

To: Alison Ashe-Card, Board Liaison, NALP Board of Directors

Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

From: Laura E. Woodson, Chair, Judicial Clerkship Section

Date: March 17, 2022

Re: **Judicial Clerkship Section Quarterly Report**

Below please find a summary of the section’s activities and concerns from this quarter.

### I. Leadership Team

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| Section Chair  | Laura Woodson, University of Georgia School of Law <a href="mailto:lwoodson@uga.edu">lwoodson@uga.edu</a> (706)542-4832   |
| Annual Education Conference, Bulletin Article and Webinar Planning Workgroup Vice-Chairs | Elizabeth Crane, University of South Carolina School of Law <a href="mailto:ecrane@mailbox.sc.edu">ecrane@mailbox.sc.edu</a>  |
| Federal Law Clerk Hiring Plan Workgroup Vice-Chairs                                      | Greta Trakul, University of Michigan School of Law <a href="mailto:gtrakul@umich.edu">gtrakul@umich.edu</a>   |
| OSCAR Workgroup Vice Chair   | Marilyn Drees, University of Texas School of Law <a href="mailto:marilyn.drees@law.utexas.edu">marilyn.drees@law.utexas.edu</a>   |
| State Court Workgroup Vice-Chairs  | Jennifer Pollard, University of Maryland School of Law <a href="mailto:jpollard@law.umaryland.edu">jpollard@law.umaryland.edu</a><br><br>Tamara Stephen, Brooklyn Law School <a href="mailto:tamara.stephen@brooklaw.edu">tamara.stephen@brooklaw.edu</a>           |
| Member Relations Workgroup Vice-Chairs   | Janet Siegel Brown, Northwestern University School of Law <a href="mailto:jbrown@law.northwestern.edu">jbrown@law.northwestern.edu</a><br><br>Todd Rogers, University of Colorado Law School <a href="mailto:todd.rogers@colorado.edu">todd.rogers@colorado.edu</a> |
| Knowledge Management Workgroup Vice-Chair  | Alfred “AJ” Finch, University of Iowa School of Law <a href="mailto:alfred-finch@uiowa.edu">alfred-finch@uiowa.edu</a>  |

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| Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Clerkship Hiring Workgroup Vice-Chairs | <p>Andrea Saavedra, Columbia University School of Law<br/> <a href="mailto:acs2126@columbia.edu">acs2126@columbia.edu</a></p> <p>Amy Nixon, University of Chicago School of Law<br/> <a href="mailto:anixon@uchicago.edu">anixon@uchicago.edu</a></p>              |
| Judicial Workplace Conduct Workgroup Vice-Chairs                          | <p>Eric Stern, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law<br/> <a href="mailto:estern@law.berkeley.edu">estern@law.berkeley.edu</a></p> <p>Elizabeth Peck<br/> <a href="mailto:elizabethkpeck@gmail.com">elizabethkpeck@gmail.com</a><br/> 607-339-7712</p> |

## II. Section Meetings

The Section held a Zoom meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2022. The following topics were discussed:

- Work Group Reports –
  - AEC Proposals & Bulletin Articles – Elizabeth Crane shared that the speakers for the four AEC clerkship presentations next month are hard at work preparing their presentations. She also highlighted that we published an article on rural clerkships in the December NALP Bulletin.
  - OSCAR – Marilyn Drees reported that some minor OSCAR updates and tweaks are planned for April and November. These consist generally of fixes to things that disappeared in the last update, changes in recommender notifications, and button name changes. The OSCAR Workgroup invites users to give feedback on their experiences with OSCAR as they are the basis of these smaller changes and updates.
  - Member Relations – Janet Brown and Todd Rogers are conducting an online webinar Q&A about the upcoming clerkship hiring season on March 15 via zoom. The session will focus on focus on things newer members or advisors who are not full-time clerkship advisors might benefit from hearing about the upcoming clerkship hiring season, as well as other issues of interest to new or part-time judicial clerkship counselors. They also conducted outreach recently to all members who joined our section in the last year to see what they need and want from the Section.
  - State Courts – Jen Pollard reported that they have information for all but 9 states for the Section’s Insight and Inside Information for Select State Court Clerkships Guide (an updated version of which was posted on October 6 on NALP Connect) and invited volunteers to research and provide info on the following still missing states: Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Vermont. Also anyone with updated information about their state court hiring cycles is invited to provide updates for existing states in the Guide.

