

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alisa N. Benedict O'Brien, Board Liaison
FROM: Tom Lee, JD Career Advisors Section Chairs
CC: NALP Office (info@NALP.org)
DATE: June 28, 2023
RE: NALP JD Career Advisors Section First Quarterly Report

I. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Chris Marohn and I were appointed co-chairs of JD Career Advisors.

On Thursday, April 7, 2023, we held our first JD Career Advisors ("JDCA") section meeting for 2023-2024 at the NALP Annual Education Conference ("AEC") in Vancouver, Canada. Approximately thirty members attended this in-person meeting. Each member in attendance introduced themselves. We reminded members to join the section using NALPconnect and called for volunteers for section workgroups. We also shared the deadlines for 2024 Conference RFPs (May 5, 2023) and Bulletin+ RFPs (June 15, 2023).

During a portion of April and most of the month of May, Tom Lee spent a significant amount of time securing vice chairs for all workgroups and connecting the vice chairs to each other. NALP Board Liaison, Alisa N. Benedict O'Brien was extremely helpful in suggesting several vice chairs for JDCA Workgroups.

On May 15, 2023, we held our second JDCA quarterly meeting. A summary of this meeting is discussed under the Annual Education Conference / Bulletin+ Article and Webinar Planning Workgroup found in this report.

In late-May 2023, Chris resigned as co-chair, after deciding to leave Arizona State University for another opportunity to work at a start-up company.

Tom Lee submitted a ranking of JDCA Section endorsed RFPs to Meaghan Hainer on May 31st.

On June 5, 2023, Tom Lee received an email from Alison Plavin and Amy Killoran, 2023-24 co-chairs of the NALP Well-Being Steering Committee seeking the names of the Section's well-being champions. Tom responded to the email that same day and identified two JDCA members who agreed to serve as vice chairs of the Well-Being Champion Workgroup.

Our Section's third quarterly section meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 29th at 2pm ET/1pm CT, 12pm MT/11am PT. All vicechairs have been invited to attend. Each workgroup will have at least one vice chair share workgroup charge with attendees.

Since the last JDCA Quarterly report, twenty-five posts have been made in NALPConnect, with thirty-five replies.

Environmental scanning is discussed at the end of this report.

II. JDCA WORKGROUPS

The following are updates on the JDCA workgroups provided by each workgroup's vice chair(s):

- 1. Annual Education Conference / Bulletin+ Article and Webinar Planning (Vice Chair(s): Tami Diebel, Univ. of Iowa College of Law anb77@uakron.edu. Alecia Bencze, Univ. of Akron School of Law anb77@uakron.edu .**

Alecia and Tami helped to solicit RFPs and shared a spreadsheet to record section RFPs, article ideas, and webinar ideas. Tami and Alecia hosted a brainstorming session on May 15 which was attended by about 20 NALP members. We shared our Google share spreadsheet and encouraged section members to submit ideas via the spreadsheet (See <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wEYHZTOxF3nxPiI6CHRADGWGIZHgYXNz0zqbFBypzAw/edit?pli=1#gid=1125108116>). At the session, a variety of ideas were proposed but collectively with ideas which were emailed we generated a list of nine ideas. Eight of those nine ideas were submitted to NALP. Tami followed up on the lone RFP that was not submitted, and it will now become one of our suggested Bulletin+ articles. This workgroup has found seven authors of our necessary eight for Bulletin+ articles for the JDCA section and plan to solicit an additional article author at the upcoming JDCA Section meeting. No Webinars have been planned.

- 2. CSO Employer Outreach (Vice Chair(s): Daphne Telfeyan, Hofstra Univ. School of Law daphne.e.telfeyan@hofstra.edu . Maria Comas, Duquesne comas@duq.edu .**

Daphne and Maria met on June 26 to discuss strategies to solicit more volunteers for the CSO Employer Outreach group and plan for workgroup's charge. They plan to reach out to NALP members involved in OCI recruitment and employer outreach efforts in the future and plan to discuss the group's charge at the June 29th JDCA Section meeting.

- 3. JD Counseling (Vice Chair(s): Kim Underdown, St. Mary's Univ. School of Law kunderdown@stmarytx.edu . Suzanne Hard, UConn School of Law suzanne.hard@uconn.edu .**

Kim and Suzanne were introduced to each other on June 6th and communicated by email to discuss their leadership roles of the workgroup. Kim and Suzanne will solicit volunteers at the third June 29th JDCA Section meeting.

- 4. First Generation College Students (Vice Chair(s): Samantha Ciriaco, Case Western Reserve University School of Law sxc1031@case.edu . Ashli Rae Tomisich, The University of Wyoming, College of Law ashli.tomisich@uwyo.edu .**

On June 14th, Samantha and Ashli communicated by email to discuss their leadership roles of the workgroup. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11 to brainstorm ideas for content for any webinars or articles in the future. We will use the time to get acquainted and share our own experiences with being first generation law students and how we can best serve students as law career counselors. Samantha and Ashli were connected to Courtney Carter, VP of DEI and the DEI Steering

Committee (Courtney Carter, Jenner & Block, ccarter@jenner.com) to connect on additional ways to assist JD career advisors in supporting law students who are first generation college graduates.

5. JD Advantage Careers (Vice Chair(s): Kathy Greenier, University of Richmond, kgreenier@richmond.edu). Cassie (Katherine) Butler, UMass kbutler2@umassd.edu

On June 7, 2023, Kathy and Cassie communicated by email to discuss their leadership roles of the workgroup. Kathy is interested in submitting a revised workgroup charge and will submit the suggested change to Tom Lee in the future.

6. DEI Liaison (Vice Chair(s): Nicole Netkin-Collins, Villanova Law, nicole.netkincollins@law.villanova.edu)

As of the date of this Quarterly Report, no update was provided by this work group. However, on June 6, Courtney Carter wrote to Tom Lee. Tom was informed that the JDCA Section DEI Steering Committee liaison is Nicole Netkins-Collins, and she has been assigned to focus on the specific needs of their section around DEI issues. Nicole will serve as a touch point for questions or if the section needs information on DEI resources and will also provide periodic updates on the work of the DEI Steering Committee to the section members.

7. Well-Being Champion ((Vice Chair(s): Seth Mills, New York Law School seth.mills@nyls.edu. Ros Lister, Penn State Dickinson Law rbl5457@psu.edu.

On June 6, 2023, Seth and Ros communicated by email to discuss their leadership roles of the workgroup. Both vice chairs were connected to the Wellbeing Steering Committee. Seth and Ros attended the Well-Being Section committee meeting scheduled for Monday, June 12 at 3 pm ET. Ros and Seth are scheduled to attend the other committee meetings scheduled for October 4, January 18 and March 5, 2024.

III. ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING [Identification of trends, other factors impacting NALP members. Include a synopsis of events (job fairs, conferences, and other programs.)]

Between the two JDCA meetings, the following JD career advising topics and issues were discussed:

- A. ChatGPT and generative AI is being used by law students and career services professionals. The environment is like the wild west. Most schools do not have policies regarding student usage and submission of cover letters and resumes done by ChatGPT.
- B. Turnover in the industry is continuing with many making the move to law firms away from schools.
- C. First-year law students (class of 2025) seemed less urgent about finding 1L summer jobs and/or less proactive about using the resources of the CSO offices. These same students may be

extremely focused on 2L summer jobs at big law firms but not plugged into their 1L summer job search.

- D. Ongoing challenges of advising and helping international law students find post-graduate positions in the United States.