

**MINUTES FROM NALP NEWER PROFESSIONALS SECTION CALL
APRIL 17, 2007**

I) WELCOME---Jo Parente, Outgoing Section Chair

a. Brief Review of Section Accomplishments

- i.** The listserv has grown to over 110 members
- ii.** With 50 posts on the listserv, we are one of the second most active NALP listserv.
- iii.** Eric Stern put together the bios project, which captured the bios of many of the section members attending the Newer Professionals Forum. The bios allowed members to learn about each other in advance of the Form and facilitated effective networking and relationship-building.

b. Brief Recognition of Key Individuals

- i.** Jo recognized the contributions of all those section members who wrote feature articles for the *NALP Bulletin* and the *Newcomer's Corner*. She also recognized MaryBeth Raju, who spearheaded the *Corner*, which gave our section significant visibility within NALP. MaryBeth will continue in this role in the upcoming term.

c. Introduction of Eric Stern as New Chair

- i.** Jo recognized Incoming Chair Eric Stern and announced that MaryBeth Raju and Margaux Gillman have also been appointed Section Vice Chairs.
- ii.** Jo thanked everyone for the opportunity to lead the Section and hopes to continue to work closely with members.

II) REMARKS from Eric Stern, Incoming Section Chair

a. Brief Bio

- i.** Eric is currently a Senior Law Career Counselor at The George Washington University Law School, a position he has held since June 2006. Before GW, Eric was a non-profit executive, the Director of LGBT Outreach for the Democratic National Committee, and a legislative lawyer and lobbyist.
- ii.** He thanked Jo and recognized members who have made our section one of the most active and productive in NALP. He indicated that we have started many exciting projects and work groups and hope that we can continue these and spearhead new ones in the upcoming term. He would like to continue the "open door" policy Jo had as Chair and encouraged members to email and call him with his ideas. He provided his email address (ejstern@law.gwu.edu) and his phone number (202-994-7340).

b. Existing Projects and Work Groups

i. Newcomers Corner & Feature Articles for the Section

1. Eric thanked MaryBeth Raju for spearheading the *Newcomers' Corner* and all of the section's authors. He encouraged members to begin thinking about either *Corner* articles or feature articles they would like to author and indicated that those interested in writing *Corner* articles should submit their ideas to MaryBeth at (mraju@proskauer.com) and those interested in writing feature articles should get in touch with Eric.

ii. 2007 Annual Conference

1. Section Meeting on TH, April 26 @ 12:00pm – 1:30pm (Quandry Peak II)

- a. Eric provided information on the section meeting (see above) for those members who will be attending next week's Annual Conference. He indicated that there will be ample opportunities at the meeting for members to sign up for work groups and projects and that members should come prepared with their ideas, questions, and comments to discuss at the meeting. We are hoping to make it as interactive as possible! Come prepared to talk!

2. Section Handout (Christine McCarry at Ballard Spahr)

- a. At the 2007 Newer Professionals Forum, the section distributed a handout designed to increase its visibility and new member participation in the section. Thanks to the efforts of Christine McCarry at Ballard Spahr (whose firm produced the last handout), we will be distributing at the Annual Conference a new and improved handout.

3. Opportunities to sign up for work groups & projects

- a. There will be opportunities, at the section meeting, and throughout the conference to sign up for work groups and projects. If you are not attending the Conference or do not get a chance to sign up at the Conference if you are attending, please get in touch with Eric Stern to sign up for a work group or project.

iii. 2008 Annual Conference

1. See me if you are interested in proposing a program or workshop to present at the Conference—submissions are due by May 28, 2007

- a.** Eric asked those members who are interested in presenting at the 2008 Annual Conference to get in touch with him to discuss respond to the Board's request for presentation proposals.

c. New Projects & Work Groups

i. 2008 Newer Professionals Forum

- 1.** Jo Parente talked about her new role on the Planning Committee for the 2008 Newer Professionals Forum. Jo will be serving as a Planning committee liaison to our Section. She is looking for volunteers from our section that are interested in participating in this planning effort and if you are interested, you should email her at josepha.parenta@wolfgreenfield.com.

ii. Experienced Professionals Conference Call Work Group

- 1.** This is a new work group. The idea is that our Section will put together a series of conference calls led by NALP experts on topical areas that are of interest to our members. There will be two tracks---a law school track and a law firm/employer-side track. Each call would feature a NALP expert, who would provide a foundational tips and strategies for navigating a common challenge; and at the end of the call, we would leave time for Q&A. The call would be accompanied by either a power point presentation and/or a handout. Additionally, the NALP expert would make themselves available to our section members after the call for additional questions and, perhaps, would even suggest colleagues who could also be a resource on the subject/practice area at issue.
- 2.** The project will be led by Section Vice Chair Margaux Gillman. Margaux is looking for volunteers to serve on the Law School and Law Firm/Employer-Side Committees. Christina Jackson (Faulkner) has already agreed to serve on the Law School Committee. If you are interested in joining either of these Committees, please email Margaux at margaux.gillman@freshfields.com.

III) O&A and NEXT STEPS

- a. New project, work group & environment scanning ideas & topics should be emailed to Eric**
- b. If you are interested in getting more involved, email Eric, sign up at the conference or sign up once we email (after the conference for those who will not be attending) the list of projects & work groups**
- c. Member Comments and Questions**
 - i.** Vic (Minnesota) asked about the possibility of a section blog and wondered if NALP was considering having an association-wide blog, a part of which could be a blog just for our section.
 - ii.** Some members reported still having difficulty viewing the “daily digest” format with respect to the listserv and wondered if NALP could address this issue.
 - iii.** Margaux (Fresh Fields) suggested that it would make sense for the Section to have regular conference call-check ins and email communication as a way to stay engaged and on task as a section. Everyone agreed with this sentiment and thought it would be a good item to discuss at the section meeting at the Conference.