

Challenging Questions and Practical Solutions for Law School Pro Bono Programs

ABA/NLADA EQUAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE • MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Tuesday May 6, 2008 • Hilton Minneapolis • Marquette and LaSalle

Presented by the ABA Center for Pro Bono

Designed for law school pro bono and public interest program advisors, coordinators, directors and assistant and associate deans, this program will take a close look at law school pro bono including cutting-edge programs and activities. Several interactive workshops will explore the unique aspects of operating and expanding a law school pro bono program.

Noon – 1:15 pm
Hennepin

Networking Luncheon with Facilitated Roundtable Discussions

Advance registration (\$30) Required

Join your pro bono professional colleagues at a facilitated roundtable discussion on a specific issue of interest to you. Come prepared to raise questions, discuss common challenges, share best practices, and develop solutions to common problems.

Roundtable Topics:

- *Connecting Faculty with Law School Pro Bono*
- *Reporting and Tracking Pro Bono*
- *Developing Pro Bono Projects in Non-Urban Areas*
- *Creating Short-term Pro Bono Projects*
- *Ensuring Quality Control and Effective Supervision*
- *Conflict or Complementary: Pro Bono, Public Service, and Community Service*
- *The Definition of Pro Bono – What Counts*

1:15 – 1:30 pm

Break

1:30 – 2:30 pm
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Welcome and ABA Policy Update: *Examining ABA Pro Bono Accreditation Standard 302(b)(2) & Interpretation 302-10*

- Melanie Kushnir, Assistant Staff Counsel, ABA Center for Pro Bono

The Intersection of Law School Pro Bono, Clinical and Field Placement Programs

A 2007 Report issued by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, “Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law” calls for more experiential learning opportunities in legal education. What are the implications for law school pro bono programs? What should the relationship between law school clinics, field placements and pro bono programs be? Are there commonalities to their missions and objectives? What are schools doing to create synergies and avoid conflicts? Does pro bono offer unique experiences to complement other forms of experiential learning?

- Judith Welch Wegner, Burton Craige Professor of Law, University of North Carolina School of Law; Former UNC Dean 1989-1999; Senior Scholar, Carnegie Foundation & principal author of *Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law*

2:40 pm – 4:10 pm

Concurrent Sessions (choose one of three below)

Hennepin

Ethical and Professional Responsibility Issues in a Law School Pro Bono Program

Panelists will engage attendees in a discussion of the ethical issues that crop up in law school pro bono programs. Discussion will cover many issues, including conflicts of interest, insurance, liability, unauthorized practice of law, and confidentiality. This panel will cover the rules and goals as well as provide practical solutions and ways to implement systems to meet requirements. Expect a lively discussion.

- Holly Eaton, Director, Pro Bono Program, Georgetown
- Eric S. Janus, Dean, William Mitchell College of Law
- Eve Biskind Klothen, Assistant Dean for Pro Bono & Public Interest Programs Rutgers University - Camden School of Law
- Mark B. Rotenberg, General Counsel, University of Minnesota

Marquette & LaSalle

Practical Strategies for Motivating Difficult Students

In this session, panelists will share best practices for inspiring and attracting non-public interest minded and uninterested students to participate in pro bono. Panelists will address how to develop a broad range of opportunities designed to meet the needs and interest of ALL students, including 1L's, law firm track students, and evening students. Attendees will learn solutions to forestall student procrastination and maximize time students commit to pro bono particularly when exams, paper deadlines, and family commitments arise.

- Stephanie L. Danneman, Attorney at Law/ Director, Private Attorney & Law Student Involvement, Legal Aid of Western Ohio, Inc.
- Julie H. Jackson, Assistant Dean for Public Interest Programs, Tulane University Law School
- Tom Schoenherr, Assistant Dean, Public Interest Resource Center, Fordham University Law School

Carver

The Fundamentals of Administering a Law School Pro Bono Program

This program will discuss the key elements of operating a law school pro bono program, including basic recruitment and retention techniques; effective supervision and quality control methods; and systems to track and evaluate student and employer participation. Speakers will provide concrete ideas and examples for the audience to take with them after the presentation.

