What if…. (A Possible NewLaw Talent Pipeline)?

By Yvonne Nath on July 20, 2020

Remote working, the economic slowdown, and tighter budgets following COVID have really become a burning platform for change. How can the legal profession respond? LawVision is comprised of a team of forward-thinking strategists. Occasionally, through our “What If….” series, we will propose ideas we imagine could be possible. The question we ask you, the reader, is What if this change happens? We want to know: how would you respond? Are you prepared to respond? Whether you love the proposed idea, hate it, or fall somewhere in between, we invite your commentary. Please email me here: ynath@lawvision.com.

Without further ado, What if…the attorney talent pipeline looks like this: law schools incorporate legal tech in the curriculum and ALSPs become the training grounds for new law school graduates? Prior to joining law firms, law departments, or other employers, these attorneys will have learned to leverage legal tech, apply legal project management, be familiar with agile teaming, and more. See this diagram for some additional detail.
A Possible NewLaw Talent Pipeline?

- Buyers do not worry about junior attorneys learning on their dime
- Attorneys are ready to run In-House, in Law Firms, and elsewhere
- Attorneys can act as liaisons between their Employers, ALSPs, and Legal Tech companies, bringing all the resources together because they already have experience working with all these parties

- ALSPs access low-cost human capital, set standard for training and experience for next-gen talent in the industry
- Attorneys learn on the job, gain exposure to all different clients, more tech
- Law Schools do not have the burden of having to teach students everything
- Law Firms and other future employers get to “try before they buy” (this reduces risk to future employers and could eliminate the law firm Summer Associate program)

- Legal Tech companies get exposure and feedback early in talent pipeline
- Graduates become natural spokespeople for tech and broaden their skillset
- Law Schools differentiate themselves with new offerings
- Employers enjoy talent with tech skills from day 1