

MEMORANDUM

To: Nicole Netkin-Collins, NALP Board Liaison, Public Service Section  
From: Christopher Gerlica and Amy Hsieh, Public Service Section Co-Chairs  
CC: NALP Office-Fred Thrasher (reports@nalp.org)  
Date: June 26, 2025

Re: Public Service Section – First Quarter Report

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**1. 2025-26 Public Service Section Leadership**

Section Chairs	Christopher Gerlica, Roger Williams University School of Law, <a href="mailto:cgerlica@rwu.edu">cgerlica@rwu.edu</a> Amy Hsieh, Brooklyn Law School, <a href="mailto:amy.hsieh@brooklaw.edu">amy.hsieh@brooklaw.edu</a>
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Well-Being Champion	TBD

**2. WORK GROUP PROPOSALS**

**a. Career Fairs Work Group**

- i. Proposed Charge:** The Career Fairs Work Group will monitor updates and challenges faced by the various public interest career fairs across the country to determine where NALP could offer support.

- ii. **Rationale:** Recently public interest career fairs have had to deal with employers pulling out or student protest because of the inclusion of other controversial employers at the fairs. We hoped to have one space to see if this is a bigger issue or something specific to this moment.

**b. Public Interest Fellowship Developments**

- i. **Proposed Charge:** (1) clarifying language around fellowships, and (2) demystifying the process for getting a fellowship, at law schools and at legal service providers.
- ii. **Rationale:** Following a well-attended AEC panel, the section believed that there needs to be more information for all schools to be competitive in the various fellowship processes.

**3. FIRST QUARTER SECTION MEETING**

The first quarterly section meeting occurred on Monday, June 23, 2025, under the leadership of Co-Chairs Christopher Gerlica and Amy Hsieh. Over 40 members attended. Prior to this meeting, the section held an in-person section meeting during the AEC in Cleveland, and a virtual recap on April 30, 2025 for members who were unable to attend to discuss the section's goals for the year.

At our latest meeting, after discussing the section's newest charge the Work Groups provided updates regarding their progress on plans for the year (detailed below). The Co-chairs asked for volunteers and a discussion on possible topics for NALP Bulletin articles for the upcoming year.

**4. PSS WORK GROUP UPDATE**

**a. Annual Education Conference + Webinar Planning**

- i. Holistic Compensation Package Webinar – This happened on May 19<sup>th</sup> and was presented by Chelsea-Leigh Flucus. It was well attended and very informative on how best to advise students as they consider job offers with public interest employers.
- ii. AEC RFPs – With the deadline being extended to August, the work group is continuing to solicit RFP ideas. The work group vice chairs have offered support to section members that want to develop ideas.
- iii. Fellowship Webinar – See update Public Interest Fellowship Development WG below.
- iv. Public Interest Advising 101 – The PSS co-chairs are working with Sam Halper to plan this program in August/September 2025.

### **b. PSJD Resource Development**

The PSJD Resource Development Work group met on a few times during this quarter. The goal of the work group is to improve content that is currently on PSJD and imagine what resources can be added. One particular new resources that is being developed is a timeline/calendar of events. During the section meeting, the work group discussed ways to increase school contributions and corrections to site content.

### **c. LRAP Initiatives/CCRAA Developments**

Emily Powers was unable to attend our section meeting, but a member of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Coalition informed the section that since the initial round of Executive Orders, it is quieter on the student loan front.

The PSLF Coalition will be providing an update for both borrowers still seeking to earn PSLF and/or those seeking to understand the status of the program. The details of this webinar will be shared with section members.

### **d. Career Fairs Work Group**

The work group has started working on an excel spreadsheet to determine all the public interest career fairs that currently exist.

### **e. Public Interest Fellowship Developments**

At the AEC, there were plans to host a webinar in late May/early April with representatives from Skadden and Equal Justice Works as a report back on selections for the 2025 class and changes for the 2026 class. With the change in leadership at the Skadden Foundation and the section members' eagerness to understand the impact of the changing environment on this fellowship application cycle, the Fellowship WG is working with Sam Halpert to schedule a webinar with Interim Director Susan Plum (who served as the foundation's Executive Director since its founding 30+ years prior). Equal Justice Works has also agreed to participate in a webinar and the work group is approaching Justice Catalyst to join.

The work group is also developing an RFP on "Creating a Fellowship Culture at Your Law School or Office."

### **f. DEI Liaison**

The section co-chairs reached out to our DEI Liaison on how we may best collaborate.

**g. Well-Being Champion**

At our last section meeting we asked for a volunteer. At this point, no one has volunteered.

**5. New Amelioration Best Practices Guide Charge**

We received a new charge to review the old Amelioration Best Practices Guide. At our last meeting, we solicited volunteers to review. Over the next two months we will review and determine what changes need to be made.

**6. Public Interest Section Huddle**

Public Interest “Huddles” have continued to meet on Monday’s at 1:00 pm, excluding the weeks when a section meeting was held. These sessions, led by Sam Halpert, offer an opportunity to share market developments, experiences and information. The sessions continue to be attended by twenty or more members at every session.

**7. 2025-26 SECTION MEETINGS**

The next section meetings will be held:

- October 1, 2025 (Weds), 2PM ET
- January 14, 2026 (Weds), 2PM ET
- March 11, 2026 (Weds), 2PM ET