

Memorandum

To: Michelle Jackson, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section

Cc: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director; Christina Jackson, NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives and Fellowships

From: Katie Dilks, NALP Chair, Public Service Section (2016-2017)

Re: NALP Public Service Section First Quarter Board Report

Date: June 30, 2016

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the first quarter. The 2016-2017 Public Service Section Work Groups and Vice-Chairs are:

- LRAP/CCRAA Work Group: Amanda Furst, Public Interest Director, University of Minnesota 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: Samantha Zappia Kasmarek, Associate Director for Career and Professional Development, Syracuse University College of Law and Swati Parikh, Director of Public Service Careers, New York Law School
- Pro Bono Work Group: Melissa Berry, Assistant Dean of Career Services, Chapman University Fowler School of Law and Diane Fears, Director of Career Services, Wayne State University Law School
- PSJD Resources Website Work Group: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) and Emily Kite, Associate Director Career Services, University of Wisconsin Law School
- Publications Work Group: Sarah Bookbinder, Associate Director for Public Interest Advising, Suffolk University Law School and Diane Cross, Assistant Director Center for Professional Development, University of Cincinnati College of Law

The First Public Service Section Quarterly Call was held on June 14 at 3:00pm EDT, and was attended by approximately 30 people.

According to NALP Connect, the Public Service Section membership is currently at 283. 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 Christina Jackson, which has invaluable updates on hiring trends and other news. The transition to the new NALP Connect platform seems to be going smoothly so far.

WORK GROUP UPDATES

NALP Conference RFP Work Group

Vice Chairs: Samantha Zappia Kasmarek, Associate Director for Career and Professional Development, Syracuse University College of Law and Swati Parikh, Director of Public Service Careers, New York Law School

This year, the Annual Education Conference RFP Work Group helped coordinate 13 RFPs on behalf of the Public Service Section, including programs in collaboration with the Clerkship Section, the Law Student Professional Development Section, and the Diversity/Inclusion Section. Samantha and Swati held a conference call to work through and coordinate ideas, and encourage partnerships. They also read through and provided feedback on several RFPs being submitted, ensuring high quality contributions towards next year’s conference in San Francisco.

The RFPs submitted on behalf of the Public Service Section for the 2017 Annual Conference are:

- Advising Public Service Grads from Pre-bar Passage to Life Transitions
- Answering Difficult Questions In Public Interest Interviews
- Counselor, Activist, Advocate – What is the Role of Career Services Offices During Campus Protests?
- Creating Jobs Out of the Mist: Envisioning, Building, and Funding Post-Graduate Fellowships
- Law, Life & the Pursuit of Happiness: Prescriptions for Student and Lawyer Well-Being
- Mission Not Impossible: Navigating Federal Government Legal Hiring from Application to Clearance
- Through the Side Door: Entry into Government Service through Alternative Avenues
- Professional Development Hot Topics for Public Service Counselors and Employers
- The Art of Writing Successful Public Interest Fellowship Applications
- The Vital Importance & Uncertain Future of Student Debt Relief
- Building Practice-Ready Graduates: Creating and Counseling Students Towards Pro Bono and Externship Programs (co-submitted with Law Student Professional Development)
- Mining for Gold: How to Find Hidden Clerkship Opportunities in California (co-submitted with Clerkships)
- Promoting Careers in Prosecution to People of Color: A Discussion of the How’s, Why’s, and Implications of Diversity & Inclusion in Prosecutors’ Offices (co-submitted with Diversity and Inclusion)

Publications Work Group

Vice-chairs: Sarah Bookbinder, Associate Director for Public Interest Advising, Suffolk University Law School and Diane Cross, Assistant Director Center for Professional Development, University of Cincinnati College of Law

The Publications Work Group just submitted a nearly full slate of proposed articles for the NALP Bulletin to Janet Smith for the year:

Samantha Kasmarek, Miriam Ingber	Public Interest Jobs in the Private Sector: Part I	September
Laura Torchio	TBD	October
TBD	Report on Mini-Conference	November
Carolyn Goodwin, Laren Spierer	Lessons from NY pro bono requirement as CA prepares to implement the same	December
Teresa Schmiedeler	Professionalism & Civility in Legal	January

and Dina Billian	Profession and what public sector and private sector might learn from each other in addressing importance of professionalism and civility in work cultures	
Elyse Diamond Moskowitz	Creative ways to collaborate with faculty and student groups to build a successful public interest program/community	February
Sam Kasmarek and Miriam Ingber	Public Interest Jobs in the Private Sector: Part II	March
Katie Dilks	TBD	April
Sarah Bookbinder	Trends in Americorps programs for 2017 grads	May
Diane Cross	Trends in Pro Bono Programs – changes/best practices as a result of state pro bono requirements (maybe different?)	June

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

LRAP Work Group

Vice-chair Amanda Furst, Public Interest Director, University of Minnesota Law School

The LRAP Work Group held their first conference call on June 6th and set out goals for the year: to collaborate with NALP and Christina to promote the results of the LRAP survey conducted last year, including with the ABA and Equal Justice Works; to potentially work with the ABA and Equal Justice Works to ensure that accurate information is available regarding state-level LRAP programs (the ABA maintains an up-to-date resource, but it can be difficult to find); to work with Equal Justice Works to develop a best practice resource for counseling students around student loans and working with loan servicers; to continue to monitor potential legislative threats to Public Service Loan Forgiveness, in partnership with Equal Justice Works.

Pro Bono Work Group

Vice-chairs: Melissa Berry, Assistant Dean of Career Services, Chapman University Fowler School of Law and Diane Fears, Director of Career Services, Wayne State University Law School

The Pro Bono Work Group held their first conference call on June 7 and set out goals for the year: to develop an Intro to Pro Bono resource that would give people new to the field a quick overview of useful resources and organizations; to submit 2 articles for the NALP Bulletin on behalf of the Section (one on Lessons Learned from the New York Bar pro bono requirement, and one TBD); to actively work to collaborate with other groups focused on pro bono (primarily Equal Justice Works, the American Association of Law Schools, the ABA, and others as appropriate); and to attempt to increase the diversity in membership of the Work Group by conducting outreach to law firm members and non-profit and government employer members.

PSJD Resources Work Group

Vice-chairs: Michael Bergmann, Executive Director, Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) and Emily Kite, Associate Director Career Services, University of Wisconsin Law School

The PSJD Resources Work Group held their first conference call on June 10th and set out goals for the year: creating 3 new practice guides (in Water Law, Native Peoples, and Criminal Law); working on the summer funding section within the funding sources category of the resource center; and (3) working on reviewing, updating and adding new content in the public sector career path (particularly adding information about policy-related and JD-advantage jobs, and careers with the military/JAG).

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 Planning work group held its first conference call on June 24th. The Mini-Conference this year will be held on Thursday, October 27th, the day before the Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair, in Washington, DC. There are currently approximately 15 people helping on the Work Group, which will ensure that the Mini-Conference remains a substantive value-add for Section members.