From:	Hanna L Stotland
To:	Marcelyn Cox
Cc:	Meghan Grenda
Subject:	NALP Liaison Report
Date:	Thursday, October 25, 2012 5:45:38 PM

Report of the National Association for Law Placement Liaison to the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Diversity in the Judiciary

Dear Board Members:

I was able to attend the Standing Committee's meetings in both February and August of this year. Each meeting consisted of an outreach program aimed at underprivileged local students, followed by lunch and the business meeting. The February meeting also included a Judicial Clerkships program component that I was unable to attend, but that offered exercises and networking for law students interested in becoming clerks. Below please find descriptions of these proceedings and the themes the Committee discussed.

February 2012 Midyear Meeting in New Orleans:

Outreach project: KIPP Renaissance Charter School in New Orleans. Members of the Committee, including the Liaison, spent half a day at this school, part of a national group of schools aimed at boosting the achievement and college attendance of poor and minority students. Member judges addressed social studies classes and then attended a reception with a group of students who had won that privilege through good behavior and academic success.

Business meeting: Judges were overjoyed with the success of the KIPP outreach and plan to make such programs an integral part of the Committee's business. This will be challenging during the annual meeting in August, when school is out of session. Also challenging to run because the program necessitates early arrival in the host city. Other possibilities besides schools include juvenile detention centers and fire departments.

There has been controversy within the judicial division re: diversity plan. The primary goal of the Committee is obtaining and retaining a diverse judiciary. It is challenging to attract people to the programs. The Committee can invite local lawyers/law students who aren't ABA members and didn't pay for the annual meeting. This program might be aimed at national judicial issues or venue-specific (e.g., how to become a judge in Illinois). The goal is to promote a diverse bench, not to promote ABA.

August 2012 Annual Meeting in Chicago:

Outreach project: The Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund (DMSF) provides scholarships for high performing students from low income communities across the Chicagoland area to attend any private high school in Chicago or attend a boarding school that has become a partner of the organization. The Committee met the rising ninth graders who would be attending a variety of private high schools, including all of the top prep schools in the city (University of Chicago Lab

School, Francis Parker, Chicago Latin School, St. Ignatius, etc.) and a few on the East Coast, such as Groton. 70% of this group will be the first in their families to attend college. The judges spoke to the students as a body and then broke into smaller groups for more personal conversations over lunch.

Business meeting: The primary topic of business was a reference directory of diverse judges. There were a variety of opinions as to where female judges fit into the Standing Committee's work, given that they are approaching majority status on some local benches around the country.

Judges on tribal courts were a special area of concern. A representative of Native American courts explained that tribal judges view themselves not as minorities within the American legal system, but as actors within a separate and independent system. These jurists often reject categorization as "people of color" or other shorthand that does not acknowledge their status as nations. The representative noted the line in the Constitution empowering Congress to regulate commerce "with foreign Nations, and among the *several* States, and with the *Indian Tribes*," setting the tribes apart from other sorts of governments.

The Committee discussed rebidding for a grant from the Standing Committee on Judicial Independence for a better judicial diversity databank. The Committee would like to build a directory of minority judges in the US.

Respectfully submitted,
Hanna Stotland
Northwestern University School of Law