

## **International & Advanced Degree Advising & Recruiting Section NALP October Board Report**

To: Clara Solomon, Board Liaison  
CC: Meaghan Hagner, Member Services Coordinator NALP  
From: Sarah Hall, Section Chair  
Date: October 9, 2018

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

### **Schedule of Quarterly Section Calls (2018-2019)**

- Our Section's quarterly calls are scheduled as follows:
  - January 22, 2019 at 11 am PST
  - March 12, 2019 at 11 am PST
- We held our second Section call on October 9, 2018 and approximately 10 people attended.

### **RFP and Bulletin Article Submissions**

- Vice Chairs Shannon Kahn and Julia Martinez oversaw the RFP and article submission process this year.
- Our Section submitted 8 RFPs and 5 bulletin articles.
- Two of our RFPs and all of our bulletin articles were adopted. The approved submissions are included below.

### **Bar Exam Update**

- Vice Chair Rebecca Moor provided an update on changes to the bar exam that are relevant to LLM students. We discussed the new New York Skills Competency requirement.
- Through the call, we learned that schools have not received confirmation from the Court of Appeals as to whether their pathways 1 or 2 will be approved. There is no update as to whether an Advisory Board will be created to review and approve these submissions. Schools are working to manage student expectations by sharing that their current pathways are likely to meet the requirements, but that they have not been formally approved yet.
- Other schools have indicated that the NY BOLE seems to be tightening its review of LLM students' eligibility determinations. We are seeing an increase in the number of students who have to file a formal petition with the Court of Appeals.
- Rebecca will form a sub-group within our section for members who also advise students about bar eligibility. This group will be able to exchange questions and feedback as students go through the bar eligibility determination.

## Legislative Update

- Vice Chair Caroline Springer shared that there has been a slight increase in the number of F-1 visas selected for administrative processing, but there have been no negative impacts and all students have been able to receive their visa.
- OPT applications continue to be processed and approved as normal.
- There has been an increase in the number of requests for evidence for those applying for H-1B visas, and fewer of these visas are being approved.
- There is some concern that the administration may ban or limit the number of visas awarded to Chinese nationals, but there has been no formal policy change yet.

## Fall Projects and Open Discussion

- Clara Solomon shared trends that she is seeing in the legal market.
  - There has been a decrease in the number of employers who are willing to sponsor work visas for international JD and Tax LLM students. Some firms and companies will not interview students who need sponsorship.
  - As the economy improves, there appears to be more interest from firms to hire LLM students in their corporate practice areas. There also appears to be interest from Chinese firms, indicating the China market is growing.
- Amrita Singh shared information about Georgetown's externship program.
  - There is considerable interest among both domestic and international LLMS to participate in an externship. All externs must apply for CPT and pay is not permitted.
  - To educate and encourage students to extern, Georgetown hosts a fall externship fair at which prospective employers can table and meet students.
  - International students may work at international organizations, non-profits, or law firms. Georgetown conducts significant outreach among its current employer relations, alumni, and adjunct instructors to assist students with placements.
- We also discussed the new skills competency requirement from the New York bar. As described above, no schools have received feedback as to whether their pathway(s) will meet the requirement.
  - It seems that schools are not receiving much feedback or concern from students about the requirement.
  - While the NY BOLE will not pre-approve or predetermine whether any student's work experience will meet pathways 4 or 5, they indicated that they will defer to an employer who completes the required affidavit.

## RFP Submissions

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- **“Regional Trends in International Hiring: Employers' Perspective”**
  - Shujun Tian, Mary Schaus, Even Jowers
  - Law students often start law school wanting to practice international law but what does that mean in a private practice context and how do you practice international law with an American law degree? This panel will feature international legal employers and recruiters discussing what they are looking for in American-educated candidates and private practice career paths for lawyers who want practice abroad. The panelists will educate career advisors, recruiters and law firms on practice areas and major financial centers in which having a U.S. law degree provides a competitive advantage and how an American-educated lawyer can market him or herself for a career outside the United States.
- **“Better Together: Working with Employers to Maximize International Student Success”**
  - Caroline Springer, Mary Schaus, Zabella Hassan, Ana Maria Knapp
  - Hear from both career service professionals and legal recruiters to learn how they can work together to find possible job opportunities for international JD and LLM students. Get tips on how to educate employers about the LLM degree and OPT, as well as how best to conduct employer outreach. Learn from legal recruiters and employers about which students are best positioned for a job in the U.S. How have schools used CPT and externship programs to reach smaller and mid-sized firms to open new employment options for students?

## Bulletin Article Submissions

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Month	Topic	Author 1	Author 2
October 2018	Visa/Immigration Update	Shannon Kahn	
March 2019	Best practices for engaging LLM students - putting gamification strategies into practice	Julia Martinez	
April 2019	NY Bar skills competency requirement	Alison Ashe-Card	
May 2019	Supporting students with their legal communication (editing emails, resumes, cover letters) -- how much guidance is appropriate? Should students offer disclaimers to employers?	Natalie Bautista	Maddie Shaw
July 2019	LLM to JD Transfers--How can a CSO support the transition?	Sarah Hall	