

Memorandum

To: Jennifer Henfey, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section
Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director; Samuel Halpert, NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives
From: Rochelle R. McCain, NALP Chair, Public Service Section (2019-2020)
Re: NALP Public Service Section First Quarter Board Report
Date: June 24, 2019

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the first quarter. The 2019-2020 Public Service Section Work Groups and Vice-Chairs are:

LRAP/CCRAA Work Group:

- **Susan J. Curry**, Director of Public Interest Law and Policy, The University of Chicago Law School
- **Aoife Delargy Lowe**, Equal Justice Works

Mini-Conference Planning Work Group:

- **Claire Cusella**, Equal Justice Works
- **Kathryn Shelton**, Associate Director, Public Interest Center, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

NALP Annual Education Conference and Webinar Planning Work Group:

- **Lillian E. Evans**, Deputy Director of Legal Recruiting and Deputy EEO Officer, New York City Law Department
- **Lauren E. Seffel**, Senior Law Career Counselor, Public Interest Advising and Programs, The George Washington University Law School

Pro Bono Work Group:

- **Laura Burstein**, Director of Public Service and Academic Success, Faculty Supervisor, Government and Public Interest Externship Program, SMU Dedman School of Law
- **Jennifer Mencarini**, Director of Career Development, Elon University School of Law

PSJD Resources Development Work Group:

- **Mike Kwarcinski**, Assistant Director of Career Development, Michigan State University College of Law
- **Brent Page**, Program Manager, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)

Publications Work Group:

- **Brooke Meckler**, Equal Justice Works
- **Rachel Kronick Rothbart**, University of Southern California Gould School of Law

The first Public Service Section Quarterly Call was held on June 12th at 3pm Eastern. According to NALP Connect, the Public Service Section membership is currently at 293. 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 NALPConnect platform continues to be used robustly, and the Section is engaged and supportive on it.

The schedule for the Public Service Section are provided below:

Public Service Section Quarterly Calls

- June 12, 2019 at 3:00pm EST
- October 1, 2019 at 3:00pm EST
- January 15, 2020 at 3:00pm EST
- March 10, 2020 at 3:00pm EST

Public Service Section Strategic Planning Calls

- July 17, 2019 at 3:00pm EST
- July 31, 2019 at 3:00pm EST

WORK GROUP UPDATES

LRAP Work Group

Vice Chairs: Susan J. Curry, Director of Public Interest Law and Policy, The University of Chicago Law School and Aoife Delargy Lowe, Equal Justice Works

On April 24, 2019, the Work Group held its webinar, “Creating Loan Repayment Assistance Programs: A Primer for Law Schools.” The webinar covered funding, resources, and administration for law school LRAPs and specifically highlighted matters around fostering internal and external partnerships and collaborations to make LRAPs a success.

The Work Group held its first conference call on June 4, 2019. This year the work group plans to continue monitoring proposed changes to Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) and repayment plans. In an effort to educate the Section on developments, the Work Group will identify future topics well suited to share through webinars, articles, and potential resources for PSJD.

During the call, Aoife Delargy Lowe provided a brief overview of the current state of Higher Education Act (HEA) Reauthorization efforts and the current work being undertaken by the Coalition to Preserve PSLF, of which Equal Justice Works is a member. Currently, there has been no further movement in the Senate. The Coalition’s advocacy work on both sides of the aisle in the House and Senate to staffers on the importance of the program, how they are eligible for PSLF, and how important it is to their constituents.

The tentative call schedule for the Work Group is as follows:

- September 25, 2019, at 3:00pm EST
- January 13, 2020 at 3:00pm EST
- March 5, 2020 at 3:00pm EST
- June 2, 2020 at 3:00pm EST

Mini-Conference Planning Work Group

Vice Chairs: Claire Cusella, Equal Justice Works and Kathryn Shelton, Associate Director, Public Interest Center, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

The Work Group held its first call on June 4, 2019 to initiate planning for this year's conference. The Work Group is exploring concurrent session topics, (two (2) programs per session) and keynote speakers, while keeping in mind professional development goals and making the conference attractive for employers. The Work Group decided to retain much of the structure from last year's conference and is seeking ways to provide intentional networking opportunities between law schools and employers beyond those offered in prior years. The Work Group intends to distribute a survey to the entire public service section late June/early July to gauge interest in topics for mini-conference sessions and keynote speakers. After obtaining this information, the Work Group will finalize volunteers to plan each session.

The confirmed Mini-Conference details are listed below:

Dates: Public Interest Advising 101, Wednesday October 16 – 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Mini-Conference: Thursday, October 17th – 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: National Association of Home Builders, Washington, DC

NALP Annual Education Conference and Webinar Planning Work Group

Vice Chairs: Lillian E. Evans, Deputy Director of Legal Recruiting and Deputy EEO Officer, New York City Law Department and Lauren E. Seffel, Senior Law Career Counselor, Public Interest Advising and Programs, The George Washington University Law School

During the section meeting at the 2019 Annual Education Conference time was devoted to discussing possible RFP topics for the 2020 Annual Education Conference. Following the conference, the RFP Work Group convened a section-wide call to discuss topics and collaborations. The Vice Chairs also reached out via NALPConnect to solicit proposals and then reviewed all public interest section RFP proposal drafts and provided feedback.

