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TO: NACUA Board of Directors

FROM: Nancy Tribbensee, Chair, Committee on Web Page Legal Resources
Karl F. Brevitz and Sharon White Senghor, Staff Liaisons

DATE: June 4, 2009

SUBJECT: June 2009 Report, Committee on Web Page Legal Resources

Charge to the Committee

The Committee will be familiar with the legal resources available to members on the NACUA webpage and, in consultation with staff, will consider possible enhancements to those resources and possible new web-based legal resources that would be beneficial for NACUA members.

Committee Leaders

Nancy Tribbensee, Chair
Justin Perillo, Vice Chair

Work Plan for 2008 - 2009

Primary Committee Tasks

1. Review current web page legal resources.
2. Discuss any possible ways of enhancing utility, organization or content of current resources for members.
3. Discuss ideas for possible new types of legal resources to add to the web page.
4. Review and comment on any new legal resources added to the web page.

The Committee on Web Page Legal Resources is a new committee of the Association. It replaces in part the Publications Committee, which has been phased out due to the changes made to NACUA's publications operations and the transition to electronic delivery and free delivery of most of the Association's existing pamphlets and monographs.

The Committee held its first meeting via conference call on October 9, and reviewed the array of current legal resources available on the NACUA Web page, including conference and workshop outlines, Journal of College and University Law articles, NACUANOTES, NACUA Resource Pages, the archive of New Cases and Documents, West's Higher Education Case Highlights, the LRS search engine, and the NACUANET archives.

The Committee also reviewed a new page under development that attempts to consolidate links to all of these resources, plus some useful external resources, on to a single web page that members could bookmark rather than having to navigate between various pages on the NACUA website.

During its March conference call the committee discussed the merits of establishing or including a brief bank, containing court briefs prepared by members in connection with institutional litigation and made available as a resource for other members engaged in litigation involving similar issues, among the legal resources on the web page. Two volunteers from the committee have been exploring how and with what success university systems have established brief banks for use by system and campus counsel and will report back during the June conference call of the Committee.

The committee also discussed methods of enhancing, expanding and better organizing the sample documents (agreements, policies, letters, pleadings, checklists, etc.) currently available from NACUA. Currently these reside in various places on the web page (the Contract Formbook, the Annual Conference and CLE Workshop Attachments Guide, the Institutional Policies On-Line page and in the LRS Bibliography).

Since March, staff has been collecting documents from various sources, including those submitted by members over the years in response to NACUANET inquiries, securing permissions for further use by the association, and posting them to an expanded documents and forms section of the web page. When complete, this section of the web page will include sample documents submitted in connection with NACUA conference and workshop outlines, sample documents obtained in response to NACUANET inquiries, and documents obtained via other channels or means. Over the summer staff will also be scanning agreements and forms currently held in hard copy in the LRS Bibliography and posting them to the expanded documents and forms section of the web page.

Also residing in this section of the web page will be the on-line version of the Contract Formbook and the Faculty Collective Bargaining Agreements web page.

The committee will be discussing possible additional means of outreach to members to obtain similar documents so that a better current library of these types of documents could be available for members from NACUA.