

**To:** NALP Board of Directors

**From:** Michelle Stevens, Chair, NALP Public Service Section

**Date:** January 17, 2008

**Re:** Third Quarterly Report

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The third quarter appears to have been less busy than quarters one and two since three work groups (the Annual Conference Planning, the Mini-Conference Planning and NLADA-LSC/Law Student Forum Groups) have completed their projects, however, the Public Service Section remains busy and continues to advance its ongoing projects.

## **WORK GROUP REPORTS**

### **Publications Work Group along with Group Developing Law Student Recruitment/Supervision Best Practices Resources for Public Service Employers**

The publications work group is working with the section members who volunteered to work on a new publication for our public sector employers, a “best practices guide” to provide advice on summer intern and new associate hiring and supervision. The title will be *Best Practices in Recruiting and Supervising Law Students*. While there was no “official” leader of this group, the project has been advanced due to the contributions of Nicole Vikan (Georgetown) and Deb Ellis (NYU). The group working on this project has held two conference calls and produced a strong first draft with comments due by members of the work group January 18. It has been decided that the format will be a two-sided 8.5 x 11 document so as to be easy to read. The final version will contain useful links found on PSLawNet and other sites. The group is aiming to have a preliminary version without the useful links ready for dissemination in February so that law school members who sponsor public sector job fairs will be able to provide them to participating employers.

In addition, the Publications Work Group has continued to make contributions to the *NALP Bulletin* from various section members. With two submissions made in September, there was no article submitted for the October edition. The November and December editions contained these articles:

- 1) *NLADA Directory of Civil Legal Aid Employer LRAPS Available*, Kate Lang – NALP Bulletin, November 2007
- 2) *It Doesn't Happen In a Day: A Guide to Growing a Small Public Interest Program, Building Institutional Support, and Developing as a Public Interest Professional*, Karen Comstock – NALP Bulletin, December 2007

### **New Initiatives Work Group**

The New Initiatives Work Group is being lead by Alexa Shabecoff (Harvard). There has been no movement forward on the project involving researching the timing and hiring practices of public interest employers since my last report, so analysis and compilation of the results still need to be completed. Thanks go to Alexa and to Tom Maligno (Touro) for getting the project to this point.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCANNING**

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act remains a big topic of interest and conversation among public service section members. It has been suggested by at least a few section members, and I agree, that the NALP Board should consider creating a work group within the public service section to monitor progress of the Department of Education's efforts to promulgate regulations under this new law.

It is important to note though, that while I think a work group has something to offer in process of tracking the promulgation of regulations for the CCRAA, the work could be duplicative of other groups who will also be following this topic. Since we know that Heather Wells Jarvis of Equal Justice Works is following the progress of the rule-making, I recommend that we ask her to chair such a work group and work with Steve Grumm and the section chair to make sure any updates are shared with the Public Service Section, PSLawNet and the NALP membership as a whole.