The twelve (12) RFPs submitted on behalf of the Public Service Section for the 2020 Annual Conference are:

- Who's the Expert Here? Hitting the Reset Button on Peer Counseling
- Judicial Clerkships: A Strategic Stop on the Public Interest Career Path
- Gems in Government: Demystifying Government Agencies to Guide Students and Alums
- Look at Me! How to Stand Out as a 1L and How Employers Can Make Sure to Hire the Best Fit
- Guiding Students to Take Control of Their Financial Future – A Primer for the Law School Professional
- Carpe Diem: Public Interest Advising and Recruiting in an Age of Renewed Civic Engagement
- Cultivating Transferable Skillsets in Students Through Innovative Pro Bono Opportunities
- From Summer Intern to Entry Level Attorney: Tips for a Successful Summer Internship
- Get Thee to Another Place: Increasing Geographic Diversity in Public Sector Minded Students

- More Than Finding The Job: Building and Fostering A Culture of Public Interest and Service In Your Law School
- Preparing Students for Pro Bono & Public Service: A Plug & Play Curriculum
- The New Normal - PI/PS Hiring Under the New NALP Principles

Vice Chair Lauren Seffel will leave her position at George Washington University Law School in August 2019 and can no longer serve in this role. Elyse Diamond, Director, Public Service Careers & Adjunct Professor at Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University has volunteered in her stead and will begin transitioning in advance of August. The Work Group will turn its focus for the balance of the term to opportunities for webinar collaborations with the Section's other work groups and NALP sections.

Pro Bono Work Group

Vice Chairs: Laura Burstein, Director of Public Service and Academic Success, SMU Dedman School of Law, and Jennifer Mencarini, Director of Career Development, Elon University School of Law

The Work Group, in light of the continuing national dialogue about pro bono requirements for admission to the Bar, is focusing efforts on the creation of a proposed pro bono/public service "Best Practices" for law students intended to prepare them for such opportunities while they are in law school. The project would create specific resources and curriculum to provide a building block foundation for law schools to easily adapt and incorporate. The Work Group continues to assess the needs for pro bono students, specific skillset training, cultural competencies and impacts of secondary trauma.

The Work Group continues to monitor developments with state bars considering adopting pre-admission or licensure maintenance pro bono requirements as well as opportunities to collaborate with the AALS pro bono section.

The tentative schedule for future Work Group calls is as follows:

- August 29, 2019 at 3:00pm EST
- November 14, 2019 at 3:00pm EST
- February 13, 2020 at 3:00pm EST
- May 7, 2020 at 3:00pm EST

PSJD Resources Work Group

Vice Chairs: Mike Kwarcinski, Assistant Director of Career Development, Michigan State University College of Law and Brent Page, Program Manager, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)

The Vice Chairs met to outline specific objectives for the upcoming year. These objectives include:

- Restructuring the navigation of the resource section, so that links lead to relevant information, and combining pages with cumulative information.
- Adding additional content regarding regional practices and funding opportunities, detailed calendar of public service job fairs, as well as expanding JD Advantage/Emerging Career content.
- Continually reviewing Practice Guides to ensure each is up to date and developing new guides in relevant areas.

- Exploring the idea of coordinating students to record interviews with public interest practitioners and then post those interviews on PSJD, which would include insights and experiences from the field, including how to land that kind of job, tips for ongoing career development, and details of practice in a particular area of the law.
- Investigate the most appropriate and dynamic manner to include government jobs and salaries content.

Publications Work Group

Vice Chairs: Brooke Meckler, Equal Justice Works and Rachel Kronick Rothbart, University of Southern California Gould School of Law

The Work Group submitted a nearly full slate of proposed articles for the NALP Bulletin to Allison Beard. The Vice Chairs plan to follow up individually with authors to finalize topics, deadlines and publication dates once the proposal has been approved. Below is the Section’s proposed article list:

Proposed Publication Date	Tentative Topic	Author(s) Name
September	NALP Employer Survey Results	Alexa Shabecoff
October	Student Debt Relief	Rochelle McCain and Kaycee Crisp
November	Rural Public Interest Opportunities and the Power of UBE	Alisa Rosales
December	Switching from Private Sector to Public Sector	Lauren Worsek
January	Impact of Federal Shutdowns on Attitudes towards Public Service	Elisha Garvey
February	Mini-Conference - Event Write-Up	Claire Cusella
March	Boundary Setting/Work Life Balance or Budgeting	Liz Dunn
April	Gender and Achievement Gap in Public Interest Careers	Lauren Hartley
May	Benefit of Judicial Clerkships on Public Interest Careers	Michele Hoff
June	Public Interest for First Generation Law Students	Aoife Delargy Lowe

Additionally, the Work Group is exploring ways to support Section members in writing for the PSJD Blog and other outlets, as appropriate.