It’s Here: ABA Futures Commission Releases Its Report

"The traditional law practice business model constrains innovations that would provide greater access to, and enhance the delivery of, legal services." In San Francisco last week, the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services released its report, which was two years in the making. It doesn't mince words, as you can see. What, specifically, did the Commission recommend in order to close the gaps in legal service and help lawyers embrace change ... and stay in practice?

6 Simple Ways to Make Your Diversity and Inclusion Efforts More Effective

You have the best of intentions when it comes to attracting and retaining diverse employees (and members and leaders, too). You implement some great diversity and inclusion initiatives, and then ... nothing much changes. Why? Maybe you didn't pay enough attention to how your diverse employees and other stakeholders feel—and specifically, whether they have the sense that “I belong.” That’s according to Pat Wadors, senior vice president of global talent organization at LinkedIn. In a post at Harvard Business Review, Wadors offers six ways to ensure that your diversity and inclusion efforts truly hit home.

The Public Needs to Know about Justice Gap, LSC Chair Tells ABA HOD

For years, the Legal Services Corp., bar leaders, those in legal aid, and others have been very concerned about the justice gap. But what about the public? Does anyone outside the legal profession really know what a crisis this is? Addressing the ABA House of Delegates in San Francisco last week, LSC chair John G. Levi said he doesn’t think so—and that’s a big problem. ABA Journal looks at how the LSC intends to get the public’s attention, and at what else Levi identified as top priorities.

The Florida Bar Issues New Rules for Avvo-type Matching Services

In overhauling its rules regarding lawyer referral services, The Florida Bar’s Board of Governors also took into account for-profit matching services such as LegalZoom, Avvo, and RocketLawyer, clarifying how such companies can operate in that state—and what Florida lawyers must do if they wish to participate. The rules eliminate distinctions among lawyer referral services, directories, and for-profit companies’ matching services, calling all of these “qualifying providers” and spelling out protocol and rules for lawyer participation in any of them. Do the new rules make it harder for lawyers to work with such services? Easier? Both? And what about fee splitting? The Florida Bar News has answers.