Minority Involvement Section’s Professional Development Symposium set for Aug. 16

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Minority Involvement Section’s Professional Development Symposium, “Preparing Practice-Ready Attorneys,” is set for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge. (This 26th event, previously organized as the Minority Job Fair, was redesigned to increase focus on professional development of the students, rather than job placement.)

Employers have the option of participating in mock interview sessions and/or manning information tables and résumé review tables. The interviewing and information table sessions will begin at 10 a.m. Employers also have the option of receiving links to résumé books of participating law students.

Employers should confirm their participation by July 18, indicating whether they will conduct mock interviews, receive résumés or man tables. Register online at: https://law-sule-csm.symplicity.com/employers. After logging in, employers should update their profiles, then click on the link OCI to participate in the symposium.

The symposium is focused on preparing practice-ready attorneys and will introduce students and recent graduates from the state’s four law schools to recruiters from law firms, governmental agencies, corporate legal departments, judges and solo practitioners.

Students will have the opportunity to attend three different panels on Solo/Small Practice Work; Alternative Careers; and Navigating the Current Job Market.

The fair includes a free networking workshop and breakfast from 8-8:45 a.m.

For more information on the event, go to: http://files.lsba.org/documents/News/LSBANews/2014MISSymposiumInfo.pdf. Or email Minority Involvement Section Chair Demarcus J. Gordon at demarcus.gordon@kellyhart.com.

To RSVP for the networking breakfast or to inquire about event sponsorship, contact LSBA Program Coordinator Christine A. Richard, (800)421-5722, ext. 105, (504)619-0105, or email crichard@lsba.org.

Seventeen students completed the 2014 “Suit Up for the Future” High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program, a partnership of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the Just the Beginning Foundation and the Louisiana Bar Foundation. From June 9-27, the students attended an abridged law school session, participated in an internship consisting of shadowing at area law firms and courts, and attended field trips to federal and state courts, law schools and museums. On the final day, the students presented oral arguments to a panel of federal and state judges on a mock problem related to a venue issue. Each student also prepared a legal memorandum in support of his/her position. Photo by Barbara D. Baldwin.
**Attorney, law firm receive 2014 Human Rights Awards**

New Orleans attorney **Lynn Luker** and the New Orleans office of **Adams and Reese, L.L.P.**, received 2014 Human Rights Awards, presented during the Louisiana State Bar Association’s (LSBA) Annual Meeting in June.

The award recognizes outstanding efforts made by a bar association, law firm or law department, an individual attorney or judge, a court or a community organization or individual in promoting diversity in the legal profession, in particular, to recognize efforts ensuring the full and equal opportunity of all persons for entry and advancement in Louisiana’s legal profession.

**Lynn Luker**, owner of Lynn Luker & Associates, L.L.C., in New Orleans, is committed to working toward inclusion within the legal profession. After graduation from Tulane Law School, she systematically built trial teams that included women attorneys and has mentored those inside and outside her firm. A trained LSBA diversity speaker, she conducts diversity and inclusion training across Louisiana. She is chair of the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms. In 2015, she will celebrate 30 years of teaching at Tulane Law School as co-director of Trial Ad and the Civil Pre-Trial Litigation Boot Camp.

The **Adams and Reese, L.L.P.**, Diversity Committee is comprised of the Diversity Committee chair, the recruiting partner, the partner for associates, an Executive Committee appointee, three Practice Group leaders, the chief marketing officer and additional representatives throughout the firm. The Minority Attorney Committee develops and promotes diversity through events targeted to minority attorneys, clients and the community.

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**2015 Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession scheduled**

Save the date! The 2015 Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession is scheduled for Friday, March 6, 2015, at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal St., New Orleans. More details on workshops, speakers and sponsors will be published (as available) in the LSBA’s print and online publications.

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**LSBA trains 17 diversity facilitators**

Seventeen people participated in the May 7 Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) “Train the Diversity Facilitator” seminar. These participants are now equipped to facilitate diversity-related programming to LSBA members for future CLE programs.

The diversity/inclusion presentations and workshops qualify for professionalism or ethics credit (depending upon content). Through these workshops, the profession may learn and grow, increasing members’ abilities to interact with each other appropriately and professionally, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age, generation, lifestyle or geography.

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**LSBA Diversity Subcommittee Preference Form 2014-15: Get Involved!**

Indicate below your committee preference(s). If you are interested in more than one committee, list in 1-2-3 preference order.

- Diversity Awards
- Diversity Communications
- Diversity Conclave
- LGBT Diversity
- Diversity Integration
- Pipeline to Diversity (outreach to law students, students, law firms and judiciary)

LSBA Bar Roll Number ____________________________
Name __________________________________________
Address _______________________________________
City/State/Zip __________________________________
Telephone ______________________________________
Fax ____________________________________________
Email address __________________________________

For a description of subcommittees, go to: www.lsba.org/Diversity/DiversitySubCommittees.aspx

**Response Deadline: Aug. 30, 2014**

Mail, email or fax your completed form to:
Member Outreach and Diversity Department
Louisiana State Bar Association
601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130-3404
email: tricia.pierre@lsba.org
fax: (504)566-0930

For more information on subcommittee duties, email Tricia R. Pierre, Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, tricia.pierre@lsba.org.