

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Melanie Rowen, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section

**From:** Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida, Public Service Section Co-Chairs

**cc:** Claire Nash ([cnash@nalp.org](mailto:cnash@nalp.org))

**Date:** April 6, 2023

**Re:** Public Service Section – Fourth Quarter Report

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### I. 2022-23 Public Service Section Leadership

<b>Section Chairs</b>	Jana Matthews Seattle University School of Law <a href="mailto:jmatthews1@seattleu.edu">jmatthews1@seattleu.edu</a>  Michelle Takagishi-Almeida Southwestern Law School <a href="mailto:mtalmeida@swlaw.edu">mtalmeida@swlaw.edu</a>
<b>Annual Education Conference + Webinar Planning</b>	Vacant
<b>Environmental Scanning</b>	Vacant
<b>PSJD Resource Development Work Group</b>	Jocelyn Brennan Witzel Saint Louis University School of Law <a href="mailto:jocelyn.witzel@slu.edu">jocelyn.witzel@slu.edu</a>
<b>LRAP Initiatives/CCRAA Developments</b>	Amanda Prasuhn Berkeley Law <a href="mailto:aprasuhn@law.berkeley.edu">aprasuhn@law.berkeley.edu</a>  Jennifer Geller Oregon Law <a href="mailto:jgeller@uoregon.edu">jgeller@uoregon.edu</a>
<b>Pro Bono Work Group</b>	Elizabeth Boe DePaul College of Law <a href="mailto:eboe@depaul.edu">eboe@depaul.edu</a>

<b>NALP/PSJD Public Service Mini-Conference Planning</b>	Freda Coleman-Jackson Washington & Lee University School of Law <a href="mailto:fcoleman-jackson@wlu.edu">fcoleman-jackson@wlu.edu</a>
<b>Publications</b>	Teresa Schmiedeler University of Maryland Carey School of Law <a href="mailto:tschmiedeler@law.umaryland.edu">tschmiedeler@law.umaryland.edu</a>
<b>Member Relations</b>	Vacant
<b>Knowledge Management and Resource Implementation</b>	Chelsea-Leigh Flucus University of California, Irvine <a href="mailto:cflucus@law.uci.edu">cflucus@law.uci.edu</a>
<b>Well-Being Champion</b>	Brooke Meckler Equal Justice Works <a href="mailto:bmeckler@equaljusticeworks.org">bmeckler@equaljusticeworks.org</a>
<b>Communications, Social Media &amp; Marketing</b>	Vacant

## II. FOURTH QUARTER SECTION MEETING

The fourth quarterly meeting for the 2022-23 year took place on March 29, 2023 under the leadership of Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida. Thirty members were in attendance, including Public Service Section (PSS) Board Liaison Melanie Rowen.

The meeting began with an employer spotlight on the Legal Aid Society NYC followed by reports and updates from: (i) LRAP Initiatives/CCRAA Developments Work Group Vice-Chair Amanda Prasuhn, Berkeley Law; and (ii) PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida.

Section meeting closed with another call for volunteers for the 2023-2024 year and requests for section input on work group activities and/or revised charges to put forward for board consideration in coordination with leadership transitions.

## III. PSS WORK GROUP UPDATES

### a. Annual Education Conference + Webinar Planning

Vice-Chair position remains vacant at time of board report submission on April 6, 2023.

Recruitment efforts for volunteer(s) continue in preparation for leadership transitions that will take effect at the Public Service Section meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 2023 at 7:30am PT at the Annual Education Conference.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations for revised work group charges in separate report.

**b. Environmental Scanning**

Vice-Chair position remains vacant at time of board report submission on April 6, 2023.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations and proposal in separate report to retire this work group.

**c. PSJD Resource Development Work Group**

PSJD Resource Development Work Group updates were not received by April 6, 2023 board report deadline.

Recruitment efforts for volunteer(s) continue in preparation for leadership transitions that will take effect at the Public Service Section meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 2023 at 7:30am PT at the Annual Education Conference.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations for revised work group charges in separate report.

**d. LRAP Initiatives/CCRAA Developments**

Vice-Chairs Amanda Prasuhn and Jennifer Geller continue to monitor the Biden Administration's debt relief plan, which is currently held up in SCOTUS. Oral arguments took place February 28 2023, and now borrowers await a decision that is expected by June 2023. The end of the COVID student loan payment and interest pause is also linked to this litigation, and payments are not expected to resume until SCOTUS releases an opinion.

In other student loan news, the Department of Education released new proposed Income-Driven Repayment plan regulations in January 2023 which would make loan repayment more affordable for many borrowers. The Department is currently reviewing comments on the proposed regulations and budget estimates from the Congressional Budget Office.

Vice-Chairs Amanda Prasuhn and Jennifer Geller will be extending their time as Work Group Vice-Chairs into the 2023-2024 year.

