

TO: NALP Board of Directors
FROM: Jessica Kitson, Chair, NALP Public Service Section
DATE: January 27, 2011
RE: Third Quarterly Report

MEETINGS

The Public Service Section held an in-person meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2011 during the NALP/PSLawNet Mini-Conference in Washington, D.C. In addition the section's third quarterly conference call was held on Tuesday, December 6, 2012.

WORK GROUP REPORTS

Below, please find the a report on work completed by our Work Groups in the previous quarter:

Publications

Vice Chair: Carol Vizquier, (Washington University)

Members: Nicole Ayala (Connecticut), Meta Copeland (Mississippi), Donna Davis (Texas Southern, Samantha Kasmarek (Syracuse)

The publications work group is so grateful to our section members for the quality of the articles they've produced for the Bulletin this year. Leor Neta's excellent piece for the January Bulletin is (or was recently) hot linked to the EJW site, and we have recently had conversations with Alicia Rosales about some additional/alternative placements of her piece on effective use of technological resources in the job hunt. The work group hopes to dedicate the last quarter of this year to developing some ideas and best practices for generating placement ideas for section members' pieces and encouraging the section to submit blog posts outside of NALP publications. Additionally, the group will discuss the best mechanism for communicating this advice to the section. We are in the process of scheduling a conference call to brainstorm and divide tasks to wrap up the year on a high note.

NALP/PSLawNet Mini-Conference Planning

Vice Chair: Nicole Vikan (Georgetown)

Members: Nicole Ayala (Connecticut), Kimberly Ann Bart, (Duke), Heather Creed (Baylor), Ginna Galbraith (South Texas), Sam Kasmarek (Syracuse), Dovie King (Thomas Jefferson), Lorri Olan, (Washington & Lee), Rachel Kronick Rothbart (USC), Cindy Wilson (Northwestern)

The 2011 NALP Public Service Mini-Conference took place on October 20, 2011, in Washington, DC, and we held Public Interest 101 on October 19. Approximately 145 law school career services professionals attended the Conference, which included a Town Hall, award presentations, breakout workshops, and a "hot topics" plenary. Of the 75 people who completed the post-Conference survey, 100% said that the Conference fulfilled their expectations. We hosted a unique federal employer reception at the end of the day, and 45 federal recruiters joined us for snacks and conversation. We look forward to another successful Mini-Conference next fall.

Law School Guide to Public Interest Careers – Update

Vice Chair: Alisa Rosales (DePaul)

Members: MariLee Allred (BYU), Dena Bauman (UDC), Laura Cohen (Southwestern), Daisy Hung (U. of San Francisco), Lorri Olan (Washington & Lee), Cybele Smith (Ohio State), Teresa Schmiedeler (Maryland), Ramona Sein (William & Mary), Leslie Thrope (Cardozo), Cindy Wilson (Northwestern)

The Work Group has received the majority of chapters for the update of the NALP Law School Public Interest Career Guide and is still working with a couple of people to get chapters in the coming weeks. Editing has begun the materials already submitted, and the goal is to have all edits to Steve Grumm in the NALP office no later than May 1, 2012.

Diversity

Chair: Andrew Chapin (Fordham)

Members: Millie Bond (NALP), Christina Jackson (American), Tom Maligno (Touro), Lorri Olan (Washington & Lee)

The Work Group advocated to have a question added to the PS Salary Survey, seeking information about the type of attorney demographics currently collected by employers. We are awaiting the results of that survey.

Government Legal Career Resources

Chair: Danielle Sorken (Brooklyn)

Members: MariLee Allred (BYU), Heather Creed (Baylor), Denyse Demel (Texas), Matt Gewolb, (Columbia), Jessica Hedrick (New York Law), Laura Scott (Michigan)

The Work Group has started working on a state by state guide to government employment. Several members of the section have volunteered to write their state's section and each member of the working group will also be assigned a state. The working group held a conference call earlier in the month to develop a questionnaire to be filled out for each state. The questionnaire is attached.

ABA Accreditation Revision Process

Chair: Keeley Mitchell (Pittsburgh)

Members: Tara Casey (Richmond), Deb Ellis (NYU), Diane Fears (Wayne State), Christina Jackson (American), Tom Maligno (Touro), Brad Morgan (Tennessee), Pam Robinson (South Carolina)

The Work Group will continue to collect information about the ABA Accreditation Process and to monitor new developments in the revision process that relate to pro bono initiatives and public interest advising.

Recession's Impact

Chair: Leor Neta (Golden Gate)

Members: Robyn Acampora (Yale), Kimberly Ann Bart (Duke), Mark Goldfarb (Iowa), Melissa V. McViney (Catholic), Alexa Shabecoff (Harvard), Nicole Simmons (Texas), Carol Vizquier (Washington University)

The Work Group's efforts have been focused on the second annual Employment Trends Survey that was distributed and collected early this Fall. Responses were collected and analyzed from 623 employers (more than 200 more than last year), and provide strong statistical data about the current state of public sector hiring, as well as valuable insight into employer hiring preferences. The full report is posted on the NALP website, and Mark Goldfarb provided an overview of the analysis in a recent NALP Bulletin article.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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