

To: NALP Board of Directors
 From: Karen Comstock, Chair, NALP Public Service Section
 Date: October 31, 2008
 Re: Second Quarterly Report

The Public Service Committee met on Saturday, October 11 at Georgetown University Law Center, prior to the NALP Public Service Mini-Conference.

WORK GROUP REPORTS

NALP ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM PROPOSALS

Work Group Members: *Andrew Chapin - Fordham University Law School (Chair), Lauren Dubin – Georgetown, Paula Nailon – University of Arizona, Tari Williams – University of Alabama*

The Conference Planning committee notified us in July that the following public service section program proposals for the 2009 NALP conference were accepted:

A Report on the New Guide to Student Practice Rules: Boosting Practical Skills Training in Government and Public Interest Settings	Paula Nailon, Tom Maligno, Rep. from office of Hon. Juanita Bing Newton
Beyond the Mentoring Program: Creative Uses of Alumni to Strengthen a Law School's Public Interest Program	Harlene Katzman, Ellen Chapnick, Alexa Shabecoff, Marni Lennon
Counseling for Public Interest Careers from 1L to Retirement	Karen V Comstock, Tom Maligno
From Student to Young Associate: Keeping the Pro Bono Ethos Vibrant	Melanie L Kushnir, Lee Meredith Branson, Steven H Schulman, Lisa M Dickinson
Policy Careers: Counseling for Careers Beyond Litigation	Deborah A. Ellis, Spencer P Boyer, Amanda R Broun, TBD
Public Service Loan Forgiveness & More!	Heather Wells Jarvis, Don Saunders, Kelly Carmody

These proposals were declined:

Hot Topic Discussion for Public Service Section	Andrew Chapin
Reporting and Tracking Law School Pro Bono Data	Melanie L Kushnir, Rebecca Wofford, Holly Eaton, Sara Sommarstrom
The Equal Justice Works E-Guide to Public Service at America's Law Schools	Heather Wells Jarvis

PUBLICATIONS

Work Group Members: *Marni Lennon - University of Miami School of Law (Chair), Tia Barnes - Duke, Kate Corcoran - University of Washington, Michelle Vodenik – Chicago Kent, Teresa Schmiedeler, University of Maryland, Tari Williams, University of Alabama, Paula Nailon, University of Arizona*

Once again, the Public Service Section will meet our goal of providing at least one public service-focused article for each edition of the NALP *Bulletin*. Here is our publishing schedule:

September 2008: CCRAA/LRAP Update
Authors: Heather Jarvis/Kelly Carmody

October 2008: Transitioning from Public Interest Practitioner to Public Interest Career Advisor
Author: Hilary Exter

November 2008: Job Mobility between Public and Private Sectors
Authors: Elizabeth Kane and Joan Tierney

December 2008: Civil Justice, Inc.: A Model for "Low Bono" Services
Authors: Teresa Schmiedeler and Elizabeth Kane

January 2009: Developing Leadership Skills
Authors: Cait Clarke and Ericka Hines

February 2009: Harvard Law's Public Interest Reunion and 3L Tuition Remission Program
Author: Alexa Shabecoff

March 2009: Engaging Broad Communities to Engrain Public Service into Legal Education
Author: Kate Lawrence

April 2009: Predicting Outcomes – What Makes a Good Public Interest Lawyer?
Author: Charlene Gomes

May 2009: Public Defender Careers
Author: Deb Ellis

June 2009: still open, but we expect to fill it

July 2009: International Public Interest Internships
Author: Sara Rakita

In addition, Paula Nailon has enlisted several volunteers to help compile the National Directory of State Student Practice Rules. The project is in its beginning stages.

MONITORING OF THE COLLEGE COST REDUCTION AND ACCESS ACT

Work Group Members: *Bill Penn - Lewis & Clark Law School (Chair), Kristen Bryant – University of Florida, Sam Charron – WNEC Law, Heather Jarvis – EJW, Michelle Vodenik – Chicago-Kent, Cindy Wilson – Northwestern*

[summary of Bill Penn’s report at the October PS committee meeting?]

EXPANDING FEDERAL JOB-SEEKING RESOURCES

Work Group Members: *Nicole Vikan - Georgetown University Law Center (Chair), Lauren Dubin – Georgetown, Norma Freitas – Willamette, Eve Stotland – NYU, Tari Williams – University of Alabama, Paula Nailon – University of Arizona*

Work Group Advisors: *Tim McManus and Kevin Simpson from the Partnership for Public Service*

The following people met the week of October 20 in Washington, DC to brainstorm further about the updated to NALP’s Federal Legal Employment Opportunities Guide: Nicole Vikan, work group chair, Steve Grumm and Diane Cross from NALP, Erin ?? and Brooke ?? from the Partnership for Public Service, and Sarah ??? of the ABA. Nicole provided the following points of agreement to the full work group, along with a breakdown of writing assignments in need of authors. The goal is to launch an updated Guide in January/February 2009.

- We should try to integrate the sections of the Guide we want to keep/update onto the PSLawNet website and make every document successful as a stand-alone piece, since most students and alums today work from the web and don’t necessarily read “books” when job-hunting. Of course the sections can be put together into a cohesive whole as well.
- Creating a DOJ-style chart of agencies and practice areas is not feasible, and there are existing resources that convey this information to students and alums—in particular the Westlaw Federal Careers for Attorneys, which I am happy to walk through with anyone by phone. The Federal Careers guide breaks down agencies by practice area and by location—and highlights that there are over 3000 federal agencies!
- Each section can have links to personal narratives from current federal employees—one of Valerie’s alums has already written an amazing account of her experiences as a federal employee, and we can ask our alums to write pieces focused on loans, salaries, applications, current assignments, etc., so we have links in each section.

PRIVATE-TO-PUBLIC INTEREST PIPELINE

Work Group Members: *Hillary Exter - Fordham University Law School (Chair), Tia Barnes – Duke, Bill Pen – Lewis & Clark, Nicole Vikan – Georgetown*

Steve Grumm and I had a conference call with Hillary Exter, on October 3, resulting in a very detailed work plan for this work group, whose goal is to develop resources for law school career counselors to assist alumni in making the private-to-public career transition. The plan includes producing articles for the NALP Bulletin, facilitating workshops at the NLADA/ABA conference and the 2010 NALP conference, and developing materials for LSC, NLADA and law firms.

NEW INITIATIVES

Work Group Members: *Tari Williams - University of Alabama School of Law (Chair), Kristin Davis – University of Wisconsin, Nicole Vikan – Georgetown*
No activity to report this quarter.