

Memorandum

To: Heather DiFranco, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section

Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director; Christina Jackson, NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives and Fellowships

From: Amanda Furst, NALP Chair, Public Service Section (2017-2018)

Re: NALP Public Service Section First Quarter Board Report

Date: June 22, 2017

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the first quarter. The 2017-2018 Public Service Section Work Groups and Vice-Chairs are:

- LRAP/CCRAA Work Group: Susan Curry, Director of Public Interest Law and Policy, The University of Chicago | The Law School
- Mini-Conference Planning Work Group: Rochelle McCain, Director of Public Interest and Government Relations, University of Pittsburgh School of Law
- NALP Conference RFP Work Group: Swati Parikh, Director of Public Service Careers, New York Law School, and Elizabeth Boe, Assistant Director, Law Career Services, DePaul University College of Law
- Pro Bono Work Group: Laura Burstein, Director of Public Service and Academic Success, SMU Dedman School of Law, and Jennifer Mencarini, Advisor, Office of Career and Student Development, Elon University School of Law
- PSJD Resources Website Work Group: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) and Emily Kite, Office of Career & Professional Development, University of Wisconsin Law School
- Publications Work Group: Sarah Bookbinder, Associate Director for Public Interest Advising, Suffolk University Law School, and Courtney Key, Assistant Director for Career Services, Texas A&M University School of Law

The first Public Service Section Quarterly Call was held on June 13th at 2pm CST.

According to NALP Connect, the Public Service Section membership is currently at 292. Section members use NALP Connect to share job openings, information about upcoming conferences and updates on resources. Each week, the Section receives a notification of the “PSJD Public Interest News Digest” posted every Friday by Christina Jackson, which has invaluable updates on hiring trends and other news. The NALP Connect platform continues to be used robustly, and the Section is engaged and supportive on it.

WORK GROUP UPDATES

LRAP Work Group

Vice-chair Susan Curry, Director of Public Interest Law and Policy, The University of Chicago | The Law School

The LRAP / CCRAA Work Group plans to focus on PSLF this year in close partnership with EJW, while still providing resources to schools seeking to establish LRAPs. The Work Group plans include:

- Surveying member schools with EJW to build direct connections to legislators.
- Explore organizing a Hill Day on PSLF.
- Explore methods for mobilizing local and state prosecutors for PSLF advocacy efforts.
- Continue to monitor, report on, and provide counseling advice on PSLF changes, including capping forgiveness.

Mini ~~Conference~~ Work Group

Vice-chair Rochelle McCain, Director of Public Interest and Government Relations, University of Pittsburgh School of Law

The Mini Conference Work Group is exploring session topics (4 needed for 2 breakout sessions) and keynote speakers, while keeping in mind networking interests and making the conference attractive for employers. The schedule will be similar to last year, but the conference will start at 9am, meaning we may end a bit later in the day. We will continue to host a working lunch, Logistics are as follows.

Mini- Conference Logistics

- Dates: Public Interest Advising 101, Wednesday October 25 – Late afternoon/evening
Mini-Conference: Thursday, October 26th - All day
- Location: University of California's Washington, DC Center is not available this year so Christina is working hard to identify a law firm partner in the D.C. area willing to host the event.

NALP Conference RFP Work Group

Vice-chairs: Swati Parikh, Director of Public Service Careers, New York Law School, and Elizabeth Boe, Assistant Director, Law Career Services, DePaul University College of Law

During the public service section meeting at the 2017 Annual Education Conference, 2018 RFP Work Group Vice Chairs Swati Parkih and Elizabeth Boe were appointed. Additionally, time was spent discussing possible RFP topics for the 2018 Annual Education Conference. Following NALP Annual, the RFP Work Group convened a section-wide call to discuss topics and collaborations. The Vice Chairs also reached out via NALP Connect to solicit proposals and topics. Work Group Vice Chairs then reviewed all public interest section RFP proposal drafts and provided feedback. Seven total proposals on behalf of the public interest section were submitted for consideration, listed below.

1. The Country Lawyer: Rural Public Interest Jobs & Law Students

2. Gone But Not Forgotten: Engaging Alumni in Your Public Interest Career Programs
3. LIVE FROM HOLLYWOOD (Florida)... Tips for Landing a Leading Role with a Public Sector Employer
4. Followers to Leaders: Counseling Introverted/Follower Public Interest Students
5. Recruiting Top Lawyers with Student Loan Benefit Programs
6. One Size May Not Fit All: Revisiting Professional Development Training for Public Service Students and Lawyers
7. Should I Stay or Should I Go? Retention Strategies in the Private and Public Sectors

Pro Bono Work Group

Vice-chairs: Laura Burstein, Director of Public Service and Academic Success, SMU Dedman School of Law, and Jennifer Mencarini, Advisor, Office of Career and Student Development, Elon University School of Law

The Pro Bono Work Group will be working on the following projects this year:

- In light of the increased national dialogue brought about by the NY State’s 50-hour pro bono requirement for admission to the Bar (that other states may follow), continue to compile information for and draft a “Best Practices” resource that will include information on how to develop pro bono opportunities for students. Some of the work of the AALS/NALP collaboration committee working this year on practice guides for psjd.org will help inform this goal.
- Track (and report back to the Section and NALP’s larger membership on) developments with other state bars considering adopting pro bono requirements similar to New York’s.
- Collaborate with the New York Pro Bono Requirement Work Group in the International and Advanced Degree Recruiting and Advising Section as appropriate.
- Work with AALS Section on Pro Bono.
- Track and document whether member schools have a pro bono requirement, pledge, or other pro bono program.

PSJD Resources Work Group

Vice chairs: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) and Emily Kite, Director, Office of Career & Professional Development, University of Wisconsin Law School

The PSJD Resources Working Group is turning its attention to the “Applying & Interviewing” section of the Resources Center. We are updating the Cover Letter, Resume and Interview sections and adding a new Social Media Component. Our plan is to have PSJD branded materials, rather than simply linking to various schools’ websites, and to tailor some of the materials so that they address regional differences and smaller markets. We are also adding to our ever-growing collection of Practice Area Guides with a Veterans Law Practice Guide.

Publications Work Group

Vice chairs: Sarah Bookbinder, Associate Director for Public Interest Advising, Suffolk University Law School, and Courtney Key, Assistant Director for Career Services, Texas A&M University School of Law

The Publications Work Group has the following NALP Bulletin articles set. They are actively recruiting additional writers and expect to have the slate filled soon.

Rochelle McCain	Building LRAPs	August
Amanda Furst	Promoting rural opportunities in public interest work	September
Claudia Melo	International students and public interest internships	October
Sarah Bookbinder	UBE counseling and public interest students	November
Volunteer set	TBD	December
Oscar Teran	Working with undocumented students	January
Volunteer set	TBD	February