

Performance Evaluations That Don't Stink

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Performance Evaluations Stink! ... But What Would Make Stink a Lot Less?

In a recent survey, only 4 percent of HR directors said their current performance evaluation mechanisms do an effective job of, you know, evaluating performance. Eighty-three percent say their systems need an overhaul ... but no one has yet come up with something that works much better or is much less unpleasant for everyone involved. Instead, says Yuki Noguchi in audio and text at NPR, what has emerged is "a hodgepodge of experiments." What are some of those experiments, and what specific performance evaluation problems are they trying to solve?



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ABA Passes Controversial Revision to Bar Passage Rate Requirements

Earlier, we told you about a proposal to tighten the bar passage rate standards for ABA-accredited law schools, which raised some concerns about whether schools would essentially be penalized for admitting a higher percentage of students who are diverse in terms of race/ethnicity or socioeconomic status. That proposal was recently passed by the council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and is expected to go the House of Delegates in February. Now, some are taking issue with how some law schools have framed their diversity concerns, particularly the notion that those at historically black colleges and universities necessarily have lower pass rates. [ABA Journal](#) has an update on the proposal and the ongoing tension that surrounds it.

State Bar of California Update: Court Appoints 'Special Master' to Look at Request for Dues

The bumpy ride for the State Bar of California continues, as the state Supreme Court has appointed a "special master" to gather additional information and report back on the bar's routine request to be authorized to collect dues. This follows the state Legislature's refusal to allow the bar to do so, which [Capitol Weekly](#) says was "unprecedented." The objections have largely been over how well the unified bar carries out its disciplinary function; for its part, the bar says that this and other important public protections and programs are now at serious risk because of the legislative challenges. What will happen next?

Have a Membership Committee? Put 'Em to Work ... on the Phone

There's something magic about member-to-member contact — and a good, old-fashioned phone call. That's why some associations give their membership committee the task of calling all new and lapsed members to welcome them or invite them back. Doesn't this blur the traditional lines between staff and volunteer roles? Maybe ... but it's well worth it, writes Joe Rominiacki at [Associations Now](#). What are some of the associations that are tapping into the power of member outreach, and what kind of success have they seen?

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