

# SUZANNE HARD

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After graduating from the University of Michigan Law School, I moved to DC to work as an associate in “Big Law” but left after a couple of years when I had my first child, as the path to parenting as a lawyer was far from visible. I am so grateful for the ways the profession, which still has a long way to go, has become more inclusive as we all benefit when people get to contribute their best selves to the workplace. Because I consider the legal profession to be critical to the functioning of our democracy and the rule of law, while most of my career has been “law adjacent,” my professional “why” for many years has been to help people enter and thrive in the legal profession, and to help the organizations that support the profession, including NALP, sustain themselves in the face of change and challenge.

I am interested in the Conference Planning Coordinator role as I am looking for opportunities to put my experience to work to elevate and empower others. I have substantial experience in planning a large multi-track education conference for a member service organization. I led the project of planning the annual Connecticut Legal Conference from 2014-2019. I worked on everything from the contracts with the venue/catering/AV to building the multi-track schedule for the day, arranging the keynote speaker, writing the script for the annual meeting luncheon, and drafting the marketing language and strategy. We are a social species and the NALP Annual Education Conference is a critical value for NALP members. It brings the profession together to learn and connect, which are essential to the career success and satisfaction of individual members and to the health of the overall community. I would be happy to pitch in with this important task.

## **RELEVANT EDUCATION**

**University of Michigan Law School**, Ann Arbor, MI. JD 1987

## **RELEVANT RECENT EXPERIENCE**

**The George Washington University Law School**, Washington, DC

*Associate Dean, Career Development Office*, January 2024-present

Lead 19 team members in serving a student population of over 1700 JD candidates. Develop and execute overall operational strategy focused on optimizing student employment outcomes. Serve on Dean’s leadership team.

**University of Connecticut School of Law**, Hartford, CT

*Director, Center for Career Development*, January 2019-January 2024

Reporting to Dean of the law school, managed team of counselors to deliver robust career development curriculum for JD and LLM students and alumni. Produced formal recruiting programs, including 1L diversity hiring pipeline program.

**Connecticut Bar Association**, New Britain, CT, March 2014-January 2019

*Director of Education and Section Programming*, July 2018-January 2019

*Interim Co-Executive Director*, May 2017-February 2018

*Director of Education and Communication*, July 2016-July 2018

*Education Manager*, March 2014-July 2016

Held key leadership roles for member service organization. Drafted strategic plan. Produced over 100 legal education programs annually including over 40 seminars at the **Annual Connecticut Legal Conference**, while working with staff, vendors and venues, volunteer leadership, and the judicial branch. Developed content strategy to leverage organization resources and optimize the value of membership.

## **RELEVANT SERVICE/VOLUNTEER POSITIONS**

*Vice-Chair, JD Counseling Work Group*, NALP JD Career Advising Section, July 2023-June 2024.

*President*, Connecticut Association of Legal Recruiting Administrators, February 2020-July 2022; Liaison to NALP

NALP Member since 2019.