

MEMORANDUM

TO: NALP Executive Board
FROM: Claire Lee and Caroline Ruhle, NALP International & Advanced Degree
Section Chairs
DATE: January 30, 2025
RE: NALP International & Advanced Degree Section Board Report

Please find below a report of the International & Advanced Degree Section's activities since the last Board Report in October 2024.

Section Call

On January 14, 2025, the International & Advanced Degree Advising & Recruiting Section held its quarterly Section meeting. Claire Lee and Caroline Ruhle, Section Co-Chairs, moderated. The meeting was attended by approximately 23 members, mostly by law school representatives. Each member in attendance introduced themselves.

Guest Speakers Cathy Kettlewell and Gabriela González Giráldez, the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

Last year, a survey was sent to the section members asking which international public law organizations they would like to invite to a section meeting to gain insight on the hiring process for internships and post graduate positions. The top requests were the United Nations, World Bank, World Trade Organization.

Cathy Kettlewell, Team Leader, and ICSID Senior Counsel was invited to our section meeting to provide an overview of ICSID and the internship program. Cathy Kettlewell, along with her colleague Gabriela González Giráldez, joined the call and educated our members on the ICSID's work, structures, and the hiring process for internships and job opportunities after the internship.

Some Key Takeaways from the presentation:

The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) is one of the five independent institutions that make up the World Bank Group (along with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). ICSID was established by the World Bank's Executive Directors, under the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States (ICSID Convention).

ICSID Organizational Structure has two components and separate functions. The Secretariat is led by Secretary-General and provides technical and administrative support to proceedings, offers training and technical assistance to governments and the public and contributes to the development of investment law through publishing and outreach. The ICSID Secretariat consists of about 70 professionals who administer arbitration and conciliation cases and support other ICSID activities including publications.

Internships

ICSID offers internship opportunities to students enrolled in a graduate degree program, including rising 3L, LLM, or Ph.D students.

- Eligible candidates must be able to provide written confirmation stating that they will either: (i) obtain academic credit for at least one term/semester in a course of study; or (ii) will be provided with a stipend by their university for the duration of the internship. Graduates are not eligible to apply.
- Candidates must further have or be able to obtain an F1 or G4 visa, or be U.S. citizens or residents (Green Card holders), and be able to cover the costs of travel, accommodation and living expenses in Washington, D.C.
- Fluency in English and preferably in at least one of the other two official languages of ICSID (i.e., French and Spanish).

Interns will be assigned to a case management team or the institutional team. Under the supervision of experienced ICSID Counsel, they will assist in the administration of cases in different languages and with institutional projects. Case-related tasks may include drafting working papers, carrying out research, assisting with the drafting of case correspondence, making logistical arrangements for hearings, and attending hearings with permission from the parties and the tribunal. Interns will also gain exposure to several cases in different parts of the proceeding, experience from the start (screening of requests for arbitration) to finish (awards and annulment proceeding). Interns will contribute with research on institutional matters under the supervision of the ICSID Secretary-General and Deputy Secretaries-General.

Interested applicants may apply by completing the internship application [form](#) and include their CVs.

The deadlines for applications are:

- June 30 for the September-December Internship period (fall semester)
- October 31 for the January-April Internship period (spring semester); and
- February 15 for the May-August Internship period (summer semester).

Up to six internships are offered every four months, for a minimum period of 12 weeks and a minimum of 10 hours of work per week. The internships take place at the seat of the Centre in Washington, D.C. Interns will not be remunerated but will instead receive academic credit for their work upon successful completion of the internship or be sponsored by the university in which they are enrolled.

Annual Education Conference - Cleveland

Our section members were encouraged to register early for the Annual Education Conference (“AEC”) in Cleveland by March 1 to get the Early Bird registration rate.

Two of our Section members, Caroline Springer, Georgetown University Law & Clara Solomon, NYU School of Law, will be presenting a program entitled “Global Thinking and Clerkship Success,” at the AEC; it is being co-sponsored by the Judicial Clerkship section.

Our section also plans to meet in person at the AEC in Cleveland in April 2025.

Work Group Updates

Amy Kimmel, Vice Chair, Bar Exam Issues

Vice Chair Amy Kimmel provided an update on changes to the California bar exam. California Bar has made a few changes this year, including the educational requirements for those taking the bar as LLM/foreign-educated applicants:

- Updated LLM [course requirements](#)

California Bar now only requires students (who are not licensed in good standing abroad) to complete Professional Responsibility (or Legal Ethics) as part of a 20+ unit LLM degree to qualify as a student applicant. It is recommended, but no longer required, that the legal education in the LLM program include at least 12 semester or equivalent units comprised of three separate courses on subject matters tested on the California Bar Examination.

Students can also qualify without a degree if they complete Legal Profession and 10 credits in 3 or more units of CA bar-tested subjects and 20+ units of legal education.

- Change to test modality

Beginning February 2025, students have the option to state their preference for a remote or in-person exam and can take the exam either in a private remote testing location or at testing centers.

- Change to MBE portion

Beginning February 2025, Kaplan will draft the questions for the multiple-choice section of the bar, replacing the MBE. However, there is no anticipated change to the substance of the test questions at this time.

Amanda Thyden, Vice Chair, Well-Being Champion

Vice Chair Amanda Thyden reminded the section members about Well-Being Circles, held monthly for NALP members, and asked whether they were receiving notifications about the monthly meeting. Most members responded that they were not. Amanda will look into this and in the meantime, will begin to share notifications and resources related to Well-Being Circles with section members to encourage participation.

Legislative Monitoring Work Group

Members of the Section suggested adding an ad-hoc work group under the Legislative Monitoring Work Group to help monitor any changes in the legislative and immigration environment for the 2025 year due to changes in administration. The focus of this informal workgroup would be to share resources, articles, and links to important developments in changes in visa, immigration regulations, and/or policies that affect international students' work eligibility in the US (i.e. CPT, OPT, H-1B, etc.) with section

members to help advise international students. A survey was sent to the section members asking for feedback and seeking volunteers to join this effort. Four law school representatives responded and wanted to be involved in this workgroup. Ruth Ann Castillo, Vice Chair for the Legislative Workgroup for our section, reached out to these members to facilitate the initial discussion and will provide updates to the group.

Membership Update

The following new members have recently joined our Section:

- Anna Friesenhahn Perkins Coie LLP - Dallas TX
- Anne Reser-Moorehead Drake University Law School
- Ashley Nagy Duke University School of Law
- Brady Minter University of Wisconsin Law School
- Candice Coll University of Denver Sturm College of Law
- Elizabeth Gradinger Brooklyn Law School
- Kelley Shields Georgetown University Law Center
- Nicole Monsibais St. Mary's University School of Law
- Susan Harding University of New Hampshire School of Law
- T. Corbin Conliffe University of Minnesota

Each new member will be sent an e-mail to welcome them to the Section, which includes information about getting involved by submitting Bulletin articles, conferences RFPs or being part of work groups. Members also receive NALP's LLM advisor manual.

Next Steps

Our next and final meeting for academic year 2024-25 will be held on the following date and time; we will share zoom invites to section members closer to the respective dates. We plan to bring in guest speakers including an immigration attorney to provide an update about post-OPT employment visa and other immigration related issues that are relevant to advising international students, due to changes in administration.

March 6, 2025; 3:00 PM EST (2pm Central/1pm Mountain/12pm Pacific)