

To: Fred Thrasher, NALP Deputy Director
Lois Casaleggi, Board Liaison
NALP Board of Directors
From: Maureen Kieffer, Chair, Judicial Clerkship Section
Date: October 13, 2016
Re: Judicial Clerkship Section Quarterly Report

Below, please find information about the Judicial Clerkship Section's activities since our last report, including section communication and updates from work groups.

Section Communication

On October 4, 2016 the Judicial Clerkship section held its second quarter conference call, during which members discussed work group updates and conducted environmental scanning.

Work Group Status Reports

OSCAR (Marilyn Drees, Yale):

The OSCAR work group is waiting for the judges' annual meeting to be scheduled. Marilyn invited feedback from clerkship advisors on improvements for OSCAR. This input will be shared for the redesign of the OSCAR platform.

State Courts (Diane Cross, Cincinnati):

Diane Cross, has changed positions and is no longer with NALP. We are looking for another member to step in as Vice Chair.

The State Courts Work Group will continue to update existing entries in the *Insight and Inside Information for Select State Court Clerkships*.

Work Group member Roman Chaban (Catholic University) was not able to join the call, but reported his progress on unified state clerkship applications. He worked with PSJD to get an introductory email drafted. This email mentions the positives of a unified application system and describes how PSJD can house this. He then sent this email out as a tester to a couple of "friendly" judges on DC Superior Court to gauge interest.

Judicial Clerkship and Employer Relations Work Group (Michele Hoff, Connecticut):

The group is seeking additional volunteers. They plan to set up a conference call with the Recruiting Section to create a guide on common practices in the market with respect to clerkship hiring and counseling. The goal is to have a publication of common practices available prior to the annual conference.

Programming and Resources (Stephanie Powell, Mercer):

For the 2017 Annual Education Conference in San Francisco, the Judicial Clerkship Section submitted seven RFPs, and four were selected. Including:

Filling the Gaps in Clerkship Recruiting, Michele Hoff, Julie McLaughlin, Elizabeth Klein

Judicial Clerkships for (Nearly) Everyone! Best Practices and Resources to Market State Court Clerkships to the Skeptical Student, Diane Cross, Samantha Kasmarek, Bill Chamberlain

Mining for Gold: How to Find Hidden Clerkship Opportunities in California, Eric Stern, Mishkah Ismamil

OSCAR Sneak Peek: A New Platform for a New Generation, Marilyn Drees, Laura Simon, Tyrus Manuel, The Honorable Timothy Burgess

Bulletin Submissions for 2016-2017

Published article September 2016 Bulletin:

Judicial Clerkship Advising: The Recipe for Remarkable Letters of Recommendation: (Column focused on how career services can work with students, faculty and employers to secure tailored letters of recommendation), Shana Tomenes

Upcoming article in Nov. 2016 Bulletin:

Clerking as a Career: (The column will discuss career (permanent) judicial clerkships, including how they differ from term clerkships, why they are a worthwhile career choice, and paths to/from career clerkships.), Janet Siegel Brown

Webinars

We plan to schedule webinars. Potential ideas that have been suggested outside of non-selected RFPs include “What is a clerkship and why does it matter?” (geared toward the recruiting section for those who may not be familiar with clerkships and their value) and “OSCAR for Beginners” (to help those new to clerkship advising).

Environmental Scanning and Miscellaneous

Melissa Lennon (Temple) shared her experience with calling all judges in the Third Circuit to gather hiring information for the 2018 term. This information is shared with the students. The information received is valuable for limited time (students don’t always realize the limited nature of the information). Melissa asked if other schools are doing this or if there are other approaches.

Maureen Kieffer (Loyola Chicago) shared that her office used to gather this information but now puts it back on the students to do this information gathering.

Susan Staab (University of Chicago) also advises students on making the calls to judges.

Marilyn Drees (Yale) also coaches students on making the call “I looked for information online including OSCAR and found none, I am calling to find out...”

Richard Herbst (Notre Dame) gathers information from judges about post grad clerkships when the office calls regarding summer internships. This information is shared with the clerkship committee to reach out to interested students (they don’t provide the students with a list).

Our next quarterly call is scheduled for **January 24, 2017**, 2pm EDT, 1pm CDT, 11am PDT.