

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mike Ende, NALP Board Liaison

CC: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

FROM: Rebecca Moor, NALP International & Advanced Degree Section Chair

DATE: May 13, 2020

RE: NALP International & Advanced Degree Section Board Report, May 2020

Please find below a report of the International & Advanced Degree Section's activities and concerns.

Summary

The International & Advanced Degree Section continues to be a strong and active community, and members have relied on each other for advice, updates and best practices in light of the challenges caused by the global pandemic. On May 7, we held a Section call that focused on introducing new leadership, discussing RFPs and updating members on bar, visa and career advising challenges caused by the virus.

Leadership Team

Section Chair	Rebecca Moor, Boston University School of Law
Annual Education Conference and Bulletin Article Planning Workgroup Vice Chair	Shannon Kahn, UC Berkeley School of Law
Bar Exam Workgroup Vice Chair	Amy Kimmel, UC Hastings School of Law
Legislative Monitoring Vice Chair	Shujun Tian, Georgetown University Law Center

Section Call

New Chair Rebecca Moor kicked off the NALP 2020-2021 year by welcoming members and thanking outgoing Chair Sarah Gruzas and outgoing Vice Chair Caroline Springer for their work. She also welcomed new Vice Chairs Amy Kimmel and Shujun Tian and returning Vice Chair Shannon Kahn.

Mike Ende gave a Board update and the Vice Chairs for each workgroup provided updates (see below). Members were encouraged to get more involved with NALP, including volunteering to help oversee one of the three Section workgroups that does not yet have a leader. Rebecca informed members about NALP's new policy regarding Section calls.

RFP and Article Submissions

Vice Chair Shannon Kahn updated the Section on the status of RFP submissions for next year's Annual Conference, including the newly-extended deadline. The Section discussed the elements that might be most successful in an RFP submission, including co-sponsorship with another section. Members debated whether to aim broadly to appeal to a more general NALP audience or whether to focus in on the issues specifically faced by international students, a group whose numbers seem to be growing. Shannon also updated the Section on bulletin articles. She encouraged new members to suggest ideas and noted that writing an article can be a great way to get involved. Shannon will reach out to panelists listed on the spreadsheet over the summer to find out if they would like to update and resubmit past RFPs.

Legislative Updates

Vice Chair Shujun Tian updated the Section on legislative developments, including new guidance on Optional Practical Training (OPT) that allows international graduates for the duration of the COVID emergency to go under the required 20 hours per week of employment without penalty. Members discussed how long this guidance might last and whether there was a minimum number of hours. Clara Solomon informed the Section about recent efforts by four U.S. Senators to suspend all types of immigration for foreigners, including H1B visas and OPT authorization, which could impact soon-to-be graduates. Caroline Springer recommended an article in *Forbes* providing an overview of recent efforts to limit or abolish OPT and how such efforts are misguided.

Remote Learning – Fall 2020

Because visa processing for full-time students remains on hold due to the pandemic, the Section discussed how to handle remote/online teaching in Fall 2020 and how schools were reworking their programs for international students in light of the uncertainty caused by the pandemic. Many LLM programs are grappling with whether to proceed with in-person instruction, online/distance teaching, or a hybrid. Members discussed their school's plans and how the move to online teaching without guidance from bar authorities – particularly New York – will impact students and career advising. Members did not know whether New York planned to extend its waiver allowing remote/distance learning to the fall (or beyond), but noted that the New York Board of Law Examiners (BOLE) is focused on getting this year's exam administered and is not yet focused on fall.

Bar Workgroup

Because the global pandemic has caused so many changes to bar exams, the Bar Exam Workgroup has been particularly active since the last quarterly report. Members have kept each other updated on frequently-changing bar rules and announcements, particularly with regard to the NY bar. Members have also worked together to try to find non-NY UBE options for LLM students and shared best practices on advising students on eligibility requirements.

During the Section call, Vice Chair Amy Kimmel updated the Section on bar options for LLMs who might not be able to sit for the NY bar exam. Section members offered updates on bar jurisdictions and availability for LLMs and on how to advise students when their options to sit for an exam are severely limited.

Webinars

Clara Solomon noted that she hopes to hold a webinar on international student advising for newer professionals with Caroline Springer and Rebecca Moor.

Next Steps

Shannon Kahn will be in touch with members over the summer to solicit RFP and bulletin article ideas. Rebecca Moor will reach out to members in June for environmental scanning and workgroup updates. Our next Section call is planned for October.

TO: Mike Ende, NALP Board Liaison

FROM: Rebecca Moor, Section Chair

DATE: June 25, 2020

RE: International and Advanced Degree Advising and Recruiting Section Update

The International and Advanced Degree Section has been active at the start of the new year, particularly with regard to updating members on COVID-related issues impacting international students. Minutes from our last call in early May are also attached. Since our call, we have the following updates:

- Positions Filled
 - Megan Avenella (Ohio State University Mortiz College of Law) is the new Vice Chair of the Member Relations Work Group. Megan has already reached out to new members to the Section to welcome them and offer suggestions on how they can get involved.
 - Jabrina Robinson (Duke University School of Law) and Andrew Cuthburton (University of Southern California School of Law) are the new co-Vice Chairs of the Knowledge Management Work Group. They are working with Andrew Hales, the chair of the NALP Knowledge Management Implementation Work Group.
 - Sara Marshall (William and Mary School of Law) is the new Vice Chair of the LLM/Legal Masters Collaboration work group.
- RFP and Bulletin Articles
 - Vice Chair Shannon Kuhn is overseeing RFP and Bulletin Article proposals for the upcoming year. Shannon is reaching out to the Section this week with reminders about upcoming deadlines and assurances for members who may have budgetary (or other) concerns about traveling next year. Members are encouraged to consider webinars or other online programming as well.
 - We currently have 9 RFPs and 6 bulletin article proposals.
- Legislative Updates
 - Members of the Bar Work Group have discussed proposed changes to visas for international students and workers.
 - We have identified that keeping abreast of legislative developments as they relate to international students is a key goal of this Section this year.
- Town Hall on International Student Issues
 - Clara Solomon, Rebecca Moor and Caroline Springer will host a Town Hall via NALP's Zoom link on July 28 at 3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

- The Town Hall will focus on matters impacting international LLM and JD students in the current environment including the visa and bar exam issues, post-degree work authorization, potentially devastating immigration reform proposals and best practices to support international students virtually across multiple time zones.

Our next call is planned for October 2020. If legislative, bar or other developments arise in the meantime, we may schedule another call or online meeting.