- Susan Feathers, Executive Director, John and Terry Levin Center for Public Service and Public Interest Law, Stanford Law School
- Karen Forman, Pro Bono Counsel, Saul Ewing/ Former Director of the Office of Public Interest Law Programs, Temple University
- Janine A. Laird, Executive Director, Minnesota Justice Foundation

4:15 – 5:45 pm Concurrent Sessions (choose one of three below)

Hennepin

From Student to Young Associate: Keeping the Pro Bono Ethos Vibrant

How can law students identify firms committed to pro bono participation? Is it acceptable to ask about pro bono opportunities in an interview? Do firms value students committed to public service? How do lawyers balance pro bono with other work? How can young associates increase support for pro bono at their prospective firms? If you have wondered about these questions, this workshop is for you! The panel will examine these questions in the context of the growing trend among law firms to foster and support pro bono attorney involvement.

- Dana Bartocci, Professional Development Coordinator, Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand LLP
- Jeffrey Jamison, Associate, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP
- Marc Kadish, Director of Pro Bono Activities /Lit. Training, Mayer Brown
- Lee Meredith Branson, Assistant Director for Pro Bono Programs, Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs, Harvard Law School
- Davida Brook, 1L/Executive Board Member, Students Building a Better Legal Profession, Stanford Law School

Marquette & LaSalle

Engaging Alumni in Your Pro Bono Program

For many law schools, a large percentage of the graduates remain in the locality after graduation, creating a large pool of potential support – both financially and as participants – for the pro bono programs. Law school pro bono professionals will share strategies for conducting outreach to alumni and effective ways to involve them, including service on advisory boards, conducting substantive trainings, serving as supervisors and mentors, and speaking at recognition events and ceremonies.

- Mary Jo Gleason, Staff attorney, Kentucky Court of Appeals/ Adjunct Professor & Former Director Samuel L. Greenebaum Public Service Program, Brandeis School of Law, University of Louisville
- Elizabeth Dunn, Director of Public Service Careers & Pro Bono Programs, Villanova University School of Law
- Michelle Harper, Director of Public Interest & Pro Bono Programs, Rappaport Center for Law and Public Service, Suffolk Univ. Law School

Carver

Unique Public Service Partnerships between Law Schools and Local Institutions

Interdisciplinary collaborations on pro bono and public service projects between law schools and undergraduate and local graduate degree programs are springing up across the country. Their development is consistent with a growing recognition that clients often have multiple problems that require a variety of specialties to resolve and the consequential, expanding interest in holistic delivery throughout the legal services community. This panel will highlight medical-legal partnerships and other substantive collaborations that may be replicated in other communities.

- Kimberly Carpenter Emery, Assistant Dean for Public Interest & Pro Bono, University of Virginia School of Law
- K Royal Director of Pro Bono Programs and Student Life, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- Tara Louise Casey, Director of Pro Bono Services, Univ. of Richmond School of Law
- Pamela D Robinson, Director Pro Bono Program, Univ. of S. Carolina School of Law

6:30 pm

Social Event - TBD

2008 Equal Justice Conference Law School Pro Bono Planning Committee Members

The ABA Center for Pro Bono would like to acknowledge the following committee members for their strong dedication and participation in planning this preconference program.

Lee Meredith Branson

Assistant Director for Pro Bono Programs
Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs
Harvard Law School

Kimberly Carpenter Emery

Assistant Dean for Public Interest & Pro
Bono
University of Virginia School of Law

Susan Feathers

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John and Terry Levin Center for
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Mary Jo Gleason

Director
Samuel L. Greenebaum Public Service
Program
Brandeis School of Law
University of Louisville

Steven Grumm

The National Association for Law
Placement (NALP)

Michelle Harper

Director of Public Interest & Pro Bono
Programs
Rappaport Center for Law and Public
Service
Suffolk University Law School

Julie H. Jackson

Assistant Dean for Public Interest Programs
Tulane University Law School

Eve Biskind Klothen

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Rutgers University - Camden School of Law

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Minnesota Justice Foundation