

Memorandum

To: Jennifer Zwagerman, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section

Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director; Samuel Halpert, NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives

From: Rashida T. West, NALP Chair, Public Service Section (2018-2019)

Re: NALP Public Service Section Second Quarter Board Report

Date: October 18, 2018

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the second quarter. The 2018-2019 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 | The Law School

Susan Feathers, Assistant Dean for Pro Bono and Public Interest, Rutgers Law School

Mini-Conference Planning Work Group:

Kathryn Shelton, Associate Director, Public Interest Center, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

Lauren E. Seffel, Senior Law Career Counselor, Public Interest Advising and Programs, The George Washington University Law School

NALP Conference RFP Work Group:

Lillian E. Evans, Deputy Director of Legal Recruiting and Deputy EEO Officer, New York City Law Department

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 Website Work Group:

Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)

Matt Orlins, Senior Law Career Counselor, The George Washington University Law School

Publications Work Group:

Elizabeth Dunn, Director of Career and Professional Development, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

Alison Lintal, Director of Career Services & Internship Programs, Dickinson Law, The Pennsylvania State University

The second Public Service Section Quarterly Call was held on October 3rd at 3:30 pm 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 NALP Connect platform continues to be used robustly, and the Section is engaged and supportive on it.

WORK GROUP UPDATES

LRAP Work Group

Vice-chairs Susan Curry, Director of Public Interest Law and Policy, The University of Chicago | The Law School and Susan Feathers, Assistant Dean for Pro Bono and Public Interest, Rutgers Law School

The LRAP / CCRAA Work Group met on August 28:

- 1) Discrepancies in current interpretations of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program and doubts about its future have created an environment of uncertainty around the program. According to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, student loan servicers are failing to inform borrowers of what they need to do to qualify for loan forgiveness. As a result, just 96 people out of the nearly 30,000 who applied to be released from their debt have been approved. (2017 was the first year people could qualify for forgiveness, since it requires 10 years of payments and the program began in 2007.)
- 2) Working Group members and guests discussed the latest news on Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF), including ongoing efforts to defeat the PROSPER Act. Susan Curry (Co-Chair) highlighted EJW's current PSLF Preservation efforts and the recent introduction of the Democratic "Aim Higher Act," and Sam Halpert outlined the findings of the NALP 2018 Public Service Attorney Salary Report.
- 3) Members discussed the possibility of hosting a spring webinar for law school NALP members who might be interested in setting up their own loan repayment programs.
- 4) List of remaining quarterly Work Group calls.
 - **December 4, 2018 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern/ 2:00 p.m. Central/ 12:00 p.m. Pacific**
 - **March 12, 2019 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern/ 2:00 p.m. Central/ 12:00 p.m. Pacific**
 - **June 4, 2019 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern/ 2:00 p.m. Central/ 12:00 p.m. Pacific**

Mini-Conference Planning Work Group

Vice-chairs Kathryn Shelton, Associate Director, Public Interest Center, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and Lauren E. Seffel, Senior Law Career Counselor, Public Interest Advising and Programs, The George Washington University Law School

We are in the final stages of conference planning. Our plenary program this year will discuss how the #MeToo movement is changing workplace issues of diversity and inclusion. The plenary speaker will be Kalpana Kotagal of Cohen Milstein.

Breakout Sessions:

1. Creating Your Culture – Making Public Service a Focus on Your Campus
2. Leveraging Technology & Data to Manage Relationships and Raise Funding
3. Outside the Law: Developing Non-Lawyering Skills in the Next Generation of Public Interest Advocates
4. Hop Topics in Law Student Demographics: Working with Digital Natives

Dates: Public Interest Advising 101, Wednesday October 24 – Late afternoon/evening

Mini-Conference: Thursday, October 25th - All day

Location: University of California's Washington, DC Center

NALP Conference RFP Work Group

Vice-chairs: Elizabeth Boe, Assistant Director, Law Career Services, DePaul University College of Law and Lillian E. Evans, Deputy Director of Legal Recruiting and Deputy EEO Officer, New York City Law Department

Fifteen total proposals (up from a total of 7 submitted last year) on behalf of the Public Service section were submitted for consideration for the annual conference in San Diego. The Public Service section's RFPs made up 7% of all RFPs submitted for the conference. A total of seven RFPs listed below were accepted.

