

MEMORANDUM

To: Rashida West, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section

From: Chelsea-Leigh Flucus and Elizabeth Dunn, Public Service Section Co-Chairs

cc: NALP Office-Fred Thrasher (reports@nalp.org)

Date: June 20, 2024

Re: Public Service Section – First Quarter Report

A. 2024-25 Public Service Section Leadership

Section Chairs	Chelsea-Leigh Flucus University of California, Irvine School of Law <a href="mailto:cflucus@law.uci.edu">cflucus@law.uci.edu</a>  Elizabeth E. Dunn, Thomas R. Kline School of Law Drexel University <a href="mailto:eed45@drexel.edu">eed45@drexel.edu</a>
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PSJD Resource Development Work Group	Lindsay Slaker University of Wisconsin Law School <a href="mailto:lslaker@wisc.edu">lslaker@wisc.edu</a>
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## B. FIRST QUARTER SECTION MEETING

The first quarterly meeting for the 2024-25 year took place on June 10, 2024, under the leadership of Co-Chairs Chelsea-Leigh Flucus and Elizabeth Dunn. An estimated thirty members were in attendance, including Public Service Section (PSS) Board Liaison Rashida West. Prior to this meeting, the section held an in-person meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 during AEC in Boston and a virtual recap meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. The recap was for members who did not attend the conference or who wanted a refresher about the section's goals for the upcoming year.

The meeting began with an employer spotlight hosted by Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG). In attendance was Lauren Worsek, the Director of ProBono Initiatives. Lauren reviewed the mission of L4GG, the different projects their organization is engaged in and reviewed opportunities for students to volunteer with the organization. Lauren also discussed the organization's project-based fellowship application process, provided their contact information and encouraged attendees to follow-up with any additional questions. Notes on everything Lauren covered during the spotlight are available in the Public Service Section Collaborative Fileshare.

After the spotlight concluded, we discussed updates from section Workgroups (detailed below), including a call for volunteers and a discussion on possible topics for NALP Bulletin articles for the upcoming year.

The section also discussed planning PS 101 and agreed it should be held during the month of August with a note to review details with section in the coming weeks.

## C. PSS WORK GROUP UPDATES

### a. Annual Education Conference + Webinar Planning

Nine proposals were submitted with the endorsement of the Public Service Section for 2025 AEC

1. **Mission Possible: Public Service Careers in Military Law**
2. **Hot Topics in Public Interest Recruiting**
3. **Opening Doors: Enhancing Access to Post-Grad Public Interest Fellowships**
4. **Rural Pipeline Opportunities for Law Students & Law School Graduates**
5. **Paid Public Service Internships: Who Foots the Bill and Why it Matters**
6. **Finding Your Own Path to Impactful Advocacy: Supporting Students Through the Exciting (and Sometimes Daunting) Public Service Search**
7. **Show Me the Money! Help Students Fund Summer Work Without Becoming a Fulltime Fundraiser**
8. **The Uncertainty Is the Only Sure Thing: Public Service Attorney Recruiting Trends & Best Practices**
9. **The More the Merrier: The Benefits of Offering Cross-Law School Career Programs: Two Case Studies**

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the section co-chairs and the Director of Public Service Initiatives got an email from Meaghan Hagner requesting feedback on the prioritization of the RFP proposals for AEC. We decided to

request feedback from the Annual Education Conference + Webinar Planning Workgroup in making the final list prioritized list of submitted RFPs. After discussion, Elizabeth, Sam, and Chelsea-Leigh noted that a concern with the Rural Pipeline panel’s diversity. We flagged our concerns via email with Mary Beal. On behalf of the section Co-Chairs, Sam emailed the section’s RFP prioritization list to Meaghan Hagner on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**b. PSJD Resource Development**

The PSJD Resource Development Workgroup is reviewing their goals for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year and will provide the section with an update before our next meeting.

