

NALP Section Report

Date: June 26, 2025

To: Tasha Evans, Board Liaison, NALP Board of Directors; Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

From: Kristina Bilowus, Co-Chair of the Judicial Clerkship Section

Work Groups & Charges

Annual Education Conference/Bulletin+/Article & Webinar Planning: Creating and compiling a list of RFPs for the 2026 NALP Annual Conference. Bilowus submitted three proposed topics for the Bulletin+.

OSCAR: Gearing up for OSCAR 2026, will solidify Vice Chair on July 10, 2025.

State Courts: Working on a virtual presentation the fall in conjunction with Yale.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Clerkship Hiring & DEI Liaison: Following federal updates closely, potential partnership with the Legal Accountability Project.

Judicial Workplace Conduct: We discussed during our last meeting about potentially doing a webinar on this topic.

Well-Being Champion: Discussing doing a wellbeing event in the spring.

Member Relations: N/A

Section Meeting

- Our first meeting was held on April 16, 2025. Our notes are as follows:
- “Best practices for clerking:
 - Timelines
 - Reputational challenges, transition questions, advising students, advising alumni.
 - Opportunities for recruiter/school community stakeholders (expanded below)
 - Navigating conversations with faculty surrounding judicial clerkships
 - Faculty partnerships that fuel clerkship success
 - Faculty providing incorrect info.

- Possible letters of recommendation portal providing student info
- First three years are the hardest- clerks, coming and going – Clerkship information for Recruiters.
 - Value in the recruiting section regarding dealing with judges and law clerks- a primer for recruiters
 - Things you can't ask a law clerk to do, invitations you shouldn't extend to law clerks.
 - Appropriate way to reach out to chambers.
 - Do's and don'ts of recruiting law clerks
 - Perspective of how clerkships affect the recruiting side.
- Clerkships in Rural areas
 - Benefits and drawbacks to state and local judicial clerkships
- Advising law students on clerkships from a small/understaffed OCS
 - Tips and tricks for managing clerkship advising as a solo professional or in a small office.
- Politization of clerkships
 - Navigating clerkships in the current political climate”

Next Meeting

July 10, 2025, at 1pm EST/12pm CT/110am MT/10AM PT, <https://msu.zoom.us/j/94065107339>