Members interested in volunteering with or sharing input regarding Work Group projects are encouraged to contact Vice-Chair Amanda Prasuhn at [aprasuhn@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:aprasuhn@law.berkeley.edu) and Vice-Chair Jennifer Geller at [jgeller@uoregon.edu](mailto:jgeller@uoregon.edu).

**e. Pro Bono Work Group**

Vice-Chair Elizabeth Boe will be extending her time as Work Group Vice-Chair into the 2023-2024 year.

Members interested in volunteering with or sharing input regarding Work Group activities and proposed collaborations for the 2023-2024 year are encouraged to contact Vice-Chair Elizabeth Boe directly at [eboe@depaul.edu](mailto:eboe@depaul.edu).

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations for revised work group charges in separate report.

**f. NALP/PSJD Public Service Mini-Conference Planning**

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida would like to give special thanks to Vice-Chair Freda Coleman-Jackson for her leadership of this Work Group as well as to the Work Group volunteers and members whose ongoing support, program contributions and participation made the 2022 PSJD Mini-Conference a success.

Based on member feedback, the Work Group recommends that the NALP/PSJD Public Interest Advising 101 program be held early Fall and prior to the Equal Justice Works Career Fair and Conference.

Further, the Work Group acknowledges requests for the return of an in-person PSJD Mini-Conference, but recognizes needed flexibility in offering virtual programs that allow more of the membership to participate.

Additional considerations for PSJD Mini-Conference going forward:

- timing of mini-conference;
- format as a two-day conference;
- scope of topics;
- logistical support.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations and proposal in separate report to retire this work group as, starting in 2023, PSJD Mini-Conference is to be produced as a standalone NALP conference with operational staff supporting programmatic and logistical execution.

**g. Publications**

With thanks to Vice-Chair Teresa Schmiedeler and each of the authors who have submitted articles on behalf of the section, PSS has been well-represented in NALP's publications over the 2022-2023 year.

Recruitment efforts for volunteer(s) continue in preparation for leadership transitions that will take effect at the Public Service Section meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 2023 at 7:30am PT at the Annual Education Conference.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations for revised work group charges in separate report.

**h. Well-Being Champion**

With thanks to Well-Being Champion Brooke Meckler, PSS has been well-represented in this new NALP initiative.

Recruitment efforts for volunteer(s) continue in preparation for leadership transitions that will take effect at the Public Service Section meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 2023 at 7:30am PT at the Annual Education Conference.

**i. Member Relations**

Vice-Chair position remains vacant. No updates at time of board report submission on April 6, 2023.

Recruitment efforts for volunteer(s) continue in preparation for leadership transitions that will take effect at the Public Service Section meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 2023 at 7:30am PT at the Annual Education Conference.

**j. Knowledge Management and Resource Implementation**

On February 22 2023, Vice-Chair Chelsea-Leigh Flucus met NALP Knowledge Management Advisory Group (KM) Co-Chairs Elisabeth A. Beal, William & Mary Law School and Andrew Hale, Venable LLP for a second round of discussions on plans and needs for the remainder of the 2022-2023 year.

In addition to continued updates to the Public Interest Section of the NALP Career Advising binder that is distributed to new NALP members and law school counselors, Chelsea-Leigh discussed with Elisabeth and Andrew potential models and strategies in revamping layout of information on the NALP website to better serve new and veteran members.

Vice-Chair Chelsea-Leigh Flucus will be extending her time as Work Group Vice-Chair into the 2023-2024 year.

Members interested in volunteering with or sharing input regarding this KM Work Group project are encouraged to contact Vice-Chair Chelsea-Leigh Flucus directly at [cflucus@law.uci.edu](mailto:cflucus@law.uci.edu).

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendations for revised work group charges in separate report.

#### **k. Communications, Social Media & Marketing**

Vice-Chair position has remained vacant for the 2022-2023 year.

PSS Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida to submit board recommendation and proposal in separate report that this work group be a standing assignment charged to incoming NALP / PSJD Fellows.

#### **IV. 2022-23 SECTION MEETINGS**

The final section meeting of the 2022-23 year will take place at the Annual Education Conference in Vancouver on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:30am PST.

Co-Chairs Jana Matthews and Michelle Takagishi-Almeida are unable to attend this section meeting in-person. Arrangements will be made for Co-Chairs to participate remotely and with the following proposed agenda:

- Recruitment call for 2023-24 Work Group Leadership Roles
  - Priority Need for AEC + Webinar Planning Vice-Chair
    - 2024 AEC RFP deadline May 12, 2023
    - Public Interest Advising to be held August / September 2023
- 2023 PSJD Mini-Conference Announcements
  - Priority Need for Conference Planning Committee Volunteers
- Reminders on PSJD Collaborative Files and Documents