1. Easing the Student Debt Crisis: Financial Management Tools to Empower the New Generation
2. Progressive Prosecutors and their Commitment to Criminal Justice Reform
3. New Trends in Affordable Legal Services: Access to Justice Careers in the US and Canada
4. Public Sector Interviewing With Confidence
5. Helping The Helpers: Addressing Secondary Trauma to Support Sustainable Service
6. Movement and Community Lawyering
7. Civil Right to Counsel: How fighting eviction is creating new opportunities for attorneys.

Elizabeth Boe has resigned her position as Vice-Chair for the working group and we will be actively seeking a new Vice-Chair to work with Lillian Evans.

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 Pro Bono Work Group is working on the following projects:

1. Preparing a NALP Bulletin article about how law schools without a full-time pro bono coordinator provide meaningful, plentiful pro bono opportunities for students. This article has been accepted for the May 2019 issue.
2. Conducting research with law schools in order to prepare a “best practices” resource about developing pro bono opportunities for students. A survey will be going live in the next few weeks. This survey is intended to gather information about best practices to ensure compliance with ABA Standard 303 (b)(2), particularly for the benefit of law schools that do not have a full-time/dedicated pro bono coordinator/advisor.
3. Collaborating with the AALS pro bono section.
4. Monitoring developments with state bars considering adopting pre-admission or licensure maintenance pro bono requirements.

They have workgroup conference calls scheduled as follows:

Thursday, January 17	3 p.m. EST
Thursday, April 18	3 p.m. EDT

PSJD Resources Work Group

Vice-chairs: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) and Matt Orlins, Senior Law Career Counselor, The George Washington University Law School

They are continuing to work on the following projects:

1. **Practice Guides:** The PSJD Working Group helped to standardize the format and structure of the Practice Guides found in the Resource Center. There are several potential areas for which they might develop new guides.

Working group members are preparing practice guides in the following areas: Title IX, Consumer Law, Energy, and Housing and Community Development. Group members are conducting practitioner interviews in Energy/Environmental Law and Foreclosure and Consumer Law. The group is also preparing a public-sector salary guide for the state of

Texas. After the group reviews the Texas guide as a model, it will look to begin incorporating other states as well.

2. **Student Interviews with Public Interest Practitioners:** An idea to coordinate and then post online interviews with public interest practitioners 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.

3. **Government jobs and salaries:** They already have some resources on PSJD in this area that should be reviewed to determine if updates are needed and/or exist. There are also many publicly available databases of government salaries on both the federal and state level. An idea that it could be valuable for PSJD to create a catalog of these resources and how to use them to investigate attorney pay.

Publications Work Group

Vice-chairs: Elizabeth Dunn, Director of Career and Professional Development, Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law and Alison Lintal, Director of Career Services & Internship Programs, Dickinson Law, The Pennsylvania State University

The Publications Work Group has secured authors for publication through June 2019. They are still recruiting authors for the January 2019, July 2019, and August 2019 NALP Bulletin. They plan to secure 1-2 additional authors as part of the NALP mini-conference in October. Alison Lintal will be going on maternity leave so interested authors should contact Liz Dunn at eed45@drexel.edu. Below is their proposed article list below:

Proposed Publication Date	Tentative Topic	Author	Email
July	Keeping ourselves going in difficult times	Susan Schechter	sschechter@law.berkeley.edu
August	How Well are Career Services Offices Preparing Students for Federal Employment	Elisha Garvey	egarvey4@gmu.edu
September	Making the Most of the EJW Conference	Liz Dunn	eed45@gmail.com
October	Teaching Law Students to	Lauren	leh203@psu.edu

	Lead and Serve – Highlighting the Leading Law Students Program	Hartley Martin	
November	New Initiatives in Criminal Justice Reform	Kaycee Crisp	kcrisp@law.utexas.edu
December	Hold for Confirmation		
January			
	Pro Bono Fellowships:		
February	Returning to Public Interest Practice	Toni Hicks	thicks@clf.org
March	Leveraging local DA and PD offices from pre-law school to post-grad	Mary Beth S. Moore	marybeth.moore@case.edu
April	Preparing Students to be Mental Health Advocates	Teresa Schmiedeler	tschmiedeler@law.umaryland.edu
May	Leading on D&I Issues When Not a Minority (with Courtney Carter)*	Nicole Netkin- Collins	Nicole.NetkinCollins@Colorado.edu
	Creating Pro Bono Opportunities when you lack resources or a dedicated role	Jennifer Gibert Mencarini	jmencarini2@elon.edu
June	Community Collaborations – Pam Social Justice & Pro Bono School Partnerships	Merstock- Wolfe	pmerstoc@camden.rutgers.edu
July			
August			

* Co-sponsored with Diversity + Inclusion Section – Two May Submissions