

Memorandum

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

Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director; Sam Halpert, NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives and Fellowships

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

Re: NALP Public Service Section Second Quarter Board Report

Date: October 11, 2017

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the second 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)

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. The second Quarterly Call was held on October 3rd, at 2pm CST.

According to NALP Connect, the Public Service Section membership is currently at 304. 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 Sam Halpert, 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 held a section call on June 13th and is planning another for this month. The group continues to focus on PSLF this year in close partnership with EJW, while still providing resources to schools seeking to establish LRAPs. The Work Group plan has updated the list of law schools without LRAPs and their next steps include:

- Reaching out directly to schools to offer resources on building LRAPs.
- Surveying member schools with EJW to build direct connections to legislators.
- Continue to monitor, report on, and provide counseling advice on PSLF changes, including capping forgiveness.

Mini -Conference Planning Work Group

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

The Mini Conference is set for Wednesday, October 25th and Thursday, October 26th, at the offices of Sidley Austin in Washington DC. With the help of Sam Halpert, we have a strong number of people registered and are looking forward to the conference! Led by Rochelle, the Work Group, has held several planning meetings and has developed the 4 breakout sessions, keynote speaker, and Public Interest 101 advising session. As all seven of the Public Service Section RFPs were selected for the Annual NALP Conference, the Work Group stepped up to create all 4 breakout sessions for the Mini Conference.

This year's keynote speaker will be Seema Sadanandan, Managing Director of Campaigns at the Alliance for Safety and Justice. Prior to joining ASJ, she worked in the nation’s capital to advance civil rights and liberties, including policies related to the enforcement of drug laws, policing practices and over-incarceration. Seema is an experienced documentary filmmaker and campaign strategist for social movements in the United States and abroad. Her keynote will discuss movement lawyering. The breakout sessions are as follows:

- Government Hiring in the “New Normal”
- Advising the Growing Population of International Law Students (JD and LLMS)
- Counseling the Counselors
- Where is the Money?: Summer Funding and Beyond

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
All seven total proposals submitted on behalf of the public interest section were selected for the NALP Annual Conference. Proposals include:

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 has held one Work Group call on September 14th and has two others set for this year. The group is working on the following projects:

- 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.
- Track and document whether member schools have a pro bono requirement, pledge, or other pro bono program.
- Collaborate with the New York Pro Bono Requirement Work Group in the International and Advanced Degree Recruiting and Advising Section as appropriate and work with AALS Section on Pro Bono.

PSJD Resources Work Group

Vice - chairs: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)

The PSJD Resources Work Group lost one of its vice-chairs, Emily Kite, earlier this year when she moved on to a new position. The Work Group has held one section call, on May 30th, and talked via email since then. The PSJD Work Group has done a thorough review of all of the Practice Area Guides available under the Explore Your Career Options of the PSJD Resource Center. They developed a template so that all Practice Guides follow the same formula, updated some guides and added some new ones. They are working on two new practice guides in the areas of Water Law and Think Tank/Public Policy and planning on adding practice guides for

Veterans and Housing/Landlord-Tenant. They have also been reviewing and adding resources to the Applying & Interviewing Section of PSJD Resource Center.

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