The 2-part episode features two short conversations with Dean and Professor Michael Hunter Schwartz of the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and Professor Larry Krieger of the Florida State University College of Law and is moderated by Professor Susan Wawrose of the University of Dayton School of Law.

Co-Sponsored Webinar:
Special Education 101 for Attorneys
June 19, 2018 1:00 PM ET

Conferences and Programming Committee
The committee meets monthly via conference call under the leadership of Chair, Cassandra Hill.

The committee is currently working to develop proposals for a Fall webinar on the changing role of the law school librarian and professional responsibility and/or ethics.
Publications

Publications Committee
The committee meets monthly via conference call to discuss the status of the new editions of The Sourcebook on Legal Writing Programs and the Adjunct Faculty Handbook.

The committee has finalized the list of authors for the Sourcebook and a rough draft of the publication is due June 1. The committee is working to secure an editor for the publication and estimates the publication will launch in early 2019.

The committee is currently working to line up authors to edit the Adjunct Faculty Handbook.

Additionally, the “ABA Standards Idea Bank” - a web resource that allows law schools the opportunity to share programs, processes and materials that they are employing to meet the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools - is ready for launch. The committee is working to gather examples to post prior to launch, to guide schools on what they can submit.

Joint Law Student Division Newsletter
The Section continues to collaborate with the Law Student Division on a quarterly electronic newsletter for section members. The newsletter keeps section members informed on the many benefits the ABA provides for members, faculty and law students. The theme of the May newsletter is career development. Past newsletters are available on the Section’s publications webpage.

Syllabus
The Spring issue of Syllabus will be available in early May on the Syllabus homepage.

ABA Website
The new ABA website is expected to launch sometime this Summer. Erin and Andrew are working to build the Section’s webpages.

ABA Reorganization
During the month of April, the ABA restructured its entities into 9 different Centers that support the 4 goals of the Association. The Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar now resides within the new Center for Accreditation and Education, along with the Standing Committee on Paralegals and the Standing Committee on Specialization.