

# Vision for the Future

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## ***Affiliates: Building a stronger relationship***

### ***between the YLD and our Affiliates***

With over 300 Affiliates, our Division must remain dedicated to providing resources and support to our affiliates. The YLD must continue to improve our communication and relationship with our affiliates. We can increase the involvement and relationship with our affiliates in the Division by providing the services and resources that they need to succeed. We should evaluate the specific needs of our various affiliates and tailor our resources, support, and projects to better assist them.

In addition to our four National Conferences, we should revive regional conferences. A regional conference will provide our Affiliates with a great opportunity to become more involved with the YLD, showcase their programs and projects, and provide a great member benefit to those members who cannot travel to a national conference. Our Division should work closely with our affiliates to plan and implement speed-networking events, joint programming, and other member benefits at our national conferences and in their states.

We can provide more valued benefits to our affiliates by exploring the development of blog, websites, and other media platforms to allow our affiliates to highlight and share the various projects and initiatives they have implemented, learn from the challenges others have faced and overcome, post questions on implementing YLD public service and pipeline projects, and collaborate with each other on improving the profession and providing value to all our members.

### ***Diversity: Insuring all people have a voice***

As an organization representing the future of the legal profession, we must remain committed to increasing diversity within our profession. As a member of the YLD Diversity Team and former YLD Diversity Director, I know we can continue to improve diversity within the YLD and our profession by implement diversity projects and programming at each of our conferences, working closely with the Division's National Representatives, ABA Diversity Centers, and ABA Commissions/Sections in our efforts and initiatives to increase diversity, and by promoting the efforts of our affiliates that have resulted in greater diversity.

### ***Making a Difference: Working to improve our profession and communities***

As the ABA and YLD strive to provide increased benefits and better value to its membership, our Division must continue to advocate for policies that improve our profession and the rule of law. With a network of young lawyers and affiliates from across the country, we can work together with state and national bar

associations to successfully lobby Congress, submit amicus briefs, and propose legislation on issues facing our profession, our communities, and our country.

### ***Membership: Committed to the success of fellow young lawyers***

The ABA and YLD must continue to focus on issues of concern to our members and provide targeted resources and support to assist young lawyers in their careers. We can provide our members with networking and continuing education opportunities, support services that they value and that are necessary to their success, and much more.

As a national organization, we are in the best position to provide job search resources and alternative career counseling to our new members. We can assist young lawyers to navigate and effectively use social media and other forms of technology in their practice, while providing them with information on how to use and ethical obligations of using such forms of media and technology. With the continued advancement in technology and the globalization of the legal market, we must provide young lawyers with the skills and education needed to remain an imperative asset to clients and to provide additional value to clients.

Our conferences provide a tremendous member benefit. Each conference is a great opportunity to network and learn from young lawyers and faculty from across the country and abroad, from various practice areas and settings. However, many of our members are unable to attend the conference due to the overall costs. In order to increase the number of members who can benefit from attending our national conferences, we can explore new ways to decrease the cost of attendance through increased sponsorship, decreasing the costs of travel, partnering with law school for facilities, and increasing scholarships to defray attendees' costs.

### ***Public Service: Changing the image of our profession***

YLD continues to be known as the public service arm of the ABA. It is through our public services projects that we can reshape the public's image of our profession. Over the past several years, I have seen the impactful work of the YLD in promoting a positive image of the legal profession through a strong commitment to public service and outreach. We can do more, and I am committed to finding solutions that provide the support, funding, and recognition needed to continue implementing the Division's past and new public service initiatives and to assist YLD affiliates with their own public service initiatives.