- Federal Law Clerk Hiring – No report this time.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – Amy Nixon noted that the AEC will have several good programs about DEI topics and highlighted the need to make resources on this topic available on the website for new and existing members.
- Judicial Workplace Conduct – Eric Stern reported that he and Liz Peck are responsible for two of the presentations from our Section at the AEC next month on topics of Judicial Workplace Conduct issues. They continue to prepare for those presentations and to communicate with the people in the circuits who are responsible for addressing workplace conduct issues and with people associated with the Office of Judicial Integrity to try to increase awareness of these issues and make clear how people should report and address these issues.
- Knowledge Management – AJ Finch shared a report on the resources available on the NALP website for members regarding or relevant to judicial clerkships, with the idea that we could make this available to section members or NALP members generally so members are aware of the resources available. He will work with NALP IT professionals to reorganize and make the resources easily located and usable to members.

Throughout the quarter, the Section’s workgroups were busy working on other projects, including:

- Programs at Annual Education Conference in April in New Orleans – Members of the Section will present four (4) programs at the 2022 AEC, including (1) Judicial Workplace Misconduct & Underrepresentation in Chambers – Are Outside Groups the Answer?; (2) Meet the First Responders for Judicial Workplace Challenges; (3) Mind the Gap! Counseling Alumni Clerkship Applicants; and (4) The Politics of Clerkships: How Social Activism and Judicial Ethics can Coexist.
- Insight and Inside Information for Select State Court Clerkships Guide - An updated version of this amazing resource was published to the Section on October 6 but the authors continue to solicit updates and more information to fill out this great resource for members.
- Organization and Updating of Clerkship Resources on the NALP website and NALP Connect – AJ Finch will continue to work on this project, connecting with the IT backoffice people at NALP about deleting old materials, adding new materials, and making all of it easier to locate for new and existing members. Laura Woodson will work with AJ Finch on this project as it continues into the new term.
- ALJ Hiring – Michele Hoff reported that she and Todd Rogers expect to have an updated resource document on the NALP website on Administrative Law Judge hiring by the AEC.
- Bulletin Articles – The Section has several Bulletin articles planned for publication but continues to solicit additional ideas for articles of use to Section members.

Looking forward, the Section will be working on:

- 2023 AEC RFPs
  - Members brainstormed about ideas for RFPs for next year's AEC in Vancouver, BC. RFPs are due by May 3 so it is important to get volunteers to spearhead defining the topics, soliciting speakers, and drafting the RFPs by the May 3 deadline. Topics undertaken so far include:
    - 1L Clerkship Programming – Michele Hoff, Jen Pollard, and Laura Woodson
    - Encouraging DEI hiring in Clerkships – Amy Nixon and Janet Brown
    - Countering Clerkship Myths that keep good candidates from applying to clerkships – AJ Finch
    - Clerkship Counseling in Solo or Smaller Career Development Offices (partnering with other Sections) – Jen Pollard
    - Report on Diversity in Judicial Clerkship Hiring – Marilyn Drees and Janet Brown (maybe same RFP as above?)
- Webinar for Members – to be held on March 15, this webinar will focus on things newer members or advisors who are not full-time clerkship advisors might benefit from hearing about the upcoming clerkship hiring season, as well as other issues of interest to new or part-time judicial clerkship counselors. The Member Relations Work Group will also continue to reach out to new section members about what issues they are concerned about and what resources or programming the Section could provide to help them do their jobs.
- Upcoming Bulletin Articles – The Section will or has submitted several articles for the NALPBulletin:
  - December 2021 edition: Meredith Wiggins, *Rural Clerkships*
  - March 2022 (deadline Jan. 17, 2022): Felipe Alonso and Eric Stern, *Employer Assessment Findings*
  - May 2022 edition (deadline March 15, 2022): Katie Overberg and Chris Teague, *Finding Alliances for Small/Solo CSO Offices Without a Dedicated Judicial Clerkship Advisor*
  - June 2022 (deadline April 15): Meredith Wiggins, *Magistrate Court Clerkships*
- Update to Federal Administrative Law Judges' Post Graduate Clerkship Hiring Information – Michele Hoff and Todd Rogers will continue to work on this committee and expect to present an updated resource document to replace the current (dated) version by the AEC.
- Identification and Reorganization of Clerkship Resources on NALP Website – AJ Finch will continue to work with Laura Woodson on reorganization and indexing resources to make finding and accessing the resources easier to members.
- Outreach to New Members – Member Relations Work Group Vice Chairs Janet Brown and Todd Rogers will continue to reach out to new Section members to determine their needs and interests and get them involved in the activities of the Section.

### **III. Upcoming Section Meetings**

The section plans to hold its next general meeting on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 1:00p.m. Central at the AEC in New Orleans. Janet Brown and Todd Rogers will be introduced as incoming Section Chairs for the 2022-2023 year. They will announce then and/or via NALP Connect their schedule of Section meetings for the upcoming year.