PCAPLA 2017 - Workshops, Panels, and Presentations With a Brief Summary of the Description

Track 1 – The Nuts & Bolts of Pre-Law Advising

- New Pre-law Advisor Training

Everything that newer pre-law advisors need to know as a foundation to pre-law advising: personal statement considerations, the admissions process, application components and timeline.

- Misconduct and Irregularities in the Admissions Process: "Red Flags, Disclosures and Determinations"

Common "red flags" in the law school application review process, how to avoid these mistakes, and the consequences they incur by making these mistakes.

Track 2 – Preparing Students for Careers in Law

[this category has been expanded to include preparing students for the expense of obtaining a legal education]

- "Law Graduate Voices: What does it mean to be \$100,000 in debt? (or \$200,000, or \$50,000, or \$0)"

The goal of "Law Graduate Voices" is to hear from recent law school graduates about their experiences dealing with debt after graduation.

- Helping Students Navigate Law School Financing and Net Cost Trends (2010-2014) Across Different LSAT Categories

Law school is an important investment. And financing that investment is a hot topic for aspiring law students. Includes a discussion about a dynamic net cost model (tuition less scholarship) that distributes entering students in fall 2010 through fall 2014 into six LSAT categories (165+, 160-164, 155-159, 150-154, 145-159 and <145) with six corresponding cost categories (\$0-10K, \$10K-20K, \$20K-30K, \$30K-40K, \$40K-50K, \$50-60).

- The Legal Job Market and What Employers Look for When Hiring
This is a two-part presentation. The first part will include information on the curent state of the legal job market presented by NALP (the National Association for Law Placement). The second part will be a penel of legal employers providing their perspective on what they look for when they hire law students for summer positions or as they consider hiring new lawyers (recent JD grads) for permanent positions.

Track 4 - Pre-Law Programming

- Best Practices for Programing: a guided roundtable discussion on various event formats and programming for pre-law advisors from different-sized institutions.

This presentation will include a discussion on collaborative partnerships that pre-law advisors can forge at their institutions to streamline efforts, reduce costs, and distribute effort among various interested partners to create effective programming with greater participation and engagement from students and law school representatives.

Track 5 – Pipeline and Diversity Programs

- Supporting First Generation and Community College Students

A presentation on two programs supporting first generation and community college students. The first is a five-week residential summer transition program and the second provides support to current law students who self-identified as first generation college students. The presentation will include a panel of students to provide insight, feedback, and recommendations for pre-law advisors.

Track 6 – Hot Topics

- Advising Undocumented and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival) Students Going to Law School

In this presentation by law school admissions deans and faculty experts on immigration, pre-law advisors will be provided with information on how to advise undocumented and DACA students applying to law school based on the latest information available at the time of the conference. This presentation will include a description of the challenges that these students face, as well as resources and avenues available to them to pursue a legal career, during and after law school and in applying to the bar.

- Preparing Pre-Law Students to Hit the Ground Running: beyond the academic pipeline Starting law school with little to no exposure to fields of law and being unprepared for their career development can be just as damaging to future JDs as being underprepared academically. In addition to being prepared for the rigors of law school, pre-law students should also be prepared to take advantage of the para-professional experiences they must pursue during law school (clerkships, clinics, internships, externships) to be as practice-ready as possible for an effective transition into their careers. This is an opportunity for Career Center Deans to guide pre-law advisors on what JD students are expected to do for this part of their legal education AND to provide suggestions for pre-law advisors to share with their students for basic exploration and exposure to various fields of law as undergraduates.
- Pathway to Law School 2+2+3 Programs

24 California Community Colleges, 6 undergraduate institutions and their respective law schools are participating in this program to offer advancement in the legal profession for students from diverse and traditionally underrepresented populations in the legal profession. This presentation will include a panel from some of these participant institutions and will discuss the progress, challenges, and anticipated benefits of this program.

Plenary Session

- LSAC Update

The most recent updates from LSAC and a review of the current test taking, application, and enrollment trends based on the 2016-2017 admission cycle data

- Deans' Round Table [Pending]

Join the Admissions Deans from our host law schools for an insightful panel discussion about law school admissions. They will share their perceptive and give their best advice for guiding students as they prepare for admission to law school and for a career in law taking into account recent and trends and developing dynamics in the current legal market.