

NALP Judicial Clerkship Section
Conference Call, 5/12/08
Notes taken by Kirsten Solberg, Chair

Approximately 25 people participated

I. Programs for Next Year's Conference

- A. Administrative Law Judges
 - Sheila Driscoll from GW willing to lead
 - Amy Killoran from American willing to help
 - Know ALJs
 - Lois Casaleggi of U. Chicago has names of alumni who are ALJs but doesn't know personally
 - Colleen Truden of McGeorge knows ALJs in California
 - Marilyn Drees of Yale knows ALJ at Dept of Veterans Affairs in DC

- B. Maximizing Faculty and Alumni Involvement
 - Lori Reifschneider of UC Davis proposed
 - Colleen Truden of McGeorge may be willing to help with
 - Malini Nangia of UCLA thinks this program could go beyond the one she did this year on building a clerkship program
 - Margann Bennett of Washburn suggested topic of "working with recommenders" that maybe could be included in this program
 - On its own, probably not enough for whole program
 - But maybe good for Bulletin article if it can't be covered in program

- C. Insider's View of Clerkships
 - Colleen Truden of McGeorge proposed
 - Audience of school and employer reps who didn't do clerkships themselves
 - Subtopics of interview process, value to individual, value to future employers
 - Perhaps panel of people who both clerked themselves and now could speak for their institutions

- D. OSCAR
 - Marilyn Drees of Yale is willing to lead but also is willing to have someone else lead
 - Perhaps position as program most concretely addressing application logistics, including for paper judges

II. Outreach to Judges Encouraging Them to Post Information in OSCAR

Last year, the NALP clerkship section sent postcards to judges in June and September reminding them to keep their online listings up to date. Some judges created OSCAR accounts but failed to post specific positions by the date when OSCAR opened to applicants. A group of law school representatives contacted these judges by telephone to (a) encourage them to post their positions in OSCAR and (b) record in a spreadsheet their situation for dissemination to the whole section. This year, with OSCAR open to all federal judges at the same time it opened to all applicants, we have a different situation. The consensus plan for this year is to gather information among ourselves about own internal deadlines for 2Ls to turn in their judge lists and include some mention of this procedural step in a postcard mailing to judges. After the postcard reaches judges, we will evaluate how many judges have no information posted in OSCAR. We may try to

organize a telephone effort encouraging missing judges to post in OSCAR, but it probably will not be feasible to collect and distribute information from these phone calls.

III. Articles for NALP Bulletin

A. Topics

- Staff Attorneys – Elizabeth Armand may be willing to write for spring publication
- Insider's View of Value of Clerkship
 - Series of articles based on type of employer: firm, government, public interest, academia, etc?
 - Two articles based on value to individual and value to employer?
 - Value to transactional career?
- How to Help Students Not in the Top 20% Get Clerkships

B. People

- Elizabeth Armand of Stanford may be willing to do article on staff attorneys for spring publication
- Colleen Truden of McGeorge is willing to write about any topic
- Marilyn Drees of Yale is willing to work with anyone in preparing an article

IV. Work Groups Other than OSCAR

A. State Courts

- Ramona Sein of William & Mary out on maternity leave but back in Dec-Jan
- Colleen Truden of McGeorge may be interested
- Melissa Lennon of Temple is happy to share leadership
- Michele Hoff of U. Conn. is willing to help
- Amy Killoran of American is willing to help

B. Alumni/Lateral Hiring

- Marilyn Drees of Yale suggested reaching out through city groups or employer section
- Amy Killoran of American is interested in helping
- Jolynn Caroline of Illinois is interested in helping
- Melissa Lennon of Temple is interested in helping
- Abigail Morrow of Alabama is interested in helping

V. Anything Else

Q. Status of OSCAR User Guide for Law School Administrators?

A: It is still being prepared and is not available yet

Q: What does the conference planning committee look for when reviewing program proposals?

A: Anne-Marie Fulfer of Idaho was on last year's committee and summarized that the best proposals have specific information including the names of the people involved and a description of the handout, etc.

Q: Are further conference calls helpful or do people prefer to communicate through the listserv?

A: Several people spoke up that they liked the idea of having periodic conference calls.