

Date: June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

To: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director  
Danica Steadman, Canadian Section Chair

Cc: Meaghan Hanger, NALP Member Services Manager

From: Shawn Swallow, Director Career Services and Employer Relations, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University & CLCDN Liaison to NALP ([Shawn.Swallow@dal.ca](mailto:Shawn.Swallow@dal.ca) | 902-494-4296)

Re: **NALP CLCDN Liaison First Quarterly Board Report**

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**CLCDN projects and activities of interest to NALP:**

Since the April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 CLCDN Liaison Report, (submitted by Chira Perla, UBC) the CLCDN has undertaken the following projects/activities of interest to NALP:

1. New CLCDN Liaison
2. 2018 CLCDN Summer Meeting
3. Professional Development: Stop Cringing! Feedback is a good thing

**1. CLCDN Liaison**

I have volunteered to take over the role of CLCDN Liaison to NALP from Chira Perla, University of British Columbia. For reference, Chira kindly forwarded to me copies of prior reports that she had submitted.

**2. 2018 CLCDN Summer Meeting**

CLCDN Members met for our annual Summer Meeting at University of Alberta in Edmonton, AB, on June 13 & 14, 2018. The follow representatives from the schools attended:

- Lakehead University – Hope Buset
- Queen’s University, Osgoode Hall Law School – Amanda Laren
- Schulich School of Law (Dalhousie) – Shawn Swallow
- Thompson Rivers – Barbara Billingham
- University of Alberta – John MacDonald and Pat Neil
- University of Calgary – Maryanne Forrayi and Madeleine Natale
- University of Manitoba (Robson Hall) – Lisa Griffin
- University of Windsor – Anna Maria DeCia-Gaultieri

**Topics Discussed:**

- **Market Update:** Each school representative provided a brief report of hiring/recruitment trends for the Class of 2017 (final) and Class of 2018 (gathered thus far). Most schools reported that the market remained consistence with last year’s results with slight increases in some regions. Osgood reported that graduates from the Law Placement Program (LPP) have done very well in securing long-term employment from their LPP placements.

- **OCI Schedule Update:** The 2019 OCI schedule was circulated and will be finalized in the coming weeks. Some schools noted an increase in requests for videoconference OCIS. New York recruitment process was also discussed.
- **Networking Lunch with Edmonton Employers:** Representatives from several law firms based in Edmonton were in attendance for lunch and provided insight into the Alberta legal market. The lunch was hosted by Bennet Jones, Edmonton.
- **Future CLCDN Meetings:** The future and value of Summer CLCDN meetings was discussed at length. There are concerns that all schools are not able to attend summer meetings (budget constraints). In planning the summer meetings, consideration is given in selecting the geographic location to balance other NALP/CLCDN activities (NALP Annual Conference and CLCDN Winter Meeting) and work commitments (employer/alumni outreach). It was noted that all representatives found the summer meeting to have significant value and there is a strong commitment to continue hosting these meetings. Representatives were invited to submit their comments on the value of the meeting through email. John MacDonald, (Director, Career Services, University of Alberta), compiled the comments and circulated a survey to engage all CLCDN member in this discussion. The 2019 CLCDN Summer Meeting will be discussed at the 2018 Winter meeting in Toronto on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **4. Professional Development:**

CLCDN members attending the 2018 summer meeting participated in a professional development session: Stop Cringing! Feedback is a good thing! The session focused developing skills on how to effectively communicate feedback students, with a particular focus on providing feedback on student's cover letters and resumes.

#### **Report any upcoming project or event of interest to NALP:**

Anna Maria DeCia-Gaultieri, University of Windsor, lead a discussion on JD Advantage Careers and sharing of Canadian resources. The value of NALP's "21<sup>st</sup> Century Legal Career Series" was noted by several representatives who purchased some, or all, of the booklets and further recommended that schools purchase the series.

#### **Identify what significant benefits there are for NALP to continue this liaison relationship:**

The CLCDN is an active network that continues to provide important insights into the Canadian market to all NALP members, with CLCDN members initiating, leading, and contributing many important NALP Canadian Section and Canadian Regional activities, discussions and, resources