

PMemorandum

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 Second Quarter Board Report

Date: October 13, 2016

This report contains updates on the activities of the NALP Public Service Section and its Work Groups for the second 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

The second Public Service Section Quarterly Call was held on October 11 at 3:00pm EDT, and was attended by approximately 15 people.

According to NALP Connect, the Public Service Section membership is currently at 287. 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 new NALP Connect platform is being used fairly robustly, and the Section is engaged and supportive on it.

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. 9 of those RFPs were selected for Conference, listed below:

- 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?
- 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
- The Art of Writing Successful Public Interest Fellowship Applications
- 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

Diane Cross had to step down as one of the vice chairs for the Publications Work Group as she shifted careers, but Sarah Bookbinder remains in a strong leadership role. 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, Katie Shelton	The Public Interest Auction: Is it still an effective fundraising tool?	October
Jaya Saxena, Rochelle McCain, Katie Dilks	Continuing the Conversation on Diversity in Public Interest Law	November
Carolyn Goodwin, Laren Spirer	Lessons from NY pro bono requirement as CA prepares to implement the same	December
Teresa Schmiedeler and Dina Billian	Professionalism & Civility in Legal Profession and what public sector and private sector might learn from each other in addressing importance of professionalism and civility in work	January

	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
TBD	Trends in Pro Bono Programs – changes/best practices as a result of state pro bono requirements (maybe different?)	June

The Work Group is still seeking authors for July and August. Additionally, the Publications Group is working to support Section members in writing for the PSJD Blog and other outlets, as appropriate. Publications and Pro Bono are partnering to help highlight pro bono projects for the PSJD Weekly News Roundup.

LRAP Work Group

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

The LRAP Work Group held their second conference call on October 4th and is making tremendous progress on the goals established over the summer. They are working to identify schools without LRAP programs, and reach out to them in partnership with Equal Justice Works with a webinar and potentially individual support to schools seeking to create LRAP programs. They are also working to update the Student Debt resources on PSJD to ensure that all helpful resources are conveniently listed together. Finally, they are continuing to work closely with our contacts at EJW to stay on top of any potential changes to Public Service Loan Forgiveness, particularly as the election may or may not impact future proposals.

Pro Bono Work Group

Vice-chairs: Melissa Berry, Director, Graduate Program and Alumni Coaching, University of Washington School of Law and Diane Fears, Director of Career Services, Wayne State University Law School

The Pro Bono Work Group is holding their second call on October 18 to follow up on the goals they set 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 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. The Work Group is contributing two articles to the Bulletin slate this year – one in December on lessons from the New York pro bono requirement, and one on best practices in pro bono programs (this was going to be written by Diane Cross, one goal of the call is to find a replacement author). Several members of the work group are also engaged in the AALS Pro Bono and Public Service Section, and are working hard to increase collaboration with that organization. Building the Intro to Pro Bono resource is anticipated to be a collaborative project with AALS, EJW, and potentially the clinical educator group.

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 has been incredibly productive since their first call in June, creating a Summer Funding Primer and a Summer Funding Sources and Paid Internships chart, both of which are now available in the PSJD Resource Center, and a new Criminal Law Practice Area Guide, available in the Public Sector Careers Paths section on PSJD. They are also working on two additional Practice Area Guides on Native Peoples Law and Water Law, which should be completed soon, and are developing additional resources on JAG/Military Law and policy work.

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 multiple planning calls over the summer to coordinate this year's conference. 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. The conference will feature a keynote speech from Deborah Vagins of the EEOC on diversity in public interest law, and how schools and employers can seek to support and increase diversity efforts. There are also 4 breakout sessions:

1. Professional Development Hot Topics for Public Service Counselors and Employers
2. Building Practice-Ready Graduates: Creating and Counseling Students Towards Pro Bono and Externship Programs
3. Creating Jobs Out of the Mist: Envisioning, Building, and Funding Postgraduate Fellowships
4. Challenge: Counseling New Graduates and Recent Alumni

The Mini-Conference will once again offer Public Interest Advising 101 – an overview of public interest counseling for members who are new to the profession – on Wednesday, October 26th. This will be followed by a “round robin” dinner, which should bring together 30+ NALP members for a casual networking opportunity over dinner at three area restaurants.