**c. LRAP Initiatives/CCRAA Developments**

The chair of this Workgroup was unable to attend this meeting. Chelsea-Leigh plans to follow-up and schedule a meeting to discuss their goals for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year.

**d. Pro Bono**

The Vice Chairs of the Pro Bono Workgroup are currently in the process of recruiting interested working group members and setting forth a finalized plan for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year. They are also exploring potential collaborations with the American Bar Association and AALS Section on Pro Bono & Access to Justice.

**e. Publications**

Following a discussion about the process of writing an article for the NALP Bulletin and the approaches section members can take to flesh out ideas(including collaborating on article with someone, writing a “book report” on a novel you’ve wanted to read that will have value to all NALP members and/or working on an old RFP idea), the Workgroup submitted seven proposals for the NALP Bulletin via email on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Articles & Columns Topics are included in the chart below.

Author Name/Email	Tentative Topic	Preferred Months
Liz Dunn, <a href="mailto:eed45@drexel.edu">eed45@drexel.edu</a>	Ways to Help Law School Faculty Support Public Interest Students (including outreach about public interest timelines and information related to the PI job search)	September 2024
Brooke Meckler, <a href="mailto:bmeckler@equaljusticeworks.org">bmeckler@equaljusticeworks.org</a>	EJW's Rural Summer Legal Corps and Access to Justice Gap in Rural Areas (will also cover other opportunities beyond RSLC program for students to work in this issue area)	November 2024 or December 2024
Leah Gould, <a href="mailto:Leah.gould@law.northwestern.edu">Leah.gould@law.northwestern.edu</a>	Providing information and insight into government background investigations as part of the hiring process	May 2025
Kala Mueller, <a href="mailto:kalamueller@unl.edu">kalamueller@unl.edu</a>	Tools for engaging with students to reduce public interest drift, including the use of pro bono	June 2025

**FEATURES**

Author Name/Email	Tentative Topic	Preferred Months
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Deborah Baker, <a href="mailto:Deborah.baker@law.howard.edu">Deborah.baker@law.howard.edu</a> ; Jamie Reisman, <a href="mailto:jreisman@law.upenn.edu">jreisman@law.upenn.edu</a>	The Rise of Public Interest Private Firms: Career Insights for Law Students (highlight the growing interest among law students in pursuing careers within public interest private firms, a sector often misunderstood yet increasingly attractive; will use insights from practitioners and data on the distribution and challenges of these firms)	February 2025 (second choice—April 2025)
Steve Grumm, <a href="mailto:sgrumm@hotmail.com">sgrumm@hotmail.com</a>	Law firms collaborating with public interest organizations to share professional development resources	March 2025
Jennifer Geller, <a href="mailto:jgeller@uoregon.edu">jgeller@uoregon.edu</a>	The Key to Growing Your Law School’s Public Service Impact May Be Your Relationship with Your Advancement Staff (fostering relationships with your organization’s advancement staff, including an understanding of programs, community impact, and mutual goals can be the key to building more resources for public service efforts of all sizes)	July 2025 (second choice--June 2025)

#### f. Well-Being Champion

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Teresa emailed Chelsea-Leigh and volunteered to serve as the well-being champion for the section. Chelsea-Leigh thanked Teresa for volunteering for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year.

#### g. Employer Relations

Prior to May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Employer Relations Workgroup met twice to discuss their goals for the upcoming 2024-2025 academic year. The group plans to meet with Sam to review their ideas and see what is feasible. They are currently planning programs to increase public interest employer engagement with the section and want to conduct more targeted regional employer outreach.

#### D. PS 101

PSS members expressed interest in hosting Public Interest Advising 101 again this year. The section co-chairs will follow up with last year’s presenters and confirm they are available. Once the date and other logistics are finalized, the section will coordinate with Sam and other NALP staff.

#### E. 2024-25 SECTION MEETINGS

The next section meetings are listed below and will use the Zoom link [HERE](#):

- Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 at 11:00am PST
- Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 11:00am PST
- Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 11:00am PST