

NALP International and Advanced Degree Advising and Recruiting Section Report

To: Julie Anna Alvarez, Board Liaison
Cc: Meaghan Hagner, Member Services Coordinator NALP
From: Caroline Springer, Section Chair
Date: March 31, 2017

Please find below a summary of the Section's activities during the most recent quarter.

Schedule of Quarterly Section Calls (2016-2017)

We have completed our Section calls for the year. We will have our Section meeting at the NALP Annual Conference and then set our Section calls for next year.

1. Annual Conference, Open House, Section Meeting and Section Happy Hour (Caroline Springer, Georgetown Law)

- On Tuesday April 18th from 5:30-7:30 there will be a Welcome Reception and Open House at the NALP Annual Conference. Caroline and a couple of other Section members will be there and we will have a table for our Section at the Open House. If you are in San Francisco on Tuesday, please come to the Reception and Open House to meet with new Section members and encourage others to join our Section.
- On Wednesday, April 19th, there's an open period in the afternoon from 3:45 – 5:00 p.m. This is when we will have our Section meeting. Please try to attend. We will discuss the RFP process for next year's conference and any other issues Section members want to address. The location of the Section meeting will be announced at the Conference.
- On Wednesday, April 19th, right after our Section meeting, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., we will have a Section Happy Hour at Rambler Restaurant (a 5 minute walk from the hotel. The address is 545 Post Street). We have reserved a place for our group at the bar.
- Please note that on Thursday there is an open lunch period, so this is a great time to invite other people to lunch. NALP recently sent out a list of restaurants near the hotel that you can look at if you want to go to lunch somewhere nearby.
- In our last Section call we went through the schedule and identified programs we thought would be useful for our Section members to attend at the Annual Conference. You can find those suggestions in the February Board Report which is under the resources tab in our Section on NALPConnect.

2. NALP Bulletin Articles Update (Mary Maher, Northwestern)

- If anyone has any ideas or issues that would make a good Bulletin article, please let Mary know.
- We discussed the H1B issue and encouraged members to think about writing an article or presenting on this topic next year at the Annual Conference.
- Other article ideas include:
 - Advising international students in uncertain times. This article could also include advising domestic students in uncertain times as well.
 - Additional topics may come up after members attend the Conference. The programs at the Conference may inspire additional ideas for articles.

- Deidre Hay (Cornell) mentioned that a good article topic may address issues facing international students who want to do intellectual property. Some schools, such as Loyola, do not offer an IP LL.M. program because the timing never works for LL.M. students. Melissa Berry (University of Washington) noted that her school has an IP program, but the advisor for that program recently left so the program is up in the air right now.
- Another article idea is a piece that would address the differences in advising LL.M. and JD students.
- Another Section member mentioned that a good article might be how to educate employers about a school's LL.M. program and when students are available for opportunities.
- Another article may be to create a checklist for JD students to review in determining if it makes sense for them to get an LL.M. degree. This could be like a tool kit that an advisor would use for students who come in with questions. The tool kit could be geared to both international and domestic students.
- An article on the new competency requirements for the New York Bar being implemented in 2018 and how students will satisfy these new requirements. This could be an RFP as well for the next Annual Conference.
- An article on the increasing impossibility for LL.M. students to find jobs in the U.S. This might be something to include in an article about the potential changes to the H1B process. The article could include a discussion on whether students should be more focused during their LL.M. degree on business development or on the fact that they will return to their home country.
- An article on the type of programs/trips that some LL.M. programs offer students. Boston University offers a "Discovery Series" where they arrange visits for students to different employers, not because they will get jobs at these employers, but so that the students can get a better feel for the industry and business.

3. RFPs for Annual Conference in 2018 (Sara Marshall, Boston University)

- RFPs for next year's conference are due on May 19th. The 2018 Conference will be held in Hollywood, Florida.
- Sara offered to help anyone who would like to put together an RFP. The Section can discuss RFPs at the Section meeting at the Annual Conference.
- Ideas should be submitted by April 28th and drafts ready by May 12th.
- If you have not submitted an RFP, Sara highly encourages you to do so.
- Last year we submitted 4 RFPs and only 1 RFP was selected.
- Some ideas for RFPs include:
 - Program for JDs and LL.Ms, geared towards human rights. Many LL.M. degree programs have classes or a certificate in human rights.
 - We should consider submitting the proposals from last year that did not get selected: careers for U.S. lawyers in international offices, mastering the behavioral interview, and name tags handshakes and cocktails U.S. networking skills for international students.

4. **Market Trends, Current Issues (Open Discussion)**

- Caroline Springer (Georgetown Law) mentioned that Georgetown is focusing on possibly changing their LL.M. program to meet the new requirements for the New York Bar. Georgetown Law is looking at adding another semester so that students can meet one of the Pathways under the competency requirements. BU has a three semester program and Georgetown is looking at doing something like this.
- Caroline Springer (Georgetown Law) mentioned that some employers are asking for very short turnaround time on their offers. One employer required a student to respond to an offer in 5 days. NALP guidelines indicate that employers should keep offers open for two weeks but not sure if these guidelines apply to accounting firms since they are not NALP members. No other schools are having this issue.
- Deidre Hay (Cornell) asked if anyone was dealing with students who want to work in Paris but end up in Luxembourg. No one else seemed to have this issue.

5. **Planned Agenda Topics for Section Meeting at NALP Annual Conference**

- Discuss RFP ideas and process
- Discuss possible bulletin articles and potential webinars
- Environmental scanning