

NALP International and Advance Degree Recruiting and Advising Section Report

To: Michelle Gage, Board Liaison
Cc: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director
From: Clara Solomon, Section Chair
Date: March 20, 2014

Please find below a summary of the Section's activities during the most recent quarter. Our quarterly conference call was attended by 11 members.

1. Work groups:

a. Conference Proposals & Bulletin Articles:

We have begun to discuss conference ideas for 2015 and bulletin article proposals for the coming year. Two topics under discussion include an article on cultural differences in career counseling and also an article on expanding online (including "MOOCs" and executive programs in law schools. Another topic raised for a potential conference presentation was recruiting JDs for international positions.

The section is very interested in international/global professional development at law firms, and will try to coordinate with the presenters of those programs during the 2014 conference in Seattle to discuss future collaboration.

In addition to our section meeting in Seattle, we are planning a happy hour (open to anyone interested).

b. Twitter Feed: Work Group Vice Chairs Kandice Thorn and Elizabeth DiGiovanni continue to Tweet on behalf of the group. Recent Tweets include:

First female law firm opened in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia <http://bit.ly/1a8PqwU>

Almost One-Third of All Foreign Students in U.S. Are From China

<http://tinyurl.com/mfhax66>

c. Employer Outreach: This group was quiet during the spring.

2. Pro Bono: Section members continue to share information and ideas regarding New York State's pro bono rule as it applies to LLM students. We are also monitoring potential changes to California's requirements in the coming year and will advocate on behalf of international students if that seems necessary.

3. Environmental Scanning/Additional Information:

- a. There is a sense that the market for international students is basically status quo, with no significant growth. For domestic (Tax) LLM students, schools are optimistic that the market is picking up a little.
- b. Some schools have begun experimenting with externships/internships during the spring term for international students, with some success.
- c. While the section is focused on LLM students, we do also feel that JDs interested in work abroad falls within our framework. Some schools have been working with employers on international opportunities for JD students, and will encourage firms to

participate in the section from that perspective, as that may be a growing area of interest for both students and international law firms.

- d. Students from bigger LLM programs are continuing to struggle with short offer deadlines and exploding offers, but the agreements made by NYU and Columbia's consortiums for international students may be helping some students get more time. For domestic (Tax) students, most employers seem to be giving a standard of 2 weeks this year, which is an improvement over other years.