

## MEMORANDUM

**TO: NALP Executive Board**

**FROM: Sunita Iyer and Frantz Price, Jr., NALP International & Advanced Degree Section Chairs**

**DATE: October 14, 2026**

**RE: NALP International & Advanced Degree Section Board Report**

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Please find below a report of the International & Advanced Degree Section's activities since the last Board Report in June 2025.

### **Section Call**

The International & Advanced Degree Section held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, September 30 at 1:00 p.m. ET. During the call:

**Adam Oliver (Founder) and Jeff Mooney (Sales) of Firm Prospects were the guest speakers.** Adam and Jeff spoke to our section about how students can use their platform to research firms, locate alumni, and find job opportunities.

- **Attorney Search for Interview Preparation and Networking:** Adam demonstrated how students could connect with international and domestic alumni by using attorney filters. International students could additionally apply law school filters to find alumni from their schools abroad. It is also possible to use keywords such as city or country to search the education portion of attorney bios.
- **Firm Insights Section:** This feature helps students find top practice areas and locations for firms. It's possible to track moves under the attrition tab. Under firm filters, it's possible to use the geolocation to track attorney moves from the U.S. to a location abroad. Firm filters can also be used to search practice focus which finds attorneys in those practice areas.
- **Jobs tab:** Students can search for law firm jobs in the U.S. or worldwide. Can filter for location. A "summer associate" search includes any summer positions, fellowships, etc.
- **Firm Prospects Intelligence:** This tab provides job market research.
- **Law Schools Tabs:** Can find alumni from particular schools by JD/LLM search
- They are working on adding more international firms to their database. They will soon have more firms from the U.K and E.U.

**Work Group Update**

The Section did not suggest any new work groups. All Vice Chair positions have been filled. Clara Solomon took on the role of Vice Chair - Annual Education Conference/Bulletin +Article and Webinar Planning.

Amanda Thyden	Vice Chair - Well-being Champion
Amy Kimmel	Vice Chair - Bar Exam Issues
Caroline Springer	Vice Chair -- Member Relations
Clara Solomon	Vice Chair - Legislative Monitoring
Sarah Gruzas	Vice Chair - Knowledge Management
Clara Solomon	Vice Chair - Annual Education Conference / Bulletin+ Article and Webinar Planning

**2026 NALP Annual Education Conference Proposals**

Title of Program	Speakers	Program Description
<b>International and Advanced Degree Recruiting &amp; Advising (4)</b>		
Did I Make It Clear That Your Job Is at Stake?: Staying a Step Ahead of AI as a Career Advisor	George Podolin, Adam Schiappa, Ashanti M. Crawford, Ruth Ann Castillo	As AI tools increasingly can help students with tasks like application document preparation and job search strategizing, law school career advisors need to evolve our role in this AI-enhanced landscape. We will explore how to emphasize capacities that AI cannot replicate, such as nuanced judgment, mentorship, institutional knowledge, and personalized coaching. We will discuss teaching domestic and international students to identify issues that require career advisor input rather than reliance on AI, and attendees will consider how to leverage AI for their own lower-order tasks in order to maximize

		time for employing human skills and building advisor-student relationships.
Legal Limbo: International Students in a Shifting America	Sunita Iyer, Yazmyne Vasquez Eterovic, Ryan Coleman	International students hoping to study in the U.S. face more challenges now due to changing immigration policies and widespread misinformation. Student visa processing was halted creating backlogs impacting international student enrollment at U.S. universities. SEVIS terminations, social media screening, and extensive background checks have created additional roadblocks for global talent. Uncertainty looms over the future of OPT and H-1B programs so alternatives should also be explored. Join us to learn how law schools and employers are addressing today's immigration challenges. The panel will consist of law school career advisors, a law school visa services officer and an immigration attorney.
Passport to Practice: Strategically Advising International Students	Kelley Shields, Alex Owen	International law students face unique challenges in their private sector job searches. They require targeted support in navigating networking, application documents, interviewing, shifting immigration policies in the U.S., and changing dynamics in international law firms. Law school career advisors will share insights, strategies, and practical tools for helping international JD students to successfully navigate the U.S. legal job market and immigration landscape, including findings from a survey of large law firm recruiters about experiences in hiring international students. Advisors will learn how to better support students and how to partner effectively with employers committed to hiring global talent.

Supporting International Students in Uncertain Times	Clara Solomon, Caroline Springer, Frantz Price, Jr., Elizabeth Gradinger	International lawyers — JD and LL.M. — manage not only academic and professional pressures, but also stressors tied to events in their home regions, and geopolitical situations affecting their immigration status and studies in the U.S. The emotional and psychological impacts of domestic political rhetoric, international natural disasters, war, civil instability, or humanitarian crises (among others) are felt intensely. These situations can affect a student’s ability to focus, engage, and plan for their careers — particularly when their immigration status or employment prospects are also in flux. This session will explore how legal career professionals can support international students during times of uncertainty.
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**Board Updates**

Cassandre Stump shared Board updates:

- The Board approved the budget
- There will be a new website this year
- Flo Recruit and NALP will present a joint webinar on recruiting on October 16, 2025
- A credentialing task force has been formed regarding a recruiting certificate.
- PDI conference is on December 5, 2025
- Newer Professionals will be held in Philadelphia in February

**Membership Update**

Caroline Springer provided the Membership Update. Since our Section Meeting at NALP on June 3, 2025, we have one new member in our Section:

*[Jennifer Nadon](#), Professional Development Counsellor, University of Ottawa Faculty of Law*

We have 156 current members in the Section. The new member was sent an email to welcome them to the Section, which includes information about getting involved by submitting Bulletin articles and conference RFP’s, or being part of work groups. Members also receive NALP’s LL.M. advisor manual.

### **Environmental Scanning**

This section invites guest speakers to inform the section about market updates, recruiting trends, career resources, etc. As part of the group discussion, we asked about topics of interest. Members expressed interest in addressing the following topics:

- International Student Enrollment at U.S. Universities
- Visa-related issues, specifically the new H-1B Proclamation raising H-1B fees to \$100,000 and concerns over OPT legislation

### **Open Discussion**

- Everyone is very concerned about the H-1B Proclamation increasing fees to \$100,000
- There is concern about employment challenges for even the OPT period due to the overall constriction of the market.
- Career offices are focusing on law clerk and paralegal positions for international students and those are challenging as well.
- How can we explore opportunities abroad to help international students learn about career paths outside the U.S.?
- Interstride platform has a search engine to find jobs abroad, but it is not law-focused.
- International classes at member law schools are much smaller this year and even half the size from last year at some schools.
- Members discussed strategies to help international students establish credentials:
  - Taking the Bar
  - Build up confidence because of level of international experience
  - Employer credibility
  - English skills

### **Next Steps**

Our quarterly meetings for the remainder of 2025-2026 will be held on the following dates and we will share zoom links closer to each meeting:

- Tuesday, January 13, 1-2 pm
- Tuesday, March 10, 1-2 pm

