

NALP Solo & Small CSO Section Quarterly Report

DATE: Wednesday, July 1, 2015
TO: Layke Martin, NALP Board Section Liaison
FROM: Alisa M. Rosales, Section Chair
CC: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director

The year is off to a running start, and the Section has already launched some new approaches to old work and is requesting recognition of a new Work Group, as noted below. Heather DiFranco of Cleveland-Marshall has also graciously agreed to ensure that our Section is kept abreast of her work on the ABA data collection and audit protocols, given the resource drain that process is on our offices in particular.

Annual Education RFPs

This year, Lauren Donald of Tulsa University, oversaw our AEC RFP process, and assisted in securing eight RFPs with diverse speakers across the regions. In brainstorming RFPs at the Annual Meeting in Chicago, we focused on ideas that would allow us to work with our specialist counterparts at larger schools, resources for the more experienced career advisor, and our own professional development. A few ideas were forwarded for webinar consideration, given that they were likely more Section-specific. The eight programs submitted included:

1. Teaching your 1Ls to Fish – How to Coach Your Students towards Stronger Self-Sufficiency
2. Work Smarter Not Harder: Digital Tools for Getting it Done!
3. From Combat Boots to Business Suits: Rules of Engagement for Effectively Counseling Military Active Duty and Veteran Law Students and Alumni
4. Multiply Your Manpower Without Breaking the Bank: Hiring Part-Time and Student Staff
5. Easy As PI - Implementing the Essentials of Public Interest Advising
6. Finding Success Through Symplicity: Venturing Beyond the OCI Tab
7. Sales 101 For Employer Outreach
8. Shrinking CSO Resources: How To Do More with Less

Bulletin Articles & Webinars

Daniel Hare of Baylor oversaw assisting placing three column length articles in Bulletin for the coming year. The topics that will be covered include mental health, mindfulness, and employer outreach. Daniel is also overseeing our webinars for the coming year, partially based on topics not selected or that we decided would be better put on as a webinar. Daniel is on leave until mid-July, and upon his return, I will work with him to reach out to potential webinar participants and work with Mary Beal to schedule programs for this year.

New Member & Mentoring Work Group

At the Annual Meeting, we asked anyone interested in being resources for other Section members to complete a paper survey. About 30 responses were collected, and Vice Chair Suzanne Patrick of St Mary's University is connecting new Section members to these mentors. We've also asked these mentors to check in about six months after initial contact, as we feel there may be more questions at that point than in the overwhelming first days, and also provide another touch before the Annual Education Conference.

Shared Resource Pool

Leah Terranova of the University of Kansas is keeping an eye on the NALPconnect group for any resources that members might be willing to share, as well as being the voice on Section calls and in webinars to share resources with NALP more broadly. We plan to include this particularly for

Request for New Work Group – Alternative Careers

I have already begun to work with Maria Comas of Duquesne University and Amber Brugnoli of University of West Virginia to develop resources for creating a new work group that can monitor entry-level (direct from law school) alternative legal careers. Using LinkedIn and indeed.com, we have developed a handout on how to collect the information passively and started to solicit volunteers. We have not done the full court press to find

volunteers from the various regions, but will do so in the next call if the Work Group is formally approved. Our intention is to collect basic information about posted positions, compiled monthly or quarterly depending on volume, to gain a sense of regional differences. Each entry will include employer, job title, sector, location, and skill groupings. This is based on the data collected by the Work Group led by Abbie Willard last year. Those in attendance at the Section meeting in Chicago were enthusiastic when we discussed how this data collection would enhance their own daily duties and take up about 10-15 minutes per week. We also feel that this information is helpful for teaching students how to find these postings and especially if the advisee is the trailing spouse looking outside the school's current location/region. At this time, we feel that we have made enough progress to request a formal new Work Group, and welcome any feedback to narrow or widen the scope.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any additional questions.