

To: NALP Board of Directors
From: Nicole Vikan, Chair, NALP Public Service Section
Date: April 12, 2010
Re: Fourth and Final Quarterly Report

The Public Service Section has five Work Groups; below please find a summary of the work for each Group: 2010 NALP Annual Conference Proposal Submissions; Federal Job-Seeking Resources (which is more aptly-titled Government Job-Seeking Resources); Monitoring the Recession's Impact on the Public Service Job Market; Publications; and the Public Service Mini-Conference.

WORK GROUP REPORTS

2010 NALP ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROPOSAL SUBMISSIONS AND SELECTIONS

Work Group Members: Cybele Smith (Ohio State—Chair), Andrew Chapin (Fordham), Tom Schoenherr (Fordham), Jessica Mehl (Toledo), Cindy Wilson (Northwestern), Sean Rhiney (Cincinnati)

The following seven programs are scheduled for the 2010 Annual Education Conference:

- Volunteer Internships Pay, Particularly at DOJ: Getting a Legal Internship and Making the Most of It – Wednesday, 4/28, 9:15-10:30 am
- This is Counseling on Federal Opportunities 101 – Wednesday, April 28, 2010, 2:15 - 3:30 pm
- Deferred Associates and Public Sector Placements: Looking Back and Building Relationships – Thursday, 4/29, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
- LRAPs after the College Cost Reduction and Access Act – Thursday, 4/29, 2:00-3:00 pm
- Exploring the Scope and Breadth of Legal Career Opportunities Offered by the Judge Advocate General's Corps – Friday, 4/30, 9:15-10:45 am
- Have Questions about Public Service Initiatives? We Have Answers! Meet the CAPSILS Team – Friday, 4/30, 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Public Interest Workshop: What's Working, What's Not, Hot Topics – Friday, 4/30, 3:30-4:30 pm

FEDERAL JOB-SEEKING RESOURCES

Work Group Members: Donna Miller (Illinois), Dena Bauman (UDC), Judy Corello (William & Mary), Toni St. John (Maryland), Jessica Mehl (Toledo), Heather DiFranco (Case Western), and Alyssa Dragnich (PSU/Dickinson)

Dena Bauman initiated a project to compile state and local government opportunities on PSLawNet. The project is in the final stages of editing and will be rolled out at the Annual Conference.

MONITORING THE RECESSION'S IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE JOB MARKET

Work Group Members: Carol Vizzier (Washington University), Rachel Dawson (John Marshall), Nicole Clark (U. Texas), Alisa Rosales (DePaul—Chair), Judy Corello (William & Mary), Cindy Wilson (Northwestern), Michelle Harper (Suffolk), Melanie Kushnir (ABA), and Ericka Hines (EJW)

- Vice-Chair (and incoming Section Chair) Alisa Rosales offered this report: "The March 2010 NALP Bulletin included an article by Susan DeCostanza of Kent College of Law and Alisa M. Rosales of DePaul University College of Law entitled *Public Interest Challenges in a Tough Economy*, submitted on behalf of the Public Service Section and Economic Impact Workgroup. NALP Director of Public Service Initiatives Steve Grumm also interviewed PSLawNet Advisory Board members, including several workgroup members, for a piece regarding deferred associates for the ABA Division of Legal Services' Dialogue magazine." Furthermore, the Conference will include a

program entitled, *Deferred Associates and Public Sector Placements: Looking Back and Building Relationships*, which will take place on Thursday, 4/29, from 11:00 am-12:30 pm.

PUBLICATIONS

Work Group Members: Jennifer Flexner (Tulsa), Nicole Ayala (U. Conn), Jessica Mehl (Toledo), Susan DeCostanza (Chicago-Kent), Teresa Schmiedeler (U. Maryland), and Heather DiFranco (Case Western—Chair)

We discussed the creation of a new resource about best practices in managing public-interest experiential learning programs. CAPSILS has volunteered to tackle this project, because it more closely connects with the law school clinician community.

We have published eight Bulletin articles so far this fiscal year and have one more in the pipeline. Our March issue article focused on the outcomes of the many public interest deferral placements and how they have affected the public interest world. Our April article discussed the multiple pathways into public service law. The May Bulletin will have tips for breaking into careers in public policy and administration. By the end of this cycle of publications, 12 different members of NALP will have submitted Bulletin articles on behalf of the Public Service Section.

PUBLIC SERVICE MINI-CONFERENCE

Work Group Members: Steve Grumm (NALP), Jarrod Shirk (American—Chair), Lauren Dubin (Georgetown), Nicole Vikan (Georgetown)

The NALP/PSLawNet Public Service Mini-Conference was a huge success with nearly 130 attendees, and 40 people attended the “Public Interest Advising 101” program.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING & OTHER ISSUES

In this smaller and extremely competitive legal market, career advisors are working with more students seeking fewer positions in the public sector. Counselors explain the differences between public and private sector hiring methods and employer priorities, and our Section will continue to play a role in providing this information as well. We will continue to monitor deferred associate numbers and these graduates’ placement, impact, and success or lack thereof.

Like everyone else, Public Service Section members continue to assess the possibilities and challenges of social networking.

Thank you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

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