

OREGON STATE BAR
Alternative Pathways to Becoming a Lawyer Committee
October 9, 2018, Meeting Minutes

On October 9, 2018, the Alternative Pathways to Becoming a Lawyer Committee of the Oregon State Bar met at 3 pm; and the following people were present in person or on the phone:

Vanessa Nordyke, Oregon State Bar President
Troy Wood, Oregon State Bar Liaison
Danny Lang, Co-Chair
Judy Parker, Co-Chair
Dallas DeLuca
John Gear
Diane Thompson
Nathaniel Aggrey
Angela Lucero
Patricia Nation
Kasia Rutledge
Nicole Commission

There were no minutes for the September Minutes of 10/9/18.

The follow up discussion of Charge One included:

- Discussion from last meeting where members of the task force wanted to revisit the issue of the requirement. The committee tried to consider all opinions and will not open it at this point. Majority of task force did vote.
- Judy reached out to Justice Kistler from the Supreme Court – discussed the charges and the majority and the minority reports. He was not familiar with the WA model, but said he will review. The education component was discussed, and he said even though we are doing the non-traditional approach, he suggested a minimum qualification of a BA. Can change it down the road, “tweak it” later. Charge 1 is a small jump – Larger jump will be the educational component. Good for public protection and consumer friendly – suggested we talk about Norma Paulus in our report.
- Nicole brought up a second issue -- successful completion of the program does not qualify applicant as eligible for reciprocity, and cannot transfer credits, but the applicant could probably have a federal practice.
- Judy pointed out that Western District of the Court of Washington does not allow non-accredited enrolled law students or nonrecent JD graduates to be in the law clerk program. LR 83 –
- Troy confirmed a lawyer who practices in Oregon’s federal or tribunal must meet the requirements of the jurisdiction. JAG members too.
- Might want to do a further study of admissions. We have gathered information on no JD, so not eligible for reciprocity, or transferring bar scores, but would be eligible to have a Federal practice – even though the applicant could not join the state bar.
- Judy will mention the Federal court practice in the report, but will focus mainly on how the license is limited to being admitted to practice in Oregon. Nicole will do additional input re not required to have a JD to practice in Federal, SS, immigration.
- Danny wants to see the majority and the minority opinions in the report. Nate and Judy are working on minority and majority reports. Judy’s section will be 25 pages. Nate’s will be 5 to 10 pages. Draft will be submitted to the committee, and the committee will have the opportunity to make comments.
- Troy Wood discussed the process for submitting the report. For public records, send to Troy.
- Materials section on the task force page contains all reference materials and minutes.

- Troy suggested Judy provide sufficient time to submit and give the committee time to comment back. On November 1 or sooner the report will be sent to the committee, with commentary due to author by 11/5, and discussion at the meeting on 11/6. Reports will be delivered via email. No dialogue back and forth. When Judy sends out the draft. The comments need to go directly back to Judy, not to the committee.
- BOG will take both voices into consideration.

Charge 2 – ABA accreditation requirement review.

- Vanessa as a new member of the ABA – future of legal education committee said, the short answer is the ABA commission is looking at a major undertaking that cannot be done overnight. Suggested waiting until the final majority and minority reports are done before approaching the committee. The majority categories the committee is tasked with is Future Skills, Access to Justice, and education and licensure (the bar exam). Next meeting is February of 2019. The committee meets quarterly. Encouraged committee members to review the information on the website. Bar passage rates discussion. Their committee had earlier solicited input that was state specific on the bar exam.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, Nov. 6th at 3 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:51 pm.