

To: NALP Executive Board
From: Elise Luce Kraemer, LLM Section Chair
Re: Fourth Quarter/Final Status Report
Date: March 10, 2009 – Revised April 10, 2009

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This was a very productive year for the LLM Section, which included the publication of an article in the Bulletin, the acceptance of an RFP for the 2009 Conference, and the publication by the NALP Foundation of the revised International Directory of Lawyer Qualifications. I was honored to have had the opportunity to serve as the chair this past year and plan to remain active with the section going forward.

1. Quarterly Conference Calls:

- There were quarterly conference calls on Thursday, June 26, 2008, Tuesday, September 23, 2008, and on Tuesday January 27, 2009 with 10 to 20 members on each call. Some sample topics during the call included:
 - Charlie Cramton of Cornell Law School provided a comprehensive and informative discussion regarding the process for foreign lawyers to apply to take the New York Bar exam. He focused particularly on the appeal process and provided practical advice on working with students.
 - Discussion of potential RFPs for the 2009 Annual Education Conferences
 - Tracking LLM alumni
 - Reaching out the LLMs before they arrive at the Law School
 - Changes in the OPT rules
 - Starting an International Section Affinity group
 - Starting a mentor program
 - Addressing specific questions by members

2. Communication with the section:

- Members used the list-serv to ask questions and share information about once a month.
- Via the list-serv, all members were provided a copy of each quarterly report as well as a summary of the Section Meeting at the NALP Annual Conference.

3. Major Accomplishments this Year

- January NALP Bulletin contains an excellent article written by Amanda entitled, “From Student to Specialty Worker – Making the Transition from F-1 Visa Status to H-1B.”
- “Immigration Update 2009” program for the upcoming 2009 NALP’s Annual Conference was sponsored by the section.
- Mary Maher, Former LLM Counselor at Northwestern was hired by the NALP Foundation, and with the help of many LLM section members and their respective connections to foreign attorneys, revised the International Directory of Lawyer Qualifications. The new edition is both enlarged to include many more countries and updated. This will be an excellent resource for both law schools and employers. There will be a reception to celebrate the publication’s release at the NALP conference.

4. Ongoing Projects:

- We await the proposed draft of the LLM counseling manual.
- We await the proposed draft of the LLM marketing brochure.
- The group discussed having a more formal mentor program, but it never really got off the group. There is excellent informal mentoring as illustrated by the many responses a new section member received as soon as she asked for someone to help her get up to speed.
- The group also experimented with having a international affinity section for section members who also counseled JDs looking for international opportunities. There is some interest in this and with some energy and leadership, it might work
- RFPs for the 2010 conference. Although the section sponsored three programs for the 2009 conference, only one was selected. The section should think strategically about what to submit for the 2010 conference.

5. Transition:

Per LeaNora Ruffin's request, I was pleased to recommend Amanda Taratuski, Manager of International Hiring at Clear Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, to become the next LLM section Chair. Her phone is (212) 225-3157 and email is ataratuski@cghs.com. Amanda is the most active firm side member of the LLM Section. In fact, she is the author of the January NALP Bulletin and will be serving at a panelist on the "Immigration Update 2009" program at NALP's Annual Conference this coming April. The last several LLM Section leaders have been from the school side and I believe Amanda can add a fresh perspective. Although I am delighted to pass the torch to Amanda, I would also be delighted to continue to be involved in volunteering with NALP in any way that you see fit.

Best wishes,

Elise Luce Kraemer, L'93
Associate Director
Career Planning & Professionalism
University of Pennsylvania Law School
3400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215-746-1745 - phone
215-573-2400 - fax