

NALP International and Advance Degree Recruiting and Advising Section Report

To: Kenny Tatum, Board Liaison

Cc: Fred Thrasher, Deputy Director

From: Clara Solomon, Section Chair

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

1. Work groups: Our section streamlined our work groups for the 2013-2014 year to better reflect the realities of our relatively small section and to address the section's immediate needs.

- a. Conference Proposals & Bulletin Articles:

The section submitted the following proposals for the 2014 Annual Education Conference

A Dose of Reality and a Prescription for Success: Tools for Managing Expectations and Motivating Positive Action

Truth-telling as a counselor or coach can be daunting when your advisee has unrealistic expectations. Whether you are advising a 2L who was unsuccessful during On-Campus Interviewing, an LL.M. candidate intent on finding a permanent opportunity in the United States, or an underperforming attorney expecting a positive annual review, this session is designed to share effective strategies for engaging in "difficult" conversations, providing reality checks, and inspiring positive action. The workshop will consist of interactive exercises designed to perfect your truth-telling skills and take the sting out of your words' impact. We will also discuss coping mechanisms to deepen our resilience when delivering candid feedback.

Kristen Uhl Hulse, Emmy Berning, Gretchen Debenham Hug, Lisa Munoz Fell

Cultural Issues in Advising International Students

Students who come to the U.S. from abroad to study law, whether in a J.D. or LL.M. program, arrive with a distinct set of expectations and cultural norms that can make advising those students a challenge. This session will help advisors to understand these expectations and norms, and will give them tools for effective communication that can overcome cultural differences and help students navigate the legal job market here and abroad. Particular emphasis will be placed on China, though the program will discuss other cultures as well and will provide tools that will be useful in advising all international students.

Kandice Thorn, Michael McCarthy, Nyaguthii Chege

The Rise of the Admitted Student! Partnering with and Serving as Ambassadors for Your Admissions Office

With fewer students applying to law school due to concerns over employment prospects and high tuition costs, law schools are leaning more heavily on career services offices to help attract and secure student enrollment. Career advisors are often asked to "advise" admitted J.D. and LL.M. prospects one-on-one; assist in drafting marketing material; attend admitted student events; and accompany admissions staff to outside recruiting events. This program will provide attendees with an overview of common practices for partnering with admissions; tools for handling the prickly subject of an applicant's post-graduate "employability" questions; and some best practices for your office.

Mark Goldfarb, Matt DeGrushe, Courtney Fitzgibbons, Tracy A. Sullivan

Mary Maher is working on a Bulletin Article Proposal regarding partnering with recruiting offices from non-legal employers (such as accounting and consulting firms).

- b. **Twitter Feed:** Work Group Vice Chairs Kandice Thorn and Elizabeth DiGiovanni continue to Tweet on behalf of the group. We are looking into tying our Twitter feed more closely with NALP Connect so that Section members don't have to check multiple places to be kept up-to-date with relevant information. Recent Tweets include: links about accelerated law degree, BarBri's new pre-LL.M. course, and the long-lasting benefits of interacting with international colleagues.
 - c. **Employer Outreach:** Natalie Bautistia volunteered to take over this work group, and will be putting together a plan to involve more international employers in our Section's activities.
 2. **Pro Bono:** The Section just finished a comprehensive FAQ regarding the New York State Bar's new 50 Hour Pro Bono requirement, as it pertains to international LL.M. students, which was written in conjunction with the Public Service Section. We will be posting the final version to NALP Connect in a few days (pending final revisions). This FAQ will also be submitted as a Bulletin article proposal.
 3. **Environmental Scanning/Additional Information:**
 - a. Members continue to be focused on creative networking opportunities for international LL.M. students, especially for those whose schools are not based in a major international business center like New York or San Francisco.
 - b. Section members also continue to discuss opportunities for schools that are not part of the NYU or Columbia job fairs to increase their visibility to employers.
 - c. Many schools are focused on the increase in LL.M. class size and LL.M. programs (and now non-legal graduate degree offerings!) which have come about in response to financial pressures and declining JD class size.