

## **NALP SMALL & SOLO CSO SECTION QUARTERLY REPORT**

To: Tasha Everman, NALP Board Liaison

From: Jill Gerrard and Grace Roede, Section Co-Chairs

Cc: NALP Info

**Date: Oct. 16, 2025**

Our section held its meetings on Sept. 10, 2025 with 11 participants. Our meetings started with introductions of all attendees and welcomed new-comers followed by a two-minute grounding/mindfulness exercise to set the stage for our meeting.

### **1. Leadership Team**

#### **Section Co-Chairs**

- Jill Gerrard, University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law, [jgerrard@hawaii.edu](mailto:jgerrard@hawaii.edu)
- Grace Roede, Campbell University School of Law, [groede@campbell.edu](mailto:groede@campbell.edu)

#### **AEC/Bulletin+ and Webinar Planning Vice Chairs**

- Katherine Mikkelson, UNT Dallas College of Law, [Katherine.Mikkelson@untdallas.edu](mailto:Katherine.Mikkelson@untdallas.edu)
- Jill Gerrard, University of Hawaii Richardson School of Law, [jgerrard@hawaii.edu](mailto:jgerrard@hawaii.edu)
- Grace Roede, Campbell University School of Law, [groede@campbell.edu](mailto:groede@campbell.edu)

#### **Environmental Scanning Chair**

- Meredith Wiggins, Washburn University School of Law, [Meredith.Wiggins@washburn.edu](mailto:Meredith.Wiggins@washburn.edu)

#### **Programming Best Practices Co-chairs**

- Laurie Dufoe, Drake University Law School, [laurie.dufoe@drake.edu](mailto:laurie.dufoe@drake.edu)
- Cathleen Creegan, University of Oklahoma College of Law, [ccreegan@ou.edu](mailto:ccreegan@ou.edu)

#### **Well Being Chair**

- Casey Parker, Southern Illinois University, [caseyparker@siu.edu](mailto:caseyparker@siu.edu)

#### **DEI Liaison**

- Sylvia James, Winston & Strawn, LLP, [syjames@winston.com](mailto:syjames@winston.com)

### **2. Communication: Updates/Reminders**

**NALP Board Liaison:**

- Tasha Everman provided updates from the NALP Board of Directors, including information on the budget, new website, perspectives on the 2025 recruitment season, the Recruiting Certificate/LMS, AI initiatives, the Professional Development Institute (PDI), upcoming summits and forums, surveys, and the NALP Foundation.

### **Section Co-Chairs - Discussion topics:**

- Fall OCI numbers are trending down; one school reported a 30% decrease in employer participation this year.
- Talked about the impact of the new recruiting timeline on neurodivergent students and whether CSOs should consider creating employer handouts or resources to better support these students during recruitment.

### **Programming Best Practices Co-Chairs:**

- We reviewed the excellent resources created by **Laurie Defoe and Cathleen Creegan**,
  - *Tip Sheet - Student Use of AI in the Job Search*, and
  - *NALP Small & Solo Programming Best Practices*.
- Developed a Bulletin article from the survey findings on AI integration.

### **3. AEC Proposals due Aug. 1, 2025**

- Beyond the Talking Heads: Making Waves with Law Student Engagement - **SUBMITTED**
- It's Not You—It's Your Job Posting! - **SUBMITTED**
- Counseling students interested in international opportunities - **IDEA**
- A program inspired by "They Don't Get It...Let's Hear from the Law Students," featuring student stories from a smaller/CSO perspective (not Big Law-focused) - **IDEA**

#### **Bulletin+ Article Proposals due June 20, 2025**

- Programming Best Practices of AI Integration in Law School Career Services Offices and Student Programming: Recent Insights by a Snapshot Survey - **SUBMITTED for November**
- Demystifying JAG Opportunities: How Career Advisors Can Confidently Guide Students Toward a Unique Legal Path – **February 2026 Timeline**

### **4. 2025/2026 Meeting Schedule**

- Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 3:00 p.m. EST
- Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 3:00 p.m. EST