

To: Craig Compton, Board Liaison, NALP Board of Directors

cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

From: Amy Nixon and Jen Pollard, Co-Chairs, Judicial Clerkship Section

Date: January 23, 2025

Re: Judicial Clerkship Section Quarterly Report

Below please find a summary of the Section's activities and concerns from this quarter:

I. Leadership Team

Work Groups and Charges

Work Group and Vice Chair(s)	Charges
Annual Education Conference / Bulletin+ Article and Webinar Planning Handled by: Elizabeth Ireland (Wisconsin)	4 RFPs selected for the 2024 AEC
OSCAR Vice Chair: Marilyn Drees (Texas)	The OSCAR team sent out the newsletter - 2Ls now have access to OSCAR Michele Hoff – some of the updates rolled out pertain to tagging; office was excited about that but they can't see tags. Reached out to OSCAR so that tags can be shared with the law school administrators; if you are interested, you should reach out to OSCAR with a request so that it bumps up on their list
State Courts Vice Chairs: Chris Gerlica (Roger Williams Law) Kristina Bilowus (Michigan State)	Not a lot of updates - working on presentation in April similar to what Yale did with state courts last year
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Clerkship Hiring & DEI Liaison Vice Chair: Kristina Bilowus (Michigan State) DEI Liaison: TBD (DEI Steering Committee will appoint)	N/A
Judicial Workplace Conduct Vice Chairs: Liz Peck (Yale) Lisa Bossetti Barash (UCLA)	DWRs and circuits asked the section to do a training for DWRs on career advising because the clerks ask for carer advice and they don't know how to answer. Training will be March 11 and will hopefully help them better support the clerks in our circuit.
Well-Being Champion Ann Chang (Pepperdine Caruso Law)	Hoping to do a wellness exercise at the next section meeting.
Member Relations Vice Chairs: Michele Hoff (Georgetown) Elizabeth Ireland (Wisconsin) AJ Finch (Iowa)	Working on ALJ stuff in the background. They have had to revisit in light of this week's executive orders. If you hear of students losing ALJs – let us know.
Announcements	HNBA is hosting a judicial clerkship program on February 5th. Please share this with your students. There was a request for ideas on how to track down alumni (beyond the recent graduates) serving as judicial clerks. An article is coming soon in the Bulletin+. Sharon from Villanova – is going to start polling the faculty

II. Section Meeting

The Section held its first section meeting on April 18, 2024. Current Vice Chairs, Amy Nixon and Jen Pollard, shared that they will be staying on in their current leadership roles for next year. Led a brainstorming session for RFP ideas for the 2025 Annual Education Conference and Bulletin+ articles. Additionally, Amy and Jen issued a call for volunteers for the 2024-25 leadership team.

The Section held its second section meeting on Monday, June 17, 2024. The meeting started with a presentation on state judicial clerkship hiring in Maine by supervisory law clerk, Natalie Kreckle. Following that, the 2024-25 Work Group Vice Chairs were introduced and provided updates. Finally, we opened the floor to discuss any issues related to the federal court hiring cycle, including any problems encountered with OSCAR. Rochelle McCain (Yale) reported a transcript issue that caused certain uploads to turn yellow. OSCAR is working on resolving this issue going forward.

The Section held its third meeting on Thursday, October 10, 2024. President of the Sonia & Celina Sotomayor Judicial Internship Program, Colleen Faherty, kicked off the meeting by providing an overview of the program and answer questions from the group. Following that, the work group vice chairs provided updates. Notably, the State Court Work Group plans to work with CORA to consultant on their development plans and guide them on prioritization. This lead to a discussion about CORA's lack of progress and the type of support, financial and otherwise, that might help move CORA in the right direction. At the end of the meeting, we opened the floor for discussion.

This Section held its fourth meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2025. The meeting started with a presentation from, Yaniv Adar, from the Judicial Intern Academy of the Federal Bar Association. He is looking for partner law schools to connect with their local Federal Bar Association chapters to start programs across the country. Please contact Yaniv at yaniv@markmigdal.com for more information. Then, the section heard from Georgette Thinn, Jason Brener, and John Mikuta, from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit Staff Attorney's Office who shared information about their clerkship opportunities and hiring process.

The work groups gave updates. Updates to note: (1) If you have issues with the OSCAR updates (particularly the tagging), please report them so that a critical mass of feedback can be provided to prompt a response from OSCAR; (2) The State Court Work Group is working on putting together a program with state supreme court justices; (3) The Judicial Workplace Conduct Work Group will be putting on a career advising training for DWRs; and (4) We are awaiting word on what ALJ clerk hiring will be impacted by the recent hiring freeze. Finally, during the group discussion, there was a request for ideas on how to track down alumni (beyond the recent graduates) serving as judicial clerks.

III. Upcoming Section Call

Thursday, March 13 at 1pm ET/12pm CT/11am MT/10am PT: <https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/96160124985?pwd=c3lMRDFoOXlRR0RscGs1d0RoRzdJQT09>