

NALP Solo & Small CSO Section Quarterly Report

TO: Gwendolyn Ferrell, NALP Board Section Liaison

FROM: Alisa Benedict O'Brien, Section Chair

CC: Claire Nash (cnash@nalp.org)

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Membership Development

Tanya Lundberg, Vice-Chair of Member Development, is spearheading our section's member outreach campaign. Tanya is creating a contact list of all NALP member CSO offices with 3 or less professionals. We will then reach out to each office and invite those members to join this section. This list can be updated annually as well. We are also looking forward to our section meeting at the annual conference in Montreal. Many of us will be meeting for the first time.

Environmental Scanning Update

As a recap: our goal is to collect handouts (resumes, cover letters, self-assessment tools), sample workshops, presentations, and on-page guides (fact sheets on various careers, JD advantage careers, etc.) We are in the process of collecting names and emails of volunteer contributors. We will maintain a list of section members and resources being contributed and work with Lisa Quirk for release forms and uploading on the NALP website. We want to build the resource pool back up to the robust go-to resource it once was.

Building our shared resource pool has not yet been fruitful. While we have posted on NALP Connect, included a blurb in the NALP bulletin, and mentioned on our calls, we have had limited response from members volunteering and willing to contribute resources to the shared pool.

After some discussion, we plan to revisit this effort after the annual conference. Our membership shared that we are all extremely busy this time of year so perhaps later in April or early May is a more realistic timeframe to seek volunteers to contribute handouts, guides, videos, etc. to a shared resource pool. Celeste Oglesby is leading this effort as our Vice-Chair of Environmental Scanning. We will also discuss and promote and take sign-ups at the annual conference section meeting.

We still plan to schedule a call on a "hot topic" to engage current and new members this spring. The topic will be determined in the coming months.

Other New Business

Open forum conversation on our call:

1. Resources for ABA data collection for small and solo CSO offices. We recommended attending sessions on the topic at the annual conference as well as looking at prior conference programs and handouts. Many members on the call also offered to personally answer questions and serve as a resource for newer members with questions. Another suggestion was made that our section could start an email chain for such questions. This could be a potential partnership with Newer Professionals as well, specifically for new CSO professionals with primary responsibility for employment reporting.

2. Annual Conference Section Meetings. Our section looks forward to our scheduled meeting at the annual conference but has noticed that in prior years, our meeting conflicts with many other section meetings, particularly with JD Advisors. Since Small and Solo CSO was previously a task force/sub-committee of JD Advisors, many of us are still active members and would like to attend both meetings if at all possible.