What Does Patterson Offer?

Sara Arrow (Class of 2015)

I am privileged to be a member of the Women's Lawyers at Patterson's Group, WLAP. WLAP supports mentorships of Female attorney on multiple levels from the most junior to the most senior. Every month or two, we meet in small groups consisting off attorneys from various practice levels. Over lunch or refreshments, we share stories as well as challenges. This provides me with an opportunity to learn from attorneys practicing in diverse areas, and to discuss opportunities for professional advancements.

These more formalized meetings have also led to informal coffees where I have had a change to have one or one conversations with partners and senior attorneys, about their own professional achievements. The challenges and the path that they have taken to choose success. And it creates a really supportive network of women attorneys to whom I can turn when I have a question, or when I want to bounce an idea, or a strategy off of one of them. Participation in the group also allows me to learn from the broader network of female attorneys at the firm.

We meet quarterly to have really enlightening conversations with guests' panelist. Ranging from high female executives, at some of our largest clients, to leaders in the media and advertising world. For instance, we have had a panel of female attorneys, who have addressed their own transition from law firm life to in-house counsel roles.

Another panelist, addressed the journey that several of our clients took to leadership roles to charitable institutions. Learning not only from my peer female colleagues, but also from our female clients has been incredibly rewarding and informative for me and I really enjoyed learning from the success of others.

Overall WLAP has provided a fantastic mentoring opportunity for me. I feel that I have a strong, supportive network of women with whom I can turn when I have questions about by my own professional advancement. And I look to them when I seek to emulate a successful career.

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